

Individual essay contest

**“Unity in Diversity: Russia and the English-Speaking  
World. Time for Equal Opportunities”**

**DEEP HATRED FROM GREAT LOVE**

**«ГЛУБОКАЯ НЕНАВИСТЬ ОТ ВЕЛИКОЙ ЛЮБВИ»**

**«CHUVASH STATE UNIVERSITY NAMED AFTER I. N. ULYANOV»**



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## Theses

1. Every person is different; there are no two people in the world who think and feel completely the same

2. A person's consciousness and ability to feel may depend on their native language, culture, national values, etc.

3. The lexemes "love" and "hate" in reliable lexicographic sources of the Russian and English languages are defined similarly, but still have their distinctions.

4. Russian and English literary figures have a similar assessment of the lexemes "love" and "hate" in many ways, but there are fundamental differences.

5. Comparison of Russian and English classics, using the examples of "Jane Eyre" and "War and Peace," showed that Russian and English authors reveal the themes of "love" and "hate" in different ways in their works.

6. The difference in the definition of the concepts of "love" and "hate" in British and Russian literature has a place to be but is fully justified.

## **Deep hatred from great love**

There are no two identical personalities in the world. Each of us perceives the world differently. We think and feel in unique ways, despite having the same fundamental structure. Something inside us makes each of us special, completely different from one another. There are no two people in the world who can feel exactly the same. We rejoice and grieve, we cry and laugh, we love and hate, and each of us does it in our own way. Yet despite our individuality, some circumstances can make our reasoning similar to the reasoning of other people.

At the moment, this phenomenon is still not fully understood, but there is a point of view that certain grammatical structures in a language can influence the consciousness of a native speaker to a certain extent. The most radical point of view is presented in the hypothesis of "linguistic relativity," also known as the "Sapir-Whorf hypothesis," which holds that the structure of the language natively spoken by people defines the way they view the world and interact with it.

Consciousness is also influenced by the environment in which a person was formed. Besides this, consciousness depends on the mentality of his native country, culture, traditions, religion, classical literature and so on. All of these factors contribute to each linguistic culture forming its own emotional concepts. These concepts, in turn, convey the Russian concept of "ethnos," or collective identity.

"Love" and "hate" are two extremes that are individually characterized by passion. These phenomena are depicted as states of attraction to a person or object or, conversely, aversion to it.

"Love" and "hate" are typical evaluative categories. Love has a positive social significance, i.e. it is a value. While hatred, on the contrary, has a negative significance, or an anti-value. The main difference between love and hatred is

that they carry different goals and opposite meanings. Hatred is an intense, negatively colored, destructive feeling. It reflects rejection, unpleasant and hostility towards to something disgusting. Love is a feeling of deep affection and aspiration for another person or object.

To understand how the concepts of "love" and "hate" are perceived in Russian and English linguistic culture, it is best to consider the interpretation of these concepts in the most reliable lexicographic sources. The systematization of these concepts is presented in Appendix 1.

To understand how the lexemes "love" and "hate" are expressed in Russian and British literature, consider the assessment of these concepts presented by the authors of literary works.

Russian poets and writers define love as follows: " Through love, through loves, as legends state it two kindred souls seek fusion true..." (F. I. Tyutchev's "Predestination"). [3] A. S. Pushkin in the poem "The inscription on the wall of the hospital" compares love to disease: "The disease is incurable love!" [4] Marina Tsvetaeva defines love as something terrible: "Sinful Love, Terrible Love!" In the verse "You tell us about spring," [5] R. Rozhdestvensky believes that love gives rise to everything: " It all begins with love: enlightenment, and work, the eyespots on a peacock's tail, the first look you give to a baby it — all begins with love" [6]

After analyzing other Russian works about love, I concluded that poets often personify love as suffering and torture, but also often talk about love as something sublime and beautiful. The number of Russian poems about hate is significantly fewer than those about love. Usually, the authors correlate love and hate, thus showing an indissoluble connection between absolutely opposite phenomena. As an example, you can use the verse of I. Severyanin's "Return love:" " Then hate tries to love or would love want to hate?" [7] The connection between love and hate was also written about in Vysotsky's "Ballad about Hatred:" "Hatred won't long stay concealed or immobile; Drink, for the chalice

of wrath overflows! But in our hearts, ruled by hate pure and noble, Love, too, unfaillingly flows." [8]

