

MAIN PROBLEMS OF TRANSLATING METAPHORS

Iroda Dusmurodova

Master student, Uzbekistan State World Languages University

Theory of conceptual metaphor was based on the material of everyday speech by doing so George Lakoff and Mark Johnson intended to prove the influence of the metaphor on human thought. According to their theory, metaphor is considered as the specific form of cognition, structure and consideration of reality. "If we are right in suggesting that our conceptual system is larger metaphorical, then the way we think, what we experience and what we do every day is very much matter of metaphor" [G. Lakoff 1981: 3] Cognitive theory of metaphor is based on the assumption about the relationship of the human consciousness with the deep structures corresponding to different abstract notions. Cognitive mechanism of conceptualization of the subjective experience (wishes, achievements, and understanding of the ideas) in the terms of sense-motoric experience is considered a conceptual metaphor [G. Lakoff 1990: 55-60]. Metaphorisation – is the method of new concept formation with the help of signs, which is already included in the semiotic system. [Maslova 2008: 48] Metaphorisation takes part in the process of new language means creation and representation. This process is based on the interaction of two knowledge structures: "cognitive structure of "source" and cognitive structure of "target" [Tendahl 2008: 26]. Phenomenon described by the metaphor represents conceptual area of "target", concepts used for describing the particular phenomenon, on their turn, are in the area of "source". In the process of metaphorization particular areas of target domain structured patterned after the area of source domain, in other words, takes part the process of "metaphorical projection" or "cognitive mapping" [Семухина 2016: 135] Traces of cognitive mapping can be seen on the level of semantics of the text and sentences in the form of metaphorical consequences including through tonality of the statement.

It is worth mentioning that metaphor is not the only means of nomination, but it is the tool for creating new reality. Metaphor is the tool of secondary nomination, which examines afresh-gained knowledge through the prism of existing experience, represented by linguistic units. It indicates that metaphor reflects reality by the means of language, which transfers cognitive experience of the human. However, in the literary text considering the diversification of this text type, metaphor obtains news characteristics. Scope of metaphor is not restricted by speech and cognition alone; in fictional text, it represents the attitude of the writer towards the world and reality in general. Furthermore, metaphor gives rise to new ideas and generates new notions that represent gained experiences of the author. Through metaphor, knowledge gains linguistic form, which mirrors author's imaginary world. Metaphor is the mechanism with the help of which we conceive abstract notions and operate them as discontinuous entities based on the physical experience and cultural diversity of the specific society [Tendahl 2008:240-241].

Representation of reality in the literary text occurs with the help of linguistic means. This type of representation of the reality is embodied in the selection of content in fictional work, in the selection of linguistic means, (here might appear both thematic groups of language means and individual means inherent only to the author) and the usage of different figurative means as well as the system of the tropes.

Determination of the traces of the conceptual metaphor in fictional text opens a window to the author's individual conceptual structures. On the basis of conceptual metaphor, representing fictional picture of the world, lie historical events, social, economic, political and cultural phenomena, furthermore, facts from the biography of the author might be influential as well. This method of text investigation helps to identify main semantic points of the fictional work. Furthermore, this method can help to depict a psychological portrait of the author. Language of the literary text is to some extent similar to everyday speech, nonetheless it is not equal to it, as through fictional text comes into existence separate fictional reality. This kind of world picture combines in itself both well-known to everybody the image of the world and the specific author's individual representation of reality. Author of the fictional text represents his own perception of reality and offers the reader to try his sense of reality. In the representation of the individual world picture is hidden one of the diversity of the conceptual metaphor.

Conceptual metaphor in literary text characterized by the wide branch of associative links. If conceptual metaphor is used in the title of the fictional text, it fulfils the function of transference of conceptual content of the whole text; and has an associational relationship with all elements of the text. Therefore, it is rational to investigate the metaphorical title with the help of the frame analysis. As on the top of the hierarchy of the frames is considered a title and as sub-frame slot represents text itself.

