

MEANS OF EXPRESSING THE COMIC IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING STAND-UP COMEDY

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Goal and Objectives

Goal: to understand the influence of stylistic means by which stand-up comedians make their material efficient and full of figurative language

Objectives:

- to study the stand-up material of comedians
- to analyse their works
- to identify stylistic means of expression of the comic
- to justify their impact on the perception of the comic by viewers

Basis of the Study

Object:

- the stand-up performances of American stand-up comedians Jerry Seinfeld and Steven Wright

Subject:

- stylistic means of expression of the comic (hyperbole, pun, lexical repetition)



Jerry Seinfeld



Steven Wright

Stand-Up Comedy as a Genre of the English-Speaking Comic Discourse

- Stand-up comedy is a genre of comedy in which a performer on stage participates in comedy discourse by presenting his/her own stories and jokes
- Origins in the USA: vaudeville, minstrels and variety shows
- Origins in the UK: entertaining performances in music halls

Features of Stand-Up Comedy



Professional vocabulary:

- joke's components
- types of jokes
- types of stand-up comedians
- classification of subgenres

Sociocultural aspect:

- people's self-identification
- personal boundaries
- openness
- willingness to talk on any topic

The Practical Part of the Study

the most used stylistic means of expressing the comic: **hyperbole, pun, lexical repetition**

connection between the comedian's stage image, the content of the texts, the style of humor and the stylistic means

Hyperbole

It is used to:

- enhance the effect of pre-expression
- ridicule the characters
- express sarcasm
- destroy the viewers' expectations
- emphasize understanding
- highlight the main idea

Pun

It is found in the performances with the aim to:

- realize allusions
- emphasize absurdity
- change a point of view
- reveal the double meaning
- create a surprise



Lexical repetition



The main functions include:

- determine the jokes' rhythm
- dramatize situations
- cause tension
- keep attention
- emphasize absurdity
- realise parallelism

Conclusions

Stand- up comedy

- an influential genre
- features of jokes' creation and reproduction
- impact on society
- stylistic techniques
- figurative language

Thank you for attention!