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SEMANTIC PARALLELISM IN LITERARY TEXTS

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Abstract

This article initially provides an overview of the term parallelism and its usage in the field. It briefly outlines the types of syntactic parallelism—namely formal (structural) and semantic parallelism—while placing particular emphasis on the phenomenon of semantic parallelism. The study attempts to analyze the various forms of semantic parallelism using linguistic evidence.

Keywords: Literary text, parallelism, syntactic parallelism, semantic parallelism, word combination, simple sentence, compound sentence, microtext, coordinated compound sentence, asyndetic compound sentence, complex sentence.

Introduction

One of the poetic-syntactic features of a literary text is the phenomenon of parallelism. The term "parallelism" is derived from the Greek word parallelos, meaning "running side by side." In linguistics, this term describes clauses or syntagmas with identical or similar syntactic structures when placed adjacent to one another. Parallelism is widely acknowledged as a stylistic and structural device in both oral and written discourse.

According to R. Shukurov, parallelism is divided into two main categories based on the type of similarity:

1. Formal (structural) parallelism – external similarity of syntactic units;

2. Semantic parallelism – internal similarity in meaning.

While syntactic parallelism involves repeated structural templates, semantic parallelism focuses on meaning repetition or alignment across different

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structures. This study explores the nature, forms, and functions of semantic parallelism, particularly in the Uzbek language, and illustrates its expressive capacity through textual examples.

Methods and Methodology

The study employs a descriptive-analytical method grounded in comparative linguistics. Data is drawn from classical and modern Uzbek literary texts, with a focus on clauses, word combinations, and sentence types demonstrating semantic similarity despite structural differences. The classification proposed by Shukurov is used as a framework to organize the types of parallelism and evaluate their stylistic and communicative roles in context.

Three main domains of analysis include:

1. Word combinations and sentence-level equivalence;
2. Sentence-type transformations;
3. Microtext and discourse-level parallels.

The Main Part

In traditional linguistics, syntactic units that are parallel in meaning are often studied under the term **syntactic synonymy**, while those that are parallel in form are referred to as instances of **syntactic parallelism [1, 7].**

These two types of parallelism differ from and contrast with each other in essential ways, yet each represents an independent, coherent system. **Syntactic parallelism** involves the repetition of word combinations, sentence elements, or predicative units that follow the same structural pattern. In contrast, **semantic parallelism** refers to the repetition or alignment of meaning, concepts, or ideas.

This article seeks to analyze the distinctive features and manifestations of semantic parallelism through linguistic evidence.

Semantic parallelism is a phenomenon that unites syntactic structures which are interchangeable and serve to express a shared or unified semantic idea. It functions as a stylistic and structural means for emphasizing semantic coherence and equivalence within a literary text [1, 20].

In semantic parallelism, the linguistic means that create the effect of parallelism possess both unifying and differentiating features. In simple sentences, lexical

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and grammatical tools that connect sentence components; in compound sentences, the coordination of independent clauses (predicative units); and in word combinations, morphemic and auxiliary elements that link dependent and governing parts – all represent language units. However, the semantic parallelism among them is manifested at the syntactic level. Therefore, the parallel relationships formed through these connective devices should be considered as a particular manifestation of parallel syntactic constructions.

In his linguistic research, PhD R. Shukurov classifies **semantically parallel syntactic constructions** based on whether they express a common idea within identical or different syntactic frameworks. Accordingly, he divides them into two main categories:

1. **Homogeneous parallel syntactic constructions**
2. **Heterogeneous parallel syntactic constructions**

Each of these two types, in turn, comprises further subcategories. Specifically, homogeneous parallel syntactic constructions are grouped as follows:

1. **Semantic Parallelism between Word Combinations**
In semantically parallel word combinations, unity of meaning and structure is maintained, while the distinguishing features lie in the linking elements and the method of combination. For example: oshni yeng ("eat the food") vs. oshdan yeng ("eat from the food"). In the first phrase, formed with the accusative case (-ni), the entire object is implied, whereas in the second, formed with the ablative case (-dan), the emphasis is placed on a part of the object. In both phrases, the semantic meaning (to eat food) and structural composition (two-word combinations with dependent and governing elements) are identical, but the grammatical markers (-ni vs. -dan) create subtle distinctions in meaning.

Another example is: bolalardan biri ("one of the children") vs. bolalarning biri ("one of the children"). Although both phrases convey the same general idea (referring to a single child) and share structural features (two-word combinations with dependent and head elements), they differ in the case endings (-dan: ablative, -ning: genitive) and in their syntactic combination method (government vs. agreement).

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2. Semantic Parallelism between Simple Sentences

This type involves simple sentences that are lexically similar and convey a common general idea but differ in shades of meaning. For example:

Bogʻimizda uzumning hamma xilidan bor edi. ("We had all varieties of grapes in our garden.")

// Uzumning hamma xilini ham bizning bogʻdan topsa boʻlardi. ("One could find every variety of grapes from our garden.")

The first sentence provides neutral information about an event or situation, while the second introduces a focus or emphasis. As can be seen, these sentences not only serve specific communicative purposes but also express the speaker's varying emotions. Depending on the speaker's psychological state, tone, intention, and emotional resonance, alternative versions of the same idea may be constructed.

3. Semantic Parallelism between Compound Sentences

Semantic relationships between compound sentences are determined by the presence of linking devices and the participation of clause types. To express a unified idea, any of the three types of compound sentences may be used – coordinated, asyndetic (without conjunctions), or complex sentences.

