

ABSTRACT
of the thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
«Language reflection: discourse analysis (based on literary texts in Kazakh and English)», performed by Sydyk Perizat Sandybaikyzy in the educational program «8D02304 – Philology»

Description of the thesis topic. The study of language in conjunction with its speaker has become significant in contemporary linguistics, contributing to the formation of new directions in the field. Methods from psychology, informatics, linguistics, philosophy, and neurobiology, which have provided considerable impetus to the field of cognitive science (theory of cognition), are now employed to explain the principles by which the human mind operates. Researching language from an anthropocentric perspective requires considering it alongside thought processes. Harvard University's Professor and neuropsychologist Steven Pinker, in his book “The Language Instinct”, elucidates this necessity with detailed and convincing arguments: “New research into language ability has revolutionized our understanding of language, its role in human life, and humanity's perception of it. Most educated people have a personal opinion about language. They regard it as a crucial product of human culture, the quintessence of our communication abilities, and a unique natural phenomenon that separates us from other species. It is also noted that language and consciousness are interlinked, with a specific language shaping a particular consciousness, thereby leading speakers of different languages to perceive the world differently”. This diverse perception of the world among speakers includes their critical perspective and individual evaluation of their actions, words, and surrounding phenomena, all of which are encoded in language.

The phenomenon of language reflection remains a current and underexplored issue in modern linguistics. The expansion of knowledge about this phenomenon in recent times is linked to the significant role language plays as a tool for reflection. This aligns with the ideas in scientific research about the relationship between language and thought, language and consciousness, and how speech activities influence self-awareness or reflection. Through reflection, a person delves into their inner state, which can be identified in their spoken words, literary texts, or specific linguistic signs, manifesting in language reflection.

According to L.M. Shaikenova, the uniqueness of studying reflection lies in its connection with self-awareness, the ability to evaluate one's thoughts, ideas, emotions, and desires.

The proposed dissertation presents a discourse analysis of the phenomenon defined by the term “language reflection”, systematizing its specific features, verbalization, and metalanguage indicators. Models and schemes used in language reflection and metatextual analysis in scientific research are described, and a comparative analysis is conducted on the reflection and metatextual elements in Kazakh and English literary texts. The study also identifies and analyzes the metalanguage

reflection of language personalities through surveys, drawing conclusions and providing practical recommendations.

The relevance of research. The anthropocentric paradigm of modern linguistics, which has shifted from studying “speech” to studying the “speaking person”, has raised the issue of language personality. The psyche of a language personality, along with its social, ethical, and other aspects, is revealed through its language and discourse. This revelation is enabled by language consciousness, which reflects societal changes through language. This consciousness relies on reflection to choose its object of representation.

Reflection is a mental process in which an individual critically analyzes their thoughts, ideas, opinions, and perceptions. The language reflection of a language personality is dual, concerning both language and discourse: 1) the language personality as a speaker (constructing speech according to the situation) and 2) as an evaluator of their speech actions. Here, language reflection is manifested. The ability for language reflection is a factor in the development of the language personality. *Language reflection* is considered part of national self-consciousness and culture. Language reflection is the self-directed reflection observed in speech and language consciousness. It is a complex structure representing the unity of language and consciousness, which is verbalized through metatexts. Therefore, the terms language reflection, metalanguage reflection, and metatextual reflection, as well as metalanguage consciousness, metatextual consciousness, and language self-consciousness, are used interchangeably. Metalanguage reflection is differentiated into formal (various metalanguage markers) and content-related (themes, stereotypes, myths) types. These aspects have not been sufficiently studied in Kazakh linguistics. Furthermore, a shift is observed in the communication attitude of the new generation in the 21st century: the collective mindset of "all for one" in the 20th century has transitioned to an individualistic “self first” attitude. This is also a result of language reflection among language personalities. Studying this shift in communication through the lens of language reflection can be considered a new research object in linguistics. Therefore, the topic of this study is relevant and significant.

The aim of the research work. The goal of the research is to conduct a discourse analysis of language reflection in Kazakh and English literary texts, identify and comparatively analyze the methods and strategies for verbalizing reflection in Kazakh and English (in texts and discourse), and describe these findings.

