



Exaggeration In English: A Phonological Perspective

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Abstract

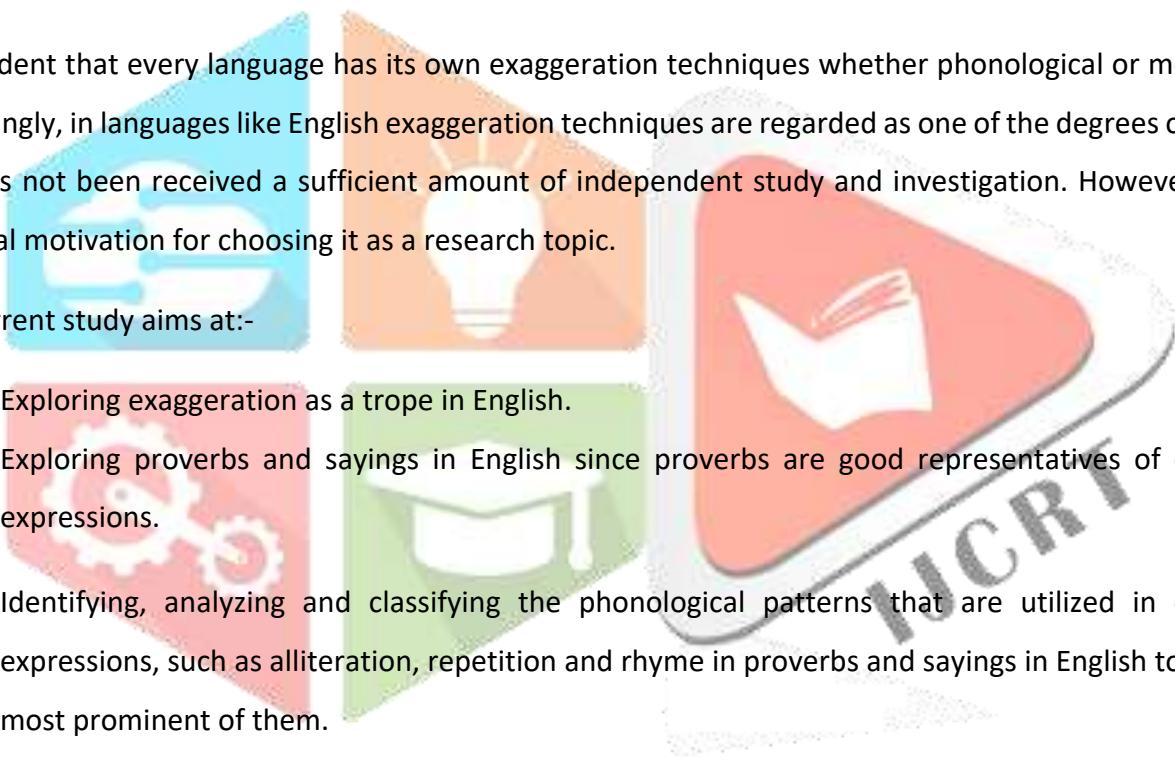
As a term, exaggeration refers to "a statement or description that makes something seem larger, better, worse or more important than it really is" (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 2006: 503). Exaggeration is very common in various languages; in addition to that, it is regularly and widely used in different genres including the genre of proverbs and sayings where it is a genre that represents the culture and the heritage of nations in brevity and with wisdom. For instance, when saying the English proverb, "Many men, many minds", this proverb involves the exaggeration expression (many) as a numerical expression expressing exaggeration. However, such exaggerated proverbs reveal a deep wisdom in words that are decorated with various phonological patterns that characterize them, like sound patterns such as alliteration, repetition and rhyme

Accordingly, proverbs whether in English, are regarded as appropriate data to explore the exaggeration expressions in them phonologically. Hence, the present study aims at exploring, analyzing and classifying exaggeration characterizations in proverbs and sayings through analyzing the use of exaggeration expressions in English proverbs and sayings from a phonological perspective where the data analyzed are: (50) proverbs and sayings from both languages. Moreover, the current study is based on hypotheses revolve around the use of many exaggeration expressions in English that are characterized by various and extensive phonological features. The study concludes that exaggeration expressions are highly and variously manifested in English proverbs and sayings through using various phonological patterns.

Keywords: Exaggeration, Phonology, Prosody, Intonation, Stress patterns.