English writers and poets also express their thoughts about love. William Shakespeare evaluates love as a wise form of insanity: "Here's what love is: a smoke made out of lovers' sighs. When the smoke clears, love is a fire burning in your lover's eyes... What else is love? It's a wise form of madness..." [9] Also, Shakespeare compares love to disease in Sonnet 147: "My love is as a fever, longing still for that which longer nurseth the disease." [10] Robert Burns compares love to a rose: "My love is like a red, red rose / That's newly sprung in June: My love is like a melody / That's sweetly played in Tune." [11]

An analysis of British love stories has shown that poets and writers define love as a sublime feeling that inspires freedom.

British poets and writers do not define hate as frequently as love in their works. George Gordon Byron defines hatred as "the madness of the heart."

An analysis of the definitions of such lexemes as "love" and "hate" in British and Russian literature has shown that in both languages "love" is a bright feeling that inspires, exalts and elevates. However, love for a Russian is associated with negative emotions, primarily with suffering. As for the concept of "hate," its main identifier in Russian and English is the intensity of hatred as an emotion.

To further understand how love and hate are represented in Russian and British literature, I compared two classic works written around the same timeframe, namely in the first half of the 19th century. I analyzed and compared two novels: Leo Tolstoy's "War and Peace" and Charlotte Bronte's "Jane Eyre."

Jane Eyre is one of the world's finest novels. This novel is not so much about love as it is about the life and wanderings of the poor girl Jane Eyre, the story of her struggle for her dignity against the background of depicting various strata of society. In the novel, there is a love line that strikes the core - the love of Jane Eyre and Mr. Rochester. This love was not supposed to take place, and

many obstacles surfaced on its way, ranging from social status to the pernicious fact that Mr. Rochester was married. Charlotte Bronte portrays love as a test through which happiness is revealed - a happy marriage between Jane and Edward.

The hatred in the novel is represented by Miss Sarah Reed's attitude towards Jane Eyre. Sarah hated Jane from the first moment she saw her. She was against Jane's parents' marriage. Miss Reed wanted to get rid of Jane. However, her aunt's hatred was not justified. John Eyre expressed a desire to have his niece come to live with him — but Reed, out of hatred for Jane, couldn't allow her to grow up in luxury. She wrote to him that Jane had died of typhus in the Lowood orphanage. It was a lie that weighed heavily on her heart for the remainder of her life, but she did tell Jane about it.

Charlotte Bronte describes hate as the exact opposite of love. In the novel Jane says "I could have loved you, but you wouldn't let me." [12]

Let's also consider the manifestation of love and hate in the Russian novel "War and Peace" by Leo Tolstoy. Love in the novel "War and Peace" is the main driving force in the lives of the characters. They love and suffer; hate and care; despise; discover truths; hope; and wait – and all of this is love. The most pronounced is the love line of Andrei Bolkonsky and Natasha Rostova. Andrei Bolkonsky has passed a difficult moral path to his true love, to the understanding of his destiny. Married to Lisa, he had no family happiness. The rebirth of his soul will occur after a meeting with Natasha Rostova. He died in Natasha's arms, and his soul found peace. Just before his death, he said to Natasha: "...I love you too much. More than anything in the world." Love in Tolstoy's novel is presented in the form of healing power. Love does not come overnight, love must be found and earned. Only then it will help you find peace of mind.

Hatred in the novel "War and Peace" is represented by the attitude of Andrei Bolkonsky to Anatoly Kuragin. Kuragin became an obstacle into the

love of Andrey and Natasha, almost destroying their love. However, Bolkonsky still forgives Kuragin when he sees his vulnerability to death. Leo Tolstoy shows hatred as a feeling that can destroy. This emotion gives rise to terrible thoughts, but hatred can be defeated. [13]

"Love" and "hate" are treated very differently in these novels. However, there are common features between these views.

