

## Stylistic Features in English and Karakalpak Fairy Tales

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### ABSTRACT

*This article explores the stylistic and pragmatic features of fairy tales in English and Karakalpak languages, focusing on the use of stylistic devices and their impact on the narrative structure and meaning. A comparative analysis of both traditions reveals common stylistic tools, such as personification, metaphors, epithets, and hyperbole, employed to animate characters and convey moral lessons. The study also highlights the distinct approaches to storytelling: English fairy tales often incorporate humor and wordplay, while Karakalpak fairy tales emphasize wisdom, virtue, and a deep connection to nature. The use of syntactic devices, including inversion and repetition, further enhances the effectiveness of these narratives. The findings suggest that the stylistic differences between the two traditions are shaped by cultural and historical contexts, enriching the understanding of how fairy tales reflect societal values and linguistic strategies across different cultures.*

**Keywords:** Stylistics, fairy tales, comparative analysis, pragmatics, English language, Karakalpak language, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, repetition, inversion, cultural differences, linguistic strategies.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In the field of linguistics, the problem of style, its identification, classification, and the role it plays within linguistic studies

remains a highly debated topic. It is well known that human beings have multiple ways of expressing their attitude towards people, events, or phenomena, leading to diverse and unique forms of expression. Stylistics, as a linguistic discipline, explores these various methods of communication, integrating both universal language systems and the micro-systems of individual linguistic tools. The selection of stylistic devices plays a crucial role in the construction of any literary text [1].

Storytellers, particularly creators of fairy tales, utilize a wide range of stylistic devices to embellish the language of tales, making it vivid, expressive, and distinctive. In fairy tales, natural forces are often personified, embodying human feelings and actions. Consequently, common stylistic figures such as epithets, personifications, similes, hyperboles, repetitions, inversions, and alliterations are frequently encountered [1; 2; 6]. In English and Karakalpak folk tales, these stylistic elements contribute not only to the artistic quality but also to the reflection of the respective culture's worldview, values, and historical experiences.

This paper aims to analyze the stylistic and pragmatic features of English and Karakalpak fairy tales, highlighting their similarities, differences, and cultural specificities, using the classifications proposed by renowned scholars like I. R. Galperin and Y. M. Skrebnev [1; 2].

## METHODS

In order to analyze the stylistic and pragmatic features of English and Karakalpak fairy tales, this study is based on a comparative and descriptive approach. The classification systems developed by I. R. Galperin and Y. M. Skrebnev serve as the primary methodological foundation [1; 2].

I. R. Galperin classifies stylistic devices into three main groups based on their linguistic features:

1. **Lexical stylistic devices:** built on the binary opposition of meanings, including metaphors, metonymy, irony, hyperbole, epithet, oxymoron, zeugma, and pun [1; 5].

2. **Syntactic stylistic devices:** focusing on the organization of syntactic structures rather than lexical meanings, such as inversion, repetition, parallel constructions, polysyndeton, asyndeton, and ellipsis [1; 2].
3. **Lexico-syntactic stylistic devices:** utilizing both lexical and syntactic features simultaneously, including simile, periphrasis, antithesis, litotes, rhetorical questions, and gradation [1; 2].

Additionally, phonetic and graphical stylistic devices such as alliteration and onomatopoeia are examined for their contribution to the expressiveness and emotional coloring of fairy tales [4; 5; 10].

In the context of the study, selected English and Karakalpak folk tales were analyzed with special attention paid to the usage of stylistic tropes and figures. The study highlights cultural influences, the degree of stylistic expressiveness, and the artistic methods of storytelling inherent in both traditions [6; 7; 10].

## RESULTS

The comparative analysis of English and Karakalpak folk tales reveals both shared stylistic tendencies and culturally specific differences in the use of stylistic devices [6; 7; 8].

In both traditions, epithets, personifications, similes, hyperboles, and inversions are widely used. These devices enhance the emotional and artistic impact of the narratives, create vivid imagery, and convey moral and ethical lessons [1; 2; 6].

For example, in Karakalpak tales, personification is vividly expressed through characters such as animals or natural elements endowed with human qualities, as in: "The fox lamented: 'It was in a place unreachable.'" Similarly, English fairy tales frequently personify animals and natural forces, reflecting universal storytelling traditions [6; 10].

Phonetic stylistic devices like alliteration and onomatopoeia are prominent in both English and Karakalpak folklore, yet in English tales, alliteration often carries a more playful, musical role, contributing to the humorous tone [5; 9]. The frequent use

of sound patterns like "sl-" (e.g., slippery, slide, slither) is characteristic of English stylistics.

Lexical devices, including metaphors and epithets, show differences in cultural symbolism. English metaphors and similes often draw from local geography and daily life in Britain, while Karakalpak imagery tends to reflect the natural environment and traditional nomadic lifestyle [6; 7; 10].

