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Evaluation as a way of in-space modeling in geographical essays of the XIX century

Abstract

The article aims to study evaluation as a key technique in modeling space in geographical essays. It gives an overview of various language means of expressing evaluation on lexical, grammatical and textual levels. Geographical essays of the XIX century were collected and studied by means of discourse analysis. As a result, various ways of expressing evaluation were identified. It was shown that the most diverse means of evaluation can be represented on the lexical level by the following groups of evaluation: general axiological, sensory, sublimated, sensory-psychological and rationalistic. On the grammatical level, different examples of degrees of comparison and syntactic structures with evaluative semantics were found. All these means of evaluation presented a complete and vivid description of geographical space. Meanwhile, on the textual level, geographical essays of the XIX century tended to maintain a balance in terms of axiological evaluation, since their key goal was not a literal description, but a scientific and documentary fixation of facts related to geographical features of a particular area. The finding clearly demonstrate that geographical essays constitute a unique type of discourse where the features of scientific and fiction styles are combined to influence the choice of language means of evaluation.

Keywords: evaluation, geographical essay, discourse, author's position, space modeling

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