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Language as a means of survival and disintegration of identity in works of migration themes

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Abstract. The purpose of the study was to identify the features of the functioning of language as a marker of identity and a means of hybridisation in the literature representing the experience of migration. In the course of the research, methods of qualitative content analysis of literary texts with a focus on the language strategies of characters and discursive analysis were used, which allowed for identifying narrative mechanisms of identity formation. The study was conducted in an interdisciplinary paradigm that combines the approaches of cultural philosophy, semiotics, and postcolonial criticism. The analysis was based on digital text processing and manual semantic encoding of key fragments related to the topics of exile, language conflict, hybridity, and self-presentation. As a result, it was determined that linguistic hybridity in a literary text is not only a means of expressing transcultural experience but also a tool of resistance to assimilation. Ukrainian texts are dominated by the theme of loss of linguistic integrity and internalised identity crisis in the context of a sociolinguistic gap. Language is represented as a space of internal conflict between memory and adaptation, in which personal disintegration unfolded. Instead, the Latin American context demonstrated language strategy as a form of political gesture: colonial layering on the hero's linguistic body generated narratives of translation, splitting, and release through multilingualism or inversion of linguistic hierarchies. Comparative analysis allowed for identifying models according to which language in the literature of migration experience performs a dual function – as a traumatic consequence of expulsion and as a means of symbolic resistance and preservation of subjectivity. The practical importance of the study is the possibility of applying its conclusions to the humanitarian interpretation of migration culture,

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the formation of cultural memory policy, and the development of educational approaches to the topic of identity in a globalised world

Keywords: discourse of exile; semiosphere; linguistic and cultural instability; hybrid subjectivity; diaspora; communication; resistance

Introduction

In the literary studies of the last two decades (2000-2020s), the issue of language as a native speaker, representative or identity destabiliser in the context of migration experience has become particularly important. Global migration processes caused by both geopolitical events and socio-economic transformations have increased research interest in how language practices are reflected in fiction, in particular, in texts representing the experience of exile, emigration and intercultural dialogue. Special attention in this context was drawn to the problem of the relationship between language and identity, and the role of the literary text in understanding hybrid, transcultural, or crisis identities in the literature of different regions.

In scientific discourse, the examination of issues related to the functioning of language in the context of migration and transformation of cultural identity has become more active. One of the most important areas was the problem of linguistic self-expression in the process of cross-cultural interaction. In this context, T. Karmadonova (2023) traced the dynamics of identity formation of Ukrainian migrants in the context of cultural dialogue, drawing attention to the change in communication strategies depending on the socio-cultural environment. The author focused on the multi-layered nature of self-identification, where language performs the function of integration and adaptation.

S. Bybyk (2022), who analysed the functions of language as a marker of identity in the texts of Ukrainian migration prose, worked directly with the problem of linguistic representation of nationality. The author has shown that

language in such narratives performs not only an identifying but also a sacralising role, accumulating the experience of cultural memory and historical continuity. In this case, the writer's word becomes a space for preserving the collective experience of exile. A peculiar aspect of migration language dynamics was highlighted by O. Shevchuk-Kliuzheva (2024), who concentrated on the transmission of linguistic identity within the family. The researcher traced the relationship between language practice and the formation of internal cultural integrity, stressing the importance of the language environment for stabilising or modifying self-perception in migrant generations.

The consideration of cultural affiliation in the literature of the diaspora found a conceptual embodiment in the study by L.J. Neufeld (2022), who analysed the "off-home" image as an artistic metaphor for the simultaneous loss and reconstruction of identity. The author focused on the importance of language choice as an instrument of symbolic return or alienation, particularly in the context of Latin American Jewish literature. On the other hand, H.R. Sottong (2025) addressed the subject of transnational cultural heritage, exploring Dante's reception in Argentine literature as a means of forming a modern cultural identity. Author's analysis showed that literary language in this context serves as a symbolic intermediary between historical memory and modern national identity. The study conducted by M. Palmer (2022) presented an analysis of the self-representation of Arab migrants in Argentina who structured their identity through postcolonial and orientalist images. The author

underlined the role of language as a means of cultural positioning, pointing out the specifics of language interaction in a multicultural space.

The problem of bilingualism and oral speech as identification factors was highlighted by M. Hudoušková (2024), who analysed Cuban-American literature through the prism of biaculturation. The study indicated that language in such texts acquires a multifunctional meaning, not only as a means of communication but also as a symbol of internal conflict and creative adaptation. H. Ruiz (2022) presented the standpoint of the borderline narrative, having reviewed the image of identity against the background of imaginary and physical border crossings. The author demonstrated how linguistic ambivalence becomes part of the artistic construction of the migration experience, reflecting the struggle between the imaginary cultural heritage and the desire for integration.

Language ideologies and their influence on the formation of cultural affiliation were investigated in the paper of C. Despaigne (2024). Examining the experience of returning migrants to educational structures in Mexico, the author analysed how the language environment affects the process of readaptation and identity renewal under local pressure. In turn, W. Lam & M. Christiansen (2022), who considered digital platforms as a space for constructing identity in a transnational environment, established that language manoeuvring becomes a tool for personal autonomy and a way to build new forms of belonging beyond traditional ethno-cultural boundaries.

The analysis of the above-mentioned Works has shown the presence of several research gaps associated with insufficient attention to the comparative assessment of literary texts representing the experience of migration in the Ukrainian and Latin American contexts. In particular, the scientific field noticeably lacked a comprehensive approach to understanding linguistic hybridity as a means of artistic representation of a changed or split

identity. The focus of existing studies was mainly on linguistic or socio-cultural aspects of speech functioning, while the analysis of language as an artistic tool of self-reflection and self-identification remained fragmentary.

In this context, this study aimed to identify how language functioned as a means of survival or disintegration of identity in the prose of migration themes of Ukrainian and Latin American authors, and how cultural hybridity, exile, and linguistic adaptation were represented through the artistic narrative. In accordance with the goal, the following tasks were set: analyse the key theoretical approaches to the concept of migration identity within the framework of cultural philosophy and postcolonial theory; examine the language transformation and hybridisation of identity in the works of Ukrainian and Latin American authors representing the experience of migration; conduct a comparative analysis of the functioning of language as a marker of identity, a means of resistance and self-reflection in both literary contexts.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted between September 2023 and April 2024 as part of an interdisciplinary analysis of migration identity in the philosophical, cultural, and literary dimensions. A comprehensive methodology was applied, including content analysis of literary texts, elements of semiotic, discursive, and comparative analysis to achieve a holistic consideration of the problem. The philosophical and cultural basis of the study was formed by the texts of postcolonial theory and semiotics of culture. Key conceptual works were analysed: E.W. Said (2023) and H. Bhabha (1985). Special attention is paid to the works of S. Hall (1997) and Y. Lotman (1984). The choice of these sources was determined by their decisive influence on the formation of theoretical approaches to the analysis of identity, cultural hybridity, ambivalence of language structures in the diaspora and colonial context. The studies by

H. Bhabha and S. Hall allowed to outline the theoretical framework of the concepts of “hybridity”, “borderland”, and “diaspora” as productive literary representations of the language break for understanding. The methodology of Y. Lotman became the basis for analysing the boundaries and interaction of semiospheres, and therefore for identifying conflicts between the language codes of characters in a literary text.

The material basis of the empirical level of the study was six works of art that demonstrate the representation of linguistic hybridity in the context of migration experience. The Ukrainian segment of the corps includes works of Yu. Andrukhovych (1997), S. Andrukhovych (2019), S. Zhadan (2010). To Latin American – J. Cortázar (2004), R. Darío (2025), and R. Zafra (2020). The criteria for choosing literary texts were: the presence of an artistic representation of the experience of migration, exile, or hybrid identity; a noticeable role of the language element as a factor in the formation or destruction of the character’s identity; belonging to two cultural and regional literary systems – Ukrainian and Latin American, which allowed for a relevant comparison.

As part of the content analysis, key fragments of literary texts were identified, in which the speech behaviour of the characters recorded a gap, transgression, or resistance. Special attention was paid to lexical markers of multilingualism, code switching, references to the inability to express, internal monologues and replicas reflecting the narrative tension between private and social language. For this purpose, digital text analysis tools were used, in particular, AntConc and Voyant Tools. They were used for contextual search of key tokens, repeated phrases, and phrases related to the topics of language, exile, body, and identity. Individual semantic groups were also manually encoded for deeper semantic analysis.

Semiotic analysis enabled the consideration of language structures as sign systems integrated into a broader cultural context,

where they acquire conflicting or oppositional meaning. It was established how language functioned in works as a boundary structure that separates identities or, conversely, serves as a means of their interpenetration. A special place was occupied by the analysis of latent meanings associated with metaphors of language, body, exile, and silence, which turned out to be repeated images in the works of both literary spaces. As part of the comparative analysis, the functions of language in Ukrainian and Latin American prose were compared to identify common strategies of language resistance and differences in artistic modelling of identity. Genre features, language stylistics, intertextuality, and cultural symbols were accounted for. A comparative matrix was used, which included the following parameters: language function (communication/resistance), type of linguistic hybridity, connection with physicality, role of colonial memory, aesthetic status of language instability. The study combined the analysis of theoretical sources, structural interpretation of literary texts, and a comparative approach, which allowed systematising the material in an interdisciplinary framework.

Results

Theoretical approaches to the representation of migration identity in the literature

The concept of migration identity in modern humanitarian knowledge is considered as a complex, dynamic structure formed in the process of intercultural interaction. In the context of migration, identity loses the status of a stable, unified category and acquires signs of flexibility, multilayering, and situativeness. Both the subject’s self-image changes and the mechanisms of self-determination themselves through language, narrative, memory, spatial, and cultural affiliation.

One of the central concepts in this discourse is hybridity, which H. Bhabha (1985) interpreted as the result of the intense

interaction of cultural systems in the colonial and post-colonial contexts. Hybridity is not a simple combination of elements of two cultures, but is a process of creating a new identity that is formed in the space of conflict, ambivalence, and shifting values. Such identity cannot be reduced to any of the “original” cultural codes – it is constructed in an interstitial space where established hierarchies are destabilised. In fiction, this phenomenon is represented through linguistic polyphony, mixing of codes, stylistic heterogeneity, variations in cultural references, and gaps in narrative. Hybridity in prose appears as not only a meaningful but also a formal category – as one that structurally affects the organisation of the text. In this regard, the concept of Third Space related to hybridity, also proposed by H. Bhabha, is extremely important (Rutherford, 1990). This space is a symbolic territory where different cultures do not just co-exist, but interact, giving rise to new forms of meaning and identity. The third space is not a geographical or national feature – it represents a zone of intercultural exchange, where the hard boundaries between “own” and “foreign” are deconstructed. In a literary text, the third space can be modelled through narratives about transit, temporary stay, expectation, language, or cultural misunderstanding. It is in this space that a new subject is formed that thinks outside the binary categories of national, linguistic, or racial identity.

Another fundamental concept is exile, which is found in the writings of E. Said (2023), viewed as a crucial experience of modernity. According to the author, exile is not only a physical loss of the motherland but also an existential state of constant alienation and instability. Such a subject is always “in between”, in a situation of broken belonging: it does not fully integrate into the new environment, but it cannot return to the previous one. Exile, according to E. Said, creates a special epistemology – the position of an external observer who is at the centre

of discursive conflicts. In literature, this is reflected in the motives of disorientation, speech loss, memory distortion, and disruption of the integrity of the narrative. The language of the exile is no longer the language of the house, but a language that simultaneously preserves and distorts memories, includes and excludes them. In this context, there is a need to refer to the category of linguistic survival – a term that covers both adaptive mechanisms and internal conflicts associated with being in a multilingual environment. Language survival involves both a gradual change in language dominance and the desire to preserve the native language as an element of the cultural core. In prose, this is often represented by the polyphony of voices, the switching of codes, the fluctuation between stylistic unity and the fragmentation of language expression. Language survival is also a constant balance between the need for communication effectiveness and the fear of losing cultural identity. In a literary narrative, such manifestations become not only thematic figures but also formative components that determine the rhythm, syntax, and style of the text.

A theoretical tool for a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of linguistic and cultural interaction is the concept of the semiosphere developed by Y. Lotman (1984). The semiosphere is defined as the space within which all sign systems of culture function. It has an internal structure: the core (dominant, “own” codes) and the periphery (marginalised, “foreign” signs). Migration, in this context, means moving an individual from one semiosphere to another, which requires them to transcode the usual meanings, adapt to a new symbolic logic. In a literary text, this manifests itself in the form of intertextuality, a gap between language design and semantic expectations, and a multi-level play of signs. Language fragmentation, misunderstandings, polylogical structure – all this indicates the presence of a hero or narrator in the zone of tension between semiospheres.

A substantial addition to these theories is the approaches of S. Hall (1997), who saw identity as a process of permanent reconstruction. S. Hall argued that identity is not an a priori entity, but is formed as a result of articulation, that is, through the discursive design of experience, language, culture, and history. In a migration situation, such articulation often turns out to be contradictory: the subject constructs himself through comparison with another, in a constant movement between cultural systems. Identity, as S. Hall states, is the result of positioning, and it is through language – as a carrier and mediator of culture – that the subject performs this positioning. In a literary text, this logic is manifested in autoreflexivity, changeability of focus, and discursive tension between different levels of narration.

Thus, the involvement of the concepts of aforementioned works creates a comprehensive analytical model for interpreting migration identity as a dynamic, hybrid, and meaningfully saturated phenomenon. In the literary space, these concepts allow tracing how experiences of exile, adaptation, resistance, and reinterpretation of belonging are translated through language, narrative, and art form.

Ukrainian experience of migration and language in literature

Over the past decades, the Ukrainian literary tradition has formed an expressive field of representation of the experience of migration – both external, caused by political or economic factors, and internal, associated with individual disorientation in the post-Soviet socio-cultural space. The central motive of such prose is speech – as a means of adaptation, alienation, internal isolation, or resistance.

In the novel by Yu. Andrukhovych (1997), language performs an ambivalent function – it is both a means of escape from the dominant cultural system and a mechanism for survival in a new language environment. The character-storyteller, poet and artist Stanislav

Perfetsky, while in Venice, feels like a language exile, capable of excessive language flexibility: “I speak with an accent, but I can speak any of the languages that are understood here... I never belonged to any of them entirely”. This fragment illustrates the hybrid linguistic identity of the hero, which functions according to the logic of H. Bhabha (1985): hybridisation does not appear here as integration, but as a constant switching between codes, none of which is stable or “native”. Language in the work of Yu. Andrukhovych is a tool for imitation, grotesque, and theatricalisation of the personality, which allows one to avoid the final definition. It serves not for communicative effectiveness, but for building an image, playing with identity, as it is emphasised in episodes with a deliberate violation of stylistics: “he switched from Latin to Polish, from Polish to Ukrainian, from Ukrainian to English and back, interspersing all this with splashes of Italian swearing...” (Romanenko, 2022). This linguistic polyphony correlates with the theory of the semiosphere of Y. Lotman (1984): the hero moves between different semiotic fields where none of them can be fully mastered, and therefore each new “entry” involves transcoding, loss, and sometimes conscious distortion. In this context, language is a means of simultaneous survival and distancing, a marker of non-dependence and inner freedom.

A different model of linguistic alienation is demonstrated by the prose of S. Zhadan (2010), in particular, the novel “Voroshilovgrad”, where the language environment functions as a field of destruction of familiar cultural structures and self-determination. The hero Herman returns from Kharkiv to the industrial Eastern Donbas, which appears as a semi-marginal, heterogeneous space. From the very first pages of the novel, speech is recorded as distrust: “I haven’t spoken Ukrainian with them for a long time – I had to translate my own speech”. This fragment reflects the experience of internal migration, in which linguistic identity does not correlate with

geography but appears as a factor of social adaptation. Here, the Stuart Hall logic is triggered, for which identity is the result of positioning in a discursive field. The hero, changing his language strategies, does not so much adapt as articulate his own uncertainty, an attempt to maintain autonomy in the conditions of blurred boundaries between “own” and “foreign”. In the novel by S. Zhadan, language is often presented as an external factor: characters think using it, but do not trust it. In dialogues, the strategy of avoiding direct utterance, shifting to everyday jargon, and fixing on nonverbal language is noticeable. This linguistic alienation is also supported through formal techniques – syntax breaking, sentence fragmentation, and intonation instability. Thus, language here is not a guarantee of identity, but rather its “deficit”, a trace of the past or a remnant of an unformed subject.

In the work of S. Andrukhovych (2019), migration issues take on a deeper body and gender dimension. The story is built around the internal emigration of women within the borders of Austrian Galicia in the early 20th century. The main character, Steph, lives in a “different” house, plays the role of a maid, but the narrative reveals her inner resistance. One of the forms of such resistance is language transgression – the deliberate appropriation of someone else’s voice, including through writing: “I wrote in German, because this is the only way I could say something that I did not allow myself out loud”. Here, language acts not only as a means of communication but also as a mechanism for going beyond the established social roles. It becomes a form of symbolic expulsion from the culture of silence imposed on women – and a means of creating a new space (the concept of a “reformatted” Y. Lotman semiosphere, where rhetoric replaces the role model). Polylinguism in the text of S. Andrukhovych does not demonstrate language proficiency as an advantage, on the contrary, it shows a split identity: between Steph as a subject and Steph as a “body” in the service of someone else. In addition, in

the prose of S. Andrukhovych, speech interacts with physicality: the narrative voice constantly connects internal speech with physical reactions – trembling, stuttering, muteness. This correlates with E. Said (2023) ideas about exile, both as a geographical loss and as a loss of the body in speech – a state in which the subject is forced to move away from the “natural” form of self-expression. Through a multi-level language structure, the novel creates an image of a woman whose identity unfolds in bodily speech, hidden and interrupted.

In each of the considered texts, the Ukrainian language functions not as a stable element of cultural affiliation but as a space of tension, adaptation, and resistance. It is a game, an escape strategy and simulation, a marker of disorientation and language breakdown in internal migration, a means of breaking through social and gender constraints, where polyphony becomes a way to articulate trauma and exile. Such a diverse approach allows viewing Ukrainian migration prose not only as a thematic representation of displacement but also as a structural laboratory of language transformation and hybrid identity in the context of cultural stratification.

Linguistic identity in the Latin American prose of migration experience

Latin American prose, formed in the context of colonial heritage, internal migration, and transcultural movements, contains rich material for understanding linguistic identity. In the works of J. Cortázar (2004), R. Darío (2025), and R. Zafra (2020), language appears not as a stable means of communication, but as a space of internal crisis, cultural hybridity, and a means of articulating exclusion. The analysis of the selected authors demonstrated various aspects of the functioning of the language in the context of exile, colonial heritage, and intersectional experience.

In the prose of J. Cortázar, in particular, in the novel “Rayuela” (2004), multilingualism

and self-translation are the main artistic strategies. The hero, Horacio Oliveira, lives between Buenos Aires and Paris, between Spanish and French, between the cultural memory of Latin America and the intellectual space of Europe. In the fragment: “And then she spoke to me in French, even though I knew that she was doing it so that someone outside the door would not hear and still say painful things to me in Spanish”, there is a simultaneous use of French and Spanish, which not only denotes a communicative situation but also captures the dual identity of the character. Language here becomes a way of separating the private and the public, internal, and external. This linguistic bifurcation corresponds to the hybridity model proposed by H. Bhabha (1985): the subject finds itself in constant motion between codes that never merge into a single whole. In many episodes of “Rayuela”, J. Cortázar simulates language shifts and fluctuations. Character lines are accompanied by switching languages, interweaving French sayings, and sometimes Latin or English. This creates a sense of language instability that confirms the concept of Y. Lotman (1984) on the tension between semiospheres: broadcasting takes place in a constant transcoding environment, where no system is completely independent of the subject.

In the work “The Veil of Queen Mab”, R. Darío (2025) masterfully unfolds the theme of linguistic ambivalence as the embodiment of colonial heritage and simultaneously as a space of intellectual resistance. The image of language as the “only weapon against the shadow” functions here not only as a poetic metaphor but also as a key to understanding the existential crisis of the subject formed in the context of cultural subordination. Spanish, which became the language of self-expression for R. Darío, turns out to be controversial – it simultaneously legitimises the colonial heritage and allows it to be criticised from within. This dual status of language in the work creates a space of symbolic exile, in which the subject is deprived of direct

access to his “own” language roots, but at the same time receives an instrument of reflection and reassignment of experience. The function of language as a channel of interiorised struggle is manifested through allusions to the European literary tradition, which intersects with Latin American historical memory in the text. R. Darío does not just criticise colonialism – he transforms its language tools, introducing new meanings into them that can undermine hegemony. “The Veil of Queen Mab” asserts the postulate of language as an ambiguous but productive space of hybrid identity formed in response to loss, challenge, and pressure.

The third area of analysis concerns the creativity of R. Zafra (2020), in particular, the “Story of a Woman with No Name” collection. The central novel “My Mother’s Voice” highlights the intersection of linguistic, cultural, and gender identities. The main character works in an environment where English (the language of school), Spanish (the language of home) and an intuitively felt “inner language” that no one hears co-exist. In one of the key fragments, it is written: “before me, English was spoken at school, Spanish at home, but my body thought in a language that no one wanted to hear”. There is a radical distinction between verbal and bodily experiences: no available language can accommodate the fullness of experiences. This gap corresponds to the concept of S. Hall (1997) on identity as articulation: the subject is in a field of conflicting discourses, each of which only partially allows self-expression. In the novel “No sabré decirlo”, the tension reaches a climax: “There are words that do not fit English, and in Spanish they are too difficult for me”. Here, the language boundary appears not only as a grammatical barrier but as a manifestation of structural exclusion. Thus, R. Zafra represents the experience of a subject for whom none of the languages are safe or representative. Conditional “body language”, which appears in the text as an intuitive source of meaning, clearly indicates the need for

alternative articulation. At the formal level, the style of R. Zafra demonstrates code switching, fragmentation, and syntax opacity. These techniques form a specific artistic space in which linguistic instability and semantic ambiguity are not defects, but forms of true expression. Writing becomes a bodily gesture, a polyglossic action that takes the experience beyond the unified language code.

Thus, in the prose of aforementioned authors, language is not limited to a means of transmitting content. It acts as a dynamic structure: both barrier and resource, inheritance, and resistance, exclusion and self-representation. All three authors demonstrated that linguistic identity in the Latin American context is formed in conditions of deep cultural conflict, where language does not guarantee expression, but allows searching for it. In this context, the artistic text becomes a laboratory of linguistic hybridity, where the subject redefines themselves through linguistic multiplicity and crisis.

Language hybridity as a space of cross-cultural identity

Within the framework of cross-cultural prose, language acquires a special status – as a communication tool and a symbolic space where traumatic experiences, cultural gaps, and self-reflection processes intersect. In the cases of both Ukrainian and Latin American artistic writing of migration topics, the language fabric of the text becomes an indicator of hybrid identity, which is formed in the conditions of splitting between the “home” and “foreign” code. Common to authors from different contexts

is the appeal to linguistic multicodularity as a strategy for representing a subject that cannot be placed within a single semiosphere. However, there are fundamental differences in the artistic interpretation of the conflict between the native and acquired language, in the ways of fixing speech injuries, and in the functions of speech as a support or as a channel of assimilation. The implementation of a comparative analysis allows tracing how language becomes both a symptom of exile and a resource of symbolic transformation, opening up new perspectives in understanding hybrid identity in the literature of the diaspora.

In the process of comparative analysis of Ukrainian and Latin American prose devoted to migration, both structural and semantic parallels in the representation of language conflict can be traced. In both cultures, language takes on a functional, but above all, a symbolic dimension, reflecting the ambivalent experience of the subject, torn between cultural codes. Ukrainian authors mainly interpret language tension through the prism of internal migration, social marginalisation, and the postcolonial state associated with the loss of cultural support and attempts to rethink themselves within the hybrid space. In turn, Latin American writers focus on the traumatic experience of colonial heritage, where language acts as a tool of dominance, but simultaneously as a potential for resistance. As a result, an expanded field of observation was formed, where language appears as an arena of struggle for identity: between one’s own and imposed, memory and oblivion, bodily and narrative (Table 1).

Table 1. *Comparative matrix of language conflict and hybrid identity in Ukrainian and Latin American prose*

Parameters	Ukrainian prose	Latin American prose
Migration type	External and internal migration (post-Soviet context)	External migration, diaspora, colonial heritage
Nature of the language conflict	Internal division, alienation, instability	Conflict between the language of the coloniser and the subject
The role of language in identity formation	Identity as a movement between discourses	Language as a political and personal resource

Table 1. Continued

Parameters	Ukrainian prose	Latin American prose
Language strategies of heroes	Switching, fragmentation, avoiding direct speech	Hybridity, overload, multilingualism
Language as a space of exile	Yes, due to the loss of cultural soil and language disorientation	Yes, especially in the context of the colonial past
Language as a form of resistance	Language as a form of survival and distancing	Language as an instrument of decolonisation
The use of code-switching	Yes	Yes
Physicality and language	Language is associated with bodily experience (S. Andrukhovych)	Body language as an intuitive dimension of identity (R. Zafra)
Genre structure	Polyphony, fragmentation, intimacy	Compositional discontinuity, internarrativeness

Source: compiled by the author based on H. Gairaud Ruiz (2021), S. Revutska (2022)

The analysis shows both obvious intersections and substantial differences between the Ukrainian and Latin American traditions of representing language conflict. In both cases, the language functions as a symptom of exile and hybridity, but its cultural load differs greatly. Ukrainian prose is characterised by an emphasis on internal disorientation, the gap between cultural memory and new sociolinguistic conditions. Here, language often reflects a personal identification fracture, in particular, through internal monologues, body reflection, and genre polyphony. Instead, in the Latin American context, the language crisis is usually caused by colonial heritage: the conflict unfolds between the language of the dominant culture (Spanish, English) and “internal” or “bodily” speech, which seeks alternative ways of expression. Language hybridity in this case is not only an adaptation but also a political gesture of resistance, an attempt to rewrite the history of dominance.

These differences do not negate, but rather reinforce, a common structural mechanism within which language ceases to be a transparent communication tool. In the literature of migration experience, it appears primarily as a key marker of identity, which is in a state of constant tension. It performs a dual function – on the one hand, it represents the experience of traumatic eradication, and on the other, it becomes an instrument of resistance, preservation, and restoration of subjectivity. This

ambivalence of the language code is evident in both Ukrainian and Latin American literature, where language practice is formed on the border of cultures, traditions, and power structures. The traumatic dimension of language is primarily associated with the experience of colonisation, assimilation, forced emigration, or internal exile. In this context, the language undergoes deformation, loss of primary function, alienation, or fragmentation. It can be perceived as alien, imposed, or not accommodating individual experience. This often leads to a split in speech consciousness, an internal crisis of expression, or even temporary speech silence. A person who has experienced migration finds themselves in a space between languages, where neither of them provides full self-expression, creating a sense of existential incompleteness. Thereby, it is language – despite its complicated, fragmented position – that can become a means of internal resistance. It is able to represent cultural memory, intimate experience, and physicality that do not find a place in dominant discourses. Through writing, language play, and the transformation of syntax or lexical structures, authors redefine language as a field of struggle for the right to be heard. In this sense, speech performs not only a communicative but also an identifying, even therapeutic function. It becomes a way to restore integrity, actualise a forgotten or repressed part of the self (Ahlgren, 2021).

In both literary traditions, Ukrainian and Latin American, the experience of colonial or post-colonial conflict is common, in which language appears as a space of symbolic violence. In the Ukrainian context, the language is often associated with a history of russification, political marginalisation, or a break with traditional forms of national broadcasting. In Latin American – with the consequences of Spanish colonisation, the dominance of European language codes and the loss of autochthonous languages. In such circumstances, language functions as an archive of oppression, but at the same time as a platform for articulating an alternative identity. The gender dimension of speech trauma and resistance deserves special attention in the analysis. Women's experience in the migration context is often associated with double or triple exclusion – cultural, social, gender. In such cases, the language loses its normativity, becomes fragmented, and sometimes intentionally opaque. This allows taking the narrative beyond hegemonic speech, creating a space for intersectional subjectivity that is not limited to any of the available language systems. Instead of trying to adapt to one language, there

is a strategy of constant transcoding, which in itself is a form of resistance.

Thus, in migration prose, the language is not a neutral structure, but appears as a politically, psychologically, and culturally loaded field. It reveals contradictions between internal and external, between historical memory and current speech, between the requirement of language adaptation and the need to preserve one's own voice. This makes language a critical element of the traumatic experience, but at the same time, a central mechanism for the struggle for identity in the border space of exile and Diaspora. In the context of migration fiction, language functions as a crucial mechanism for representing identity, resistance, and crisis. The analysis of artistic strategies in the texts of Ukrainian and Latin American authors displays the differences in the functioning of the language code in conditions of exile, hybridity, and semiotic instability. Based on the concept of Y. Lotman (1984) on the semiosphere as a space of cultural translation, it is possible to outline typological schemes of interaction between the individual and sign systems in a literary text (Table 2).

Table 2. *Cultural semiosphere of exile and diaspora in Ukrainian and Latin American prose*

Author	Title of the work	Type of language hybridity	Sample fragment	Type of semiosphere
Yu. Andrukhovych	Perversion	Language play, latinisms, metatextuality	"Write to me in Ukrainian, because I don't know who I am in this language"	Semiosphere of internal conflict
S. Andrukhovych	Felix Austria	Polylinguism, a female narrative	"I spoke to him in German, but thought in Polish and quarreled in Ukrainian"	Semiosphere of physical and cultural instability
S. Zhadan	Voroshilovgrad	Alienation, internal migration	"I understood the language locals spoke, but I didn't recognise myself in it"	The transitional semiosphere of post-socialist memory
J. Cortázar	Rayuela	Multilingualism, self-translation	"He spoke to me in French... yet he told me things that hurt me in Spanish"	Semiosphere of intercontinental bifurcation
R. Darío	The Veil of Queen Mab	Colonial code, baroque hybridity	"The language I speak is a heritage of conquest but also my only weapon against the shadow"	Semiosphere of aestheticised resistance

Table 2. Continued

Author	Title of the work	Type of language hybridity	Sample fragment	Type of semiosphere
R. Zafra	Story of a Woman with No Name	Intersectional body language	"They spoke to me in English at school... but my body thought in a language nobody wanted to hear"	Semiosphere of marginalised articulation

Source: compiled by the author based on Yu. Andrukhovych (1997), J. Cortázar (2004), Zhadan (2010), S. Andrukhovych (2019), R. Zafra (2020), S.R. Dario (2025)

Linguistic identity in the works considered in this study both demonstrates the hybrid nature of self-perception and shapes the types of semiospheres, limited sign environments, in which self-expression occurs. While Ukrainian pieces pay more attention to the gap between individual memory and the collective language code, Latin American works show a language crisis as a consequence of the colonial past or intersectional experience. All examples support the hypothesis of language as a key point of tension where exile, self-identification, and cultural resistance meet.

