

Інна Халай  
м. Чернівці

Науковий керівник: к.ф.н., доц. Павлович Т.І.

## VOCABULARY IN THE MODERN NOVEL. VARIETY OF USE OF NEUTRAL WORDS (BASED ON LIAN MORIARTY'S NOVEL "BIG LITTLE LIES")

Анотація. У статті аналізується лексичне наповнення сучасного англomовного роману. На практичному рівні визначено основні особливості вживання нейтрально забарвлених слів, їхня кількість та частота. Детально описано розмежування по особливих групах, а саме по частинах мови, також наданий кількісний аналіз вживання нейтрально забарвлених слів у мовленні головних героїнь роману.

Ключові слова: сучасний роман, нейтрально забарвлені слова, емоційно забарвлені слова, літературні слова.

*Summary. The article analyzes the lexical content of a modern English-language novel. Everyone knows the three main types - neutral, literary and colloquial words. At the practical level, the main features of the use of neutral words, their number and frequency are identified. The distinction by special groups, namely by parts of speech, is described in detail. The selected part is relevant for research and interesting because it contains the most common group of words - these are neutral words, so it is considered that these words are not interesting, although I have evidence that this is not the case, because the variety of words used is really impressive. The results obtained prove that neutral words make up the largest part of use, so they can be considered one of the most important types of vocabulary. Also, an analysis of neutral words by parts of speech and their number in the speech of the main characters will be provided.*

*In addition, the modern novel that has been selected for study is a great field for research. This is completely new vision of the novel; a description of the characters and their behavior helped to prove and disprove a number of facts about the novels that are popular today. The idea of primitiveness and thoughtlessness is now the secondary one.*

*Each page is filled with a large number of words that carry specific information.*

**Keywords:** *modern novel, neutral words, colloquial words, literary words.*

**Formulation of the problem.** In today's world, television and the Internet have stolen our attention. They affect our feelings, tastes, attitudes, thoughts and even moods. However, can we really dissolve into these digital innovations? Sure, we can't imagine life without the Internet and television, but isn't literature a part that will never disappear from our lives? I'm sure everyone will agree that there is nothing better than turning the pages of a real paper book. I believe that a study based on the study of vocabulary from a real novel is proof that real literature is still alive and needs to be continued. That is why this study is still relevant, because books and literature will always be alive.

**Review of recent research and publications on this issue.** In modern sociolinguistics there is a tendency to study lexical peculiarities in different languages: in Ukrainian (researchers B. Azhnyuk, D. Barannyk, N. Dybiak, Y. Zhluktenko, T. Kiyak, L. Matsko, O. Styshov) and English (scientists B. Hansen, H. Hitchings, A. Stanforth, S. Thomson) [5, c. 135].

The value attitude of a person, i.e., the evaluative aspect of the interaction of reality and a person, is reflected and fixed in language, in language structures, at the level of meanings of words, phrases, sentences, etc. In the process of communication, expressing his opinion or talking about some events, a person cannot completely abstract from his attitude to what is being said and one way or another expresses his opinion. The connection of language with human life and psychology first of all manifests itself in the formation of the category of evaluation [4, c. 39].

The **aim** of the work is to comprehensively investigate the use of various English words in modern literature, to achieve this goal you need to solve the following problems: to describe dialogic speech, to describe the theoretical foundations of the study of linguistic phenomena, also to outline the structural classification of words as well as to classify words by structure using the research of linguists.

**The research material.** The material for the study was a modern

literary work, namely the novel by the writer Liane Moriarty “The Big Little Lies. Against the background of this material, we worked on vocabulary, namely neutral, literary, colloquial words. This article can be used during lectures on lexicology and literature.

**The main part.** The stylistic assignment of words is based on the fact that the repeated use of a word in specific contexts related to a particular field of human activity leaves a certain imprint on it, so that in the future it is perceived as a property of this context. Along with words that are used in any context, the semantic structure of which does not contain stylistic color, there are significant lexical layers with a limited range of usage, which are used in the language in different cases depending on the conditions and situation of communication and belonging to certain professional and social groups.

The largest thematic and stylistic layer of language vocabulary are commonly used words that are used freely, without any restrictions. These words are associated with common concepts for most native speakers, but are common, understandable to the general public names of objects and phenomena of the surrounding reality.

