

Kamil Iwaniak

Imię i nazwisko osoby ubiegającej się o nadanie stopnia

Humour from the cultural and linguistic perspective. Strategies used to construct humour in British and German panel shows

SUMMARY

The primary research goal was to investigate, which humour strategies are commonly used in panel shows. Additionally, due to the distinctive nature of the programs chosen for analysis (*Would I Lie to You*, *QI*, *Genial daneben* and *Dings vom Dach*) it was possible to make a comparison between the techniques used by both, British and German-speaking people while creating humorous potential in humorous media discourse. The comparison enabled to draw conclusions regarding similarities and differences between British and German spoken humour.

This corpus-based research focused on spoken humour, created spontaneously and that is why non- and paraverbal aspects of communication have been taken into consideration, although the main emphasis has been placed on the linguistic form of the analyzed utterances. One of the most relevant research tasks was to develop an analytical comprehensive framework, which contains numerous elements of pragmalinguistic as well as ethnolinguistic approach. The importance of cognitive and cultural linguistics has been particularly emphasized. Chosen aspects of the mentioned linguistic paradigms have been combined with the General Theory of Verbal Humour.

Similar concepts such as laughter, humour and comic effect have been explained. The concept of national humour (humour characteristic for the given society), which plays a vital role for the research aims, has been defined as a cultural meme and a number of strategies used to construct humorous potential.

It is worth mentioning that the way how those strategies are used is perceived as culturally influenced and passed through generations. The strategies themselves are treated as cognitive and linguistic constructs resembling cognitive schemas.

The theoretical and methodological reflections led to the empirical section which encompasses a qualitative overview as well as a quantitative analysis of selected humorous clips from the most broadly watched episodes of the analyzed programs.