

THE USE OF EMOTIONS IN AMERICAN AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

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Abstract: in this article, the expression of feelings in American and English literature is highlighted on the example of the works of some writers. At the same time, the article focuses on the differences and similarities between American and British literary language.

Key words: literature, emotion, love, fear, Shakespeare, author, characters.

AMERIKA VA INGLIZ DABIYOTIDA HISSIYOTNING ISHLATILISHI

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Annotatsiya: mazkur maqolada Amerika va ingliz adabiyotid hissiyotlarning ifodalanishi ayrim yozuvchilarning ijod namunalari misolida yoritib berilgan. Shu bilan birga maqolada Amerika va Britaniya adabiy hissiyotlar tilining bir biridan farqli va o'xshash jihatlariga ham to'xtalib o'tilgan.

Kalit so'zlar: adabiyot, hissiyot, love, fear, Shakepear, author, characters.

When it comes to writing, people often focus on plot, character, and setting, but the emotional landscape you create in your story is important too. The authors consider the emergence of emotions and their treatment in the human sciences and look specifically at positions taken by multilingual writers who relate emotions they have felt to the languages in which their emotions are expressed. They enquire into whether language exists in the absence of language communities and consider how authors have expressed their anchoring or lack of anchoring in one or more languages and what motivates them in their choice of a given language for emotional expression. As story creators, we want readers to identify with our characters and immerse themselves in our story worlds, so they get hooked and keep reading. We do that using emotion. Emotion also helps readers gain understanding and perspective from different viewpoints, as well as providing an opportunity for them to escape from the 'real world' for a while. There are three types of emotion in writing:

- Emotion experienced by you, the writer
- Emotion experienced by the character
- And an emotional response from the read.[1]

Emotion of language and using emotions in works is different in different countries. To help us to answer the question of 'what is emotive language in English?'

in a bit more detail, we need the help of a few examples. The following is taken from a speech delivered by Martin Luther King Jr., during the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom:

“I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, sons of former slaves and sons of former slave-owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.”

This speech includes a number of examples of emotive language. For instance:

The phrase 'I have a dream' uses personal pronouns, inviting those listening to share in King's vision of a better world. This phrase is repeated emphatically throughout the speech.

'Brotherhood' is an abstract noun - a word describing an idea or concept. King uses this emotive phrase to appeal to the audience's desire for the things that 'brotherhood' represents - acceptance, equality, and community.

King also uses metaphorical language, describing the state of Mississippi as 'sweltering' with injustice and describing the cool 'oasis' of freedom that it could be. Using sensory descriptions of heat helps to illustrate the difficulty of the struggle for civil rights, as well as reminding his audience what they are striving for. This section of the speech is intended to motivate civil rights activists to keep protesting for their rights.

Just from this one short extract, we can see how specific word choices contribute to the overall meaning of the speech and encourage people to embrace his message. [2]

A comparative study of British and American literature revealed that British literature has become less emotional than American literature. This startling fact was revealed by the study published in 2013 in the journal, "Public Library of Science ONE" ("PLOS ONE"). In this study, Dr. Alberto Acerbi and Professor Alex Bentley evaluated more than five million books using Google's database, Ngram Viewer, to reveal the frequency of words associated with anger, fear, disgust, sadness, joy, and surprise in these books.

Dr. Acerbi and his colleague noted that the use of language is tied to major events. For instance, during World War II there was greater use of words associated with sadness. Since the mid-1950s American authors have noticeably used more expressive words. The emotional prose by writers such as E.M. Forster was replaced by the reserved style of authors including Ian McEwan. From the 1960s onwards, the divergence between the American and British prose and the change in the language used by British writers was more evident.[3]

The study provides a useful starting point to understand the reasons for this divergence. Psychologists have discovered that people who have more emotional

intensity live more complicated lives than less emotional people. This may explain why the apparent connection between emotion in literature and turbulent events.

A noticeable albeit unsurprising exception during the Cold War era was the use of words associated with fear, even though British writers used less emotionally expressive words generally. Words associated with fear became more common in the novels written during the second part of the 20th century.

The researchers appeared to think that economic prosperity in America made the prose more emotional; yet in the British context they held the contradictory view that turbulent times affected the writing of the period.

While the American economy did go through a post-war boom, American writers were also living through turbulent times. The civil rights movement, the assassinations of American icons (John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.), the anti-Vietnam War movement, and feminism era were some of the notable emotional periods of the 1960s, the decade of the emerging divergence in the writing styles of the two nations.

In the U.S. were also greater inequality, a weaker social net and activists raising public awareness of the weaknesses. Writers like Alice Walker, Harper Lee, Toni Morrison, James Baldwin, Gore Vidal, Joseph Heller, and Norman Mailer were products of their times. The literary moods expressed in their writings were driven by the major events of the 20th century experienced in their country.

The comparative study of British and American books reveals that writers are communicators who are moved by their times. The storytellers are not immune to what is going on around them. They distill cultural and historical trends of their times in the language they use in their literary works.

During the first half of the 20th century, British books were similar in emotional content — or even a little more emotional — than American books. But since 1960, American literature (<https://www.popsci.com/technology/article/2012-09/science-confirms-obvious-reading-literature-good-your-brain/?amp>) has had more and more emotional “mood” content than their British counterparts. The same trend was found in American and English usage of content-free words like “and,” “but” and “the,” suggesting that a larger stylistic difference has emerged.

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