They are characterized by the stability of basic meanings, ie most words have preserved in modern language the same meanings that are recorded in the most ancient monuments of writing. At the same time, this composition may change, being supplemented by new concepts that become well-known, or due to changes in the stylistic labeling of the word, its lexical and syntactic compatibility. Neutral words comprise the overwhelming majority of lexis, used in all spheres of human activity and being the main source of synonyms and polysemantic words. They are used in both literary and colloquial language. It is the neutral stock of words that is so prolific in the production of new meanings.

Neutral words, which form the bulk of the English vocabulary, are used in both literary and colloquial language. Neutral words are the main source of synonymy and polysemy. It is the neutral stock of words that is so prolific in the production of new meanings [2, c. 103]

The wealth of the neutral stratum of words is often overlooked. This is due to their inconspicuous character. But their faculty for assuming new meanings and generating new stylistic variants is often quite amazing. This generative power of the neutral words in English language is multiplied by the very nature of the language itself. It has been estimated

that most neutral English words are of monosyllabic character, as, in the process of development from Old English to Modern English, most of the parts of speech lost their distinguish suffixes. This phenomenon has led to the development of conversion as the most productive means of word-building. Word compounding is not so productive as conversion or word shift in the part of speech in the first case and by the addition of an affix in the second. Unlike all other groups, the neutral group of words cannot be considered as having a special stylistic coloring.

The study of stylistic differentiation of vocabulary includes consideration of the peculiarities of the use of lexical means of language in certain types of language, ie in certain functional-linguistic styles, and characterization of emotional and expressive qualities of different groups of words, as stylistic the exception is the terms) is combined with the presence of words of emotionally expressive color. Stylistically neutral words, on the other hand, tend to have zero emotionality [1, c. 68]

The vocabulary of modern language is primarily characterized by its diversity. It is known that in the process of its development and formation the national language is increasingly differentiated. This differentiation, in particular, has found its expression and distinction in dictionaries. Each group of words has its own sphere of use, where they are used in their literal sense, without acquiring emotionally expressive shades. However, to create more vivid images, unusual speech inversions, the frameworks that limit the functioning of lexical units are erased, contributing to their penetration into different functional styles of speech.

Vocabulary differentiation is a multifaceted concept that is considered in

different aspects: the form of language, scope, emotional color, historical perspective, origin, etc. Scholars approach the issue of vocabulary stratification differently, so it is worth considering the existing views on the differentiation of vocabulary of Ukrainian and English languages. In the most general sense, the entire lexical stock of the national language is divided into two groups stylistically neutral and stylistically colored vocabulary. According to O.D. Ponomarev, the basis of the vocabulary of the language is stylistically neutral vocabulary. These are words that are devoid of any color and are used

equally in all functional styles of speech. This group includes words from different thematic groups: names objects, signs, actions and states, etc. Stylistically, such vocabulary is unlabeled, ie devoid of connotation. They are a kind of background on which the stylistic labeling of other words is manifested.

Neutral vocabulary can become stylistically colored when used figuratively or in a certain communicative situation. Acquiring additional emotionally expressive coloring [6, c. 36].

Russian scientists AA Polikarpov and V.Ya. Kurlov offered its classification of the lexical structure of the national language, which is based on the opposition of stylistically marked and stylistically neutral vocabulary. They distributed all the vocabulary according to the following criteria:

1. from the point of view of historical perspective - obsolete words and meanings: archaisms;
2. by territorial limitation regional and regional words: dialectisms;
3. on a functional basis (connection with another sphere or communication) - common vocabulary and vocabulary inherent in certain functional styles.
4. in relation to different stylistic layers of literary language "high" and "low" lexical units. as well as an intermediate layer neutral units;
5. by the presence / absence in lexical units of expressive-emotional coloring: abusive, contemptuous, humorous words, euphemisms [2, c. 5].

After studying 481 pages, I can state the fact that the total number of samples is 93,488 words. Among the nouns we can distinguish 19,926 words (*cat, cake, time, air, way, act, legs, yard, cup, tea, deal, view, side, room, year, nut, eye, play, men, dress, women*). In contrast to verbs, among which there are 23,666 examples (*to eat, to pay, to play, to do, to see*), and adjectives are very rare in their usage - only 5998 cases (*old, past, big black, poor*). In addition, we consider it necessary to allocate a separate group called "other parts of speech" which includes adverbs, prepositions, numerals and others. This category contains the largest number of words - 43,898 units (*at, before, after, that, she, he, why, they, it, not, in, the, we*).

