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FUNKTIONING OF THE NOUN FORM (WITH AN ARTICLE OR WITHOUT IT) IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

O. M. Molchanova, P. A. Yashchuk

Vinnitsya Collage of Education, 21019, Vinnitsya, Nahirna Str.,13
6332708@mail.ru

The aim of the research is to prove that the article is just a grammatical morpheme which has no meaning of its own, that the whole noun form determines its contextual meaning.

The object of the research is the noun form, its functioning in speech with an article or without it.

The method which was used is descriptive method.

We explore the problem and find out that a noun form with an article or without it has some meanings.

Noun form "a + noun" has the following contextual meanings:

The meaning of novelty – it means that the listener does not know what the speaker is talking about, or subject/person is mentioned for the first time: "I shall need a new hat and some other things, you know, shoes and what-not." [2,11]

In this case, the noun can be expressed as a nominal part of the compound predicate, indicate the person or object and express:

The origin: "I suppose it must sound very funny to a foreigner." [2,23]

A kind of activity: " His father was an engine-driver." [2,15]

The creed: " My sister is an Orthodox. My friend is a Catholic."

Political affiliation: " Bill is a socialist."

The meaning of one - it means that in this case the article can be changed by one and the meaning will not change: "It was a pity she had never had a chance of playing Rosalind."

The meaning of every - if the noun is used in generic meaning: "A beauty parlour is a place where they sell beauty if you haven't got any of your own." [2, 65]

The meaning of any - when the noun which was used in a sentence is a person or thing as a representative of a certain class: "He talked like a gentleman." [5,21]

Changing the meaning of a noun, its transition from abstract to concrete noun (from uncountable to countable): "Erika had a sudden thought."

Such meanings as generalizing, identifying and denotation of a class of person or object were refuted and we have proved that these meanings are equal to the meanings of every and any.

Noun form "the+ noun" has the following contextual meanings:

Known to a listener - it means that the subject in the talk is known to a listener : "I go to evening classes twice a week...I enjoy the evening classes, but I must say they are tiring." [1,20]

However, the article is very complicated thing, so you need to be sure that the listener or reader knows what is at stake. Also you need to feel the difference between knowing about the object and directly know the object (be familiar with a person):

A. I don't care to speak to the girl. I have never seen her. Won't you speak to her?

B. But I do not know the girl either.

A. Who told you about it?

B. A girl.

A. What girl?

B. My sister.

In the first dialogue the speaker and the listener do not know the person personally, but they know whom they are talking about, so article the is used. In the second dialogue the

speaker knows the person, but he or she presents the person as a representative class, so indefinite article a is used.

It should be noticed that there are different situations when we have such meanings:

the object or person was previously mentioned: "A bus ran over a woman... The bus stopped so suddenly that some of the passengers got bruised quite badly." [1,46]

the object or person is a unique noun: "When the ship had left Hull, the wind began to blow and the waves rose in a terrifying manner, and I was fearfully sick in body and terrified in mind."

(Pay attention! A unique noun is considered not only a person or object that exists in one copy in the world, but also a person or object that exists in a certain situation that limited by space or time: "A car just managed to avoid her, but the bus driver didn't see I'm sorry I kept you waiting her until she was almost under his wheels." [1,47]

the object or person is specified by situation: " She didn't look round, you know, just waved to her friend and then ran straight across the road (in which she was ran over)." [1,46]

the object or person is specified by context: " Yes, I had to make a long statement and leave my name and address with the police sergeant (thet one who is working with the case of runing over a woman)." [1,47]

the object or person is specified by attributes:

Descriptive attribute - is used to describe an object or person, or to report more information about this person or object:" The bus I was in ran over a woman." [1,46]

Identifying attribute - is an individual trait that distinguishes that person or object (persons or objects) from all other persons or objects of the same class:" I know, she's broken the china vase aunt Emily gave us for Christmas." [1,36]

The meaning of as such - it is used when it comes to all objects of the class that exist in the world or in the sertain situation: After supper I sit down with a book or listen to the radio. [1,20]

The meaning of a part of the whole - it means that a person or object expresses by a noun is presented as part of the whole. In modern science to this phenomenon often use the term «frame». The frame is structurally organized system of images: I was sitting by the right-hand window, just behind the driver. [1,51]

Noun form without any article has such meanings:

Generic meaning - an uncountable noun is used like a representative of the class (if it was a countable noun in singular, we would use article a, but a is not used with uncountable nouns): "Tea is useful for our health." [1,55]

Identifier meaning: "I go to evening classes twice a week and I am getting on quite well." [1,55]

Therefore, the contextual meaning of a noun form depends on a noun which is used with an article, but not on the meaning of the article as it has no meaning of its own. That is why the article is only a grammatical morpheme.

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