Subject matter: Effect of Failed Expectations as Means of Creating Comic Effect.

Author: Madina M. Tchomayeva, 5th year student, Institute of Translatology and Multilanguage Studies.

Supervisor of the project: A.F. Artyomova, Professor of the Chair of Theory and Practice of Translation and Interpretation.

ABSTRACT

This paper deals with the role of stylistic device of defeated expectancy often employed in different books of English and American writers. More than 500 examples were chosen from works of G.K. Gerome, S. Leacock, O. Genry, B. Shaw, and others. We dwell upon peculiarities of these writers’ stories and the role of defeated expectancy in text interpretation. The linear organization of the text mentally prepares the reader for the consequential and logical development of ideas and unfolding of the events. The normal arrangement of the text both in form and content is based on its predictability which means that the appearance of any elements in the text is prepared by the preceding arrangement and choice of elements. The speaker is compelled to unravel the structure almost against his will, and the pauses show he is caught in the trap of the structure unable either to stop or say anything new. The clash between the perfectly rounded and empty content creates a humorous effect.

Without predictability there would be no coherence and no decoding. At the same time stylistically distinctive features are often based on the deviation from the norm and predictability. An appearance of an unpredictable element may upset the process of decoding. Defeated expectancy may come up on any level of the language. It may be an unusual word against the background of otherwise lexically homogeneous text.

It may be an author’s coinage with an unusual suffix. Among devices that are based on this principle we can name pun, zeugma, paradox, oxymoron, irony, anti-climax, etc.

Defeated expectancy is particularly effective hen the preceding narration has a high degree of orderly organized elements that create a maximum degree of predictability and logical arrangement of the context linguistic material. The stylistic device of defeated expectancy is extremely in the creation of comic effect.