

Abstract

Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper

(Bachelor's degree)

Title: Expressive Potential of Spatial Deixis in the English Language
(basing on the works by N. Sparks)

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Topical Importance: This thesis deals with the main spatial deictic means in the English language. Main attention is devoted to their expressive potential in the discourse of the narrative. Spatial deixis has never been studied on the material of N. Sparks's work yet.

Goals: The aim of the thesis is to study the peculiarities of the usage of spatial deictics in the works by N. Sparks and describe their expressive potential in the narrative discourse

Tasks: In order to accomplish this goal the following tasks can be distinguished:

- to describe main approaches to the study of such linguistic category as deixis in the scientific works by the Russian and foreign linguists;
- to study the main types of deixis in the English language and to give their thorough description;
- to analyze the category of spatial deixis;
- to study the contextual usage of locative deictic words basing on N. Sparks's works;
- to give a detailed description of the main expressive functions of spatial deixis in the English language;
- to find out and justify the cases of special expressiveness created by spatial deictics in the context of the narrative.

Theoretical value and practical applicability: Theoretical value lies in making a contribution to studying the main deictic means in the discourse of the literary narrative. Spatial deictics are regarded as expressive markers serving to actualize a certain part of the narrative discourse. Practical applicability consists in using the results of the research in teaching theoretical courses of the discourse, cognitive linguistics, stylistics, and also in practical lessons.

Results: The whole corpus (870 examples of spatial deixis) was subsumed under two main groups – deictic spatial adverbs and deictic demonstrative pronouns. The category of spatial deixis can actualize proximal or distal information with the help of anaphoric or cataphoric reference to the deictic centre. Expressive potential of deictic words is released by such grammatical and stylistic means as inversion, ellipsis, repetition and by the contextual information.

Implementation advice: the theoretical material of the thesis can be applied while studying or teaching courses on discourse, cognitive linguistics, stylistics.