

DOI 10.26886/2414-634X.8(35)2019.7

UDC 159.955.1.

## ON THE NATURE OF HUMOR

**K. Kolesnykova, PhD student**

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4818-5580>

K. D. Ushinsky South-Ukrainian national pedagogical University, Odessa, Ukraine

*The purpose of this work is the further development of ideas about the origin of humor [1-5].*

*A large number of studies and publications are devoted to the problem of humor. This is due to the fact that the ability to generate and perceive humor plays an important role in the psychological structure of the personality, as well as in the quality of interpersonal relations.*

*In well-known publications [6-10], the questions of the manifestation of humor in different situations and in different types of people, the influence of humor on the perception of the life situations and the solution of different social and political problems and others are investigated.*

*However, almost no attention is paid to identifying the essence of humor, the mechanisms of its origin and their connection with the processes of thinking.*

*Methods: Analysis of current concepts of humor and laughter, discussing new possible approaches on this basis.*

*Objectives: The nature of the humor. Abbreviations: HTC (humor thought construct), AfG - affiliative style, SPG - self-supporting style, AgG - aggressive style, SPG - self-destructive style of humor; MP - understanding others' emotions, MY - managing others' emotions, BП - managing their emotions, BY - understanding their emotions, BE - control of their expression, MEI - emotional personality, BEI - internally personal emotional*

*intelligence, PBE - understanding their own and others' emotions, YBE - managing their and others' emotions.*

*Keywords: humor, psychological structure of personality, emotional intelligence, lateral thinking, sense.*

*Колесникова К. Характер походження гумору/ Південноукраїнський національний педагогічний університет імені К. Д. Ушинського, Одеса, Україна*

*Метою даної роботи є подальший розвиток уявлень про походження гумору [1-5].*

*Проблемі гумору присвячена велика кількість досліджень та публікацій. Це пов'язано з тим, що здатність генерувати і сприймати гумор відіграє важливу роль у психологічній структурі особистості, а також у якості міжособистісних відносин.*

*У відомих публікаціях [6-10] питання прояву гумору в різних ситуаціях та у різних типів людей, впливу гумору на сприйняття життєвих ситуацій та вирішення різних суспільно-політичних проблем досліджуються.*

*Однак майже не приділяється уваги виявленню сутності гумору, механізмів його виникнення та їх зв'язку з процесами мислення.*

*Методи: Аналіз сучасних концепцій проблеми гумору та сміху, обговорення на цій основі нових можливих підходів.*

*Цілі: Природа виникнення гумору.*

*Скорочення: НТС (humor thought construct) ГРК (гумористична розумова конструкція), АфГ – афіліативний стиль, СпГ – самопідтримуючий стиль, АгГ – агресивний стиль, СзГ – самознищуючий стиль гумору; умовні скорочення показників емоційного інтелекту: МР – розуміння чужих емоцій, МУ – управління чужими емоціями, ВР – розуміння своїх емоцій, ВУ – управління своїми*

емоціями, BE – контроль своєї експресії, MEI – міжособистісний емоційний інтелект, BEI – внутрішньо особистісний емоційний інтелект, PBE – розуміння своїх і чужих емоцій, UBE – управління своїми і чужими емоціями.

Ключові слова: гумор, психологічна структура особистості, емоційний інтелект, латеральне мислення, почуття.

Колесникова Е. Характер происхождения юмора / Южноукраинский национальный педагогический университет имени К. Д. Ушинского, Одесса, Украина

Целью данной работы является дальнейшее развитие представлений о происхождении юмора [1-5].

Проблеме юмора посвящено большое количество исследований и публикаций.

Это связано с тем, что способности генерировать и воспринимать юмор играют важную роль в психологической структуре личности, а также в качестве межличностных отношений. В известных публикациях [6-10] вопрос проявления юмора в разных ситуациях и у разных типов людей, влияния юмора на восприятие жизненных ситуаций и решения различных общественно-политических проблем исследуются. Однако почти не уделяется внимания выявлению сущности юмора, механизмов его возникновения и их связи с процессами мышления.

