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# THE LEXICAL MEANING OF ENGLISH WORDS IN SPEECH SH.J.MAMMATKULOVA

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**Abstract.** The actuality of this article is determined that it is very important to distinguish between the lexical meaning of a word in speech and its semantic structure in language. The semantic changes are not arbitrary. They proceed in accordance with the logical thought, otherwise changed words would never be understood and could not serve the purpose of communication. The various attempts at classification undertaken by traditional linguistics, although inconsistent and often subjective, are useful, since they permit the linguist to find his way about an immense accumulation of semantic facts.

The constant development of industry, agriculture, trade and transport bring into being new objects and new notions. Words to name them are either borrowed or created from material already existing in the language and it often happens that new meanings are thus acquired by old words.

**Keywords**: branch, influence, term, meaning, content, logical, compare, notion, complex, distribution, combination, identify, component, indefinite, consequence, abstract, structure, determine, transitive.

An exact definition of any basic term is no very easy task. Semantic structure of English words in the case of lexical meaning it becomes especially difficult due to the complexity of the process by which language and human conscience serve to reflect outward reality and to adapt it to human needs.

Semantic changes have been variously classified into such categories as, enlargement, narrowing, generalization, specialization, transfer (metaphor and metonymy), irradiation, amelioration, pejoration and many others.

The authors of the earliest classifications treated semantic change as a logical process conditioned psychologically and classed its types under the headings of the figures of speech: synecdoche, metonymy, metaphor. The synecdoche covers not only all cases in which a part is put for the whole, or he whole for a part, but also the general for the special and the special for the general, i.e. what was later termed as specialization narrowing and generalization or widening.

The metonymy applies the name of one thing to another with which it has some permanent connection. The relations may be those of cause and result, symbol and thing symbolized, container and content.

The metaphor applies the name of one thing to another to which it has some resemblance.

The last type of semantic change is considered to be the most important of the three. The classification has its drawback, as it mixes facts of language with those of the literary style. Later on to the classification were added: hyperbole, vulgarism, litotes and euphemism. The study of semantic change is very important as the development and change of the semantic structure of a word is always a source of qualitative and quantitative development of the vocabulary. We may compare the earlier and the new meaning of the given word.

The comparison may be based on the difference between notions expressed or referents in the real world that are pointed out on some other features. This difference is revealed in the difference contexts, in which these words occur in their different valency. E.g. the word "play" suggests different notions to a child, a playwright, a footballer, a musician or a chess-player and has in their speech different semantic paradigms. A word which formally represented a notion of a narrower scope. When the meaning is specialized, the word can name fewer objects, i.e. have fewer referents. The reduction of scope accounts for the term "narrowing of meaning" which is even more often used than the term "specialization".

There is also a third term for the same phenomenon, namely "differentiation", but it is not so widely used as the first two terms. The process reverse to specialization is termed "generalization and widening of meaning". In this case the scope of the new notion is wider than that of the original one, whereas the content of the notion is poorer. In most cases generalization is combined with a higher order of abstraction than in the notion expressed by the earlier meaning. The transition from a concrete meaning to an abstract one is a most frequent feature in the semantic history of words. It will be useful to remind that the grammartical meaning is defined as an expression in speech of relationship between words based on contrastive features of arrangements in which they occur.

More than that, every denotational meaning is itself a combination of several more elementary components. The meaning of *kill*, for instance, can be described as follows: cause become not alive. One further point should be made; *cause*, *become*, *not* and alive in this analysis are not words of English or any other language; they are elements of meaning, which can be combined in various ways with other such elements in the meaning of different words. In that case, they will be called semantic components.