In the context of migration experience, language appears as an ambivalent tool: on the one hand, it is a means of resisting cultural unification, and on the other, it is a mechanism for adapting to new sociolinguistic conditions. In the analysed texts, the language code performs the function of preserving identity by actively rethinking traditional forms of communication, transgressing grammatical and semantic boundaries, introducing polylinguism, stylistic shifts, and intertextuality. Thereby, it can contribute to gradual assimilation if the connection with one's own cultural memory is lost or there is a complete immersion in the dominant discourse. Thus, the language strategy becomes a determining factor in whether the subject will try to preserve the semiosphere of exile as a space of resistance or integrate into the new environment, while losing some of its cultural identity.

Discussion

In the course of this study, it was established that linguistic hybridity in the literature of

migration experience appears not as an exclusively linguistic phenomenon, but as a complex cultural, psychological and semiotic strategy. This understanding allows comparing the results with those obtained in a study by A.Y. Chernysh (2024), which analysed the linguistic and synergistic vector of Ukrainian discourse based on the novel "Voroshilovgrad" by S. Zhadan (2010). The author focused on internal coordination of levels of language structure, while this study considered language as an external marker of hybrid identity. Both approaches have shown that language multiplicity forms a multi-level semantic dynamic of the text, which is essential to revealing traumatic or marginalised experiences. In a paper of I. Tarku (2022), dedicated to the representation of family memory and war trauma in Ukrainian literature, the narrative mechanisms for reproducing historical experience are in the centre of attention. Despite the fact that author did not directly investigate the problem of language hybridity; the results of this study confirmed his observations about the role of the language code as a carrier of post-memory. In aforementioned study, language destabilisation served as an indicator of a cultural gap, which is consistent with the language functioning identified in this study as a symptom of uprooting and identity tension.

S. Nordmark & H. Colliander (2023) in a study on the social inclusion of migrants in the European context stressed the importance of language adaptation as one of the leading factors of integration into the host society. At the centre of their observations is the desire

of migrants to master a new language as a tool for building social capital, access to institutions, communication, and forming a sense of belonging. Their study uncovered a pattern: successful language adaptation correlates with an increased subjective sense of inclusion. Instead, in this study, which focused on artistic representation of migration experiences, language dynamics became deeply ambivalent. It is established that two contradictory tendencies co-exist in the literary text: on the one hand – the desire of characters to adapt to new language codes, on the other – the deliberate or subconscious preservation of markers of foreign language, dialect elements, accent, native language tokens, etc. These remnants of the original linguistic identity are not passive – on the contrary, they represent resistance to cultural assimilation and act as a kind of “shadow” language that embodies criticism of the narrative of total inclusion. Such language fragments in a work of art become metaphors of disunity, ambivalence, and a hybrid subject that defies simple sociological modelling.

In the text of B. Nicholson (2023), dedicated to changing the reception of J. Cortázar (2004), the dynamics of readers and critics in rethinking transnational authorship were examined. The author emphasised how cultural expectations related to a writer’s linguistic identity affect the interpretation of a text. In this study, this problem was transferred to an internal dimension: it was shown that the language structure of the text itself of J. Cortázar (2004) functions as a carrier of multiple polyphonic identity. It refers not only about the functional switching of codes (for example, between literary and spoken Spanish, or the inclusion of French words) but also about the semiotic effect of “body language” – a figurative, sensualised, empirical system of signs that comes into conflict with rational, grammatically controlled speech. In this conflict, a subject was created that exists not within the established language paradigm, but on its border, in the space of

flimsy linguistic hybridity, where language simultaneously reveals and destroys identity.

In the review of M. Hallensleben (2025), the idea that the story of exile in the literature of the 20th-21st centuries not only represents the traumatic experience of losing the motherland but also forms a certain structure of memory in which the past and present are in constant tension was put forward. This study supported this vision, but also offered an important clarification: linguistic representation in migration prose performs the function of preserving or archiving time in addition to having an active influence on its reconfiguration. It was determined that the instability of the language code – due to switching between different styles, rhythms, and levels of formality – embodies the fragmentation of the migrant’s temporal experience, where time limits are blurred. Such fragmentation is not only a compositional technique but also the result of an internal conflict of the subject, who simultaneously seeks to preserve the past and distance themselves from it. In this sense, language appears as a mechanism of time shift, not fixation. Instead, in a study by R.I. Díaz (2021), which considered the phenomenon of transliteration in the Latin American postcolonial context, the language was understood as a space of aesthetic and political resistance. The author underscored that multilingualism in a literary text not only demonstrates cultural complexity but also reflects resistance to dominant narratives of colonial hegemony. This study shared this position, but offered an alternative focus point: not on interaction with autochthonous languages as such, but on how body-language narrative mechanisms are formed in the artistic structure – gestures, rhythms, facial expressions, metaphorical fusion of language with sensation. It was this channel of articulation found in the texts that reflected the deeper intent of resistance – not only semantic, but existential.

Within the framework of this study, it was established that linguistic hybridity in literary

migration discourse appears not only as a sign of cultural multiplicity, but above all as a symptom of ineradicable locality – traumatised, but persistently represented. In this sense, multilingualism does not serve as a transnational association, but, on the contrary, means splitting and resistance to full integration. This approach contrasts with the opinion of S. Esch (2023), who, analysing Central American literature in a global context, considered multilingualism as a strategic tool for entering the universal literary space. In the aforementioned study, language experimentation acted as a marker of openness, dialogue with the global reader, and an attempt to go beyond the local. In the same study, multilingualism was interpreted more as a way to fix the impossibility of a final transition – language preserved the border, reminded of an insurmountable otherness and an experience that cannot be interpreted solely through universal codes. Another aspect was identified in the results of comparison with the publication of H. Jin (2024), in which the artist appeared as a migrant in a broad – cultural, mental, identification – sense, and language was seen as a space of mobility that allows moving between contexts. Although this study confirmed the mobile nature of language experience, it also presented its reverse side: language not only facilitates crossing borders but also materialises as a symbol of resistance, as a scar that embodies the past. It recorded not just changes, but internal limitations that prevented the subject from finally escaping the experience of loss, breakup, or exclusion. Thus, the language in the study by H. Jin was associated with discovery, whereas in this one, it was associated with bodily memory, reverse traction, and rooting.

In this study, the literary representation of migration experience was identified to be inextricably linked to the tension between individual narrative and collective memory. Specifically, language instability – code switching, fragmented syntactic structure, interspersed with unadapted words – represented a constant

conflict between nationality and the experience of exile. In this sense, there was a parallel with the findings of I. Nabytovych (2022), who investigated the role of historical prose in shaping national identity. Although the author concentrated on the great historical narratives actualised in prose, the results of this study showed that even an intimate, migratory narrative is not devoid of historical richness: it translates memory through linguistic cleavage, signalling the incompleteness of national self-determination. Language in such works appears not as an instrument of unity, but rather a field of struggle between a traumatic past and an uncertain future. A different, but indicative approach was traced in the study by J. Cortázar (1981), who interpreted literary exile as a form of ethical union and solidarity. The author claimed that the space of exile in the literary text opened up opportunities for intercultural dialogue, aesthetic exchange, and mutual recognition. In this study, however, another trend was noted: the language in the texts about exile mostly functioned as a conflict-causing structure, not as a bridge, but as a scar. It did not connect, but fragmented, separated, and formed a new identity precisely through the juxtaposition, instead of the harmonisation of experience.

With a different theoretical emphasis, G. Smilevski (2020) reviewed the relationship between loss, memory, and exile, describing language as a container of cultural and individual memory. This confirmed the thesis about the deep connection of language with memory, but simultaneously revealed its other function – not only to preserve but also to transform. In the texts that became the research material, speech often turned out to be not a stable support for memory, but a zone of its destruction: individual words or syntactic structures served as triggers or obstacles in an attempt to reconstruct the past. In some cases, there was an incompatibility between what the character remembers and how they can express it – thus, the language turned into a space of

traumatic tension, where memory not only exists but also conflicts with itself.

A slightly different vector was considered by B. Pokharel (2020), who analysed diaspora literature as a transition from “condition” to “awareness” – that is, from passive existence in emigration circumstances to active identity formation. This idea is extremely valuable for understanding the transformations that a subject goes through in exile. Within the framework of this study, it was determined that in the Ukrainian and Latin American artistic context, this transition is largely blocked by the language gap. Language is not always a means of “awareness” – it often acts as an obstacle to it, especially in situations where language hybridity is combined with existential uncertainty. Such speech does not lead to self-acceptance, drawing the character into a zone of constant doubt, where no language code is a stable support. This highlighted that the “transition to consciousness” in migration prose is not linear or guaranteed: it depends not only on the social context but also on the internal conflict between different linguistic layers of experience. Therefore, the present study, complementing the conclusions of B. Pokharel, demonstrated that language break can be not only a condition for awareness but also its limitation – both in a symbolic and psychological sense.

In the context of the results of this study, which demonstrated that language in the literature of migration experience functions not only as a means of communication but as a space of bodily tension, the observations of V. Matsko *et al.* (2022) on the transformation of cultural memory in the prose of the Ukrainian diaspora were especially meaningful. They underlined the dynamic nature of narrative identity and the multi-layered nature of historical codes. In this study, this dynamic was indicated primarily through linguistic instability and polycodicity: identity was formed at the border between discourse and experience, rather than within given historical models. It was discovered that

not only memory but also language fragmentation, even failures in syntax, served as carriers of the past, which does not have a stable language definition. Thus, the results expanded the understanding of the functioning of historical memory as implemented thematically and at the level of formal language organisation.

R. Phillips (2020) presented the Latin American literary space as a polyphonic environment in which multilingualism and transliteration played a mobilising function aimed at rethinking the colonial heritage and forming new identity narratives. In this context, language was seen as a political tool capable of constructing new models of cultural belonging within the postcolonial space. Instead, the results of this study allowed clarifying this point of view: multilingualism in Latin American prose appeared not only as a gesture of decolonisation or cultural mobilisation but also as a means of experiencing individual bodily experience. In the works of R. Zafra (2020), in particular, language hybridity functioned as a manifestation of intuitive “body language”, which arose in a situation where none of the available languages could fully represent the heroine’s experience. Thus, in contrast to the general theoretical approach of R. Phillips (2020), who emphasised the social and political dimension of multilingualism, in this study, multilingualism was also interpreted as a means of intimate self-affirmation in conditions of existential exile – at a level where language becomes a bodily gesture, and not just an instrument of public articulation.

The results of this study confirmed the general provisions of previous publications on the role of language in migration experience, while offering new aspects of analysis related to bodily articulation, semiotics of speech decay, and strategic ambivalence of speech behaviour of characters. All these elements enabled the formulation of a holistic view of language as a dynamic marker of cultural hybridity and also of internal resistance rooted in the bodily experience of exile.

Conclusions

As a result of the study, it was established that the concept of migration identity, understood in the philosophy of culture and postcolonial theory, was characterised by dynamism, heterogeneity and discursive fragmentation. The main theoretical models allowed considering identity as a result of constant movement between discursive fields, where language acted not only as a means of communication but also as an arena of ideological conflict. Migration identity was identified to be the result of crossing semiotic boundaries, within which language practice reflects not only adaptation but also resistance, stigmatisation, or an attempt to restore a cultural subject.

The Ukrainian artistic discourse reflected the deep internal tension associated with the experience of migration, both external and internal. In the works of Ukrainian writers, language appeared as an instrument of personal reflection and at the same time as a field of loss. The characters of Ukrainian texts experienced a language break due to the destruction of the connection between language practice and cultural memory. Strategies of internal monologue, fragmented narrative, and syntactic instability dominated, reflecting a sense of eradication, internal duality, and the need to redefine oneself in a new context. In the Latin American context, the language problem was directly related to colonial heritage, the dominance of the official language code, and attempts to create alternative forms of expression through multilingualism, self-translation, bodily articulation, or silence. The language in these texts performed a dual function – repressive (as a result of a

history of violence) and expressive (as an attempt at narrative restoration of subjectivity). There was a tendency to stylistic hybridisation, a combination of elements of high and folk culture, codes of European tradition, and elements of local experience.

Comparative analysis, presented in the form of a comparative matrix of language conflict and hybrid identity in Ukrainian and Latin American prose, showed similar structural models and at the same time important differences. Both literary contexts identified language as a space of exile accompanied by internal duality. While Ukrainian authors focused mainly on internal disorientation and post-Soviet trauma, Latin American prose was dominated by a conflict between the language of the coloniser and the subject. In the language strategies of the heroes of Ukrainian texts, switching, fragmentation, and avoiding direct speech were recorded, which contrasted with multilingualism, congestion, and hybridity in Latin American narratives. Promising areas for further research may be the interdisciplinary combination of literary analysis with sociolinguistic methods, the study of linguistic identity in oral and digital discourses of the diaspora, and the expansion of the corpus of texts by attracting other cultural and geographical regions.

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Мова як засіб виживання і розпаду ідентичності у творах міграційної тематики

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Анотація. Метою дослідження було виявити особливості функціонування мови як маркера ідентичності та засобу гібридизації у літературі, що репрезентує досвід міграції. У процесі дослідження було використано методи якісного контент-аналізу художніх текстів із фокусом на мовні стратегії персонажів, а також дискурсивний аналіз, що дозволив виявити наративні механізми формування ідентичності. Дослідження здійснювалося в міждисциплінарній парадигмі, яка поєднувала підходи філософії культури, семіотики та постколоніальної критики. Аналіз здійснювався на основі цифрової текстової обробки та ручного семантичного кодування ключових фрагментів, пов'язаних із темами вигнання, мовного конфлікту, гібридності та саморепрезентації. У результаті було виявлено, що мовна гібридність у художньому тексті є не лише засобом вираження транскультурного досвіду, а й інструментом опору асиміляції. В українських текстах домінувала тема втрати мовної цілісності та інтерналізованої кризи ідентичності в умовах соціолінгвістичного розриву. Мова репрезентувалася як простір внутрішнього конфлікту між пам'яттю й адаптацією, в якому розгорталася особистісна дезінтеграція. Латиноамериканський контекст, натомість, демонстрував мовну стратегію як форму політичного жесту: колоніальне нашарування на мовне тіло героя породжувало наративи перекладу, розщеплення та вивільнення через багатомовність або інверсію лінгвістичних ієрархій. Порівняльний аналіз дозволив окреслити моделі, за якими мова в літературі міграційного досвіду виконує двоїсту функцію – як травматичний наслідок вигнання та як засіб символічного спротиву й збереження суб'єктності. Практична значущість дослідження полягає в можливості застосування його висновків для гуманітарної інтерпретації міграційної культури, формування культурної політики пам'яті та розробки освітніх підходів до теми ідентичності у глобалізованому світі

Ключові слова: дискурс вигнання; семіосфера; лінгвокультурна нестабільність; гібридна суб'єктність; діаспора; комунікація; опір



Cultural aspects of language heritage use and preservation: The impact of bilingualism on identity and social integration

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Abstract. This study aimed to investigate the influence of proficiency in two or more languages on forming individual identity and social integration. To achieve this goal, a methodology was employed that was based on an analysis of the cultural aspects of bilingualism and an exploration of strategies for preserving cultural values in a linguistic environment. The research was conducted by analysing data from various countries, including Canada, Switzerland, the USA, South Korea, Vietnam, and others where bilingualism is prevalent. This allowed for the conclusion that bilingualism has a positive impact on preserving linguistic heritage and promoting harmonious social integration. The article delved into the cultural facets of bilingualism in detail, specifically strategies for preserving linguistic heritage and the interaction between ethnic groups in multilingual settings. The paper also considered multinational marriages as one aspect that influences cultural heritage and bilingualism. Multinational marriages can contribute to the preservation and development of the diversity of linguistic experiences within a family. The study examined how multinational marriages impact the choice of languages used within the family, and how this affects the identity and social integration of children growing up in such families. The findings of this study demonstrated that bilingual individuals possess a deeper understanding of cultural diversity, fostering more profound intercultural interactions and integration among various ethnic groups within society. Research has revealed that bilingual individuals exhibit more developed competencies and a higher level of adaptability in diverse cultural contexts. The results underscored the significance of supporting and promoting bilingualism as a tool for preserving cultural diversity and facilitating social integration. The findings of this study can be applied to

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educational programs, government and non-profit policies for preserving minority languages and social integration, as well as in international initiatives aimed at preserving linguistic diversity

Keywords: assimilation; migration; society; family; marriage; education

Introduction

In modern globalised world, cultural diversity and the preservation of linguistic heritage are key components of the cultural landscape, reflecting the uniqueness and identity of different population groups. Increasing migration, rapid societal changes, and technological advancements present both new challenges and opportunities for language preservation and use. In the context of these changes, the study of the cultural aspects of using and preserving linguistic heritage, as well as their impact on identity and social integration, has become particularly relevant.

The challenges associated with the use and preservation of linguistic heritage arise from constant changes in social and cultural environments. One major issue is the preservation of language traditions and heritage in the face of the dominance of English as a global language. Another pressing concern is the impact of bilingualism on the formation of individual identity and self-awareness, especially in multicultural contexts. It is also crucial to study how languages adapt to modern realities and their role in intercultural understanding. Numerous studies have focused on bilingualism and its impact on various aspects of life. Many highlight the cognitive advantages of bilingualism, its influence on the development of speech and language skills in children and adults, as well as the development of intercultural competence. For instance, researchers Z. Xie & S. Zhou (2020) investigated the relationship between bilingualism, demographic factors, and cognitive control, focusing on how different aspects of bilingualism affect executive functions such as attention, task switching, and inhibition. The study was conducted

within a single group of participants, allowing for comparisons between bilingual individuals rather than comparisons with monolinguals. The results showed a correlation between bilingualism and cognitive control, but it was not straightforward. The authors found that those who learned a second language at an early age had higher levels of cognitive control compared to those who learned a second language later in life. Early bilinguals demonstrated a better ability to inhibit impulses and switch between different languages.

In their study, J. Song (2024) explored the preservation of linguistic heritage with a focus on emotions, identity, and power. The research analysed the behavioural patterns of a mother and her 15-year-old daughter who are learning and maintaining the Korean language in the United States. A significant aspect of the woman and her child's experience is managing complex emotions associated with language preservation, such as anxiety, shame, guilt, and regret, which require emotional labour. Other studies conducted by universities in the United States, Netherlands, and Spain have focused on examining the linguistic influence on the formation of cultural identity and social integration of immigrants. These studies have shown that multilingualism can be a resource for cultural diversity and can facilitate social adaptation in new cultural contexts.

Some scientists have also focused on the impact of bilingualism on cultural identity and social integration through the lens of interethnic marriages. For instance, H. Irving Torsh (2020) explored the relationships between multinational marriages and migration, with a particular focus on linguistic aspects.

This study explored how multilingual couples manage language use in their daily lives and how this influences their personal and social identities. Additionally, R. Kadir (2021) investigated the language selection process in families, using Canadian families with Indonesian wives as a case study, and examined how this affects the development of their children's communication skills. Overall, researchers have concluded that bilingualism can have both positive and negative effects on identity and social integration, depending on various factors such as cultural characteristics, language status, and language policies (Grundy, 2020; Beatty-Martínez *et al.*, 2020). However, most researchers agree that understanding these aspects of bilingualism is key to developing effective strategies for supporting cultural diversity and promoting harmonious social integration (Shodieva, 2024).

However, less attention has been paid to the study of the cultural aspects of using and preserving linguistic heritage and their impact on the formation of individual identity and social integration. Despite the significance of this topic, there is a relatively limited amount of research focusing on the cultural aspects of using linguistic heritage in the context of bilingualism. Thus, there is a need for more in-depth and comprehensive research into the impact of bilingualism on cultural identity and social integration. This article aimed to fill the gaps in understanding the influence of bilingualism on the social integration and identity of bilingual individuals, and to identify the role of bilingualism in the formation and preservation of linguistic heritage in contemporary society to develop effective methods of supporting multiculturalism. The key research questions include the impact of bilingualism on personal identity within the context of cultural affiliation, and which strategies for the use and preservation of linguistic heritage play a crucial role in fostering social integration in a bilingual environment.

Materials and Methods

The research focused on the cultural aspects of the use and preservation of linguistic heritage in the context of bilingualism. This article employed various research methods aimed at analysing the cultural aspects of bilingualism and its impact on identity and social integration. The literature review in this study included an analysis of a wide range of scholarly sources, such as journal articles, books, dissertations, conference papers, and other publications related to the cultural aspects of using and preserving linguistic heritage in the context of bilingualism. The purpose of the literature review was to understand the current state of research in this field, to identify the main trends and gaps in knowledge. Various approaches to understanding these concepts and their relationship to bilingualism were analysed. The data obtained from the literature review served as the foundation for further comparative analysis. This information helped identify issues that require further investigation and provided context for interpreting the results of the current research within the framework of existing knowledge in the field. An analysis of literary and statistical sources, as well as surveys, was conducted. This approach enabled the identification of differences in approaches to cultural identity and social integration depending on linguistic affiliation and other factors.

A comparative analysis was conducted across various countries and regions to identify differences in language policies, practices, and cultural attitudes that may influence the cultural identity and social integration of bilingual individuals. The study focused on countries such as Canada, Switzerland, Israel, Vietnam, South Korea, and others. This analysis helped to determine which aspects of language policy or cultural norms may facilitate or hinder the integration process. Different models of bilingual education and cultural adaptation programs were also compared to assess their effectiveness and impact on participants'

cultural identity and social integration. The study explored models of bilingual education such as one-parent-one-language (where each parent speaks exclusively to the child in their native language), the time and context model (e.g., one language is used at home and another outside the home), the dominant language model (families may use one dominant language for family communication but also introduce a second language in certain situations), and the mixed approach model (using both languages both within the family and in everyday life). This study also examined cultural adaptation programs such as orientation programs that introduce participants to local customs, traditions, and social norms, facilitating a smoother transition to a new environment, language courses for migrants that cater to various language proficiency levels from beginner to advanced, as well as support groups and cultural events that allow migrants to better understand local traditions and values.

Results

Bilingualism refers to the ability of an individual to speak two languages with a level of proficiency that allows them to use both languages effectively in various life contexts. This can include proficiency in a native language (a language learned in childhood or used in the home environment) and other languages acquired later in life. L. Tao *et al.* (2021) argued that bilingualism can manifest at various levels, from the full equivalence of two languages to the dominance of one language over another in specific situations. Individuals may become bilingual for a variety of reasons, such as growing up in a multilingual environment, receiving bilingual education, inter-cultural marriages, migration, learning languages outside of school or work, or being raised in a bilingual or culturally diverse context. Bilingualism can be acquired or native. Acquired bilingualism occurs when an individual consciously learns and acquires a second language later in life, for example, through

education or migration. A native bilingual is someone who grew up in an environment where they were exposed to two languages simultaneously or nearly simultaneously, and both languages developed in parallel.

One of the most common forms of bilingualism is code-switching, where an individual uses both languages in different situations or even within a single conversational act. Another form is additive bilingualism, where an individual is proficient in two languages but uses them in different contexts without mixing. Additionally, there is functional bilingualism, where each language serves specific social or cultural functions (López *et al.*, 2023). Bilingualism can be reflected not only in language use but also in cultural preferences, identity, and worldview. It can influence cognitive development, thinking, and perception of reality. Bilingualism also reflects social and economic realities such as migration, globalisation, and cultural exchange. In today's world, where intercultural interaction is becoming increasingly significant, bilingualism serves as a vital component of societal development and international relations.

The study of the cognitive advantages of bilinguals over monolingual individuals is a current and important area of research in modern science. Some of the most well-known studies in this field have explored the effects of bilingualism on cognitive functions, analysing various aspects such as attention, memory, language skills, and concentration (Bialystok, 2021). As a result of their research, the authors found that individuals who constantly use bilingual skills during translation have better attention and balance between executive brain functions. This suggests that translation skills can positively influence cognitive processes. It has been established that bilingual individuals have greater cognitive flexibility and the ability to switch between languages. They can switch from one language to another more quickly and efficiently, indicating their better adaptability and cognitive flexibility.

The study showed that bilingual individuals have more developed language skills compared to monolinguals. They demonstrated a better ability to understand and solve problems in language tasks that require the ability to work with more than one language simultaneously. The study found that bilingualism can lead to changes in brain activity, especially in those areas responsible for language functions and cognitive processes. These changes indicated brain plasticity and adaptation to a bilingual

environment. Therefore, these studies provided compelling evidence that bilingualism can have a significant impact on human cognitive functions, improving attention, language flexibility, language skills, and even brain activity. Despite many positive aspects, bilingualism can also have a negative impact on adults in the context of preserving linguistic heritage, identity, and social integration (Nichols *et al.*, 2020). For ease of understanding, some possible negative consequences are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Possible negative consequences of acquired bilingualism in adults

Negative consequences	Example
Risk of losing linguistic identity	An individual who has moved to another country gradually forgets their native language and only uses the majority language.
Conflict of values and identities	A migrant experiences pressure to adapt to a new cultural environment while simultaneously wanting to preserve their linguistic heritage and identity.
Social isolation	An individual who does not speak the majority language in their new residence feels alienated and excluded from interactions with others.
Limited access to the labour market	An adult who does not speak the majority language in their region has restricted employment opportunities due to workplace language requirements.
Loss of community connectedness	An individual who ceases to use their native language in daily communication feels a loss of community connection with their family and ethnic group.

Source: compiled by the author based on the studies of M. Timmermeister *et al.* (2020) and F. Gallo & J. Abutalebi (2023)

To preserve linguistic heritage and maintain identity, it is important to find a balance between proficiency in one’s native language and other languages, as well as actively engaging in community language practices. The impact of bilingualism on child development has been the subject of intensive research in recent decades. The interest in this topic stems from the diverse effects that proficiency in two languages can have during the early stages of life (De Houwer & Bornstein, 2022). Studies have shown that bilingual children have certain advantages in various aspects of development compared to monolingual children (Gunnerud *et al.*, 2020). Firstly, the language development of bilinguals is usually at a higher level compared to their monolingual peers. Research suggested that bilingual children have larger

vocabularies, better grammar, and more developed expressive language skills. Studies have shown that bilingual children can use different lexical units depending on the situation and the interlocutor. Secondly, the cognitive advantages of bilinguals have also attracted the attention of researchers, as they demonstrate better results in tasks related to attention, memory, problem-solving, and thinking. For example, experiments have shown that bilingual children have a greater capacity for cognitive control, allowing them to effectively switch between languages and manage their language use.

Furthermore, bilingualism fosters children’s adaptation to diverse cultural environments. Bilingual children typically demonstrate a higher capacity for empathy, allowing them to better understand others and adapt to new

cultural contexts. For instance, studies have shown that bilingual children have a more positive attitude towards multilingual environments and a greater inclination towards intercultural communication. Finally, bilingualism promotes the development of metacognitive skills, such as awareness of language strategies and the ability to choose effective means of communication. For example, bilingual

children are more likely to demonstrate the ability to reflect on their language use and adapt their language to specific communicative situations. Bilingualism in children can have both positive and negative impacts on the preservation of their linguistic heritage, identity, and social integration. The following Table 2 provides examples of potential negative consequences of bilingualism for children in this context.

Table 2. *Possible negative consequences of bilingualism for children*

Negative consequences	Example
Risk of losing linguistic identity	A child growing up in a bilingual environment may forget their native language due to insufficient use and support.
Social uncertainty	Bilingual children may experience uncertainty regarding their own linguistic identity, which can affect their self-esteem and communication.
Mixing of vocabulary	Children may use mixed vocabulary, complicating their speech and comprehension of the language system.
Limited access to the language community	If children do not receive support for their native language in their environment, they may feel isolated and have limited access to linguistic resources.
Increased level of stress	Managing two languages can contribute to heightened pressure for children, especially if they feel psychological stress and uncertainty regarding their linguistic identity.

Source: *compiled by the author based on L. Wei (2020), T. Peace-Hughes et al. (2021) and E. Bialystok & F.I.M. Craik (2022)*

It is also worth considering the concept of multilingualism – a situation where a person is proficient in several languages. This can encompass varying levels of language proficiency, ranging from basic understanding to a high degree of bilingualism, or even polyglottery, where a person is fluent in three or more languages at an advanced level. Multilingualism can be the result of various factors, such as cultural environment, bilingual upbringing, migration, education, and others. Unlike bilingualism, multilingualism is not limited to two languages and can include any number of languages that a person is proficient in at different levels. In the modern world, multilingualism is becoming increasingly common due to the growth of globalisation, intercultural contacts, and other social factors. This opens up new opportunities for communication, the development of cultural diversity, and the broadening of perspectives.

However, at the same time, multilingualism can create challenges such as the convergence of linguistic identities, language learning, and cultural conflict. Thus, multilingualism is defined not only as a way of possessing languages but also as a complex phenomenon that reflects the diversity of cultural, social, and individual aspects of human life.

