SUBSTANTIVE PERIPHRASES AND THEIR USE IN THE LANGUAGE OF JOURNALISTIC STYLE

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Abstract

The article is devoted to periphrases, which are one of the interesting and complex phenomena of linguistics. Periphrases belong to the category of tropes – stable combinations of artistic speech used semantically indivisibly and everywhere. The article discusses the features of semantics and grammatical design of descriptive phrases – periphrases. Attention is focused on the fact that the use of substantive periphrases helps to expand the vocabulary and enrich the language with new expressions.

Keywords: linguistics, modern Russian language, periphrasis, descriptive turnover, denotation, expressiveness of the text, fiction, journalism, structural unity, paraphrasing.

Introduction

Modern linguistics reveals a steady interest in the study of the language of speaking subjects, in the functional and communicative aspect of language, involving the study of the peculiarities of the implementation and functioning of linguistic units at different levels.

Periphrases as a special type of stable combinations have long attracted the attention of language researchers. Recently, interest in peripheral turns has increased markedly, as evidenced by a significant number of works devoted to this topic. In modern linguistics, there are several views on peripheral units. One point of view can be called a broad understanding of periphrasis, when this term refers to almost any descriptive phrase that calls something a second time. Proponents of a narrow approach limit the composition of the periphrases, highlighting any leading distinguishing feature of these revolutions. Thus, peripheral units include only euphemistic or only figurative secondary combinations, descriptive expressions that relate to only one primary name, or expressions that have no equivalent among free combinations. The term "periphrase" combines phenomena of different linguistic nature: descriptive characteristics (cunning beast – fox), assessments (old age – evening of life), verbal pairs (to be perplexed – to be perplexed), poetic lines in the volume of a whole sentence ("Sad time! The enchantment of the eyes is about autumn (Pushkin). The language really has very wide possibilities of descriptive transmission of meaning using various lexical and phraseological means. However, it would be wrong to consider any turnover with a substitutive function as a periphrase, and to narrow the volume of periphrases, guided by only one distinctive feature, and not their totality.

Periphrasis is one of the most complex linguistic phenomena. Rather deep contradictions are found primarily in the sphere of the conceptual and terminological apparatus of the periphrasis.

The polysemy of the term is associated with its widespread use in various fields of scientific knowledge (literary studies, logic, stylistics, rhetoric, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, morphology, music), which allows us to consider the periphrasis not only within the framework

of linguistic analysis. In addition, the term is complicated by the presence of a variety of pronounceable variants represented by a number of doublet terms of the same etymological nest: paraphrase, paraphrase, paraphrase, periphrase, periphrase. These pronounceable variants are derived from Greek. paraphrasis, periphrasis and are fixed in dictionaries in the meanings of "retelling" and "roundabout speech".

As some researchers believe, the term periphrase / periphrase is, in all probability, the result of borrowing from the French language. This is evidenced, in particular, by two variants of the term. In French, the word periphrase refers to the feminine gender, and the first variant (periphrase) reflects the desire to preserve the grammatical gender of the borrowed term, and the second reproduces the phonetic appearance of the corresponding French word, therefore it is used in the masculine gender.

The purpose of the study is to consider periphrasis as a linguistic phenomenon, its semantics and grammatical design, as well as to identify the features of periphrasis in a journalistic text. Periphrases serve as means of enhancing the expressiveness of the text, in many ways they remain traditional phrases that developed in the previous century, but they are influenced by new times with new realities, the reflection of which we are currently witnessing with the birth of new peripheral units. The objectives of the research are to generalize theoretical information about the semantics of substantive periphrases, observation and description of the functions of periphrases in a journalistic text.

The term periphrasis in linguistics refers to a fairly wide range of linguistic (speech) phenomena, that is, this term does not have a clear and unified subject relationship.