Among the 481 pages, the total number of samples of neutral words

is 87,550 units, such as *cat, cake, to eat, old, time, air, way, act, legs, yard, cup, tea, past, big, deal, view, to pay, side, to walk, to close, to look, to open, to care, voice, car, cup, garden, to call, body, hall, daughter, to say, face, busy, small, gym, arm, big, friend, hand, day, to help, father, different, window, message, to push, ball, glass, to give, to take, card, to keep, side, to ask, library, ocean, to talk, sort, funny, children, week, biscuit, breakfast, to sound, to have, event, room, year, nut, eye, a play, men, black, dress, women, poor, to hurt, to play, to think, to know, to like, night, to find, school, and, to let, all, to do, mother, me, ago, that, also, thing, grandchildren, to say, to mean, they, it, he, she, we, rain, rage, now, to hear, angry, to go, what, to feel, front, same, noise, husband, to live.*

Of course, a large number of words were repeated, but this did not prevent us from researching and making sure that the English language is very diverse and full of different vocabulary.

Thus, writing any text, work of art or official letter entails the importance of a diverse vocabulary.

Neutral are used to provide a clear understanding of certain concepts and phenomena, namely 6,339 cases were found in Madeline's speech: "*And he's nice*"; "*You are not all asleep*"; "*It's all right*"; "*You're going to love it...*". Other characters generally had fewer lines, so the sample of words is smaller - 3217 words in Celeste's: "*Yes, I think so, anyway, the fact is, we don't know for sure that it's him*"; "*Really? I'm quite good at it*"; "*They have... The night before their party last year...*"; "*Get some air?*", and 3812 words to Jane: "*We'll get some on the weekend. You look funny*"; "*It's fun. You'll like it.*".

This means that the main characters of the novel express their opinions in clear words. Their speech is not cluttered with slang or special territorial words that reduce the quality of thought. Neutral words are extremely important, because they cover most parts of the speech, and they are used to form colloquial and words and even stylistic devices. Basically, all stylistic devices are the result of revaluation of neutral words. [2, c. 103]

However, this is not the most important condition for successful presentation of the material, because to identify common features and characteristics requires a wide base of neutrally colored words that will name the phenomenon in a particular context without giving them

additional emotional meaning. A group of neutrally colored words is devoid of connotation and serves as a basic vocabulary that names common phenomena and objects.

**Conclusions.** In general, studies have shown positive results. Neutral vocabulary is common in writing any text work, so the numbers obtained in the calculations are really impressive. We can state the fact that the English language is «rich» in lexical material.

All words were divided into categories, namely by parts of speech, which shows in which part of the language such words are most used. Quantitative analysis of the neutral words used by the main characters of the novel are given with examples. In total, the sample is: 6339 words in Madeline's speech, 3217 words in Celeste's speech and 3812 words in Jane's speech.

**Perspectives** of further research involves the possibility of an extended study of neutral vocabulary or supplementing this study with other categories of English words. Also, a comparative analysis of the usage of words in the speech of the main characters, the study of other words' categories, such as colloquial and literal vocabulary, their usage, frequency and functions, along with the stylistic characteristics of each speech.

#### Література:

1. Гвишиани Н.Б. Современный английский язык: Лексикология (новый курс для филологических факультетов): Москва, МГУ, 2000. 256 с.
2. Герцовська Н.О., Возняк К. Антономазія як стилістичний засіб створення прагматичного впливу мови. Міжнародний науковий журнал «ОСВІТА І НАУКА». 2018. Випуск 24(1). С. 103
3. Грицай І. В. Диференціація лексики у телевізійних ЗМІ. Київ: 2015. 6 с.
4. Дорда В.О. Аксіологічні аспекти студентського сленгу США. «Вісник СумДУ». 2006. Вип. 11 (95). С. 39
5. Петришин О.Л., Лужецька О.М. Новітні англомовні запозичення як засіб міжкультурної комунікації. «Молодий вчений». 2018. Вип. 3.1 (55.1) С. 136–137
6. Пономарів О. Д. Стилістика сучасної української мови. Підручник. Київ: Либідь, 1993. 36 с.