Frame is defined as follows: Frame is a unique structure representing experienced cognitive knowledge of the person, which connects cognitive and linguistic areas in the process of speech production. According to Ch. Fillmore frame is a schematization of experience, a knowledge structure which relates the elements and entities associated with a particular scene from human experience [from D.U. Ashurova 2018: 147]. Furthermore, frame is considered to be the semantic foundation of the stereotypical (i.e. given specific set of components capable of identifying precisely a particular scene) situation or notion, that is why it may lie on the basis of any other cognitive structure expressed by the medium of the language.

Frame is regarded as structural form of concept representation in text, as structural capacity of mental unit on the basis of one and the same foundation may be filled by native speaker individually, therefore structural concept of different person may differ however not greatly, which is particularly relevant in belles-lettres text, as one and the same scene might be experienced by different authors differently. Although the frame has prototypical character, while operating frames it is possible to differentiate variations of the structure, specific attributes of it are not recognized by the user. Frame is characterized by a hierarchical character; it has two levels: upper level (the name of a frame) and the lower level consisting of terminals (slots and sub-slots) which convey specific information about the situation. Firstly, the category of a frame is within the sphere of knowledge: frames represent the structure of the knowledge. Every scholar is interested in knowledge about the world, about

the specific piece of the reality, thus often in the definition of a frame they omit the information about specifically which knowledge is taken into consideration, implicitly it is understood as the knowledge about the world. However, some scholars tend to concretize which particular sphere of knowledge is taken into account. For example, in the perception of N.N. Boldirev, frame is “model of culturally specified, canonized knowledge” [Boldirev 2001: 62] For N.N. Boldirev the main requirement remains that the knowledge to be general at least for the particular society.

The illustration of the conceptual metaphor will be shown in the contemporary short story “The Egg” by Andy Weir. The plot of the short story is simple. Basically, after the car accident a protagonist is awoken in the void and comes across to another humanlike creature and they have a little conversation about life and existence. Also, the creature reveals that the protagonist is going to be reincarnated this time he will be a Chinese peasant girl in 540. So, the protagonist learns that there is no such a concept as time in afterlife. Furthermore, the all people with whom he ever interacted and all the people who ever lived were himself. So all the good things or bad deeds he did to others were directed to himself, to different reincarnations of himself. So he asks “*I’m Hitler?*” and creature answers “*And you’re the millions he killed*”. “*And I’m Abraham Lincoln?*” “*And you’re John Wilkes Booth, too*”. Lastly, the protagonist learns that the whole universe is created just for him to mature and after the process of maturation finishes the protagonist joins the other creatures as with whom he is talking to. In his existential work “The Egg” the author Andy Weir reveals his vision of the world, additionally the title of short story bears conceptual information relevant to the whole body of the work. After reading the short story it is possible to notice the conceptual metaphor the universe is an egg. As it is written above, the target domain here is the universe and the source domain is an egg. Speaking about the main ideas of the short story, in my opinion there are two main ideas: firstly, all we the good deeds and bad deeds that we perform throughout the life we do it to ourselves; and the second idea is found in very title of the short story and is accompanied through the whole story is the universe in which we live is for us to mature, mankind is an egg which is not born yet in other word mankind is a fetus unless we are not mature enough we cannot break the egg. We can reveal authors vision of the world as an egg and its content is the human who are at the stage of development.

First step to understanding the interrelationship between egg and universe it has to be found the interconnection between two notions. It is well-known that the universe is an abstract notion we as humans are not capable of seeing or somehow feeling its existence. Thus, the universe is considered as an abstract notion and an egg is a specific notion through which the target domain is clarified.

Further analysis considers using definition (from merriam-webster.com). Egg (*noun*): a. *the hard-shelled reproductive body produced by a bird and especially by the common domestic chicken also: its contents used as food*. b. *an animal reproductive body consisting of an ovum together with its nutritive and protective envelopes and having the capacity to develop into a new individual capable of independent existence*. Idioms with the word egg: *To be a bad egg* – to be a bad person. *To egg someone on* – to encourage someone to do something, usually bad or wrong or dangerous. *To have egg on one’s face* – to be embarrassed by an error committed. *To put all one’s eggs in one basket* – to risk everything at once. *To teach*

one's grandmother to suck eggs – to try to tell someone who has more knowledge than you how to do something. *To walk on eggshells* – to be very cautious and careful around someone so that they don't get angry [Web-site: blog.abaenglish.com].