The preservation of native language and identity is particularly important in the context of migration. Moving to a new country necessitates adaptation to a new linguistic environment, which can significantly impact the maintenance of linguistic heritage and the formation of migrant identity. In migrant communities, bilingualism becomes not only a means of communication but also a key aspect of cultural preservation. On the one hand, the ability to speak one's native language contributes to preserving cultural heritage and supporting

migrant communities. Language is the primary carrier of cultural heritage, as it transmits knowledge, traditions, beliefs, and values from generation to generation. It reflects the historical development of a people, preserving traces of past events and interactions with other cultures through borrowed words and cultural adaptation. Each language has unique features, such as idioms, proverbs, and expressions, which reveal a unique worldview and psychology of a people. Literary works, poetry, and songs created in the native language not only reflect cultural characteristics but also maintain an emotional connection with past generations. Thus, language serves not only as a means of communication but also as a living archive of cultural memory and identity, inseparable from its speakers. Individuals are bearers of cultural heritage, as through language they transmit and actively use cultural practices, rituals, and customs. Through speech habits, word choice, and modes of expression, each person not only reflects their individual cultural identity but also maintains a living connection to the history and traditions of their community. People are also active participants in cultural exchange through language, where they not only spread their native traditions but also absorb new ones, contributing to the enrichment and development of cultural diversity on a global level.

On the other hand, the need to learn the language of a new country for social integration can lead to the loss of the native language and a sense of identity loss. Bilingualism in a migration context can also create certain barriers to the process of social integration. For example, migrants may feel isolated from their linguistic and cultural community if their knowledge of their native language is limited or if they face discrimination due to their linguistic background. Such factors can affect their self-esteem and perception of themselves in a new sociocultural environment. At the same time, bilingualism can also be a resource for migrants in the process of social adaptation. Proficiency

in two or more languages can provide them with additional opportunities in finding work, education, and social interaction. Bilingualism can help migrants more easily cope with the challenges of migration and find their place in a new society. Bilingualism within intercultural marriages presents a complex interplay of cultural and linguistic interactions. These unions often exhibit unique characteristics that can have both positive and negative consequences for preserving linguistic heritage, identity, and social integration. Intercultural marriages contribute to a broader cultural and linguistic diversity within families. Children growing up in such families typically have the opportunity to learn and use two or more languages from a young age. This develops their cognitive and linguistic skills and helps them better understand and appreciate cultural diversity. Additionally, bilingualism can be advantageous in later life, opening up new opportunities for education, careers, and international cooperation. However, amidst these positive aspects, there are also challenges and negative consequences. One such challenge is the risk of losing linguistic heritage and identity. In bilingual families where both partners speak different languages, children may not feel fully integrated into either linguistic or cultural community. They may lose their connection to their native language and culture, which can impact their self-identity and sense of belonging.

Furthermore, intercultural marriages can create sociocultural and communicative barriers to child-rearing. For example, if parents speak different languages with each other, children may feel lost between two worlds, lacking a stable linguistic environment for their personal development. Ultimately, the success of bilingual upbringing in intercultural families depends on many factors, such as active support from both parents in developing languages and cultural traditions, mutual understanding, and compromise. By building their family relationships on a foundation of respect and openness

to diversity, intercultural couples can preserve and develop their linguistic heritage, identity, and foster harmonious social integration for their children. Bilingualism plays a crucial role in preserving linguistic heritage, particularly in the face of globalisation and cultural homogenisation. Proficiency in two languages not only offers personal and professional advantages but also serves as an essential tool in safeguarding cultural and linguistic diversity. Preserving linguistic heritage through bilingualism involves several key aspects, such as education, legislative initiatives, cultural programs, and community engagement, which can be decisive in supporting languages at risk of extinction. Educational initiatives are among the most effective ways to preserve linguistic heritage. For instance, many countries, including Finland and Canada (Sterzuk & Shin, 2021), have national programs that support the teaching of Indigenous languages and minority languages in schools. In Finland, legislation guarantees children the right to learn their native language, even if it is a less widely spoken language like Sámi. Teaching native languages in schools not only helps students acquire them but also fosters a deeper understanding of their people's cultural heritage.

Legislative initiatives also play a crucial role. In some countries, governments enact laws that protect and promote the use of minority languages. For instance, Bolivia's constitution recognises 37 Indigenous languages as official, creating conditions for their use and preservation in all spheres of public life. This not only supports linguistic diversity but also plays a key role in preserving the cultural identity of Indigenous Peoples. Cultural programs, such as festivals, museum exhibits, and literary readings, can also contribute to the preservation of linguistic heritage. They provide opportunities to recreate and share cultural knowledge and traditions that are transmitted through language. Such events often place a strong emphasis on the use of language in poetry, music, and theatre.

Community involvement is crucial for preserving linguistic heritage. Community initiatives can include language courses, workshops, and gatherings where people can practice the language and pass on knowledge to younger generations. For example, in the United States, there are Navajo language preservation programs organised at the community level that involve language classes and cultural activities. However, despite these efforts, there are significant challenges. These include a lack of sufficient funding, inadequate youth engagement, and the pressures of globalisation which encourage the use of more dominant world languages. Therefore, effective language preservation requires ongoing attention, resources, and innovative approaches that could include modern technologies and international cooperation. Preserving linguistic heritage through bilingualism is, therefore, a complex process that involves multifaceted efforts but, with the right approach, can be incredibly successful in supporting the linguistic and cultural diversity of the world.

Bilingualism plays an incredibly important role in preserving linguistic heritage. It enables communities not only to keep their languages alive and relevant in the modern world but also to foster cultural identity and social integration. In Europe, for example, bilingualism is key to preserving regional languages. In Wales, where the Welsh language has historically been under pressure from English, the government is making significant efforts to support and develop it. Welsh education includes compulsory Welsh language learning as a first or second language. This not only helps to preserve the language but also supports its status and recognition in public life and the media, laying the foundation for future generations who will identify with this culture. In Canada, bilingualism is also part of national policy, where French and English have equal status. This is reflected in all areas of government and education, especially in provinces like Quebec, where French is the dominant language. Language rights are protected at the

legislative level, ensuring the use of French in commerce, education, and government institutions, which helps to preserve and promote its use among younger generations. One of the most successful examples of using bilingualism to preserve a language is the educational policy in Catalonia, Spain. The Catalan language, once under threat of extinction due to political repression, is now actively taught in schools as the primary language. This policy has not only revitalised the language but has also strengthened the cultural identity of the Catalans. The school system ensures that every child can learn Catalan on an equal footing with Spanish, fostering future generations who are bilingual and capable of sustaining and developing their cultural heritage. Cultural festivals, such as the Catalan La Mercè in Barcelona or the Francophone Festival International de la Chanson de Granby in Quebec, exemplify how bilingualism can be used to preserve and promote a language through cultural events. These events not only draw attention to the language but also create a platform for expressing linguistic and cultural identity on an international stage.

In the United States, where Indigenous Peoples like the Navajo in Arizona reside, bilingualism plays a vital role in preserving linguistic traditions. Schools on Native American reservations often offer programs that incorporate both English and Indigenous languages, such as Navajo. These programs not only contribute to language preservation but also foster a cultural connection between generations, enabling young people to learn the language and culture of their ancestors. Beyond Navajo, other programs exist to preserve Indigenous languages, such as Lakota and Choctaw, which are also taught in schools in their respective communities in South Dakota and Mississippi. These programs extend beyond language instruction, delving deep into history, art, and traditional knowledge, helping students to better understand and appreciate their unique cultural heritage. School programs on reservations

are often complemented by local initiatives and cultural centres that conduct workshops, seminars, and festivals focused on learning crafts, rituals, and ceremonies that are transmitted through language. For example, in Arizona, annual gatherings take place where Navajo elders transmit knowledge about medicinal plants, traditional songs, and stories to the younger generation, integral parts of their language and cultural identity. Contemporary technology and media also play a crucial role in language preservation. In recent years, initiatives such as the creation of mobile applications for learning Indigenous languages, online courses, and video materials in Native American languages have made these languages more accessible to younger generations and encouraged their active use in everyday life. These efforts are supported not only at the local level but also nationally through various government and non-profit programs aimed at preserving Indigenous languages and cultures. This not only strengthens the nation's cultural diversity but also fosters greater understanding and respect for Native American heritage across all segments of society.

Bilingualism also plays a crucial role in modern media, where multilingual content can foster cultural diversity and language preservation. For instance, in multilingual India, television channels and radio stations often broadcast programs in dozens of languages, including Hindi, Tamil, and Marathi, allowing viewers and listeners to maintain their cultural connections. Such media initiatives not only support linguistic diversity but also facilitate cultural exchange between different ethnic and linguistic groups, strengthening mutual understanding and social harmony. In the digital age, social media and internet platforms have become spaces for nurturing and developing language communities. Platforms like YouTube and Facebook enable the creation of content in native languages, empowering linguistic minorities to express themselves and share

information in their first language, which is essential for their preservation and promotion. Literature and libraries are also significant agents of language preservation through bilingualism. Many libraries in multilingual countries like Belgium or Switzerland offer literature in multiple languages, promoting linguistic diversity and providing access to cultural resources for all language groups. Thus, bilingualism is not only a way of supporting cultural and linguistic diversity but also a means of fostering social cohesion and cultural exchange. It allows communities to preserve their traditions, enhance mutual understanding between different cultural groups, and maintain linguistic diversity in a globalised world.

The dominance of the English language as a global means of communication has both positive and negative aspects that directly impact the preservation of linguistic heritage, identity, and social integration within bilingual communities. On the positive side, English is the language of international communication and business, opening doors to numerous opportunities for education, career advancement, and global connections. Proficiency in English allows individuals to interact with people from diverse cultures and nations, broadening their horizons and enriching their experiences. In bilingual communities where English is used alongside other languages, children and adults have a unique opportunity to develop their language skills and use them in various contexts, contributing to the preservation of linguistic heritage and the development of a bilingual identity. However, there are also negative consequences of English dominance. It can lead to a loss of linguistic diversity and the decline of other language communities. In countries where English becomes prioritised, there may be a decrease in demand for speakers of local languages, which can lead to their gradual decline and even extinction. Bilingualism can also pose challenges to preserving linguistic heritage and identity, as children may

feel lost between two linguistic and cultural environments. Nevertheless, it is important to emphasise that a bilingual environment can be a conducive factor for preserving linguistic heritage and developing cultural identity under certain conditions. Active support for bilingual programs, educational initiatives, and cultural events can strengthen the positive impact of English on the development of multilingualism.

Language policy is a complex set of strategies, rules, and measures designed to regulate language use in various societal domains. In bilingual communities where multiple languages coexist, language policy becomes a crucial tool for preserving linguistic heritage, shaping identity, and promoting social integration. A. Lundberg (2020) examined this issue using Sweden as a case study. The effectiveness of language policy is determined by its focus, clear objectives, and consideration of the needs of different linguistic and ethnic groups. Primarily, language policy should promote the preservation and development of linguistic diversity. This means supporting all languages present in a bilingual environment, regardless of their status. Specifically, it is essential to provide access to education in various languages, develop language programs, and preserve linguistic resources. For instance, schools may offer programs in different languages, allowing children to maintain and develop their linguistic heritage. Furthermore, language policy should ensure equal language rights for all citizens. This means that every linguistic group should have the opportunity to use their language in all areas of public life, including government institutions, legal proceedings, media, and cultural events. Guaranteeing equal rights in language use fosters the development of linguistic and cultural identities for all groups.

However, language policy can also have negative consequences, particularly if implemented incorrectly. For instance, the dominance of one language over others can lead to the assimilation of linguistic minorities and

the loss of their linguistic and cultural heritage. Additionally, unfair language policies can contribute to the formation of linguistic and cultural conflicts within society. In the context of bilingualism, language policy should promote the development of bilingual skills and support multilingualism. This involves creating conditions for the learning and use of two or more languages in society, as well as supporting bilingual programs and initiatives. Language policy should also foster the development of a bilingual identity, allowing individuals to freely communicate and identify with multiple linguistic and cultural communities. Therefore, language policy in bilingual communities is crucial for preserving linguistic heritage, shaping identity, and ensuring social integration. It should aim to support linguistic diversity, equal language rights, and the development of bilingual competence, thereby facilitating the harmonious development and functioning of multilingual societies.

In Canada, bilingualism is reflected in all aspects of the country's cultural and social life, serving as a key feature of its identity. The country officially recognises both English and French, a reflection of its unique historical and cultural context. Canada stands alone as the only nation in the world where English and French hold equal official status at the federal level (Ponomarenko, 2021). This distinctive feature is a product of the nation's historical development, colonisation, and various migration patterns. One of the primary regions of Francophone culture in Canada is the province of Quebec, where the French language predominates and plays a vital role in preserving linguistic and cultural heritage. For instance, Quebec has legislative measures regulating the use of French in various sectors of public life, including education, culture, and media. Even in areas where French is not the dominant language, its presence is evident in local culture and infrastructure. For example, in many western Canadian cities, such as Montreal, Toronto,

and Ottawa, there are French-language educational institutions and cultural centres where the French language is a part of everyday life (Kubota & Bale, 2020).

Moreover, bilingualism in Canada is reflected in the country's language policy. The federal government promotes bilingualism in all aspects of life, ensuring equal language rights and fostering the development of bilingual skills. The federal language program supports the development of bilingual abilities and encourages the use of both official languages in society (Andrea *et al.*, 2024). The successful implementation of bilingual policy in Canada helps maintain the diversity of linguistic and cultural traditions within the country. For instance, student exchange programs, which allow students to study in different provinces, promote cultural exchange and understanding of Canada's diverse cultures. However, bilingualism in Canada is not without its challenges. For example, there are some discrepancies regarding the use of both official languages in various areas of public life. Some organisations and institutions in western provinces have a limited understanding, and sometimes even resist the use of the French language. Overall, however, bilingualism in Canada is seen as a fundamental resource for cultural development and social integration. It provides the country with a unique intercultural identity and fosters understanding and interaction between linguistic and ethnic groups while preserving the uniqueness of each language and culture.

In Switzerland, multilingualism is an integral part of the cultural and social landscape. The country is renowned for its linguistic diversity, with four official languages: German, French, Italian, and Romansh (which is derived from Latin) (Schmid, 2020). This linguistic variety stems from the historical, cultural, and geographical characteristics of the nation. Additionally, the use of English is widespread throughout the country. In the German- and French-speaking regions of Switzerland, which

encompass the majority of the territory, both German and French serve as the primary languages of communication in schools, government institutions, and public life. These areas also feature multilingual road signs, indicators, and official documents. In the Italian and Romansh-speaking regions, Italian and Romansh are employed as the main languages of communication. Furthermore, these regions host official institutions and educational establishments where Italian and Romansh are actively used.

Bilingualism in Switzerland is also reflected in the cultural life of the country. Various regions host cultural events that celebrate the heritage of each linguistic group. For instance, festivals showcasing French and German culture are frequently held in Geneva and Zurich, respectively, featuring literary activities, musical performances, and other artistic movements. The Swiss government actively promotes multilingualism and the development of linguistic competence among the population. Federal institutions support the advancement of both official languages and ensure access to educational resources for language learning. For example, federal government websites provide information in both German and French. Switzerland's bilingual policy fosters the country's cultural and linguistic diversity by safeguarding the language rights of each linguistic group. This approach helps preserve the cultural heritage of every group and facilitates social integration, allowing individuals from different linguistic backgrounds to communicate and interact with one another.

Discussion

It is important to consider the issue of bilingualism from various perspectives, as this allows for a comprehensive understanding of a wide range of experiences and viewpoints. On one hand, bilingualism influences identity by enabling individuals to communicate in different linguistic environments and maintain a connection to their culture of origin. On the

other hand, it affects social integration by promoting intercultural understanding and interaction among diverse communities. The study by J. Hutson *et al.* (2024) highlighted the role of digital technologies in preserving linguistic heritage and facilitating cultural continuity. One of the key aspects of the research is the use of digital archives for safeguarding linguistic resources. This involves the collection, digitisation, and preservation of various forms of language resources, such as audio recordings, video recordings, written documents, and other materials that contain languages at risk of extinction. Digital archives provide access to these resources for future generations and promote the study and preservation of linguistic heritage. The research also emphasises the importance of creating language learning tools that utilise digital technologies. These tools may include software and platforms for language learning, online courses, mobile applications, and other interactive means that assist individuals in learning languages in a way that suits them best. Such tools can be particularly beneficial for language minorities or individuals wishing to preserve their linguistic heritage. This study, along with the research of J. Hutson *et al.* (2024), acknowledged the significance of maintaining linguistic diversity in the contemporary world, especially in the context of globalisation and technological advancement. However, while this research focused more on bilingualism and its impact on identity and social integration, J. Hutson *et al.* (2024) paid particular attention to the application of digital technologies for the preservation of linguistic heritage.

D. Thi Le Huyen (2022) focused the research on a specific ethnic group, namely Korean-Vietnamese families in Busan and the Gyeongnam region. This focus allows author's study to provide a deeper analysis of the particular challenges faced by these families, especially teenagers who may be at risk of losing their bilingual competence and experiencing identity crises. The research highlights the

factors influencing families' decisions to forgo bilingual education and to not support the Vietnamese ethnic identity of their children from Korean-Vietnamese households. It examined the reasons that limit bilingual upbringing and the preservation of ethnic identity, employing mixed methods for data collection and analysis. The distinction between D. Thi Le Huyen's research and this study lies in the context and focus of the research. This study encompassed a broader range of cultural and linguistic situations, whereas D. Thi Le Huyen (2022) research concentrated specifically on Korean-Vietnamese families. The benefit of both studies lies in their development of recommendations for improving the lives of multicultural children and creating a healthy environment for their growth.

A. Stavans & M. Ashkenazi (2020) arrived at intriguing conclusions in their study, establishing that Spanish serves as a heritage language for approximately 130,000 Spanish-speaking residents of Israel. A distinctive feature of this immigrant community is their successful preservation of Spanish as a language of heritage. The research findings indicated that the first two generations continued to use Spanish for communication with family and immigrant friends, while also quickly mastering Hebrew for professional and social interactions. The support for the heritage language is typically provided by older family members, while the second generation seeks to maintain it, recognising its significance for both older and younger generations. The third generation sees practical benefits in using the heritage language to communicate with elder relatives. The study emphasised the crucial role of the educational system in transmitting the heritage language and highlights the need for increased efforts to support it. This research, along with the article of the aforementioned scholars, examined language heritage within the context of migration processes and analyses how the native language and culture are preserved across different generations. However,

the primary distinction lies in the research context. This study encompasses various aspects of bilingualism and social integration in a broader framework, whereas the research by A. Stavans & M. Ashkenazi (2020) focused specifically on the case of Spanish speakers in Israel. This allows them to concentrate on the unique challenges and strategic decisions involved in preserving the language within a particular cultural community.

T.T.T. Nguyen (2021) investigated the bilingual identity of students from Vietnamese ethnic minorities, focusing on their language practices, beliefs, and language management. The author examined the influence of ethnic, cultural, and social factors on the development of their bilingual identity. The findings suggested that while it is possible to harmoniously balance maintaining ethnic identity and adopting the dominant culture, there is also a tendency towards assimilation in some cases, which threatens the preservation of the native language and ethnic identity. This research, alongside the study of the aforementioned author, explored bilingual identity and its impact on social integration, while also considering the role of bilingualism in shaping cultural identity and its implications for ethnic minorities. The distinction between the two studies lies in their context: this research encompassed various cultural and linguistic situations, whereas T.T.T. Nguyen (2021) study specifically focused on the bilingual identity of ethnic minority students in Vietnam, resulting in differing geographical and cultural emphases.

A group of researchers A. Jo *et al.* (2023), examined the emotional aspect of family language policy, focusing on the experiences of a second-generation Korean-American bilingual teenager to reveal their emotional state and sense of belonging in the context of preserving the Korean language as a heritage language. This study, alongside the research conducted by A. Jo *et al.* (2023), addressed the issues of language heritage preservation and bilingual

identity, albeit from different perspectives. Both studies investigated how language policies and practices influence the sense of belonging and linguistic skills of second-generation immigrants. While this research centred on the impact of bilingualism on identity and social integration, the scholar's article highlighted the emotional dimension of family language policy and its effect on the sense of belonging of a specific Korean-American teenager. Both studies emphasised the importance of preserving the native language as a key aspect of cultural heritage; however, this research adopted a more general approach to bilingualism and its sociocultural implications, whereas research by A. Jo *et al.* (2023) focused on the personal experiences of a particular family.

A different aspect of bilingualism is explored in the study of S. Sharaan *et al.* (2020). The researchers examined the impact of bilingualism on executive functions – specifically sustained attention, focusing control, cognitive flexibility, and working memory – in Anglo-Arab children with autism. They concluded that bilingualism may positively influence sustained attention without negatively affecting other executive functions. Both this study and that of S. Sharaan *et al.* (2020) share a common goal: to investigate the effects of bilingualism on cognitive functions, particularly executive functions, in children with autism. These articles underscore the importance of studying this topic to better understand how bilingualism can affect children with autism, providing a scientific basis for future research and the development of practical recommendations. However, this study focused on somewhat different aspects of bilingualism, while S. Sharaan *et al.* (2020) specifically concentrate on Anglo-Arab children with autism and found positive effects of bilingualism on sustained attention, but did not identify significant advantages in other executive functions.

Bilingualism is important to consider from various perspectives, as it influences individual identity by maintaining a connection to one's

culture of origin and fosters social integration and intercultural understanding. Research focused on the preservation of linguistic heritage through digital technologies, as well as the study of bilingual loss and crises of ethnic identity within intercultural families. Other studies examined the preservation of heritage languages among immigrants, the bilingual identity of ethnic minority students in different countries, the emotional impact of family language policies on second-generation bilingual adolescents, and the effect of bilingualism on executive functions in children with autism. These studies highlighted the significance of bilingualism for the preservation of linguistic heritage, cultural identity and social integration.

Conclusions

This study has confirmed the significance of bilingualism in maintaining connections to one's cultural heritage and fostering social integration within diverse communities. The research has revealed that bilingualism has a positive impact on the development of cognitive functions such as cognitive flexibility, attention, and the ability to switch between languages, thereby enhancing linguistic and cultural competence. These improved cognitive abilities enable individuals to communicate, interact, and work more effectively in multicultural environments. One key finding is that bilingualism can contribute to the preservation of linguistic heritage, particularly when there is active support for the native language from both families and educational institutions. This may involve implementing language learning programs, supporting cultural events, and encouraging the use of the native language in everyday life. The results of the study suggested that bilingualism can be a means of addressing issues related to cultural assimilation and the loss of linguistic heritage. It promotes greater mutual respect and understanding between different communities, while also upholding the value of cultural diversity.

The study identified several limitations that should be considered in future research. The limited range of assessment methods may have impacted the accuracy of the findings. Additionally, the specific context of the study, including geographic and cultural factors, may influence the interplay between bilingualism, identity, and social integration. Future research should explore bilingualism across diverse contexts and among various age and social groups. This will allow for a deeper understanding of how bilingualism

influences the development of individual and collective identities, as well as intercultural communication.

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Культурні аспекти використання та збереження мовної спадщини: вплив білінгвізму на ідентичність та соціальну інтеграцію

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Анотація. Метою дослідження було вивчення впливу володіння двома або більше мовами на формування ідентичності та соціальну інтеграцію особистості. Для досягнення цієї мети використовувалася методологія, яка базувалася на аналізі культурних аспектів білінгвізму та дослідженні стратегій збереження культурних цінностей у мовному середовищі. Дослідження проводилося на основі аналізу даних з різних країн, таких як Канада, Швейцарія, США, Південна Корея, В'єтнам та інші, де білінгвізм є загальним явищем. Це дозволило зробити висновок про позитивний вплив білінгвізму на збереження мовної спадщини та сприяння гармонійній соціальній інтеграції. У статті детально розглянуто культурні аспекти білінгвізму, зокрема стратегії збереження мовної спадщини та взаємодія міжетнічних груп у багатомовних середовищах. У статті також розглянуто мультинаціональні шлюби як один із аспектів, який впливає на культурну спадщину та білінгвізм. Мультинаціональні шлюби можуть сприяти збереженню та розвитку різноманітності мовного досвіду у сім'ї. Досліджено, як мультинаціональні шлюби впливають на вибір мов, які використовуються в родині, і як це впливає на ідентичність та соціальну інтеграцію дітей, які виростають у таких сім'ях. Отримані результати продемонстрували, що білінгвальні особистості мають більш глибоке розуміння культурного різноманіття, що сприяє більш глибоким міжкультурним взаємодіям та інтеграції різних етнічних груп у суспільстві. Дослідження виявило, що білінгвальні особистості мають більш розвинену компетентність та вищий рівень адаптації у різноманітних культурних середовищах. Отримані результати засвідчили важливість підтримки та розвитку білінгвізму як інструменту збереження культурної різноманітності та сприяння соціальній інтеграції у сучасному світі. Результати даного дослідження можна застосувати в освітніх програмах, урядовій та неприбутковій політиці для збереження мов меншин і соціальної інтеграції, а також у міжнародних ініціативах зі збереження мовної різноманітності.

Ключові слова: асиміляція; міграція; суспільство; сім'я; шлюб; освіта



Semantic and stylistic features of the synonymous group of the English adjective “big”

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Abstract. In contemporary linguistics, the study of lexical semantics – particularly synonymy – has gained renewed importance due to its role in enhancing language precision and expressiveness. The ability to select contextually appropriate synonyms is essential for both effective communication and stylistic variation. This study aimed to explore the semantic and stylistic properties of the English adjective “big” through an analysis of its most common synonyms. Unlike previous studies, this research placed particular emphasis on metaphorical extensions and contextual distinctions within the synonymous group. The methodology combines componential analysis with descriptive and interpretative approaches, supported by data from the British National Corpus via the Sketch Engine tool. Continuous sampling was used to extract relevant lexical items, while collocational patterns and stylistic markers were analysed to uncover distinctions in usage. The findings demonstrated that although “big” and its synonyms share a general notion of largeness, they differ in tone, register, and frequency. For instance, “big” is more informal and emotionally charged, whereas “large” is more frequent in formal and technical contexts. Other adjectives such as “huge”, “enormous”, and “great” exhibit emphatic, metaphorical, or evaluative nuances. The practical significance of this study lies in its applicability to English language

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teaching, vocabulary development, and the refinement of synonym dictionaries. The results may also be of value to translators, lexicographers, and corpus linguists aiming to enhance lexical precision and stylistic clarity

Keywords: synonymic range; lexical and semantic analysis; lexical synonymy; stylistic variation; cognitive linguistics; metaphorical meaning

Introduction

One of the defining features of an individual's linguistic competence is the richness of synonymy in their speech, which serves as an important lexical and semantic resource, enabling the precise and varied expression of meaning. The system of synonymous devices plays a significant role in shaping linguistic expressiveness, as it allows for the articulation of subtle semantic nuances, enriches the lexical texture of a text, and enhances its stylistic sophistication. Furthermore, synonymy is a key element in artistic and figurative expression, contributing to the creation of vivid imagery, expressive language, and a multifaceted representation of reality in literary discourse.

A central challenge in acquiring English vocabulary, particularly for learners of English as a foreign language, lies in grasping the nuanced differences between near-synonyms. Although a word such as “big” may appear simple and frequently used, its synonyms can vary considerably in meaning, tone, and contextual appropriateness. Thus, synonymy is not merely a lexical detail but a vital component of accurate, expressive, and contextually appropriate communication. The ability to select the most suitable synonym directly affects both clarity and stylistic effectiveness in spoken and written language, underscoring the need for a detailed study of synonymic relationships.

Research into lexical synonymy has become increasingly nuanced, often drawing on corpus data, distributional semantics, and applied linguistic contexts. For example, Y.A. Jarar *et al.* (2024) conducted a corpus-based analysis comparing verbs such as “explore”,

“investigate”, and “examine”, highlighting how semantic overlap still allows for functional distinctions based on context and collocation. Similarly, T.T.M. Phan (2024) examined the use of WordNet in teaching lexical semantics, demonstrating how visualising semantic relationships enhances vocabulary acquisition among English learners.

Other studies have explored the broader semantic dynamics of synonymy. B. Liétard *et al.* (2023) investigated diachronic changes in synonyms, presenting empirical evidence supporting the Law of Differentiation – the idea that truly synonymous words tend to diverge in meaning over time to avoid redundancy. G. Carling *et al.* (2023) proposed a cross-linguistic model of semantic change, illustrating the roles of metaphor and specialisation in meaning divergence – a process directly relevant to understanding subtle variations within synonymic groups.

Over the past five years (2020-2025), Ukrainian scholars have been actively investigating synonymous lexical units in English, focusing on their function within different terminological subsystems. In particular, O.A. Lytvynko (2021) analysed the phenomenon of synonymy in modern English pump-construction terminology, highlighting factors influencing its prevalence and its impact on terminological precision. N.A. Lebedieva *et al.* (2022) conducted a comparative analysis of Ukrainian and English lexicology, exploring synonymic relationships between words. Their findings contribute to a deeper understanding of synonymy in English and its role in ensuring clarity and accuracy in

professional communication. A. Taran (2023), examines the potential of the language corpus as a tool for researching word semantics. The analysis carried out using the corpus demonstrates how words appear in different combinations, allowing semantic shifts to be traced. The article also illustrates how text corpora can be applied in semantic research.

Several Ukrainian scholars have recently focused on synonymy in English within educational and applied linguistic frameworks. L.A. Semak (2022) investigated the stylistic functions of synonyms in contemporary Ukrainian women's prose, with particular attention to the emotional and narrative potential of synonymic variation. S.M. Albota (2024) used corpus-based analysis to examine how English-language media represent Ukraine through lexical choice, including the strategic use of synonyms. L. Diachuk (2024) conducted a comparative study of synonym usage in Ukrainian and English fiction, emphasising stylistic nuance and figurative complexity.

Moreover, lexical resources such as *Ukrainet 1.0* – a Ukrainian WordNet launched by M. Siegel *et al.* (2023) – are opening up new avenues for the systematisation of synonymic relationships in Ukrainian and their integration into multilingual lexicographic tools. These developments reflect a growing trend in Ukrainian linguistics to approach synonymy not only as a theoretical concern but also as a practical one, relevant to translation, language instruction, and corpus-based analysis. This study aimed to analyse the synonymic range of the lexeme “big” in terms of meaning and collocational compatibility.