One and the same word may have several meanings. A word that has more In this nature of words and notions, as they always contains a generalization of several objects. Polysemy is characteristic of most words in many languages, however, they may be different. But it is more characteristic of the English vocabulary kome of the variants of a very frequent, and consequently polysemantic word *run*. We define the main variant as "to go by moving the legs quickly" as in *tire as I was, I began to run home quickly*. The lexical meaning does not change in the forms *run* or *running*. The basic meaning may be extended to inanimate things. For instance: *We caught the bus that runs between two stops*; or the word *run* may be used figuratively: *It makes the blood*. Both *run by the Cooperative* and *The car runs on petrol*. The idea of the motion remains but it is reduced to 'operate or function'. The difference of meaning is reflected in the difference of syntactic phrase. It is impossible possible to transformation when the meaning implies management.: *The Cooperative runs this self-service shop* but not *I was run by home*. There are other variants of *run* where

there is no implication of speed or "on foot", or motion but the implication of direction is retained. For instance: *On the other side of the stream the bank ran up silently. The bank ran* without the indication of direction is used without any meaning. The verb *run* has also several other meanings, they all have something in common with some of the others. So, in fact, though there is no single semantic component common to all meanings, every meaning has something in common with at least one of the others. Every meaning in language and every difference in meaning is signaled either by the form of the word or by the context.

All the lexical and grammatical variants of a word taken together form its semantic structure. So in the semantic structure of the word *youth* three lexical and grammatical variants may be distinguished: the first is an substituted by the pronoun *he* in the singular and *they* in the plural; the third is a collective noun 'young men and women' having only one form, that of the singular, substituted by the pronoun *they*. Within the first lexical meaning can be distinguished with two different referents, one denoting the being young, and the other the time of being young. These shades of meaning are recognized due to lexical peculiarities of distribution and sometimes are blended together as in *to feel that one's youth has gone*, where both the time and the state can be meant. These variants form a structural set because they are expressed by the same sound complex as they all contain the semantic component 'young' and can be explained by means of one another.

The difference in syntactic context and distribution is best seen in verbs. Grammatical variant with the meaning 'to support the weight of a thing, and to move it from one place to another. In this variant there is always an object after the verb which may be followed by an adverbial or a prepositional object, as in the following formulas: N1 + *carry* + N2 (*Railways and ships carry goods*) or N1 + *carry* + N2 + prep. + N3 (*She was carrying her baby in her arms*).

In both cases carry is a transitive verb. There is also an intransitive variant in which carry is followed by a predicative or adverbial of distance, time, etc. and means 'to have the power to reach': N1 + carry + prep + N2 (His voice carried

across the room). These variants belong to the same set because they are expressed by the same combination of morphemes, although in different conditions of distribution. In other words the word's semantic structure is an organized whole comprise by recurrent meaning and shades of meaning a particular sound complex can assume in different contexts, together with emotional or stylistic coloring and other connotations.

Semantic structure exist only in language but not in speech. Many contexts in which the word may occur permits learners to observe identical meaning and cases that differ in meaning. They are classified by scientists and found in dictionaries. For example, the word *bother* has two meanings as a verb: 'to worry or to cause trouble' and (2) 'to take the trouble'.

It is very important to distinguish between the lexical meaning of a word in speech and its semantic structure in language. The meaning in speech is contextual. For example, if somebody examines the word *bother* in the following sentence: *Any woman will love any man who bothers her enough*.

A person can see it in a definite context that particularizes it and makes possible only to one meaning: 'to cause trouble' This notion receives the emotional coloring of revealing love as cynical and pessimistic. This coloring in the word 'bother' is combined with a colloquial stylistic tone. Actually, it has only one meaning, it is semantic but it may render a complicated notion or emotion with many features.

Polysemy does not interfere with the communicative function of the language because in every particular case the situation and context the environment of the word, cancel all the unnecessary meanings and make speech correctly. One and the same meaning may have several meanings. A

word which has several meanings is called polysemy. However, most words in many languages may be different. But it is more characteristic of the English vocabulary as we compare with other languages. The greater the relative of the word, the greater the number of elements which show its se

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semantic structure.

Thus, it shows that semantic changes are not arbitrary. They proceed in accordance with the logical and psychological thought, otherwise changed words would never be understood and could not serve the purpose of communication. The morphological analyses of word structure on the morphemic level aims at splitting the word into its constituent morphemes - the basic units at this level of analyses and at determining their number and types. They represent the main structural types of Modern English words and conversion, derivation and composition are the most productive ways of word building. It should also be mentioned that root words are characterized by a high degree and a complex variety in contrast with words of other structural types whose semantic structures are much poorer. Root words serve for all types of derived and compound words.

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