To achieve this goal, **the following tasks are set:**

- To identify and systematize theoretical and scientific studies on reflection and language reflection, identifying key concepts, issues, and research directions.
- To identify the specific features and verbalization of language reflection.
- To analyze Kazakh and English literary texts using G. Gibbs's reflective cycle model and metalinguistic analysis schemes in the scientific discourse, determining the distinctive features, types, and regularities of metatexts and reflexives.

- To analyze the manifestation of reflection in language personalities' consciousness as marked by language reflexives through respondent surveys, analyze the collected data, draw conclusions, and propose practical recommendations (such as a model for reflective text analysis).

The object of research: the object of the study is metatexts and reflexives marking language reflection.

The subject of research: the subject of study includes the features of language reflexives as shown in reflective linguistics and linguistic theory.

Theoretical and Methodological framework of research work. The theoretical and methodological basis of this research includes works on reflective linguistics (L.M. Shaikenova, K.K. Okusheva, G.A. Boribayeva, B.M. Gasparov, N.K. Ryabtseva, B.Yu. Norman, T.V. Bulygina, A.D. Shmelev, I.T. Vepreva, E.L. Trikoz, N.D. Golev, etc.), language and consciousness, the relationship between language and thought (V. von Humboldt, A.N. Rostova, A.F. Kolyaseva, L.Kh. Saramotina, A. Khasenov), the interrelation of language and culture (E. Sepir, A.A. Potebnya, L.V. Shcherba, L.V. Vygotsky, A.N. Leontiev, A.A. Leontiev, A.A. Zalevskaya, E.F. Tarasov, N.V. Ufimtseva, etc.), linguocognitology (Zh.A. Mankeyeva, A.B. Amirkebova, K.O. Yessenova, A.O. Tymbolova), philosophical perspectives on reflection (S.L. Katrechko, etc.), pedagogy (A. Alimov, M. Ospanbekova), psychology (S.L. Rubinstein, etc.), discourse and text theory (T. van Dijk, K.A. Dolinin, O.S. Issers, V.I. Karasik, M.N. Kozhina, M.L. Makarov, E.S. Kubryakova, N.K. Ryabtseva, I.A. Sternin, Zh.A. Ismailova, K.K. Kenzhekhanova, B. Kaliuly, Kh.S. Mukhamadiev, K.K. Sadirova, etc.).

Sources of research. The research sources include theoretical materials on language reflection, A. Kunanbayuly's "The Book of Words" (45 Words, excerpts from "I do not write poems for amusement", "I reflect deeply"), B. Sokkpakbayev's "My Name is Kozha", Sh. Murtaza's "The Moon and Aisha", W. Somerset Maugham's "The Moon and Sixpence", O. Wilde's "The Picture of Dorian Gray", metalanguage comments (commentaries) observed in the text of language personalities analyzing the text in their native language (Kazakh), texts given to respondents for the purpose of analyzing metalanguage markers, reflexives in both Kazakh and English, 208 respondents' survey responses, lexical-semantic analysis of reflexives, metatextual and discourse analysis using explanatory dictionaries of the Kazakh and English languages, and electronic resources such as sozdikgor.kz, Merriam-Webster, and Cambridge Dictionary.

Research Methods. The following research methods were employed in the course of the study: general scientific methods (collecting, analyzing, comparing, processing, and describing linguistic data); special linguistic methods (discourse analysis, metatextual analysis, lexical-semantic analysis of words, comparative analysis, cognitive modeling (G. Gibbs's Reflective Cycle), introspection (self-study of linguistic consciousness), psycholinguistic experiment (survey)).

