

after a short time” [4] so that the majority of stock prices are rising and the situation gets as uncontrollable as an enraged bull, with a high speed of price increase.

An example of the other metaphor is *a golden parachute*. Judging by the sentence: “*Golden parachutes entitle them to a full year's salary if they get booted out of the company*” we can conclude that it is an agreement which promises an executive large amounts of money or other valuables in case he/she is discharged.

Each phrase that you are struggling with might be:

- an unusual metaphor, and then you will need to solve it on your own;
- a dead metaphor, and then either an ordinary dictionary or a specialized dictionary would help you;
- a nonmetaphorical phrase. If you cannot puzzle it out, may be you do not know one of the meanings

of the word in a phrase.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we do need metaphors to create new terms. We do need metaphors to express our ideas in an easy-to-imagine way. Metaphor shall not be viewed as an obstacle, because it can be solved with the help of imagination, specialized dictionaries, common sense, and sometimes, the sense of humor. We just need to be aware of a possibility that the scientific text may contain several metaphors. We need to pay attention to metaphors in order to understand the text correctly.

References

1. Hoffman, Robert R. “Metaphor in Science,” In *Cognition and Figurative Language*, N.J.: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, pp. 393-423 (1980).
2. Scharf Caleb A. “In Defense Of Metaphors In Science”, *Scientific American*, 9 July 2013 <http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/life-unbounded/in-defense-of-metaphors-in-science-writing>
3. Burke David “Biz Talk-1 American Business Slang & Jargon”, Optima Books, 1993, p. 232-254.
4. Collins Cobuild Advanced Learner’s English Dictionary, New Digital Edition - HarperCollins Publishers for ABBYY Lingvo x5, 2008.

FREQUENCY OF OCCURRENCE OF DEFINITE ARTICLE IN ESP TEXTS

*Koronovskiy Alexander A., Elistratov Andrew A., Eremina Svetlana V.
N. G. Chernyshevsky Saratov State University*

Russian English-writing scientists are recognized not only for their profound knowledge of any professional area, but also for abundance of definite articles used in their writings. They conscientiously believe that each noun is supplied by the article, which is, in general, true, but, grammatically speaking, zero article is also an article. The paper presents analytical data on frequency of occurrence of definite article met in various issues of ESP texts. The results of the analysis have been calculated and presented in explicit and unambiguous way.

INTRODUCTION

Article is the most complicated grammatical phenomenon for the Russian people, since there is no article in the Russian language. Russian English writers face difficulty in choosing the article naively considering only definite and indefinite articles, disregarding zero ones. Nevertheless in ESP texts it is zero article that occurs most frequently. Zero article is used with uncountable nouns, such as abstract concepts, material, substance, e. g. water, progress, information, etc. Zero article may be used with nouns representing generic noun (nouns denoting gender) which is also typical for ESP literature.

MATERIAL AND DATA

Since analysis of frequency of occurrence of definite article is the focus of the research the following functions of definite article have been considered:

1) Theme and rheme structure. Let us recall that the theme of a sentence is what is being talked about, and the rheme is what is being said about the theme. The definite article usually accompanies theme.

Example: *The Ferhulst equation is a new approach to scientific research.*

2) The function of generalization. In that function definite article points to a generalized representative of the class of similar objects which represent the entire class. This function is implemented by a noun in singular.

Example:

*The fact that **the** volume per nucleon seems to be the same for all nuclei points **the** way to the simplest nuclear approximation, the liquid-drop model.*

***The** physicist cannot see the atomic nucleus, but through various probes he can sense some its important properties.*

3) The function of contextual links.

Example:

*... Such food webs can possess a complicated structure of interactions and yield a variety of equilibrium states, which are related to different sets of coexisting species. While in many cases there are only one or a few states where all species coexist with different abundances, in most of **the** other states some of **the** species become extinct. ...*

4) Individualizing function. In this function definite article is used to select an object from a number of similar objects, and to contrast it with other objects of this class.

Example:

*The shape of the propeller is permanent, and so we can say that **the** propeller is "hard".*

ANALYTICAL DATA

Frequency of occurrence of definite article in the headlines is determined from the ratio of the number of articles to a number of titles of articles. Statistics show that the frequency of occurrences of definite articles in the headlines of the news media is comparable to the frequency in the titles of scientific articles.

	Name of the journal	number of titles	of articles Titles	length	The average occurrence
News	The Washington Post	100	20	47	0,177778
	Salon Magazine	60	15	51	
	The Moscow Times	80	12	43	
	The Wall Street Journal	70	10	59	
	Chicago Tribune	50	7	55	
			72	12,8	
Classic Physics	Laser Physics Letters	15	4	53	0,25
	Phisic World	20	5	48	
	Materials Research Express	10	3	54	
	Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials	10	2	51	
	Biophysical Journal	5	1	58	
			12	3	
Non-linear Dynamics	Technical Physics Letters	10	7	77	0,528571
	Physics of wave phenomena	15	8	69	
	Physical Review E	10	7	78	
	Int. J. of Bif&Chaos	20	5	72	
	Chaos, Solitons & Fractals	15	10	74	
			14	7,4	

Definite article occurs more frequently in the headlines of articles on nonlinear dynamics than in other titles of articles.

Then, the excerpts from articles have been analyzed in the same way. The coefficients that have been obtained from the ratio of the number of articles to the number of words of the texts were then compared between each other. For comparison articles from three different sources have been analyzed.

News media content has been acquired from the site of the Bloomberg agency.

As a source of nonlinear-themed articles the "Physical Review E" journal has been chosen.

As a source of articles on classical physics the "Applied Physical Letters" journal has been used.

Name of journal	Concentration
AIP	0,09
Physical Review E	0,14
Bloomberg	0,08

Using the above statistics we conclude that the definite articles are more frequent in the literature on nonlinear dynamics.

CONCLUSION

In the first part of the brief research basic functions of definite article that are most commonly used in the text of the scientific literature have been considered. Frequency of occurrence of definite article in publications on various subjects has been analyzed. Finally conclusion has been made that definite articles are found more often in publications on nonlinear dynamics than in publications on other areas of sciences.