

INTRODUCTION

Significance of the textbook lies in the development of communicative and professional competence aiming to help students extend their linguistic and professional competence by presenting significant notions of Stylistics as a subject; prepare for the seminars providing them with some supplementary reading material; develop skills in stylistic analysis of texts of different genres; increase their motivation towards further education.

The textbook themes introduce you to the most central concepts and analytical frameworks in stylistics. The description of stylistics as a branch of general linguistics and the main notions of stylistics as well as its branches is specified in Part 1. The exploration of textual peculiarities and functional styles in terms of Stylistics refer to Part 2.

In the course of Part 1, we will study the principles and the effect of choice and usage of different language elements in rendering thought and emotion under different conditions of communication. We will explore that Stylistics is closely connected with such disciplines as phonetics, lexicology and grammar due to the common source of study. Moreover, prominent linguists distinguish several branches of Stylistics.

In accordance with the division of language into literary and colloquial, the whole vocabulary of the English language linguists divide into three main layers: 1) the literary layer; 2) the neutral layer; 3) the colloquial layer. Stylistic classification of the English vocabulary is specified in Lecture 2. Morphological expressive means (EM) and stylistic devices (SD) will be introduced in the third lecture.

In comparison with the expressive means of the language, stylistic devices carry a greater amount of information as they show the attitude of the speaker or author towards his purpose of speaking. Stylistic devices are always emotionally charged. Phonetic and graphic means, which transmit special imagery and picturesqueness and create the general tone of a literature work, will be discussed in Theme 4. Subsequent lectures will examine lexico-semantic stylistic devices, mainly their division into figures of substitution and figures of combination. In the remaining seventh lecture, the syntactic stylistic devices based on the reduction of sentence model, the extension of sentence model, the change of word-order, as well as on the transposition of sentence meaning, will be distinguished. The following major functional

styles (belles-lettres style, publicist style, newspaper style, scientific style, official style) and reasons of language varieties will be generally introduced in the final theme.

In the course of Part 2, we will study general parameters of well-composed texts and text formation as an object of special linguistic interest. We will discover that well-formed texts undoubtedly follow a certain compositional pattern (heading, the text, conclusion), and that the text itself can be divided into smaller units made up of interdependent sentences, that are grouped into a paragraph, then there may be chapters, parts and books. This kind of pragmatic division which aims at promoting the process of comprehension varies from text to text, as the author always takes into consideration information capacity of human brains. In Theme 2 we will focus on the term of narration, which is also called storytelling and defines the process of recounting a sequence of events, real or imagined.

In the following five themes different types of functional styles will be introduced in detail. The outlay of belles-lettres style, characterized by its cognitive and aesthetic functions, will be discussed in Theme 3; publicist style, exerting a constant and deep influence on public opinion – in Theme 4; newspaper style, imparting information of the four basic newspaper features (brief news item, advertisement and announcement, headline, editorial) – in Theme 5; scientific prose style, proving a hypothesis and creating new concepts – in Theme 6; the style of official documents, reaching an argument between two contracting parties – in Theme 7. In the final theme general considerations of Stylistics, its functional styles as a field of linguistic investigation and approaches to classification of functional styles will be featured.

Each theme is accompanied with a practice section in order to immediately refresh one's knowledge after a short paragraph or practice tasks for mastering each item of the plan and questions for self-control, discussion topics, list of questions for preparation for seminars; list of references for the course, which aims to help students understand and master the theoretical material. Multiple-choice tests and individual tasks contribute to the assimilation of material during classes and self-check on the theoretical and practical parts of the course.