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## **Simile as a means of expressiveness of Mo Yan's language**

### **Abstract**

This study aims to analyze the similes used in the novel “Life and death are wearing me out” by Mo Yan and to identify their themes. Using continuous sampling method, 699 examples of similes were identified in the text of the novel for further analysis. The analysis was carried out using the descriptive method, classification and systematization techniques. As a result, the frequency of occurrence of different groups of similes classified by themes was obtained. The most frequent examples were those related to the group “Comparisons with representatives of the animal world: Wild and domestic animals, birds, fish, reptiles” and “Comparisons with inanimate objects”. The examples belonging to the group “Comparisons with "atypical" and mythical animals (or entities)” and “Comparisons related to historical events” were characterized by the lowest frequency.

**Keywords:** means of expressiveness, mechanisms for creating artistic images, thematic groups of similes, types of similes

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**For citation:** Starodubtseva, N. S. (2022). Sravnenie kak odno iz sredstv vyrazitel'nosti yazyka Mo Yanya [Simile as a means of expressiveness of Mo Yan's language]. *Teoreticheskaya i prikladnaya lingvistika* [Theoretical and Applied Linguistics], 8 (2), 116–130. [https://doi.org/10.22250/24107190\\_2022\\_8\\_2\\_116](https://doi.org/10.22250/24107190_2022_8_2_116)