

LINGUISTICS

E.S. Milkevich

(Southern federal university. Rostov-on-Don, Russia)

Metonymy in English: Cognitive Approach

The article studies metonymy in present-day English. Traditionally metonymy is understood as a stylistic device rendering some stylistic or aesthetic information. But there are also cases of stylistically unmarked metonymy, which is also called, trite, regular or default. In order to explain the nature of that type of metonymy researchers use cognitive approach to it. Cognitive view on metonymy defines it as a cognitive process in which one cognitive entity the vehicle gets access to another cognitive entity the target. They form metonymic relationships within idealized cognitive models. The direction of metonymy is regulated by cognitive principles which are based human experience, selectivity of perception and cultural awareness.

Key words: metonymy, metonymic relationships, default metonymy, cognitive linguistics, cognitive principle, idealized cognitive models.

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