Universe (noun):

The totality of known or supposed objects and phenomena throughout space; the cosmos; macrocosm. The whole world, especially with REFERENCES to humanity: a truth known throughout the universe.

A world or sphere in which something exists or prevails: his private universe.

Also called universe of discourse. Logic. the aggregate of all the objects, attributes, and relations assumed or implied in a given discussion. Also called universal set. Mathematics. the set of all elements under discussion for a given problem. In the definition it is possible to observe an obvious correlation between egg (1. *the roundish reproductive body produced by the female of certain animals, as birds and most reptiles, consisting of an ovum and its envelope of albumen, jelly, membranes, egg case, or shell, according to species.*).

Universe (*a world or sphere in which something exists or prevails*:). In other words, the interconnection between these two notions: an egg and the universe is that they both are round and they both contain something. After the contact point is found, the next step is to analyze what additional meaning is created by this metaphor.

As above mentioned an egg is a *reproductive body*, in other words something that gives rise to a living creature, however, in the definition of universe this part is omitted. Accordingly, we can suppose that in the author's world picture universe is something that has borders or shells and something that eventually gives rise to some living thing or to be more specific to a human. Here is the fragment from the short story: *"No. Not yet. You're a fetus. You're still growing. Once you've lived every human life throughout all time, you will have grown enough to be born", "So the whole universe", you said, "it's just...", "An egg". I answered*". The concept of an egg being universe can be seen in a range of mythologies as well, for instance, in Vedic mythology, in Zoroastrian mythology, in Greek/Orphic mythology, in Egyptian mythology and in other mythological sources.

Our observation reveals that related words and phraseological units have the metaphorical meaning egg as a person, such phraseological units as: *to be a bad egg* or *a bad egg* and related words as: *hominid, homo, humanoid, fellow* etc. prove the statement, that correlation we can detect in the short story, author used metaphor which conveys conceptual information people are the egg, and they are not mature enough to break the nutshell and pass into real existence. The concept of maturation goes along the whole short story being one of the main ideas connecting the text. The new life lies dormant in the egg, once a human is ready to step into new existence he breaks the nutshell. *"No. Not yet. You're a fetus. You're still growing. Once you've lived every human life throughout all time, you will have grown enough to be born.", "So the whole universe," you said, "it's just...", "An egg." I answered*".

REFERENCES:

1. Weir, Andy (2014). "Creative Writings of Andy Weir". Galactanet.
2. Lakoff G., & Johnson M. (1981). *Metaphors we live by*. University of Chicago Press.

-
3. Tendahl M. Complementary perspectives on metaphor: Cognitive linguistics and relevance theory / M. Tendahl, R.W. Gibbs Jr. // Journal of Pragmatics. – 2008, № 40. – PP. 1823–1864.
 4. Маслова В.А. Когнитивная лингвистика / В.А. Маслова. – 3-е изд., перераб. и доп. – Минск: ТетраСистемс, 2008. – С. 272.
 5. Lakoff G. The Invariance Hypothesis: Is Abstract Reason Based on Image–Schemas? // Cognitive Linguistics, 1990. – №1. – PP. 50–62.
 6. Семухина Е.А. Концептуальная метафора в текстах французской женской прессы [Текст] / Е.А. Семухина // Новая наука: Теоретический и практический взгляд. 2016. № 4 – 3 (75). – С. 135–137.
 7. Болдырев Н.Н. Концепт и значение слова // Методологические проблемы когнитивной лингвистики: / Под ред. И.А. Стернина. – Воронеж: Воронеж. гос. ун-т, 2001. – С. 25–36.
 8. Ashurova D.U., Galieva M.R. Cognitive Linguistics. – Tashkent: VneshInvest Prom, 2018. – P. 160.
 9. <http://www.galactanet.com/writing.html>.
 10. <https://blog.abaenglish.com/english-vocabulary-idioms-and-food-part-i-egg/>.