

Meaning from a Stylistic Point of View



***Meaning* is what is intended to be
or actually is expressed or
indicated.**

A crucial issue for stylistic studies is the ability of a word to be **polysemantic**, i.e. to comprise several lexical meanings. Stylistics takes for granted that a word has an almost unlimited potentiality of acquiring new meanings. Stylistics is more subjective in the perception of meaning in words unlike other branches of linguistics.

Contextual meaning is born in the context and disappear if the context is altered. There is also the notion of the **dictionary meaning** which is materialized in the context.

Grammatical meaning refers our mind to relations between words or to some forms of words or constructions bearing upon their structural functions in the language-as-a-system. There are no words deprived of grammatical meaning since all words belong to some system and consequently have their place in the system and function in speech.

Lexical meaning is a means by which a word-form is made to express a definite concept. Lexical meaning refers the mind to some concrete concept, phenomenon, or thing of objective reality, whether real or imaginary.

Lexical meaning of any word presents a very complicated unity consisting of **connotative** and **denotative** meanings. **Denotative (logical)** meaning is connected with the extra linguistic reality. It is the precise naming of a feature of the idea, phenomenon, or object, the name by which we recognize the whole of the concept.



Connotative meaning is connected with the conditions and participants of communication. Connotation comprises four components: emotive, appraising, expressive and stylistic. If denotation is obligatory in any word, connotation is optional.