Materials and Methods

The object of this study was the synonymous group of the English adjective “big”, while the focus was placed on the individual lexical units comprising this group. Particular emphasis was placed on identifying shared core meanings as well as distinguishing components such as

tone, register, emotional connotation, and collocational behaviour.

The study was carried out in several stages. In the first stage, a working list of synonyms was compiled using data from authoritative English dictionaries (Wehmeier, 2015). The most commonly listed near-synonyms of “big” included “large”, “great”, “huge”, “enormous”, “massive”, “gigantic”, “tremendous”, “immense”, among others. This list was refined by comparing dictionary entries to ensure that only those adjectives with overlapping core meanings were retained for more detailed analysis.

In the second stage, the method of continuous sampling was employed to gather contextual examples of each synonym. These examples were drawn from the BNC (British National Corpus, n.d.), allowing for authentic observations of usage across various communicative contexts. The third stage involved componential analysis to identify semantic features such as [+size], [+emotion], [+evaluation], or [+formality], which differentiate each word in the group. A descriptive method was then applied to interpret these distinctions, focusing on collocations, syntactic roles, and register.

Finally, elements of quantitative analysis were included to support the findings, using word frequency data obtained from online corpus tools. Attention was also given to metaphorical extensions of “big”, particularly in expressions such as “big boss”, “big name”, or “you’re a big girl now”, which illustrate cultural and pragmatic shifts from literal size to notions of social importance or emotional maturity.

This multi-step approach ensured a comprehensive understanding of how the adjective “big” and its synonyms function semantically, stylistically, and contextually in modern English.

Results and Discussion

Drawing on dictionary data and lexical databases such as WordNet (n.d.), a core list of synonyms for “big” was compiled: “large”, “great”,

“huge”, “enormous”, “massive”, “gigantic”, “tremendous”, “immense”, “colossal”, “sizable”, and “bulky”. These items were selected for further componential and contextual analysis. The lexeme “big” typically denotes large size or significant volume in relation to objects, phenomena, or abstract concepts. In this sense, “big” is used to describe physical dimensions (“a big house”, “a big tree”), to refer to substantial quantities or scales (“a big amount of money”, “a big crowd”), and to highlight personal or societal or significance (“a big decision”, “a big achievement”).

“Big” is considered slightly more informal than “large” and is generally avoided in formal writing. It is also commonly used in collocations such as “big eater” or “big spender” to describe someone who frequently engages in a particular action. In contrast, “large” is often used to denote numbers or quantities relative to what is average or expected. It is also employed in reference to general clothing sizes. It is somewhat more formal than “big” and, like “big”, can be used with both abstract and concrete nouns. “Great” is typically used with abstract concepts and is common in formal writing. When referring to something very large in size, amount, or degree, adjectives such as “enormous”, “huge”, and “massive” are appropriate. In more formal contexts, one may also use “immense” or “vast”. The word “gigantic” similarly means very large, but is primarily employed for emphasis. Other intensifiers such as “gargantuan”, “mammoth”, and “colossal” are also used, particularly in journalistic and literary contexts. The adjective “ginormous” appears in informal usage. Large quantities may also be described using adjectives such as “sizeable”, “substantial”, “hefty”, and “considerable”. “Sizeable” is the standard spelling in British English; in American English, it is spelled “sizable”.

When a large amount or degree is viewed positively, adjectives such as “tidy”, “respectable”, “generous”, “handsome”, or “good” may be employed. A collection or group that is large and varied may be referred to as

“extensive”. Objects that occupy a great deal of space and are awkward to lift or carry are commonly described as “bulky”. The English adjective “big” is traditionally associated with the core meaning of “large in size or amount”. However, in contemporary English, it displays a broad polysemy, extending to meanings associated with age and social characteristics. Specifically, when used in the sense of “older” or “more adult-like”, “big” performs an evaluative function that transcends physical dimensions, instead emphasising maturity, experience, or social standing. This meaning is characterised by a set of semantic features that form a distinct subtype within the figurative use of the adjective. The adjective “big” is frequently used to indicate that one person is older than another, typically within familial or friendly relationships. In such contexts, it functions as an age-related modifier preceding kinship nouns, for example: “my big brother”, “her big sister”. This usage is especially common in children’s speech or parental language referring to older children. Here, “big” does not relate to physical size, but rather serves as a cognitive marker of hierarchical positioning.

Another significant meaning of “big” is its function as an indicator of emotional or psychological maturity, responsibility, or independence – traits typically associated with adulthood. For instance: “you’re a big girl now”, “he thinks he’s a big man”. This usage is often emotionally charged and may convey encouragement or irony, depending on the speaker’s intent. In such cases, “big” functions as an informal, colloquial synonym for “mature”, “responsible”, or “independent”, while retaining a casual register. In other contexts, “big” denotes social significance, high status, or authority. For example: “he’s a big boss in the company”, “she’s a big name in journalism”. This usage combines notions of influence, recognition, and prestige, while maintaining the core metaphorical association of “bigness” with prominence or importance.

By contrast, the adjective “adult” is used in formal and neutral contexts to refer to a person who has reached legal maturity or to behaviour considered appropriate for grown-ups: “The victim was an adult male”; “We offer adult education courses”; “It’s time to start being adult about this”. In the sense of “adult in age”, “adult” performs a descriptive function that is devoid of emotional colouring. The term “grown-up” often functions as a synonym for “adult”, but is more commonly used in children’s vocabulary or emotionally intimate contexts: “Her children are all grown up now”; “She has three grown-up children”. The expression “grown person” is typically used to highlight a discrepancy between expected and actual behaviour, particularly in cases of immaturity or emotional responses from adults: “I’ve seen grown men cry at that film”. The adjective “mature” denotes emotional development or full physical growth. It is also widely used in educational contexts, as in “mature student”: “She is now a mature adult”; “Mature students formed the majority on the course”. The use of the adjective “big” in such contexts illustrates linguistic economy and emotional coding, features characteristic of English. Its usage is especially prevalent in informal communication, children’s speech, and popular culture, where the emphasis shifts from chronological age to perceived social or emotional maturity.

In the phrase “You’re a big bully!”, the adjective “big” sheds its literal meaning of “large in size” and assumes the role of an emphatic intensifier. In this context, it does not refer to physical size but instead to the intensity of a negative characteristic, namely aggressive or oppressive behaviour. Thus, “big” operates as a synonym for intensifiers such as “especially”, “obviously”, or “irrefutably”: “You are clearly a bully!”; “You’re a total bully!”; “He fell for her in a big way”. The use of “big” in “You’re a big bully!” exemplifies a semantic shift from literal to emotional and evaluative meaning – a phenomenon typical of natural language. This

mechanism serves to express the speaker’s attitude, amplify emotional tone, and produce a more expressive utterance. In contemporary English, this pattern frequently appears in everyday communication, children’s speech, and popular media.

In English, “big” is often employed metaphorically, particularly in the sense of “significant”, “important”, or “influential”, acquiring the function of an evaluative adjective. This figurative usage is common in colloquial speech, as well as in journalistic and fictional writing. It represents a semantic shift from physical dimension to conceptual weight, as in: “a big decision”, “a big moment”, “a big opportunity”, “a big name in politics”. In such expressions, “big” does not indicate literal size but instead conveys a high degree of importance, influence, or prominence. This is an example of metonymic semantic transfer, whereby size is associated with the weight or importance of an object. In modern English, the adjective “big” is widely used figuratively to denote a high level of popularity, influence, or market success of a particular phenomenon, product, or individual. In expressions such as “TikTok is really big right now”, “That film was big last summer”, and “She’s big in Japan”, the word “big” functions as a colloquial synonym for “extremely popular”, “successful”, or “trendy”, forming part of a semantic field related to mass appeal, social visibility, and media presence. Synonymy, as a type of paradigmatic relation, plays a significant role in the study of the lexical and semantic system of the English language. The analysis of synonymous collocations made it possible to identify semantic relations between words that share a common core meaning but differ in stylistic or contextual nuances.

Before conducting a detailed componential analysis of synonyms, corpus data were examined to trace the actual frequency and contextual distribution of the lexeme “big”. Figure 1 below summarises the corpus findings, presenting the word’s distribution across various positions

in texts based on British National Corpus (BNC) data. As illustrated in the visualisation, the use of “big” remains relatively stable across texts, yet its frequency tends to increase in the middle and latter parts of discourse units. This uneven distribution suggests a functional specificity of “big”, indicating that it is more frequently

employed in elaborative descriptions, narrative development, or evaluative commentary rather than in initial expository sections. The graph thus highlights the contextual behaviour of the adjective, reflecting its metaphorical and emphatic potential beyond its primary denotation of physical size.

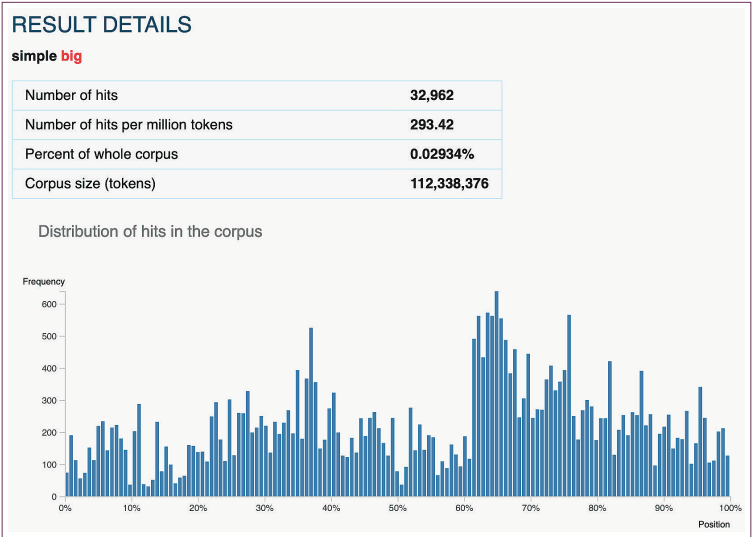


Figure 1. Quantitative distribution of “big”

Source: compiled by the author based on British National Corpus (n.d.)

The study of synonymous lexical units in English linguistics has been conducted by several prominent scholars. For example, in the seminal work *Semantics*, J. Lyons (1977) considered synonymy as a key aspect of the semantic structure of language, analysing it from the perspectives of logical and cognitive linguistics. Lexical synonymy, while often defined as the presence of words with similar meanings, is in fact a highly structured and nuanced phenomenon. According to Lyons, perfect synonyms – words that are interchangeable in all contexts – are extremely rare. Instead, nearsynonymy predominates in natural language use, whereby lexical items share a core meaning but diverge in stylistic, emotional, or contextual features.

F. Palmer (1981) focused on the challenges of synonymy from a functional perspective,

analysing them through the lens of contextual usage. Later, F.R. Palmer (1997) similarly emphasised that the richness of English synonymy is largely attributable to historical layering, particularly the coexistence of Germanic and Romance roots. The researcher J. Miller (1985), while developing WordNet, created a unique lexical base that enabled the systematisation of synonymous relations in the English language on the basis of cognitive models. D. Crystal (2003), in the conducted research – which is one of the most comprehensive encyclopaedias on the English language – addresses a wide range of aspects concerning the functioning, structure, development, and variation of English, including the study of synonymy in terms of linguistic variation and stylistic features. The works of these linguists laid the foundation for

further research in the field of lexical semantics and contributed to the formation of modern approaches to the analysis of synonymous relations. The author J.R. Taylor (2017) explored the nature of lexical semantics, emphasising the connection between words and their meanings in practical use and their relation to conceptual worldviews. The article promotes an understanding of word meaning not as a fixed entity, but as a dynamic construction shaped by context and conceptual networks.

The most renowned printed dictionaries of synonyms were compiled by V. Collins (1952) and R. Soule & G. Smith (1946). They offered a comprehensive guide to English synonyms, including explanations of shades of meaning, stylistic distinctions, and examples of usage. These dictionaries also systematised lexical groups by analysing the contexts in which words could be used synonymously or exhibit subtle semantic distinctions. They served as practical resources for vocabulary development, offering synonyms and synonymous expressions to enhance clarity and stylistic variety in communication.

I.K. Bilodid (1973) and A. Buriachok *et al.* (2001) contributed to the Ukrainian theoretical understanding of synonymy as a system characterised by polysemy, stylistic differentiation, and paradigmatic relations. This systemic view is important when analysing synonymous ranges such as that of “big”, where lexical items are not merely alternatives but constitute a structured set governed by rules of compatibility and semantic scope. The lexeme “big” is one of the core adjectives of the English language, with a semantic structure encompassing several shades of meaning: physical size, quantity or volume, and significance or influence. N. Kovalenko & U. Zhornokui (2025) have conducted a comparative analysis of modern technologies for constructing thesauri in Ukrainian and English, identifying their common and distinctive features. They explored the application of natural language processing and machine learning tools for each language and outlined the

prospects for the development of thesaurus lexicography in the digital era.

Thus, the application of componential analysis and contextual interpretation has made it possible to establish that although the adjectives in this semantic range share a general sense of size or importance, there are substantial differences among them in tone, register, and metaphorical usage. The analysis has shown that synonymy in English is not a simple set of interchangeable units, but rather a hierarchically organised system in which the dominant word “big” functions as the semantic core. Within this framework, synonymous relations are understood as structured semantic links shaped by contextual and communicative conditions.

Conclusions

An analysis of the synonymous range of the word “big” considered how different lexemes reflect varying degrees of intensity of this concept, noting differences in connotation and spheres of use. For example, the synonyms “huge”, “enormous”, “immense”, “massive”, and “extensive” can emphasise different aspects of size – ranging from physical magnitude to symbolic meaning. Thus, the study of synonymic relations within this range has made it possible to better understand the peculiarities of the functioning of lexical units in the language system.

The adjective “big”, when used to mean “older” or “similar to an adult”, is a vivid example of semantic shift and metaphorical usage that expands its functional potential. It conveys age-related, emotional, and social connotations that are closely linked to cultural norms and communicative expectations. Comparing it with other adjectives in this semantic field reveals an extensive system of evaluative vocabulary that helps to express different aspects of maturity and adulthood in English discourse.

As a result, synonymy enables the selection of the most appropriate expression. Synonyms can enhance the componential, syntactic, and stylistic composition of a sentence

while maintaining general meaning. They help to specify and clarify a statement, allowing the selection of the most accurate semantic variant to define a concept and avoid repetition. Future research may benefit from expanding the set of synonyms to include additional dimensions (e.g. humorous or ironic uses of “giant”) or from applying distributional semantics to trace the behaviour of synonyms across genres and time periods. Cross-linguistic comparisons – for example, between the English “big” and Ukrainian equivalents such as “великий”

(“velykyi” – big) – may also provide insight into how semantic fields develop differently across languages.

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Семантико-стилістичні особливості синонімічної групи англійського прикметника «big»

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Анотація. У сучасній лінгвістиці вивчення лексичної семантики, зокрема синонімії, набуло нового значення через її роль у збагаченні точності та виразності мови. Здатність вибирати контекстуально доречні синоніми має важливе значення як для ефективної комунікації, так і для стилістичної варіативності. Метою дослідження було вивчення семантичних та стилістичних властивостей англійського прикметника «big» через аналіз його найпоширеніших синонімів. У цьому дослідженні акцентувалась увага на метафоричних розширеннях і контекстуальних відмінностях між одиницями синонімічної групи. Методологія дослідження поєднувала компонентний аналіз з описовим та інтерпретаційним підходами, підкріплений даними з Британського національного корпусу за допомогою інструменту Sketch Engine. Для вилучення релевантних лексичних одиниць використовували суцільну вибірку, а для виявлення відмінностей у вживанні аналізували колокаційні патерни та стилістичні маркери. Результати показали, що хоча слово «big» та його синоніми мають спільне поняття масштабності, вони відрізняються за тональністю, регістром і частотністю вживання. Наприклад, «big» є більш неформальним та емоційно забарвленим, тоді як «large» частіше вживається у формальному та технічному контекстах. Інші прикметники, такі як «huge», «enormous», and «great», мають емоційні, метафоричні або оцінні відтінки. Практичне значення дослідження полягає в тому, що його результати можуть бути застосовані у викладанні англійської мови як іноземної, укладанні словникових матеріалів та вдосконаленні словників синонімів. Результати дослідження також можуть бути використані перекладачами, лексикографами та корпусними лінгвістами, які прагнуть вдосконалити лексичний вибір та стилістичну точність

Ключові слова: синонімічний ряд; лексико-семантичний аналіз; лексична синонімія; стилістичне варіювання; когнітивна лінгвістика; метафоричне значення



Linguistic and stylistic features of translating political speeches as an element of political discourse

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Abstract. The linguistic and stylistic features of translating political speeches, a vital component of political discourse, play a pivotal role in shaping public opinion, influencing political decisions, and reflecting the ideologies and power dynamics inherent in political processes. By focusing on the translation of political speeches, the research aimed to classify and systematise the linguistic and stylistic features inherent to this discourse, identify core terminology and types, and analyse translation strategies. This enabled a deeper understanding of how political messages are adapted across languages and how translation mediates the communication of power, ideology, and public engagement in the modern world. The research, grounded in a broad and diverse set of primary and secondary sources, employed qualitative and quantitative text analysis, comparative, discourse and pragmatic analysis, case studies, surveys, back-translation method, stylistic annotation, observation, selection, systematisation, description, classification, provided a comprehensive examination of the linguistic and stylistic features involved in the translation of political speeches. By analysing original political texts and their translations – including addresses by Presidents G.W. Bush, B. Obama, J. Biden, D. Trump, and V. Zelenskyy – the research offered insight into how political intent, rhetorical strategies, and ideological nuances are preserved, adapted, or transformed in translation. It proved that the functional specificity of political discourse – suggestive, persuasive, informative, and expressive – highlights its role in articulating national ideologies and engaging with global audiences. It is substantiated that evaluation, as a central feature, bridges emotionality, expressiveness, and affectivity, offering insights into how political messages resonate with or challenge societal values. The findings revealed that political language remains a vital medium for articulating values, shaping ideologies, and navigating the complex

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interplay of history, culture, and governance. The research findings can be practically applied by political communication specialists, translators, diplomats, and international relations analysts to more accurately convey the content and stylistic features of political speeches, thereby enhancing intercultural communication and improving the understanding of political intentions globally

Keywords: political communication; translation strategies; pragmatics; political rhetoric; comparative analysis; audience perception

Introduction

Amid ongoing global instability, with far-reaching consequences, growing humanitarian emergencies, and rising geopolitical conflicts, the investigation of political communication has gained significant academic importance. Within this context, the linguistic and stylistic features of translating political speeches – an essential component of political discourse – have emerged as a significant interdisciplinary focus of academic inquiry. This area has attracted sustained interest from linguists both in Ukraine and abroad, reflecting its critical role in facilitating effective cross-cultural political communication and understanding.

Q. Al-Azzawi & A. Saleh (2021) investigated crucial issues of linguistic study, such as the linguistic features used by both candidates, D. Trump and J. Biden, in the American presidential debate as well as the extra-linguistic features used by the candidates. The authors observed that political speech differs from other forms of public address in that it reflects the speaker's position and perspectives on key political and economic matters. M. Romadlani (2021) demonstrated that the use of pronouns within political discourse is context-dependent and can function strategically to shape social dynamics between speakers and their audiences. The pronoun "I" and its related forms do more than mark grammatical roles such as subject or object; they also convey the speaker's personal stance and evaluation based on the communicative context. For instance, B. Obama frequently employed first-person singular pronouns to express sincere gratitude towards

the family, share the professional experiences, articulate carefully considered personal views, communicate hopes and commitments, and acknowledge fellow presidential candidates like J. McCain in 2008 and M. Romney in 2012.

The concept of self and others in political discourse is distinctly represented in B. Obama's speeches. The deliberate use of polarity serves to emphasise the unifying power arising from differences. Positive self-images, such as honesty, democratic values, openness, and foresight, appear to be effectively conveyed by B. Obama through the use of "I" and its variations. By using "we" and its variations, B. Obama aimed to engage the public as a strategy for sharing responsibility and fostering a sense of nationalism, unity, equality, and a collective understanding of the political situation and any future challenges they might face. Through the use of the exclusive "we", B. Obama shared political plans and commitments with the Vice President at the time, J. Biden. This approach was undoubtedly intended to calm the political climate post-election and underscore B. Obama's serious concern with a reconciliation.

Ukrainian researcher T. Ilchenko (2024) identified peculiarities concerning the translation of political speeches in the modern period. For the analysis of political speeches, the speech by UK Prime Minister R. Sunak at the Munich Security Conference and the speech by Ukrainian President V. Zelenskyy at the Joint Session of both Chambers of the U.S. Congress were selected. The study examined certain lexical expressions and grammatical constructions

characteristic of contemporary English political speeches and analysed translation transformations that can aid in finding an adequate Ukrainian equivalent. These include infinitives, modal verbs, idiomatic expressions, the passive voice, as well as translation techniques such as information omission, the use of personification, etc.

I. Dudko & V. Faraponov (2023) analysed President J. Biden's foreign policy doctrine and the advancement of U.S. assistance to Ukraine. Their research asserted that U.S. assistance not only significantly contributes to Ukraine's success in countering aggression, but also serves to strengthen U.S. strategic interests by reinforcing liberal values and the democratic international order. This ideological foundation was outlined in the J. Biden doctrine, formulated in the U.S. National Security Strategy (2022). The strategy emphasised a dual focus: supporting countries undergoing reforms and ensuring the stability and democratic development of Europe as an integral part of Western civilisation. Comparative assessments of U.S. aid and that provided by other Kyiv partners further substantiate the U.S. position as a reliable ally committed to protecting Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

Ukrainian researcher N. Shkvorchenko (2020) outlined prevalent syntactic structures characteristic of political discourse. These include declarative sequences arranged systematically; imperative constructions (e.g., "Do not give up hope"); rhetorical questions functioning as calls to action (e.g., "What kind of peace do we seek?"); elliptical sentences that enhance emotive effect through the omission of grammatical elements (e.g., "But, in the end, to what end...?"); as well as inversion and emphatic constructions; and conditional sentences conveying promises or future-oriented commitments (e.g., "If you give me your trust, I will honour it"). The author identified several key linguistic characteristics of political discourse. The frequent use of clichés and set phrases serves to evoke established stereotypes and

emphasises the localised relevance of information, thereby facilitating comprehension. The use of evaluative vocabulary functions to influence audience perception, while terminological precision affords nuanced and sometimes novel connotations. Additionally, political discourse exhibits marked gender-specific linguistic tendencies. Female politicians typically adopt a cooperative communication style characterised by rhetorical turning points, whereas male politicians are more inclined toward a competitive style emphasising dominance and self-assertion. These gender-based distinctions manifest across various linguistic levels, including stylistic, lexical, syntactic, sociocultural, and grammatical. Thus, socio-political vocabulary refers to a broad and multifaceted body of words that differ in conceptual and functional domains, but are united from a sociolinguistic perspective into a single stream of verbalisation of events and phenomena related to the state and public life of society. This vocabulary reflects the dynamic processes of language development, evaluative and critical discourse, debates, and ultimately, the current issues characteristic of a specific society in a particular historical era.

The research purpose was to examine the linguistic and stylistic features of translating political speeches as a form of political discourse, with a particular focus on their role in mediating ideology, power relations, and public engagement across languages and cultures. The objectives were to classify and systematise the linguistic and stylistic features characteristic of political speech translation, to analyse the translation strategies that influence the preservation, adaptation, or transformation of political intent, rhetorical devices, and ideological meaning, and to explore how translated political messages are reinterpreted in ways that shape and impact intercultural communication.

Materials and Methods

The research material comprised an extensive range of scholarly works and official documents

pertaining to political discourse, translation studies, and pragmatics. It incorporated studies on the linguistic and stylistic features of political speeches delivered by prominent figures, including B. Obama, G.W. Bush, D. Trump, J. Biden, and V. Zelenskyy. To provide authentic empirical data, the wide range featured official political addresses such as Inaugural Address by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (2020), Barack Obama: Inaugural Address (2013), and George W. Bush: Inaugural Address (2001). Additional primary sources comprised of internet resources (Speech by the President of Ukraine..., 2022a; 2022b; We are opening a new level..., 2023; There are no signs that Putin..., 2025), and strategic documents, including U.S. National Security Strategy (2022), were also incorporated.

The scholarly component of the material consisted of peer-reviewed articles addressing a wide range of topics: critical discourse analysis, classification of political discourse types, evaluative lexicon as a characteristic of modern political discourse, the use of terminology in political discourse as a means of shaping the state's image, the nature of political speech as a type of political communication, stylistic devices in political discourse, gender-specific features of contemporary English-language political discourse, pragmatic approaches to speech analysis, the study of presupposition and politeness in inaugural addresses, challenges in translation, the peculiarities of translating political speeches in the modern era, the use of personal pronouns in American presidential discourse, lingua-rhetorical features of speeches by modern American leaders, the role of interpreters in diplomatic settings, the extralinguistic dimensions of diplomatic mediation, the exposure of linguistic imperialism, and the exploration of polarising political discourse among U.S. Congressional members with the application of large language models (LLMs).

To achieve the research objectives, various methods were employed. Qualitative text

analysis was used to identify and interpret key linguistic features such as metaphors, rhetorical devices, and repetition, as well as to analyse stylistic elements including tone and sentence structure. Quantitative analysis helped identify frequency patterns, collocations, and lexical choices, and measured translation shifts such as additions, omissions, and substitutions in a quantitative manner. Comparative analysis involved comparing source texts with their translations to identify how linguistic and stylistic features are rendered in the target language, and to evaluate translation strategies and their impact on the communicative function of the speeches. Discourse analysis was applied to examine how political ideology and intent are conveyed in translations and to analyse the audience's perception of the translated speeches.

Pragmatic analysis assessed the speech acts and how they are adapted during translation to maintain illocutionary force, investigating how politeness strategies or face-threatening acts are handled in translation. Case studies focused on specific speeches by prominent political figures and their translations, comparing translations across different languages or translators. The back-translation method involved translating the translated text back into the source language to identify shifts and changes in meaning. Stylistic annotations were used to mark the texts of political speeches for stylistic features such as rhetorical questions, metaphors, parallel structures, and hyperbole to study their translation. Additionally, observation, selection, systematisation, description, and classification were employed structurally and sequentially, observing sequential logic, climactic progression, and conciseness as well. Generalisation was used to make conclusions. By combining these materials and methods, a comprehensive study was conducted to explore the linguistic and stylistic aspects of translating political speeches within the realm of political discourse.

Results and Discussion

Political discourse serves as a crucial instrument in constructing the image of a state, employing strategies of persuasion and agitation to influence the worldview and public opinion of various audiences. A political text represents the verbal expression of processed political information, which takes into account both situational and sociocultural contexts. Within political discourse, information is conveyed either directly or indirectly and is subject to both rational and emotional evaluation. Scholarly interest in this field spans semiological, cultural, hermeneutic, and cognitive perspectives. The distinct characteristics of political texts, shaped by societal and individual factors, have enabled the identification of different types of political discourse through which the state's image is articulated.

According to A. Solodka & T. Moroz (2024), the functional specificity of political discourse is determined by its intent, which highlights the following key functions: suggestive, persuasive, informative, and expressive. The system-forming features of political discourse are characterised by a gradual nature and, depending on the type of political discourse, occupy specific positions on the scale of totalitarianism/democracy. The ability of discourse to influence recipients stems from its communicative and linguistic nature is represented by a deliberate choice of linguistic means, including the category of evaluation. Evaluation is recognised as one of the most significant aspects of human intellectual activity, acting as a factor shaping value-based worldviews. The category of evaluation correlates with the categories of emotionality, expressiveness, and affectivity. Evaluative aspects of linguistic units are evident at all levels of the language system. However, the most frequent manifestation is through the use of lexical evaluative tools, such as metaphors, comparisons, allusions, and, primarily, evaluative vocabulary, which are key to realising the primary function of political discourse.

Being an extralinguistic category, the concept of "evaluation" is reflected in the semantic structure of words as an evaluative component. At the lexical level, this component can be part of the denotative macro-component structure or its connotative aspect. Based on the mode of realisation, three types of evaluative manifestations were distinguished: functional, connotative, and pragmatic.

Over the course of political communication, a political glossary has been formed, with a small number of purely political concepts at its core. The majority of terms that make up this political glossary have been borrowed from other domains. It includes established expressions taken from the Bible (All things to all men, Eleventh Commandment, fight the good fight, Armageddon), clerical and church terms (party faithful, party elders, bleeding heart, and gray eminence), words from W. Shakespeare's works (strange bedfellows), W. Wordsworth (Happy Warrior), and T. Eliot (wasteland). There are also borrowings from the realm of sports, particularly horse racing terminology (dark horse, running mate, front runner, bolt, shoo-in), and military vocabulary (campaign, camps, boom, spoils, rally, regular, hundred days, man on horseback, war horse). The glossary of political terms also includes phrases from media jargon (off the record, authoritative sources, backgrounder, dope story, leak, plant, not for attribution), as well as terms associated with the civil rights movement (black power, white power structure, Freedom Now, backlash, We Shall Overcome, soul, tokenism, Uncle Tom, Jim Crow, segregation, stand in the doorway). There is a process of mutual penetration of words from general vocabulary into the realm of politics and vice versa.

For example, Ukraine's image is determined by the set of terms, symbols, and language used in political discourse, media, and cultural representations reflecting its identity, values, geopolitical position, and aspirations. Key elements include the following attributes (Table 1).