The findings for the final research defense:

1. Language reflection is a process in which a reaction occurring in language consciousness is depicted through a linguistic sign and resonates with the individual's internal opinion. Language and evaluative reflections are formed in discourse and appear in texts through linguistic units (reflexives). A text is a product of communication, directed towards the cognition of the recipient, activated in discourse, and expresses the influence of communicants on one another. A discourse system is formed when the recipient perceives and interprets the information that highlights the author's emotions and feelings within the text. In this system, the recipient reconstructs the cognition (or knowledge, information) of the author in their own consciousness. The linguistic units selected by the author, aligned with the concepts of metalanguage and metatext, correspond to this cognition. These concepts evoke a reflection in the mind, triggering the process of reflection, where the linguistic tools used to convey the underlying information are reflexives or metatext. If reflection is considered a component of consciousness, it is transferred by discursive unity. In this regard, the language individual's world of cognition, artistic world, and personal linguistic world combine to facilitate the transmission of language reflection through reflexives and metatexts.

2. Language reflection emerges as a person's language develops and serves as an indicator of the linguistic individual's development. It is verbalized through metatexts. The ability of language individuals to reflect is a factor in the development of language individuals. Language reflection, relying on linguistic self-awareness or metatextual consciousness, influences language acquisition in discourse.

3. The manifestation of reflective linguistics in literary discourse and text can be described as follows: the author writes the text, which is directed towards the reader's cognition and understanding, and it triggers a reaction in the reader's language consciousness (aligning with the reader's background knowledge). The stimulus words (signs) provided by the author, affecting linguistic consciousness, enable the recipient to engage in metalanguage reflection during the reflection process. The resulting product is a reflexive or metatext.

4. In the literary texts of A. Kunanbayuly's «Kara Sozder» (The Book of Words) and O. Wilde's "The Picture of Dorian Gray", the types of reflection, such as personal, communicative, intellectual, social, existential, and sanogenic, are equally present, while professional reflection is only found in Wilde's text, and cooperative reflection is observed in the second of Abai's «Kara Sozder» (The Book of Words). Reflexives marking a specific type of reflection differ between Kazakh and English literary texts. For instance, in Abai's text, sanogenic reflection is marked by words like *anger*, *laughter*, *irritation*, *joy*, and *indefinite pronouns*, while in Wilde's text, it is marked by reflexives such as "one else", "to influence", "self-development" and "afraid of".

5. The main differences in reflexives between Kazakh and English literary texts are as follows: a) They are observed in linguistic signs possessing national cultural content (Kazakh: "tajal" (devil), "oshaktagy kazan" (cauldron on the hearth), "kara lashyk" (black hut), "sybaga" (gifted portion), "tegin bilu" (knowing one's lineage),

etc.; English: “*ivory*”, “*made of rose leaves*”, “*olive-colored face*”, etc.). b) The peculiarities of reflexives in English texts are: 1) Parenthetical phrases used in positive forms in the text convey a negative evaluation in context; 2) There is a high frequency of cause-and-effect, conditional complex sentences, and negative verbs; 3) Sentences in subject-object-predicate structures: “the interesting object is the artist's figure”; 4) The use of a single adjective for paired antonymous words: “*exquisite joys*” and “*exquisite sorrows*”; 5) The use of unconventional graphics, specific meta-operators (such as emojis), and explanatory constructions. c) The peculiarities of reflexives in Kazakh texts are: 1) Repetition of certain words (“zhasqa kelgende” / “zhasqa keldik” – “when we reached age”); 2) Frequent use of interrogative sentences, negative sentences, and antonymous words; 3) Syntactic structure: temporal subordinate clauses (“Until the evening fell, we used to play with children in the streets”.); 4) The absence of specific meta-operators.

6. The results of surveys conducted with respondents showed that during reflection, the linguistic experience formed in a language individual's native language serves as a basis for reflecting on texts in another language. It was also demonstrated that when reflecting on content perceived in language consciousness, different linguistic codes are simultaneously selected (e.g., answering a question in English with a response in Kazakh or Russian, connecting the content of one text with a previous text in response), indicating that resistance can occur during the reflection in language consciousness.