Syntactic stylistic devices such as repetition, parallel structures, and inversion are essential in both traditions. In English fairy tales, these structures create rhythm and support oral storytelling traditions. In Karakalpak tales, repetition often serves a mnemonic function and reinforces moral messages [6; 7].

Moreover, English fairy tales tend to feature puns, calembours, and humorous expressions more frequently, influenced by the Anglo-Saxon linguistic culture [1; 5], whereas Karakalpak tales are generally more straightforward, aiming to deliver wisdom and ethical guidance [6; 7; 10].

#### DISCUSSION

The findings of this study reveal significant similarities and differences in the stylistic and pragmatic features of English and Karakalpak fairy tales. These differences are deeply rooted in the cultural, historical, and geographical contexts of the two traditions, which influence how stylistic devices are utilized and their effects on the audience [3; 6; 9].

One of the most striking similarities between English and Karakalpak fairy tales is the use of personification, epithets, and hyperbole, which serve to animate the natural world and emphasize moral lessons [1; 2; 6]. In both traditions, animals, objects, and natural forces are often imbued with human qualities, a narrative technique that enhances the fantastical nature of the stories and fosters a deeper connection between the audience and the characters [10].

Despite these commonalities, there are notable cultural differences in how these stylistic devices are employed. In English fairy tales, stylistic devices such as alliteration and

onomatopoeia are often used in playful and rhythmic ways, contributing to a lighter, more humorous tone [4; 5; 9]. The use of sounds, such as the *sl-*, reinforces the physical characteristics of the actions and characters, making them more engaging for the audience, particularly in the context of oral storytelling.

In contrast, Karakalpak fairy tales lean more heavily on metaphors and similes tied to the natural world, reflecting the agrarian and nomadic lifestyle of the Karakalpak people [6; 7]. The imagery of the steppe, rivers, and sky in Karakalpak tales symbolizes freedom, vastness, and the power of nature, which are central elements in their worldview.

The syntactic devices used in both traditions, such as inversion, repetition, and parallelism, serve to reinforce the narrative flow and emotional impact of the stories [2; 7]. In English fairy tales, the use of repetition and parallel structures creates a rhythmic cadence that aligns with the oral tradition, making the stories easier to remember and retell [10]. In Karakalpak fairy tales, repetition often carries a didactic function, underscoring the moral lessons of the tale and making them more memorable for the audience [6; 7].

One key difference that emerged in this study is the frequency and function of humor. English fairy tales are more likely to include puns, calembours, and other humorous elements that add a layer of complexity to the text, allowing for multiple interpretations [1; 5]. This can be seen in the playful use of language and wordplay, which engages both children and adults alike. On the other hand, Karakalpak fairy tales tend to avoid complex wordplay and instead focus on straightforward storytelling that emphasizes wisdom, virtue, and moral teachings [6; 7; 10]. The absence of such humor reflects the more serious tone of Karakalpak folklore, where the emphasis is on conveying life lessons [8; 10].

## CONCLUSION

This study provides a comparative analysis of the stylistic and pragmatic features of English and Karakalpak fairy tales,

revealing both shared elements and distinct differences rooted in the respective cultural, linguistic, and historical contexts [1; 2; 6].

Both traditions utilize common stylistic devices, such as personification, epithets, hyperbole, and similes, to animate characters and the natural world, as well as to emphasize key moral and ethical lessons [1; 2; 6; 10]. These devices contribute to the imaginative and fantastical nature of the stories, engaging audiences and reinforcing the narrative's core messages.

However, the way these stylistic devices are employed varies significantly between the two traditions. English fairy tales are more likely to use humor, wordplay, and rhythmic structures, reflecting the playful and oral nature of English storytelling traditions [5; 9]. These elements make the tales more engaging for a broad audience, combining entertainment with moral lessons. In contrast, Karakalpak fairy tales prioritize wisdom, virtue, and the moral lessons derived from the natural world, with stylistic devices that reflect the agrarian and nomadic lifestyle of the Karakalpak people [6; 7].

The vivid metaphors and similes in Karakalpak tales evoke the vastness of nature, highlighting themes of freedom and connection to the land [6; 7; 10]. The use of syntactic devices, such as inversion and repetition, is a shared feature in both traditions, though the purpose and frequency of these devices differ. In English tales, they contribute to the rhythm and flow of the narrative [2; 5], whereas in Karakalpak tales, repetition serves a didactic function, reinforcing the lessons of the story [7; 10].

In conclusion, the stylistic differences between English and Karakalpak fairy tales demonstrate the ways in which cultural, historical, and linguistic factors shape narrative strategies [3; 6; 8]. While both traditions use similar tools to engage and instruct their audiences, the focus of each reflects its cultural priorities: English fairy tales lean toward humor and playful language, while Karakalpak fairy tales emphasize moral instruction and the power of nature. Understanding these stylistic and pragmatic differences enriches our appreciation of the unique ways in which stories are told across cultures [9; 10; 11].

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