

**COMMUNICATIVE AND FUNCTIONAL FEATURES OF PARAPHRASE  
IN THE ENGLISH JOURNALISTIC TEXTS**

*Білецька І. О. Комунікативно-функціональні особливості перифразу в англomовному публіцистичному тексті. – Стаття.*

*У статті проаналізовано основні комунікативні та функціональні особливості перифразу в англomовній пресі. Перифрази, що функціонують у публіцистичному тексті, передають інформацію, яка є принципово важливою для певного висловлювання, розкриваючи тим самим читачеві ідею автора. Вони найчастіше є способом створення виразності та експресивності публіцистичного тексту.*

*Ключові слова: перифраз, публіцистичний текст, комунікативні особливості, функції, англomовна преса.*

*Билецкая И. А. Коммуникативно-функциональные особенности перифраза в англomязычном публицистическом тексте. – Статья.*

*В статье проанализированы основные коммуникативные и функциональные особенности перифраза в англomязычной прессе. Перифразы, функционирующие в публицистическом тексте, передают информацию, которая является принципиально важной для данного изречения, раскрывая тем самым читателю идею автора. Они чаще всего есть способом создания выразительности и экспрессивности публицистического текста.*

*Ключевые слова: перифраз, публицистический текст, коммуникативные особенности, функции, англomязычная пресса.*

*Biletska I. O. Communicative and functional features of paraphrase in the English journalistic texts. – Article.*

*Main communicative and functional features of the paraphrase in the English press are analyzed. Paraphrase operating in journalistic texts convey the information that is*

*crucial for a statement, thus revealing the reader an idea of the author. They are often a way to create expressive expression in a journalistic text.*

*Key words: paraphrase, journalistic text, communicative features, functions, English press.*

**The background of the problem.** The newspaper journalism is considered to be a chronicle of our time, because it reflects the present events and appeals to the everyday problems in society – political, social, domestic, philosophical and others. The latest research on the peculiarities of the English press are topical today, as the media language uses different linguistic means to enhance the efficiency of expression.

The press influence social consciousness, the minds and the feelings of people, the papers do not only report the society on current events, but, what is especially important, form public opinion, thus influencing decision-making in different areas of life. Journalistic text is one of the main instruments of power. The articles of such a type help control society through the formation of the ideas about different aspects of reality, somehow connected with the activities of society, so the identifying of the peculiarities of journalistic texts expressive means should contribute to social consciousness demonstration.

Two main functions the journalistic style performs are informative and expressive. An expressive function makes urgent need of journalism in expressive means. As modern journalism is important in identifying the peculiarities of expressive means, the paraphrase is one of the most popular linguistic means of expressiveness and emotions in the English journalistic text.

**The recent researches and publications review.** The paraphrase as a linguistic issue is investigated in many work of native and foreign scientists – such as M. Bloch, V. Vinogradov, G. Vinokur, I. Halperin, J. Kukharenko, A. Shakhmatova and others. The theory of linguistic rules and principles has been formulated in the pragmatics of G. Lakoff and G. Leech. Specific descriptions stylistic characteristics of paraphrase are investigated by such scholars as V. Gak, K. Dolinin, N. Yemenska, Yu. Lotman, J. Pavlova, E. Petrova, L. Freedman and others. Most of them consider the paraphrase to

be one of the most important stylistic means. Today various peculiarities of English journalism highlighted in the works of Ukrainian researchers – N. Borysko, M. Gusar, L. Vakhovska, A. Levitskii, I. Nemainova, S. Potapenko, I. Semeniuk, A. Khudolii and others.

In the article, we **aim** to analyze communicative and functional features of the paraphrase in the English press.

**The research.** The highest level of paraphrase usage is the text, including a sentence and a dicteme, but in our research it is the journalistic text. As you know, the works of this type are characterized by expressiveness, evaluation, emotionalism and information content. The information content refers to the ability of speech utterances to provide the necessary information and to bring to the reader not only certain facts, but also the author values, feelings covert context [3, p. 287]. Therefore, the information content is the most important journalistic text semantic category, which focuses on a particular message of the recipient. Paraphrase enhances decoding of the information.

Paraphrase operating in journalistic texts convey the information that is crucial for a statement, thus revealing the reader an idea of the author. They are often a way to create expressive expression in a journalistic text. Such a feature of paraphrase as expressiveness is mainly based on the novelty, which enhances new nuances of already known concepts.