Description of the Main Results of the Research. For the first time, the dissertation analyzes language reflexives manifested in literary texts in Kazakh and English within a comparative framework, identifying metatexts and their types, as well as the peculiarities of their verbalization. Analytical schemes and models commonly used in scientific research were applied to the analysis of literary texts in Kazakh and English. Specifically, G. Gibbs's “Cycle of Reflection Model” was utilized for the first time to analyze language reflection in A. Kunanbayuly's “The Book of Words” and Oscar Wilde's “The Picture of Dorian Gray”. There are two reasons for selecting these two texts: 1) The correspondence in the time of writing: A. Kunanbayuly's “The Book of Words” was written between 1890 and 1898, while O. Wilde's “The Picture of Dorian Gray” was published in 1890; 2) Despite the differences in the writing style and genre of these texts, both authors' primary reflection extends beyond a critical analysis of personal actions to a critical examination of the social environment and public relations of their time, which is clearly marked in their language reflexives. By analyzing these texts using the six-stage cycle model, the verbalization of the authors' reflections, metatextual comments and indicators, syntactic structures, and the characteristics of reflexives were identified, along with their metatextual functions.

The manifestations of metalanguage reflection, including textual (visible in metalanguage statements), discursive (specific communicative situations and their regulation methods), and social (impact on the individual or society at large) types, were analyzed and systematized. Metatextual analysis of language reflection was

conducted based on the literary texts “My Name is Kozha” by B. Sokpakhbayev, “The Moon and Sixpence” by W. Somerset Maugham, and O. Wilde's “The Picture of Dorian Gray”.

To identify language personalities' language reflections and analyze the reflexives that convey them, two types of surveys were conducted. The first survey aimed to analyze the metalanguage comments evident in language personalities' examination of texts in their native language, and it revealed differences in metatextual comments made by language personalities when analyzing works written in the 20th century through a reflection of the 21st-century language personalities. The second survey aimed at a comparative analysis of the metatextual indicators and reflexives observed in language personalities' examination of texts in two languages (Kazakh and English).

One of the important scientific novelties of the work is the first-time proposal of a “Model for Reflexive Analysis of Texts” aimed at forming and developing the language reflection of students enrolled in Kazakh language and literature and philology programs.

Justification of the Novelty and Importance of the Obtained Results. Previous research on the manifestation of reflection in language primarily focused on analyzing scientific texts to draw conclusions. However, this dissertation for the first time took literary texts as the object of study. Additionally, language reflexives in Kazakh and English literary texts were compared and classified, with their characteristics in both languages identified, and descriptions provided based on lexical-semantic, discursive, and metatextual analyses, all substantiated with linguistic evidence. The comparative analysis of Kazakh and English literary texts using the cognitive modeling method (G. Gibbs's Reflective Cycle) allowed for the tabulation of various types of language reflexives (metatexts, meta-operators). The marking of reflection in language reflexives in the minds of language personalities was identified through surveys conducted with respondents. The gathered materials were analyzed and summarized, leading to the proposal of a “Model for Reflexive Analysis of Texts” for the first time.

The discursive analysis of language reflection in literary texts in Kazakh and English, aimed at identifying, comparatively analyzing, and describing the means and methods of verbalization of reflection in these languages (in texts) and in words (in discourse), was conducted for the first time. As such, the results obtained are innovative and significant for reflexive linguistics, due to their comparative study of Kazakh and English languages. **The theoretical significance of the research** lies in its contribution of new concepts to reflexive linguistics, discourse theory, comparative linguistics, and general linguistics, enriching the body of knowledge, and serving as a basis for future research.

The practical significance of the research. The results achieved in the dissertation can be used in teaching courses on general linguistics, discourse theory, reflexive linguistics, and linguistic theory. The application of G. Gibbs's “Cycle of

Reflection Model”, the analysis schemes of metatextual comments, and the experience of identifying language reflection can serve as a model and foundation for similar studies. The proposed “Model for Reflexive Analysis of Texts”, aimed at forming and developing the language reflection of students enrolled in Kazakh language and literature and philology programs, will be beneficial for future professional linguists.