Table 1. Key elements describing Ukraine's image

Geopolitical Position	Eastern European Identity: Emphasising Ukraine's position as a bridge between Europe and Asia.
	Sovereignty and Independence: Terms like independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and Euro-Atlantic integration highlight Ukraine's struggle for autonomy, particularly in the context of its relationship with Russia and the European Union.
Cultural and Historical Identity	Heritage and Nationhood: Phrases such as Kyivan Rus', Cossack traditions, and Ukrainian language and culture underline Ukraine's rich historical and cultural legacy.
	Holodomor: A term central to international recognition of the 1932-1933 famine as genocide.
Political Struggles	Maidan Revolution / Euromaidan: Symbolising the fight for democracy and European values.
	War Terminology: Terms like Russian aggression, annexation of Crimea, Donbas conflict, and defence of sovereignty describe Ukraine's recent conflicts and territorial challenges.
Economic and Diplomatic Terms	Reforms: Highlighting efforts like anti-corruption measures, judicial reforms, and economic liberalisation to align with Western standards.
	Euro-Atlantic Aspirations: European Union association, NATO partnership, free trade agreement.
National Pride and Resilience	Global Partnerships: Strategic partnership, international aid, and investment hub.
	Terms like freedom, unity, resilience, and strength of the Ukrainian people emphasise the collective identity and spirit of Ukrainians in the face of adversity.
Modern Image	Innovation and Progress: IT hub, digital transformation, and start-up ecosystem reflect Ukraine's modernising economy.
	Cultural Renaissance: Ukrainian cinema, literature, and art revival position Ukraine as a growing cultural force.

Source: author's development

Accordingly, political language may be understood as a collection of verbal constructions employed within the political sphere to shape individuals' political awareness and engagement in political activities. This language manifests in various forms, including interviews, conferences, public addresses, debates, congresses, campaign posters, and legislative texts (Table 2). Political language represents a specialised mode of communication that, particularly in democratic societies, aims to facilitate the achievement of public consensus. At its core, the language of politics is grounded in values, which function as fundamental

elements of social consciousness. The quality of political language, and consequently the level of political dialogue, is closely linked to the degree of democratic development and the overall cultural maturity of a society. Language and politics are inherently interconnected; throughout periods of revolution and ideological shifts, political language undergoes significant transformation. The functions of political language are multifaceted, encompassing informational, communicative, interpretative-evaluative roles, as well as the formation of political consciousness, persuasion, control, and manipulation.

Table 2. Types of political speeches

Depending on the event or recipient	Parliamentary speeches	The main feature of this type is the opposition of concepts, such as "correctness vs. incorrectness" of an action or decision, "appropriateness vs. inappropriateness" of actions, "benefit vs. harm", etc.
	Election campaign speeches	The main feature of these speeches is the agitation of voters, persuading them to support the speaker to maintain power and their positions.

Table 2. Continued

Depending on the event or recipient	Party speeches	These are characterised by the promotion and defence of one's own ideas.
	International speeches	These have several distinctive features. First, they are delivered at events such as intergovernmental conferences, congresses, meetings, or banquets. Second, such speeches typically do not anticipate resistance or disagreement from the audience.
	Welcome speeches	These can be characterised as having a ceremonial nature, but they are only formally related to the event's theme. They are delivered to disseminate and popularise the speaker's ideas and plans.
	Festive speeches	These are marked by a ritualistic and majestic tone, during which the speaker expresses commonly accepted values and beliefs. Typically, the audience of such speeches holds certain expectations of them.
	Rally speeches	The speaker addresses pressing issues in a specific field. These speeches deal with socially significant and important issues. The success of a rally speech largely depends on the speaker's ability to engage the audience, present current issues in an unconventional manner, and inspire the audience.
Depending on the method of delivery	Business speeches	These focus solely on presenting "dry" facts about a specific issue and are characterised by conciseness.
	Apology speeches	These are relatively rare. Typically, in such speeches, a political figure acknowledges the incorrectness of their views or actions, for which they are being criticised, and offers an apology to the audience.
	Defensive speeches	These are designed to defend the speaker's position and views, avoiding criticism and objections from the opposing side.
	Unspoken political speeches	When speechwriters prepare a speech for a politician, they usually create multiple versions of the text, as it is impossible to predict all possible scenarios the politician may face. The version of the speech that was not delivered is referred to as an unspoken political speech.

Source: author's development

History shows that many of the world's leading nations have made efforts to promote their languages beyond their national borders, and they continue to do so. In universities across the civilised world, law students study Roman law as the foundation of legal reasoning. Only in the 17th century, the educated community began a cautious transition from Latin to national languages supported by the establishment of the first Royal Academies that worked to develop national literary languages as tools for governance and the consolidation of their countries and nations. During the 17th and 18th centuries, Europe witnessed the hegemony of Francophonie: the French language

became the most popular, driven by its culture, poetry, drama, philosophy, art, aristocratic life-style, etc. Additionally, the French state played a prominent political role on the continent, further elevating the status of the French language. Starting from the second half of the 19th century, the leadership of the German language became evident. This was not only linked to Germany unification by the "Iron Chancellor" O. von Bismarck and diplomat's transformation into a major power, but also to the brilliant achievements of German fundamental and applied sciences, as well as numerous inventions and discoveries. After 1945, the undeniable leadership of the English language began,

driven by Anglophonia, a status owed to the United States and its global role. Vast populations across the world have embraced English, as it truly serves as a global language. Over 90% of the world’s scientific information is disseminated in English. The English language has become the dominant language in the production and dissemination of scientific knowledge, both in higher education teaching and in academic publishing. According to E. Aydinli & Ju. Aydinli (2024), this is especially evident in the natural and fundamental sciences, where

it was estimated that 98% of all scientific articles are written in English. However, this also applies to the social sciences and humanities, although the percentage is somewhat lower and varies significantly depending on the country and discipline. In 2025, almost half of the world’s population claims one of only 10 languages as their mother tongue. According to Ethnologue 2025 report (2025), the list of Top 10 languages by number of native speakers as well as the most spoken languages in the world include (Table 3).

Table 3. *Top 10 languages by number of native speakers & most spoken languages in the world*

Top 10 Languages by Number of Native Speakers	Top 10 the Most Spoken Languages in the World
Mandarin Chinese – 941 million native speakers	English – 1.5 billion total speakers
Spanish – 486 million native speakers	Mandarin (Chinese) – 1.1 billion total speakers
English – 380 million native speakers	Hindi – 609 million total speakers
Hindi – 345 million native speakers	Spanish – 560 million total speakers
Bengali – 237 million native speakers	Standard Arabic – 332 million total speakers
Portuguese – 236 million native speakers	French – 312 million total speakers
Russian – 148 million native speakers	Bengali – 278 million total speakers
Japanese – 123 million native speakers	Portuguese – 264 million total speakers
Yue Chinese – 86 million native speakers	Russian – 255 million total speakers
Vietnamese – 85 million native speakers	Urdu – 238 million total speakers

Source: *compiled by the author based on Ethnologue 2025 report (2025)*

According to A.H. Tarish (2019), G.W. Bush’s speeches are often noted for the southern accent and frequent misuse of the English language. However, the defining moment of politician’s presidency – the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 – marked a significant shift in president’s rhetoric. Pragmatically, the discourse became centred on themes of patriotism and national recovery. These events not only shaped the content of G.W. Bush’s political messaging, but also framed the whole presidency and public image. G.W. Bush’s speeches after the attacks often drew comparisons between past events and a hopeful future, emphasising national unity and the defence of American values. George W. Bush: Inaugural Address (2001) exemplified this framing, showcased the focus on unity and protection of American ideals.

The politician stated that it was declared that defences would be strengthened to an unsailable level to prevent any perception of vulnerability. There was also a commitment to addressing the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction, with the aim of preventing future catastrophes in the new century. It was emphasised that the attacks aimed to instil fear and cause the nation to withdraw, yet these intentions were unsuccessful. The country remains resilient, with its people united and motivated to protect their homeland. Short, simple sentences were used to convey a sense of the seriousness of the situation. However, G.W. Bush continued to use sentence structures with commas to highlight dichotomies.

President G.W. Bush’s speech featured simpler sentences compared to President

B. Obama's speeches, aligning with G.W. Bush's reputation for a straightforward and unsophisticated speaking style. George W. Bush: Inaugural Address (2001), included numerous examples of concise statements, such as: "We must live up to the calling we share", "America at its best is also courageous", "We will defend our allies and our interests", "Sometimes in life we are called to do great things". Despite the abundance of simple sentences, G.W. Bush's speech also incorporated complex sentences with subordinate clauses. These structures are often more dynamic than compound sentences because they establish clearer and more specific relationships between key elements of the sentence. For instance, the president stated, "I ask you to be citizens: citizens, not spectators; citizens, not subjects; responsible citizens building communities of service and a nation of character". This blend of simplicity and complexity allowed G.W. Bush to convey both directness and depth in this rhetoric.

B. Obama's rhetorical style was notably shaped by politician's capacity to connect with audiences in the context of the Internet age. This era has not only fostered a shift toward more casual political discourse, but also produced an environment characterised by unedited, instantaneous, and often highly biased feedback. Consequently, B. Obama's language reflects the interconnectedness enabled by digital communication platforms and demonstrates politician's skilful selection of words to effectively evoke emotions appropriate to the setting and circumstances. This approach contributed to cultivating an image of B. Obama as well-liked and approachable. The President achieved this through the use of simple sentence structures alongside numerous compound-complex sentences, which underscored the informal linguistic style prevalent in Internet discourse. Moreover, this linguistic strategy served to emphasise the commonalities between B. Obama and the average American voter, fostering a sense of reliability and

inclusivity. These characteristics are clearly demonstrated in the Barack Obama: Inaugural Address (2013), which highlighted the relationship between the structure and purpose of the political message. The speech acknowledges the challenges faced by the current generation, emphasising their strength and resilience. It marks the end of a prolonged period of conflict and the beginning of economic recovery. The address conveys a sense of boundless opportunity, attributing it to qualities such as youth, diversity, openness, willingness to take risks, and adaptability. The message calls for collective action, stressing that success depends on unity and shared effort.

According to S. Balogun & M. Murana (2018), an inaugural speech is a form of discourse providing elected officials the opportunity to make promises and assure effective governance through skilful language use. In the analysed speech, D. Trump employed numerous presuppositions to demonstrate a deep understanding of Americans and the US contemporary socio-political realities. These presuppositions serve as a foundation for the various promises politician makes. They also explain the predominance of structurally simple sentences, through which the politician relies on the shared knowledge of the American audience without delving into tedious details. The speech often references prominent figures and the collective participation of millions, emphasising a historic movement and the transfer of power to the people. Additionally, there is a strong focus on the concept of national dignity, with explicit recognition of the importance of collectivism and respect for others. The rhetoric highlights intentions to foster friendship and goodwill internationally, without imposing cultural values, while aiming to strengthen existing alliances and establish new partnerships.

However, the speech contains numerous threats that could have been avoided, stemming primarily from extensive criticism and accusations. The use of defensive strategies serves to

soften the impact of criticism, making it more acceptable, yet at the same time leaves a striking and memorable impression. This supports claims by critics that the tone can come across as coarse. The argument highlights a failure to prioritise national interests, such as border security and domestic infrastructure, while benefiting other countries economically. Emphasis was placed on the need to defend the nation's borders against external threats that harm domestic industries and jobs.

J.F. Gil-Bonilla (2020) suggested that D. Trump's discourses as a businessperson and as a president on the topic of immigration differed in terms of ideological structures. Discursively, D. Trump's representation of immigrants varies according to the portrayed role. As a businessperson, D. Trump demonstrated empathy and familiarity, expressing concern through the use of inclusive pronouns and passive constructions characterising immigrants as victims. Conversely, as a president, politician positions immigrants as an out-group, excluding them from the sphere of concern and depicting them as agents exerting a negative impact on American society. It should be noted that, during the presidency, D. Trump frequently

conveyed a negative attitude towards immigrants through the use of broad generalisations. Immigrants were often characterised in a highly negative manner, being portrayed as criminals and dangerous individuals. The rhetoric focused strongly on the swift removal of these groups, with a clear distinction made between those labelled as criminals and other immigrants, such as the Dreamers, who were not targeted. This approach reinforced a strict and uncompromising stance on immigration enforcement. Moreover, D. Trump's discourse as a president is longer than as a businessperson. However, it is worth noting that despite this difference in length across periods, D. Trump, as a president, addressed many different topics unrelated to the aim of this study. In contrast, as a businessperson, D. Trump's discourse is shorter and more monothematic, delving more deeply into the topic relevant to this study – namely, the issue of immigration. After critically analysing the vocabulary, grammar, and textual structure of D. Trump's tweets addressing Middle Eastern countries, S.B. Elaf & A. Hussien (2020) identified distinct linguistic features and drew significant conclusions regarding their characteristics (Table 4).

Table 4. Results of linguistic features

Vocabulary Analysis	Grammar Analysis	Textual Structure
Lexical Selection. A new radical Islamic terrorist, TRAGEDY, have been executed, Horror, Radical Islamic terrorism, death, destruction. Interesting (irony) Certain Middle East countries. We protect the Middle East countries, violence.	Pronominal. 1. I, We, they, you. 2. Us, me.	Non-Figurative Information. A new radical Islamic terrorist, Muslim ban, Christians has been executed.
Modality (modal auxiliary verbs). Can, should, have, has, will, must.	Tense. Past, present, future.	Mention of specific target group. The shooter is white.
Hyperbole. Radical Islamic terrorist, we can't allow this horror to continue, Radical Islamic terrorism, death, destruction, suffering.	Adjectives. Radical, terrible, interesting, safe.	Power behind Discourse. Be cautious! We will remember, never, ever, threaten us, you will suffer.
Metaphor. Get smart, Muslim ban, the shooter is White, we will remember.	Punctuation. Question marks, exclamation marks, full stops.	
Repetition. Islamic radical terrorist, Islamic terrorism.		

Source: developed by S.B. Elaf & A. Hussien (2020)

Ukrainian researcher O. Kovalchuk (2021) considered lingua-rhetorical aspects of political speeches of modern American leaders and outlined the standard three-part structure of a political speech, with each section distinguished by its own set of linguistic and rhetorical tools: 1) the introductory section is directed toward the general audience and aims to establish a connection. The most frequent phrases and expressions include “Thank you for”, “I/we have some news”, “I would like to thank”, “I would like to talk about”, “Let me provide some (clear) information”; 2) the main section of a political speech is used to present and argue the politician’s perspective on the issue being addressed. To effectively achieve the communicative goals of the speech, rhetorical devices and other emotional means of expressiveness are employed. These include lexical repetitions, idiomatic expressions, literary imagery, linguistic elements conveying irony or humour, colloquial phrases and contractions, puns, etc.; 3) the concluding section of a political speech is typically divided into three parts: summary (it provides a synthesis of all the topics addressed during the speech, thereby simplifying the task for the audience), appeal (emotional and ceremonial in nature, it aims to reduce the distance between the politician and their audience), typological (designed to encourage further reflection and detailed discussion). The author pointed out that modern political speech served as a powerful instrument of political communication, enabling the exchange of views, dissemination of ideas, and exertion of influence on the audience or recipients. The effectiveness of a speech hinged on its structure and the deliberate selection of linguistic and rhetorical tools that enhanced its expressiveness, emotional resonance, and persuasive impact. The proper use of these elements is crucial not only for the success of an individual speech, but also for the broader political endeavours and career trajectory of the speaker.

J.M. Ashwaq (2023) examined the practical strategies used by American politicians to express bias in their political speeches. The study identified the specific speech acts employed to convey bias and explored how politicians make use of Grice’s maxims to achieve this effect. It also analysed the types of presuppositions present in the data, highlighted various impoliteness strategies and sub-strategies used to manifest bias, and outlined the rhetorical tropes utilised for the same purpose. Bias was defined as a preference for certain individuals or viewpoints based on factors such as religion, culture, or race, with different types of bias identified, including racial, religious, social, ethnic, sexual, and cultural. From a pragmatic standpoint, bias can be analysed through several frameworks: within Speech Act Theory as representatives (assertives), directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations; through Grice’s Cooperative Principle, focusing on types of presupposition such as existential, factive, non-factive, lexical, structural, and counterfactual; via Impoliteness Theory, including bald-on-record impoliteness, positive and negative impoliteness, sarcasm or mock-politeness, and withholding politeness; and through the use of rhetorical tropes, including destabilisation tropes like metaphor and substitution tropes such as hyperbole. The study also addressed the methodological approaches to analysing the data. The researcher concluded that, in biased presidential speeches by American politicians, assertive and directive speech acts occur more frequently than other types. The maxims of quantity and manner are violated in roughly equal measure, while existential presuppositions are exploited more often than other presupposition forms. Such speeches also display negative impoliteness. Regarding the use of tropes, hyperbole appears more frequently than metaphor in these addresses.

According to J.M. Ashwaq & N. Al-Aadi (2023), pragmatics is one of the main branches of linguistics and states that speakers convey

not only words in their speech, but also actions to achieve communicative goals; it focuses on the human ability to infer meaning from specific types of speech to understand what the speaker intends and the connection between new information and previous events. Speaking is an action performed through utterances. Actions do not necessarily have to be performed physically by the speakers. Spoken words must be sufficient to accomplish the task. When people apologise, greet, inquire, criticise, invite, congratulate, or refuse, they engage in a speech act. One type of speech act that frequently occurs in conversations between individuals is commissive speech acts, which might include threat, promise, refusal, and warning. The researchers chose J. Biden's speech as the subject because it contained commissive acts. The authors outlined that the study examined the different forms of commissive acts – locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary – in J. Biden's statements, categorising them into six types: promise, guarantee, refusal, threat, volunteer, and offer. For example, J. Biden committed to fostering national unity by rejecting division between political groups. The president also pledged to work equally hard for all citizens, regardless of whether they supported the politician, demonstrating a willingness to serve the entire population. Expressions of compassion, empathy, and concern further reinforce promises that were made. Additionally, J. Biden vowed to make every effort to overcome the pandemic, showing a firm commitment through the speech acts; J. Biden expressed a commitment to bipartisan collaboration, framing it as a response to the will of the American people. By presenting cooperation as a deliberate and achievable choice, the president conveys a promise to pursue unity and urges members of both political parties in Congress to do the same. This reflects a commissive illocutionary act, as it involves a pledge to act in accordance with the public's expectations (Inaugural Address by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2020).

The researchers F. Cheng *et al.* (2025) constructed a corpus of annotated tweets from U.S. congressional members and trained a BERT-based prediction model using a subset of this data annotated with ChatGPT. This study represented one of the pioneering efforts to leverage LLMs in the analysis of polarising patterns in political discourse on social media, thereby introducing an innovative methodology for investigating political communication. The trained model was applied to a dataset comprising one million congressional tweets spanning January 2020 to June 2022, enabling a comprehensive examination of sentiment dynamics and rhetorical patterns employed by U.S. lawmakers on Twitter. Through an analysis of rhetorical distribution across party affiliations, temporal contexts, and regional variations, the study has investigated potential factors contributing to increasing political polarisation and division. The findings revealed that party affiliation, geographic region, timing of political events, and lawmakers' tenure in office significantly influences the likelihood of employing rhetoric that contributes to political polarisation. Notably, polarising rhetoric was more frequently observed during critical periods, such as annual budget discussions in January or the transition of newly elected members into office. Furthermore, rhetorical styles varied across parties, with specific discourse patterns, such as scepticism toward institutional frameworks, being more prevalent among particular groups. They advance the understanding of political communication in the era of social media. To cultivate a more constructive discursive environment, it is crucial for lawmakers to prioritise transparency and actively encourage respectful engagement. Social media platforms also bear responsibility in this endeavour, particularly through enhancing content monitoring systems capable of identifying harmful rhetoric while maintaining balanced moderation practices. Moreover, equipping citizens with the tools to critically assess discourse may help mitigate the impact

of divisive narratives and foster a more informed public dialogue.

G. Kuznyetsova *et al.* (2023) emphasised the gender-specific characteristics of contemporary English-language political discourse, identifying several features of men's speeches. Such discourse frequently contained references to fundamental democratic concepts, including freedom, law, democracy, rights, equality, justice, as illustrated by B. Johnson's (Address by the prime minister of Great Britain..., 2022) assertion: "I have one message for you today: Ukraine will win, Ukraine will be free". This also illustrated the frequent use of comparative and superlative forms to heighten expressiveness. Such linguistic choices serve to create vivid imagery and emphasise the scale or intensity of events, as seen in references to perceived unstoppable military force and expectations of swift outcomes. Furthermore, such discourse was marked by a prevalence of negatively connoted lexical items, including failure, disaster, ruin, as well as by the frequent use of negative prefixes such as *un-*, *dis-*, *il-*, *im-*, *in-*, and *ir-* as in B. Johnson's (Address by the prime minister of Great Britain..., 2022) description of humanitarian intervention as "the meddling of the unwise, untutored, and inexperienced". Another particular feature was the repeated reference to the term "war", "war crime", "Battalion Tactical Groups", "armour", "military", "guns" etc. Finally, male political discourse often employed logical and connective conjunctions, including *since*, *as*, *moreover*, *thus*, *therefore*, *consequently*, *however*, and *nevertheless*, which serve to structure argumentation and maintain coherence.

Conversely, female political media discourse displayed distinct lexical patterns that set it apart from male political speech. One particular feature was the frequent use of words expressing emotions and optimism, such as *hope*, *believe*, *feel*, *glad*, *love*, *frustrated*, *doubt*, *worry*, *happiness*, and *a bright future*. This idea was reflected in a 2022 statement by L. Truss (Push Russia out..., 2022), where a vision of a world

shaped by the perseverance of free nations was outlined. Emphasis was placed on the strengthening of democracy and freedom through international cooperation in both economic and security spheres, as well as on the importance of restraining aggressors and encouraging a shift towards more just and lawful behaviour. Another feature was the use of hedging expressions, including introductory words like *maybe*, *probably*, *perhaps*; the verb *seem*; modal verbs *may* and *might*; indefinite pronouns like *some*, *somewhat*, *somehow*, *someplace*; and phrases such as *a kind of*, *a sort of*, and *some kind of*. Moreover, female political discourse frequently emphasises duty and resolve through the use of modal verbs. This can be seen in statements where a firm stance is communicated by expressing necessity and intention, particularly in relation to ongoing efforts and responses to international threats. Such language highlights a strong commitment to action and perseverance in achieving political and strategic goals.

An important component of effective communication with Ukraine's citizens, international community, and foreign partners is the President of Ukraine's daily video addresses. These serve a key informational role, strengthen psychological resilience, and provide moral support to people during challenging wartime. An analysis of the speeches and video addresses of Ukraine's president V. Zelenskyy (We are opening a new level..., 2023), revealed the following linguistic and stylistic characteristics: the use of repetitive words and constructions, grammatical devices addressing a generalised audience, quotations drawn from diverse textual genres, and the employment of superlative adjective forms aimed at emphasising the conveyed message. A notable feature of the President's speeches is the frequent use of repetition, which serves to reinforce the central message. Repetitive language, including words, phrases, and sentence patterns, is employed to emphasise the ideas of unity, shared responsibility, and national resilience. This rhetorical

approach highlights the strength of collective action and the role of each community in contributing to the country's stability and defence. Through such repetition, the message is made more memorable and persuasive, particularly in the context of national struggle.

For effective speech delivery, the President adopts a collective identity, aligning themselves with the audience solely through grammatical means. The use of inclusive language fosters a sense of unity and shared responsibility. By employing brief, clear sentences, the President highlights mutual achievements, resilience, and the challenges ahead. This concise structure ensures clarity and reinforces the message, allowing the speaker to successfully fulfil communicative aims. In V. Zelenskyy's speeches, the use of comparative and superlative forms of adjectives to convey a positive patriotic evaluation and emphasise the significance of Ukraine was observed, for example: "Unbreakable people of the bravest country!" (We are opening a new level..., 2023); "You are the people's deputies of the greatest state in the modern world! I am confident of this!" (Speech by the President of Ukraine..., 2022a).

It is noteworthy that the President consistently concludes these addresses with exclamatory remarks that serve a socially regulatory function. These closing statements typically convey gratitude, honour the memory of fallen heroes, acknowledge the efforts of those supporting the country, and express encouragement and well-wishing to the Ukrainian people and armed forces. Such endings reinforce unity and collective resilience while leaving a strong emotional impression on the audience. Analysis of Speech by the President of Ukraine at a meeting of the UN Security Council (2022b) – delivered amid the ongoing war in Ukraine, the imposition of martial law, and the urgent need for international support – reveals a strategic use of key lexical markers. The most frequently employed words and their variants included: "security", "law", "Ukraine", "peace",

"human", "state", "war", and "UN". The speech was opened with a logical gratitude expression for the opportunity to address the Security Council remotely. The introduction referenced the war crimes committed by Russian soldiers and officers in Bucha, an assertion reinforced at the conclusion by relevant video evidence. The speech tone was highly emotional, with its climax being a call for reforming the global security system, including proposals for the reformatting or even dissolution of the United Nations. The central theme of the address emphasised Ukraine's aspiration for peace and its readiness to contribute to global peacekeeping efforts, as exemplified by the proposal to establish a U-24 office in Kyiv. Ultimately, the speech advocated for the war end.

During this address, the President of Ukraine referenced significant historical events – including the Nuremberg Trials, the annexation of Crimea, the war in Georgia, the separation of Transnistria, the founding of the United Nations, and the downing of the Boeing over Donbas. V. Zelenskyy also invoked notable historical figures such as Joachim von Ribbentrop and Adolf Eichmann, as well as key instruments of international law, particularly the UN Charter, to support and legitimise the President's position. The speech emphasised fundamental principles such as peace, justice, and equality. The rhetorical and political strategies employed in the President V. Zelenskyy's speech serve critical functions in amplifying the emotional impact, reinforcing logical arguments, and engaging diverse audiences.

Elliptical Sentences. The use of incomplete sentences reflects urgency and emotional intensity. By omitting elements that the audience can easily infer, these sentences leave an impression of immediacy and rawness, effectively mirroring the gravity of the ongoing conflict. For instance, "...Against our people, the Ukrainian people. Against civilians..." focused the audience's attention on the human cost of aggression without unnecessary elaboration. Through

the use of elliptical constructions, V. Zelenskyy condenses the statements, directing attention not only to the actions themselves but also to the gravity of the offences committed. The deliberate omissions compel the audience to mentally complete the ideas, which intensifies the accusations and gives them a sense of urgency. This rhetorical approach keeps the focus firmly on the deeds rather than on the individuals behind them, thereby strengthening the overall impact of the message.

Repetition. Repetition reinforces key themes and makes the speech memorable. For example, the recurring phrase “Peace is needed...” establishes peace as the central demand, emphasising its universal importance to Ukraine, Europe, and the world. Similarly, listing acts of violence (“...Those who were executed...”) underscores the brutality of the conflict and evokes strong emotional responses, fostering empathy and outrage among listeners. “Today, it is as a result of Russia’s actions on the territory of my state, on the territory of Ukraine, that the most heinous war crimes of all time since the end of World War II are being committed” (Speech by the President of Ukraine at a meeting..., 2022b). The phrase “on the territory” is repeated twice in close succession: “on the territory of my state” and “on the territory of Ukraine” emphasising Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, reinforcing the violation caused by Russia’s actions. The repeated emphasis serves to highlight that these actions are not taking place in some abstract or remote setting, but within the borders of a sovereign and internationally recognised state. By enumerating deliberate acts such as besieging cities to provoke famine, targeting fleeing civilians, destroying shelters, and fostering deadly conditions in occupied territories, the speech underscores the systematic and intentional nature of the violence against the population (Speech by the President of Ukraine..., 2022b). The repetition of “deliberately” is a powerful rhetorical device, skilfully used to create a

compelling narrative. It reinforces the speaker’s argument, amplifies emotional engagement, and ensures the accusations resonate strongly with the audience.

Rhetorical Questions. By posing rhetorical questions such as, “So where is the peace for which the United Nations was created?” the speech challenges the efficacy of existing international frameworks. “Why did Russia come to Ukraine, tell me?”, “Are you ready for the dissolving of the UN? Do you think that the time of international law has passed?”, “How to stop it?”, “How is this different from what the ISIS terrorists were doing in the occupied territory?”. This technique not only criticises, but also invites introspection, urging the audience to reconsider their roles and responsibilities in the pursuit of peace. Hence, these rhetorical questions are not just stylistic – they are strategic. They confront the audience with uncomfortable truths and urge them toward institutional reform and collective responsibility. “Do you still think that you can scare us, break us, make us make concessions”. The questions imply strong answers (“No, we are not one people”; “No, you cannot scare us”), creating an emotional connection without stating it directly. Rhetorical questions serve to energise Ukrainian audiences and sympathetic listeners by invoking collective resolve; these questions foster a shared sense of purpose – suggesting that everyone listening already knows the truth.

Comparisons. By drawing parallels between the conduct of Russian forces and the atrocities committed by DAESH, a clear moral framework is established. References to brutal killings, torture, sexual violence, and the deliberate targeting of civilians evoke harrowing images of terror, underscoring the inhumanity of such actions. This rhetorical strategy situates Russian behaviour within a universally acknowledged paradigm of terrorism, thereby framing the conflict in terms that are both relatable and easily understood by the international community. This analogy positions Russian actions

within a globally recognised paradigm of terror, making the conflict relatable and comprehensible to international audiences. “This is no different from other terrorists such as Daesh, who occupied some territories, and here it is done by a member of the United Nations Security Council”. The statement equates Russia’s actions with those of extremist terrorist groups to highlight moral outrage – if terrorism is widely condemned, so too should Russia’s behaviour, despite its United Nations Security Council status. “We are dealing with a state that turns the right of veto in the UN Security Council into a right to kill”. It transforms a diplomatic mechanism into a weapon that blocks humanitarian action to undermine the legitimacy of Russia’s UNSC role as it obstructs accountability. “Geography may be different, but cruelty is the same. Crimes are the same. Use of parallel phrasing (“geography” vs. “cruelty”) underscores that regardless of location, the brutality is consistent to assert that atrocities are systematic, not isolated incidents (Speech by the President of Ukraine..., 2022).

Metaphors. The metaphor “the veto right as the right to death” powerfully critiques the structural flaws of the United Nations Security Council. It conveys the argument that the misuse of the veto undermines the UN’s foundational purpose, turning it from a peacekeeping mechanism into a tool of injustice. “Smoke from fires ... can reach other countries”. This metaphor portrays the war’s consequences as a spreading physical smoke – something foreign nations cannot escape, symbolising how conflict impacts neighbouring countries and the world. “Energy used as a weapon” V. Zelenskyy speaks of energy infrastructure being weaponised. The metaphor pivots “energy” (power, heat, electricity) into a tool of destruction, illustrating how basic utilities become instruments of suffering. “Colonialism and imperialism revived” describes certain peace proposals as echoing “colonial past”, V. Zelenskyy used a metaphor to frame them not as neutral

diplomacy, but as a throwback to coercive, exploitative world orders. V. Zelenskyy positions the “Peace Formula” as a protective structure – something like a shield or blueprint to resist aggression and maintain global stability.

