PHILOLOGY

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Lexical and grammatical characteristics of medical case reports (in terms of the English language)

It is considered the lexical and grammatical peculiarities of the English language in medical case reports. The purpose of the study was to find out the main mechanisms used for writing medical case reports in English. Medical case reports were analyzed for the most significant linguistic features, i.e. the use of the active and passive voice, the choice of certain tenses and pronouns. The study revealed a number of important stylistic features in the case reports: briefness and compactness were among them. It has also been pointed out that the communicative strategies of the analyzed discourse are effectively implemented through specific lexical units and grammatical structures: the dominance of sentences with active voice, Past Simple Tense, personal pronouns and modal verbs. At the same time, there was also revealed the occasional use of Present Perfect, Past Perfect, and Future Simple tenses, which were to serve certain communicative purposes as well.

Key words: lexical and grammatical features, medical case report, the English language, style, genre, medical discourse, linguistic means.

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