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SPEECH INFLUENCE AS A POWERFUL TOOL IN MODERN AUTHENTIC TEXTS: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

The article examines suggestive speech as a powerful tool used to explore the complexities of identity, migration, and cultural fusion. It is indicated that such speech often deals with themes of hybridity, the blending of multiple cultural identities, and the tensions between different cultural experiences. It is noted that the problem **relevance** is due to the increased interest in suggestive speech functioning in modern discourse, which acts in intercultural contexts and carries nuanced meanings that reflect the characters' diverse backgrounds, histories, and perspectives. The article's *novelty* is determined both by the fact of the little-studied analysis of border writers and by the ever-growing interest in suggestive speech role in their works (which is often overlooked by researchers, since the main attention is directed to the study of the text poetics and problematics, main and secondary characters, etc.). The research **task** is to analyze speech influence as a powerful tool in modern authentic texts and provide a comparative analysis of it. The analysis of speech influence is based on texts of Amy Tan, Frank Chin, and Kyoko Mori.

In modern transcultural literature, suggestive speech is functioning as a powerful narrative tool that conveys the complexity of identity, cultural negotiation, and emotional conflict. By using ambiguous, nuanced, and sometimes silenced speech, modern authors of transcultural literature offer "a window" into their characters' emotional and psychological portraits, highlighting the challenges of balancing multiple cultural identities. The role of speech influence in modern discourse is an increasingly important and complex phenomenon. Speech, whether verbal or non-verbal, plays a pivotal role in shaping public opinion, cultural perceptions, and social identities in contemporary societies. Overall, the role of suggestive speech in modern discourse is multifaceted, influencing everything from national ideologies and social movements to personal identities and intercultural relations. In literature, speech remains to be a potent tool for shaping modern discourse.

Keywords: suggestive speech, authentic text, discourse, border writer, poetics, metaphor.

Ольга Яловенко. Мовленнєвий вплив як потужний засіб у сучасних автентичних текстах: порівняльний аналіз. У статті досліджується сугестивне мовлення як потужний інструмент для інтерпретації складнощів ідентичності, міграції та культурного злиття. Зауважено, що таке мовлення часто торкається тем гібридності, нашарування багатьох культурних ідентичностей і напруги між різним культурним досвідом. Зазначено, що актуальність проблеми зумовлена підвищенням інтересом до функціонування сугестивного мовлення в сучасному дискурсі, яке відбувається в міжкультурних контекстах і несе нюансовані значення, які відображають різноманітне походження та історію персонажів. *Новизна* статті зумовлена як фактом малодослідженості творчості письменників порубіжжя, так і підвищенням інтересом до ролі сугестивного мовлення в їх творах (що часто не помічається дослідниками, оскільки основна увага зосереджена на вивченні поетики і проблематики тексту, головних та другорядних героїв тощо). Завдання статті – проаналізувати мовленнєвий вплив як потужний засіб у сучасних автентичних текстах та провести його порівняльний аналіз. Аналіз мовленнєвого впливу базується на текстах Емі Тан, Френка Чіна та Кьоко Морі.

У сучасній транскультурній літературі сугестивне мовлення функціонує як потужний наративний інструмент, який передає складність ідентичності, культурні переговори та емоційний конфлікт. Використовуючи неоднозначне, нюансоване та іноді замовчуване мовлення, сучасні

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автори транскультурної літератури відкривають «вікно» в емоційний та психологічний портрети своїх героїв, висвітлюючи проблеми балансування багатьох культурних ідентичностей. Роль мовленнєвого впливу в сучасному дискурсі стає більш важливим і складним явищем. Мовлення, вербальне чи невербальне, відіграє ключову роль у формуванні громадської думки, культурного сприйняття та соціальної ідентичності в сучасних суспільствах. Загалом, роль сугестивного мовлення в сучасному дискурсі є багатогранною, впливаючи на все, від національних ідеологій і соціальних рухів до особистої ідентичності та міжкультурних відносин. У літературі мова залишається потужним інструментом формування сучасного дискурсу.

Ключові слова: сугестивне мовлення, автентичний текст, дискурс, порубіжний письменник, поетика, метафора.

Introduction. In the context of globalization, intercultural dialogue and multilingualism are considered to be key elements shaping modern discourse. Speech becomes suggestive and reflective of the tensions and complexities in cross-cultural exchanges, where language differences can create both communication barriers and opportunities for understanding. In modern discourse, suggestive speech is a powerful tool used to explore the complexities of identity, migration, and cultural fusion. It often deals with themes of hybridity, the blending of multiple cultural identities, and the tensions between different cultural experiences.

