



The Formation and Definition of the Concept of Home

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Abstract: The article is devoted to the topic of world conceptualization, which is relevant for modern linguistics, as one of the most important cognitive procedures. The linguoculturological aspects of the formation and definition of the concept “home” are considered, that the specifics of its functioning in various fields are established.

Key words: cognitive linguistics, world image, concept, linguocultural, home.

Аннотация: Статья посвящена актуальной для современной лингвистики теме концептуализации мира как одной из важнейших познавательных процедур. Рассмотрены лингвокультурологические аспекты формирования и определения концепта «дом», установлена специфика его функционирования в различных сферах.

Ключевые слова: когнитивная лингвистика, картина мира, концепт, лингвокультурный, дом.

Annotatsiya: Maqola eng muhim kognitiv jarayonlardan biri sifatida zamonaviy tilshunoslik uchun dolzarb bo‘lgan dunyo kontseptualizatsiyasi mavzusiga bag‘ishlangan. “Uy” tushunchasini shakllantirish va ta’riflashning lingvokulturologik jihatlari ko‘rib chiqilib, uning turli sohalarda ishlash xususiyatlari aniqlandi.

Kalit so‘zlar: kognitiv tilshunoslik, dunyo qiyofasi, kontseptsiya, lingvokulturologiya, uy.

At the end of the XX century, a new direction was taking shape and intensively



developing in philology – an anthropocentric model of studying a language through the prism of the consciousness of its speakers and highlighting signs of cultures in linguistic objects. The origins of the idea of anthropocentrism go back to the linguistic concept of Wilhelm von Humboldt, according to which language considered as a form of expression of the national spirit. It is in the language that great forces are hidden, fraught with the opportunity to realize the creative potential of a person. This problem has found expression in the scientific works of F.I.Buslaeva, A.N.Afanaseva, A.A.Potebnya and others. For modern linguistics, the anthropocentric approach is a methodological basis that combines cognitive and linguocultural paradigms.

Within the framework of cognitive linguistics, we are talking about a broad view of the word, which studied at the junction of a number of humanitarian branches of knowledge: linguistics, literary criticism, logic, philosophy, art history and cultural studies. The word restored as an integral object of the humanities. Of greatest interest to cognitive scientists are concepts that understood. They are structural units of human consciousness that store the totality of human knowledge about certain phenomena of the surrounding world, and are part of the national culture.

The choice of the concept “house” as an object of study is because the house was and remains the most important part of the culture of the people, without which it is impossible to imagine its historical and cultural appearance as a whole. From the moment of birth, every child, regardless of nationality, needs a home and a family, primarily as structures that shape and adapt him to future independent life. It is necessary to turn to the study of the most significant, basic concepts for it, especially important and interesting in this case is the study of concepts both from the point of view of synchrony and from the point of view of diachronic.

On the example of lexicographic material, one can consider various semantic transformations of the word “house”. The concept of “home” is one of the elements of the active vocabulary of language speakers. It fully functions and develops in the language system and, like any other living organism, undergoes various changes over time. Among the changes in the semantics of the studied concept reflected in the explanatory



dictionaries, the most noticeable and significant were the following.

1. The word “house” has expanded the scope of its use.
2. Until recently, the formula “House + parental case” was known – the house of shoes, the house of a journalist, i.e. specialized shops and special institutions. Today, the names of trade and commercial firms have appeared a publishing house, a computer house. The old meaning of “enterprise, institution” was revived: the GUM trading house.
3. The two main seems, into which the definitions of the word “house” conditionally divided: “house-family” and “house-building”, are in a state of constant fluctuation in relation to each other with dominance of one of them in a certain period.

These are the results based on data recorded in the explanatory dictionaries of various authors and years of publication. They, in our opinion, are interesting, but no less important are the results of studies conducted because of other language levels. The value parameters of the concept of the world were found in word-formation constructions. The researchers noted that in the process of derivation, the same connections between the phenomena of reality established as in any statement, because there are predicative relations. The very “choice of this or that object of reality as an object of word-formation determination testifies to its significance for native speakers”[1]. Therefore, the connotative component is important for analysis, which complements the main conceptual content. In the language system, the word “house” forms a word-formation nest, represented by many derivatives. Let us analyze the material of A.N.Tikhonov and consider word-building nests, which include the word “house”.

