pISSN:2349-5707 Volume:12,Issue 11,November-2025 eISSN:2349-5715

MODERN APPROACHES TO THE ANALYSIS OF LITERARY TEXT: STYLISTICS AND POETICS OF CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN LITERATURE

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Abstract: This paper examines modern approaches to literary text analysis in Russian literature of the 21st century, focusing on stylistics, poetics, and the study of linguistic creativity. The study explores the use of metaphor, intertextuality, and language play in contemporary prose and poetry. By combining traditional literary analysis with cognitive and corpus-based methods, it highlights how modern Russian authors innovate in language, narrative, and stylistic techniques. The research underscores the role of stylistics in interpreting cultural, aesthetic, and linguistic trends in contemporary literature.

Keywords: literary text, stylistics, poetics, contemporary Russian literature, metaphor, intertextuality, language play, 21st century.

Introduction The analysis of literary texts has evolved significantly in the 21st century. Traditional philological methods, focusing on historical and formalist approaches, have been supplemented with stylistic, cognitive, and corpus-based techniques. Contemporary Russian literature presents rich opportunities for studying the interplay of language, meaning, and artistic effect.

- Modern prose and poetry are characterized by:
- innovative linguistic forms,
- creative metaphorical constructions,
- intertextual references to classical and contemporary texts,
- playfulness in syntax, word formation, and semantic shifts.

Studying these features requires an interdisciplinary approach, combining literary criticism, linguistics, and stylistics.

1. Stylistics of Contemporary Russian Literature. Definition and Scope- Stylistics is the study of linguistic choices and their artistic effects in literary texts. In contemporary Russian literature, stylistics examines:

lexical choices, including neologisms and slang, syntax and sentence structure, phonetic and prosodic devices, rhetorical and narrative strategies.

Methods of Stylistic Analysis. Modern stylistic analysis includes- Text-centered methods: identifying stylistic markers, patterns, and deviations from standard language. Contextual analysis: linking stylistic features to cultural, social, or historical contexts. Cognitive stylistics: studying how readers perceive and interpret figurative language, metaphor, and narrative techniques. Corpus stylistics: employing digital corpora to identify recurring patterns, lexical clusters, and syntactic structures across large collections of texts. Poetics of Contemporary Russian Literature. Narrative Techniques and Innovation. Modern prose often experiments with-fragmented or nonlinear narrative structures, polyphonic voices and perspectives, metafiction and self-referential commentary.

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Poetic Language and Sound Patterns. Contemporary poetry explores- phonetic play and sound symbolism, visual layout of text on the page (concrete poetry), hybrid forms combining prose and verse. Metaphor in Modern Russian Literature. Cognitive and Conceptual Metaphor- Metaphor in contemporary literature is not merely decorative; it structures thought and shapes narrative perception. Following Lakoff and Johnson (1980), metaphors are conceptual: they allow abstract ideas to be understood through concrete experiences.

Examples include:

- life as a journey: "Жизнь — это длинный коридор с открывающимися дверями",
- time as fluid: "Время растекалось по комнате, как мед",
- identity as performance: "Я надеваю маски, чтобы встретиться с миром".

Innovative Metaphorical Structures- 21st-century authors frequently combine metaphors with:

- neologisms and slang,
- intertextual allusions,
- multimodal elements (visual, digital media).

Intertextuality in Contemporary Russian Literature. Types of Intertextual References- Direct quotations from classical literature (Pushkin, Lermontov), Allusions and echoes of folk tales, myths, or foreign literature, Parody and pastiche, creating dialogue between texts. Function of Intertextuality- Enriches semantic and cultural depth, Establishes literary continuity and dialogue with tradition, Provides ironic, humorous, or critical commentary, Example: Many contemporary authors reference Soviet-era literature to critique modern society, juxtaposing historical and contemporary voices. Language Play and Experimentation- Word Formation and Neologisms, Authors create neologisms, portmanteaus, and slang terms, reflecting linguistic creativity and cultural trends. Example: "инфодемия" (information + epidemic) or "залипать" (to be absorbed by screens).

Syntax and Stylistic Innovation, Fragmented sentences and ellipses, Shifts in narrative perspective, Experimental punctuation for rhythm and emphasis. Multimodal and Digital Texts- Contemporary literary texts often incorporate digital elements: hyperlinks, emojis, visual arrangements, reflecting the influence of digital culture on literary language. Modern Approaches to Literary Text Analysis. Traditional Philological Analysis- Close reading of text, Historical and linguistic context analysis, Interpretation of themes and motifs.

Cognitive and Stylistic Approaches- Analysis of metaphor comprehension, Study of narrative cognition and reader response, Identification of conceptual frames and mental models. Corpus-Based Approaches- Quantitative analysis of word frequency, collocations, and stylistic patterns, Comparative studies of multiple contemporary authors, Mapping stylistic trends across literary genres. Conclusion- Modern Russian literature exemplifies linguistic creativity, blending metaphor, intertextuality, and language play.

Contemporary approaches to literary analysis — combining stylistics, poetics, cognitive methods, and corpus techniques — allow researchers to uncover deeper patterns of meaning, trace cultural and social influences, and explore innovative narrative strategies. The study of 21st-century prose and poetry demonstrates that literature remains a vital site for language innovation and aesthetic experimentation.

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pISSN:2349-5707 Volume:12,Issue 11,November-2025 eISSN:2349-5715

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