The problem **relevance** is due to the increased interest in suggestive speech functioning in modern discourse, which acts in intercultural contexts and carries nuanced meanings that reflect the characters' diverse backgrounds, histories, and perspectives.

The article's *novelty* is determined both by the fact of the little-studied analysis of border writers and by the ever-growing interest in suggestive speech role in their works (which is often overlooked by researchers, since the main attention is directed to the study of the text poetics and problematics, main and secondary characters, etc.).

There are different *approaches* to the study of suggestive speech in modern literature: historical, lexical-semantic, cognitive, grammatical, and functional. The research **purpose** is to analyze the comparative and cultural aspects of speech influence, as well as the peculiarities of the functioning of suggestive speech which serves to subtly communicate the emotional and psychological conflicts of characters caught between multiple cultures, highlighting their struggles with language, belonging, and self-perception. Following comparative analysis, it is also important to study the degree of difference in suggestive speech meaning, and also the role of suggestive speech in different cultures.

The research **task** is to analyze speech influence as a powerful tool in modern authentic texts and provide a comparative analysis of it.

Research materials and methods. The analysis of speech influence is based on texts of Amy Tan, Frank Chin, and Kyoko Mori.

The following **research methods** are used in the article: historical and typological (determining the specifics of themes, motifs, images, and story features of the writers' works), hermeneutic (interpretation of various aspects of the literary text), narratological analysis (specifics' analysis of border writers' narrative manner).

Research analysis. The study of verbal suggestion in border writers' poetics is an important problem in the contemporary literature discourse, which covers the issue of language influence, culture and social context on the writers' poetics who have become part of a new linguistic and cultural environment. Verbal suggestion in poetic discourse can include a variety of techniques that allow conveying certain narratives or ideas through specific linguistic constructions that evoke certain emotional or cognitive reactions in readers. The following researchers have analyzed suggestive elements in literary discourse; they were working at the intersection of linguistics, poetics and sociocultural aspects: W. James (1983), Richard G. Charny (1950)*, Anne M. Clarke (1998)†, Jacques Lacan (2014), Wayne C. Booth (1983), and others. Despite the presence of scientific analysis of foreign critics the problem of suggestive speech is not fully investigated yet, which determines further theoretical studies namely in a transcultural context.

Main material. The role of suggestive speech in modern discourse, namely in transcultural literature, serves to: highlight cultural hybridity (the blending of languages, accents, and dialects in speech often reflects the hybrid identities of transcultural characters; these moments of cultural fusion in dialogue can reveal both the richness and the tension of living between different cultures), reflect inner conflict (suggestive speech often reflects the psychological and emotional struggles of characters; through internal monologues or ambiguous dialogue, characters express feelings of alienation, guilt, or confusion that are not always openly articulated but are

**"The Literature of Suggestion"* examines how writers use suggestion to manipulate the reader's emotions through language and text structure.

† The researcher analyzes suggestive elements in F. Scott Fitzgerald, T. Eliot, and others.

implied through their speech), convey the immigrant experience (when speech highlights the immigrant experience, particularly the struggles of adjusting to a new language and a new cultural environment; the nuances of speech – such as mispronunciations, mixed languages, or the rejection of certain terms – reveal the complexity of identity formation in a foreign land), create emotional resonance (by leaving certain emotions unsaid or implied, suggestive speech creates a sense of emotional depth and resonance that mirrors the real-life experience of transcultural individuals, who often feel that their full identities cannot be captured in words).

We will consider the functioning of suggestive speech in modern authors' poetics. *Amy Tan*. Amy Tan is a Chinese-American writer, she is known for exploring themes of cultural identity, generational conflict, and the immigrant experience. She often employs suggestive speech to evoke complex emotions and subtle meanings. Here are some examples of suggestive speech in her writing, particularly in "The Joy Luck Club" (1989):

1. *Symbolism and Metaphors*. In "The Joy Luck Club", Tan uses metaphors to suggest the inner emotional struggles of her characters without directly stating them. For instance, the protagonist's mother, Suyuan Woo, says: "*I see my life like a river, and my daughter is like the river's current. She will change and grow, but always remain true to the water*" [Tan 1989, p. 148]. "The river" metaphor suggests the constant movement and life transformation. It subtly conveys Suyuan's hope and faith that her daughter, despite generational and cultural differences, will remain connected to her heritage, even as she grows and changes.