Introduction

Within figurative language theories, tropes such as metaphor and irony have received the greatest amount of attention, while other non-literal forms, like exaggeration, have been relatively ignored in such intensive research effort. In addition to that, the researcher notices that there is a deliberate ignorance of the phonological and morphological aspects in this respect. Whether because of the complexity or because of the paucity of this endeavor and its resources or not, the exact reason is not clear. Consequently, the researcher attempts to delve these virgin areas and explore them in relation to exaggeration that has been considered as a universal prevalent phenomenon in most languages of our world. As such, proverbs and sayings are chosen as the data of this study because they are wealthy of exaggeration expressions and demonstrations.



It is evident that every language has its own exaggeration techniques whether phonological or morphological. Accordingly, in languages like English exaggeration techniques are regarded as one of the degrees of description that has not been received a sufficient amount of independent study and investigation. However, this is the principal motivation for choosing it as a research topic.

The current study aims at:-

1. Exploring exaggeration as a trope in English.
2. Exploring proverbs and sayings in English since proverbs are good representatives of exaggeration expressions.
3. Identifying, analyzing and classifying the phonological patterns that are utilized in exaggeration expressions, such as alliteration, repetition and rhyme in proverbs and sayings in English to find out the most prominent of them.

However, this study is based on the following assumption which will be verified, i.e., confirmed, or refuted:-

-Various types of exaggeration expressions are used in proverbs and sayings and they are characterized by certain phonological patterns in English.

In the current research, the researcher is going to focus on the different types of exaggeration or hyperbolic expressions found in proverbs or sayings that are chosen at random from English. Thus, proverbs textual analyses are done in order to investigate the collected data that consist of (50) written proverbs and sayings that are characterized by being exaggerated or include exaggeration expressions, English. It is of value in that

the results of this study are worthy for researchers and all those who are interested specifically in English phonology. In fact it fills a gap in the literature.

The data include exaggeration expressions found in proverbs and sayings in English. The exaggeration expressions could be in the form of sounds, simple words, complex words, phrases, or sentences. Thus, the morphology and the phonology of exaggeration expressions are investigated herein by using the analytical descriptive approach.

Definition of Exaggeration

Exaggeration is a rhetorical device that is frequently used in English to emphasize a point or idea. It involves overstating or downstating something to create a more dramatic or humorous effect. Exaggeration can be found in various forms of literature, including poetry, drama, and fiction, as well as in proverbs, sayings, adages and everyday speech. For example, someone might say "It is hotter than the sun outside" when they actually mean it is just a really warm day. It is often used in humor to create comedic effect, but it can also be used in serious contexts to emphasize a specific point. It is a common tool used in advertising and political campaigns to create a strong emotional response in the audience.

In his definition of the degree of exaggeration, Crystal defines exaggeration as a term used in the grammatical description of adjectives and adverbs, in terms of expressing degrees of adjectives, and determining the extent to which it describes the noun. David Crystal states that the degree of comparison and exaggeration can be expressed by using a post-adjective suffix (+er) to strengthen or by using words preceding or following the adjective called intensifiers (Crystal, 2008: 11). He also sees that the exaggeration pattern is used to express a comparison between more than two entities in terms of having specific adjective, revealing that exaggeration differs from the degree of comparison, in terms of the presence of two concerned entities to be compared (ibid.).

Devices of Exaggeration

Exaggeration can utilize many devices, including hyperbole, irony, simile, metaphor, rhetorical questions, amplification, and embellishment.

-Simile

Simile is a comparison of unlike things using the word "like" or "as". In other words, simile is an indirect comparison of two things, which are unlike in their sense. It includes an explicit comparison of two different

things or concepts. Simile differs from metaphor in that the latter, the comparison is indirect and no connectives (as, like, such) are used.

-Metaphor

Metaphor is a figure of speech that indirectly compares one thing to another to create an image or effect without using the words "as, like and such" in creating comparison. It can be used in exaggeration to amplify a statement or add emphasis or make evaluation. Dickins (2005: 232) differentiates between two categories of metaphor. The first category is lexicalized metaphor, which involves the use of metaphorical meaning which is relatively fixed in a certain language such as 'rat' which metaphorically means 'a person who deserts his friends and associates'. The other category is non-lexicalized metaphor in which the

-Irony

It is a common rhetorical device which involves saying one thing and meaning the opposite. For instance, the exclamation "What a lovely weather!" uttered when it is raining is ironic. When irony is directed at another person, it can serve as a form of polite criticism, such as the evaluation "Aren't you clever!" (Wales, 2011, 240).

-Mockery

"The act of making fun of someone or something in a mocking or exaggerated way, often to belittle or criticize it". Examples include making fun of someone's appearance, accent, or mannerisms, or using exaggerated gestures or facial expressions to mock someone (Merriam-Webster Dictionary).

