PHILOLOGY

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Oppositional reduction and oppositional contrast in morphology as markers of the individual style

The article is relevant due to the interest of modern linguistics to the problems of idiostyle. Sharing the point of view of scientists who treat the idiostyle as a field structure with a hierarchy of levels, the authors of the article put forward the hypothesis according to which not only lexical and stylistic but also grammatical peculiarities of idiostyles are worth studying. It concerns in particular the creative contextual use of morphological paradigmatic oppositions existing in the system of language by writers and poets. The results of the authors' investigation show that A. Christies' idiostyle is characterized by the use of the oppositional reduction when grammatical differences between the members of the oppositions are neutralized and members of the oppositional contrast (grammatical antonymy) when the differences in question are intensified due to the use of the members of the opposition in one microcontext is typical of G. Byron's idiostyle. The authors suggest criteria which give the opportunity to treat the oppositional reduction and contrast as markers of the individual style.

<u>Key words</u>: idiostyle, linguistic creative activity, grammatical opposition, neutralization, transposition, grammatical antonymy, contrast, A. Christie, G. Byron.

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