Методы: Анализ современных концепций проблемы юмора и смеха, обсуждения на этой основе новых возможных подходов.

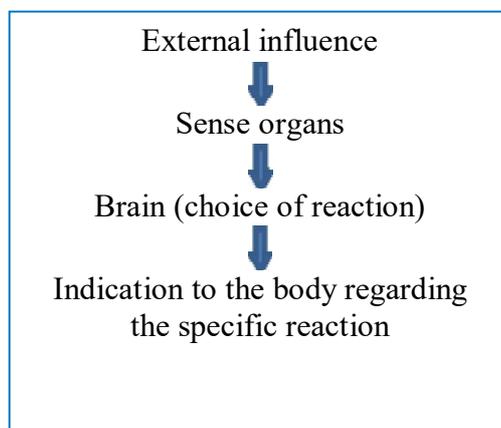
Цели: Природа возникновения юмора.

Сокращения: НТС (humor thought construct) ГРК (юмористическая умственная конструкция), АфГ - аффилиативный стиль, СпГ - самоподдерживающийся стиль, АгГ - агрессивный стиль, СрГ - саморазрушающий стиль юмора; условные сокращения

показателей эмоционального интеллекта: МР - понимание чужих эмоций, ГУ - управление чужими эмоциями, ВР - понимание своих эмоций, ВУ - управление своими эмоциями, ВЕ - контроль своей экспрессии, МЭИ - межличностный эмоциональный интеллект, ВЭИ - внутренне личностный эмоциональный интеллект, РОЭ - понимание своих и чужих эмоций, УВЭ - управление своими и чужими эмоциями.

Ключевые слова: юмор, психологическая структура личности, эмоциональный интеллект, латеральное мышление, чувства.

In [12], we hypothesized that the *perception of humor is akin to the perception of external influences by the senses*. The sense organs transmit the signals of the environment to the brain, which in a very short period of time produces a solution that dictates the body a specific action\*. (See Figure 1).



**Figure 1 Schematic representation of the interaction of the individual with the outside world**

What distinguishes between the perceptions of humor from the effects of various external stimuli on the senses?

- In the case of humor, an *intellectual* stimulus affects the personality.

- In the scheme in Figure 1, the stage of external stimulus impact on the senses is omitted. *The external (intellectual) stimulus acts directly on the brain.*

- In the case of humor, an external (intellectual) stimulus is generated by thinking as a special "*humorous thought construct*" (HTC), resulting from lateral thinking [12].

-When creating and perceiving humor in the process of lateral thinking, a large number of HTC are matched (a large amount of information is processed).

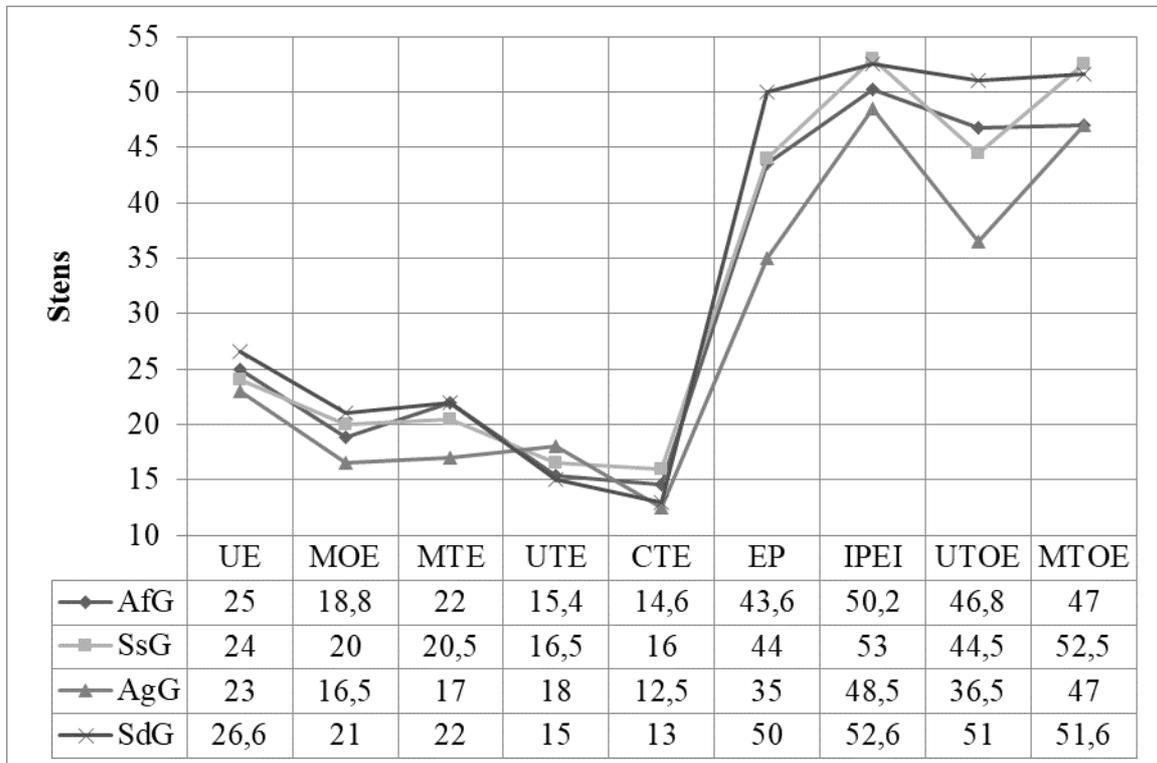
The perception of humor is closely linked to the issue of psychological stability [13]. In the last paper, *we proposed to use the magnitude of the correlation coefficients between IQ and EQ to assess the psychological stability of the individual.* This approach also allows one to evaluate an adequate perception of humor by the individual. Indeed, the more successful the HTC design invented by the individual, the stronger the emotional reaction should be. We found out how this correlation is manifested depending on the IQ personality. It was revealed that this correlation is more pronounced for individuals with a smaller IQ. This result is explained by the fact that individuals with higher IQ better manage their emotions, and therefore the correlations found to a lesser extent reflect the true emotional perception of the HTC. Thus, in the case of a sufficiently high IQ, *the true perception of humor by a person can be purposefully disguised.*

In [14], we set ourselves the task of finding out whether universal HTC exist. To do this, we selected from the whole group subgroups of people characterized by a certain style of humor. (A detailed description of the techniques is in [14]).

The idea of the study was to test whether there would be a different correlation between the characteristics of humor and the indicators of

emotional intelligence in the case of different styles of humor. In the Figure 2 emotional intelligence profiles of groups of people that differ in style of humor are presented [14].

\*Processes related to conditioned and unconditioned reflexes are excluded from consideration



**Figure 2 Emotional intelligence profiles of groups of people that differ in style of humor**

Previously by help of the method of aces (Sannikova, 1984, 1995) from the general group were excluded surveyed with the domination of one of the styles of humor, which were diagnosed by the method of EMIN (Lucin, 2004). As a result of this procedure, the surveyed were distributed as follows: a group of people with an inclination to affiliate style of humor (ASH) were 5 people, self-supporting style (SSS) 2 people, aggressive style (AG) 2 people and the destructive style of humor (DSH) 3 people.

Conditional reductions in the style of humor: AfG - affiliative style, SPG - self-supporting style, AgG - aggressive style, SPG - self-destructive style of humor; MP - understanding others 'emotions, MY - managing others'

emotions, БП - managing their emotions, ВУ – understanding their emotions, ВЕ - control of their expression, МЕИ - emotional personality, БЕИ - internally personal emotional intelligence, ПВЕ - understanding their own and others' emotions, УВЕ - managing their and others' emotions.

*The obtained result indicates that the intellectual perception of humor (as well as EQ as a whole) does not depend on the style of humor. This suggests that the mechanisms of the emergence and perception of humor are due to some universal thinking structures (HTC). These mental constructions are subject to further detailed study.*

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