The "Explanatory Dictionary of Dahl" presents the following definition of periphrasis: "Greek. circumlocution; replacing direct, short speech, even one word, with lengthy phrases, e.g. avoiding any word; oblique. To circumvent what, whom, to speak according to what is said, someone else's, but in other words and wider" [10]. D. E. Rosenthal and M. A. Telenkova define periphrase as a descriptive phrase, namely: "An expression that is a descriptive transfer of the meaning of another expression or word" [9]. A. P. Kvyatkovsky defines periphrase as: "a stylistic device consisting in replacing any word or phrase with a descriptive turn of speech" [4].

There are many works devoted to periphrasis in linguistic and literary stylistics, but the relevance of linguistic analysis of this phenomenon is indisputable. It is important to clarify the subject and conceptual relationship of the term, which, in turn, will help to understand the linguistic nature of the periphrasis, will make the relationship of the periphrasis with related phenomena clearer. The peculiarities of semantics and grammatical design of a descriptive turnover depend primarily on which area of non-linguistic reality is called a second time: an object, an action, a sign.

"Periphrases as modeled units, representing in terms of semantics typed expressive modifications of lexical meanings of words, carrying a variety of pragmatic information constituting a special type of linguistic meaning - periphrastic, and in terms of nomination acting as actual nominative formations, are integrative facts of language and as such should be included in the circle of objects of communicative linguistics" [1].

The term "periphrasis" should be assigned to expressions that describe the object or phenomenon of reality for the second time, i.e., substantive units; for most researchers using this term, it is the substantive periphrastic material that prevails in their works.

The nature of the descriptive turnover also depends on the purpose for which the turnover is

created, and this is largely determined by its belonging to a particular functional style of speech. Therefore, it is more correct to lexicographically describe substantive periphrases within the framework of one style, rather than combining material from different styles.

The periphrase can have several meanings. They are ambiguous if they denote the primary image of phenomena associated with generic relations. For example, the periphrase "heavenly body" can be used in two meanings: like a star and like the Sun.

In other cases, periphrases are considered homonyms if they denote several primary images. So, the periphrase of the "northern lemon" is called cranberries and kohlrabi, although the first is a berry, and the second is cabbage.

If earlier periphrases were more common in fiction (especially poetry of the XIX century), recently they have been used more often in journalism.

There is still a tendency among linguists to take linguistic material from fiction, so the periphrases of the Russian language, which find their expression in the journalistic style of speech, were not the subject of a special lexicographic description. And currently, the question of the distinctive features of the periphrasis in the language of newspapers is relevant.

The periphrases are secondary nominations. The semantic techniques of secondary nomination of objects and phenomena used in the periphrasis are not so diverse. The primary image (denotation) is replaced by a new peripheral one (doctors are people in white coats). In periphrases, two methods of constructing a new image are mainly used: transferring the concept to another sphere metaphor or metonymy (the supporting component of the periphrase is used figuratively: green pharmacy medicinal plants) and expanding the scope of the concept of denotation (the supporting component of the periphrase is used in the direct meaning - this is a generic word in relation to the denotation: white grain - rice).

"The elementary cell of the semantics system is the unity of 3 elements, the so-called "semantic triangle": the external element of a verbal sign (a sequence of sounds or graphic signs) – the signifier is connected, firstly, with the designated object of reality - the denotation (as well as the referent), secondly, with the reflection of this object in consciousness a person is a signified person. The signified is the result of social cognition of reality and is usually identical to a concept, sometimes a representation. The triple relationship "signifier – denote – signified" constitutes the category of meaning, the basic cell of semantics. Semantic relations consist in the fact that these cells are likened to each other by any of their three elements - by the signified (synonymy), by the signifier (homonymy), by denotation and referent (periphrase)" [8].

A distinctive feature of the periphrases is their structural unity - this is mainly the construction of "adjective + noun" (blue planet, green wealth), "noun + noun" (queen of fields, son of Heaven), "numeral + noun" (third hunt). Peripheral denotations - objects and phenomena of the external world - are expressed by nouns, therefore, the supporting component of the periphrasis, which contains the grammatical properties of the descriptive turnover, in the vast majority of cases is a noun.

