

АКТУАЛЬНІ ПИТАННЯ МОВОЗНАВСТВА

УДК 811.111'27

DOI: 10.12958/2227-2844-2021-3(341)-5-11

Biriukova D. V.,

PhD in Philology, Assistant Professor
of the Department of Foreign Philology,
Translation and Professional Language Training
of the University of Customs and Finance,
Dnipro, Ukraine.
irenekash@ukr.net
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1721-0122>

Kashyrina I. O.,

Senior Lecturer of the Department
of Ukrainian Studies and Foreign Languages
of the Dnipropetrovsk State University of Internal Affairs,
Dnipro, Ukraine.
irindula111@gmail.com
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9083-2569>

**TIME CATEGORY OF ENGLISH
FOLKTALE „THE SEAL-CATCHER”**

Folklore has been playing one of the major roles during the development of the human world. Folklore is an integral part of global culture and the world's heritage in the whole. Folklore is a mirror of a culture, it includes folktales, myths, legends, folksongs, fables, riddles, anecdotes, proverbs and many more. One can see and feel another culture through the folklore (Dundes, 2007). Folklore components such as folktales have been passed from generation to generation and used to show a simple form of beingness to both children and adults. People have been sharing some valuables, traditions and knowledge. The very folktale has been affecting humans and their lives. Folktale is an old story being told for many times and passed down from one generation to another like an oral tradition passing the history, information and knowledge (13). A folktale is an attribute of the culture of a certain country or nation, which reflects its traditions and customs, spiritual and moral principles.

„The folktale is the primer of the picture-language of the soul” (Campbell, 1969, p. 32). A folktale appears in a person's life at the initial stage of his life and remains in his heart forever. A folktale is the basis for the formation of such concepts in a person as good and evil, such a phenomenon as communication and the picture of the world. The folktale also helps to understand the moral aspects, to form the basic concepts of behavior in society

and the rules of human interaction with the world. A folktale forms a worldview.

During decades many researchers have been showing the interest to studying English folktales. Hence, Gómez J.A. studies folktales as a pedagogical tool (Gómez, 2016), Taranenko L.I. in her research analyzes algorithmic-and-fable plot structure of English folktales (Taranenko, 2013), Davidenko G.V. considers structural and linguistic characteristics of German folktales (Davidenko, 2009), in particular, Mamonova Y.V. studies cognitive characteristics of folktale lexicology (Mamonova, 2004).

A folktale as a subject of research requires a scientific understanding of many general cultural and linguistic phenomena. A folktale being a linguo-semiotic phenomenon, contains not only verbal but also a grammatical component which is interesting to be studied. Grammar is the skeleton of any story, song, novel, and folktale itself. Grammatical structures deepen people in the past, present and future through grammatical tenses. English folktales can serve as a bright representative of various grammatical components, especially while studying time category.

The object of this research is directly the English folktale „The Seal-Catcher”. The subject of the study is its temporality. The aim is to describe means of temporal expressions in this folktale.

Temporality means the relation to time. The term temporality is often used as a synonym to the term time or time category. Temporality includes not only categories of time, but also lexical means of linguistic expression of time. Time category of a verb is a system of grammatical forms that are used to express the relationship of an action to the moment of speech or to the time of another action. (Kuzmenko, 2019). Time category relies on different means of linguistic time expression, in particular, morphological, syntactic, lexical. Temporality expresses cognition and perception of time by humans in the view of a situation and its elements at the moment of storytelling. In addition, a characteristic feature of temporality is the presence of lexical markers. Transformations of aspectual-temporal categories of a verb is considered not only as grammatical compliance of tense categories, but also as the contextual application of a functional and semantic structure of verbs. (Tulegen, 2017).

Grammar as a part and parcel of linguistics determines and regulates the relation between words, word combinations. Surely, grammar itself is one of the tools of narration, telling the reader or listener the structure of the story. In the whole folktales are mainly built on the past tense structure. Having studied English folktales, more used tenses are Past Simple tense, Past Continuous tense, Past Perfect Simple. More rarely folktales are told in Present Simple and Present Continuous tenses or Future Simple and Future Continuous tenses. Such tendency has occurred due to the fact that folktales being stories without a specific author were retold by people for many years and they have always been telling about past time events. Therefore, for this work one of the English folktales revealing past times has been chosen to study.

