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Book review: Sigal, K. Ya. Syntax and the study of speech. Moscow – Yaroslavl : Kantsler Press. 194 p. ISBN 978-5-907590-36-6

Abstract

The book “Syntax and the study of speech” by K. Ya. Sigal examines syntactic patterns of the Russian language generated under certain conditions of speech activity that of viewed taking into consideration gnoseological and ontological nature of the study of speech. The author’s approach is based upon the interaction of the theory of language usage, the theory of linguistic personality and the theory of artistic speech creativity, is given. The notion of “set” proposed by D. N. Uznadze was used as an explanatory tool in syntactic research. K. Ya. Sigal skillfully demonstrated how the sets in the syntax of fiction function as the highest-level sets through which other aspects of the study of speech including priming, sillepsis, stylistic syntax and metalanguage sets are refracted, all of them requiring consistent comprehensive description. Each chapter contains some precedents of syntactic analysis. The author designed a comprehensive system of notions and terms for the study of fiction within the speech activity approach. He also developed the methodology of a fiction text analysis within the approach. This review highly appreciates the scientific results obtained by K. Ya. Sigal from the viewpoint of both significant theoretical contribution and the possibility to translate the author’s findings into practical application.

Keywords: syntax, speech, linguistics of speech, syntactic pattern, set

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