

LINGUISTICS

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The rhythm of oral and dramatic speech: D.V. Averkiev's comedy "Don't play with fire"

The article examines the rhythmic characteristics of spontaneous and dramatic speech. The rhythm peculiarities of both types of speech are revealed in a comedy of manners of the 2-nd half of the XIX-th century and in some samples of oral speech recorded at the end of the XX-th century; the results are compared with the data of three well-known plays of the XIX-th century which have been received by M.M. Girschman. Girschman's method based on statistical analysis of various beginnings and ends of syntagmes, phrases and phrase components in personages' cues was used in our investigating spontaneous and dramatic speech. There appeared to be no considerable differences between oral speech and the speech of the comedy's personages on the level of syntagmes and sentences, as well as in the average syntagme's length. This made it possible to conclude that both types of speech have universal foundations.

Key words: D.V. Averkiev, M.M. Girshman, rhythm, oral and dramatic speech, syntagmes, phrases and phrase components, beginnings and ends, statistic analysis

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