English folktales are interesting for their temporal originality. The English folktale „The Seal-Catcher” has been chosen for this study due to

being an outstanding example of time category, revealing mostly used grammatical tenses. Temporality of the folktale „The Seal-Catcher” is mainly built on the basis of Past Simple tense that makes up more than 85% of the whole tale. The storytelling is based on grammatical structures of Past Simple almost in each sentence that is obvious to a reader as the folktale should preserve the linguistic tradition of the pastime storytelling. Hence, Past Simple expresses here the true essence of pastime life of simple people. Here in the English folktale „The Seal-Catcher” simplicity of a catcher is shown to the reader in simple words, in simple grammatical structures. Past Simple forms of the given folktale is used here to show the permanent state of the protagonist, true emotions and feelings of participants, their expressiveness and relationship:

He made his living by catching fish of all sizes and types, but he had a particular liking for killing those wonderful animals, half-dog, half-fish, called Seals.

Simple Past form of tense reflexes the action that happened in one particular time in the past and finished in the past. It describes the things that were repeated or happened once:

The two men both mounted the stranger’s horse, and rode off at great speed, their faces cutting through the sharp, salty air.

Furthermore, it can be noted that Past Simple tense is used in the folktale „The Seal-Catcher” even for replacement of Present Perfect Simple tense in order to make some emphasis on the action made by the participants. For instance, here in order to emphasize the dramatically worrying moment:

„Did you ever see that knife before?” asked the stranger.

What is more to be added is that Past Simple structures are commonly presented with adverbs and adverbial constructions: then, after, before, at that time, once upon a time, one day, when, at last, finally, after that, later etc. All these features point at the necessity of using the Past Simple tense. For instance:

After that the fisherman returned home. Later that night, a stranger came to visit him in his cottage.

About 12% of sentences and constructions in the given folktale are presented in the tense of Past Perfect Simple. Past Perfect Simple is usually used to describe the occasions which had happened before another action or actions were made. To show the time relation and time consequence between events:

The man said that he had been sent by his master who wanted to buy a large number of seal skins.

Or to express the flashbacks and memories of the past events that happened earlier in the past:

The fisherman looked at the weapon again and recognized it as the knife that he had lost in the back of a seal.

Present Simple tense is represented in the folktale more rarely – only 3% and actually it is inherent to English folktales in general. Present forms, in particular, Present Simple sentences signalize about events happening in

present time, however it is obvious that normally it cannot be used often in folktales as a folktale itself is a story of the past. Pastime events cannot be described in Present grammatical constructions. Here is the example of the Present Simple sentence in the folktale:

But where is the person who want to buy seal skins?

From the above example it can be observed that Present Simple in the folktale „The Seal-Catcher” is presented only in dialogues when participants express the action at the moment of speaking.

Hereby to conclude, folktales serve as the main way of communicative interaction between people. Folktales involve expressiveness, cognitive features, culture, pastime life of simple people describing such topics as value of labor, family life, relationship of human-being, their routine life and leisure time. Folktale is a tradition that is passed down through generations for years, decades, hundreds of years. Time category or temporality of English folktales is mainly based on Past Simple tense while Present forms of tenses are uncharacteristic to be used.

The further research is seen to be promising when to study modality of English folktales.

Список використаної літератури

- 1. Jacobs J.** English Fairy Tales / Collected by Joseph Jacobs. L.: David Nutt. A Penn State Electronic Classics Series Publication, The Pennsylvania State University. Pennsylvania, 2005. P. 21.
- 2. Campbell J.** „The Flight of the Wild Gander: Explorations in the Mythological Dimension”. HarperCollins Publishers, 1969.
- 3. Dundes A.** The meaning of folklore: the analytical essays of Alan Dundes / edited and introduced by Simon, J. Bronner. Utah State University Press Logan. Utah, 2007. P. 53.
- 4. Качалова К. Н.** Практическая грамматика английского языка. К.: Методика, 2003. С. 198.
- 5. Коваленко І. Ю.** Аспекти вивчення англійської казки. *Перекладацькі інновації: матеріали VII Всеукр. студ. наук.-практ. конф. (м. Суми, 16-17 березня 2017 р.* Суми: СумДУ, 2017. С. 25–27.
- 6. Kovalenko I.,** Baranova S. Peculiarities of the author's fairy tale translation from english into Ukrainian. *Вісник Маріупольського державного університету. Серія: Філологія.* 2018. Вип. 19. С. 249–254.
- 7. Gómez Jaime A.,** Ph. D. in Humanities. Universidad Carlos III, Madrid (Spain). 2016. Our folktales and the stories of others: Interpreting folk narratives from different cultures as a pedagogical tool. P. 18.
- 8. Taranenko L. I.** Algorithmic-and-fable plot structure of English folk tales. June 16, 2014.
- 9. Давиденко Г. В.** Німецька народна побутова казка: тематичні, структурно-композиційні та лінгвокультурні характеристики: автореф. дис. ... канд. філол. наук: 10.02.04; Київ. нац. ун-т ім. Т.Шевченка. К., 2009. 19 с.
- 10. Мамонова Ю. В.** Когнитивно-деструктивные особенности лексики английской бытовой сказки: автореферат дис. ... канд. филол. наук: 10.02.04. М., 2004. 21 с.
- 11. Кузьменко А. О.** Портрет темпоральності англійських пісенних текстів стилю Євродиско. *Науковий вісник ХДУ. Серія: Германістика та міжкультурна комунікація.* 2019. № 1. С. 197–

