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STYLISTIC TRANSFORMATION OF COLLOQUIAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN MODERN FICTIONAL DISCOURSE

This thesis explores the stylistic transformation of colloquial constructions in modern fictional discourse, focusing on how spoken language elements are adapted within literary texts. The study argues that colloquial speech in fiction is not merely reproduced but strategically transformed to achieve aesthetic, psychological, and pragmatic effects. Drawing on contemporary linguistic and stylistic research, the paper demonstrates that such transformations contribute to character construction, narrative authenticity, and reader engagement, while simultaneously reflecting broader sociolinguistic dynamics.

Modern fictional discourse increasingly incorporates elements of everyday speech, blurring the boundary between written and spoken language. However, literary texts do not simply replicate oral communication. Instead, they reshape it. As noted by Geoffrey N. Leech and Mick Short, stylistics studies how linguistic choices produce artistic meaning (Leech & Short, 2007, 9–15). This perspective allows us to view colloquial constructions not as raw material, but as deliberately modified stylistic tools.

The key research question concerns how colloquial constructions are transformed when they enter fictional discourse and what functions these transformations serve. Colloquial constructions are mostly characterized by: syntactic simplification; ellipsis and fragmentation; discourse markers (“you know”, “well”, “I mean”); emotional expressiveness. According to Douglas Biber et al., spoken language relies heavily on interactional features and real-time processing, which are rarely preserved in their original form in written texts (Biber et al., 1999, pp. 1048–1055). This creates a tension:

fiction seeks to sound “natural,” but must remain readable and structured. Colloquial constructions undergo several key transformations in fictional discourse: writers often reduce excessive fragmentation typical of real speech while preserving its flavor.

Example transformation:

Real speech: “I mean, like, you know, I was kinda... not really sure...”

Fictional discourse: “I wasn’t really sure.”

This aligns with the idea of “constructed orality”, discussed by Koch & Oesterreicher (2012, 441–445), where written texts simulate spoken language rather than reproduce it. As noted by Monika Fludernik, fictional discourse tends to simulate natural storytelling patterns rather than actual speech, which results in structurally simplified yet cognitively recognizable dialogue (Fludernik, 1996, pp. 312–318). This supports the idea that fictional speech is shaped not by realism alone, but by narrative efficiency. Recent stylistic research highlights the growing influence of multimodal and digital discourse on fictional language: modern narratives increasingly imitate chat communication, fragmented messaging, and hybrid oral-written forms. This tendency reflects what Fludernik (1996, 318) describes as a shift toward naturalization strategies, where texts adapt to readers’ everyday communicative experience.

One more important trend is the increasing role of speech representation techniques, especially in the form of free indirect discourse. As described by Ann Banfield (1982, 65–72), fictional language often blends narrator and character voices, creating hybrid structures that resemble thought rather than actual speech. This reinforces the idea that fictional discourse is not a transcription of reality, but a constructed mental space.

Another relevant mechanism is syntactic stylization, where deviations from standard grammar are deliberately introduced to imitate spoken spontaneity. As argued by Geoffrey Leech in later stylistic work, such deviations are not errors but functional stylistic choices that signal informality, emotional tension, or character-specific voice

(Leech, 2008, 63–70). Fiction is no longer just influenced by speech — it is influenced by how we communicate in general, including digital environments.

Certain colloquial elements are exaggerated to highlight character traits. As argued by Elena Semino, stylistic choices often amplify linguistic features to create cognitive and emotional impact (Semino, 1997, 132–140). In fiction, “normal speech” becomes expressive speech. Therefore, colloquial markers change function depending on narrative context. For example, discourse markers like “well” or “you know” may signal hesitation, irony, or social positioning. Research by Deborah Tannen shows that conversational features in narrative discourse often serve interactional and identity-building purposes (Tannen, 2007, 45–52).

Colloquial speech is also frequently stylized to construct character identity. According to Norman Fairclough, linguistic variation reflects social identity and power relations (Fairclough, 2015, pp. 56–60). Thus, in fiction: slang signals group belonging; broken syntax reflects emotional state; dialect constructs authenticity.

The transformation of colloquial constructions serves several functions:

Authenticity simulation: texts feel “real,” even though they are artificially constructed.

- Characterization: speech patterns become psychological markers.
- Narrative dynamics: colloquial elements increase tempo and immediacy.
- Reader engagement: informal tone reduces distance between text and reader.

As noted in stylistic studies, dialogue in fiction is always a functional construct, not a direct imitation of reality (Leech & Short, 2007, p. 227). Modern literature shows increasing use of fragmented syntax, hybrid speech-writing forms, and digital communication imitation (chat-like dialogue). Recent corpus-based research confirms that contemporary fiction moves toward greater conversationalization (Biber & Conrad, 2009, pp. 283–290). This reflects broader cultural shifts: informality becomes a norm, not an exception.

Despite its effectiveness, stylistic transformation raises several issues:

- Over-stylization → text becomes unnatural.

- Cultural dependency → colloquial markers may not translate well.
- Temporal instability → slang quickly becomes outdated.

These challenges highlight that colloquiality in fiction is context-sensitive and historically variable.

Conclusion. The analysis conducted in this thesis demonstrates that colloquial constructions in modern fictional discourse cannot be understood as simple imitations of everyday speech. Instead, they represent a complex system of stylistic transformations, shaped by narrative goals, cognitive constraints, and sociocultural context. Authors deliberately modify natural speech patterns—reducing redundancy, organizing fragmentation, and highlighting expressive features—in order to balance authenticity with readability. The study shows that stylistically transformed colloquial constructions perform multiple overlapping functions. They not only enhance the realism and immediacy of the narrative, but also serve as powerful tools of characterization and identity construction. Through subtle linguistic choices—such as discourse markers, syntactic irregularities, or lexical variation—authors encode social, psychological, and cultural information, allowing readers to infer meaning beyond the explicit text. At the same time, the transformation of colloquial language raises important challenges. Overuse or excessive stylization may disrupt narrative coherence, while culturally specific elements may limit interpretability across different audiences. This confirms that stylistic transformation is a delicate balance between naturalness and artistic control.

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ADAPTATION OF LOANWORDS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

In today`s globalized world, multiculturalism is one of the main characteristics of the development of society. It implies constant interaction among different nations, cultures and languages, which is especially evident in the field of international communication.

In this context, the English language serves as a global means of communication, ensuring mutual understanding between representatives of different cultural communities. One of the most important mechanisms of its development is lexical borrowing, which reflects the process of cultural exchange. A distinctive feature of the English language is its rich vocabulary, which exceeds any other language of the world. Throughout its history, English has always been open to borrowing words from various languages worldwide.

The study aims to analyze how loanwords are adapted in the English language within multicultural contexts and to examine their role in intercultural communication.

A loanword is a word, taken from another language and modified in terms of grammatical and phonological form, spelling, or meaning in accordance with the norms of the English language. They are most prevalent in the fields of art, music, culinary,