

PERIPHRASES USED IN MEDICAL TEXTS



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Abstract:

This article discusses periphrases in English language. The periphrases used in medical texts and their features are analyzed using examples of the English language. Attention was also paid to the expression of genuine and contextual periphrases.

Keywords:

Periphrasis, genuine periphrases, contextual periphrases, medical periphrases, linguistics, language, journalism, fiction.

Linguistics contains many definitions of the concept of periphrasis, as well as various views on its functions and classification. It should be noted that periphrasis is one of the most complex phenomena in linguistics.

It should be noted that periphrasis is one of the most complex phenomena in linguistics. This concept has several terminological definitions, and this process is explained by the ambiguity of the term. The ambiguity of the term periphrasis is widely used and studied in various fields, such as linguistics, as well as literature, logic, rhetoric, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, morphology, music, etc.

As it is clear that all possibilities of the language can be realized in the speech. In this case, the dialectics law of opportunity and reality is applied, and more precisely, the relationship between language and speech appears [1, 8163].

The main function of periphrases is to increase the expressiveness of the text, the effectiveness of the narration, therefore they are mainly found in the language of artistic, journalistic, and oral speech, while in scientific speech it is devoid of imagery and is used as a term.

Periphrasis is an indirect artistic description of an object easily recognizable by its characteristic features. Periphrasis is a semantically indivisible, figurative phrase that describes the content of other meanings or phrases. This connection figuratively describes certain phenomena, showing their specific properties, making it easier to identify the object of their description [2, 215].

There are many classifications of periphrases. Most linguists recognize the basic classification, but sometimes add some of their types of periphrases [3, 1].

Paraphrases are divided into genuine and contextual, depending on their occurrence in speech as a unit of speech [4, 9]. In this case, genuine periphrases express a certain meaning, a concept without any context, and most importantly, are understandable to the public even without text. For instance, *the evening of life* –old age, *blue planet* –Earth, *desert ship* –camel, *king of Jealousy*– Othello, etc.

As a result of our research, we have found that pure paraphrase is more often used in medical texts to make it clear to the public. For instance, AIDS – *is the plague of the century*, *Scientists have denied that cancer is an incurable disease*, COVID – *coronavirus*, etc.

On the other hand, contextual paraphrases are descriptive expressions that are created only in a specific text and are valid for that text. They are difficult to make out when they are pulled out of the text separately. More precisely, they are only a figurative expression concerning a certain linguistic unit in the text, surrounded by other words. For instance: *I understand you are poor and*

wish to earn money by nursing the little boy, my son, who has been so prematurely deprived of what son never be replaced (Ch. Dickens "Dombay and Son").

It should be noted that in the context of contextual periphrases, those that are widely used can gradually (once understood by the general public, become known) become genuine periphrases. However, this does not mean that all contextual periphrases become genuine periphrases after a certain period.

The peculiarity of medical periphrases is that the word they express in some places is used in combination with phrases, mainly figurative expressions. For instance: "Turmeric itself has also been known to be a **"healing spice"** and has been used to help many ailments" [See: www.nutritionstripped.com]. Another example: "Described as **"herbal aspirin"**, chamomile is one of the leading herbal remedies worldwide" [See: www.healthybutsmart.com].

When we talk about the formation of periphrases in medical texts, we should not forget about the psycholinguistic approach. In this case, the imaginary factor plays an important role in the formation of the periphrases. For instance: Rosemary is traditionally known as the herb of remembrance and friendship. Also known as Mary's mantle and compass weed, rosemary is a lovely, sweet-scented, shrubby perennial in Mediterranean countries that can be grown as an annual in Northern climates or as an indoor potted plant [See: www.gardenmanage.com]. Or another example: "The myth about spinach and its high iron content may have first been propagated by Dr. E. von Wolf in 1870 because a misplaced decimal point in his publication led to an iron-content figure that was ten times too high. In 1937, German chemists reinvestigated this **"miracle vegetable"** and corrected the mistake" [See: <https://www.plantgrower.org/spinach.html>].

Hence, these periphrases have arisen as a result of the focus on the treatment of several diseases.

In short, periphrasis - in fiction, journalism, and public discourse, it is used as a stylistic device to increase the clarity of presentation, for a stronger impact on the reader or listener. Periphrases are also widely used in medical texts, especially genuine periphrases.

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