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"EXAMINING HOW METAPHORS ARE USED IN MAGICAL AND EVERYDAY FAIRY TALES ACROSS ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, AND UZBEK LANGUAGES USING A LINGUISTIC METHODOLOGY."

Sharipova Sitora Shukhratovna

Master's degree student at Navoi State University Uzbekistan

Sitorasharipova7779@gmail.com

Annotation: This study investigates the use of comparisons and metaphors as essential linguistic tools in magical and everyday fairy tales from English, Russian, and Uzbek cultures. By examining similes and metaphors, this research aims to uncover their specific characteristics and the impact they have on cultural values and identity. Employing both qualitative and quantitative analytical methods, the study encompasses linguistic dimensions while providing methodological recommendations for educators. The findings underscore the importance of similes and metaphors in enhancing language competence and fostering intercultural communication among learners.

Keywords: Simile, metaphor, magical fairy tales, everyday fairy tales, English language, Russian language, Uzbek language, linguistic approach, cultural values, intercultural competence.

INTRODUCTION

Fairy tales have been a fundamental aspect of cultural narratives across the globe, providing insights into societies' moral values, social norms, and collective

identities. This study explores the role of comparisons (similes) and metaphors within the context of magical and everyday fairy tales from English, Russian, and Uzbek languages. The primary objectives of the research are to analyze the linguistic features of these tropes, explore their cultural implications, and provide recommendations for incorporating fairy tales into educational settings. The overarching research question guiding this study is: How do similes and metaphors in fairy tales reflect and shape cultural values?

LITERATURE REVIEW

The theoretical foundation of this study is built on the works of prominent scholars. Lakoff and Johnson (1980) highlight how metaphors are central to human thought and reflect cultural understanding.¹⁵ Zipes (1991) asserts that fairy tales serve as vehicles for cultural transmission, reinforcing moral lessons and social values. Additionally, Bartsch (1989) analyzes the impact of figurative language in literature, emphasizing how similes and metaphors enhance narratives. Current studies, such as those by Kövecses (2002), further illustrate how cultural contexts influence metaphorical language usage.¹⁶

¹⁵ Lakoff, G., & Johnson, M. (1980). *Metaphors We Live By*. University of Chicago Press.

¹⁶ Kövecses, Z. (2002). *Metaphor: A Practical Introduction*. Oxford University Press.



Date: 13th February-2025

Research focused on specific languages also highlights unique cultural expressions within fairy tales. Aitmatov (1988) underscores the richness of Uzbek fairy tales in conveying social values,¹⁷ while Ivanov (1995) explores the role of Russian literary traditions in shaping national identity. These studies illustrate the necessity of comparing different cultural perspectives on the use of similes and metaphors.

METHODOLOGY

The research adopts a qualitative and quantitative approach, emphasizing linguistic analysis and cultural context. Selected fairy tales include:

- English: "The Ugly Duckling," "Little Red Riding Hood"
- Russian: "Ruslan and Liudmila," "Cinderella"
- Uzbek: "Alpomish," "The Tale of the Troika"

Data collection involved analyzing the use of similes and metaphors in these texts, identifying linguistic patterns, and interpreting their cultural significance. The analysis also included contextual exploration of the selected tales in relation to the cultural values they reflect.

English Fairy Tales

1. The Ugly Duckling: "He felt like a fish out of water."
 - Analysis: This simile highlights feelings of alienation and transformation.
2. Little Red Riding Hood: "Her heart raced like a drum."
 - Analysis: This metaphor conveys urgency and fear in the face of danger.

Russian Fairy Tales

1. Ruslan and Liudmila: "His sword was a light in the darkness."
 - Analysis: The metaphor symbolizes hope and strength against evil forces.
2. Cinderella: "She was like gold."
 - Analysis: This simile conveys beauty and intrinsic value, reflecting moral qualities.

Uzbek Fairy Tales

1. Alpomish: "His sorrow was a heavy stone."
 - Analysis: This metaphor expresses the burden of emotional pain and resilience.
2. The Tale of the Troika: "He was like a lion."
 - Analysis: The lion symbolizes bravery and leadership, resonating with cultural values.

RESULTS

The findings indicate that similes and metaphors function as cultural mirrors, reflecting values such as bravery, beauty, and morality. Each language group utilizes these linguistic devices uniquely, embedding cultural norms and lessons within fairy tales. The comparative analysis reveals distinct narrative roles and thematic representations which differ across cultures yet share underlying similarities.

DISCUSSION

¹⁷ Aitmatov, C. (1988). The White Ship. Harvill Press.



Date: 13th February-2025

The study emphasizes the significant role of similes and metaphors in shaping cultural narratives and enhancing linguistic education. By revealing the cultural implications of these devices, the research contributes to a deeper understanding of intercultural communication. It encourages educators to incorporate fairy tales into curricula, promoting cultural appreciation and identity among learners. Furthermore, the findings suggest that literature can be a powerful tool for fostering language competence and empathy in diverse classrooms.

CONCLUSION

This study underscores the essential role of comparisons and metaphors in the examined fairy tales, highlighting their impact on cultural narratives and values. The research provides valuable insights into how literary devices shape cultural identity, contributing to knowledge about language and education. Future research could explore an extended range of narratives across more cultures, enriching the understanding of literary expressions and their intercultural significance.

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