For example:

"Paypaslashib qarashsa, otning toʻpigʻi shisha boshlaganini koʻrishdi." (Chingiz Aitmatov) – **a complex sentence with a subordinate clause.**

"Paypaslashib qarashdi-yu, otning toʻpigʻi shisha boshlaganini koʻrishdi." (Chingiz Aitmatov) – **a compound sentence with a coordinating conjunction.**

"Paypaslashib qarashdi, otning toʻpigʻi shisha boshlaganini koʻrishdi." (Chingiz Aitmatov) – **a compound sentence without a conjunction (asyndetic).**

Although all three constructions express the same general meaning, the linking mechanisms between the clauses and the nuances of meaning differ. For instance, in the **complex sentence**, the subordinate clause indicates the **temporal condition** under which the main clause occurs. In the **compound sentence with a conjunction**, the use of the enclitic "-yu" implies a slight **unexpectedness or contrast**, often found in stylistically colored narrative language. In the **asyndetic**

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compound sentence, the events appear to occur **sequentially**, reflecting a natural temporal progression.

When classifying **heterogeneous parallel syntactic constructions**, the focus is placed on **cross-aspectual analysis**. In such cases, semantic parallelism is understood as a phenomenon that occurs between utterances constructed on the basis of **different structural patterns**. These patterns may differ in syntactic form, but they are semantically equivalent or nearly equivalent.

This kind of semantic parallelism may be analyzed through the following classification:

1. **Semantic parallelism between word combinations and simple sentences**
2. **Semantic parallelism between simple and compound sentence types**
3. **Semantic parallelism between sentence types and microtexts**

Each of these levels reflects how different grammatical structures can be used to express similar semantic content. The study of such patterns is essential to understanding the stylistic richness and expressive potential of literary language [1, 18].

1. **Semantic Parallelism between Word Combinations and Simple Sentences**.

In this case, a word combination forms semantic parallelism with the subordinate clause of a complex sentence. For example: "Birov Mukarram toʻgʻrisida soʻylasa, yuqoridagi soʻzlarni qaytaradigan boʻldi." (Gʻafur Gʻulom) // "Mukarrama toʻgʻrisida soʻylaydiganlarga yuqoridagi soʻzlarni qaytaradigan boʻldi."

In the complex sentence, the subordinating clause conveys a **conditional meaning** through the conditional suffix -sa. When transformed into a simple sentence, this conditional nuance is lost. Despite the change in sentence type, both variants express the same general meaning and are therefore semantically parallel.

2. **Semantic Parallelism between Simple and Compound Sentences.**

"Oradan tagʻin bir soatlar oʻtgandan keyin boyagi boyvachchalar qimorxonaga chiqib ketdilar." (Gʻafur Gʻulom) // "Oradan tagʻin bir soatlar oʻtdi, boyagi boyvachchalar qimorxonaga chiqib ketdilar."

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As seen, both the simple and compound sentence express the same essential idea. However, slight semantic distinctions emerge between them. In the compound sentence, there is a deliberate emphasis on the **passage of time**, and the **sequence of events** is foregrounded. Writers often employ such variation—choosing between simple and compound sentences—not only to avoid tautology or stylistic monotony but also to maintain narrative interest and highlight specific nuances.

Semantic Parallelism between Sentence Types and Microtexts
A single sentence can also be paralleled by a **microtext**—a compact, cohesive block of several sentences that develops a single idea. When a particular semantic content is expressed via a microtext, each sentence within it serves to emphasize or elaborate on specific facets of the message. This technique not only enhances textual cohesion but also increases the **emotional and cognitive impact** on the reader, drawing greater attention to the intended meaning [1, 18]. For example:
Shundan sal avval borliqqa ajoyib osoyishtalik cho'kkan, odamlar chanqog'ini bosib, ko'ngillari taskin topib, o'zlarini baxtiyor his etgan edilar. (Chingiz Aytmatov) // Shundan sal avval borliqqa ajoyib osoyishtalik cho'kdi. Odamlar chanqog'ini bosib, ko'ngillari taskin topdi. Endi ular o'zlarini baxtiyor his etgan edilar.
Tong yorishmasdan yo'lga tushib, qishloqdan chiqar-chiqmas ashulani baland qo'ygan Zebi necha yillik g'am-tashvishlardan to'rt-besh kun ichida ortig'i bilan yozilib kelarkan, o'z orqasidan o'ynayotgan o'yinlardan xabarsiz edi. (Cho'lpon) // Tong yorishmasdan yo'lga tushib, qishloqdan chiqar-chiqmas Zebi ashulani avjiga chiqdi. U necha yillik g'am-tashvishlardan to'rt-besh kun ichida ortig'i bilan yozilib kelardi. Ammo u o'z orqasidan o'ynayotgan o'yinlardan xabarsiz edi.

Conclusion

In conclusion, semantic parallelism represents one of the significant and nuanced areas within linguistics, particularly in the domain of syntax. Its various forms clearly reflect the speaker's tone, emotional state, communicative intentions, and stylistic choices. Semantic parallelism enhances an individual's speech culture by encouraging appropriate and expressive use of syntactic structures across

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different speech registers. It allows speakers to convey their thoughts with greater subtlety and emotional depth, tailored to their communicative context.

Furthermore, the presence and productivity of this phenomenon in the Uzbek language serve as compelling evidence of the language's expressive richness and syntactic flexibility.

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