



## LINGUOPRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF SOME WORD COMBINATIONS

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**Abstract:** This scientific article comparatively analyzed the linguo-pragmatic analysis of word combinations on the example of the most used T. Dreiser's work "Sister Carrie" and also substantive word combinations in some works.

**Key words:** pragma stylistics, semantics, lingua pragmatics, idiomatic expressions, symbolism, social commentary, substantive, interrogative sentences, speech act theory, deixis theory, discourse theory.

**Annotatsiya:** Bu ilmiy maqola so'z birikmalarining lingvopragmatik tahlilini eng ko'p qo'llanilgan T.Dreyzerning "Baxtiqaro Kerri" asari va shuningdek ba'zi asarlardagi substantiv so'z birikmalari misolida qiyosiy jihatdan tahlil qilindi.

**Tayanch so'zlar:** pragma stilistika, semantika, lingvo pragmatika, idiomatik iboralar, simvolizm, ijtimoiy sharh, substantive, so'roq gaplar, nutq akti nazariyasi, dexit nazariyasi, diskurs nazariyasi.

**Аннотация:** В данной научной статье проведен сравнительный анализ лингвопрагматического анализа словосочетаний на примере наиболее



употребляемого произведения Т. Драйзера «Сестра Кэрри», а также содержательных словосочетаний в некоторых произведениях.

**Ключевые слова:** прагматическая стилистика, семантика, лингвопрагматика, идиоматические выражения, символика, социальный комментарий, существительные, вопросительные предложения, теория речевого акта, теория дейктика, теория дискурса.

**Introduction.** Lingua-pragmatics is the study of how language is used in context to achieve specific communicative goals. Word combinations can provide valuable insights into how people use language to convey meaning and accomplish various communicative functions.

Pragmatics is the study of how language is used in context, including how word combinations can convey meaning beyond the literal definitions of the words themselves. In analyzing word combinations pragmatically, we look at how speakers use language to achieve their communicative goals, taking into account factors such as context, social conventions, and the speaker's intentions.

**Literature review.** Pragmatics made it possible to create and study fields such as speech act theory, deixis theory, discourse theory, pragma-semantics, and pragma-stylistics as a research subject of modern linguistics. Currently, pragma-linguistics is a comprehensive type of analysis that represents the development of language. More precisely, Y.D. Apresyan defines it as follows in his dictionary: pragmatics emphasizes that the speaker is strongly dependent on reality, the structure of the message, the attitude of the addressee, language units (lexeme, affix, gramme, syntactic device). Also "Sister Carrie: A Study in Language and Class" by James L. W. West III, found in American Literary Realism Journal (available on JSTOR).



2. "The Pragmatics of Gender in 'Sister Carrie'" by Judith Fetterley, in *Studies in American Fiction* (accessible via Project MUSE).
3. "Economic Realism in 'Sister Carrie'" by Donald Pizer, from the book *"The Cambridge Companion to Theodore Dreiser"* (published by Cambridge University Press).

If we gather various researches of modern linguistics into a common place, there are various similarities in the researches conducted in the direction of pragmatics.

**Research Methodology.** The article is analytical, using the methods of comparison and judgment (based on experience) and statistical and historical methods. Pragmatically, the main goal of our work is to analyze the text and its units, interrogative sentences, expressions, phrases and word combinations and compare and analyze them on the example of different literature.

**Analysis and results.** Word combinations refer to the arrangement of words together to form phrases or sentences.

A substantive or noun word combination (noun WC) refers to a phrase where the primary component is a noun, often accompanied by modifiers such as adjectives, other nouns, or prepositional phrases. These combinations function to provide more specific information about the noun, enhancing clarity and detail. There are several types of word combinations, including:

*Collocations:* These are commonly used word combinations that have become fixed in a language, such as "take a shower" or "make a decision."

*"Idiomatic expressions:* These are phrases that have a meaning that is not immediately obvious based on the individual words used, such as "kick the bucket" meaning to die.

*Compound words:* These are words that are formed by combining two or more words together, such as "snowball" or "firefighter."



*Fixed phrases:* These are set phrases that have a specific meaning and are used as a unit, such as "once in a blue moon" or "raining cats and dogs."

*Phrasal verbs:* These are combinations of a verb and one or more particles (prepositions or adverbs) that have a specific meaning different from the individual words, such as "get up" or "look after."

When analyzing word combinations pragmatically, we consider:

- **Context:** The meaning of a word combination can vary depending on the context in which it is used. For example, the phrase "I love you" may have different implications when said to a romantic partner, a close friend, or a family member.
- **Speaker intentions:** Speakers may use specific word combinations to convey their intentions or emotions. For example, using sarcasm or irony can change the meaning of a word combination and convey a different message than a literal interpretation.
- **Sociocultural norms:** Word combinations can be influenced by sociocultural norms and conventions. For example, certain word combinations may be considered polite or impolite in a given culture, and speakers may adjust their language accordingly.
- **Pragmatic implicatures:** Word combinations can also convey implicatures or underlying messages that are not explicitly stated. For example, the word combination "Can you pass the salt?" may implicate a request for the listener to pass the salt, even though it is phrased as a question.

