

SEMANTIC FEATURES OF THE VOCABULARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Most linguists consider the number as a broad concept, which form different elements, including the most relevant ones. These are the number, size and multiplicity. Recognition of the number, size and multiplicity of components of the category number is not random [1, 12].

Semantic continuum of quantity language field is represented by background semes of number and extent [6, 168]. The basic means of expression of a discrete number at the lexical level is introduced by numeral, dominant word of counting system, each element of which describes a discrete set.

Language displays the number by means of which quantitative seme has a different way of expression and various representations. Each language system singles out a group of lexemes that relate to different parts of speech actualizing category of number [5, 101]. Primary quantitative actualization is expressed through forms of grammatical category of number, secondary - using different lexical items of different lexical and grammatical categories [6, 168].

Quantitative unit is a lexical unit that indicates or transmits seme of amount. It can be a word or phrase that refers to the lexical-semantic field of quantity.

The structure of lexical-semantic field of quantity, as noted by Shvachko S.A. [4, 365], is organized as follows: in the center are direct specific values of quantitatively-defined, self-quantitative, fractional and collective numerals; then go lexemes of indefinite-quantitative meaning; outside - quantitative nouns and noun equivalents of fractional numerals; and apart are numerals that in result of transfer of stylistic and functional characteristics of a load of one part on speech on the characteristics of the other parts of speech lose their semantic function and may be taken as an adjective, pronoun, noun. Peripheral circle contains words of portable quantitative value; there are still derivatives, consisting of adverbs of numerical origin; and the last group consists of phraseological units and components which are devoid of quantitative meaning, but their complete semantics is quantitative [2, 60].

Quantitative vocabulary may be expressed by different parts of speech. On this occasion Shvachko S.A. said that numerals are central to the lexical-semantic field of quantity. This is due to their regular correlation with the range of natural numbers, their replacement of countable items (words), their massive use,

involvement in direct and indirect counting, ability to nominate exact, approximate and indefinite quantitative characteristics [3, 280].

It follows that each of the numerals realizing these things total numbers, which gives him reason to be correlated with the total number of words, the value of, and the specific number of these things that separates one numeral from another.

English numerals are multifunctional. Therefore the following functions are distinguished: nominative-quantitative function, by which results are expressed knowledge of the quantitative relations of the objective world; cognitive function that summarizes and analyzes the complex, stepwise quantitative way of exploring the reality; a pragmatic function that provides emotional and volitional influence on the recipient in terms of idiomatic context; derivational function of numeratives.

Another group of quantitative units is nouns. Noun in the English language has the ability to not only be determined quantitatively, but also serve the function of quantitative determinant. Among nouns there are some that on the one hand relate to counting and on the other hand with measuring. The functioning of these two groups of words is due to the nature of quantified objects.

In linguistic studies, quantitative nouns have different terminology: "countable nouns," "quantitative words", "countable words", "defined quantitative word", "word of weights and measures", "substantival quantifiers", "words of number and amount", "quasi nouns".

Among nouns in English are such numerical word groups:

words of collective type: *crowd, class, band*;

words related to counting: *dozen, score*;

words of measure and weight: *foot, yard, fathom, pound*.

On the paradigmatic level, the first group actualizes the meaning of unidentified quantity, while the second two are numerical constants. The first group of words adjacent units that realize the value specified is dangerous quantities. For more detailed analysis, among quantitative semantics groups of nouns in the English language are distinguished collective nouns (1), numerical words (2), the words of measure and weight (3). The first group differs from others in that they are undefined number actualizations (minority, majority, and multitude).

Particular attention is drawn to composite nouns. Quantifying objects and phenomena of the surrounding world is closely related to extralinguistic factors in terms of the ability of sense-data objects to quantitative doubling, tripling and even their existence in an infinite number as opposed to a single object of a given class. This includes names of specific discrete entities that are unmarked form for singular and opposition to it labeled plural form.

The task of expressing singularity is in the form of unmarked noun. The set significantly expands the spatial volume, a picture of a large amount of space, the vague plurality. Here intersect quantitative value of the marked and unmarked specific forms of collective nouns - the most mysterious level of English nouns [6, 94].

The analysis of the papers concerning the analysis of collective nouns confirms the absence of unanimity in the views of scientists at the category of nouns. Collective nouns are believed to be ones that in their unmarked form express a set of unspecified number of separate homogeneous objects found in the syntactic structure of singularity or plurality through a number of forms that are syntactically dependent and correlated words.

Linguists refer to this group of English nouns that in unmarked form of represent indefinite number of identical (at the agreed basis) individual units combined on the basis of genus-species feature, which is conceived as a whole.

The idea of "collectivity" occurs:

- a) in the category of people united by one goal or purpose, such as: *crew, congregation, nation, jury, team, senate, horde, etc;*
- b) when naming objects species: *a flock (of sheep), a brood (of young pigs), a farrow (of young pigs);*
- c) when marking groups of living beings or inanimate objects: *a galaxy (of stars), a crowd (of daffodils);*
- d) on semantization the multiplicity of diverse elements: *finery, furniture, cutlery.*

Collective and concrete nouns have certain distinctive features: a concrete noun gives the name of one object, a collective - to the group of objects.

On the syntagmatic level numerical words (2) and words of measure and weight (3) are capable of implementing a rough and uncertain quantity. These words express the approximate number when:

- 1) some numerals used in front of them: *two-three acres;*
- 2) nouns take prepositive position: *a bushel or two.*

Nouns implement an undefined quantity when:

- a) words, combined with nouns, are deprived of numerical content: *some meters, several liters;*
- b) a phrase includes convertible numerals: *thousands of gallons, tens of kilometers;*
- c) quantitative words that were changed due to desementization: *pounds of pardon;*
- d) negative words related to numerical phrases: *not eight bushels.*

Nouns express quantitative relations more variably than numerals. Nouns can be determined both quantitatively and perform quantitative nominations of indiscrete and discrete items. The choice of words is due to the quantity of their belonging to a specific language structures. For example, the concepts of "group" or "piece" in English refers a number of word-classifiers: *a school of fish, a slice of cheese, a flight of doves, a colony of bees, a lump of sugar, a pride of lions.*

The third group consists of pronouns. Among pronouns a group of quantitative function is singled out that implements quantitative determinants that are important for precision specified is dangerous and quantity. For example a group of pronouns showing "singularity" forms the semantic opposition definite:: indefinite (each: every).

Література

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