-Satire

Satire is a type of literary work or art that uses humor, irony, and exaggeration to criticize or expose human follies, vices, or social issues. As exaggeration is distinguished as a form of extremity, it either magnifies or minimizes some real state of affairs so it is not intended to be taken literally where it produces ridicule or satire when applied to banal topics (Cano Mora, 2004).

-Stereotype

It is an exaggerated or simplified representation of a person or group, often based on prejudices or assumptions. Examples include stereotypical portrayals of ethnic or cultural groups in movies or TV shows, or gender stereotypes such as the idea that women are emotional and men are rational (Cambridge Dictionary).

Functions of Exaggeration

Exaggeration is a common literary and rhetorical device used to emphasize a point or create a humorous effect. It uses hyperbole besides other tools of amplification to intentionally express a specific information or fact in

exaggerated manner (Al-Attar, 2017: 163). Here are some functions of exaggeration in everyday life, literature and rhetoric:

- **Emphasis**
- **Memory Aid**
- **Evaluation and generalization**
- **Persuasion**
- **Contrast**
- **Humor**
- **Emotional Impact**
- **Visual Imagery**
- **Characterization**

Previous studies

Exaggeration is one of the prevalent phenomena in this global world and has its importance role in various fields of live. It is a universal common figure of speech utilized by majority of languages of the world including English. It is often used in literature, both in fiction and non-fiction, to create a more vivid and engaging reading experience. There have been studies on exaggeration in British and American literature, as well as many approaches to understanding this figure of speech have been recognized including descriptive, analytical and computational approaches.

"Measuring Correlation-to-Causation Exaggeration in Press Releases", (2019).

In this study Yu, Wang, Guo and Li (2019) highlight exaggeration in press releases concerning the correlational relationships in scientific health studies, which are often exaggerated as being causal relations instead of being correlational. Furthermore, they find that exaggeration is more prevalent in universities than in press releases. Even though, decreasing in this scientific or academic type of exaggeration is regarded encouraging, thus they recommend conducting more research to explore this changing pattern in exaggeration.

"Exaggeration and Understatement in English and Chinese: A corpus-Based Study", (2019).

In this study, Chunmei Li (2019) compares the use of exaggeration and understatement in English and Chinese, analyzing the linguistic features of these phenomena in both languages. The author argues that cultural and social factors play an important role in shaping the use of exaggeration and understatement in different communicative contexts.

Data: Proverbs and Sayings

It is a well-known fact that exaggeration is found in the essence of proverbs and sayings, and it is an integral part of them where the meaning of a proverb in general proposes exaggeration in many of them. This is due to the role that exaggeration plays in order to add, assert and maintain the meaning that proverbs attempt to convey. The literature review in the current study states that exaggeration expressions are studied from different point of view including the syntactic, semantic and stylistic. However, the researcher notices that proverbs and sayings possess certain exaggerating characteristics that are related to the phonological aspect, a case which makes them a good choice to be analyzed as data in the current investigation.

According to the leading paremiologist Mieder (1985:119), a proverb is "a short generally known sentence of folk which contains wisdom, truth, and morals and traditional views in a metaphorical, fixed and memorable form and which handed down from generation to generation".

Baldick (2008: 274) goes to say that a proverb is: "A short popular saying of unknown authorship, expressing some general truth or superstition: Too many cooks spoil the broth". Proverbs are found in most cultures, and are often very ancient.

A quick glimpse on these definitions reveals that there are certain features that seem necessary to be available in a proverb in order to be accepted and circulated among people such as, its wording, meaning and pronunciation.

Some Exaggeration Characteristics of Proverbs and Sayings

To start with, exaggeration is commonly used not only in a proverb but also in other literary genres and in ordinary speech. The effect of exaggeration can be achieved by various features and means, such as by the use of numerals, comparatives and superlatives, single words with absolute or general meanings, repetition and others (Athanasiadou, 2017: 52–53). In his turn, Norrick (1985) provides various examples that reveal how some features are utilized to express exaggeration. An example of a figurative exaggerated comparison expression is, "I avoid mornings like the plague if I can", an example of repetition is "for ages and ages and ages" and an example of a numeral used for exaggeration is "hundreds of times". Moreover, proverbs include one word to reveal exaggeration, for example, "Far shooting never killed bird", which uses a single word with absolute meaning to gain the desired effect. Similarly, "All is fair in love and war" uses the hyperbolic word "all". Finally, the effect of hyperbole achieved by the use of numerals is illustrated in the proverb "One father is more than one hundred schoolmasters" (Norrick, 1985: 131–133).