201. **12. Tulegen A. M.** Grammatical Means of Temporality Expression in Translation (Corresponding author). *International Journal of Applied Linguistics & English Literature*. Australia, 2017. P. 202. **13. СЛОВНИК.** URL: <https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/folktale>.

References

1. Jacobs, J. (2005). *English Fairy Tales / Collected by Joseph Jacobs*. L.: David Nutt. A Penn State Electronic Classics Series Publication, The Pennsylvania State University. Pennsylvania. **2. Campbell, J.** (1969). „The Flight of the Wild Gander: Explorations in the Mythological Dimension”. HarperCollins Publishers. **3. Dundes, A.** (2007). *The meaning of folklore: the analytical essays of Alan Dundes / edited and introduced by Simon, J. Bronner*. (pp. 53). Utah. **4. Kachalova, K. N.** (2003). *Prakticheskaya grammatika anglijskogo yazyka [Practical grammar of English language]*. K.: Metodika [in Russian]. **5. Kovalenko, I. Yu.** (2017). *Aspekty vyvchennia anhliiskoi kazky [Aspects of study of English folktale]*. *Perekladatski innovatsii – Translation innovations* (pp. 25-27). Sumy: SumDU [in Ukrainian]. **6. Kovalenko I., & Baranova, S.** (2018). Peculiarities of the author's fairy tale translation from english into Ukrainian. *Visnyk Mariupolskoho derzhavnoho universytetu. Serii: Filolohiia – Bulletin of Mariupol State University. Series: Philology, 19*, 249-254 [in English]. **7. Gómez, Jaime A.,** Ph. D. in Humanities. Universidad Carlos III, Madrid (Spain). (2016). Our folktales and the stories of others: Interpreting folk narratives from different cultures as a pedagogical tool. p. 18. **8. Taranenko, L. I.** (2014). Algorithmic-and-fable plot structure of English folk tales. June 16, 2014. **9. Davydenko, H. V.** (2009). *Nimetska narodna pobutova kazka: tematychni, strukturno-kompozytsiini ta linhvokulturni kharakterystyky [German routine folktale; thematic, structural-compositional and linguo-cultural characteristics]*. *Extended abstract of candidate's thesis*. K. [in Ukrainian]. **10. Mamonova, Yu. V.** (2004). *Kognitivno-diskursivnye osobennosti leksiki anglijskoj bytovoj skazki [Cognitive and discourse peculiarities of lexis in English folktale]*. *Extended abstract of candidate's thesis*. M. [in Russian]. **11. Kuzmenko, A. O.** (2019). *Portret temporalnosti anhlo-movnykh pisennykh tekstiv styliu Yevrodysko [Portrait of temporality of English words in the style of Eurodisco]*. *Naukovyi visnyk KhDU. Serii: Hermanistyka ta mizhkulturna komunikatsiia – Scientific Bulletin of KSU. Series: German studies and intercultural communication, 1*, 197-201 [in Ukrainian]. **12. Tulegen, A. M.** (2017). Grammatical Means of Temporality Expression in Translation (Corresponding author). *International Journal of Applied Linguistics & English Literature*. (pp. 202). Australia. **13. Slovyk** [Vocabulary]. Retrieved from <https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/folktale>.

Бірюкова Д. В., Каширіна І. О. Категорія часу англійської народної казки „Уловлювач тюленів”

Дана стаття присвячена вивченню темпоральної мережі англійських народних казок на матеріалі казки „Уловлювач тюленів”. Народна казка є

одним із найцінніших компонентів світової скарбниці та культурної спадщини. Народна казка має великий вплив на читача, розвиваючи когнітивні, комунікативні та лінгвістичні навички. Вона занурює читача у світ минулого, який передавався від покоління до покоління, від батька до сина, від матері до доньки на словах, розповідаючи про просте повсякденне життя простих селян, про їхню працю, рутину та дозволя, про їхні захоплення, про любов та переживання. Народна казка переносить нас у світ минулого, адже вона розповідає саме про події минулих літ.

