

ABSTRACT

Thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
in 6D021000- Foreign Philology

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on the topic “Cognitive foundations of implementing novel genre features (based on the analysis of “Never Let Me Go” and “The Buried Giant” by Kazuo Ishiguro)”

The literary genre, as well as the novel genre, are among the most topical and complex problems in philological science. Research works in this area are aimed at comprehending the category, classifying the genre and the novel genre, determining their place in the history of the general literary process, and identifying genre features of different types of novels.

According to M.M. Bakhtin, the main means of implementing genre features is the chronotope (time-space), which basis for the introduction into literary studies was the justification of the dialectical connection time-space-matter by A. Einstein.

A certain contribution to the study of the chronotope was made by many scientists who revealed the role of the chronotope, its types, meaning and functions, including genre-forming one, in the structure of a work of art (M.M. Bakhtin, D.S. Likhachev, V.N. Toporov, Yu.M. Lotman, T.V. Filat, R.I. Enukidze, I.S. Emelyanova, P.Yu. Povalko, O.O. Kandrashkina, A.B. Temirbolat, S.M. Altybayeva, N. Bemong, T. Collington and others).

However, despite the increased interest of scientists to the study of the chronotope and its components (space and time), no attempts have yet been made to use an integrative approach to study the dialectical interaction of the time-space-event components in the dynamic development of a holistic novel narrative, and consideration was limited to only one or two of its components without updating the event aspect.

The topicality of this research is also due to the lack of research into the chronotope as the main means of implementing the genre features of the novel from the perspective of the current state of cognitive linguistics, in particular from the standpoint of anthropocentric and interpretive theories of language, in order to reveal the cognitive and linguistic mechanisms of the formation and functioning of the chronotope as a genre determinant in fiction.

The object of the research is the novel as a literary genre in the context of artistic discourse.

The subject of the research is the cognitive and linguistic mechanisms of implementation of the novel’s genre features and the system of means of linguistic representation.

The research material is the works “Never Let Me Go” and “The Buried Giant” by Kazuo Ishiguro.

The concept of this research lies in the idea that the representation and analysis of the chronotope at the conceptual level in the form of the SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM cognitive matrix and its main components in unity with the system of means of their linguistic representation, reveals the mechanism for the implementation of genre features of the novel.

The aim of the research is to study the mechanisms for the implementation of genre features of different types of novels in a work of art based on cognitive and matrix modeling of the chronotope, presented as a complex multidimensional knowledge in the form of the SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM (STC) cognitive matrix and a system of means of its linguistic representation.

To achieve this aim, it is necessary to solve the following range of **tasks**:

- to conduct an analytical review of general scientific theories of space and time, as well as the chronotope in literary studies and linguistics;

- to analyze the linguistic and mental units of representation of the categories of space and time in linguistics;

- to systematize the genre features of different types of novels;

- to develop a cognitive and matrix model of the chronotope as a complex multi-aspect knowledge in the form of a private cognitive matrix of the novel's STC;

- to conduct a cognitive and matrix analysis of the novel's STC and its components at the conceptual and linguistic levels in order to reveal the cognitive and linguistic mechanisms for the implementation of the genre features of the novel, as well as the system of linguistic means of implementation;

- to reveal the mechanism of synthesis of genre features of various types of novels in "The Buried Giant" and "Never Let Me Go" novels by K. Ishiguro as an implementation of the novel's STC.

Theoretical and methodological basis of the research was the work of domestic and foreign researchers developing: general philosophical and natural science theories of space and time (Aristotle, R. Descartes, G.V. Leibniz, I. Kant, M. Heidegger, A.F. Losev, A. Einstein, N.A. Kozyrev, A.A. Ukhtomsky); categories of chronotope, space and time in literary studies (M.M. Bakhtin, Yu.M. Lotman, V.N. Toporov, N.L. Leiderman, D.S. Likhachev, A.B. Temirbolat, S.M. Altybayeva, N. Bemong, T. Collington); problems of the literary genre in literary studies (M.M. Bakhtin, B.V. Tomashevsky, N.L. Leiderman, V.A. Lukov, E.E. Barinova, Z.K. Kabdolov, A.M. Kusainova, J.-M. Schaeffer, G.S. Morson, J. de Groot, S. Scholliers); problems of cognitive poetics (M. Freeman, R. Tsur, Zh.N. Maslova, L.I. Belekova, O.P. Vorobieva, E.V. Lozinskaya, T.V. Romanova, I.A. Tarasova).