The theme of love is always relevant and excites people regardless of their nation; English and Russian poets convey the whole range of emotions and feelings very similarly. Language is a reflection of culture and is inextricably linked to it. Our thoughts, our consciousness, is in some sense based on our native language. But no matter how much we try to systematize the literature, and the descriptions of love and hate in it, it is impossible to achieve absolute success in this. Every person, regardless of their origin, thinks, feels, and analyzes in their own way, because each of us is unique.

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Table 1- Comparison of the concept of the lexeme "love" in Russian and English languages

	Русский язык	Английский язык
The concept of the lexeme "love"	<p><b>dictionary of D. N. Ushakov</b></p> <p>"love" is interpreted as a feeling of affection based on common interests, ideals, or the readiness to devote oneself to a common cause. D. N. Ushakov gives examples of the manifestation of love in the following order: Love for the homeland, brotherly love, love for people, and mother's love. The same feeling can also be based on sexual attraction; the relationship of two people mutually connected by this feeling. There are many possible modifiers to this feeling: Unhappy love. Happy love. Unrequited love. Platonic love. Sensual love. It can also refer to the person who inspires this feeling: "She was my first love." Love can be an addiction, disposition, or attraction to something: Love for art. Love for work. [1]</p>	<p><b>Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary</b></p> <p>love as a strong feeling of deep affection for somebody/something, especially a member of your family or a friend (e.g. a mother's love for her children). It can be a strong feeling of affection for somebody that you are sexually attracted to: "She was in love with him." It is also referred to as the strong feeling of enjoyment that something gives you (e.g. love of learning). It may be a person, a thing, or an activity that you like very much ("the love of my life"). Lastly it is described as a friendly way of addressing somebody: "Can I help you, love?" [2]</p>
Features in the interpretation of the lexeme "love"	<p>According to a Russian-language source, love is defined as a feeling of affection, primarily to the homeland, siblings, people, and mother. Love based on sexual attraction is mentioned nearly last in this source.</p>	<p>According to an English-speaking source, love is associated with a strong feeling of attachment, both spiritual and physical, primarily in a familial relationship, and secondarily in a romantic/sexual one.</p>
Differences in the interpretation of the concept of the lexeme "love"	<p>Thus, the Russian and English lexeme "love" in general contain similar structural units, however, there are significant differences. The main meaning that reflects the general understanding of love in both Russian and English is the feeling of deep, selfless, and sincere affection. However, despite certain similarities, the meaning of the English lexeme did not contain such a component as love for the Motherland, which reflects the patriotic direction of love in the Russian language culture.</p> <p>Love in the Russian-language interpretation has a sensual character, because the concept is interpreted as an ideal expression of affection and passion. However, in the English lexeme "love" is a concept associated precisely with a strong passion. It follows that in English this lexeme conveys a greater intensity of the manifestation of these feelings than it does in Russian.</p>	

Table 2 - Comparison of the concept of "hatred"  
in Russian and English languages

	Русский язык	Английский язык
The concept of the lexeme "hatred"	<b>Explanatory Dictionary of the Russian Language by S.I. Ozhegov</b>	<b>Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary</b>
	defines hatred as a feeling of intense hostility and anger. [1]	we find the following meaning of the lexeme "hatred:" a very strong feeling of dislike for somebody, hostility, or detestation. [2]
Features in the interpretation of the lexeme "hatred"	The concepts of hatred in both versions are identified with the desire to harm an object, the feeling of dislike or disgust, and the presence of enmity. These concepts are similar in both of these languages.	
Differences in the concept of the lexeme "hatred"	As for the concept of "hatred," there are no obvious differences in the understanding of this definition between the Russian and English languages.	

## Brief information about the creation and publication of the novel "War and Peace"

The novel "War and Peace" was created from 1863 to 1870. Leo Tolstoy devoted seven years of hard work to it. On September 5, 1863, A. E. Bers, the father of Sofya Andreyevna, the wife of Leo Tolstoy, sent a letter from Moscow to Yasnaya Polyana: "Yesterday we talked a lot about 1812 on the occasion of your intention to write a novel relating to this era." It is this letter that researchers consider "the first accurate evidence" dating to the beginning of Leo Tolstoy's work on "War and Peace." In October of the same year, Tolstoy wrote to his relative: "I have never felt my intellectual and even all my moral powers so free and so capable of work. And I have this work. This work is a novel from the time of the 1810s and 20s, which has been occupying me completely since the fall ... I am now a writer with all the forces of my soul, and I write and think about, as I have never written or thought about."

