

S. N. Stepanenko
(Belgorod, Russia)

CONCEPTUALIZATION OF QUANTITY IN MODERN ENGLISH

The article is an attempt to describe the language role in the forming of the conceptual content of QUANTITY. Language means of quantity conceptualization in modern English are studied in static and dynamic aspects in the sentence-utterance. Cognitive, language mechanisms and additional linguistic factors of quantity conceptualization are also described.

Key words: language conceptualization of quantity, levels of quantity conceptualization, cognitive mechanisms of conceptualization, language mechanisms of conceptualization

The questions connected with the study of the correlations between language and cognitive structures are central in the research of quantity conceptualization process. It is possible to study the ways of language conceptualization of quantity in modern English both in static and dynamic aspects by means of analysis of language units semantics taking into account the interaction of the language mechanisms of conceptualization and cognitive mechanisms of quantitative sense forming as well as additional linguistic factors.

The process of quantity conceptualization that goes through two stages and is fulfilled at three levels (see e.g. [Ivolgina 2001]) leads to the forming of the concept QUANTITY as both the unit of conceptual system and knowledge structure objectified in the language.

The content of the concept QUANTITY is represented by the total combination of its characteristics. The most abstract and regular characteristics «continuity» and «discontinuity» have got the status of basic ones. Additional characteristics reflecting objective and subjective quantitative peculiarities of the subjects and phenomena and concretizing the basic characteristics are considered as special or individual.

QUANTITY as a fundamental concept of the conceptual system gets the grammatical and lexical arrangement in the language. Quantity conceptualization has its specificity at every language level. At the lexical level this process is connected with the forming of notions and knowledge about the quantitative characteristics of natural objects and inner world objects. Lexical conceptualization fulfils the coding language function (see [Pavilionis 1983]) which ensures the fixing of the concept QUANTITY in the conceptual system.

The nomination of quantity itself and of quantitative characteristics of different objects, features and actions, which assumes the use of lexical units of different parts of speech: nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs and pronouns, acts as a language mechanism of lexical conceptualization of quantity. Cognitive mechanisms of forming of quantitative senses here are profiling [Langacker 1991], focusing [Boldyrev 2004: 30] and defocusing [Iri-shanova 2007: 72].

Lexical conceptualization of quantity leads to the forming of verbalized knowledge about the quantity reflected in the lexical meanings of the language units, i.e. to the forming of the knowledge about the concept QUANTITY represented by the nominative means of modern English.

The peculiarities of grammatical conceptualization are connected with the fact that the most important part of conceptual information of different levels of complexity, the most significant quantitative senses from the language point of view are set in grammar. Grammar conceptualization is connected with the realization of the manipulating function of the language which allows building grammatically expressed concept QUANTITY operating with the essences of conceptual system. Conceptualization of quantity at the grammatical level includes morphological (forms of the number of the nouns and forms of degrees of comparison of adjectives and adverbs), word-forming (prefixes and suffixes of quantitative semantics) and syntactical (constructions that have regular quantitative meaning) language me-

chanisms. Cognitive mechanisms of quantitative senses forming at grammatical level are abstracting [Besedina 2006: 123], concreting [Kubryakova 2006: 8], profiling and focusing.

Quantity conceptualization both at lexical and grammatical levels is carried out throughout the process of speech and mental activity. It assumes the participation of additional linguistic factors of conceptualization in the sentence-utterance. They are semantic, contextual and syntactical. At different levels the role and concernment of the mentioned factors differ.

Consequently the process of forming of the quantitative senses by means of the language units of different levels is integrative and multifactorial. At each level the process of quantity conceptualization has its specification which is dependant on the level peculiarities from its participation in the world conceptualization point of view, the language mechanisms of conceptualization and cognitive mechanisms of quantitative sense forming and additional linguistic factors that influence the forming of this or that quantitative sense in the sentence-utterance.

As a result, language conceptualization of quantity leads to the forming of language knowledge of two types: verbalized knowledge of quantity as ontological substance reflected in the lexical meanings of the language units, i.e. the knowledge about the concept QUANTITY itself (it is represented by the nominative means of modern English) and knowledge of language forms, their meanings and categories which reflect the specificity of the language organization and representation of the knowledge about quantity in the language. Correspondingly the knowledge about quantity is structured and comprehended in the language as the notion about quantity in general, the notion about quantitative characteristics of a group of subjects and the notion about quantitative characteristics of static and dynamic features.

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SStepanenko@bsu.edu.ru

C. H. Степаненко
(Белгород, Россия)

КОНЦЕПТУАЛИЗАЦИЯ КОЛИЧЕСТВА В СОВРЕМЕННОМ АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ

Статья является попыткой описать роль языка в формировании концептуального содержания QUANTITY. Языковые средства концептуализации количества в современном английском языке изучаются в статическом и динамическом аспектах в предложении-высказывании. Дается описание когнитивных, языковых механизмов и дополнительных лингвистических факторов концептуализации количества.

Ключевые слова: языковая концептуализация количества, уровни концептуализации количества, когнитивные механизмы концептуализации, языковые механизмы концептуализации

Z. U. Khakiyeva
(Grozny, Russia)

THE BASIC COGNITIVE DIACHRONIC FEATURES OF CONSTRUCTION TERMINOLOGY

The article presents a review of the main diachronic features of construction terminology. We observe such processes of term formation as terminologization and determinologization. In the present article we also tried to reveal the conceptual content of terminologization and determinologization verbalized by construction terminology.

Key words: diachronic, terminology, terminologization, determinologization, concept

The language, especially its lexical subsystem, is a constantly developing organized conglomerate. Words can gain new importance, old meanings can pass away, new words can appear to substitute the existing material, all those processes take place according to the language laws, that re-