In the field of cognitive linguistics, the theoretical and methodological basis of the research was: modern theories of conceptualization and categorization (G. Lakoff, R. Langacker, G. Fauconnier, N.N. Boldyrev, E.S. Kubryakova, R.I. Pavilenis, T.G. Skrebtsova, M.N. Konnova, Z.K. Akhmetzhanova, N.A. Shakhmetova, G.S. Samsonov); anthropocentric and interpretative theories of language (W. Humboldt, B.A. Serebrennikov, V.M. Alpatov, N.N. Boldyrev, O.V. Magirovskaya, I.Yu. Bezukladova, E.V. Fedyaeva); modern theories of conceptualization of space and time (N.D. Arutyunova, N.K. Ryabtseva, O.A. Kornilov, D.V. Makhovikova, O.V. Bronnikova, F.T. Sametova, V. Evans, P. Brown); the concept of cognitive matrix (N.N. Boldyrev, V.V. Alpatov, L.V. Babina, S.E. Isabekov, E.A. Dzyuba).

Depending on the tasks, the following **research methods** are used: general scientific methods of analysis and synthesis of scientific literature on the research topic; conceptual analysis – in order to identify the basic concepts in the structure of the analyzed works of art: conceptual and definitional analysis – in order to determine the

characteristics of the identified basic concepts, contextual and representative analysis – in order to determine the characteristics of the implemented basic concepts in the analyzed works of art; linguo-stylistic analysis – in order to determine the linguistic means of representing concepts and, consequently, the genre features of the novel; cognitive and matrix analysis – in order to model the STC and determine the cognitive and linguistic mechanisms for the implementation of the genre features of the novel.

Theoretical significance of the research lies in the fact that the developed model of the cognitive matrix of the novel's STC reveals the mechanism of its genre implementation and might serve as a universal model for the analysis of works of art, which is a certain contribution to the development of cognitive linguistics, literary studies and cognitive poetics. The results of the research expand the scientific understanding of a work of art as a unit of multidimensional knowledge of a matrix format, which is a set of conceptual-thematic areas that convey the author's construction of the world based on the interaction of collective and individual types of knowledge, where the author makes individual comprehension of general characteristics and the formation of individual author's meanings.

Practical significance of the research lies in the possibility of using its results in the courses of cognitive linguistics, theory of literary studies, cognitive poetics, pragmalinguistics, text and discourse linguistics, discursive analysis of a literary text. It seems promising to further theoretical substantiation of the applied method, which is a combination of chronotopic and conceptual types of analysis, which can be used in the philological analysis of works of art.

Basic provisions for defense:

1. Cognitive comprehension of the literary category of the chronotope in line with modern theories of cognitive linguistics is presented in the form of a complex concept of the "SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM" matrix format, integrating in its structure not only space and time, but also the event development of artistic narrative, which expands the concept of "chronotope" (M.M. Bakhtin). This approach to the study of the chronotope reveals the general mechanism for the implementation of its genre-forming function, as well as the role of the individual author's and secondary interpretation of reality within the analyzed works.

2. In a specific novel, the chronotope receives the author's interpretation as a unit of complex multidimensional knowledge in the form of the SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM particular cognitive matrix. Its core unites SPACE, TIME, EVENT, which are concretized through individual author's concepts. This core is comprehended in various cognitive contexts represented by certain conceptual-thematic areas (personal-individual, social-cultural, scientific-medical, mythological, philosophical-moral) with a set of certain basic concepts in each of them, which is determined by the specifics of the world construction by the author in a work of art.

