

THE DENOTATIVE AREA OF THE VERBS WITH THE MEANING OF CAUSING DEATH

Nowadays, in the era of coronavirus, people tend to spend more time online. To maintain the level of the English language, we watch popular films and series in the original, that are thrillers and detectives mainly, we start reading pop literature, like books by George Martin and Steven King, where a huge number of deaths occur. The question arises itself: why are there so many verbs in English that mean killing someone? Thus, it is supposed that each verb has its situation of causing death: the action can be directed at a different number of people or animals or both; besides, the act of causing death can be performed in some particular way.

This research aims at the determining the features of the denotative area of the sentences with the English verbs with the meaning of causing death ('to kill', 'to murder', 'to assassinate', 'to slaughter', 'to slay').

Regarding the material for our research, we used literary texts of American and British authors. From them, we chose the sentences that include the studied verbs. We also took the definitions of these verbs from the English dictionaries.

It should be noted that a person 'generalises the received information, where each sentence reflects a particular situation or a denotative area. And each situation, in our case, the situation of causing death, has its own structure with its own components. The analyses of their definitions and literary works allowed us to discover the following obligatory components: the doer of the action, the receiver of the action, the instrument, the goal.

*It was a steamboat that **had killed herself on a rock**.* (Twain M. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn)

It should be noted that the number of the obligatory components differs: the components of place and time are complementary for all the verbs, whereas the evaluation and the intention are obligatory exclusively for the verb 'to murder'.

'To kill (someone) unlawfully and with premeditation'.

Apart from that, the verb 'to slay' also has the obligatory component of evaluation but in addition, it is stylistically coloured.

*(Archaic, literary) **to kill** (a person or animal) in a violent way'.*

The plurality of the receiver of the action is emphasised only in the situation with the verb 'to slaughter'. Yet in the case of the verb 'to assassinate', it is more characteristic for the receiver of the action to be a singular prominent person.

*It's like a man in the trenches again: ... he'd **slaughter** a million men rather than stop and ask himself why.* (Miller H. Tropic of Cancer)

*I want to hire you to **assassinate** the Vice President of the United States.* (Child L. Without Fail)

Also, in most cases in the situation of killing, the instrument is shown implicitly, though in the cases of its being explicit, it is manifested with the help of the prepositions 'with' and 'by'.

Thus, we can come to the following conclusion that the information we gathered is highly useful for English learners, especially for teenagers who can use the results in their day-to-day communication: it happens that the topics of death, murder, and suicide are discussed among teenagers not only in real life but also with their English-speaking friends abroad. One common myth suggests that talking about killing or suicide actually encourages people to think about it. Research has shown the opposite: even high school students who felt suicidal were relieved to express their feelings. What is more, the material can be used in English classes or electives for the purposes of cultural enlightenment, since in Russian, there is just one verb with the meaning 'to cause death'; whereas the English language has a wide scope of them with different shades of the meaning.

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THE PARTICIPIAL AND THE GERUNDIAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN THE FAIRY TALES BY LEWIS CARROLL "ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND" AND "ALICE'S ADVENTURES THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS"

The topic of my research is relevant as pupils may face difficulties while doing communicative tasks. Poor language is the main reason. Gerundial and participial constructions can enrich pupils' vocabulary and make their speech more vivid. I wanted to develop my speaking skills so I decided to choose this topic. "Alice's adventures in Wonderland" and Alice's adventures through the looking-glass" by L. Carroll are the most famous classical English fairy tales. Some people think these are the