

TRANSFORMATIONS OF ENGLISH PROVERBS FROM THE STANDPOINT OF SYNERGETIC PARADIGM

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Работа посвящена исследованию структурно-семантических модификаций англоязычных пословиц в публицистическом дискурсе с использованием понятийно-категориального аппарата лингвосинергетики. Сфокусировано внимание на модификациях исследуемых пословиц, их типологии. В частности, рассмотрены модификации пословиц расширением и компрессией, проанализированы их структурные и семантические девиации.

Ключевые слова: *англоязычные пословицы, публицистический дискурс, эволюция, модификация, лингвосинергетика, аттрактор, репеллер.*

This paper presents the study of structural-semantic modifications of English proverbs in publicistic discourse on the basis of fundamental concepts of linguosynergetics. Special attention has been focused upon notion of modification and typology of studied proverbs. The types of modification such as extension and compression of proverbs meaning, their structural changes, and semantic deviations have been studied.

Key words: *English proverbs, publicistic discourse, evolution, modification, linguosynergetics, attractor, repeller.*

The investigation of folklore small texts has always provoked the interest of both native and foreign scholars (I. K. Kobyakova, H. A. Levinton, L. S. Pikhtovnikova, H. L. Permiakov, V. O. Samohina, L. I. Taranenko,

S. O. Shvachko, P. Carnes, A. Dundes, P. Kirkpatrick, A. Lang, W. Mieder, P. Skandera).

Being based upon studying of relevant materials [4] and conducted researches [1], we can argue that proverbs belong to complex synergic systems and new texts, genres and discourses serve as situational deviations for them. Proverbs generate in certain conditions and eventually by the process of modification they turn to similar but slightly different situations. Thus, their intention in the modified form is changed. Proverbs like terms within the process of transformation and determinologization change their paroemiological positions and extend semantic meaning.

The concept of synergetic analysis has been developed by such national scholars as T. V. Dombrovan, S. M. Yenikyeyeva, L. S. Pikhtovnikova, A. M. Prykhodko [5]. In particular, they analyze problems of textual self-organisation and evolution (L. S. Pikhtovnikova), word formation synergetics (S. M. Yenikyeyeva), diachronical linguosynergetics (T. I. Dombrovan).

Review of scientific papers has showed that systematic researches of evolution, modification of English proverbs in publicistic discourse with the use of conceptual and categorical framework of linguosynergetics did not attract attention of scientists. In this work we offer a fundamentally new approach concerning the study of modified proverbs.

The topicality of our research is confirmed by the crucial role of English proverbs that like a folk masterpiece reflect worldviews, people's consciousness. The innovation of the research is strengthened by the absence of deep investigations in the light of linguosynergetics as methodological foundation that studies open, dynamic systems like proverbs. The material of the research has been extracted from phraseological dictionaries and publicistic discourse. The chief tasks of our work is to establish the evolutionary changes of English proverbs, identify key lingual factors of these changes, interpret the functioning of attractors and repellers during the process of proverbs' development.

Dynamic character of English proverbs shows that signified is represented in the process of their modification by specific lexical and phraseological elements that

are capable to express analogies of many related phenomena. Transformations of proverbs' structure by addition/cutting/replacement define more exactly the meaning of the lexical component and bring up to date author's intention.

Proverbs have their own form and content corresponding to attractors of the appropriate text. Attractors are verbalized in the basic features of proverbs, their criteria: literary representation (figurativeness, expressiveness), accuracy, clarity, general value, informative density and so on. The main task of attractors is to create attraction areas for proverbs to achieve their new equilibrium condition, accumulate, and select the required information.

The role of repellers is to monitor changes in proverbs (especially – structural and semantic). These changes are controlled by such characteristic features as small size, laconic brevity etc. As attractor directs the system to gain new aim, this system is forced to use its only possible parameter (or group of parameters), which is relatively mobile and able to change. The main order parameters in proverbs are the following two groups: structural changes (transformations conducted by extension) and semantic deviations. Order parameters are characterized by quantitative and qualitative indicators. As a result these order parameters lead to a new balance of a system that is creation of the modified proverbs. Comprehension of attractors and repellers actions enables recognition of self-settlement and self-control of proverbs as a complex synergetic system. Their confrontation is the main force of self-organization of this open dynamic system.

The conducted analysis of the selected examples concerning identification of the system order parameters has become a separate part of work. Empiric material has proved the presence of two groups of changes and their related parameters of the system – structural and semantic changes. In terms of structural changes extension of proverb's structure by expansion appeared to be predominant. Semantic changes are characterized by filling modified proverbs with new meaning, introducing modern terminology realities.

Let's consider the example of proverb transformation: *Good men are hard to find* → *Good **friends** are hard to find – **and even harder to keep*** [3]. In modified

version we could notice substitution of lexical units: *men* → *friends*, which in this case acts as specifying element. The author applies such type of transformation as expansion introducing the concretized phrase *and even harder to keep* that enhances the sense of the original form of the proverb.

One more example: *Love is blind* → ***Rihanna on Chris Brown: Love is blind*** [2]. In this sentence we can see extension of the proverb's structure by the use of expansion. Among the semantic (meaningful) changes we can distinguish the following changes: usage of punctuation to emphasize the semantics, use of proper name (*Rihanna, Chris Brown*) and modernization of proverb's metaphors.

Thus, all the above-mentioned examples as well as experimental material studied previously [1] affirmed that the parameter for the extension of proverb's structure with the addition of lexical units/groups is flexible and often used. That is why it is considered to be order parameter in the transformations of English proverbs.

The perspective of our research is vivid in construction of linguosynergetic model of English proverbs evolution.

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