У статті розглядається категорія часу народної казки Англії на прикладі казки „Уловлювач тюленів”. Об’єктом цього дослідження є безпосередньо народна казка „Уловлювач тюленів”. Предмет – її темпоральність. Мета полягає у характеристиці засобів вираження категорії часу в наведеній народній казці.

Термін категорія часу або темпоральність уживають як синонім терміна час. Темпоральність включає не лише категорії часу, а і лексичні засоби мовного вираження часу. Минулий неозначений час (Past Simple) яскраво представлений у англійській народній творчості. Темпоральна мережа народної казки, яка розглядається у статті, переважно побудована на основі минулої неозначеної форми часу (Past Simple). Форма часу Past Simple становить 85% народної казки „Уловлювач тюленів”. Характерним є те, що теперішній неозначений час (Present Simple) не є притаманним для цієї казки. Майбутні часи є нехарактерними для народної казки.

Перспективним вбачаємо подальше дослідження модальності англійських народних казок як засіб вираження спонукання до дії.

Ключові слова: категорія часу, народна казка, темпоральність.

Бірюкова Д. В., Каширина И. А. Категория времени английской народной сказки „Ловец тюленей”

Данная статья посвящена изучению категории времени в английской народной сказке „Ловец тюленей”. Народная сказка издавна считалась ценной единицей фольклора. Среди таких фольклорных компонентов, как баллада, басня, легенда, анекдот именно народные сказки пересказывались людьми в устной форме, матери читали их на ночь своим детям, рассказывая о жизни людей в далеком прошлом. Мировое культурное наследие содержит миллионы сказок разных народов мира. Англия является ярким представителем фольклорного сказочного жанра.

В статье рассматривается темпоральная сеть англоязычной народной сказки „Ловец тюленей”. Объектом данного исследования является непосредственно народная сказка „Ловец тюленей”. Цель – характеристика средств выражения категории времени англоязычной народной сказки.

Термин темпоральность или темпоральная сеть используется в качестве синонима термина категория времени. Категория времени

включает не только временные формы, а и лексические средства языкового выражения времени. Временные особенности, взаимосвязь моментов времени рассматривается английской народной сказке „Ловец тюленей“. В данной народной сказке наиболее ярко представлено неопределенное прошедшее время (Past Simple) – 85%. Темпоральная сеть в произведении построена именно на грамматических конструкциях неопределенного прошедшего времени. Характерно, что настоящее неопределенное время (Present Simple) совершенно не присуще для данной народной сказки.

В перспективе рассматривается изучение английских народных сказок на предмет модальности, как способу выражения побуждения к действию.

Ключевые слова: категория времени, народная сказка, темпоральность.

Biriukova D. V., Kashyrina I. O. Time category of English folktale „The Seal-Catcher”

This article is dedicated to the study of time category in the English folktale „The Seal-Catcher”. Folktale has always been considered as the unique component of folklore. All peoples of the world have been describing the pastime events through the folklore, in particular, through the folktale. A folktale is the world’s heritage unit. It has been transferred from one generation to another to tell about how people lived many years ago, how they worked, built relationship, which valuables they had etc. Folktales as long as anecdotes, fables, songs and other folklore components were told in oral.

In this article the usage of time category in the English folktale „The Seal-Catcher” is researched. The object of the study is the folktale „The Seal-Catcher”. The aim is to determine the characteristics of the means of expressing the category of time in the English folktale.

The term temporality is used as the synonym to the term time. In other words, temporality is the category of time being mostly used in specific unit. The category of time includes not only the time forms but also lexical means of linguistic expression of time. Time relation and time characteristics are studied in this article on the materials of the folktale „The Seal-Catcher”. In this folktale the most commonly used tense is Past Simple tense – 85%. The time category is mainly built on the Past Indefinite grammatical constructions. Application of Present Indefinite tense is not characteristic for this folktale.

The further research is considered to be promising when to study modality of English folktales as the way of motivation to the action.

Key words: temporality, time category, folktale.

Стаття надійшла до редакції 07.05.2021 р.

Стаття прийнята до друку 07.05.2021 р.

Рецензент – к. філ. н., доц. Кузьменко А. О.