

LEXICAL-SEMANTIC UNITS AND THEIR PECULIARITIES

Ganiyeva Nargis Mahmudovna*

*Researcher,

Kokand State Pedagogical Institute,

UZBEKISTAN

Email id: nargisgm@mail.ru

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ABSTRACT

The article illustrates some data as well as theories about lexical-semantic units. Moreover, it determines the lexical-semantic units within two languages Uzbek and English. The peculiarities of the lexic-semantic units are given in the following article.

KEYWORDS: *Lexic Units, Semantic Units, Cognition, Concept, Specialization, Generalization, Metaphor, Metonymy.*

INTRODUCTION

Text is both a unit of language and a unit of speech that is quite common today. The question of the levels of language structure in linguistics is essential for research of the linguistics. A variety of analysis in the process of language research phonological, morphological, syntactic and lexical-semantic levels where does the text appear in the hierarchy of these levels? In general, Can text be a separate layer of language structure? For a long time, until text linguistics flourished in linguistics, one idea prevailed in this regard, for instance, the hierarchy of linguistic units (hierarchical) structure is recognized as the highest unit. For example, the famous French linguist E. Benvenist segmentation of a sentence (into pieces)separation), but it can be any other high - level unit emphasizes that it cannot be viewed as a constituent, and so on writes: "Speech only comes before or after any other statement, they may be in a series relationship with. The group of words to the level of speech cannot form a relatively separate level unit. There is no language level above the level categorimatic (sentence)" [1. 58]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Russian linguist M.Ya.Bloxgave the relationship of language units and language levels as a holistic system, from the smallest unit of language to the largest unit, is a special emphasis on the essence of the pre-text hierarchy. In particular, the relation of speech and text to language levels is clear and explains well-founded ideas. The types of lexic-semantic group are as followings:

First, a type that represented by the lexical values of two, more, or more words;

Second, it develops historically, for example, it's mind-boggling.

Third, close to the thematic group, but it differs significantly from it.

Lexical semantics is a part of linguistics that is the study of word meaning. Descriptively speaking, the main topics studied within lexical semantics involve either the internal semantic structure of words or phrases, or the semantic relations that occur within the vocabulary. Within

the first set, major phenomena include polysemy, metonymy, metaphor, and prototypicality. Within the second set, dominant topics include lexical fields, lexical relations, conceptual metaphor and metonymy, and frames. Theoretically speaking, the main theoretical approaches that have succeeded each other in the history of lexical semantics are prestructuralist historical semantics, structuralist semantics, and cognitive semantics. These theoretical frameworks differ as to whether they take a system-oriented rather than a usage-oriented approach to word-meaning research but, at the same time, in the historical development of the discipline, they have each contributed significantly to the descriptive and conceptual apparatus of lexical semantics.[2.1]Lexical semantics is the study of word meaning. The following first, presents an overview of the main phenomena studied in lexical semantics and then charts the different theoretical traditions that have contributed to the development of the field. The focus lies on the lexicological study of word meaning as a phenomenon in its own right, rather than on the interaction with neighboring disciplines. This implies that morphological semantics, that is the study of the meaning of morphemes and the way in which they combine into words, is not covered, as it is usually considered a separate field from lexical semantics proper.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Once senses are identified (and assuming they can be identified with a reasonable degree of confidence), the type of relationship that exists between them needs to be established. The most common classification of semantic relations emerges from the tradition of historical semantics, that is, the vocabulary used to describe synchronic relations between word meanings is essentially the same as the vocabulary used to describe diachronic changes of meaning. In the simplest case, if sense *a* is synchronically related to sense *b* by metonymy, then a process of metonymy has acted diachronically to extend sense *a* to sense *b*: diachronic mechanisms of semasiological change reappear synchronically as semantic relations among word meanings. The four basic types are:

Specialization;