The estimation is also an inseparable part of the journalistic text. First of all, the background of the author, based on the positive or negative assessment of facts and events described. Thus, D. Schiffrin points out that "the paraphrase being generated by the newspaper speech itself, is often not only an expression of novelty, but a vivid emotional assessment [4, p. 10]. The paraphrase is involved in semantic and variant selection, considered by us as a natural desire to facilitate the transfer of information as well as to achieve at minimum language representation of maximum communicative effect [4, p. 12]. Semantic and variant selection exists through the usage of language units and structures that contribute to a better understanding of information provided.

The paraphrase is one of such semantic structures which are able to include all of the above mentioned features of the journalistic text.

Paraphrases are involved in the formation of journalistic text, performing the following functions: 1) informative; 2) expressive; 3) semantic and variant selection; 4) emotional evaluation; 5) aesthetic; 6) the actual (contact making); 7) decoding; 8) integrating; 9) generalizing.

These paraphrase functions may vary and combine depending on the context in which they are presented. These functions are considered in the following examples.

1) *The unnamed soldiers, from the Givati Brigade, ordered Majeh Rabah, from the Tel al-Hawa neighborhood in Gaza City, to check bags for explosives in January 2009, towards the end of Israel's three-week offensive. The Israel Defence Force and book forbids the use of human shields, known as "neighbor procedure" (The Washington Post, 20.11.13).*

This example concludes a paraphrase in the denoteme *neighbour procedure*, which is in the end of dicteme. It explains the utterance *human shields*, which is a stable paraphrase itself. *Neighbour procedure*, that is *a human shield*, it is called immoral actions against the child. These paraphrases express condemnation of Israeli soldiers, suggesting the emotional and evaluative and expressive function of these stylistic devices. Placing the paraphrase in the end of the dicteme suggests generalizing function. The paraphrase *neighbour procedure* performs decoding function as to the denoteme *human shields*.

2) *In March 1860, Thomas Henry Huxley FRS, famed as "Darwin's bulldog", wrote privately to his friend, the great geologist Charles Lyell FRS: "Five-sixths of women will stop in the doll stage of evolution, to be the stronghold of parsonism, the drag on civilization, the degradation of every important pursuit in which they mix themselves – intrigues in politics and friponnes in science" (The Washington Post, 20.11.10).*

In this dicteme we find two paraphrases to the denoteme *pursuit*, namely: *intrigues* and *friponnes*. These paraphrases are full of irony. The women working in the

Sciences are criticized; they end their career on the so-called puppet stage – *the doll stage*, without reaching any significant results in the Sciences. According to the author's point of view, women are a stronghold of church and a hindrance to civilization, making everything worse, involved in an affair in politics and trinkets in the science. We refer the denoteme *the doll stage* to stable paraphrases, as this expression can be considered phraseological in this context. The paraphrase here realize functions such as informative, expressive, emphatically allocation (*the doll stage*), semantic and variant selection, emotional evaluation, ironic, aesthetic (the doll stage) and decoding.

3) *He struck upon his autobiographical method when his wife, Livi, was convalescing and eventually dying in Florence. It is a subject he seems to want to confront, but knows only how to avoid. His account of that period thus involves a very long and involved room-by-room account of the villa in which they were staying in Tuscany, and an impassioned diatribe against the perceived wickedness of the villa's owner, an "American countess", "this reptile with a filthy soul", prompted by a clause in the rental contract that the best bedrooms in the house "should not be contaminated with illness". Twain devotes nearly 20 entertaining pages to this account, in which his wife's terminal condition finds a few short sentences, and her eventual death, none at all (Guardian, 21.11.14).*

This example demonstrates two paraphrases located within a dicteme: *an American countess* and *this reptile with a filthy soul*. These paraphrases relate to denoteme *the villa's owner*. The owner of the villa is characterized with stylistic devices. Both paraphrases are authorial and imagery. America is a republic, so to call the mistress *American Countess* is possible only in ironical sense. The second paraphrase evaluates the woman in negative shade, being called "*the reptile with a filthy soul*". Both paraphrases are contact making since used one after another within one dicteme. Stylistic means implement such functions as expressive, emotional evaluation, ironic, semantic and variant selection, and decoding.

