



ALLITERATION. EXAMPLES FROM RUSSIAN POETRY

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Annotation: *The aim of this work is to study alliteration, which is considered to be the one of the most expressive methods of pragmatization, used in Russian literature. The research material was selected from a number of the most common and wide-spread writings of Russian literature as well as the examples from the sources considered for this work were also used. The paper uses the descriptive-analytical method.*

Key words: *alliteration, Russian literature, expressive relationship, fiction, wordplay, pun.*

One of the most important sources for contrasting descriptions of historical and linguistic processes and the dynamics of expressive means in related and unrelated languages are the monuments of poetic creativity, in which the mechanisms of functioning of language units, as well as stylistic means and techniques characteristic of different historical periods, are manifested and preserved. The study of the expressive and compositional means of a poetic text in synchronic and diachronic comparison opens up new opportunities for understanding the mechanisms of composition and, in particular, the sound organization of a poetic line or stanza on the listener/reader.

We consider alliteration techniques in close relationship with the structural specifics, as well as with the poetic tradition of the compared language systems. Without striving for a narrow, formal comparison of language systems on the scale of the elements of individual levels, we turn to a comparison of poetic means and techniques in their expressive relationship in the structure of a poetic text. Alliteration is a stylistic technique of repeating consonant sounds in artistic speech, which enhances its figurativeness and expressiveness. We learn what alliteration is in poetic speech, by what means it is created and for what it is used in fiction. The artist of the word, creating his work, seeks by all possible lexical, syntactic and stylistic means to draw a vivid figurative picture, influence the audience of readers and evoke a certain emotional response. To do this, writers use various figures of artistic speech.



The concept of a figure includes syntactic and stylistic constructions based on the repetition of individual sounds, words, conjunctions that carry the main semantic load in a literary text. This way of highlighting words is called repetition

Repetitions can be formed by the repetition of sounds of different categories - consonants and vowels, or a combination of both. If the artist of the word in the text of a poetic work deliberately uses the repetition of individual consonant sounds or their combinations, then we are talking about alliteration. Alliteration is a stylistic figure of poetic speech. Alliteration is the repetition of a consonant or a group of consonants in order to enhance the figurativeness and expressiveness of artistic speech. Alliteration, as one of the ways of sound organization of speech, gives rise to special phonetic effects in a literary text, which enhances its figurativeness and creates a vivid impression on the reader from the painted poetic picture. Words connected by alliteration stand out in the speech stream during pronunciation and acquire a special sound and intonation significance.

For example, we read from Sergei Yesenin:

*Свищет ветер, серебряный ветер
В шёлковом шелесте снежного шума.*

The repetition of the whistling consonant sound [s] in the first line gives rise to an imitation of the whistle of the winter cold wind. In the second line of the verse, the hissing consonant is repeated, which is intended to give the reader a vivid impression of the rustle of rapidly falling snow or creeping snow, a thick snowstorm. Alliteration emphasizes the sound of individual words in the work of the classic of Russian literature A.S. Pushkin. The poet deliberately selects words with the same consonants, thereby highlighting them in the flow of speech and creating a special sound effect.

*Нева вздывалась и ревела,
Котлом клопоча и клубясь...*

The reception of alliteration was often used in his work by V.V. Mayakovsky, which gave the poetic text a special expressive sound.

*Бей, барабан!
Барабан, барабань!..
Барбей!
Барбань!
Барабан!*

Reading these lines, we seem to really hear a clear drum roll. The poet achieves this effect by repeating the voiced consonants "b" and "r".



Such a phonetic means of expressiveness as alliteration, which involves the repetition of the same, homogeneous or similar in sounding consonants, is often used by the authors of poetic works. With the help of this sound-writing technique, it is possible to create intonational expressiveness, euphony, the effect of musical accompaniment, attract the reader's attention and influence him. With the help of alliteration, the authors imitate the sounds of living and inanimate nature, creating certain images in the minds of readers.

It should be noted that not all linguists are unanimous both in determining the nature of wordplay and in using the term itself. This is evidenced by the use of different terms as synonymous designations: "wordplay", "pun" or "language play". In the English language "pun", "paronomasia", "a play on words" or "quibble" are identified. Most often used as interchangeable terms "play on words" and "pun", and the phenomenon itself is defined as "a means of artistic expression", which "is used in speech as a sharpness, a joke", its basis is the use of polysemy, homonymy or sound similarity of words.¹ The fact that alliteration is a cornerstone of these word games should be a warning to writers to use alliteration in moderation.

The reason to use alliteration is hinted at by its alternate names – initial rhyme or head rhyme. As with perfect rhyme, alliteration lends verse some melody and rhythm and imparts a sense of how it should sound read out loud. Since perfect rhyme is not hugely popular in contemporary poetry, alliteration – and its siblings, assonance and consonance – are handy tools to have in a writing kit.

1. ¹ Satvoldieva, U. D., & Qizi, R. K. B. (2020). Linguistic analysis of puns in the English language. *Проблемы современной науки и образования*, (2 (147)), 38-40.