Not every substantive combination is a secondary nomination. The syntactic position must be taken into account. Since the concepts denoted by nouns are mainly paraphrased, to the extent that the periphrases in a sentence usually perform syntactic functions characteristic of a noun, i.e. it is a subject, complement or circumstance. A sign of the stability of these linguistic units is very important for the lexicographic description of periphrases. The occurrence of periphrase is

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occasional, but its first use is a potential opportunity to acquire stability. It is quite difficult to fix the moment when the secondary nomination turns from an occasional one into a linguistic unit of periphrasis. Of great importance for the acquisition of stability by the secondary turnover is the nature of the feature, which determines the subject correlation of the periphrase with the denotation. For example, if we compare such descriptive phrases as the steel bogatyr dump truck and the red-haired traveler cat, then we can see the different dependence of these secondary nominations on the context. In the first case, the context specifies a feature that can be applied to different denotations in different plots, in the second it deciphers a feature that is relevant only in a specific plot. The reproducibility of periphrasis is due to the relevance of peripheral denotations. "Consideration of the periphrase as an object of a systemic description, rather than an occasional speech phenomenon, allowed us to find that in the periphrase there is a communicative actualization of the semantics of the nominate word according to certain semantic and syntactic rules: a) the use of thematic relations between members of the periphrase based on iteration of the seme of the nominate word in the supporting component of the periphrastic combination; b) the use of words of certain selective classes according to the communicative function of each of the components of the peripheral combination; c) the use of the mechanism of figurative valence, based on the actualization of expressively promising semes of the supporting component of the periphrastic combination, generating the phenomenon of semantic formant in the word being periphrasized; d) the use of a "semantic filter" that determines the presence of a direct nominative meaning in one of (or both) members of the combination as a "pledge" of its periphrasticity; e) the use of appositive relations for the paratactic expression of the semantic correlation of the parts of the periphrasis" [1].

Until now, the periphrases of the Russian language used in the journalistic style of speech have not been the subject of a special lexicographic description. This can be explained, on the one hand, by the "cautious" attitude towards the language of the newspaper as a whole as abounding in occasional (according to established tradition, the material for lexicographical research of the Russian literary language was drawn mainly from fiction). On the other hand, peripheral turns have not yet been studied theoretically enough, there is no clarity in defining the signs of peripheral units and criteria to distinguish them from other descriptive turns. Therefore, the question of the distinctive features of peripheral turns in the language of the newspaper is relevant. An ideal periphrase replaces only one denotation, but there are peripheral units denoting several denotations. There may be two main cases here. If the periphrase denotes denotations related to generic relationships, the periphrase is considered polysemic. In most other cases, such periphrases are considered homonyms in the dictionary.

The denotation of the periphrasis may not necessarily be expressed in one word (a one-armed bandit is a slot machine). The main thing is that the peripheral unit correlates with one meaningless reality of the outside world.

The periphrase in each specific use corresponds to one denotation, which implies the integrity of the meaning of the periphrastic turnover. Periphrasis is distinguished from other substantial formations with a holistic meaning by its separateness - the periphrastic unit consists of at least two elements. Separateness is not widely understood - paraphrases are not considered to be paraphrases formed by syntactic means.

Some secondary nominations have appeared nowadays and are not frequent, but their denotations

may become relevant later, and then these periphrases have a chance to become reproducible and stable. Periphrases include both traditional periphrases that have already been "rolled out" in the press (white gold - cotton), and the most frequent periphrases that have arisen in the last decade, simultaneously with the realities that they denote (the second literacy is knowledge of the basics of computer science).

