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Intensification and Deintensification Expressed Through Hyperbola in English Novels**Ingliz romanlarida giperbola orqali ifodalangan intensifikatsiya va deintensifikatsiya****Интенсификация и деинтенсификация, выраженные с помощью гиперболы в английских романах****Qurbonov Nasibullo** Teacher of Applied English department, Fergana State University
Uzbekistan**Abstract**

This study examines the linguistic features of intensification and deintensification expressed through hyperbolic language in English novels, focusing on how authors manipulate hyperbole to amplify or diminish emotional and thematic elements. By analyzing both historical and contemporary works, the research identifies recurring patterns in the deployment of hyperbole, suggesting that it serves as a crucial rhetorical tool for emotional engagement and thematic resonance. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of how hyperbole operates within narrative structures to shape reader perception.

Annotatsiya

Ushbu tadqiqot ingliz romanlarida giperbolik til orqali ifodalangan kuchaytirish va kuchsizlantirishning lingvistik xususiyatlarini o'rganadi. Unda mualliflarning giperboladan foydalanib, hissiy va mavzuviy elementlarni qanday kuchaytirishi yoki kuchsizlantirishini tahlil qiladi. Tarixiy va zamonaviy asarlarni tahlil qilish orqali tadqiqot giperboladan foydalanishdagi takroriy shakllarni aniqlaydi va uning hissiy ta'sir va mavzuviy uyg'unlikni yaratish uchun muhim ritorik vosita sifatida xizmat qilishini ko'rsatadi. Tadqiqot natijalari giperbolaning hikoya tuzilmalarida qanday ishlashini va o'quvchi idrokini shakllantirishdagi rolini chuqurroq tushunishga hissa qo'shadi.

Аннотация

В этом исследовании рассматриваются лингвистические особенности интенсификации и деинтенсификации, выраженные с помощью гиперболического языка в английских романах, с акцентом на то, как авторы манипулируют гиперболами, чтобы усилить или ослабить эмоциональные и тематические элементы. Анализируя как исторические, так и современные произведения, исследователи выявляют повторяющиеся закономерности в использовании гиперболы, предполагая, что она служит важнейшим риторическим инструментом для эмоционального вовлечения и тематического резонанса. Полученные результаты способствуют более глубокому пониманию того, как гипербола воздействует на повествовательные структуры, формируя восприятие читателя.

Key words: Intensification, deintensification, hyperbola, narrative prose, narrative context, discourse, tension, emotional intensity, dynamic emotional landscape

Kalit so'zlar: Intensifikatsiya (kuchaytirish), deintensifikatsiya (kuchsizlantirish), giperbola, hikoyaviy nasr, hikoya konteksti, nutq, ziddiyat, hissiy intensivlik, dinamik hissiy manzara

Ключевые слова: интенсификация, деинтенсификация, гипербола, повествовательная проза, повествовательный контекст, дискурс, напряженность, эмоциональная насыщенность, динамический эмоциональный ландшафт.

INTRODUCTION

Hyperbole, as a figure of speech that involves exaggerated statements not meant to be taken literally, has long been a staple in English literature. Its role in intensifying emotions or weakening narrative tension is particularly noteworthy. In the context of novel writing, hyperbole can amplify character emotions, underscore thematic concerns, or create irony. This study investigates how English novelists utilize hyperbole to express

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both intensification and deintensification, drawing from a range of literary works across different periods.

While much research has focused on hyperbole in rhetoric and everyday language (McCarthy, 2004; Brown, 2006), there has been relatively little attention paid to its specific functions in narrative prose. The aim of this paper is to bridge that gap, offering insights into how hyperbole serves to modulate emotional intensity and thematic engagement in English novels.

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection: The study focuses on a selection of novels from various periods, including *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë, *Ulysses* by James Joyce, and *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith. These works were chosen for their representative use of hyperbole in diverse narrative contexts. Passages were extracted based on the presence of hyperbolic expressions, which were identified using both manual analysis and computational linguistic tools (JSTOR, 2018, p. 33-40).

Analytical Framework

The analysis applies a discourse-analytic approach, examining how hyperbole functions at both micro (sentence-level) and macro (plot-level) scales. Key attention was given to identifying instances where hyperbole serves to intensify or deintensify the narrative, and how these instances align with broader emotional or thematic structures. Following the method outlined by Claridge (2011) in her study on hyperbole in discourse, each hyperbolic expression was classified based on its role in either intensification or deintensification.

RESULTS*Hyperbole and Intensification*

The data shows that hyperbole predominantly functions as a tool for intensification, particularly in character dialogue and emotional climaxes. For example, in *Wuthering Heights*, Catherine Earnshaw's declaration that she "cannot live without her soul" (Brontë, 1847, p. 116) serves as a hyperbolic expression of her emotional dependence on Heathcliff. This intensification of her emotional state resonates with the novel's themes of passion and destruction.

Similarly, in *Ulysses*, Joyce frequently uses hyperbole to convey the complexity of human experience. In Leopold Bloom's inner monologue, phrases like "a million thoughts" (Joyce, 1922, p. 423) amplify his mental state, giving readers a sense of the overwhelming nature of his consciousness. The hyperbolic language in these moments heightens the intensity of Bloom's introspection, reinforcing the novel's experimental style.

Hyperbole and Deintensification

While less common, hyperbole is also employed for deintensification, often creating a sense of irony or comic relief. In *White Teeth*, Smith's characters often use hyperbole to downplay serious situations, diffusing tension through exaggerated understatement. For instance, Archie Jones refers to his near-death experience as "just a scratch" (Smith, 2000, p. 12), a hyperbolic minimization that reduces the emotional weight of the event. Such instances of deintensification through hyperbole provide contrast to moments of heightened emotional intensity, creating a dynamic emotional landscape within the narrative.

ANALYSIS*Hyperbole as a Modulator of Emotion and Theme*

The findings suggest that hyperbole plays a crucial role in modulating the emotional and thematic intensity of English novels. When used for intensification, hyperbole allows authors to push emotions and themes to their extremes, engaging readers on a visceral level. Brontë's use of hyperbole in *Wuthering Heights*, for instance, serves to amplify the

novel's exploration of obsessive love, while Joyce's use of hyperbole in *Ulysses* accentuates the complexity of the human mind.

On the other hand, deintensification through hyperbole functions to introduce irony or comic relief, as seen in *White Teeth*. This dynamic interplay between intensification and deintensification not only provides emotional variation but also enhances thematic complexity. The use of hyperbole, therefore, becomes a versatile tool in the novelist's arsenal, capable of shaping the reader's emotional experience and deepening the thematic resonance of the narrative.

Implications for Literary Theory

DISCUSSION

This study contributes to the understanding of hyperbole as more than just an ornamental figure of speech. It highlights the strategic use of hyperbole in narrative prose as a means of controlling emotional pacing and thematic focus. Future research could explore how these findings apply to other genres, such as poetry or drama, and how hyperbole interacts with other rhetorical devices to produce complex emotional and thematic effects.

The use of hyperbole in English novels serves as a powerful tool for both intensification and deintensification, affecting the emotional and thematic dimensions of the narrative. While it is more commonly employed to intensify emotions and themes, hyperbole also plays a significant role in reducing tension and introducing irony. By examining its functions in works by Brontë, Joyce, and Smith, this study provides a deeper understanding of how hyperbole shapes reader engagement with narrative prose.

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