Consequently, the phonological, morphological, semantic, and syntactic features that are often distinguished in proverbs across languages may be termed "proverbial markers". They are used to attain specific functions including exaggeration and cohesion where scholars have identified that expressiveness of proverbs and sayings

can be consolidated by phonological and morphological peculiarities through using special speech means in their structure (Magomedov et. al, 2019: 43).

Through reviewing literature and previous studies on proverbs and sayings in relation to exaggeration in English and Arabic, the researcher finds that the most distinctive features of proverbs and sayings are:-

Phonic Features

There is a set of features that characterize English proverbs. These features make them easy to learn and remember. This is due to certain stylistic devices that encircle them (Hernadi & Steen, 1999:4). These features include alliteration, parallelism, rhyme and ellipsis. Some of these stylistic devices are phonemic like alliteration, assonance, and rhyme. Others are syntactic like parallelism or balance and ellipsis. Alliteration, the repetition of similar consonant sounds, is a common characteristic of English proverbs as in the alliteration between "will" and "way" in the proverb "Where there is a will, there is a way." and the alliteration between forgive and forget in the proverb "Forgive and forget". Also assonance, the repetition of similar vowel sounds is a very familiar feature of English proverbs, as in the assonance between the short vowel sound /i/ of stitch and in and also between the diphthong sound /ai/ of time and nine in the proverb "A stitch in time saves nine." (Hernadi and Steen 1999:4).

Rhyme is also a familiar feature in some English proverbs as in the rhyme between the words "east", "west" and "best" in the proverb, "East or west, home is best." and between the word "day" and "away" in the proverb "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." and between the word "away" and "play" in the proverb "When the cat is away, the mouse will play." (ibid.).

Dickins, Hervey and Higgins (2002) also uncover that the formal features of any text include the phonic/graphic level, the prosodic level, the grammatical level, the sentential level and the discourse level; however, proverbs and sayings are no exception. They contends that "we can think of the phonic/graphic level as being at the bottom of the hierarchy, followed further up by the prosodic level, the grammatical level, the sentential level, the discourse level, and at the very top the intertextual level. For them, these features constitute the formal matrix" (Dickins, Hervey and Higgins, 2002: 79).

They see that "Language is nothing without the sounds of the utterances we hear, or the shape on the page of those we read: every text is a phonic/graphic configuration" (ibid.).

Poeticity

More generally, proverbs may be described as 'poetic' in nature. "A proverb wastes no words. Proverbs are written in poetic form, and poetry in general is compact language" (Longman III, 2002: 38). In her turn, Clarke contends that proverbs "may be exquisitely poetical", through providing the Indian proverb, "The sandal tree perfumes the axe that fells it" (Clarke, 2004: 43).

Equational Structure

Another familiar feature in English proverbs is parallelism. Balance is a common feature in English proverbs which is achieved through parallel clauses or phrases, as between the two prepositional phrases "in the hand" and "in the bush" in the English proverb "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." (Hernadi and Steen 1999: 4).

The Phenomenon of Repetition

Repetition is regarded as an aspect of balance or parallelism, as in the repetition of the preposition "in" in the English proverb "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush". Other examples from English proverbs showing the balance aspect of repetition are "Never say never.", "Death's day is dooms day." and "Different strokes for different folks." (Hernadi and Steen 1999:4).

Metaphorical Language



Additionally, English proverbs is featured by "the frequent and general use of figurative language", especially metaphor, and many other figures of speech such as hyperbole, as in the proverb " All is fair in love and war." (Abo Altimen, 2015: 14017).

Metaphor is a figure of speech which involves describing something in terms of something else. The thing that is being described is termed the source, while the thing that is used to describe it is called the target (Shen and Wang, 2019: 589). Proverbs are particularly suited for the use of metaphor because both use images to describe something new in terms of something already known and familiar. To illustrate the operation of metaphor on a proverb, a good example is, "Fair play is a jewel". Here, "fair play" is the source, that which is being described. "Jewel" is then the target, that which is used to describe "fair play". "Fair play" is described in terms of a jewel not because it is literally a jewel but because jewels are valuable, and so is fair play. High value is a common feature characteristic for both jewels and fair play, and this shared aspect is what the metaphor is based on

Phonological Characteristics Found in Proverbs

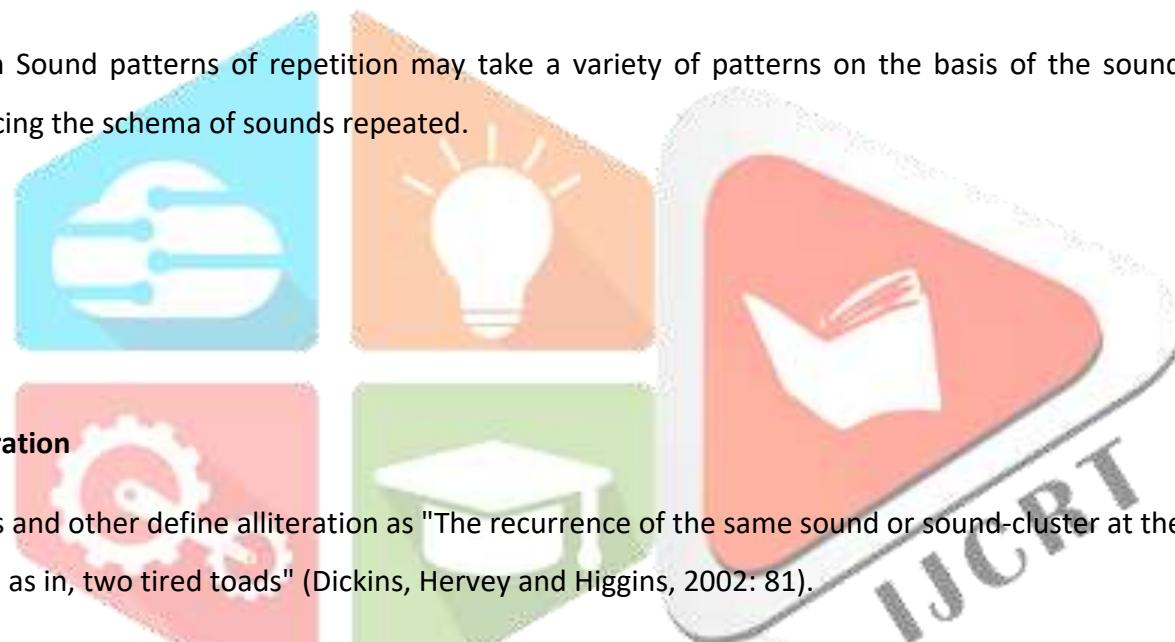
As reflected in the title, this section addresses major and minor inquiries all of them revolve around the intimacy between the creative process of revealing exaggeration and sound patterning in proverbs and sayings as a literary genre, whether it is tremendously causal or vastly deliberated to arrive at the phonological characterization or realizations of exaggeration.

Mieder claims that a range of devices collectively operate to influence the concept of "proverbial style", the most important of them are: parallelism, ellipsis, alliteration, rhyme, metaphor, personification, paradox, and hyperbole (Mieder, 2004: 7)

As such, proverbs differ in many respects from natural, spontaneous speech. Apart from the obvious differences on the syntactic level, proverbs also manifest distinctive features on the phonological level. Like poetry, proverbs exploit various phonological stylistic devices, including alliteration, assonance, consonance, rhyme and rhythm. Arora (1994) includes these phonological devices among what is called "proverbial markers" that distinguish proverbs from ordinary speech or other stock phrases. Proverbs in different languages across the world share many formal characteristics, which holds true also for their specific phonological features (ibid.).

Patterns of Sound Repetition

English Sound patterns of repetition may take a variety of patterns on the basis of the sounds involved in producing the schema of sounds repeated.



Alliteration

Dickins and others define alliteration as "The recurrence of the same sound or sound-cluster at the beginning of words, as in, two tired toads" (Dickins, Hervey and Higgins, 2002: 81).

In proverbs and also other literary genres, alliteration as an iteration of sounds contributes to the pleasant musical effect of the text and easy memorability where the relationship between these sounds can paint the harmony achieved especially in the exaggerated proverbs as shown in the following example in which the repetition of the voiced bilabial nasal in "Many men, many minds" or the repetition of the voiceless alveolar plosive /k/ in "Cut your coat according to your cloth" (Sachkova, 2012: 16).

Assonance

Assonance is the recurrence of similar vowel sounds preceded and followed by different consonants, in the stressed syllables of adjacent words (Hervey and Higgins, 1992: 76). For example: In proverbs, an example of assonance can be found for example in the repetition of the spread vowel sound /i:/ preceded and followed by different consonants in the proverb "seeing is believing", in the words (seeing, believing). In English it is the repetition of the same vowel sound in the middle of words. But, it is not as clear in Arabic as in English (Akan,

Karim, and Chowdhury, 2019: 63). Assonance is regarded sometimes as a specific variant of alliteration. Like alliteration, it uses the repetition of sounds, but unlike alliteration, assonance refers to the repetition of vowel sounds in words coming close together rather than consonance, typically in stressed syllables (Roach, 2002: 9). As other phonological devices, assonance contributes to the melody of the statement and makes the statement easier to be remembered, as in the repeating of the diphthong sound /əʊ/ in the proverb "a rolling stone gathers no moss", in the words (stone, moss).

Consonance

It is a kind of inverted alliteration in which the final consonants rather than initial or medial ones are repeated in nearby words. Like assonance and alliteration, consonance helps the memorability of the proverb and enhances its melody and rhythm (Roach, 2002: 16). Consonance follows the same principles as assonance, but the repeated sound is consonant, as the name reveals. It is the repetition of consonants in a word stressed in the same place (vowels are different). For example: "Hope for the best, prepare for the worst", "where love fails, we espy all faults"

Rhyme

Rhyme is among the most frequently used phonological devices in poetry and prose. However, "rhyme" is a term that is used in "metrical phonology" and involves matching sounds at the final consonants to create a very clear audible sense of pattern. It includes the repetition of the same or similar sounds, typically syllables, usually at the end of words. Rhyme as a phonemic matching occurs usually consistently in words that are at a certain distance from each other (Crystal, 2008: 417). Similarly, in proverbs, the rhyme is typically placed at the end of each of the two parts of the proverb in the case of structurally binary proverbs. This sound patterning which is manifested in both English and Arabic reflects, in most parts, the sound characteristics of these proverbs, for example: "Health is better than wealth", "Man proposes God disposes".

In respect to proverbs, rhyming components, as a rule, are the main notional centers of proverbs and saying, for instance, "A word is silver, silence is gold" (Magomedov et al., 2019: 44). It involves using words with similar sounds, typically at the end of intervals to create a sense of pattern or emphasis. While it is not inherently exaggerative, it can be employed to amplify certain qualities. For example:

"His snoring was roaring, soaring, and exploring" (Exaggerating the intensity of snoring)

"She walked with a prance, in a dazzling dance" (Exaggerating the gracefulness of walking) (Ali, 2022: 10).

Additionally, Dickins, Hervey and Higgins (2002: 81) state that "We shall say that two words rhyme where the last stressed vowel, and all the sounds that follow it, are identical and occur in the same order, as in

(bream/seem)". According to them, rhyme is a characteristic of the proverb in English as it is clear in the following proverbs: "who goes a borrowing, goes a sorrowing", and "Truth may be blamed, but cannot be shamed"

There are various types of rhyme, specifically, the end rhyme, internal rhyme, and eye rhyme. The end rhyme is the most obvious type where it occurs at the end of each phrase or segment and the sound repetition involves the last syllable of the word. It facilitates memorization of proverbs because it adds a musical rhythm to them. Rhyme, along with other phonological stylistic devices, adds an aesthetic dimension to proverbs since the repetition of sounds creates a kind of euphony. Furthermore, rhyme creates in proverbs the "effect of giving authority of being someone else's statement" (Arora, 1994, 12). Examples of the end rhyme in proverbs include "Men may meet but mountains never greet" and "What can't be cured must be endured". These proverbs use rhyme always in two words, each at the end of one segment: (meet/greet), and (cured/endured). Another type of rhyme is the internal rhyme. In this case, rhymed words occur not at the end of segments but anywhere in the middle, between the first and the last word. An example of the internal rhyme includes "**Haste** makes **waste**" (ibid.).

The last type of rhyme is the eye rhyme, also called a visual rhyme. In which words are spelled in an identical way, they look like they would rhyme, but when spoken; they do not rhyme because they are pronounced differently. An example of the eye rhyme is "An April **flood** carries away the frog and her **brood**". It seems that the eye rhyme is not phonologically dependent, instead it relies on spelling. (Wales, 2011: 371). This type of rhyme is very frequent in English, in words such as (move, love; come, home; laughter, daughter; flood, brood) (Britannica, 2019).

The Phonological Analysis of Proverbs

1. "Right as rain"

Transcription	/rʌɪt ə reɪn/
Exaggeration realization	Comparison is a prominent indication of exaggeration. It takes place between what is 'right' and the often used as characteristic of rain, that is of clarity
Alliteration	Alliteration of voiced glide sound / r/ at the beginning of the close words (right/rain)

Assonance	Diphthongs vowel sounds /aɪ/ and /eɪ/ are compound vowels that have some identical features occur in the middle of (right/rain) and provide musical sense
Consonance	---
Rhyme	---

2. "Where there is a will, there is a way"

Transcription	/weə ðeə zə <u>wil</u> ðeə zə <u>wei</u> /
Exaggeration realization	Exaggeration by repetition of the clause (there is a---) two times
Alliteration	-Semi-vowel voiced glide /w/ is repeated three times -Fricative voiced /ð/ is also repeated twice.
Assonance	---
Consonance	---
Rhyme	End Rhyming takes place through the repetition of the diphthong /eə/ at the end of (where/ there)

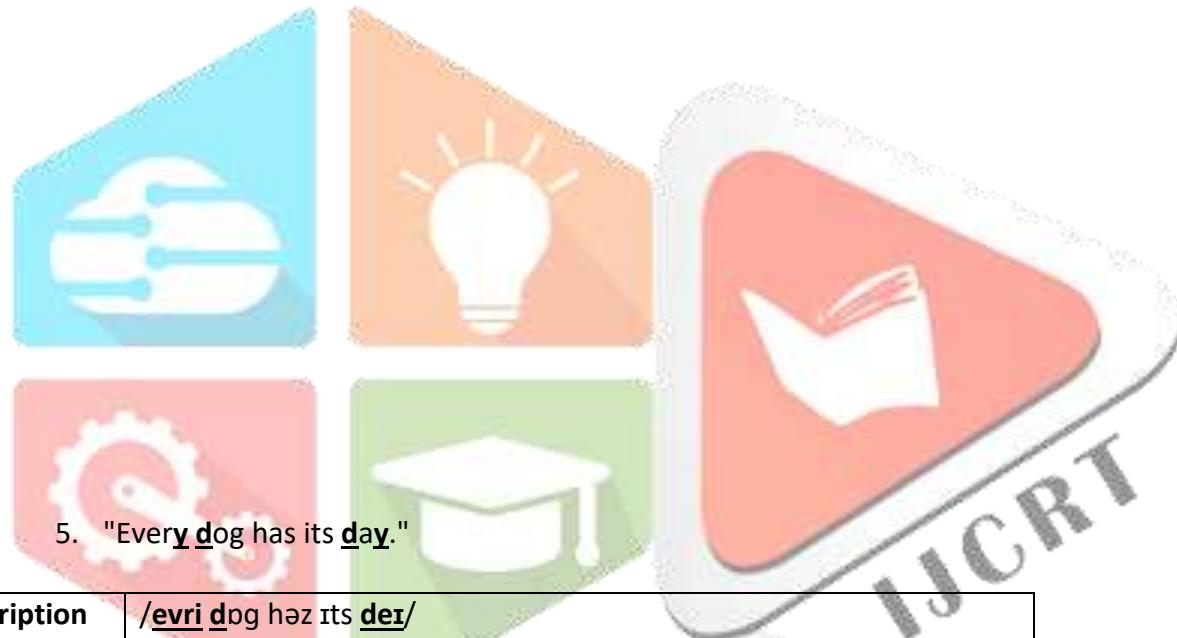


3. "Empty vessels make the most noise"

Transcription	/empti vezəlz <u>merk</u> ðə <u>məʊst</u> noɪz/
Exaggeration realization	Using the superlative (most) is considered as one of the important techniques of exaggeration
Alliteration	Alliteration is achieved here by repetition of the nasal sound /m/ three times
Assonance	---
Consonance	Consonance of voiced alveolar fricative /z/ at the end of vessels and noise
Rhyme	---

4. "You're never too old to learn."

Transcription	/juə nevə tu: əʊld tə lɜ:n/
Exaggeration realization	Using the adverb (never), in addition to using (too+adj+to) kind of comparison to express exaggeration
Alliteration	Alliteration of the voiceless plosive alveolar sound /t/ at the start of (to, too)
Assonance	Repetition of the schwa sound /ə/ at the end of (you're and never)
Consonance	---
Rhyme	---



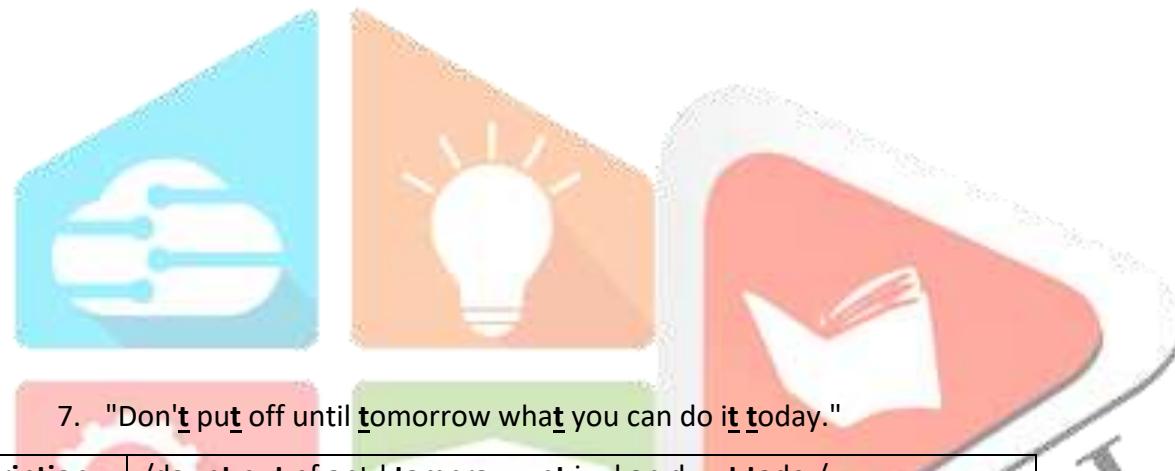
5. "Every dog has its day."