2. *Subtext in Dialogue*. Throughout "The Joy Luck Club", Tan uses subtle language to convey generational tensions. In a conversation between the characters Jing-mei Woo and her mother, Suyuan, the following lines are spoken with noticeable layers of unspoken emotion: "*Jing-mei: I don't want to be the kind of daughter you want me to be; Suyuan: I want you to be the kind of daughter I never could be. You are lucky. You don't have to sacrifice for anything*" [Tan 1989, p. 194]. These lines, though simple, suggest deep frustration, unmet expectations, and a yearning for connection. The suggestive speech here reflects the emotional gap between the two characters and the generational divide, where the mother's expectations for the daughter carry unspoken weight and history.

3. *Dreams and Warnings*. In "The Joy Luck Club", the character of An-mei Hsu

talks about her mother's sacrifices and how her life was shaped by these choices. An-mei speaks of a time when her mother warned her of the dangers in life: "*A girl who is not like her mother is like a broken dish. She will never be whole again*" [Tan 1989, p. 92]. This statement, though seemingly simple, is heavy with cultural implications. It suggests a lifetime of guilt and brokenness if a daughter does not follow her mother's traditional expectations. The suggestion here is that without the approval of one's mother or heritage, there is a sense of irreparability, but it is implied rather than explicitly stated.

4. *Evoking Emotional States.* Tan often uses the language of food and traditional practices as a means of suggesting deeper emotional connections or conflicts. For example, in the passage where Waverly Jong explains her relationship with her mother, she says: "*I realized I had been like a good bowl of soup – warm, thick, and comforting. But now, I was the soup that had been left on the stove for too long and became bitter*" [Tan 1989, p. 214]. This suggests, through "the soup" metaphor, Waverly's emotional state: she feels misunderstood and disconnected from her mother, but the metaphor also evokes a sense of nostalgia and longing for the warmth of the past, now spoiled by time and conflict.

5. *Cultural Tensions.* In Tan's novel, cultural differences between Chinese-born mothers and their American-born daughters are often portrayed through suggestive speech. For instance, in a conversation between Lindo Jong and her daughter, she says: "*You must let go of your pride, and then your life will be peaceful, like a still lake*" [Tan 1989, p. 178]. The still lake is a symbolic image that carries multiple suggestions – it represents peace and tranquility, but it also evokes the sense of suppression or repression that the mother feels about her life and the cultural expectations she faces. It is not only a physical description of calmness but also an emotional and psychological state that the mother hopes her daughter can attain.

These examples taken from Amy Tan's writing demonstrate how she uses suggestive speech to evoke complex layers of emotion, culture, and identity. By employing metaphors, subtle dialogues, and symbolic imagery, Tan allows readers to feel the unspoken tensions and emotional landscapes of her characters. The use of suggestive speech is crucial for conveying the nuanced relationships between mothers and daughters, and the struggles of immigrant families navigating two cultures.

Frank Chin. Frank Chin is no less important in this context. He is a prominent

Chinese-American playwright, novelist, and essayist, known for exploring themes related to identity, cultural assimilation, and the Asian-American experience. Also, his works often include suggestive speech that reflects the complexities of cultural expectations, generational conflict, and the internal struggles of his characters. We will provide with a few examples of suggestive speech in Chin's poetics:

1. *Metaphors and Symbolism* in "The Chickencoop Chinaman" (1981). In this play, Frank Chin uses suggestive language to explore themes of racial identity and the tension between assimilation and maintaining one's cultural heritage. One of the characters, Wong, uses a metaphor to reflect on his internal conflict: *"I am the Chinaman who sold his soul to the devil, but I still have the receipt"* [Chin 1981, p. 25]. This statement is a suggestive metaphor about cultural betrayal and the price of assimilation. "Selling his soul" image suggests a deep internal conflict, highlighting the tension between retaining cultural authenticity and the pressure to conform to mainstream American values. The "receipt" implies a sense of regret or acknowledgment of the cost of this transformation.

2. *Generational Conflict* in "The Year of the Dragon" (1981). In "The Year of the Dragon", a conversation between a father and son reflects the tension between tradition and modernity, which is often expressed through suggestive speech. The father tells his son: *"You will never be a man until you understand that the world is a chicken coop and you are the rooster"* [Chin 1981, p. 48]. The "rooster" here is symbolic of strength, pride, and dominance, but the comparison also evokes the idea of being confined or trapped in a cycle (a chicken coop), suggesting the limitations of traditional roles. This statement points to the conflict the son feels between embracing the old values of masculinity and the pressures of modernity, which may not align with those values.

