

Тема: ЭВФЕМИЗМ КАК ЛИНГВИСТИЧЕСКОЕ ЯВЛЕНИЕ И СПОСОБЫ ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ ЭВФЕМИЗМОВ (на материале русского и английского языков)

Subject matter: Euphemism as Linguistic Phenomenon and Ways of Euphemism Formation (based on Russian and English Languages).

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ABSTRACT

The present graduate paper is devoted to the analysis of euphemisms as a linguistic phenomenon and methods of their formation, based on the material of the English and Russian languages.

Euphemism is a stylistically and emotionally neutral word or expression which replaces another one that is improper or obscene. Both the speaker and the recipient know what is hidden in the euphemism, what is really meant by the speaker.

The research on euphemisms is topical due to the fact that their pragmatic potential has not been studied well enough yet. The present study aims at a complex analysis of modern English and Russian euphemisms, their structure and semantics.

Euphemisms are examined as a lingua-stylistic and lingua-cultural phenomenon, the peculiarities of their functioning in the text are also analyzed. Euphemisms can contain different figures of speech, such as metaphors, metonymies, meiosis, etc.

The process of euphemization is dynamical, new euphemisms appear to replace the old ones; some euphemisms become a part of the general vocabulary. Among the basic methods of euphemization there is negative prefixation, meiosis and abbreviation.

All euphemisms can be divided into several groups according to their semantics, for example, euphemisms of age, death, professions, mental and physical abilities, appearance, social and financial status, etc. According to the sphere of usage, euphemisms can be of everyday usage, etiquette, disguising, political, etc. Besides, euphemization is a source of synonymy.

Euphemisms are in common use both in the English and Russian languages, they have a strong pragmatic potential.