Analogies. References to Syria, Afghanistan, and Libya create a broader geopolitical context, framing the Ukrainian conflict as part of a global pattern of destabilisation and conflict. This enhances the speech’s relevance to international audiences by connecting Ukraine’s plight to familiar crises, fostering solidarity and urgency. Through these techniques, the speech transcends its immediate context, becoming a powerful critique of international structures and a rallying call for collective action. It underscores the centrality of Ukraine’s struggle not only for its sovereignty, but also for the principles of justice and peace in the international order. The address delivered by the President of Ukraine V. Zelenskyy (When a murderer..., 2025) reflects a direct and uncompromising rhetoric tailored to a global audience. Delivered during a period of heightened conflict, the address exemplifies the strategic use of language to articulate a call to action, underline collective responsibility, and reinforce international solidarity. It also highlights the effective use of rhetorical and structural strategies to galvanise international action and sustain global attention on Ukraine’s plight. By combining moral clarity with an appeal to shared values, the speech transcends its immediate context, reinforcing Ukraine’s role as a key defender of democratic principles in the modern world. The main topics of V. Zelenskyy’s speech are several issues.

Moral Clarity and Justice. The speech draws a stark moral distinction between aggressor and victim, portraying Ukraine as the defender of universal values such as peace and human dignity. Zelenskyy labels the aggressor as a “murderer”, emphasising the deliberate nature of the atrocities committed. “Yes, he wants all of Ukraine – and he had wanted it not just

for four years, not just since 2014, but long before that, because he himself was shaped that way by Russian imperialism". The emphasis on "justice" frames Ukraine's fight as one that aligns with universal principles of law and order. References to the presence of Russian soldiers extend beyond Ukraine to include neighbouring countries such as Belarus, the Baltic states, Moldova, the Caucasus, Kazakhstan, and any other regions within reach of Russian forces. It is suggested that Putin's influence is limited by the reach of these military capabilities (Speech by the President of Ukraine..., 2022a).

International Cooperation. The phrase "we will respond together with our partners", "I hope, with all our partners" highlights the necessity of a united global front. This theme not only calls for continued support from allies, but also aims to bolster the legitimacy of Ukraine's cause as part of a broader international agenda. "We hope President Trump hears this – and sees how Putin is now trying to prolong even the Iranian regime's survival, just to buy more time for his own madness and the murder of thousands" (Speech by the President of Ukraine..., 2022b). **Urgency and Resilience.** The address repeatedly underscores the situation urgency, implying that hesitation equates to complicity. Simultaneously, it conveys Ukraine's resilience, asserting the nation's determination to stand firm despite immense adversity. "Separately, the National Security and Defence Council will issue decisions; they are currently being prepared. And we will provide virtually daily updates on what Ukrainian diplomats are doing to achieve our Ukrainian goals" (When a murderer..., 2025). It is also worth noting some stylistic and rhetorical features of address by the President.

Direct and Unambiguous Language. The title itself embodies directness, employing stark imagery to ensure clarity and immediacy. Such language leaves no room for misinterpretation, effectively mobilising both emotional and rational support. "Currently, this is a month of

special measures aimed at applying new pressure on Russia – on the occupier – to complicate their situation, thereby simplifying our path to peace" (When a murderer..., 2025). **Metaphors and Symbolism.** The term "murderer" is symbolic, encapsulating the perceived inhumanity of the aggressor's actions. Phrases like "we will respond" symbolise agency and resolve, reinforcing Ukraine's proactive stance. "But it is Russia that rejects peace proposals. And not just some – all of them: American, and, by the way, Chinese, European, Brazilian, African, Indian. Regardless of who says the war must be stopped, Putin does not listen. It is Putin who speaks openly to the world about which cities he threatens and which nations he claims don't exist" (When a murderer..., 2025). **Repetition.** Key concepts such as partners, justice, and response recur throughout the address, creating a rhythm that reinforces the message's urgency and importance. "Of course, we will find Ukrainian drones for every boot of a Russian occupier. Of course, Ukraine will defend itself", "Ukraine is grateful to everyone around the world who helps strengthen our defence, who supports our warriors, and all our people. We are grateful to everyone who enforces truly strong sanctions against Russia and blocks schemes that enable trade with Russia. We are grateful to everyone advancing diplomacy" (There are no signs that Putin..., 2025).

Appeals to Shared Values. The address strategically invokes universal principles like freedom, security, and justice. By framing Ukraine's struggle as integral to the preservation of these values, V. Zelenskyy aligns the country's interests with those of the international community. "Donbas has been essentially destroyed. And it was them in Moscow who once claimed they would bring protection to Donbas. What they actually brought was death – and this is the only thing they know how to deliver. Our communities in the Kharkiv region, in the border areas of our Sumy region, and in the Khereson region – the Russians are doing the same

thing everywhere". Rhetorical Questions and Provocations. While the title does not contain rhetorical questions, the broader context of the speech uses provocations to challenge complacency and inspire action. "First, there will be new international measures on our part to achieve truly tangible international sanctions against Russia. We know every target for international sanctions. I have assigned separate work engaging the global corporate sector, particularly those maintaining connections of the Russian energy and defence industries with the world" (When a murderer..., 2025). It is also essential to focus on some structural features.

The address follows a clear and methodical structure. It begins with the identification of the problem, outlining the aggressor's intentions and actions. This is followed by a call to action, urging a collective and immediate response. Finally, it presents a vision for the future by outlining a pathway toward justice and peace through unity. "We are also intensifying all sanctions-related work within Ukraine – internal efforts so that everyone who still helps Russia, cooperates with it in any way, or maintains businesses in the occupied territories – so that each such individual feels that this is absolutely criminal activity. Justice must be ensured, including through domestic decisions" (When a murderer..., 2025).

Climactic Progression. The structure builds to a climax, leading from an initial identification of the threat to a powerful assertion of collective resolve. "Second, we will allocate more resources to our drones of all types, from deep-strike drones to concrete protection against Russian boots on the frontline" (When a murderer..., 2025). Conciseness. The address is notably concise, reflecting the moment urgency while maintaining focus on its primary objectives. "We all clearly understand that the issue of Ukraine's independence is a matter of survival for Ukrainians", "The defence of Ukraine, the protection of our independence, and the strengthening of our sovereignty – all

of this is about saving lives. I thank everyone who stands with Ukraine! I have absolute confidence in Ukrainians" (Speech by the President of Ukraine..., 2022a).

The President of Ukraine V. Zelenskyy gave the Address to the Defence Industry Forum participants (There are no signs that Putin..., 2025) to rally international support against Russian aggression. From a linguistic perspective, the address is a well-organised piece of political communication in the ongoing war context, with segmented and enumerated key points: "First – investment and technology", "Second – long-term resilience". It balances formality with accessibility, ensuring clarity and impact while focusing on unity, moral responsibility, and pragmatic solutions. It concludes clear calls to action, motivating the audience to take tangible steps such as investing in defence production: "A united Europe can create a defence capability that will destroy Russia's illusion", increasing defence spending, cutting off support for Russia's war capabilities as well as appealing to the world community "Our Europe", "our joint defence capabilities", "our shared security", "This war is a threat to the way of life that millions in our countries value deeply", etc. Statistics, facts and concrete details are also available in the address: "We believe that 5% of GDP is the right level", "If every European country commits at least 0.25% of its GDP for this – and we are thankful to those countries who commit more, like the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and such a big commitment like from Germany, something quite reasonable – the chances for peace in Europe will grow", "Our defence production potential has surpassed 35 billion US dollars", "But around 40% of this potential lacks proper funding".

The stylistic features of this address blend rhetorical sophistication with accessibility and urgency: "defence production", "threat", "sanctions", "resilience", "madness", "corrupt connections", "solidarity", "security", "strike drones", "our joint defence capabilities", "crime

against peace”, “joint”, “shared”, “together”, etc. V. Zelenskyy’s speeches demonstrated a wide range of rhetorical devices that enhance their persuasive effect. The President frequently employs repeated phrases, such as “only together can we counter this”, “this must stop”, to reinforce key messages and create a sense of urgency. Through personalisation, V. Zelenskyy addresses the audience directly with expressions like “So, dear friends!”, “please”, and “thank you”, thereby fostering a sense of closeness and solidarity. V. Zelenskyy’s discourse also makes use of parallel structures, for instance: “first – investment and technology”, “second – long-term resilience”, and “third – please make sure your countries and your companies are not helping Russia or its buddies in any way”, which lend clarity and rhythm to the arguments. Furthermore, V. Zelenskyy often relies on metaphors and vivid imagery, as in “hit the core of this aggression hard”, “keep moving forward in producing traditional weapons”, and “break every link that connects Russia with its accomplices”, to evoke strong emotional responses. The use of antithesis is evident in statements such as “Our defence potential works for peace, not for Russia’s madness”, where contrasting ideas are juxtaposed to sharpen the intended message. Finally, the politician occasionally incorporates hyperbolic expressions, exemplified by the assertion that “Every scheme that helps them build ‘Shahed’ drones...is a threat to you and to the way of life that millions in our countries value deeply”, to heighten the perceived gravity of the situation. These techniques create a compelling, persuasive, and emotionally resonant message, aligning with the speech’s purpose of rallying international support against Russian aggression.

G. Amaglobeli (2018) outlined types of political discourses and their classification and substantiated that to effectively engage in political discourse, it is crucial to understand the type of political discourse and its distinctive features. Political discourse can be classified

based on the ideologies it seeks to promote (e.g., socialist, liberal / democratic, conservative, or totalitarian) or its subgenres (e.g., LG-BTQ+, feminist, green, religious, nationalist). Thus, discourses reflect particular ideological structures by employing specific linguistic strategies. It may also be dominant (primary) or subordinate (secondary), depending on the presence or absence of power or hierarchy. Political discourse can be defined as a deliberate act aimed at achieving specific goals in each case, and these goals are generally material in nature. In other words, the production of a particular (political) discourse is intended to articulate, defend / preserve, challenge / deconstruct certain interests.

Yu. Kuriata & O. Kasatkina-Kubyshkina (2022) described political discourse as a coherent oral or written text conveyed through both verbal and non-verbal means, whose structure and meaning are directly shaped by the context of political communication, along with pragmatic, sociocultural, psychological, and other factors. The authors illustrated the use of metaphors, personification, repetition, comparison, allusion, synecdoche, hyperbole, emotive language, balance, inversion, and rhetorical figures (such as rhetorical appeals, questions, assumptions, exclamations, and statements), as well as gradation, invective, and poetic devices. Among the latter, they highlight irony, satire, sarcasm, humour, and wordplay. The study also explores the notion of a “sustained metaphor” and emphasises the factors influencing the choice of strategies and tactics in political discourse, including the politician’s personality, their role within the political system, and the target audience to whom facts or assessments are addressed.

M. Taubaldiyev *et al.* (2024) investigated the use of terminology in political discourse as a linguistic means of representing the image of the state. According to the authors, political discourse performs vital functions within society and acts as an important channel of mass

communication that shapes public opinion. Its role in agenda-setting, persuasion, opinion formation, mobilisation, and polarisation underlines the necessity of critically assessing media messages and fostering media literacy among the public. The scholars highlighted the growing importance of political discourse as a powerful instrument for representing, defining, constructing, and promoting the state's image. It not only challenges and reshapes traditional paradigms, attitudes, and stereotypes, but also goes beyond reflecting political consciousness and circumstances, actively transforming them by influencing and shaping the positive or negative perceptions of various social groups towards real events and processes.

S.B. Elaf & A. Hussien (2020) explored the linguistic features and ideological positioning of Donald Trump by examining the use of language in tweets directed at Middle Eastern countries. The researchers applied Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis model for the study. From a lexical perspective, the analysis demonstrated that D. Trump employed a range of linguistic devices, including metaphors, repetition, hyperbole, and modal auxiliary verbs. From a grammatical standpoint, it was found that the politician frequently used the pronoun "we" to signal unity with the American people, and the politician often relied on the future tense to outline the forthcoming policies towards Middle Eastern states. The study further revealed D. Trump's use of derogatory and disparaging adjectives to convey hostility towards these countries. Textual analysis showed that the President issued threats and warnings, made figurative assertions without substantiating evidence, and strategically used punctuation, such as exclamation marks, to express anger and sarcasm. The ideological dimension of the analysis indicated that D. Trump's rhetoric was grounded in strategies of hatred, racism, fear, and intimidation, reinforcing the ideological position in relation to Middle Eastern nations.

Further, D.A. Krikun (2019) considered political communication as a type of communication in which political actors disseminated opinions and ideas to influence the recipient's views and ideological beliefs. Political speech, a subtype (such as inaugural speeches, anniversary speeches, campaign speeches, etc.), was defined as a coherent flow of speech, typically prepared in advance by the speaker, to convey information to the audience about a specific event in political life. This is done through the attributes of the subject and the recipient, the method of implementation, the comparison of monological and dialogic speech, functional load, information volume, and the statement purpose. The authors noted that, based on the subject matter, the speech could be classified as political communication, media political communication, or non-professional political communication, distinguishing between an audience that is a political actor and an audience that does not belong to institutional political entities. Relying on the opposition of "individual vs. mass", they stated that the recipient of political speech was mass-oriented. In terms of generation, political speech was classified as written speech, and in terms of reproduction, as oral speech. Based on functional load, speeches were categorised into ritual, orientation, and agonistic genres. According to the communicative goal, political speeches might belong to the group of informational, evaluative, or imperative messages, or synthesise characteristics of at least two of these. In terms of information volume, speeches ranged from medium-length texts to lengthy ones.

Y. Akgün & N. Yetkin Karakoç (2024) highlighted the vital role of interpreters within diplomatic contexts, noting that their responsibilities extend far beyond simply conveying spoken language. Their research demonstrates that diplomatic interpreters often act as discreet advisors, at times diplomatically correcting their principals or even taking responsibility for errors in order to shield their

delegation. They also serve as cultural and linguistic representatives of their countries, and may influence the flow of diplomatic exchanges – whether by shifting attention, buying time for deliberation, or managing the tone of communication. The researchers observed that it is not uncommon for interpreters to transition into diplomatic careers themselves, as their roles and hierarchical positions within delegations closely align with those of diplomats. Given the practical demands of diplomacy, they argued that interpreters who are well-versed in languages, diplomatic protocol, and cross-cultural communication can be instrumental not only in ensuring mutual understanding but also in helping to address and resolve potential diplomatic challenges.

Hence, analysed research conceptualises political communication as a strategic instrument for shaping ideological beliefs through structured and premeditated speech, oriented toward mass audiences and categorised according to its communicative purpose. Scholars emphasised the complexity and multidimensionality of political discourse, classifying it by ideological orientation and subgenre, and noting that its structure and objectives are driven by the intent to assert, defend, or contest particular interests. Furthermore, linguistic analysis have identified a range of rhetorical devices – such as metaphors, repetition, hyperbole, and evaluative language – as key tools employed to convey political messaging and reinforce ideological positions.

Conclusions

The study of linguistic and stylistic features in political discourse underscores the central role of language as a strategic tool for persuasion, ideological propagation, and social influence. The speeches of world leaders like Donald Trump, Barack Obama, George W. Bush, Joe Biden, and Volodymyr Zelenskyy exemplify varied approaches shaped by context, audience, and political objectives. For instance,

Volodymyr Zelenskyy's speeches illustrate how nuanced translation maintains rhetorical impact and ideological coherence; they reveal a sophisticated balance of emotional appeal, moral clarity, and strategic communication – positioning Ukraine as a resilient, democratic actor internationally. This research integrated qualitative and quantitative methodologies, including discourse and comparative analysis, pragmatic studies, back-translation, and stylistic annotation. These tools enabled the identification of key patterns in political translation, particularly in conveying commissive speech acts, tone, metaphors, and cultural symbols. Such strategies are essential to preserving the persuasive function of political messages across languages and socio-political contexts. Interpreters play a crucial role in mediating these messages, bridging cultural divides and supporting diplomatic communication. Ultimately, this interdisciplinary research deepens the understanding of how political language operates across cultural and linguistic boundaries, equipping both scholars and citizens with critical tools to interpret, evaluate, and engage with contemporary political narratives. The prospects for further research into the linguistic and stylistic features of political discourse may focus on in-depth analysis of political speech translation in crisis and wartime contexts, exploration of how political discourse is received in different cultures and societies, interdisciplinary approaches that integrate linguistics, political science, psychology, and communication studies as well, the use of automated tools and artificial intelligence in political discourse analysis. Thus, it can contribute not only to the theoretical advancement of political linguistics and translation studies, but also to the improvement of intercultural communication practices and political translation in an increasingly globalised world.

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Мовні та стилістичні особливості перекладу політичних промов як елемента політичного дискурсу

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Анотація. Лінгвістичні та стилістичні особливості перекладу політичних промов, що є життєво важливою складовою політичного дискурсу, відіграють ключову роль у формуванні громадської думки, впливають на політичні рішення, відображають ідеології та динаміку влади, притаманні політичним процесам. Зосереджуючись на перекладі політичних промов, дослідження мало на меті класифікувати та систематизувати лінгвістичні та стилістичні особливості, притаманні цьому дискурсу, визначити основну термінологію та типи, а також проаналізувати стратегії перекладу, що дозволило глибше зрозуміти, як політичні повідомлення адаптуються в різних мовах і як переклад опосередковує комунікацію влади, ідеології та громадської активності в сучасному світі. Дослідження, що ґрунтується на широкому та різноманітному наборі первинних та вторинних джерел, з використанням якісного та кількісного аналізу тексту, порівняльного, дискурсивного та прагматичного аналізу, тематичних досліджень, методу зворотного перекладу, проведення опитування, стилістичного анотування, спостереження, відбору, систематизації, опису, класифікації, забезпечило всебічний аналіз лінгвістичних і стилістичних особливостей перекладу політичних промов. Аналізуючи оригінальні політичні тексти та їхні переклади, включаючи звернення президентів Дж. В. Буша, Б. Обама, Дж. Байдена, Д. Трампа та В. Зеленського, дослідження дало змогу зрозуміти, як політичні наміри, риторичні стратегії та ідеологічні нюанси зберігаються, адаптуються чи трансформуються в перекладі. Доведено, що функціональна специфіка політичного дискурсу – сугестивна, переконлива, інформативна та експресивна – підкреслює його роль у формулюванні національних ідеологій та взаємодії з глобальною аудиторією. Обґрунтовано, що оцінка, як центральна риса, поєднує емоційність, експресивність і ефективність, пропонує розуміння того, як політичні повідомлення резонують із суспільними цінностями або кидають їм виклик. Результати дослідження показали, що політична мова залишається життєво важливим засобом для вираження цінностей, формування ідеологій та орієнтування в складній взаємодії історії, культури та управління. Результати дослідження можуть бути практично використані фахівцями з політичної комунікації, перекладачами, дипломатами та аналітиками міжнародних відносин для точнішого відтворення змісту та стилістичних особливостей політичних промов, що сприятиме ефективнішій міжкультурній взаємодії та кращому розумінню політичних намірів у глобальному контексті

Ключові слова: політична комунікація; стратегії перекладу; прагматика; політична риторика; порівняльний аналіз; сприйняття аудиторії



Numerals as a specialised means to express quantitative predicates in Latin

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Abstract. The class of numerals in Latin has been fragmentarily addressed in linguistic studies. This research aimed to bridge that gap by analysing Latin numerals as specialised means to express quantitative predicates within semantic and grammatical dimensions, thereby contributing to the theoretical grammar of classical languages. As a part of speech, numerals are highly productive and play a crucial role across various linguistic styles. A combination of selective, word-formation, descriptive and valency-distribution methods was employed to analyse, systematise and classify the Latin numerals. This approach shed light on the unique characteristics of this lexico-grammatical category. The study detailed the word-formation tendencies of Latin numerals, examined both intra- and interlingual constructions and revealed numerals despite their prepositive position in sentence structures function primarily as quantifiers without developing determinant roles. The syntactic functions of numerals, viewed through the lenses of lexical semantics and morphological paradigms, were also described. The research demonstrated that numerals as quantitative predicates exhibit varying valency based on their contextual usage. Semantic varieties of quantitative predicates were analysed at both semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic levels. The specified predicates were divided according to their semantic variants based on the distinction among absolute, indefinite, approximate, distributive and ratio quantity predicates. The study

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underscored that, in texts, numerals in quantitative predicates often carry stylistic or pragmatic functions, highlighting the significance of the quantitative aspect in communication. Their usage is especially prominent in scientific and medical texts, religious and historical contexts, mathematical and logical formulations, literary works and legal codes. This research enhances the understanding of numerals and provides insights into the formal mechanisms of their realisation. The findings offer a foundation for future theoretical explorations of derivational processes in Latin

Keywords: grammar; part of speech; numeral; quantitative predicate; semantic variety of a quantitative predicate; sentence structure; syntax; semantics; information structure of the sentence

Introduction

In the theoretical interests of linguists, grammar occupies a prominent stance as a branch of linguistic science, as it is within this discipline that the unique manifestations of language structure are examined. During the emergence of the Latin numeral (*nomen numerales*) as a distinct class of words, specific lexical and grammatical features have evolved that clearly distinguish it from other parts of speech. The relevance of researching numerals in Latin lies in the importance of understanding numerical concepts and the structure of numerals, which constitute a discrete lexical and grammatical category characterised by unique syntactic and morphological properties. This, in turn, facilitates a deeper comprehension of the Latin linguistic system, i.e. a system that forms the foundation for modern European languages such as Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Romanian. Moreover, numerals exhibit significant typological similarity across many of the world's languages and their study can help uncover regularities in the evolution of numerical constructions and grammatical forms. Furthermore, numerals hold particular significance in Latin literature, religious texts, legal documents and scholarly works of antiquity. An accurate understanding of numerical forms contributes to more precise translation and interpretation of historical sources, a matter of critical importance for the study of the culture and history of Ancient Rome.

The relevance of investigating Latin numerals is also underscored by the fact that, in literary and historical texts, numerals frequently play a key role in structuring content and conveying stylistic nuances. Their examination enables a better understanding of the stylistic and semantic dimensions of Latin texts, which is vital for scholars of classical philology and for translators. In the contemporary context, research on Latin numerals contributes to the advancement of computational linguistics methodologies, particularly in the processing and recognition of Latin texts. Thus, the study of numerals is of both linguistic and cultural-historical significance, rendering the scholarly interest in their functioning within the semantic and syntactic structure of sentences entirely justified.

The study of Latin numerals has captured the interest of numerous linguists throughout various historical periods. The numeral system has been examined from diverse perspectives, e.g. its role within the system of parts of speech, its morphological structure, the processes of numeral word formation and the grammatical relationships between numerals and nouns, among other aspects. To date, research is still being pursued by specialists in classical philology who focus on the development of Latin numerals in both classical and medieval Latin. These scholars investigate the evolutionary changes, semantics and grammatical peculiarities of numerals as well as the relationships

between Latin numerals and those in other Indo-European languages, thereby contributing to the reconstruction of the Indo-European numeral system's evolution.

Contemporary investigations into numerals involve numerous linguists from European and American universities. Their research encompasses various dimensions of numerals, including syntax, semantics, formal models and typology. For instance, linguists such as S. Montrul & M. Polinsky (2021) and M. Polinsky (2021) have scrutinised the formal and cognitive aspects of grammar, with a particular focus on numerals in languages exhibiting diverse structural characteristics. Similarly, A. Spalek & L. McNally (2022) have examined numerals within the contexts of semantics and logic, while L. McNally (2024) has concentrated on the overall grammar of numerals and their formal features across languages of different typological groups. The investigation of numerals across a variety of languages has, in turn, broadened the scope of research.

Nevertheless, modern linguistics still requires further research into the expression of the quantity / quantitative predicate via numerals and the peculiarities of their functioning in Latin. J.-S. Löbner (2021) has substantiated numerous issues within cognitive semantics and the grammar of numerals, exploring the semantic dimensions of meaning, including both lexical and sentential semantics, and analysing the interrelations between meaning and the category of meaning. This work underscores the importance of context in determining linguistic categories and meanings and introduces non-traditional approaches to analysing logic and semantic composition, drawing on examples from various languages. Furthermore, D. Harbour (2023) has examined numerals and their morphosemantic properties, with his work focusing on the grammatical category of number across different languages. The study describes the method of writing through ideogrammes; the ideography of numerals enables them to

remain among the most significant instruments for conveying information in various domains of human activity, from everyday communication to scientific discourse.

However, there is a clear need for additional scholarly inquiry into Latin numerals as specialised means of expressing the quantity / quantitative predicate as well as for a detailed analysis of their semantic variants at both the semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic levels. This need is particularly pressing given the recent intensification of theoretical research into the multifaceted nature of the sentence in contemporary linguistic science. The study of Latin grammar, including numerals, has benefitted significantly from the contributions of Ukrainian scholars. From this perspective, L.L. Zvon'ska *et al.* (2017) characterised the numeral as a part of speech that denotes the quantity of objects, their order in counting or the number of times an action is repeated, and provided a rationale for Latin numeral declension. Nevertheless, there is a need to examine the specific use of numerals as the quantity / quantitative predicate when combined with a nominal component.

Professor B.V. Cherniukh (2022), a specialist in classical philology, has systematically explored the concept of Vulgar Latin, as well as the phonetic, morphological and syntactic changes, vocabulary and word-formation processes. The scholar's work also focuses on the numeral as a distinctive class of words that has developed its own specific lexical-grammatical features. In an earlier study, B.V. Cherniukh (2010) investigated the aspectual semantics of predicates in subordinate temporal clauses, i.e. clauses introduced by *dum*, *donec*, and *quod*. Nonetheless, further research is warranted into the semantic-syntactic structure of sentences in Latin that include a numeral component or numeral-nominal constructions.

N. Medynska (2021) substantiated that when numerals occupy peripheral positions within a sentence, they assume a secondary role analogous to that of attributive elements. The

author observed that contemporary linguistic scholarship is characterised by divergent interpretations regarding the structure of sentences that incorporate quantity / quantitative predicates. On the one hand, the numeral's function is viewed as secondary – emerging from a shift from a static to a dynamic attribute, whereas on the other hand, any transposition of the noun's morphological form engenders a misalignment between the semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic structures of the sentence. I. Pavlova (2018) contends that numerals constitute pivotal units within discourse and text, acting as carriers of a unique type of information. Nonetheless, the morphological and syntactic nuances underpinning their capacity to express quantity predicates warrant further investigation.

Moreover, D. Dmytroshkin (2021) undertook a comprehensive analysis of composite nominals, delineating all conceivable structural types and elucidating the principles governing the formation of numeral composites within sentences. The authors believe that these numeral composites, potentially serving as an efficacious means of explicating the quantity / quantitative predicate, deserve additional scholarly attention.

Besides, in the contemporary linguistic paradigm, the tripartite nature of the sentence has been delineated. Modern linguists endeavour to recognise that the sentence is inherently multifaceted. According to A. Zagnitko (2020), the sentence is not only one of the syntactic units but also the principal predicative syntactic unit; it comprises either several word forms interconnected by syntactic relations or a single word form, thereby constituting an intonationally organised, semantically and grammatically coherent whole.

However, within linguistic scholarship, Latin numerals have not been sufficiently examined. There are no monographic studies in which the Latin numeral is investigated as a means of expressing the quantity / quantitative

predicate. Therefore, the aim of the study was to find out the peculiarity of the functions of numerals as means of expressing the quantity predicate in Latin. To achieve this goal, the following tasks have been set: to systematise the semantic varieties of quantity predicates; to define their semantic varieties; to analyse their structural and semantic features for a deeper understanding of Latin grammar and its influence on modern languages.

Materials and Methods

The source materials for this study were drawn from a range of reference works, including the Latin-Ukrainian and Ukrainian-Latin dictionary (Churakova, 2009); the Ukrainian-Ancient Greek-Latin Dictionary (Boyko & Myronova, 2012); and the Latin-Ukrainian Word-Formation Dictionary (Petrova, 2010). In addition, the empirical basis of this research was derived from a selection of Latin literary texts spanning various genres. From these texts, sentences that exemplify the category of quantity predicates were systematically extracted using continuous and representative sampling techniques.

The overall corpus comprised over 300 instances, sourced from the following texts: M. Tullius Cicero's *Epistulae ad familiares* (C. Fam.), *Epistulae ad Atticum* (C. Att.), *Pro Sestio* (C. Sest.), *De oratore* (C. Deor.), *De republica* (C. Rep.), *Tusculanae disputationes* (C. Tusc.), *In Verrem (actio secunda)* (C. Verr.), *Brutus* (C. Br.) and *Pro C. Manilio* (C. Man.); C. Julius Caesar's *De bello Civili* (Caes. B.C.) and *De bello Gallico* (Caes. B.G.); M. Porcius Cato's *Libri ad filium* (Cato Fil.); Q. Horatius Flaccus's *Epistulae* (Hor. Ep.); T. Livius's *Ab Urbe condita* (Liv.); Cornelius Nepos's *Atticus* (Nep. Att.); and C. Sallustius Crispus's *Conjuratio Catilinae* (Sall. C.).

To achieve the aim and objectives of the study, several methods were employed in a structured and sequential manner. The initial phase utilised a sampling method, which proved instrumental in the analysis and systematisation of Latin numerals as means of

expressing the quantity / quantitative predicate. This approach involved the identification and selection of linguistic material from various sources, including the dictionaries and a range of Latin literary monuments dating from the 3rd century BC to the 6th century AD. Particular attention was devoted to selecting numerals that were representative of diverse morphological models, thereby ensuring a broad sample for a comprehensive analysis of quantity predicates within the semantic-syntactic structure of sentences. This methodology facilitated the identification of typical functional patterns of numerals, their morphological and syntactic behaviour and provided a representative overview of their functioning in different contexts, thereby revealing their grammatical and syntactic peculiarities. Moreover, the observational method enabled the tracking of numeral usage in Latin texts and supported a thorough analysis of their employment as quantity predicates, alongside an examination of their syntactic and semantic properties. This robust foundation paves the way for further scholarly inquiry.

