

STYLISTIC COMPOSITION OF VOCABULARY: LITERARY, NEUTRAL, AND COLLOQUIAL WORDS AND THEIR STYLISTIC FUNCTIONS

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Annotation: This article discusses the stylistic composition of vocabulary in English, focusing on literary, neutral, and colloquial words. It explores the subtypes of literary vocabulary such as terms, archaisms, neologisms, and poetic words, and analyzes their stylistic roles in different texts.

Keywords: Stylistics, vocabulary, literary words, neutral words, colloquial words, terms, archaisms, neologisms, poetic words, stylistic function.

The vocabulary of a language is not just a collection of words, but a powerful tool of expression. In stylistics, words are categorized based on their usage and stylistic value. These categories include literary words, neutral words, and colloquial words. Each group plays a distinct role in communication and literary expression.

Literary Words

Literary words are formal, elevated, and often found in written texts such as novels, speeches, and academic works. They are typically used in serious contexts and are considered appropriate for official and artistic communication.

Neutral Words

Neutral words are the most common and widely used in both spoken and written language. They carry no emotional or stylistic coloring and are used in everyday communication. Examples include "book," "write," or "house."

Colloquial Words

Colloquial or informal words are used in casual conversations. They often include slang, contractions, or regional expressions. These words bring liveliness and a sense of realism to dialogues in literature.

Stylistic Types of Literary Words

Terms (Terminology): These are words used in specific professional or academic fields, such as "photosynthesis" (biology) or "inflation" (economics). They are precise and lack emotional coloring.

Archaic Words (Archaisms): Old or outdated words that are no longer commonly used in modern language, such as "thou" or "thee." Writers may use them to create a historical or poetic tone.

Neologisms: Newly coined words or expressions that have recently entered the language, such as "selfie" or "binge-watch." They reflect social and technological changes.

Poetic Words: Words that are specially used in poetry to create musical or emotional effects, such as "ere" (before) or "o'er" (over). They elevate the language and intensify the emotional tone.

Stylistic Function in Texts

These word types are not just lexical categories—they carry stylistic functions. For example:

Literary words make writing more serious and formal.

Colloquial words add realism and relatability to dialogue.

Archaic and poetic words can give a text a nostalgic or lyrical quality.

Neologisms keep the language fresh and modern.

Writers and speakers choose these words based on the purpose, tone, and target audience of their communication.

Reference

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