The first translation of the novel "War and Peace" in English was made by the American Nathan Haskell Dole in 1899.

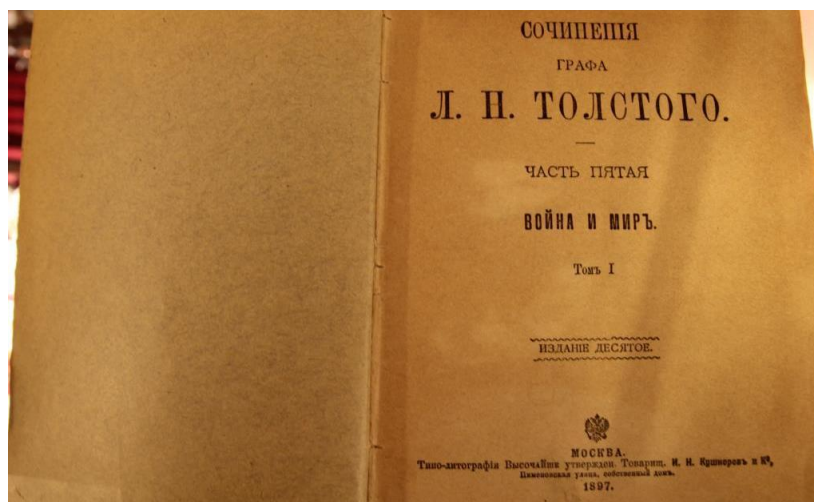


Figure: 1 - Second edition of the novel "War and Peace"

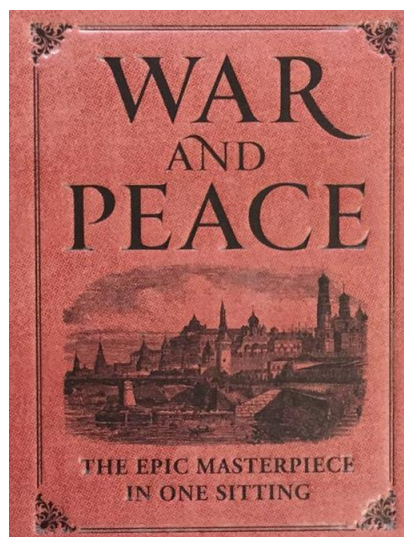
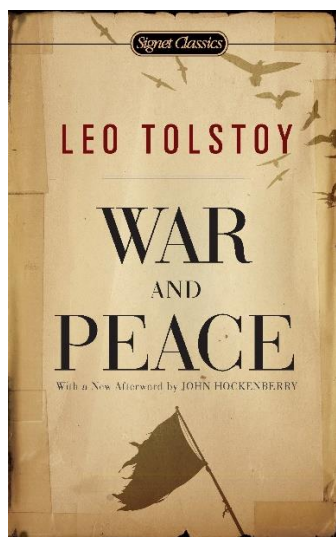


Figure: 2 - Cover of the novel "War and Peace" in the English edition

### Appendix 3

#### **Brief information about the creation and publication of the novel "Jane Eyre"**

On October 16, 1847, the cult novel "Jane Eyre" was first published, one of the ten most popular works in the world. The novel was first published in 1847 by a London publisher Smith, Elder & Company under the title *Jane Eyre: An Autobiography*; имя автора было скрыто под псевдонимом Кэппер Белл (Currer Bell). The author's name was hidden under the pseudonym Currer Bell. Immediately after publication, the book earned the love of readers and good reviews from critics, including William Thackeray, to whom Bronte dedicated the second edition.

For the first time in Russian, the novel was published in 1849 in the magazine "Отечественные записки", translated by V. Stanevich.