3. The implementation of the relevant genre features of different types of the novel is set by the author in the characteristics of the basic concepts of the conceptual-thematic areas of understanding the core of the STC. In the "Never Let Me Go" novel, the genre features of a psychological novel, a love story are implemented in the characteristics of the concepts FRIENDSHIP, LOVE, SEX; of novel-utopia and novel-dystopia – in the characteristics of the concepts HAILSHAM, GALLERY,

SPRING EXCHANGE; of science fiction – in the characteristics of the concepts CLONE, CARER, DONATION; of social novel and philosophical parable – in the characteristics of the concepts FATE, EQUALITY, SACRIFICE. In the novel “The Buried Giant” genre features of a literary fairy tale are implemented in the characteristics of the concepts LOVE, SON, DISEASE; of historical novel – in the characteristics of the concepts SAXON VILLAGE, MONASTERY, SAXON WARRIOR; of fantasy – in the characteristics of the concepts KING ARTHUR, SIR GAWAIN, THE BURIED GIANT, THE SHE-DRAGON QUERIG, BOATMAN, MIST, MYSTIC CREATURES; of philosophical parable – in the characteristics of the concepts GREAT TREATY (GREAT LAW), SLAUGHTER, EXPLOIT OF FIVE WARRIORS.

4. The implementation of genre features of different types of novels is carried out by the author through the use of cognitive mechanisms of profiling, perspectivization, focusing and refocusing, conceptual metaphor, conceptual metonymy, prospective vector, retrospective vector, conceptual comparison and opposition, euphemization. Nomination, word formation, semantic compatibility of specific words, antonymy, synonymy, metaphor, metonymy, figurative comparison, syntactic structures, etc. which are implemented in the system of correlating language means are used as language mechanisms.

5. The artistic interpretation of the world is carried out through the prism of the dominant conceptual and thematic area and the dominant concept, ensuring the formation and interpenetration of new meanings. The synthesis of novel types at the conceptual level occurs due to the dominance of one conceptual and thematic area (and, accordingly, the basic concepts that form it) and the associated genre features of one type of novel in relation to all others, and at the linguistic level – through the use of the same means at the same time to convey general and individual author’s characteristics, to combine different meanings, correlated with different concepts and with different genre features. In the “Never Let Me Go” novel such a dominant area is the scientific and medical conceptual-thematic area and, accordingly, it has genre features of a science fiction novel. In the novel “The Buried Giant” the mythological conceptual-thematic area, and, correspondingly, fantasy novel genre features are dominant.

Scientific novelty of the research is determined by the following points:

- for the first time, a cognitive understanding of the literary category of the chronotope as a unit of complex multidimensional knowledge in the form of the SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM particular cognitive matrix is presented;

- a conceptual study of the chronotope enabled to show that a work of art is the author’s construction of the world, which is reflected in the individual author’s and secondary interpretation of the chronotope;

- the novelty is the identification of causal relationships between the activation of certain concepts and their characteristics, on the one hand, and the implementation of specific genre features of the novel – on the other hand;

- for the first time, cognitive and matrix analysis is used to reveal the mechanism for the implementation of genre features of different types of novels in one work of art;

- cognitive and linguistic mechanisms for the implementation of specific genre features of the novel are revealed on the example of two works of fiction by Kazuo Ishiguro;

- a close relationship and the dominant role of one concept, and, accordingly, one conceptual-thematic area of a work of art in relation to others, are revealed, it provides the synthesis of genre features of different types of novel in one work of art.

Approbation of the work: 11 articles were published on the topic of the thesis, including 3 articles in issues included in the List of publications recommended by the Committee for Control in Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan for publishing the results of thesis research; 3 articles – in international issues; 4 articles – in the materials of international conferences, 1 article is indexed by Thomson Reuters (Web of Science); 1 article is published in an international peer-reviewed journal, which is included in the SCOPUS international database. The author made reports at scientific seminars called “Problems of Cognitive Linguistics” (2019, 2021) under the advanced training program of G.R. Derzhavin Tambov State University (Russia).

Structure and plan of the thesis. The logic of the research is reflected in the composition of the thesis, which includes an introduction, three chapters, conclusions by chapters, conclusion, list of sources used and an appendix.