

* Russian and English metaphors:
comparative analysis of biathlon
discourse

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*This article target is to depict semantic and structural features of the metaphor in the Russian and English languages, and its role and use in biathlon media discourse.

*Aim of research

- *sports discourse,
- *metaphor,
- *ethno - cultural parameters of sports commentary,
- *metaphorical model,
- *basic metaphor

*Key words

- * to define biathlon discourse, its distinctive features within sports discourse framework;
- * to consider the role of the metaphor, its formation, models and functions within biathlon mass media discourse
- * to analyse groups of Russian and English metaphors in biathlon mass media discourse and reveal their linguistic and intercultural similarities and differences

* Research Objectives

*scripts of video reports about the biathlon World Championships 2012-16, men, mass start, 15 km by Russian commentator Dmitry Guberniev as well as about the biathlon World Cups 2013-16, men, mass start, 15 km by English commentators Patrick Winterton and Mike Dixon. The total duration of reports is 13 hours 52 minutes (8 hours 06 minutes and 5 hours 46 minutes correspondingly). The reports are taken from the video hosting service YouTube.

*The research is based on

- * is a speech work in oral or written presentation, created for the purpose of conveying any information from the sphere of biathlon.
- * in a wider sense, it is a coherent text representing the whole complex of interrelationships between man and sport in the creation of which one of the discourse components is related to biathlon (speaker, interlocutor or the content of the message itself).

*** Biathlon discourse**

- * contributes to the disclosure of the reflected reality features. It is possible since the secondary signs that are presented in the metaphor express moments of sensory clarity.
- * Thanks to the metaphor, our idea of a described object is enriched. The fact is the following. To characterize the object, new phenomena are involved so the existing understanding of the object properties expands. It is where the cognitive significance of the metaphor is.
- * It turns out that besides supplanting the original word meaning, the metaphor constantly participates in the development of language, speech and culture in general.

*The metaphor

- *The research of semantic and structural features of Russian and English metaphors in the framework of biathlon media discourse has shown the need for *a step-by-step solution of the problem*.
- *The goal of first stage was to identify the ethno - cultural parameters of the Russian-language and English-language sports commentary of international biathlon competitions.
- *The goal of the second stage was to analyze the features of metaphorization in the biathlon media discourse.

We found that frames are universal for the speech of sports commentators in both cultures:

- * "Description of a sporting event",
- * "Representation of athletes",
- * "Athletes' skills",
- * "Reference to the coach",
- * "Contact with the addressee",
- * "Competing",
- * "Reference to an authoritative opinion",
- * "Audience reaction",
- * "Commentator's own opinion and feelings",
- * "Race results".

This result shows that sports commentary is a fairly structured text with constant components.

* Similarities

We find that some universal frames differ in the compared languages by additional semantic representations in terms of quantity and/or quality.

*In Russian commentator's speech:

*"Commentator's own opinion and feelings" - 27.5%,

*"Representation of the athlete" - 15.8%

*"Contact with the addressee" - 15.4 %.

*In the English comments:

*"Competing" - 37%,

*"Commentator's own opinion and feelings" - 15%,

*"Representation of the athlete" - 10%

*"Description of a sporting event" - 10%

* Differences

*The data provided by comparing sports comments belonging to different linguistic cultures allows us to conclude that the Russian sports commentator makes an accent on the personality of the athlete, praises him, and subjectively evaluates the competition. In addition, the commentator's speech is dominated by self-awareness at the "we" level. The English comments are based on practical results; the commentator evaluates the actions and skills of the athlete, and not his personality. This approach allows the English commentator to use humor and irony more often.

*The classification of basic metaphors of the studied discourse consists of 7 main metaphorical models:

*"biathlon is a war",

*"team is a mechanism",

*"game/competition is a way",

*"game/competition is a construction",

*"team is a society",

*"team is an organism",

*"biathlon is an art".

*The features of metaphorization in
the biathlon media discourse

Metaphorical model	Russian variant	English variant
war	<p>попасть в призы <i>to get into the prizes,</i></p> <p>выцеливать <i>to target,</i></p> <p>похоронить надежды <i>to bury hopes,</i></p> <p>тактическая паутина <i>tactical web,</i></p> <p>в арьергарде <i>in the rearguard,</i></p> <p>оккупировать призовой подиум <i>to occupy the prize podium</i></p>	<p>veteran</p> <p>rearguard</p> <p>win the season-long “war”</p> <p>The sample</p>

- * Firstly, metaphors (imagery) is a significant component in biathlon media discourse, since the purpose of the metaphor of this discourse is to represent a sporting event figuratively, as well as to provide feedback and reflection from listeners / readers / viewers.
- * Secondly, the specific character of the biathlon discourse metaphor is revealed in the fact that under the influence of extralinguistic factors, metaphorical transference can occur at almost any lexical level, i.e. phraseological unity, sports terms, jargon of fans, proper names can be metaphorized.

* **Conclusion**

- *Thirdly, depending on the kind of sport, metaphors are distinguished and can be united by one thematic group, but these groups can vary depending on the sport.
- *Finally, some metaphors are very often used in the media. In recent years, these are primarily military metaphors. Other metaphors are used less frequently, most often occasionally. But there is a trend towards their more regular use in sports discourse.

*Conclusion