REVIEW OF THE MAIN METHODS OF LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS AND THE MOST USED RESEARCH METHODS IN UKRAINIAN LINGUOSTYLISTICS

Anastasiia Sokolova
Postgraduate student, the Faculty of Philology
The Department of Germanic and Slavic Philology
Donbass State Pedagogical University, Ukraine

There are a large number of research methods in Linguistics. The paper is dealt with the main ones and those that are common in Ukrainian linguostylistics.

The methods of linguistic analysis can be divided into universal, traditional and discursive ones. The hypothetical-deductive method belongs to the universal ones. It involves collecting linguistic evidence, constructing a hypothesis and the verification of its truth (according to L. Shcherba) [1].

Traditional methods include methods of analysis of syntagmatic and paradigmatic relations. The method of oppositions is the most prevalent method of analysis of paradigmatic relations. It is used to create grammatical categories or to classify vocabulary. N. Trubetskoi is the founder of the doctrine of opposition. Another widely used method of analysis of paradigmatic relations is principal component analysis, which involves the decomposition of a word into semantic components. This method is also used in Phonology, Morphology and Syntax (O. Gulyga, O. Shendels). Distributional method is the most common among the methods of analysis of syntagmatic relations. It is based on the concept of distribution, which is the sum of all possible positions of the unit regarding other ones of the same level, their compatibility. To apply this method, various symbols are used, by which distributive formulas are created [1].

Pragmatic analysis, content analysis, transactional analysis and discourse analysis are the most wide-spread methods of the discursive paradigm. The British logicians J. Austin and J. Searle are considered to be the founders of the method of pragmatic analysis. The concept of speech act is a key to this method. It allows to interpret speech as action in which the intentions of the speaker are concentrated: to ask, to greet, to explain, etc. Content analysis is a set of devices for objective description of communication content and rules. It is most often used in the exploration of the functioning of social assessments in institutional types of discourse and interpersonal communication. Transactional analysis is a psychological model that serves to describe and analyze human behavior (both individually and in groups) based on the means of lingual and paralingual (gestures, facial expressions, body posture) codes. E. Bern’s works made this method very popular. The purpose of discourse analysis is the research of human’s speech activity taking into account the social, mental, psychological and cultural context [1].
Concerning the most commonly used research methods in Ukrainian linguostylistics, the method of semantic and stylistic analysis should be highlighted. The authors of “Stylistics of the Modern Ukrainian Language” consider it the most common. This method "aims at defining the correlation between language means employed for expressive conveyance of intellectual, emotional or aesthetic content of speech (or text) and the content of information" [2].

The importance of the comparative method is due to the fact that there is a constant need to "select language units from a homogeneous or adjacent series, and selection is impossible without comparing units by qualities that would meet the need for effective speech". And that is why "the comparative method is the main one in Stylistics, in fact, it is the core of the method of semantic and stylistic analysis" [2].

The method of stylistic experiment is also quite extended. The essence of experimentation is that "in place of the words or utterances, constructions, used by the author, new ones are inserted with the stylistic aim. Thus, it is possible to characterize the stylistic properties (features) of the components of the very first (author's) text deeper and more fully and to approve the stylistic possibilities of the substituted units of language" [2; 3].

Quantitative methods have also long been considered essential in linguostylistics. They help "in defining the quantitative properties of linguistic phenomena. Quantitative methods make it possible … to see qualitative signs for quantitive ones" [2]. They are often used to study the functional and individual styles of modern Ukrainian literary language and to determine the frequency of use of specific language units. According to A. Koval, it was the statistical method that made it possible to establish the nominal character of the Ukrainian scientific style [3].

Due to these research methods the statistical parameters of the main styles [4] and their internal differential varieties are established, the most widespread vocabulary of artistic [5; 6], journalistic [7] and scientific styles [8] also is revealed in the Ukrainian language [3].

In conclusion, it should be noted that the issue of classification and systematization of methods remains relevant, but the synthesis of modern possible methods of linguistic and stylistic analysis, which combines not only special but also general linguistic and general scientific methods of study, determines the effectiveness of scientific research.

References: