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Abstract

The research focuses on linguistic markers of male and female memory reports in computer-based communication. This study is an attempt to investigate how male and female memories differ on the verbal level. The goal of the paper is to identify language resources employed in marking male and female memories and analyze gender-specific features of online recollections.

Theoretical framework

The findings suggest that men and women use different strategies to structure and report their memories. Online communication provides space for anonymous self-representation and gender conditioned self-expression. The analysis scheme was designed based on relevant parameters as described in [Goroshko 2008], [Gritsenko 2005], [Minina 2018], [Tivyaeva 2017].

Data

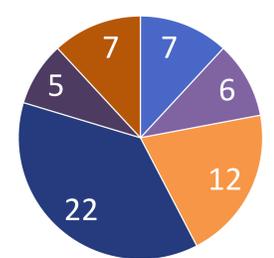
The corpus included 3797 diary entries available online on the MyDiary platform (source: <https://www.my-diary.org/>).

Methods

The designed research procedure was implemented, a combination of digital (SentiStrength) and manual methods (method of contextual analysis, and elements of statistical analysis) being employed in each step.

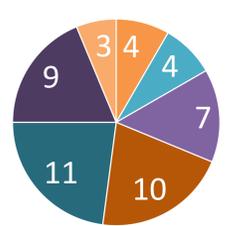
Results

Relevant topics: male



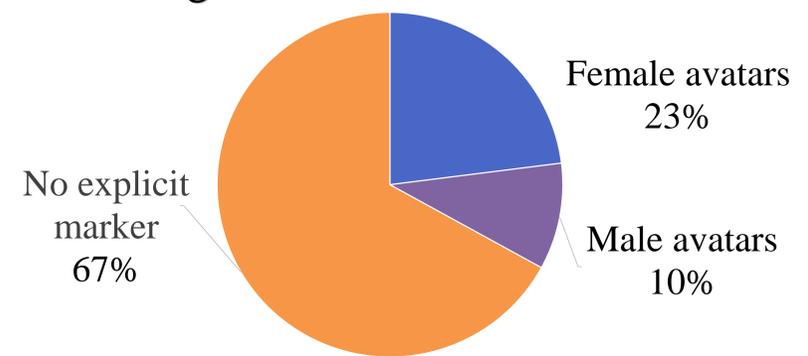
- Celebrities
- Video-games
- Toponyms
- Music
- Hashtags & social media
- Movies, TV-shows

Relevant topics: female



- Healthcare
- Fashion
- Toponyms
- Music
- Hashtags & social media
- Movies, TV-shows
- Celebrities

Nonverbal gender markers



Conclusion

The results demonstrate that male and female memory reports are marked for gender lexically, grammatically, structurally and emotionally. Male memory reports are characterized by simpler syntactic structures, strict structure of narration and less emotional language. Female memory reports use complex syntactic constructions, story-telling patterns, and more emotional language. A critical analysis of memory reports shows that gender differences between male and female memories are more explicit on the lexical and morphological levels and less explicit on the syntactic and communicative levels.

References

1. Goroshko E.I. (2008) Gender aspects of communication on the example of virtual educational practices. OTO (2).
2. Gritsenko E.S. (2005) Language as a means of representing gender: Post-doctoral thesis. N. Novgorod, 405.
3. Minina O.V. (2018). Semantical and structural features of memoirs in Internet communication. Naychnii Dialog, (1), 35-46.
4. Tivyaeva I.V. (2017) Sharing autobiographical memories in English computer-mediated discourse: a linguist's perspective. Brno studies in English, 43.



Grammatical features

Criteria	Male	Female
Verb type	Verbs of actions	Verbs of senses
Tenses and temporal structure	Monotemporal past tenses	Multitemporal present tenses
Sentence structure	Simple	Complex
Ratio of syntactic diversity	0,90	0,91

Communicative level

Criteria	Male	Female
Sentiment analysis	-50	-132
Structuring	1 event in 1 report	2-3 events in 1 report
Appeal to readers	11	28