Finally, the selected sentences containing numerals were systematised and a classification of the semantic variants of quantity / quantitative predicates was conducted. Following the selection and systematisation of numerals, the word-formation method was applied, serving as a key tool in examining the structure and semantics of Latin numerals, particularly when they function as quantity predicates within a sentence. This approach allowed for the identification of patterns in numeral formation, tracing their etymological development and functional characteristics within the language. The word-formation analysis not only facilitated an understanding of the historical evolution of numerals but also explained their adaptation to various syntactic positions. At this stage of the research, a detailed analysis of the morphological components of each numeral was conducted, revealing clear patterns in the semantic development of numerals.

Subsequently, the descriptive method was employed as the primary approach for classifying the selected material. This method entailed a detailed examination of the functions and forms of numerals used to express quantity, measure or numerical value in Latin constructions. The focus was placed on how numerals operate within sentences, particularly when fulfilling the role of predicates. Numerals were classified based on their morphological and semantic characteristics, ensuring a systematic and coherent categorisation of numerals as quantity or quantitative predicates. This classification was essential for interpreting the broader linguistic functions of numerals as it demonstrated their integration into the structural framework of Latin. Moreover, the interpretation of the various types of quantity predicates contributed to a deeper understanding of the evolution of numeral forms and their communicative function, ultimately allowing for conclusions regarding their linguistic significance.

For a more in-depth analysis of Latin numerals as quantity predicates, the valency-distributional method was employed. This approach focused on understanding the syntactic behaviour of numerals, their syntactic dependencies (valency) and their distribution within different contexts. Each numeral's valency was analysed to determine its capacity to govern complements or modify nouns, which allowed for a clearer definition of the syntactic roles played by numerals. Furthermore, distributional analysis facilitated an examination of numeral functions within diverse syntactic structures, highlighting their positional flexibility and establishing the principles governing their placement in Latin syntax. This stage provided deeper insights into the functional capacities of numerals in context.

The structural framework of numeral semantics was further investigated through componential analysis and the contextual method, both of which were employed to explore numeral meanings at a deeper semantic level

and to classify the various types of quantity predicates. Componential analysis involved decomposing each numeral's meaning into its fundamental semantic components, thereby enabling the identification of distinct semantic variations of quantity predicates. The study of numeral meanings was further enriched by the contextual method, which examined how numerals were used within textual contexts. By analysing their usage across different sentences and literary works, the research identified the influence of context on the meaning and function of numerals as quantity predicates.

The functional-semantic analysis was employed to investigate the semantics and functions of the constituent elements within the functional-semantic field of quantity predicates. Additionally, the method of structural-semantic modelling was used to construct a model of the functional-semantic field of quantity predicates. The functional-semantic approach to the study of Latin numerals as quantity predicates allowed for an examination of numerals from the perspective of their role in the communicative structure of the sentence and their semantic content. This method not only facilitated a description of numerals in their syntactic and semantic roles but also demonstrated their interaction with other linguistic elements and their contribution to the formation of quantity or quantitative predicative meaning. Then, structural-semantic modelling combined the analysis of grammatical structure and semantic content of linguistic units, proving particularly useful for examining Latin numerals functioning as quantity predicates. This approach enabled a systematic classification of numeral usage and revealed the regularities governing the interaction between form and meaning. The study also adopted a functional-categorical approach, which allowed for a comprehensive investigation of the multifunctionality of numerals and their roles in language, particularly as quantity predicates shaping both the content and structure of utterances.

All research stages, from the initial selection and systematisation of data, word-formation analysis and classification of numerals to the study of their syntactic behaviour and semantic properties, facilitated a thorough examination of the formation and functions of Latin numerals as specialised means of expressing quantity predicates. Each methodological approach played a crucial role in achieving the primary objective: to distinguish numerals as specialised markers of quantity or quantitative predicates in Latin and to analyse their structural and semantic characteristics for a deeper understanding of Latin morphology and its influence on modern languages.

Results and Discussion

The system of numerical terms developed over an extended historical period. Throughout the formation of numerals as a distinct class of words, they acquired specific lexical and grammatical features that differentiate them from other parts of speech. The most prominent ancient Roman grammarian Priscian (Lat. *Priscianus*) identified numerical terms within the Latin language. As described by L.L. Zvonska *et al.* (2017), Priscian's *Institutiones grammaticae* is the most comprehensive grammatical work of late antiquity, distinguished by its detailed analysis of Latin syntax and serving as the foundation for Latin language studies. Following the model of this grammar, grammars of various European languages were later developed.

Ancient Roman grammarians classified numerals into cardinal and ordinal types, characterised by sequentiality, where each subsequent numeral represented a quantity greater than the preceding one by a single unit. Numerals exhibit typological similarities across many world languages. P. Ondrus (1971), in the study of the Slovak language, characterised numerals as a part of speech with distinct quantitative properties. Yu.L. Mosenkis (2018) analysed the contributions of the scholar M. Marr, who substantiated the "new theory of language",

based on the assertion of the common origin of all the world's languages and research on the role of numerals. According to I. Kochan (2009), numerals hold a significant place in literary texts of various genres, acquiring symbolic or even magical meanings, which can be both general and author specific.

Based on observations, numerals perform quantitative (*quantitativus*) and enumerative (*numerativus*) functions. In Latin, the primary function of numerals is quantitative, meaning they express quantitative-objective relations of extralinguistic reality, for example, *Marcellus duo vulnera accepit, unum in stomacho, alterum in capite secundum aurem* (C. Fam. 4. 12. 1) – “Marcellus received two wounds: one in the stomach, the other in the head near the ear”; *Vixit annis nonaginta* (C. Sest. 1. 1. 3) – “He lived for ninety years”.

When performing a quantitative function, numerals occur in a pre-substantive position, modifying the noun's plural meaning by giving it precise numerical definition, for instance, *Itinera duo, unum per Sequanos, alterum per provinciam nostram* (Caes. B. G. 1. 6. 3) – “Two routes: one through the Sequani, the other through our province”. Syntactically, numerals function alongside nouns because *nomen substantivum* is most closely related to numerical indicators. A numeral and a noun form an indivisible syntactic component and are closely connected morphologically and syntactically as in: *Nos apud Alysiam unum diem commorati sumus* (C. Fam. 16. 3. 1) – “In Alesia, we stayed for one day”. In their enumerative function, Latin numerals can appear without an accompanying

noun, e.g. *Alius alio plura invenire potest, nemo omnia*. – “One can discover more than another but no one can discover everything”.

Latin numerals possess distinct grammatical and syntactic features that influence sentence structure. Within the semantic-syntactic structure, numerals do not have an independent syntactic function; rather, they occupy the syntactic positions of other parts of speech, assuming their functions. Their morphological classification as a part of speech is confirmed by their morphemic structure, which includes a root morpheme and inflectional endings. The Latin language has two primary types of numerals: cardinal, which indicate exact quantity (*ūnus, duo, trēs*, etc.) and ordinal, which denote the order of elements (*prīmus, secundus, tertius*). According to E. Svitlychna *et al.* (2022), Latin possesses a well-defined numeral system, including *cardinalia* (cardinal numerals) such as *ūnus, duo, trēs* (“one, two, three”), *ordinalia* (ordinal numerals) such as *prīmus, secundus, tertius* (“first, second, third”) and *distributiva* (distributive numerals) such as *singulī, binī, ternī* (“one by one, in pair, three altogether”). Their study highlights the significant grammatical role numerals play in Latin.

Based on analysis, Latin numerals (Table 1) can be classified into the following categories: cardinal numerals (*numeralia cardinalia*), ordinal numerals (*numeralia ordinalia*), distributive numerals (*numeralia distributiva*), adverbial numerals (*numeralia adverbialia*), collective numerals (*numeralia collectiva*), multiplicative numerals (*numeralia multiplicativi*) and fractional numerals (*numeralia fractionarii*).

Table 1. Categories of Latin numerals

Category	Numeral	Example	Translation to Ukrainian / English
<i>Numeralia cardinalia</i>	<i>unus, duo, tres</i>	<i>Unus discipulus in aula sedet</i>	Один учень сидить у класі / One pupil is sitting in the classroom
<i>Numeralia ordinalia</i>	<i>primus, secundus, tertius</i>	<i>Primus inter pares</i>	Перший серед рівних / First among equals
<i>Numeralia distributiva</i>	<i>singuli, bini, terni</i>	<i>Terni flores in vase sunt</i>	По три квітки у вазі / Three flowers in each vase
<i>Adverbialia numeralia</i>	<i>semel, bis, ter</i>	<i>Semel venisti ad me</i>	Ти прийшов до мене один раз / You came to me once

Table 1. Continued

Category	Numeral	Example	Translation to Ukrainian / English
<i>Numeralia collectiva</i>	<i>centeni, milia</i>	<i>Centeni viri in acie stabant</i>	Сто чоловіків стояли в строю / One hundred men stood in formation
<i>Multiplicativi</i>	<i>simplex, duplex, triplex</i>	<i>Numerus simplex saepe in mathematica inventu</i>	Просте число часто зустрічається у математиці / A (one) prime number (= prime numbers) often appears in mathematics
<i>Fractionarii</i>	<i>dimidius, tertius, quarta</i>	<i>Dimidius mensis iam praeteriit</i>	Половина місяця вже минула / Half of the month has already passed

Source: authors' development

Numeralia cardinalia (cardinal numerals) indicate an exact quantity of objects or an abstract mathematical number in whole units. Quantitative numerals are a significant element of Latin grammar and are used both in everyday texts and official documents, emphasising their importance in the language. The distinctive feature of these numerals lies in their combination with nouns, which denote the items being counted. According to N. Medynska (2021), numerals in combination with nouns form a functional-semantic unity, which occupies the position of a compound subject or a strongly governed secondary member of the sentence, such as a direct object, in the semantic-syntactic structure of the sentence.

The numeral-noun functioning is crucial for numerals as in the syntactic plan, *numeralia cardinalia* with a noun form an inseparable component of the sentence, for example, *Interim legiones sex, qui primae venerant, opere dimenso castra munire coeperunt* (Nep. 7. 8. 6) – “Meanwhile, six legions, who had come first, began fortifying the camp after measuring the work”; Lat. *Centum oppida intra paucos dies in deditionem accepit* (Liv. 40. 49. 1) – “Within a few days, a (one) hundred cities surrendered to him”. According to M. Plutsch (2017), the conceptual (functional-semantic) category of quantity in numerals manifests as lexical semantics at the level of word-class organisation, representing a static quantitative feature of objects.

Numeralia ordinalia (ordinal numerals) indicate the order of items in a series or the sequence of actions. An important feature of their usage is in dates, ordinal lists and official texts,

for example, *Carthaginienses, prima luce oppugnantur hostibus castra, saxis undique congestis augent vallum* (Liv. 28. 15. 13) – “When the first rays of the sun were about to attack the camp, the Carthaginians, having gathered stones from all sides, reinforced the rampart”; *Tertio die Macedoniam pervenit* (Caes. B. C. 3. 106. 1) – “On the third day, he arrived in Macedonia”; *Caesar Gomphos pervenit, quod est oppidum primum Thessaliae venientibus ab Epiro* (Caes. B. C. 3. 80. 1) – “Caesar reached Gomphi, the first city of Thessaly for those coming from Epirus”; *Quem rem ita graviter tulit Alexander, ut secunda legatione denuo bellum deprecantibus ita demum remisit, ut oratores et duces sibi dedantur* – “Alexander bore this matter so heavily that after the second embassy, he resumed war against those who had pleaded for peace, so that the envoys and leaders surrendered to him”.

According to O.A. Vatseba & L.R. Oliynyk (2020), ordinal numerals are used to indicate dates, order in lists and other contexts where sequence is needed, e.g. in dates (*Kalendae Martiae* “the first day of March”), indicating the order of emperors, popes or eras (*Ioannes Paulus Secundus* “John Paul II”), and in numbering books or chapters (*liber tertius* “the third book”). In Latin, ordinal numerals are formed from cardinal numerals and change according to gender, number and case, agreeing with the noun they modify.

Numeralia distributiva (distributive numerals) indicate the distribution of items into certain quantities and are used when something needs to be evenly distributed among individual parts. In the Latin-Ukrainian and

Ukrainian-Latin dictionary by L.P. Churakova (2009), the following forms of distributive numerals are recorded: *bini* “by two”; *terni* (*trini*) “by three”; *quaterni* “by four”; *quini* “by five”; *seni* “by six”; *septeni* “by seven”; *octoni* “by eight”; *novena* “by nine”; *deni* “by ten”. Distributive numerals often appear in texts describing the division of objects between people or groups: *Militibus bini denarii dati sunt* – “The soldiers were given two denarii each”; *Bini gladiatores pugnabant* – “Two gladiators fought each”. This type of numeral is not widely used in modern languages but is significant in classical texts and for the study of Latin grammar.

Numeralia adverbialia (numeral adverbs) are an essential tool for conveying numerical characteristics in Latin, emphasising the precision and clarity of statements. The Latin-Ukrainian word-formation dictionary by H. Petrova (2010) includes a substantial number of these numeral adverbs, which express quantity: *semel* “once”, *bis* “twice”, *ter* “three times”, *quater* “four times”, *quinquies* “five times”, *sexies* “six times”, *septies* “seven times”, *octies* “eight times”, *novies* “nine times”, *decies* “ten times”, as well as numerals indicating order: *primum* “firstly”, *secundum* “secondly”, *tertio* “thirdly”, *quarto* “fourthly”, *quinto* “fifthly”. The dictionary by N. Boyko & V. Myronova (2012) records numerals that indicate frequency: *simpliciter* “once”, *dupliciter* “twice”, *tripliciter* “three times”, *quadrupliciter* “four times”. These numerals are indeclinable and are used to clarify the frequency or sequence of actions in texts. Numeral adverbs are frequently used in historical texts, legal documents and scientific treatises to precisely indicate actions: *Bis vincit qui se vincit in victoria* – “He conquers twice who conquers himself in victory”; *Ter consule* – “He was consul three times”.

Numeralia collectiva (collective numerals) in Latin are used to denote a group or collection of items or people, typically of the same kind. They are used less frequently than other types of numerals and have a limited set of forms:

bīnī “by two”, *ternī* “by three”, *quaternī* “by four”. Collective numerals are often used in expressions related to pairs of items: *bīnī calcei* – EN two pairs of shoes, and to indicate several identical items belonging to one person; in the context of division or distribution: *bīnī denarii* – EN two denarii each. These numerals usually agree in gender, number and case with the noun they relate to.

Multiplicativi (multiplicative numerals) in Latin indicate multiplicity and answer the question “how many times?”. They are formed using the suffixes *-plex* or *-plicis*. The Latin-Ukrainian word-formation dictionary by H. Petrova (2010) includes the following numerals: *simplex* “simple (once)”, *duplex* “double”, *triplex* “triple”, *quadruplex* “quadruple”. These numerals are used to describe the multiplicity of something, for example, *domus duplex* “a two-storey house”.

Fractionarii (fractional numerals) in Latin express fractional parts and are used to denote parts of a whole. The basic fractional numerals in Latin are formed from ordinal numerals with the addition of the suffix *-arius* or derivative forms. In the dictionary by N. Boyko & V. Myronova (2012), the following numerals are recorded: *dimidia* “half”, *tertia* “a third”, *quarta* “a quarter”, *quinta* “a fifth”, *sexta* “a sixth”. To denote fractions with larger numerals, rotational constructions are used, for example: *tres partes septem* “three sevenths”.

The purpose of numerals is to convey accompanying predicative meaning. Numerals associated with the category of quantity are among the most fundamental properties of existence. The category of quantity is distinguished in terms of predicativity. The predicative component of the semantics of objectivity is numerals that denote a specific or indefinite quantity of objects while the non-accompanying predicative component refers to numerals that denote abstract numbers. According to I.R. Vychovanets (1992), the necessity of using numerals as a quantitative characteristic of objects led to their attachment to supporting

nouns as specifiers of the quantitative definiteness of objects. Syntacticians I. Sag *et al.* (2006) analysed numerals in the context of various formal models such as Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar (HPSG). Earlier, the American linguist D. Pesetsky (1989) described the syntactic structures of numerals and other grammatical categories, including their functions in sentences, agreement forms with other parts of speech and the specifics of their use in different grammatical contexts.

The numeral, as a separate part of speech, is distinguished by its semantic aspect and is a full-fledged part of speech that denotes the quantity of objects and abstract mathematical numbers. Latin numerals, when functioning as predicates of quantity, express specific numerical values in combination with verb or noun forms, for example, Lat. *Unus est* – EN There is one or Lat. *Tres sunt* – EN There are three. In such constructions, numerals not only indicate quantity but also acquire a certain syntactic and semantic autonomy, allowing them to function as independent predicates. When numerals perform the role of predicates, they are typically used with nouns in genitive or accusative case and may have different forms depending on the numerical value. When functioning as predicates, numerals describe how many elements exist or indicate the size, quantity or degree of a particular property. For instance, in the construction *Centum sunt homines* – EN There are one hundred people, the numeral *centum* serves as a predicate denoting the number of people. Research into the contexts in which Latin numerals function as predicates has revealed specific linguistic constructions where numerals indicate not only the quantity of objects but also abstract concepts, such as time, space or other measurable categories.

In Latin, numerals can be used as predicates of quantity, possessing a certain valency, i.e. the ability to combine with a specific number of arguments. It has been found that numerals as predicates may have different valency

depending on their context. The following was observed: monovalent constructions: *Tres homines* – EN Three people; divalent constructions: *Quinque pueri tres libros legunt* – EN Five boys read (are reading) three books; trivalent or higher constructions: *Septem equites duo milites tria castra expugnabant* – EN Seven horsemen and two soldiers were capturing three camps. Numerals as predicates of quantity form a specific functional-semantic field, in which they interact with other linguistic units, such as verbs, pronouns or nouns. For example, in the construction *duo sunt* – EN there are two, the numeral combines with the linking verb, serving as the primary carrier of the quantitative meaning.

The analysis conducted revealed the potential transformations of numerals functioning as predicates of quantity, such as the formation of derived forms or the change of their function depending on the syntactic environment. The sentence *Milia sunt in exercitu* – EN There are thousands in the army illustrates the use of the numeral *milia* as a predicate of quantity. Functionally, the numeral serves as the main element, to which additional information about location (*in exercitu*) is appended. Semantically, it expresses many objects, emphasising the scale of the phenomenon.

Structural-semantic modelling has allowed the examination of the features of Latin numerals functioning as predicates of quantity. In the sentence *Duo sunt mentes hominum* – EN There are two thoughts of people, the numeral *duo* serves as the predicate of quantity. A model has been created for the numeral *duo* (two) as a predicate of quantity, i.e. structure: [Duo] + [Substantive, Nom.] + [Verb, Sing./Plur.], with semantics indicating the exact quantity of two subjects/objects. The numeral can serve as the grammatical centre of the utterance, expressing the number of objects being affirmed or denied. In this case, the numeral takes on the role of the grammatical predicate. In the construction *Duo sunt* – EN There are two of them, the numeral *duo* functions as the predicate.

As predicates, numerals express the semantic category of quantity, which is their primary meaning. However, within a sentence, this category can interact with other meanings, such as time, modality or aspect. In various contexts, numerals functioning as predicates of quantity can serve to specify the quantity or be used in generalised statements. In the sentence *Unus est sapiens* – EN The only wise man, the numeral acquires a semantic load that goes beyond its purely quantitative function. In texts, numerals as predicates of quantity can carry stylistic or pragmatic functions, emphasising

the significance of the quantitative aspect of the statement.

Numerals function in various grammatical and syntactic contexts, fulfilling the role of expressing quantitative characteristics. Latin numerals have specific contexts and are predominantly used in scientific and medical texts, religious or historical writings, mathematical and logical discourses, as well as in formulations related to legal norms or codes (Table 2). A characteristic feature of the Latin numeral as a predicate of quantity is its syntactic connection within the sentence structure with other words.

Table 2. Latin numerals as predicates of quantity: frequency of use

Numeral	Frequency in texts (examples)	Area of usage (literature, medicine, law etc.)	Examples based on texts
<i>Unus</i>	120	Literature, law	<i>Unus vir sufficit</i>
<i>Duo</i>	85	Medicine, philosophy	<i>Duo sunt necessaria</i>
<i>Tres</i>	90	Religion, law	<i>Tres faciunt collegium</i>
<i>Quattuor</i>	45	Mathematics, rhetoric	<i>Quattuor sunt elementa</i>
<i>Quinque</i>	30	Education, literature	<i>Quinque sensus habemus</i>

Source: authors' development

The issue of the status of sentences containing quantity predicates remains a topic of debate within linguistic scholarship. According to I. Vychovanets (1992), quantity predicates are divided into two categories: definite-quantitative predicates, which denote the precise quantity of specific objects or individuals, and indefinite-quantitative predicates, which do not form as complete a set of elements as the definite-quantitative predicates. However, many linguists argue that these two categories fail to capture the full range of meanings conveyed by quantity predicates. Specifically, N. Popovyth *et al.* (2011) identify six primary semantic types of quantity predicates, each with distinct meanings: absolute quantity (exactly defined quantity), indefinite quantity,

approximate quantity, distributive quantity, quantity-ratio and dynamically quantitative characteristics.

The issue of semantically classifying quantity predicates in Latin remains unresolved. Based on current observations, in Latin, numerals as specialised tools for expressing quantity / quantitative predicates appear in the following semantic varieties: absolute quantity, indefinite quantity, approximate quantity, distributive quantity and quantity-ratio. Each of these varieties is expressed differently in sentence structures and carries significantly different meanings. Table 3 illustrates the various ways in which Latin numerals are used to express precise quantitative characteristics, depending on the context.

Table 3. Semantic varieties of quantity / quantitative predicates (QP)

QP Type	Examples of numerals	Usage in sentences	Examples of QP in sentences
Absolute quantity	<i>unus, duo, tres, decem, centum</i>	Express the exact number of items	<i>Centum milites castra obsident</i> / EN One hundred soldiers are besieging the camp
Indefinite quantity	<i>nonnulli, pauci, multi, aliquot</i>	Express the total or undefined number of items	<i>Nonnulli homines in foro sunt</i> / EN Some people are in the forum
Approximate quantity	<i>fere, circiter, plus minusve + numeral</i>	Express an approximate number with additional limitations	<i>Fere quinquaginta milites advenerunt</i> / EN Nearly fifty soldiers arrived
Distributive quantity	<i>singuli, bini, terni, quaterni</i>	Express the distribution of items or phenomena into groups or units	<i>Bini milites in uno cubiculo habitant</i> / EN Two soldiers live in one room
Quantity-ratio	<i>semel, bis, ter, quater, quingenties</i>	Indicate multiplicity or the repetition of actions	<i>Ter urbem obsederunt</i> / EN They besieged the city three times

Source: authors' development

In Latin, cardinal numerals (*numeralia cardinalia*) serve as means to express predicates of absolute quantity, playing an important role in denoting numerical characteristics and often specifying an exact or approximate amount, for example, *Cum venissem Athenas, sex menses cum Antiocho philosopho fui* (C. Br. 315) – EN When I arrived in Athens, I spent six months with the philosopher Antiochus; *Consultabam, utrum Romam proficisceretur, an Capuam teneret, an iret ad tres legiones Macedonicas* (C. Verr. 1.41. 105) – EN He was wondering whether to go to Rome, to proceed to Capua, or to join the three Macedonian legions; *Inter ipsum pugnae tempus decem naves in sinu stabant* (Liv. 32. 29. 2) – EN During the battle itself, ten ships were standing in the bay. Numerals of exact quantity are most used with nouns of temporal meaning, e.g. *Sex annos est* – EN He is six years old.

With the meaning of a single quantity, specific numerals like *unus, una, unum* (one) are highlighted, for example: *Bestiolae quaedam unum diem vivunt* (C. Tusc. 1. 39. 94) – EN Some small creatures live for one day; *Una atque eadem persona* – EN The (one) same person; *Videturne omnem hic beatam vitam in una virtute ponere?* (C. Tusc. 5. 12. 35) – EN Does it not seem that he sees the happy life in one virtue alone?; *Accidit, ut una nocte omnes Hermae*

dejecerentur (Nep. Att. 7. 3. 2) – It happened that all the Herms were knocked down in one night; *Una erat magno usui res praeparata a nostris* (Caes. B. G. 3. 14. 5) – EN One thing had been prepared by our people for general use; *Veneti navium quod ubique fuerat in unum locum coegerant* (Caes. B. G. 3. 16. 2) – EN The Venetians gathered the ships, which had been scattered everywhere, into one place. The numeral *unus* (one) is grammatically marked for singular and rarely for plural, typically in plural-only nouns.

Predicates of absolute quantity describe the numerical characteristic of an object or phenomenon, indicating its precise amount or numerical property. These predicates may be expressed by numerals or other linguistic means denoting quantity. In Latin, numerals can function as predicates when they describe the quantitative characteristic of the subject, for example, *Numerus discipulorum est viginti* – EN The number of students is twenty. In this sentence, the numeral *viginti* (twenty) serves as the predicate and specifies the quantity. Predicates of exact quantity agree with the grammatical categories of the nouns they relate to. For instance, numerals can affect the case of the nouns they are used with: *Decem libri sunt in mensa* – EN Ten books are on the table (the noun *libri* is in the nominative plural form).

Predicates of indefinite quantity in Latin are expressed by numerals of unspecified quantity. I.P. Poliak (2018) explored the semantic varieties of predicates of indefinite quantity and indefinite quantity-relation and characterised them at the semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic levels. In Latin, indefinite numerals function in various syntactic positions. The key position is the head word in quantity-noun combinations, e.g. *Hannibal milia pedum, duodecim milia equitum Iberum traduxit* (Liv. 21. 23. 1) – EN Hannibal led thousands of foot soldiers and eleven thousand horsemen across the Iber; *Num, si Scipio ad centesimum annum vixisset, senectutis eum suae paeniteret?* (Cato Fil. 6. 19) – EN Would Scipio, had he lived to the hundredth year, have regretted his old age? With the meaning of multiple indefinite quantity, predicates are also expressed by non-numerical units of different lexical-grammatical classes, e.g. *Egom-et, qui sero ac leviter Graecas litteras attigissem, tamen, cum Athenas venissem, complures tum ibi dies sum commoratus* (C. De or. 1. 18. 82) – EN I although late and with little knowledge of Greek letters, nevertheless, when I arrived in Athens, stayed there for several days; *Ager, cum multos annos quievit, uberiores effere fructus solet* (C. Br. 4. 16) – EN The field, when it has rested for many years, usually bears more fruit; *Cis pauculos dies republica restituta* (Jul. 15) – EN Soon (= within a few days) the republican order was restored. Predicates with indefinite quantity are important grammatical phenomena used to express an indefinite subject or circumstance. They appear in various contexts, making Latin suitable for expressing generalised truths or undefined situations, which are typical of classical texts.

Predicates of approximate quantity are expressed by combining numerals close in the numerical series. In this work's observations, a common way to express predicates of approximate quantity is by combining numerals with prepositions or particles, where the form of

the numeral defines the corresponding boundary of the exact quantity, e.g. *Ad duodecim milia sunt caesa; capta plus quinque milia hominum* (Liv. 40. 33. 7) – EN Around twelve thousand men were killed; over five thousand were captured. Approximate quantity predicates in Latin reflect amounts within uncertain or approximate limits. They are used to refer to objects, phenomena or concepts whose number is hard to determine exactly. These predicates play an important role in expressing generalised judgments and evaluations. Characteristics of approximate quantity predicates include *indeterminacy*, which cannot be exactly counted, e.g. *multi, pauci* (many, few); comparative nature, often used to compare quantities or to emphasise a general trend, e.g. *Plus quam mille homines adfuerunt* – EN More than a thousand people were present; contextual dependence, where the meaning of the predicates may change depending on the context. For example, *pauci* may mean “several”, but in certain cases can imply “insufficient”. Words that clarify or blur the boundaries of quantity are often added when used with numerals: *Circiter decem milia* – EN About ten thousand; *Fere duo milia* – EN Nearly two thousand. Approximate quantity predicates in sentences can function as subjects: *Multi adveniunt* – EN Many are coming; as objects: *Habeo multum pecuniae* – EN I have much money; as circumstances: *Venit paucis diebus post* – EN He came after a few days. Approximate quantity predicates add flexibility to the language, enriching its stylistic colouring and allowing the avoidance of excessive precision, which is especially important in rhetorical or literary works. For instance, in Cicero's speech *De Oratore*, such predicates are used to create an emotional background and engage the audience in the discussion: *Nonnulli sapientes putant...* – EN Some wise men think... Approximate quantity predicates are an integral part of Latin grammar and rhetoric, reflecting the language's pursuit of flexibility and expressiveness.

Predicates of distributive quantity are expressed using numerals that determine the distribution of something among someone or occasionally something, and are used in literary, legal and religious texts to emphasise the individual approach, duties or actions of each person, for example, *Partes tres, quarum unam incolunt Belgae* (Caes. B.G. 1. 1. 1) – EN Three parts, one of which is inhabited by the Belgae. In Latin, predicates of distributive quantity are used to express actions or states concerning each member of a group individually rather than the group as a whole. Such predicates indicate that an action is performed separately on each of the subjects or objects. A distributive quantity predicate implies that action is carried out on each element of the group individually, for example, *Singuli discunt* – EN Each learns (individually), where *singuli* (“each”) emphasises the distributive nature of the action. In these constructions, distributive numerals are often used to clarify the nature of the action: *Bina dona accipiunt* – EN Each receives two gifts. Predicates of distributive quantity, where the numeral serves as the expression, can be used in combination with different types of subjects, depending on the content, for example, with homogeneous subjects: *Viri et feminae singuli veniunt* – EN Men and women come one by one. Distributive quantity in Latin plays an important role in sentence structure, allowing for the precise and clear conveyance of information about actions or states concerning each individual element of a group.