Research Approbation. The results of the dissertation were discussed at both domestic and international research institutions and universities. A report titled "Language Reflection as a Linguistic Object" was presented at the "Scientific-Cognitive Friday" seminar for doctoral students at the Department of Kazakh Philology, Faculty of Philology, Aktobe Regional University named after K. Zhubanov (2022). A presentation titled "Expression of Language Reflection in Fiction" was delivered at the 4th International Congress of Scientific and Innovative Research in Antalya (May 9-10, 2023). The researcher participated as a speaker with the topic "Language Reflection and its Study" at the "Young Scientists NETWORK-2022" forum organized by Aktobe Regional University named after K. Zhubanov (April 22, 2022). A report titled "Language Reflection in Literary Texts and Cognitive Processes" was presented at the 5th International Scientific and Educational-Methodological Conference "Lifelong Learning Paradigm in the System of Kazakhstani Education for Sustainable Development: Practice and Perspectives," dedicated to the 90th anniversary of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (March 15, 2024). An electronic survey (using Google Forms) aimed at identifying the interpretation of A. Kunanbayuly's works and comparing reflexives in literary texts in Kazakh and English was conducted among students at Aktobe Regional University named after K. Zhubanov, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, and Abai Kazakh National Pedagogical University.

Publication and approval of the research:

Eight articles on the main part of the research work have been published *Proceedings published in journals included in the Scopus scientific database:*

1. Language Reflection: Metatextual Analysis // Journal of Psycholinguistic Research 20.03.2024. Процентиль 88%, Q 1.

Articles published in publications recommended for publication based on the results of scientific activities by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

1. Language reflection, the definition of term reflexive // International scientific journal «Science and Life of Kazakhstan» No. 4/2, 2020. 369-372 p.

2. Language reflection: the relationship between consciousness and language activity. // Tiltanym. Periodical Scientific Journal No. 4 (2023). pp. 110-119.

3. Correlation of linguistic reflection with discourse and text // Bulletin of the Eurasian National University. Philology series. No. 1 (146) / 2024. 119-129 pp.

Proceedings published in proceedings of international conferences:

1. Linguistic image of language reflection // International scientific and practical conference «Traditions and active processes in oral and written communication»,

dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Doctor of Philology, Professor Aimangul Myrzalykyzy Aldash. Almaty, 2021, 110-114 pp.

2. The historical and philosophical nature of reflection // XVIII Republican scientific and practical conference of students, master's students, PhD students, teachers «Youth, science and innovation». Aktobe, April 12, 2022. 614-617 pp.

3. Expression of Language Reflection in Fiction // 4. International Antalya Scientific Research and Innovative Studies Congress. Antalya, 2023. 1155-1162 pp. ISBN - 978-625-367-097-9 (an oral report was made. The certificate.)

4. Language reflection and cognitive processes in a literary text / V International scientific and educational-methodological conference for the 90th anniversary of KazNU named after Al-Farabi «Lifelong learning paradigm in the system of Kazakhstani education for sustainable development: practice and perspectives», Almaty, March 15, 2024. 240-242 pp.

Structure and Volume of the Research Work. The dissertation consists of an introduction, three sections, a conclusion, and a list of references, appendices, and applications. The total volume of scientific work is 143 pages.

The dissertation research work was prepared according to the directions of the **State programs of the Republic of Kazakhstan** and the directions of the development of linguistics in the field of reflexive linguistics, discoursology:

Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan. On approval of the national project «Ultyk rukhani zhangyru» (National spiritual revival): approved on October 12, 2021 No. 724.

Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan. On approval of the state program for the implementation of language policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020-2025: approved on December 31, 2019 No. 1045.

Historical and cultural heritage and spiritual values of Kazakhstan. The commonality of history and culture, literature and language, customs and values // On approval of the state program for the development of education and science of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020-2025: Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 27, 2019 No. 988.

The program "Seven Sides of the Great Steppe" (I. Space and time in the history of a nation. 11/21/2018).

Scientific foundations of the development of science 5. «Mangilik el» (fundamental and applied research in the XXI century in the field of education, humanities. 04/27/2016), approved by the HSTK (Higher Scientific and Technical Commission) under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Doctoral Candidate's Contribution to the Preparation of Each Publication Related to the Research. The author independently executed the entire dissertation, including the selection of research methods, solving the tasks aligned with the research objectives, and preparing publications based on the research. Assignments related to the research topic and the discussion of the obtained results were conducted in collaboration with the scientific advisors.