

## PHILOLOGY

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### **Metatextual commentary in the structure of postmodern artistic discourse: communicative-pragmatic potential**

The article examines the functioning of metatextual commentary in the artistic discourse of the post-modern period based on the material of S. Dovlatov's stories of the 1970s and 1990s. The article substantiates the communicative and pragmatic status of metatextual commenting constructions introduced into the textual-discursive space using the lexical combination that is. It is proved that the main function of metatextual commentary is to create a correct vector for decoding the author's communicative intention by the reader. The author's and character's modality are actualized in commenting statements, structuring the artistic discourse of postmodernity. The semantic-forming status of commenting statements has been established, while comments cover all levels of the textual-discursive space – from lexical to textual proper. The author's assessment qualifies as ironic as part of the author's modality.

**Key words:** literary discourse, postmodernism, metatext, metatextual commentary, author's modality, assessment, irony.

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