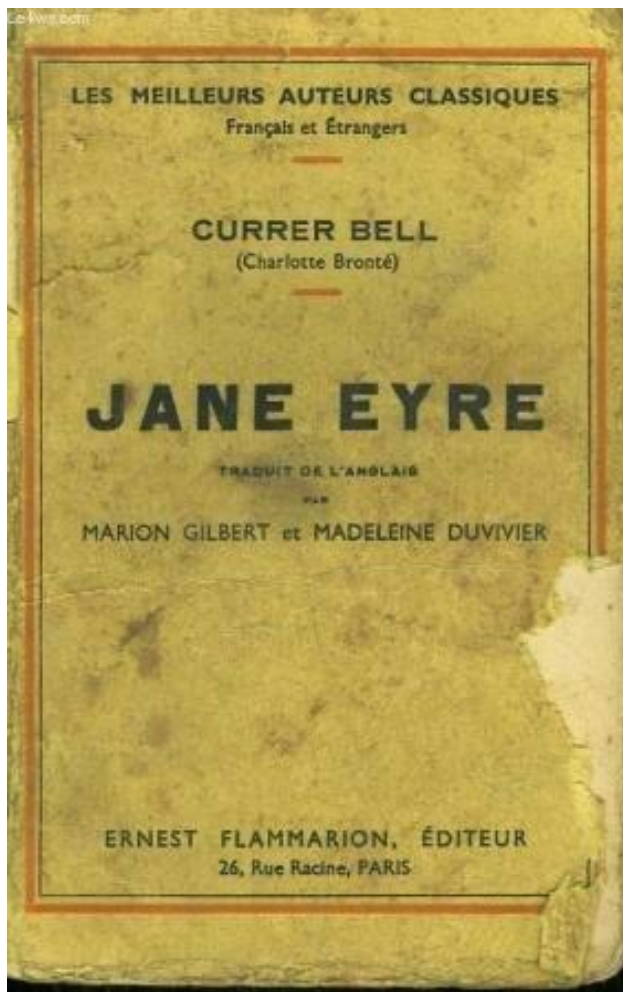


Figure: 3 - Cover of the first edition of the novel "Jane Eyre"

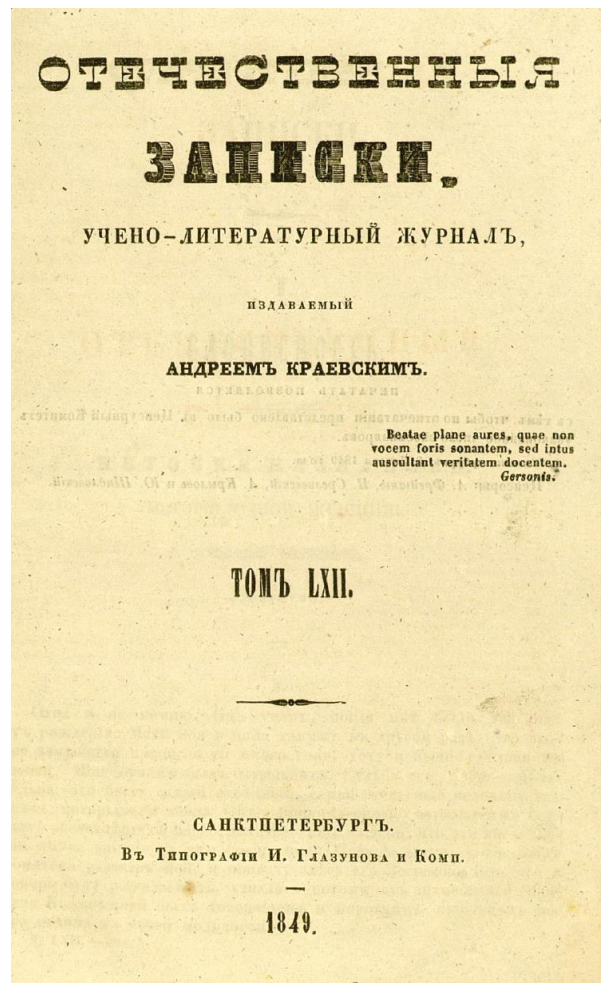


Figure: 4 - The first edition of the novel "Jane Eyre" in Russian