

A FRAGMENT OF THE CONTENT OF CHILDREN'S EMOTIVE COMPETENCE REFLECTED IN FICTION

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Abstract. This article explores how children's fiction contributes to the development of emotive competence—the ability to recognize, express, and regulate emotions. Based on insights from Ashurova, Xamzayev and other scholars, it analyzes the emotional and linguistic elements in works such as Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Charlotte's Web. The study shows how characters, dialogue, and narrative structure reflect children's emotional experiences, highlighting fiction's role in shaping emotional intelligence and supporting educational goals.

Key words: emotional development, pragmatic analysis, emotional intelligence, children's speech, literary discourse.

Children's literature functions not only as a source of entertainment but also as a powerful pedagogical tool. It introduces children to social and emotional paradigms that help shape their worldview and emotional understanding. Emotive competence—defined as the capacity to perceive, understand, regulate, and express emotions appropriately—emerges as a core developmental skill facilitated through engagement with literature. The development of emotional competence is deeply rooted in early childhood experiences. Saarni (1999) identifies eight skills comprising emotional competence: awareness of one's own emotions, the ability to discern others' emotions, using emotional vocabulary, empathy, coping with adversity, and emotional communication. Fictional narratives offer children models of behavior and strategies for emotion regulation. Xamzayev (2020) posits that the emotional reflection in children's dialogue is not merely incidental but is often strategically constructed to support psychological realism. This intentional construction of emotional layers fosters young readers' emotional literacy. A key component of emotional depiction in literature lies in linguistic expression. Emotive words, repetition, evaluative adverbs, exclamations, and affective phrases carry significant emotional charge. These subtleties can teach children about pragmatic inference and emotional valence. Children's fiction often employs dialogue as a tool for emotional negotiation. Through conversation, children learn how emotions are expressed, interpreted, and responded to. Pragmatic markers such as hedging ("maybe," "I think"), intensifiers ("so," "really"), and pauses reveal underlying emotions. According to Xamzayev (2020), these markers in dialogues can be analyzed to understand characters' emotional states and the social conventions governing

their interactions. Lewis Carroll's text exemplifies how absurdity and whimsy can serve as a lens for exploring emotional complexity. Alice's shifting identity, physical transformations, and conflicting emotions highlight a child's journey through cognitive and emotional development. Carroll uses literary devices such as rhetorical questions, imperatives, and lexical ambiguity to evoke and reflect Alice's psychological state (Carroll, 1865). This narrative tackles themes of mortality, loyalty, and change. Wilbur's anxiety and Charlotte's calm wisdom model an emotional dyad, showcasing emotional support and reassurance. Emotional competence is built through observing these exchanges and the emotional consequences that follow. The shift in Wilbur's emotions—from fear of death to acceptance—mirrors children's emotional growth. White (1952) utilizes repetition and descriptive passages to slow emotional moments and enhance reader empathy. This novel provides insight into trauma recovery through emotional reconnection. Mary Lennox's emotional detachment transforms as she forms bonds with others and with nature. Emotional competence is portrayed in her journey from isolation to empathy and care. Dialogues between Mary and Colin are pivotal in their emotional development and mutual healing [7.D.M.Kholikova. 2024. 94-96.]. Children's literature provides a safe and immersive environment for discussing difficult emotional experiences. Through literature, children explore abstract emotional themes such as forgiveness, jealousy, and grief—topics that are otherwise hard to verbalize. The emotive competence of children can be significantly nurtured through exposure to emotionally rich fiction. Characters, plots, and dialogues serve as models for emotional reasoning and regulation. Linguistic markers of emotion in children's speech in literature, as discussed by Xamzayev and other scholars, illuminate how language fosters emotional intelligence. These insights have strong implications for educators, authors, and psychologists invested in childhood development.

List of used literature

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