

Abstract

Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper

Title: Specifics of the usage of functional markers AS IF/AS THOUGH in the modern English text

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Topical Importance: This diploma paper is devoted to the study of the functional markers of comparison and unreality as if/as though in the contemporary literary texts by English and American writers. This topic is rather interesting and actual, because as it provides the study of the conjunctions as if/as though from the traditionally grammatical and modern cognitive levels.

Goals: The main goal of the diploma paper is to study the cognitive evaluation of the functional markers as if/as though as a special grammatical form, actualizing the unreal comparison.

Tasks: basing on the study of the traditional and cognitive analysis of the functional markers as if/as though to analyze the situation of comparison in literary works by the contemporary English and American writers.

Theoretical value and practical applicability: We offer a complex systematic description of the functions of the conjunctions as if/as though from the point of view of the level of verification in the literary works. The results of the diploma paper can be applied in different spheres of language study.

Results: Thorough analysis of the situations of unreal comparison with the functional markers as if/as though shows that those markers can actualize 1) true-to-life supposition; 2) uncertain (doubtful, obscure) opinion/perception ; 3) unreal/false opinion. We regard separately examples of direct comparison. These sentences do not contain modality, but just show the likeness of the described event with something known before.

Implementation advice: the theoretical material of the diploma thesis can be applied while studying or teaching different courses of linguistics, literature, poetics of such writers as M. Amis, D. Koontz, M. Albom, I. McEwan, in special courses on grammar study and the study of English semantics.