

THE SYNTAX AND PRAGMATICS OF ELLIPSIS IN LITERARY AND JOURNALISTIC WRITING

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This article examines the use of ellipsis in literary and journalistic texts. It explores the syntactic structures in which ellipsis occurs and its pragmatic roles, highlighting distinctions between these two genres.

Key words: literary texts, journalistic texts, ellipsis, syntactic structure, pragmatic role.

The literary text represents a distinct mode of linguistic expression, simultaneously serving as a medium for organizing constructions within linguistic norms and conferring normative status upon them. Literary texts constitute the second most frequent domain of ellipsis usage, yet they are independent of the idiolect typical of conversational style. Therefore, analyzing the literary style specifically is particularly pertinent.

A defining characteristic of a literary text is its depiction of intra-textual reality in the form of imagery, necessitating the expression and conveyance of intellectual, emotional, and aesthetic information to impact the reader. In other words, the primary objective of literary works is to achieve an aesthetic effect and to create an artistic image [3, p.215].

In literary texts, information is transmitted through rational, emotional, and aesthetic influences on the recipient. As such, specific linguistic tools are

required at all levels to facilitate this transmission. An author's individual style plays a significant role in the stylistics of literary texts, encompassing personal writing characteristics. Literary texts are inherently subjective, reflecting the author's evaluations, attitudes towards characters and events, and intonation. However, the author's persona is distinct from the narrator's voice, which tells the story [1].

According to M. Riffaterre, the literary style fulfills an emotive-cognitive function, facilitating a cognitive process that provides and transmits information intended to evoke specific emotions embedded by the author. This is achieved not only through expressive linguistic means and text organization but also by encouraging the recipient to independently interpret the thoughts and images conveyed. The aim of literary texts is to offer potential interpretations of phenomena while simultaneously presenting the author's perspective [5, p. 316].

To achieve these objectives and impact the recipient, literary texts employ a variety of linguistic means, including ambiguous and evaluative vocabulary imbued with strong emotional connotations, carefully selected lexis and grammar, and elements characteristic of conversational style [2, p.251].

Among these elements are contracted constructions (e.g., *I've, he's*) and the reduction of unaccented elements in sentences, as illustrated below:

- *You have a name?*

- *Patience* [4, p.69].

Given that the primary domain of ellipsis is spoken language, it follows that elliptical constructions frequently appear in literary texts, allowing for a comprehensive exploration of their pragmatic potential.

I.R. Galperin asserts that literary style must adhere to linguistic norms, reflecting current trends deemed standard. In this context, the use of elliptical constructions in texts underscores their normative function [2, p.255].

The essence of a journalistic text lies in its ability to influence readers by presenting information and persuading them that the viewpoint expressed is the sole correct one.

Some scholars argue that literary and journalistic styles share functions of communication and influence. However, their distinction lies in the nature of the information they convey: literary texts often involve fictional or inferred elements, whereas journalistic texts provide verifiable information regarded as factual.

A notable feature of journalistic style is its self-sufficiency – the capacity to present the discussed fact comprehensively within the text's framework.

This characteristic aligns closely with another hallmark of journalistic writing: argumentation, whereby every statement is substantiated by substantial, motivated evidence. Together, these features differentiate journalism from other functional styles.

Unlike literary texts, journalistic texts are highly standardized, exhibiting a clear internal structure: an introductory paragraph summarizing the most essential or engaging facts, a detailed exposition of the information, and a concluding paragraph that synthesizes the content.

In addition to textual standardization, journalistic texts adhere to linguistic standards, characterized by the regular use of conventional language units and syntactic structures. G. Solganik describes the linguistic standard as reflecting the “historical experience, richness, and refinement of the language”. In journalism, language tends to be automated and consistent, employing socially established conventions for naming and evaluating phenomena [6, p.19].

From a syntactic perspective, journalistic texts typically feature uniform sentence structures comprising a subject, predicate, and secondary elements. Expressive syntactic devices – such as ellipsis, syntactic parallelism, and anaphoric or epiphoric links between paragraphs – are relatively scarce.

Taking into account the distinct pragmatic functions of journalistic and literary styles, it is evident that the roles of syntactic constructions in these genres diverge significantly.

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