

ENHANCING LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY THROUGH METAPHORS.

Nurmatova Muniskhon Mashraboyna,

teacher of English language department, Fergana State University

munnurmatova@gmail.com

Diyorakhon Yoqubova,

student of English language department, Fergana State University

Annotation. This article investigates a metaphor, which is a figure of speech that makes an implied comparison between two things that are categorically different, but actually share something significant in common. While used heavily in creative works, such as poetry and song, this type of figurative language can also be used to give ordinary writing color and personality.

Key words: communication, metaphor, enhance, visualize, language awareness, knowledge, understanding, image, figures of speech, characters, plot, narrative.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada bir-biridan mutlaqo farq qiladigan, lekin aslida umumiylikka ega bo'lgan ikki narsa o'rtasida nazarda tutilgan taqqoslashni amalga oshiradigan nutq birligi - metafora o'rganiladi. She'r va qo'shiq kabi ijodiy ishlarda ko'p qo'llanilsada, bu turdagi obrazli til yozma ijodiy ishlarga rang va shaxsiyat berish uchun ham ishlatilishi mumkin.

Kalit so'zlar: aloqa, metafora, kuchaytirish, tasvirlash, til bilish, bilim, tushunish, tasvir, nutq figuralari, personajlar, syujet, hikoya.

Аннотация. В этой статье исследуется метафора, которая представляет собой фигуру речи, которая подразумевает сравнение между двумя вещами, которые категорически различаются, но на самом деле имеют что-то существенное общее. Хотя этот тип образного языка широко используется в творческих произведениях, таких как поэзия и песни, он также может использоваться для придания обычному письму цвета и индивидуальности.

Ключевые слова: общение, метафора, усиление, визуализация, языковое осознание, знание, понимание, образ, фигуры речи, персонажи, сюжет, повествование.

Metaphor is everywhere. Our daily language is full of metaphors we all day unthinkingly use for regular communication purposes. Metaphor is everywhere in literature as well, from the interrelations among its smallest (words, images, figures of speech) to its largest (characters, plot, narrative) elements. Beyond the most basic assumptions about metaphor — that it has a primarily decorative purpose, to make writing more “exciting” or “beautiful;” or that it helps the reader “visualize” images; or that it serves to highlight and heighten important themes — lie great areas of thinking about metaphor, that can help deepen and clarify our understanding of literature, art and life.

The concepts that govern our thought are not just matters of the intellect. They also govern our everyday functioning, down to the most mundane details. Our concepts structure what we perceive, how we get around in the world, and how we relate to other people. Our conceptual system thus plays a central role in defining our everyday realities. If we are right in suggesting that our conceptual system is largely metaphorical, then the way we think, what we experience, and what we do every day is very much a matter of metaphor.

But our conceptual system is not something we are normally aware of. In most of the little things we do every day, we simply think and act more or less automatically along certain lines. Just what these lines are is by no means obvious. One way to find out is by looking at language. Since communication is based on the same conceptual system that we use in thinking and acting, language is an important source of evidence for what that system is like.

Primarily on the basis of linguistic evidence, we have found that most of our ordinary conceptual system is metaphorical in nature. And we have found a way to begin to identify in detail just what the metaphors are that structure how we perceive, how we think, and what we do.

Here are scientists’ point of views about metaphors:

“We all live, and speak, only through our eye for resemblances. Metaphor is the omnipresent principle of language ... we cannot get through three sentences of ordinary fluid discourse without it. “When we use a metaphor we have two thoughts of different things active together and supported by a single word or phrase, whose meaning is a result of their interaction.” [I.A. Richards]

In each of the examples that follow given a metaphor and a list of ordinary expressions that are special cases of the metaphor. The English expressions are of two sorts: simple literal expressions and idioms that fit the metaphor and are part of the normal everyday way of talking about the subject.

Metaphors are pervasive and accessible thinking and learning machines that have the ability to disrupt and transform our patterns of thought. The construction of metaphors — two dissimilar and often disparate terms or concepts placed together to create newness and understanding — is an incredibly powerful thinking machine and lies at the heart of what it means to be human [Lakoff & Johnson, 1980]. Through the paradox of being strange, yet familiar, metaphors can perform an operation on our cognitive processes, and, as such, they can disrupt and transform our ways of thinking. They can introduce theory and terminology and elicit understanding where none previously existed and, in so doing, produce something that promotes a deeper connection with the ideas within, and extrapolated from, the metaphor. According to Lakoff and Johnson [1980, cf. 1999], because metaphors are so deeply rooted in our experiences and our thinking they enable us to make sense and meaning of our worlds. Going further, metaphor allows us to continually make and remake reality with our minds [Cook-Sather, 2003, p. 949], for metaphor “is pervasive in everyday life, not just in language but in thought and action. Our ordinary conceptual system, in terms of which we both think and act, is fundamentally metaphorical in nature” [Lakoff & Johnson, 1980, p. 3].

To sum up, advanced learners need to develop a "metaphoric competence" if they are to attain a level of proficiency in English that will equip them for

professional lives that require a high level of language awareness, knowledge, understanding and resourcefulness.

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