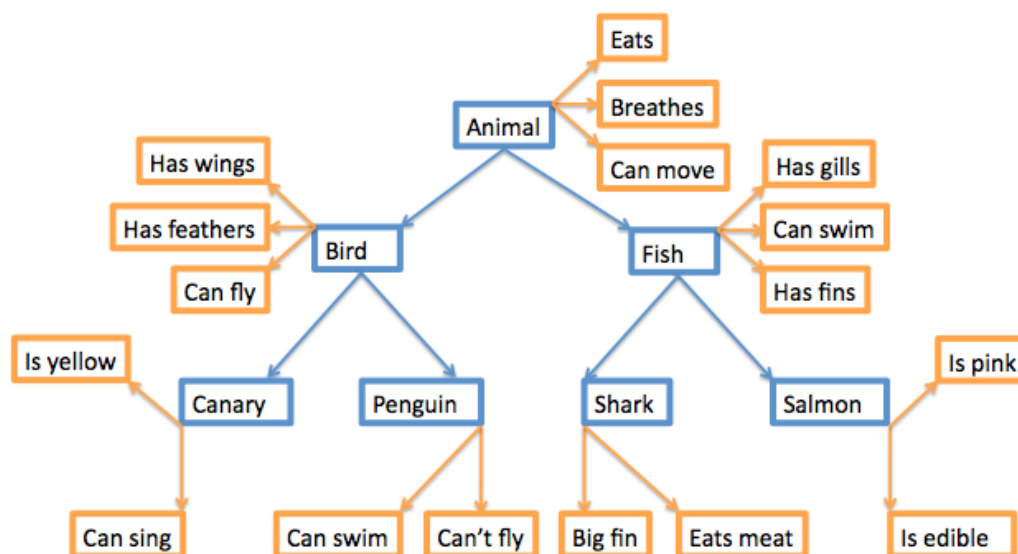
Generalization;

Metaphor;

Metonymy

In the case of semantic *specialization*, the new meaning is a restriction of the old meaning: the new meaning is a sub-case of the old. In the case of semantic *generalization*, the reverse holds: the old meaning is a sub-case of the new. Examples for lexical-semantic features of the words like clothes can be as following: the lexicological word group which describes clothing in English and Uzbek are absolutely different. In English, there are a great number of words that can indicate clothing and its features, and this exists in Uzbek language too. On the other hand there many differences between them. The differences are based on culture. Since the clothes are cultural and have various types of them according to mentality there are various types clothes for body parts.

Understanding lexical semantic units can be seen as the following picture:



The picture shows the lexic-semantic feature of the word “animal”; its categories and types.

Compared to prestructuralist semantics, structuralism constitutes a move toward a more purely ‘linguistic’ type of lexical semantics, focusing on the linguistic system rather than the psychological background or the contextual flexibility of meaning. With the poststructuralist emergence of cognitive semantics, the pendulum swings back to a position in which the distinction between semantics and pragmatics is not a major issue, in which language is seen in the context of cognition at large, and in which language use is as much a focus of enquiry as the language system.[2.3]

CONCLUSION

Lexical semantics or lexico semantics, as a subfield of linguistic semantics, it is the study of word meanings. It includes the study of how words structure their meaning, how they act in grammar and compositionality, and the relationships between the distinct senses and uses of a word. The units of analysis in lexical semantics are lexical units which include not only words but also sub-words or sub-units such as affixes and even compound words and phrases. Lexical units include the catalogue of words in a language, the lexicology. Lexical semantics looks at how the meaning of the lexical units correlates with the structure of the language or syntax. This is referred to as syntax-semantic interface. The study of lexical semantics indicates at:

- the classification and decomposition of lexical items
- the differences and similarities in lexical semantic structure cross-linguistically
- The relationship of lexical meaning to sentence meaning and syntax.

Lexical units, also referred to as syntactic atoms, can stand alone such as in the case of root words or parts of compound words or they necessarily attach to other units such as prefixes and suffixes do. The former are called free morphemes and the latter bound morphemes. They fall into a narrow range of meanings (semantic fields) and can combine with each other to generate new denotations. Cognitive semantics is the linguistic paradigm or framework that since the

1980s has generated the most studies in lexical semantics, introducing innovations like prototype theory, conceptual metaphors, and frame semantics.

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