4) *Hong Kong is well known, of course, Hainan Island, next on our itinerary, less so. The Chinese call it "the Hawaii of China". After seeing the high-rise hotels and*

*apartment buildings of Sanya, its main attraction, I preferred to call it "the Miami of China". Ninety minutes' flight south of Hong Kong, the island's forest-covered mountains descend gently to palm-fringed beaches bordering a blue South China Sea. The temperature in late December was a balmy 77F (25C) and it was sunny over Christmas week (Guardian, 21.11.13).*

In this example, Chinese Hainan Island are paraphrased twice: *the Hawaii of China* and *Miami of China*. The paraphrases provide the reader not only with the information about the island, but also with the author point of view, who traveled to China. These paraphrases are within one dicteme and perform functions such as informative, concentration, semantic and variant selection, evaluation and decoding.

5) *We then flew (in two and a half hours) from Sanya to Shanghai, which is, quite simply, fabulous. I had, of course, heard about the warp-speed development of China, but even so I was unprepared for the sheer size, scale, beauty and grandeur of this city on steroids. The architecture comprises what has to be the most spectacular collection of high concept skyscrapers on Earth. These amazing buildings sprout on both sides of the river. The east side, Pudong, with its proliferation of high-rise buildings, was, I am told, farm land only 20 years ago. The west side is what we think of as old Shanghai, including the famous Bund along the riverfront (Guardian, 21.11.14).*

In this example denotema *the architecture* is paraphrased by denoteme *these amazing buildings*. The paraphrase decodes the meaning of the denoteme *the architecture*, fills it by the adjective expressiveness, emotional and informative content. The paraphrase is contact making, as it is placed in the next sentence.

6) *The Global Peace Festival, at the Excel Centre in the London docklands, is expected to attract thousands of activists from across Europe and features addresses from Preston Moon, the third son of the church's founder, and Tom Brake, the Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesman.*

*...There are also workshops on family, marriage and the environment. The morning session is exclusively for members of Ambassadors for Peace, a global network with its roots in the Unification Church* (guardian.co.uk, 21.11.2012).

In this example, the paraphrasing of the structure occurs in the dicteme. Such paraphrases, as *the third son of the church's founder, the Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesman and a global network with its roots in the Unification Church* perform an information function, bringing the reader additional information about the characters and organizations in this article.

7) *Public opinion is still the principal weapon in this battle, as we see in France where after wide spread condemnation of the Edvige database, the government has reacted by scrapping its plans* (guardian.co.uk, 21.11.2012).

In this case we find the paraphrase on the level of denoteme. The denoteme *public opinion* is paraphrased by the author as *the principal weapon*. The paraphrase transfers a clear expression of author opinion, who is thinking about public opinion. The paraphrase realizes the following functions: expressive, emotional evaluation, decoding.

8) *At a celebrity fundraising dinner in London to mark his 90" birthday, Mr. Mandela referred to Zimbabwe as he detailed a string of problems faced by the world.*

*"We look back at much human progress, but we sadly note so much failing as well, "he said. "We watch with sadness the continuing tragedy in Darfur. Nearer at home, we had seen the outbreak of violence against fellow Africans in our own country and the tragic failure of leadership in our neighbouring Zimbabwe"* (www.theaustralian.news.com.au, 26.06.08).

Denoteme paraphrases are *sadly note* and *watch with sadness*. Describing the feelings of the speaker, in this example they perform emotional and evaluative, expressive functions, thus revealing the reader the state of the subject and the state of affairs in this situation.

9) *He said: "I don't think we can be entirely happy seeing such misery around us. Unless you live in a pod* (The Washington Post, 20.11.14).

In this statement, which calls for the adoption of certain measures against the political regime in the country, there found a steady paraphrase *live in a pod*, that means *to be in a cocoon*. With paraphrase the author describes people who are not willing to accept reality as it really is, and continues to live in her pink world, hiding from the real problems in their cocoon. This paraphrase gives the utterance expressiveness, evaluation, focusing on the problem of society.

**Conclusions.** Thus, on the basis of analysis of texts taken from the American, Australian and British press, we can come to the conclusion that the paraphrase is used in journalism as a powerful expressive means. Its main functions are: informative, expressive, semantic and variant selection, emotional evaluation, aesthetic, the actual (contact making), decoding, integrating, generalizing.

We investigated the following denoteme and dicteme paraphrases of the journalistic text: 1) stable paraphrases that sometimes related to phraseology and are divided into figurative and logical; 2) original that are formed in the language, distinguish the individual style of the author and also are divided into figurative and logical.

Actually, the paraphrases in the text have several functions, thereby influence the reader's emotional state and his intellectual activity, forming ideas and opinion about the phenomenon.

We consider some perspective points of the research to be such as: the classification of paraphrases in the English journalistic texts, the paraphrase usage in other functional styles and specific features of their translation.

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