Transcription	/evri dɒg həz ɪts deɪ/
Exaggeration realization	Using the frequency adverb (every) (emphatic plural) to make generalization
Alliteration	Using the voiced plosive sound /d/ twice at the beginning of (dog/day)
Assonance	---
Consonance	---
Rhyme	eye-rhyme here is achieved by means of repetition the letter (y) which pronounced as short vowel /i/ and the spread diphthong /eɪ/ in (every and day) respectively

6. "That book is as thick as a brick"

Transcription	/ðæt bʊk z əz θɪk əz ə brɪk/
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Exaggeration realization	Exaggeration by using figurative language through employing simile (as+adj+as)
Alliteration	Alliteration is achieved through repeating the voiced plosive bilabial /b/
Assonance	Assonance is clear in (thick/brick)
Consonance	Plosive voiceless velar sound /k/ is repeated three times in (book, thick and brick) to make consonance pattern effect
Rhyme	Plosive voiceless velar sound /k/ is repeated two times in (thick and brick) to achieve end rhyme effect



7. "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do it today."

Transcription	/dəʊnt pʊt ɒf əntɪl təmbrəʊ wɒt ju: kən du: ɪt tədeɪ/
Exaggeration realization	Using the negative form (don't) is one indicator of exaggeration. It is in fact equal to using the adverb (never) that is one prominent indication of exaggeration. In addition to the existence of the contrast between (tomorrow/today)
Alliteration	Alliteration is present here at the beginning of (tomorrow/today) through the voiceless plosive alveolar sound /t/ at the onset of (tomorrow/today)
Assonance	---
Consonance	As for consonance, it is achieved by means of the repetition of the voiceless plosive alveolar sound /t/ four times at the end of (don't, put, what, it)
Rhyme	---

8. "Rome wasn't built in a day"

Transcription	/rəʊm wəzn̩t bɪlt ɪn ə deɪ/
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Exaggeration realization	Exaggeration by understatement using negative statement
Alliteration	---
Assonance	---
Consonance	Voiceless plosive alveolar sound /t/ is iterated here at the end of (wasn't and built) to introduce the pattern of consonance
Rhyme	---

9."Honesty is the best policy."

Transcription	/ɒnəsti ɪz ðə <u>best</u> pɒləsi/
Exaggeration realization	Superlative (best) is used to express exaggeration where it is extensively used in English as a prominent feature of exaggeration
Alliteration	Alliteration of the close voiced and voiceless bilabial plosive sounds /b/ and /p/ at the beginning of (best) and (policy) respectively
Assonance	---
Consonance	---
Rhyme	The vowel sound /i/ is used at the end of (honesty and policy) to make end rhyming

10."Misery loves company."

Transcription	/mɪzəri ʌvz kʌmpəni/
Exaggeration realization	Exaggeration by nature where the nature of words suggests generalization and consequently exaggeration
Alliteration	---
Assonance	---
Consonance	---
Rhyme	The short vowel sound /i/ at the end of (honesty and policy) makes the effect of end rhyming of (misery/company) and adds cohesion to this proverb

CONCLUSIONS

Drawing on the aforementioned analysis and results, the researcher has arrived at several concluded points, the most important of them include:-

1-Exaggeration expressions in the exaggerated proverbs and sayings are variously and extensively used as a figurative phenomenon in the English language. However, they are characterized by having phonological properties and patterns, the most notable of them are:-

- A. The extensive use of all kinds of alliteration is evident; therefore, alliteration can be regarded as important phonological characterization of exaggeration.
- B. Rhyme is widely used in proverbs and sayings that are characterized by being exaggerated. Thus, it can be regarded as a significant techniques denoting exaggeration.
- C. Consonance and assonance are used less frequently than alliteration and rhyme in English proverbs.

As far as verifying the hypotheses is concerned, it is confirmed, i.e., various types of exaggeration expressions are used in proverbs and sayings and they are characterized by certain phonological characteristics in English.

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