Predicates of quantity-ratio have a specific form of expression as they are derived from words with an indefinite-quantitative meaning, for example, *Paetus omnes libros, quos frater suus reliquisset, mihi donavit* (C. Att. 2. 1. 12) – EN Paetus gave me all the books that, supposedly (according to him), his brother had left; *Omnes fama atque fortunis expertes sumus* (Sall. C. 33. 1) – EN We are all deprived of fame and fortune; *Multi deorum beneficio perverce utuntur* (C. Rep. 3. 28. 70) – EN Many abuse the

kindness of the gods. In Latin, predicates of quantity-ratio play a crucial role in expressing various aspects of quantitative relationships between objects, actions, or characteristics. These predicates focus on indicating numerical and comparative characteristics that may relate to volume, quantity, size, proportion or order. Quantitative predicates point to the numerical characteristic of objects or phenomena. They are expressed through numerals and constructions that denote magnitude or degree (quantity predicates). According to observations made during this research specific syntactic tools that help convey quantitative relationships in a sentence include the genitive of quantity (*genetivus partitivus*), used to indicate a part of the whole: *Pars exercitus fugit* – EN A part of the army fled; and the ablative of measure or degree (*ablativus mēnsūrae*), used to denote the measure of difference: *Multō maior est* – EN He is much larger. Predicates of quantity-ratio in Latin are realised through numerals and syntactic constructions that give the language flexibility in expressing relationships and quantitative characteristics, thus forming the basis for precise and multifaceted communication.

Therefore, in Latin, predicates of quantity expressed by numerals serve to indicate the number of people or objects. Such predicates are typically formed using numerals that agree with the subject or are accompanied by other syntactic elements to convey the meaning more precisely. Latin numerals have a complex system of agreement and governance, which significantly influences sentence structure. Their usage varies depending on context and grammatical rules. A distinctive feature of the functioning of numerals in the semantic-syntactic structure of a sentence is their use in preposition to the noun.

Conclusions

The numeral forms recorded in the Latin language reflect the general trends in the development of the Latin numeral system. The numeral, associated with the category of quantity, serves

as the primary means of expressing the predicate of quantity and forms the semantic centre of the sentence, on which the position of the predicate of quantity is based. It plays a crucial role in conveying quantitative information in a sentence, indicating the precise or approximate number of objects, persons or phenomena. The primary function of the predicate of quantity in the semantic-syntactic structure of a sentence is its use in a post-nominal subposition.

Based on the method of expressing the predicate of quantity and its corresponding variations of quantitative meanings, the following types of predicates have been identified: predicates of absolute quantity, predicates of indefinite quantity, predicates of approximate quantity, predicates of distributive quantity, and predicates of relational (ratio) quantity. The formal-syntactic structure of a sentence is based on the semantic-syntactic structure formed by the predicate of quantity, where the predicate of quantity corresponds to the predicate expressed by a numeral. As a sentence element, the predicate is a component in which grammar and semantics intertwine in a rather complex manner.

In Latin, numerals functioning as predicates may agree with the subject in case, number and gender. At the same time, predicate numerals are often combined with nouns or pronouns that specify or clarify their meaning. A distinctive feature of predicates of quantity is their ability to create formally simple constructions that convey clear quantitative characteristics. Numerals can function as independent com-

ponents, answering questions about quantity (*Unus est* – EN There is one) or specifying subjects or objects of an action (*Tres viri veniunt* – EN Three men arrive). The use of predicates of quantity, i.e. numerals, as sentence components is based on the interaction of formal-grammatical and semantic indicators within a sentence. A particular feature of using a numeral as a predicate of quantity is its syntactic connection within the sentence to a nominal component, meaning its attachment to core nouns as determiners of quantitative definiteness.

Numerals functioning as predicates of quantity in Latin are a precise tool for conveying numerical information and their use adheres to strict grammatical and syntactic rules that contribute to the accuracy and conciseness of expression. This study does not claim to provide an exhaustive description of numerals as means of expressing the predicate of quantity. The prospects for further research lie in an in-depth study of the semantic varieties of numerals as predicates of quantity in Latin, English and Ukrainian and their role in shaping the linguistic worldview.

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Числівники як спеціалізовані засоби вираження предиката кількості в латинській мові

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Анотація. У мовознавчій науці частиномовний клас числівників латинської мови відображений фрагментарно. Аналіз латинських числівників доповнює розвідки у сфері теоретичної граматики класичних мов. Числівник, як частина мови, є досить продуктивним елементом різних мовних стилів. Метою дослідження було схарактеризувати числівники латинської мови як спеціалізовані засоби вираження предиката кількості у семантичному і граматичному вимірах. У дослідженні застосовано вибіркового, словотвірний, описовий та валентно-дистрибутивний методи для аналізу, систематизації, класифікації та вивчення особливостей латинських числівників, що відповідно репрезентують цей лексико-граматичний розряд слів. Подано опис словотвірних тенденцій латинських числівників, проаналізовано внутрішньомовні та зовнішньомовні конструювання, а також з'ясовано, що числівники, незважаючи на препозитивність у реченнєвій структурі, виступають звичайними квантитативами і не розвивають детермінантних функцій. Описано синтаксичні функції числівників як ознакових слів з погляду лексичної семантики і морфологічної парадигми. З'ясовано, що числівники в ролі предиката кількості можуть мати різну валентність залежно від їхнього контексту. Схарактеризовано семантичні різновиди предикатів кількості та проаналізовано їх на семантико-синтаксичному і формально-синтаксичному рівнях. Предикати кількості поділено на семантичні різновиди: власне-кількості; неозначеної кількості; приблизної кількості, предикати розподільної кількості та предикати кількості-відношення. Обґрунтовано, що у текстах числівники в ролі предиката кількості можуть мати стилістичні або прагматичні функції, підкреслюючи важливість кількісного аспекту у висловленні та використовуються здебільшого у наукових і медичних текстах, у релігійних або історичних, у математичних і логічних, у художніх та у формулюваннях, що стосуються правових норм або кодексів. Проведене дослідження розширює уявлення про числівник й інтерпретує формальні засоби його реалізації. Результати дослідження можуть бути використані у наступних наукових теоретичних розвідках з погляду дериваційних процесів латинської мови

Ключові слова: граматика; частини мови; числівник; предикати кількості; семантичні різновиди предикатів кількості; реченнева структура; синтаксис; семантика; актуальне членування речення



Methodology for analysing cognitive-syntactic phenomena in poetic texts

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Abstract. The relevance of this research stems from contemporary linguistics' growing interest in how linguistic forms and structures, particularly syntax, shape meaning in poetic texts beyond their purely grammatical function. The study's objective was to develop a methodology for analysing cognitive-syntactic phenomena in poetic texts, enabling the identification of how syntax interacts with perception, memory, and emotional resonance. The research employed methods from cognitive linguistics, componential analysis, cognitive semantics, and construction grammar, which allowed for viewing syntactic structures as encodings of subjective positions, cultural frameworks, and emotional intensities. The analysis was conducted using Carol Ann Duffy's poetry collection "The World's Wife" as an example. The obtained results convincingly demonstrate that poetic syntax extends far beyond simple stylistic embellishment. It functions as a powerful cognitive tool that actively shapes and reflects the thinking, emotions, and identity of the lyrical hero. The syntactic choices made by the author are not random but are deeply rooted in cognitive processes and serve to convey complex psychological states, internal conflicts, and socio-cultural models. Specifically, it was found that syntactic devices such as enjambment (carrying a part of a sentence over to the next line), parataxis (co-ordinating sentences without clear subordination), fragmented sentences, and the use of idioms are significant indicators of the lyrical hero's inner world. Enjambment can create a sense of tension or a flowing stream of thought; parataxis can convey disjointed perception or emotional intensity; and fragmented sentences can reflect interrupted thinking, doubts, or internal struggle. The use of idioms, in turn, can indicate belonging to a specific socio-cultural group or reflect established ways of thinking and perceiving the world. The practical value of the research lies in the development of a flexible yet rigorous methodology that can be applied to the analysis of poetic texts while considering

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their integrity, and which allows for a better understanding of the relationship between language, thought, and emotion

Keywords: cognitive poetics; poetic syntax; componential analysis; cognitive semantics; construction grammar

Introduction

In contemporary literary scholarship, especially within the dynamic field of cognitive linguistics, there is a marked intensification of interest in how language forms and syntactic structures contribute to the construction of meaning beyond purely grammatical functions. This interest is particularly relevant in the study of poetic texts, where the boundaries between form and meaning often dissolved, and syntax becomes a conduit for perception, memory, and emotional resonance. Rather than perceiving poetic syntax as merely ornamental or stylistically deviant, modern approaches suggest that it functioned as a powerful cognitive and psychological apparatus. Works in cognitive poetics, such as those by N. Ahmad (2024), underscored that syntactic choices in poetry were intimately linked to how minds processed experience, emotion, and cultural positioning. In this view, syntax operates not only as a formal property of language but also as an instrument of thought, capable of encoding inner states, subjective shifts, and culturally determined schemata.

This interpretative strategy also requires a clearer definition of what was meant by cognitive-syntactic phenomena in poetic contexts. These are not simply aesthetic features or syntactic deviations for effect, but deep-seated formal mechanisms that reflect mental operations and cognitive-emotional processing. They included such devices as perspective shifts, metaphorical re-mapping, causal chain structures, and contrastive grammatical pairings. According to A. Bimbetov (2024), the interaction between syntactic configuration and semantic roles is particularly revealing in multi-structural poetic texts, where syntax carried the burden of

cultural logic, often implicitly reproducing or subverting dominant ideologies. Through syntax, poets coded social meanings, expressed power relations, and mediated the self's relationship with the world.

J.B.U. Kakhramonov & N. Abdurakhmon (2022) emphasised that syntax, when examined through the lens of cognitive semantics, functions as a medium for embodied meaning-making. Their research illustrated how syntactic configurations in poetic discourse reflect mental and emotional processes, with particular attention to how clause structures and syntactic variations encode shifts in perception and affective states. Similarly, N. Mykhalchuk *et al.* (2021) argued that punctuation, line breaks, and other microstructural features of poetic syntax were not merely formal devices but psychologically charged elements that contribute to meaning construction. Their study highlighted how syntactic fragmentation could signal emotional rupture or cognitive dissonance, especially in poems dealing with trauma or identity.

Building upon these findings, N. Myronova *et al.* (2023) demonstrated that cognitive-semantic approaches to poetic syntax allows for a nuanced interpretation of conceptual layering in verse. They showed that even seemingly minor syntactic choices – such as the placement of modifiers or the use of enjambment – served as indicators of conceptual complexity and emotional intensity. Taken together, these studies support the methodological premise of this research: that poetic syntax operated as an active site of cognitive and affective engagement, where even punctuation marks and clause boundaries exerted psychological force. This

reinforced the need for an analytic framework that treats syntax not as a passive structure but as a dynamic and integral component of poetic meaning-making.

In merging cognitive linguistics with literary poetics, this study aspired to trace the linguistic contours of emotion, thought, and ideological positioning within verse. Syntax, in this sense, becomes more than grammar – it becomes grammar as an event: a live structure through which human experience unfolded. The poetic line emerged not only as a medium of expression but as a performative space where cognitive and affective dimensions of human subjectivity were enacted. Through this lens, readers were not just passive interpreters of meaning; they were cognitively engaged participants, reconstructing the emotional and psychological worlds that grammar silently but powerfully shaped.

Importantly, the aim of this research was not limited to identifying cognitive patterns in poetic texts; it also proposed a flexible methodological approach that enabled rigorous analysis of such patterns while preserving the integrity and subtlety of poetic form. This approach conceptualised the poetic line as a hybrid unit – simultaneously expressive and structural – that conveyed both emotional energy and conceptual depth.

Materials and Methods

The methodological foundation of the present study was rooted in the interdisciplinary integration of cognitive linguistics, construction grammar, componential analysis, and cognitive poetics, with the overarching goal of formulating an effective and flexible approach to the analysis of cognitive-syntactic phenomena in poetic discourse. This framework enabled a nuanced exploration of how syntax, far beyond its grammatical function, interacted with mental processes, emotional resonance, and cultural framing in the context of literary expression. The object of the research comprised the

cognitive-syntactic structures observed in poetic texts, with a specific focus on Carol Ann Duffy's collection "The World's Wife" (Duffy, 2001). This collection was selected as the central corpus for analysis not only due to its literary merit and thematic richness, but also because of its syntactic density and stylistic distinctiveness. The poems selected for close examination offered fertile ground for applying a multidimensional methodological approach. This approach combined componential analysis, cognitive semantics, and construction grammar to develop a layered understanding of poetic syntax. The poems included – "Little Red-Cap", "Pilate's Wife", "Mrs Aesop", "Queen Herod", "Medusa", and "Anne Hathaway" – were chosen for their explicit deployment of marked syntactic features such as enjambment, parataxis, sentence fragmentation, and the innovative use of idiomatic expressions. These elements made the collection a fertile ground for examining the convergence of linguistic form, cognitive function, and poetic aesthetics.

To ensure theoretical rigour and contemporary relevance, the selection of scholarly literature was conducted in alignment with the criteria of recent publication (primarily within the last five years) and thematic pertinence to the domains of cognitive linguistics, poetic syntax, and literary stylistics. The references included the works of A. Bimbetov (2024), A.S. Bozorov (2024), and Y. Qin (2023), among others, which offered valuable insights into cross-linguistic syntactic structures, metaphor theory, and cognitive narrative construction. Preference was given to peer-reviewed sources published in journals indexed by Scopus and Web of Science, thereby aligning the study with current academic publishing standards and ensuring the reliability of the conceptual foundation (Myronova *et al.*, 2023).

Y. Qin (2023) with an overview of cognitive linguistics provided an essential conceptual backdrop for this study by outlining the discipline's central principles – such as the

embodiment of meaning, the experiential basis of conceptual structures, and the dynamic interplay between language and cognition. These principles informed the analysis by framing poetic syntax as a site where linguistic form interacts with embodied experience, cultural models, and mental imagery. Such a perspective reinforced the study's methodological orientation toward viewing syntax not merely as a structural feature but as a cognitive-constructive tool within poetic discourse.

The research methodology unfolded across three interrelated stages, each addressing a specific dimension of cognitive-syntactic analysis. The initial phase involved structural-syntactic analysis aimed at identifying syntactic configurations and patterns within the poetic texts. This included an examination of clause complexity, syntactic segmentation, and the various forms of syntactic linkage such as co-ordination and subordination. Special attention was given to stylistic devices that bore on the organisation of syntax and its aesthetic function. At this stage, componential analysis served as a key methodological tool (Geeraerts, 2006; Nida, 2015), allowing for the categorisation of semantic roles and the clarification of how syntactic structures supported meaning construction in poetic discourse.

The second phase moved into the domain of cognitive-semantic analysis, informed by the theoretical contributions of E.J. Cho (2017), P. Stockwell (2019), and I.E. Grachova & A.V. Mosiichuk (2018). This stage sought to trace the interplay between syntactic form and cognitive processes such as perception, memory structuring, emotional encoding, and the construction of identity within the text. Semantic segmentation techniques were employed to reveal underlying metaphorical frameworks and culturally embedded expressions that shaped the reader's interpretative engagement. This cognitive-semantic layer enabled the decoding of subtle mental models embedded in the syntactic architecture of the poems.

The third and final phase centred on pragmatic-contextual analysis. Here, the aim was to investigate how syntactic structures function in relation to broader textual and cultural contexts, particularly through mechanisms such as intertextuality, irony, and socio-historical allusion. This phase drew on the principles of construction grammar as articulated by T. Hoffmann (2022), with emphasis on the transformation and re-contextualisation of fixed syntactic constructions – especially idioms, proverbs, and formulaic sequences – within the poetic fabric. Such transformations were not only stylistic but also cognitive in nature, reshaping inherited linguistic forms to express subjective experience and critique cultural paradigms. Throughout the entire analytic process, a descriptive-analytical approach was maintained, with a conscious effort to avoid speculative assertions about authorial intention. The focus remained on the structural and functional roles of syntactic features within the broader cognitive-poetic framework.

Results and Discussion

In the analysis of Carol Ann Duffy's "The World's Wife", it became increasingly apparent that syntactic structures in poetry should not have been perceived as passive containers of meaning, but rather as dynamic mechanisms for cognitive and emotional representation. Syntax in this context actively participate in shaping poetic consciousness, mediating the interplay between internal psychological states and external linguistic form. Each syntactic gesture – whether a pause, a break, a repetition, or a subversion of grammatical norms – reflects how emotional, ideological, and cognitive tensions were organised and conveyed. This was especially evident in C.A. Duffy's poetic reconstructions of female subjectivities, where traditional narratives were deconstructed not only through content but also through form (Chafe, 1999; Janigová, 2024).

The analytical process proceeded through three main stages: first, the identification of salient syntactic features such as deviation from normative sentence structures, use of parataxis and enjambment, clause fragmentation, and idiomatic density; second, the mapping of these structures onto cognitive categories including perception, emotional resonance, and memory; and finally, the interpretation of their function within broader sociocultural and ideological frames, following the work of scholars such as T. Hoffmann (2022) and E.J. Cho (2017). This methodology facilitated a deeper exploration of how poetic syntax encoded character psychology and narrative positioning. For instance, in “Little Red-Cap”, C.A. Duffy’s use of enjambment and abrupt syntactic breaks reflected not just poetic rhythm but the psychological fragmentation of the speaker. The non-linear unfolding of clauses echoed a cognitive state of confusion, transition, and eventual empowerment. Here, syntactic dislocation became a mimetic device for charting the protagonist’s movement from innocence to self-awareness (Duffy, 2001). This observation aligns with R. Bradford (2005) view that poetic syntax, particularly in postmodern works, often mirrored internal psychic rhythms rather than adhering to chronological or narrative logic.

In “Pilate’s Wife”, on the other hand, the syntax took on a different function. The use of short, declarative sentences conveyed a muted, almost repressed emotional state. Trauma was not described overtly but was encoded in the sparseness and abruptness of the lineation. The syntax itself becomes the site of affective rupture, enacting what E.J. Cho (2017) referred to as a “semantic saturation via pronominal modulation”, whereby emotional intensity was indexed through syntactic restraint rather than expressive elaboration. “Mrs Aesop” represented a shift toward ironic detachment. Here, syntactic repetition and structurally rigid phrasing functioned as tools of satire. C.A. Duffy mobilised symmetrical constructions and a barrage

of idioms to parody didactic speech patterns. The flattening of once-authoritative expressions, such as “Slow but certain, Mrs Aesop, wins the race”, produced a cognitive dissonance that exposed the emptiness of traditional moral discourse. As T. Hoffmann (2022) noted, such manipulation of fixed expressions within a poetic framework allowed the speaker to rupture established linguistic norms and repurpose them for subversive ends.

The poem “Queen Herod” exemplified how hypotactic constructions – layered, clause-rich sentence structures – could embody maternal vigilance and defensive cognition. Here, the syntax curved and coiled in tandem with the speaker’s anxious projections, simulating the mental mechanics of someone attempting to decipher signs and threats in her environment. As D. Geeraerts (2006) suggested, syntax in such instances functioned as a scaffold for cognitive mapping, encoding thought processes that were affectively charged and ideologically situated. According to S.I. Shodieva (2021), a key concept of cognitive linguistics is that language serves as a window into the mind, revealing how humans categorise, conceptualise, and structure their experiences. This view aligns with the analysis, as the syntax in C.A. Duffy’s poetry reflects the speaker’s specific cognitive processes and mental states.

A particularly rich site of syntactic complexity was “Medusa”, where cumulative and fragmented clauses not only described mental disintegration but performed it. The language disassembled in rhythm with the speaker’s deteriorating psyche. This observation supported the hypothesis presented by I.E. Grachova & A.V. Mosiichuk (2018), who argued that poetic syntax often operated as a mirror of psychological breakdown, especially in texts that grappled with themes of identity dissolution and emotional overload. Idiomatic constructions throughout “The World’s Wife” also played a vital role in both cultural critique and cognitive representation. In “Mrs Aesop”, idioms were

recycled and hollowed out through structural repetition, enacting what E.A. Nida (2015) referred to as “semantic erosion”. These idioms, stripped of their original force, were transformed into instruments of parody and resistance. This strategy aligned with T. Hoffmann (2022) assertion that idioms, when manipulated creatively, exposed and destabilised embedded cultural hierarchies.

In contrast, “Anne Hathaway” showcased syntax as a vehicle for sensuality and mnemonic intimacy. The use of extended participial phrases and rich metaphorical layering created a syntactic flow that mirrored the rhythm of longing and remembrance. Here, the grammar did not merely describe love – it performed it, enacting what J.B.U. Kakhramonov & N. Abdurakhmon (2022) described as the “cognitive-semantic embodiment of emotion”. The work of A.J. Mukhammadiyarov (2025) further emphasised this idea of embodied meaning shaped by language, particularly by addressing how language expresses deep mental and emotional states through its syntactic and discursive features.

The analysis of “Mrs Midas” reinforced this interplay of syntax and cognition. Conditional constructions and syntactic elongation echoed the speaker’s oscillation between disbelief and grief. The repetition of “If only he had...” clauses simulated the recursive nature of trauma processing and emotional estrangement, which is consistent with cognitive models of emotional recall and detachment (Tzeng *et al.*, 1987). Across the corpus, the recurrence of syntactic features such as enjambment, parataxis, and clause fragmentation suggested a consistent linguistic strategy. These devices functioned as cognitive markers, encoding emotional states such as anxiety, desire, defiance, and grief. Furthermore, the analysis of semantic clusters through componential analysis revealed strong alignments between lexical choices and syntactic structure. For example, in “Little Red-Cap”, words associated with violence and

transformation – “axe”, “lair”, “shreds” – were embedded within disjointed syntactic patterns that reinforced a theme of psychological rupture (Geeraerts, 2006; Bozorov, 2024).

These findings validated the use of a replicable, interdisciplinary methodology for analysing poetic syntax. By integrating tools from cognitive linguistics, construction grammar, and poetics, this study proposed a model that read syntax as a site of cognitive and ideological signification. As A. Bimbetov (2024) argued, the interpretive weight of a poetic text often hinged not only on what was said but on how it was grammatically structured. Syntax, in this sense, has become a performative act—an articulation of inner thought, emotional resonance, and social criticism, which is consistent with N. Allsopp (2020) research on how poetry acts as a means of expressing ideological and sovereign ideas, especially in times of social upheaval. This stage was also informed by P. Stockwell (2019) comprehensive framework of cognitive poetics, which integrates cognitive linguistics with literary stylistics to account for how textual structures shape readerly perception, empathy, and conceptual mapping. The author emphasised that syntactic form, rhythm, and structural pauses are not passive carriers of meaning but active cognitive devices that engage memory, emotion, and interpretive processes. This theoretical orientation reinforced the study’s focus on syntax as a dynamic participant in meaning-making, rather than as a purely formal or ornamental feature.

A pertinent and particularly evocative example of this phenomenon was found in the poetry of Carol Ann Duffy, whose celebrated collection “The World’s Wife” (Duffy, 2001) served as a compelling case study for exploring the intersection of cognitive structure and poetic form. In these texts, C.A. Duffy reimaged mythological, literary, and historical women, offering a stage on which personal identity and collective memory were linguistically reconstructed. Her poetic speakers did not merely

narrate; they embodied modes of perception and affective consciousness through syntax. The opening of “Little Red-Cap”, for instance – “At childhood’s end, the houses petered out” – exemplified this convergence of physical and psychological movement. The use of syntactic elongation, enjambment, and phrasal cadence did not merely describe a moment; it dramatised the liminal space between childhood and adult awareness, registering a shift in cognition and mood through grammatical rhythm (Bradford, 2005).

This interpretive lens calls for an analytic orientation that perceived how syntax mirrored cognitive dynamics and gave structure to inner states. In “Pilate’s Wife”, C.A. Duffy employed elliptical clauses, temporal shifts, and syntactic fragmentation to render a speaker who was psychically disoriented, suspended between guilt, prescience, and political passivity. A sequence such as “Then he was gone... The night before his trial, I dreamt of him” resists chronological sequencing, choosing instead to map affective logic – the interplay of memory, trauma, and symbolic foresight. Here, syntax is not a neutral medium; it simulated the fragmented temporality and emotional entanglement of the speaker’s cognition (Cho, 2017). This aligns with broader frameworks in cognitive poetics, which argued that linguistic form in poetry enacted thought rather than simply expressed it (Grachova & Mosiichuk, 2018).

Underlying this analysis was the conviction that poetic syntax should have been studied not in isolation, but through a dialogic model that fused insights from cognitive linguistics, stylistics, and interpretative literary theory. Such an interdisciplinary method revealed how grammar, at the micro level of clauses and sentence patterns, could articulate subjectivity, cultural belonging, and emotional turbulence. Scholars such as E.J. Cho (2017) and T. Hoffmann (2022) foregrounded the role of syntax as a representational schema – a scaffold for mental modelling that allowed poetic voices to

shift stance, modulate focus, and narrate from within a fractured or layered consciousness. In C.A. Duffy’s “Medusa”, for example, the deliberate repetition of syntactic frames – “I glanced at... I looked at... I stared at” – became a grammatical manifestation of the speaker’s descent into paranoid disintegration and alienation. The formal recurrence operates as a psychological spiral, turning language into a mirror of obsessive cognition (Duffy, 2001).

In conclusion, cognitive-syntactic analysis of “The World’s Wife” revealed that deviations from normative syntax in poetry were far from incidental. Rather, they were deliberate stylistic strategies that enabled the poet to construct alternative modes of seeing, feeling, and knowing. The linguistic architecture of C.A. Duffy’s poems thus functions as a map of inner life, capturing the affective and ideological currents that shaped female subjectivity. This method, while applied here to English-language poetry, has the potential for cross-linguistic and cross-cultural adaptation, offering scholars a robust framework for exploring the cognitive dimensions of poetic language.

Ultimately, C.A. Duffy’s poetry was intended not only to be read but also to be apprehended aurally through the mind’s ear, wherein its rhythms and disruptions reflected the psychological landscapes it portrayed. The syntax did not merely accompany the voice; it constituted the voice itself and functions as a critical vehicle for meaning.

Conclusions

This research investigated the cognitive-syntactic mechanisms that underpinned poetic discourse, with a focus on the poetry of Carol Ann Duffy, particularly the author’s collection “The World’s Wife”. The analysis demonstrated that poetic syntax serves as both a cognitive and emotional medium, reflecting the mental states, identity formation, and sociocultural positioning of the lyrical subject. Syntactic features such as enjambment, parataxis, and

fragmentation function not merely as stylistic devices but as integral components of the cognitive structure of the poetic voice. In this context, poems like “Little Red-Cap” and “Medusa” revealed a psychological dimension encoded in syntactic form as well as in thematic content, highlighting the interrelation of emotion, cognition, and linguistic organisation.

The methodological approach, which synthesised tools from cognitive linguistics, componential analysis, and construction grammar, proved effective in elucidating how poetic syntax encapsulated perceptual shifts, emotional intensity, and cultural meaning. The results suggested that cognitive-syntactic analysis possessed broad applicability across languages and literary traditions, offering valuable insights for comparative studies of poetic form in diverse linguistic contexts.

By providing a systematic yet adaptable framework for interpreting poetic language,

this study advanced understanding of syntax as a dynamic vehicle of meaning-making in poetry. Future research might extend this model to cross-linguistic and cross-cultural analyses, including the study of non-Western poetic traditions and translated works. Furthermore, the application of cognitive-syntactic analysis in educational settings presented a promising direction for enhancing literary interpretation skills and fostering greater awareness of the interplay between linguistic form and conceptual content.

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Методика аналізу когнітивно-синтаксичних явищ у поетичних текстах

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Анотація. Актуальність дослідження зумовлена зростаючим інтересом сучасної лінгвістики до того, як мовні форми та структури, зокрема синтаксис, формують значення в поетичних текстах, виходячи за межі їхньої граматичної функції. Метою роботи була розробка методики аналізу когнітивно-синтаксичних явищ у поетичних текстах, що дозволяє виявляти, як синтаксис взаємодіє зі сприйняттям, пам'яттю та емоційним резонансом. У дослідженні використано методи когнітивної лінгвістики, компонентного аналізу, когнітивної семантики та конструктивної граматики, що дозволили розглянути синтаксичні структури як кодування суб'єктивних позицій, культурних рамок та емоційних інтенсивностей. Аналіз проводився на прикладі збірки віршів Керол Енн Даффі «The World's Wife». Отримані результати дослідження демонструють, що поетичний синтаксис виходить далеко за межі простої стилістичної прикраси. Він є потужним когнітивним інструментом, який активно формує та відображає мислення, емоції та ідентичність ліричного героя. Синтаксичні рішення, які обирає автор, не є випадковими, а глибоко вкорінені в когнітивних процесах і слугують для передачі складних психологічних станів, внутрішніх конфліктів та соціокультурних моделей. Зокрема, виявлено, що такі синтаксичні прийоми, як анжамбеман (перенесення частини речення на наступний рядок), паратаксис (сурядне поєднання речень без чіткого підпорядкування), фрагментовані речення та використання ідіом, є значущими показниками внутрішнього світу ліричного героя. Анжамбеман може створювати відчуття напруження або плинності думки, паратаксис – передавати розрізненість сприйняття або емоційну інтенсивність, а фрагментовані речення – відображати перерваність мислення, сумніви чи внутрішню боротьбу. Використання ідіом, своєю чергою, може вказувати на приналежність до певної соціокультурної групи або відображати усталені способи мислення та сприйняття світу. Практична цінність дослідження полягає у розробці гнучкої, але водночас суворої методології, яка може бути застосована до аналізу поетичних текстів з урахуванням їх цілісності та дозволяє краще зрозуміти взаємозв'язок між мовою, думкою та емоціями

Ключові слова: когнітивна поетика; поетичний синтаксис; компонентний аналіз; когнітивна семантика; конструктивна граMATика

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