

THE ROLE OF METONYMY IN ENGLISH NOVELS

Rakhmonova Amira Ulfatovna

Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages,

Department of English Lexicology and Stylistics

senior lecturer, independent researcher

Elise Brittain

PhD student at Culture,

Literacy, and Language at UTSA

Abstract. The article is devoted to the stylistic study of metonymy, its types and role in novels. Moreover, a set of examples were analyzed.

Key words: stylistics, metonymy, metaphor, novel, emotions, personage.

The relationship between two types of lexical meanings - subject-logical and contextual, based on the identification of specific external or internal connections or adjacency between objects or phenomena, is called metonymy. Just like metaphor, metonymy, on the one hand, is a way of forming new words; on the other, it is a stylistic device. Thus, metonymy is divided into language and speech.

In order to better understand the stylistic functions of speech metonymy, we will give examples of linguistic metonymy, in other words, such new meanings of words that appeared in the English language through metonymic relations. Thus, the word bench, the main meaning of which is 'bench', is used as a general term for the concept of 'jurisprudence'; the word press from the meaning of 'printing press' received the following metonymic meanings: 'press, printing, publishing workers', the word hand is used in the meaning of 'worker', etc.

In Oxford dictionary metonymy is defined as the act of referring to something by the name of something else that is closely connected with it, for example using *the White House* for *the US president* [5].

Linguistic metonymy is stamped, speech, or contextual, metonymy is always original. For example, Sometimes the pen is mightier than the sword. (Here pen - 'word, speech, literature, press', sword - 'army, war, battle').

Metonymy as a special stylistic device that forms the figurative system of a literary text is included in the system of poetic and rhetorical expressions developed by ancient Greek and then Roman rhetoricians. This system of tropes and stylistic figures exists to this day, it underlies any research aimed at studying the figurative means of poetic language, although, of course, in the course of literary development, the content, the specific poetic load of a particular trope, one or another figure has changed significantly, and in parallel with this, the view of the essence and ways of functioning

of these stylistic phenomena has changed. Despite the fact that the study of the system of trails has a long tradition, certain types of trails have not yet received sufficiently complete coverage in modern linguistic literature. So, if numerous studies devoted to metaphor allow us to talk about the existence of a whole theory of metaphor, then there are still many unresolved issues in the theory of metonymy [3, 54].

The peculiarity of metonymy in comparison with metaphor is that metonymy, creating an image, preserves it when “deciphering” the image. In the process of understanding the metaphor, one image excludes the other. For example, the lamp metaphor in the phrase “The sky lamp of the night”, when deciphered, means 'moon' and although there is a play of meanings here, we perceive one object - the moon. But in metonymy it is different. Metonymy, representing one subject, does not exclude another. For example, *Miss Tax's hand trembled... and she felt herself escorted up the steps, preceded by a cocked hat and a Babylonian collar. (Dickens)* In this example, contextual metonymy reveals a completely unexpected substitution of one concept by another based on some strong impression made by a random feature of a certain thing. A “*cocked hat and a Babylonian collar*” are used instead of the one who wears it, in order to emphasize not the importance of the person who wears it, but his person is reduced to conspicuous features such as a hat and a red collar, but both concepts are preserved (both persons and objects).

Another example of speech/contextual metonymy: *Then they came in. Two of them, a man with long fair moustaches and a silent dark man. Definitely, the moustache and I had nothing in common. (Lessing)* In this example, we see a human trait that attracts attention (moustache). But here moustache and the man himself are both perceived by consciousness. The function of metonymy here is to serve as an indicator that the speaker knows nothing about this person and, moreover, sees him for the first time.

The following examples contextual metonymy: *The table on the right cheered and clapped as Hannah went to sit down at the Hufflepuff table [5, 89].* In this example, we see that a table means a group of people sitting around the table. The verb *cheer* and *clap* help here to illustrate the emotional conditions of personages. The function of representing the internal emotional state of the personage is aimed at recreating the emotions that the personage experiences. Such a reconstruction of the emotional state is necessary because this information allows the readers to understand better what is happening, to form a complete picture of it [4, 11].

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Metonymy can be based on various types of relationships between objects/phenomena/concepts. Here are some of them:

1. A concrete thing can be used instead of an abstract concept. In this case, the object becomes a symbol of the concept, as, for example, in the following sentence: “The camp, the pulpit and the law For rich men’s sons are free”. (Shelley)
Here, the specific concepts of "camp" and "pulpit" are used in more abstract meanings - 'service' and 'preacher's activity', respectively.
2. The name of the vessel, receptacle, container, room is used instead of its contents: The hall applauded.
3. The name of the material - instead of the thing made of it: The marble spoke.
4. The instrument used to perform some action, instead of the action itself or the performer: “*Well, Mr. Weller*”, says the gentleman, “*you're a very good whip, and can do what you like with your horses, we know.*” (Dickens) *As the sword is the worst argument that can be used, so should it be the last.* (Byron).

There was perfect sympathy between Pulpit and Pew (where Pulpit - 'pulpit' is used instead of clergyman, priest, clergyman; and Pew - instead of congregation, parishioners). A kind of metonymy is a synecdoche based on the replacement of one name by another on the basis of a "partitive quantitative relationship between them". For example, the name of the whole (larger) is replaced by the name of its part (smaller) or, conversely, the general - the name of the particular, the plural - the singular, and vice versa: a fleet of fifty sails; “*For there can live no hatred in thine eye.*” (Shakespeare)

Metonymy is usually expressed by a noun (less often - a substantivized numeral) and is used in syntactic functions of the subject, complement, predicative).

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