3. *Commentary on Racial Identity* in "The Fat Kid" (1991). Frank Chin often critiques how Asian Americans are stereotyped in mainstream culture. In "The Fat Kid", Chin uses suggestive speech to portray how the protagonist struggles with his identity. The character says: *"You don't know what it's like to wear this face and feel like an outsider everywhere you go"* [Chin 1991, p. 89]. This statement carries an emotional weight that speaks to the pain and frustration of navigating a world that does not accept or understand one's ethnic background. The "face" becomes a symbol of racial identity that suggests how deeply entrenched social prejudices can influence an individual's

sense of belonging and self-worth.

4. *Critique of the “Model Minority” Myth* in “Come All Ye Asian American Writers of the Real and the Fake” (2005). In his critique of the “Model Minority” myth, Frank Chin uses suggestive language to challenge the stereotype of the docile, hardworking Asian-American immigrant. The author writes the following: “*They say we’re quiet, we keep our heads down, we work, we don’t complain. But that’s the lie they want you to believe*” [Chin 2005, p. 135]. The suggestion here is that these qualities of quietness and hard work are romanticized and used to suppress the voices of Asian Americans, masking the real struggles they face. The line is loaded with irony and defiance, urging readers to see beyond the stereotype and recognize the complexities of the Asian-American experience.

6. *Themes of Cultural Survival* in “The Year of the Dragon” (1981). In “The Year of the Dragon”, Chin uses suggestive language to depict the survival of culture in the face of overwhelming Americanization. A character reflects: “*You can’t be a dragon in this world and not breathe fire. You have to show them who you are, even if they try to kill you for it*” [Chin 1981, p. 59]. The dragon is a powerful symbol of Chinese culture and strength, but the “fire” in this context suggests the idea of resistance and the necessity of cultural expression, even in a society that might try to suppress or ignore it. This suggestive speech encourages the reader to consider the cost of staying true to one’s identity in a world that demands conformity.

In the above-mentioned examples, Frank Chin uses suggestive speech to highlight internal conflicts, generational tensions, and the struggles of Chinese Americans to navigate between their cultural heritage and the expectations placed on them by mainstream American society. Through metaphors, symbolic language, and subtle critique, Chin’s work engages with themes of identity, resistance, and the complexity of being an immigrant in a society that often marginalizes or misrepresents certain groups.

Kyoko Mori. Kyoko Mori, a Japanese-American author, is known for her evocative exploration of identity, culture, and the immigrant experience. Also, her works include suggestive speech that subtly conveys the internal conflicts and emotional struggles of her characters. We will analyze some examples of suggestive speech in Kyoko Mori’s poetics:

1. *Generational Conflict and Cultural Identity* in “Shizuko’s Daughter” (1994).

In “Shizuko’s Daughter”, Mori uses suggestive speech to highlight the generational divide between the protagonist, Yuki, and her mother, Shizuko. When Yuki reflects on her relationship with her mother, she says the following: *“My mother was like the moon –always present, but I could never touch her”* [Mori 1994, p. 84]. “The moon” metaphor is suggestive of the emotional distance Yuki feels from her mother. The moon is a constant presence but remains out of reach, symbolizing the unattainable nature of Shizuko’s love and emotional warmth. This metaphor suggests a yearning for connection and intimacy, yet an inherent inability to bridge the gap between them, reflecting the tension and isolation Yuki feels in her relationship with her mother.

2. *Cultural Expectations and Silence* in “Shizuko’s Daughter” (1994). In a moment of reflection, Yuki thinks about her mother’s strict, silent nature: *“Her silence was louder than any words she could have spoken, a heavy weight that pressed on my chest”* [Mori 1994, p. 97]. Here, the silence of Yuki’s mother is described as a physical presence, suggesting the emotional burden that silence carries. It is more oppressive and suffocating than any spoken word, implying the depth of emotional distance and unspoken expectations between them. The suggestion here is that cultural expectations of stoicism and restraint are unyielding and difficult to navigate, particularly for the younger generation. Silence (or Chimmoku concept) makes it possible “to consider the structuring mechanism of communication act between the characters in the literary work, to determine the regularities of characters’ SILENCE, and to reveal SILENCE reason” [Yalovenko 2022, p. 179].

