COGNITIVE LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH PROVERBS: METAPHOR, METONYMY, AND BEYOND

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Abstract: This article conducts a comprehensive cognitive linguistic analysis of English proverbs, focusing on the roles of metaphor and metonymy in these expressions. Drawing on a corpus of English proverbs, it examines the underlying conceptual metaphors and metonymies that structure these linguistic units. The article utilizes qualitative and quantitative methods to analyze the data, revealing the cognitive processes involved in the creation and interpretation of proverbs. The findings provide insights into the cognitive and cultural frameworks that underpin the use of proverbs in language.

Аннотация:Эта статья посвящена всестороннему когнитивно-лингвистическому анализу английских пословиц, в которой основное внимание уделяется правилам метафорики и метонимии в этих выражениях. Опираясь на корпус английских пословиц, автор рассматривает концептуальные метафоры и метонимии, которые структурируют эти языковые единицы. В статье используются качественные и количественные методы анализа данных, позволяющие выявить когнитивные процессы, участвующие в создании и интерпретации пословиц. Полученные результаты дают представление о когнитивных и культурных структурах, которые лежат в основе использования пословиц в языке.

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqola ingliz maqollarini har tomonlama kognitiv-lingvistik tahlil qilishga bag'ishlangan bo'lib, unda ushbu iboralardagi metafora va metonimiya qoidalariga e'tibor qaratilgan. Ingliz maqollari korpusiga asoslanib, muallif ushbu til birliklarini tuzadigan kontseptual metafora va metonimiyalarni ko'rib chiqadi. Maqolada maqollarni yaratish va talqin qilishda ishtirok etadigan kognitiv jarayonlarni aniqlash uchun ma'lumotlarni tahlil qilishning sifatli va miqdoriy usullari qo'llaniladi. Topilmalar tilda maqollardan foydalanishning asosini tashkil etuvchi kognitiv va madaniy tuzilmalar haqida tushuncha beradi.

Keywords:cognitive linguistics, English proverbs, metaphor, metonymy, conceptual metaphor, conceptual metonymy
Ключевые слова:когнитивная лингвистика, английские пословицы, метафора, метонимия, концептуальная метафора, понятийная метонимия
Kalit so'zlar:kognitiv tilshunoslik, inglizcha maqollar, metafora, metonimiya, kontseptual metafora, kontseptual metonimiya

Introduction: English proverbs are a rich source of linguistic and cultural insight, encapsulating universal truths, beliefs, and values in concise and memorable phrases. Proverbs often rely on metaphor and metonymy to convey their meanings, making them an interesting subject for cognitive linguistic analysis.

Methods:A corpus of English proverbs was compiled from various sources, including literature, folklore, and everyday speech. The corpus was analyzed using a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. Qualitative analysis involved identifying the conceptual metaphors and metonymies present in the proverbs, while quantitative analysis focused on determining the frequency and distribution of these cognitive processes in the corpus.

Results: The analysis revealed a variety of metaphorical and metonymic expressions in the English proverbs' corpus. Metaphorical expressions were found to be particularly common, with source domains

such as nature, body parts, and animals being frequently used to convey abstract concepts. Metonymic expressions, on the other hand, relied on contiguity or association between concepts, such as using "crown" to refer to royalty or "silver" to refer to money.

Metaphor is a fundamental cognitive process that allows us to understand abstract concepts in terms of more concrete, familiar domains. In English proverbs, metaphor is ubiquitous, as many proverbs rely on metaphorical mappings to convey their meanings. For example, the proverb "A rolling stone gathers no moss" employs the metaphor of a rolling stone to convey the idea that a person who is constantly moving or changing does not accumulate wealth or status. Here, the concept of "success" is metaphorically linked to the image of a stone gathering moss, highlighting the importance of stability and consistency.

In addition to metaphor, metonymy plays a crucial role in the structure and meaning of English proverbs. Metonymy involves the use of one word or phrase to stand for another with which it is closely associated. Many proverbs use metonymy to evoke a larger concept or idea. For instance, the proverb "The pen is mightier than the sword" uses the metonymy of "pen" to represent writing and intellectual endeavors, while "sword" represents physical force or violence. This metonymic expression highlights the power of words and ideas over brute force.

Discussion: The findings of this study contribute to our understanding of the cognitive mechanisms involved in the use of proverbs in English. Metaphor and metonymy were found to play crucial roles in structuring proverbial expressions, highlighting the cognitive richness of these linguistic units. The study also underscores the cultural significance of proverbs, as they reflect shared conceptual frameworks and values within a community.

Conclusion: The study provides a comprehensive cognitive linguistic analysis of English proverbs, highlighting the pervasive use of metaphor and metonymy in these expressions. Through the lens of cognitive linguistics, the analysis demonstrates how proverbs reflect underlying conceptual metaphors and metonymies that shape our understanding of the world. The findings underscore the rich cognitive processes involved in proverbial expressions, shedding light on the intricate interplay between language, thought, and culture. This research contributes to a deeper understanding of the cognitive mechanisms underlying proverbial language and opens avenues for further exploration in cognitive linguistics and proverb studies.

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