The language of the newspaper uses mainly periphrases born within the framework of a journalistic style (such periphrases denote denotations that occur exclusively or predominantly in newspaper materials). However, in newspaper journalism, one can also find periphrases "borrowed" from the language of fiction [despicable metal is gold, a friend of life is a wife, etc.). Most literary periphrases are recorded in explanatory dictionaries of the Russian language. The use of newspaper periphrases is also not limited to the limits of the journalistic style of speech; The periphrases, which are frequent in the newspaper, are found both in fiction and in popular science texts, performing, of course, slightly different stylistic functions there than in the language of the newspaper.

Periphrases of famous people exist and are quite often used in periodicals. "In the periphrases of famous persons, proper names are replaced by succinct indications of their characteristic features. The periphrasis emphasizes the uniqueness of the personality, determines its contribution to the development of a specific field of activity. The successful use of periphrases significantly affects the quality of public speech, giving it brightness, emotionality and expressiveness.

Of particular value are the periphrases, which focus on almost all the communicative qualities of Russian speech: accuracy, logic, richness, clarity, relevance, expressiveness" [6].

Russian poet Alexander Pushkin is often called the "Sun of Russian Poetry", Georgy Zhukov – "Marshal of Victory", Konstantin Tsiolkovsky – "Father of Russian Cosmonautics", Johann Strauss – "King of Waltz", Margaret Thatcher – "Iron Lady", Louis XIV – "King of the Sun", Elvis Presley – "King of Rock -n-roll."

"The periphrases firmly rooted in the Russian language system have deep historical roots. The authors of the periphrasis can only compliment a specific person at the moment of making a speech. Then the authorship of the periphrasis is lost, and the language tool itself becomes understandable in meaning and regular in use for native speakers of the Russian language. Currently, not everyone knows that the authors of famous periphrases were once: V.A. Zhukovsky - the Sun of Russian poetry (about A.S. Pushkin); A.A. Grigoriev - Our everything (about A.S. Pushkin); M.A. Aldanov - Crowned Hamlet (about Alexander I)" [6].

Arguments against the lexicographic development of periphrases often boil down to the fact that most periphrastic phrases can be easily understood from the context and do not need special dictionary interpretation. However, this "disadvantage" of the periphrasis entirely stems from the functional features of the journalistic style - too encrypted periphrases simply would not take root in a newspaper that should carry information in the most accessible form for the general reader. At the same time, although many periphrases easily correlate with the denotation, the periphrastic image cannot always be understood without information about the denotation, which goes beyond ordinary ideas. With regard to the lexicographic description of the periphrasis, the issues of speech culture become particularly relevant due to the well-established attitude to peripheral phrases as costs of a journalistic style of speech, as newspaper cliches that should be avoided. They not only help to avoid repetitions, but also express an assessment of an object or phenomenon of reality in

a compact form. In the newspaper language, the new, original is dialectically interconnected with the standard, stereotypical. Every linguistic discovery in the press is inevitably put "on stream" and quickly turns into its opposite - a speech stamp. Therefore, the frequent repetition of once-created images in a newspaper is not a cost, but a pattern of journalistic style. Unfortunately, inappropriate use of periphrases is quite common when they do not agree with the context and are perceived as linguistic excesses.
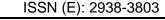
Considering the functioning of this trope in a journalistic text, it is important to note the novelty and occasional nature of the creation of such units. Peripheral constructions are a typical phenomenon for journalism. The figurative nature of the periphrasis contributes to the actualization in the object of precisely those properties that are necessary for the author or speaker. In texts of various types, in particular, in artistic speech, this trope performs an aesthetic function, forms the evaluativeness of an utterance, avoids inappropriate stylistic repetitions, monotony of presentation. In special cases, the periphrasis also performs the stylistic function of strengthening, emphasizing the meaningfully important word. By using a periphrasis in the text, the author forces the reader to update his background knowledge in order to adequately perceive the semantics of the formed unit. The prospects for the study of periphrasis and its types are to describe the structural and semantic features of this trope in a cognitive aspect.

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