3. *Self-Discovery and Inner Conflict* in “The Dream of Water” (1996). In “The Dream of Water”, Kyoko Mori explores themes of personal growth, trauma, and self-discovery. In a reflective moment, the protagonist, Haruko, says: *“I feel as if I am standing on the edge of a cliff, the wind pulling me in different directions, but I cannot step forward or back”* [Mori 1996, p. 68]. The image of standing on the edge of a cliff, with the wind pulling in multiple directions, suggests a feeling of being torn between conflicting desires or identities. It evokes the paralysis that Haruko feels as she navigates the complex emotional terrain of her life. This line hints at her internal struggle and suggests that she is at a crossroads, unable to move forward or backward due to the tension between her desires and external pressures.

4. *The Struggle Between Two Worlds* in “Shizuko’s Daughter” (1994). When Yuki describes her relationship with her father and her struggle to reconcile her

Japanese heritage with her American surroundings, she says: *“I live in two worlds, but neither one is where I belong”* [Mori 1994, p. 114]. This succinct statement suggests the dissonance Yuki feels as she tries to balance her Japanese heritage with the demands and expectations of her American life. The idea of living “in two worlds” suggests cultural displacement, but the phrase “neither one is where I belong” deepens the feeling of alienation. It hints at the emotional and psychological toll of trying to fit into two cultures, neither of which offers a sense of complete belonging or understanding.

5. *Longing and Loss* in “The Dream of Water” (1996). Haruko, reflecting on the loss of her mother, says: *“The silence after her death is not empty; it is full of everything unsaid, everything I never got to hear”* [Mori 1996, p. 92]. This statement suggests that the silence left by the mother is not just the absence of sound, but the presence of all the words and emotions that were never expressed. The “everything unsaid” is a suggestive phrase that evokes a sense of regret and longing for things left unresolved. The speech here implies a deep emotional burden that Haruko carries, as she feels the weight of unspoken words and unfulfilled emotional connections after her mother’s passing.

6. *Cultural Expectations* in “The Dream of Water” (1996). In a conversation with her grandmother, Haruko reflects on her mother’s cultural influence: *“She taught me to keep my thoughts inside, to carry my sadness like a burden, like something I should never put down”* [Mori 1996, p. 112]. This line suggests the cultural expectation of emotional restraint and the unspoken rule in Haruko’s family to hide pain and personal struggles. The “burden” of sadness becomes a metaphor for the weight of cultural expectations that stifle emotional expression. The suggestion here is that Haruko’s mother, and the culture from which she comes, require emotional fortitude, but at the cost of inner turmoil and alienation.

As we understand, Kyoko Mori uses suggestive speech to create emotional depth and subtly convey complex feelings of alienation, cultural conflict, and generational tension. Her characters often experience a sense of disconnection, both from others and from themselves, as they navigate the intricate dynamics of family, culture, and personal identity. Through metaphors, symbols, and poignant language, Kyoko Mori captures the nuances of the immigrant experience and the emotional complexities of reconciling multiple identities.

Conclusions. In modern transcultural literature, suggestive speech is functioning as a powerful narrative tool that conveys the complexity of identity, cultural negotiation,

and emotional conflict. By using ambiguous, nuanced, and sometimes silenced speech, modern authors of transcultural literature offer “a window” into their characters’ emotional and psychological portraits, highlighting the challenges of balancing multiple cultural identities. The suggestion of deeper meanings in speech reflects the intricate nature of living between cultures and provides readers with a more profound understanding of the immigrant experience, cultural dislocation, and the process of self-discovery. The role of speech influence in modern discourse is an increasingly important and complex phenomenon. Speech, whether verbal or non-verbal, plays a pivotal role in shaping public opinion, cultural perceptions, and social identities in contemporary societies. The way characters speak, the language they use, and the power dynamics embedded in speech all have profound effects on shaping literature discourse.

Speech is becoming more instantaneous and widespread. It reflects both the challenges and opportunities of cross-cultural communication. Postcolonial literature highlights how speech in English and other languages negotiates the legacies of colonialism and the formation of new hybrid identities. In a comparative analysis, it is valuable to explore how speech influences modern literature discourse in different contexts, which highlights how speech shapes individual identity, collective movements, and societal trends, and how these dynamics vary in different cultural and societal contexts. In modern discourse, speech influences by either uniting people or dividing them; it can shape national ideologies and define cultural identities. Overall, the role of suggestive speech in modern discourse is multifaceted, influencing everything from national ideologies and social movements to personal identities and intercultural relations. In literature, speech remains to be a potent tool for shaping modern discourse.

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