

COMPARISON OF ANTANACLASSIS WITH THE COMPONENTS OF LANGUAGE LAYERS

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Abstract: *the article studies antanaclasses in comparison with language layers such as vulgarisms and tongue-twisters. Besides, some other stylistic devices as rhythm, rhyme, alliteration and antimetabole were compared with antanaclasses and their different and similar features were explored in the article. It was noted that antanaclasses is a subtype of pun and it is formed by repetition of two or more similar successive words in a sentence with two different senses.*

Keywords: *antimetabole, tongue-twisters, antanaclasses, rhythm, alliteration.*

СРАВНЕНИЕ АНТАНАКЛАССИСА С КОМПОНЕНТАМИ ЯЗЫКОВЫХ СЛОЕВ

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Аннотация: *в статье исследуется антанаклассис в сравнении с языковыми пластами, такими как вульгаризмы и скороговорки. Кроме того, в статье сравниваются некоторые другие стилистические приемы, такие как ритм, рифма, аллитерация и антиметабол, с антанаклассисом и исследуются их различные и сходные особенности. Было отмечено, что антанаклассис является подтипом паронимазии и образуется путем повторения двух или более одинаковых последовательных слов в предложении с двумя разными смыслами.*

Ключевые слова: *антиметабол, скороговорки, антанаклассис, ритм, аллитерация.*

Before starting to compare antanaclasses with the compositions of language layers, it would be expedient to give a brief explanation about antanaclasses in order to form a general view about what it is. Antanaclasses is a type of pun or paronomasia which is also based on play of words. The origin of the word comes from the Greek word (antanaklasis) which means 'reflection'. An antanaclasses is a rhetorical device in which a phrase or word is repeated so that the meaning changes forming a humorous or vulgar effect. It is the repetition of two or more similar successive words in a sentence with different meanings, one or more words are repeated to form two or more senses. It may emerge on the basis of the same spelling or identical sound. For example,

I love prophet/profit

In America, you can always find a party. In Soviet Russia, Party always find you.

The first above-mentioned example shows antanaclasses formed on the basis of the same sound. The same sentence bears two meanings. As seen from the example, the sentence generates a humor effect. The second example refers to antimetabole which is sometimes regarded as antanaclasses. Antimetabole also serves to create a humor effect but by reversing the order of words. In this respect, antimetabole resembles to antanaclasses though they are not always the same. "Antimetabole can be predictive, because it is easy to reverse the terms. It may trigger deeper reflection than merely stating one half of the line" [2, p. 126] Antimetabole is considered a type of chiasmus by repeating the same words in reversed order. In the following examples, there is antimetabole along the compound sentence. As we noted before, change in the word order is the main sign in antimetabole. E.g,

Fred fed Ted bread, and Ted fed Fred bread.

I slit the sheet, the sheet I slit, and on the slitted sheet I sit

Susie works in a shoeshine shop. Where she shines she sits, where she sits she shines.

Antanaclasses is a stylistic device, but there are some language components as tongue-twisters which cannot be regarded as a stylistic device. Tongue-twisters are the components of colloquial layer which are composed of similar consonant sounds making them hard to pronounce. Hence antanaclasses is sometimes intermingled with tongue-twisters. Tongue-twisters also appear on the basis of repetition like antanaclasses. Unlike antanaclasses, the repeated words are not identical. They are slightly different in spelling and pronunciation and they don't have two senses in the sentence. "These sounds are most likely to transform to a similar sound when placed in near vicinity of each

other. Most of these mix-ups can be attributed to the two phonemes having similar areas of articulation in the mouth” [1, p. 334] For instance,

If a dog chews shoes, whose shoes does he choose?
I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream
Which witch is which?

In the examples taken above, we can see rhythm which is a phonetic stylistic device. In the second example, it is possible to hear two identical utterance of two differently written words ‘I scream’ and ‘ice cream’. This example cannot be taken as antanaclassis because there is no cohesion within the sentence. The words semantically could not be linked together if we imagined the places of words with the same pronunciation vice-versa.

The main aim in tongue-twisters is not to create a humor effect as in antanaclassis. The main goal serves to twist the tongue by repeating similar successive words very fast. Secondly, the speed is the key indicator of tongue-twisters while this quality is not so necessary in antanaclassis. For example,

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood.
How can a clam cram in a clean cream can?

Some examples look like tongue-twisters very much though the difference is obvious while paying attention to the pronunciation. In tongue-twisters there are not the second meaning while it is observed in antanaclassis. E.g, She sells seashells.

We can obviously see phonetic stylistic devices such as rhythm and rhyme in tongue-twisters. Rhyming is mainly based on consonance or alliteration. The words were deliberately coined by the people in order to make the tongue twist in mouth. The repetition of initial consonant sounds usually makes up alliteration. Alliteration is conspicuous repetition of identical initial consonant sounds in successive or closely associated syllables within a group of words, even those spelled differently” [3]. For example,

Four fine fresh fish for you

Antanaclassis, in some cases, serves to create vulgar expressions which are the components of colloquial layer of the language. Vulgarism like tongue-twisters is not a stylistic device. A vulgarism is usually a variety of Standard English, but a bad variety [4, p.169] Vulgarism may emerge as a result of antanaclassis. A vulgar expression may easily be produced by repeating two successive words or phrases or sentences. There is no need to repeat them rapidly. Production of vulgarism leads to humor, as well. In a prank shown on TV, there is such a question which could have two meanings.

Have you ever lain on the beach?

The question was understood and answered normally. Since it looked like a normal asked question at the first time. After a while when the ‘victim’ realized what the second meaning could be, it led to humor which resulted in laughter later on. Similar pronunciation made it antanaclassis.

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