

APPLICATIONS OF SARCASTIC EUPHEMISMS IN MODERN
LINGUISTICS

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Abstract: *This article analyzes the opinion of scientists about the humorous use of euphemisms in speech, and the article is enriched with examples.*

Key words: *sarcastic euphemisms, beauty of speech, sarcasm, unpleasant situation*

In phonetic writing, euphemisms, alternative for untouchable names, as well as words furthermore, articulations that are utilized "under specific circumstances to supplant unfortunate, inconsiderate, too cruel words", typically fall into two categories: ancient and modern. The religious motivation is at the forefront of ancient euphemisms, whereas modern euphemisms are moral. Because of this, ancient euphemisms were not meant to be ironic; alternative names were taken very seriously. Modern euphemism is exemplified by ironic euphemisms. Be that as it may, the expression "present day" ought to be perceived as a genuinely expansive time span. An ironic description of such a forbidden name as "buttocks" is already recorded in the dictionary of V.I. Dahl as "Europe".

The comic and unexpected words can be followed in all topical gatherings of current euphemisms, albeit the efficiency of such substitution names shifts in various societies. In contrast to Uzbek, for example, ironic names for concepts like death, illness, and physical disabilities are frequently used in English and American discourse. For example, an awfully big adventure, eternal yawn, going to the dance party with God, immortally challenged.

According to J. Mitchell's study on how different cultures use euphemisms when discussing a deadly disease like cancer, it is not customary in Asian, Spanish, and South American cultures to inform the patient of the true diagnosis and future prognosis because doing so could harm the patient. In North European and North American cultures, it is believed that the patient should be fully informed about the diagnosis and possible outcome of the disease, in this case humor serves as a protective mechanism for the patient in this unpleasant situation, in order to "let off steam" [B. Mitchell 2011].



Sarcasm has become a common language tool these days, especially in modern linguistics. It is most often accompanied by euphemisms – indirect expressions utilized in place of offensive or unpleasant language that targets people or things. While being sarcastic is not necessarily harmful, but it can sometimes be hurtful when not used properly. Hence, the application of sarcastic euphemisms in modern linguistics has its own significant importance.

Definition of Sarcastic Euphemisms

Sarcasm is defined as "the use of irony to mock or convey contempt" while euphemisms are "a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing."

A euphemistic phrase used sarcastically not only serves as a perfect tool for the everyday speaker to satirize societal or personal vice but also as a form of communication centered on a more special effect when delivered rightly.

Why Are Sarcastic Euphemisms Used? There are numerous reasons why people use sarcastic euphemisms:

1. To express humor and irony – Sarcasm is mostly used in humor and satire. Euphemisms, on the other hand, serve to lighten the insult; thus, together, they form an excellent combo for humor and irony.

2. To criticize without offending – Euphemisms are often used to lessen the impact of something said or to make it sound less offensive or harsh. The speaker may use a sarcastic tone of voice to criticize without entirely offending the person being targeted, thus becoming the ideal tool for conflict resolution.

3. To add an element of wittiness – Sarcastic euphemisms most often add an element of wittiness to the speaker's statement or speech. It makes the delivery more distinctive and exciting, particularly when used with irony or humor, making the audience laugh.

Examples of Sarcastic Euphemisms in Modern Linguistics

1. "Now that's a face only a mother could love."

This sarcastic euphemism is used to describe an ugly individual, but the euphemism "a face only a mother could love" makes it less offensive and harsh, hence the perfect tool for a lighthearted insult.

2. "You have a unique sense of style." This sarcastic euphemism is used to describe someone's awkward dressing style without completely offending them. The euphemism "unique sense of style" is used instead of "weird dressing style" or "poor choice of clothes."

3. "Thank you for your constructive criticism." This sarcastic euphemism is used to appreciate someone's negative criticism or feedback with the euphemism



"constructive criticism." The irony is that the criticism was not exactly "constructive," but the usage still makes the statement lighter and not completely offensive.

4. "He's more crooked than a dog's hind leg." This sarcastic euphemism is used to describe a deceitful or corrupt individual, but the euphemism "more crooked than a dog's hind leg" adds humor to the statement, making it less offensive as it lightens the insult.

5. "Congratulations on your promotion; you must be doing someone's job."

This sarcastic euphemism is used to congratulate someone on their promotion with a sarcastic tone, essentially stating that the person only got the promotion because someone else isn't doing their job correctly.

Conclusion. The use of sarcasm euphemisms in modern linguistics has become a common language tool, utilized to lighten the insult, add humor and irony to the statement, or to criticize without entirely offending the person. A euphemistic phrase used sarcastically makes the statements distinctive, adds creativity to the delivery, and makes the audience laugh. However, it is necessary to use it responsibly and appropriately, not to hurt or offend someone.

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