



ISSN 1539-8072 (Print)
ISSN 1935-9675 (Online)

Sino-US English Teaching

Volume 11, Number 1, January 2014

DAVID PUBLISHING
From Knowledge to Wisdom

Sino-US English Teaching

Volume 11, Number 1, January 2014 (Serial Number 121)



David Publishing

David Publishing Company
www.davidpublishing.com

Publication Information:

Sino-US English Teaching is published monthly in hard copy (ISSN 1539-8072) and online (ISSN 1935-9675) by David Publishing Company located at 16710 East Johnson Drive, City of Industry, CA 91745, USA.

Aims and Scope:

Sino-US English Teaching, a monthly professional academic journal, covers all sorts of researches on English teaching theory and practice, linguistic research, literature criticism, translation research and other latest findings and achievements from experts and foreign language scholars all over the world.

Editorial Board Members:

Yingqin Liu, USA

Charmaine Kaimikaua, USA

Annikki Koskensalo, Finland Jose

Manuel Oro Cabanas, Spain Tamar

Makharoblidze, Georgia Penelope

Kambaki Vougioukli, Greece Delia

Lungu, Romania

LEE Siu Lun, China BAI

Yong-quan, China Shih

Chung-ling, Taiwan

Balarabe Zulyadaini, Nigeria

S. Thriyambaka, India

Ali Nasser Harb Mansouri, Oman

Anjali Pandey, Zimbabwe

VSV Laxmi Ramana, India

Sholpan K. Zharkynbekova, Kazakhstan

Fawwaz Mohammad Al-Rashed Al-Abad Al-Haq, Jordan

Shree Deepa, India

Nektaria Palaiologou, Greece

Lilit Georg Brutian, Armenia

Manuscripts and correspondence are invited for publication. You can submit your papers via Web Submission, or E-mail to linguist@davidpublishing.org. Submission guidelines and Web Submission system are available at <http://www.davidpublishing.org>, www.davidpublishing.com.

Editorial Office:

16710 East Johnson Drive, City of Industry, CA 91745, USA

Tel: 1-323-984-7526, 323-410-1082

Fax: 1-323-984-7374, 323-908-0457

E-mail: linguist@davidpublishing.org, us2003language@hotmail.com

Copyright©2014 by David Publishing Company and individual contributors. All rights reserved. David Publishing Company holds the exclusive copyright of all the contents of this journal. In accordance with the international convention, no part of this journal may be reproduced or transmitted by any media or publishing organs (including various websites) without the written permission of the copyright holder. Otherwise, any conduct would be considered as the violation of the copyright. The contents of this journal are available for any citation, however, all the citations should be clearly indicated with the title of this journal, serial number and the name of the author.

Abstracted/Indexed in:

Database of EBSCO, Massachusetts, USA

Chinese Database of CEPS, Airiti Inc. & OCLC

Chinese Scientific Journals Database, VIP Corporation, Chongqing, P.R.C.

Ulrich's Periodicals Directory

LLBA Database of ProQuest

Summon Serials Solutions

Google Scholar

Subscription Information:

Price (per year):

Print \$520 Online \$300

Print and Online \$560

David Publishing Company

16710 East Johnson Drive, City of Industry, CA 91745, USA

Tel: 1-323-984-7526, 323-410-1082. Fax: 1-323-984-7374, 323-908-0457

E-mail: order@davidpublishing.com

Digital Cooperative Company: www.bookan.com.cn



David Publishing Company
www.davidpublishing.com

Three-Dimensional World of Similes in English Fictional Writing

Nino Kirvalidze

Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia

The paper offers a three-dimensional linguosemiotic study of similes, which implies integral analysis of their semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic aspects. Such an approach to the study of similes is quite new as they have been hitherto considered either from a literary viewpoint as one of the stylistic expressive means of language or in the philosophy of language in correlation with metaphor. The three-dimensional linguosemiotic methodology of research has enabled us: (1) to reveal the cognitive, psychological, and metaphorical essence of similes and work out the invariant conceptual model which remains unchanged throughout their structural-semantic variation in the text; (2) to single out pragmatic features of similes, the set of which defines their linguistic status as a language-in-use construct, i.e., textual phenomenon; (3) to study the denotational-cognitive aspect of similes pointing out the parameters according to which similes have been differentiated into semantic types and subtypes; and (4) to generalize the syntactical aspect of similes and define the set of their structural modifications in the text conditioned both by the intralinguistic regularities and by pragmatic factors. Therefore, we have worked out an interdisciplinary theory of similes implying the synergy of the data of linguistic, literary, cognitive, and psychological studies.

Keywords: associative perception, metaphorical mapping, pragmatic features, semantic and structural types of similes

Introduction: Research Methodology

The present paper is devoted to the complex study of similes aiming to reveal their linguosemiotic peculiarities. Similes have been studied so far either from a literary viewpoint as one of the stylistic expressive means of language based on associative perception and mapping of the world (Enkvist, 1973; Galperin, 1977; Leech & Short, 1981; Kukhareno, 1988; Esser, 1993) or in the context of philosophy of language in correlation with metaphor (Aristotle, 1954; Black, 1962; Davidson, 1979; Wierzbicka, 1990; Tirrel, 1991; Ortony, 1993; Todd & Clarke, 1999; Chiappe & Kennedy, 2000; Utsumi, 2007, and others).

Different from them, we offer a three-dimensional linguosemiotic analysis of similes focusing on the integral study of their semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic aspects. This methodology of simile is very much in line with Honeck, who, reviewing the state of metaphor research in 1980, remarked that what was needed was to go beyond semantics and develop a contextual approach which involved “a delicate integration of word-sense, syntactic form, pragmatic context, speaker-listener relationship, and goals, over time” (p. 42). Such an approach