From the basis “home” – the formation of nouns is productive. Many derivative nouns perform a nominative function and belong to the vocabulary of a neutral fund: homeownership, house building, homebody, brownie, and housekeeping. In the studied derivational nest, six nouns called house building and contain an evaluative component. Derivatives of the lexeme “house” also designate the subject in his relation to the house and the household: housewife, house owner, house owner, couch potato, homebody, brownie, housekeeper, housekeeper, house builder, home worker. Not all lexemes that



nominate a person are non-judgmental. This group includes stylistically and connotatively colored words: colloquial – domestic, house manager, burglar, housekeeper, homeowner (and colloquial), housekeeper, household, house keeper.

Adjectives, in our opinion, largely reveal the significance of the concept in the linguistic consciousness, because “by attributing certain properties objectively inherent to objects or phenomena of the world around them, a person demonstrates his indifference to these properties”[2]. There are 23 adjectives in the word-formation nest with the “home” – component: brownie, homely, home-based, home owning, home building, house building. The derivative “home” is the most interesting from the point of view of connection with lexica-semantic version of the keyword. The importance of this derivative lies in the fact that, unlike the dictionary meanings of the key lexeme “home”, the semantics of the word “home” contains an indication of a special atmosphere of warmth, comfort, without which housing ceases to be a home. In the word-formation nest under consideration, there is a phenomenon in which the components of one semantic field can be used to denote opposite phenomena.

So, the derivatives that make up the derivational nest of the word “house” represent the following basic meanings: “space of the house”; “relating to the house, made in the house”. “Housekeeping; a person related to the household”; “people working in the house”. “the owner (hostess) of the house”; “a good or evil spirit living in the house”; “house builder”; “homeland”; “lack of home”. The concept of “house” under study has many synonyms that make up its semantic field and, accordingly, are the source of decoding the conceptual picture of the world by native speakers.

House in the meaning of “a building, a structure intended for housing, for accommodating various institutions and enterprises” – a building, structure, box (a hyponym for the words of a series). The general semi is “a ground-based structure that has indoor spaces that occupy most of its volume”. Synonyms differ from each other in the following semantic features:

- 1) The type of structure, its size, material (the building is usually small, sometimes wooden, the building is usually large, stone);



- 2) Primary functional purpose (the house is most often residential, the building is economic);
- 3) Relationship with other similar objects (the building is always one of a number, the structure can be isolated);
- 4) Connection with the present time (the building is usually a modern object) [3].

The lexeme “box” in some contexts nominates an uncomfortable, standard dwelling. The most numerous and branched group is represented by synonyms and “substitutes” lexical- semantic variant “house” in the meaning of “dwelling, apartment”. These synonyms differ from each other in the following semantic features:

- 1) The nature of the object (a hut can also serve as a dwelling, a cave can serve as a dwelling, a shelter can be a settlement, a monastery, a corner – living quarters, living space – a specially adapted room);
- 2) Type of object (only a high-ranking person can have a residence, housing - only a person, housing – even an animal);
- 3) The relation of the subject to the premises (the house is included in the personal sphere, the living space is the subject of relations with the state);
- 4) Connection with the moment of observation (the most rigid – in the dwelling, the least – in the house);
- 5) Cultural connotations (the house is the center of family and cultural traditions, the living space is an element of Soviet life) [3].

Thus, “House” in the meaning of “family, people living together, in one household” combines three groups of words:

- 1) The names of people as family members: family, family, family circle, family, relatives, home, own (colloquial), households, children and households (obsolete); as residents of a house: resident, inhabitant, tenant, inhabitant (obsolete), living, lodger, tenant (tenant), guest (colloquial); as coming to the house or permanently staying there: homeowner, owner, hostess, owner, possessor, guest, guest;
- 2) The name of the place of permanent residence of a person, characterized by any



3) relationship between all family members: native (home, family) hearth, penates (bookish), native shelter (high, bookish), native ashes (obsolete and high);

4) The name of household items, furniture.

A brief review and analysis of lexicographic sources helped to determine the main characteristics of a house as a human dwelling in the minds of native speakers and to identify lexical means of representing the concept of “house”. The presented material allows us to draw the following conclusions.

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