By analyzing word combinations pragmatically, we can gain a deeper understanding of how language is used in everyday interactions and how speakers use language creatively to achieve their communicative goals.



"Dog house" - In this combination, the word "dog" modifies the noun "house" to specify that the house is intended for dogs. This shows how the meaning of the noun "house" is altered and restricted by the presence of the modifier "dog".

"Green apple" - Here, the adjective "green" describes the type of apple, specifying its color. This combination highlights how adjectives can modify nouns to provide specific details about them.

"Chocolate cake" - The noun "cake" is modified by the type of cake it is, specifically, "chocolate". This demonstrates how word combinations can convey information about the characteristics or qualities of the noun being described.

"Round table" - In this combination, the adjective "round" specifies the shape of the table. This illustrates how adjectives can be used to provide additional details about the nouns they modify.

"Fast car" - The adjective "fast" describes the speed or performance of the car, adding a specific quality to the noun. This shows how word combinations can convey information about the attributes or characteristics of the nouns they modify.

"City life": The phrase "city life" is a recurring motif in "Sister Carrie" and is often used to symbolize the fast-paced and chaotic nature of urban living. By combining the words "city" and "life," Dreiser creates a vivid image of the bustling city streets and the hustle and bustle of everyday life. This word combination conveys a sense of excitement and energy, but also hints at the loneliness and alienation that can come with city living.

"Dark desires": The phrase "dark desires" is used to describe the innermost longings and passions of the characters in the novel. By juxtaposing the words "dark" and "desires," Dreiser suggests that these desires are complex, mysterious, and perhaps even dangerous. This word combination adds depth and complexity to the characters, highlighting the internal struggles and conflicts that drive their actions.



"Golden opportunity": The phrase "golden opportunity" is often used to describe the chances for success and prosperity that come the characters' way. By combining the words "golden" and "opportunity," Dreiser emphasizes the rarity and value of these opportunities, suggesting that they are precious and worth pursuing. This word combination conveys a sense of hope and optimism, but also underscores the fleeting nature of success in the ruthless world of the novel.

In the pragmatical analysis of word combinations in Theodore Dreiser's "Sister Carrie," several significant insights emerge regarding the novel's linguistic and thematic depth. The analysis reveals how Dreiser employs specific word combinations to evoke particular social and psychological contexts, underscoring the nuanced interplay between language and meaning.

1. Social Class and Status: Dreiser's word combinations frequently reflect the social stratification of early 20th-century America. Terms that denote wealth, poverty, and social mobility are meticulously paired to highlight the disparities and aspirations of the characters, particularly the protagonist, Carrie Meeber. For example, combinations like "luxurious comfort" juxtaposed with "dreary poverty" encapsulate Carrie's journey from rural indigence to urban affluence.

2. Psychological States: The pragmatical use of language in "Sister Carrie" also delves into the inner lives of the characters. Dreiser's pairing of words related to emotion and perception—such as "nervous excitement" and "mournful contemplation"—serves to convey the fluctuating mental states of individuals navigating the complexities of desire, ambition, and disillusionment.

3. Urban Experience. The word combinations employed by Dreiser capture the dynamism and alienation of city life. Phrases like "bustling crowds" and "lonely streets" evoke the



paradoxical nature of urban existence, where the simultaneous presence of multitudes and isolation shapes the characters' experiences and interactions.

4. Materialism and Consumerism: Dreiser's language choices often reflect the pervasive materialism and consumerism of the period. Combinations such as "shiny trinkets" and "fashionable attire" highlight the allure of material goods and the social value attached to appearances, which significantly influence Carrie's decisions and societal perceptions.

5. Narrative Style: Pragmatically, Dreiser's word combinations contribute to the naturalistic style of the narrative. The careful selection and pairing of words create a realistic portrayal of the characters' environments and experiences, reinforcing the novel's thematic concerns with determinism and the impact of environment on individual fate.

Overall, the pragmatical analysis of word combinations in "Sister Carrie" enriches our understanding of how Dreiser's linguistic choices support the novel's exploration of social, psychological, and existential themes. This analysis underscores the importance of language in constructing the intricate realities of Dreiser's world and the profound implications for the characters within it.

**Conclusion/recommendations.** Through a lingua-pragmatic analysis of word combinations in "Sister Carrie," we have gained deeper insights into the themes and characters of the novel. By examining the nuances and connotations of these word combinations, we have uncovered the layers of meaning and complexity that lie beneath the surface of Dreiser's writing. Ultimately, our analysis has revealed the power of language to convey emotion, symbolism, and social commentary in this timeless work of American literature.



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