THE SEMANTICS OF THE LEXEME «ONE»

The article deals with the studying of the phenomenon of substitution in the English language and the complex analysis of the substitution word «one». The semantic, grammatical and functional peculiarities of this speech unit are determined. The frequency of the use of the lexeme «one» in the English fictional text is studied. On the examples of English fiction literature such functions of the word «one» like subject, nominal part of the predicate, object of the attribute have been determined. It has been noticed that as the notional word denumerative «one» has been used as a noun, pronoun and the substitution words. The lexeme «one» plays an important role in the language system and it is determined by a high frequency of using and polyfunctionality. Lexeme «one» has the great identifying potential and it may express the uncertainty. The author has proved on the examples that the substitution word «one» has its grammatical and lexical peculiarities and functions. It is used as well as towards living beings as inanimate objects; it may take the position of a noun in plural where the form «ones» is used. The author has disclosed the aspect that the meaning of the singleness of the objects is the basis component of the semantics of other meanings of the lexeme «one». The objects that are determined by this lexeme are always opposed to multiplicity. It has been proved that the lexeme «one» is one of the most important speech units in the English language.

Key words: denumerative, numeral, pronoun, substitute, function, polyfunctional.

Language is the system of symbols that aims the satisfaction of people’s communicational needs. Society has been developing dynamically and that is the reason of appearing of new words in the active vocabulary. Language solves this question by way of including of different kinds of adoptions in its system and also by way of deviational development of the proper names. During the process of the language evolution the words lose their primary meanings and get the new secondary ones that generate the old meanings and neologisms [1, с 12]. In the language the words are created randomly, without any system according to their appropriate models, norms, and linguistic traditions. The basis of enumerative includes the numerals with their inner and out structure that may be changed and modified. The actuality of the theme is determined by the approach to the lexemes that have the complex semantic structure and symbolic meanings. As the subject of the research serves the semantic peculiarities of the lexemes on the material of the English language discourse.

The studying of the grammatical and lexical peculiarities of words serves as the dominate approach in the linguistic researches of the last years. The analysis of the lexemes’ semantics and symbolic have been studied by such researchers like Shanskiy N., Solodub Y., Reformatskiy A., Levitskiy A. The great contributions to the studying of this question have been made by Abramov B., Vinogradov V., Golovin B., Zemska O., Baskevitch V. In modern linguistics the great quantity of researches devoted to the studying of the peculiarities of the semantics of the lexeme «one» in fiction text have been done by Shvachko S., Medved E.

The aim of the article is to determine the main peculiarities of the lexeme «one» on the basis of the analysis of their semantic and categorical status and the functioning of these lexemes in the typical contexts. The scientific novelty of the research lies in the analysis of the semantic structure of the lexeme and the determining of its role in the language system. In the classification of the parts of speech the word «one» belongs to numerals and its lexical meaning lies in the determining of the quantity. This lexeme
may be used in the meaning of another parts of speech like noun, adjective, pronoun, particle. The great functionality of the lexeme «one» is disclosed as well as in the lexical and grammatical peculiarities as in the special status of the denotation of this lexeme.

Using the lexeme «one» with the arithmetic meaning any compatibility except logical one is absent. In such cases the lexemes unanimously determine the category of the singleness, for example: «He has no children, keeps one maid-servant, and is comfortably off» [2, p. 3]; «I think that I should prefer to stay here a little and go into one or two questions of detail. Straker was brought back here, I presume?» [2, p. 6].

In the conditions of a certain situation the numerals modify syntactic, pragmatic and morphological functions. During the language evolution the speech semantic load of denumeratives has been always changing and this aspect is determined by its paradigmatic sense and the sense of numeral [3, c 198]. In the vocabulary the lexeme «one» has such synonyms like only, individual, unique, united, specified, certain, indefinite, identical, equal. The main sense in the lexeme «one» has been the separation of a one object. It has been necessary for counting the things and for the dimension of denotations. Then the sense of the uniqueness has been singled out as the current one. Such senses are presented in the following example: «See the value of imagination, said Holmes. It is the one quality which Gregory lacks» [2, p. 9].

Charles Dickens uses the lexeme for the nomination of the living beings taking into account its uniqueness, perfection and the advantage among others, for example: «Brave lodgings for one, brave lodgings for one, A few feet of cold earth, when life is done; A stone at the head, a stone at the feet, A rich, juicy meal for the worms to eat!» [4, p. 18].

There are a lot of examples in the works by Shakespeare where the lexemes one and others are used as the key components of the feature identifying among things or certain phenomena, for example: «Cytherea! How bravely thou becomest thy bed, fresh lily, And whiter than the sheets! That I might touch! But kiss; one kiss! Rubies unparagoned, How dearly they do 't!» [5, p. 32].

There are two types of connotations: the positive and the negative one. The differences between them are seen in the following examples of positive connotation: «That's the great Rita. The one and only Rita» [7, c. 152]; «I am not the one to run about and discuss my affairs with other people» [7, c. 82]; and negative connotation: «You are the one to blame» [7, c. 260].

The closest element to the lexeme «one» is the lexeme «single» with the connotative component of the estrangement, loneliness and its stylistically neutral synonym is «individual» [3, c 199]. Lexeme «one» may have the function of noun, adjective, pronoun, for example: «Apparently, therefore, it was the young man himself who had fastened the door. But how did he come by his death? No one could have climbed up to the window without leaving traces. Suppose a man had freed through the window, he would indeed be a remarkable shot who could with a revolver inflict so deadly a wound» [8, p. 5].

The separation of one objects from another ones and the sampling are necessary as well as for the counting of objects as for their semantic changes in the process of evolution. Lexeme «one» is used also in phraseological word combinations. The semantic means of this lexeme is determined by the phraseological context, for example: «One of these days I'm-a make me a book out of you» [12, p. 85].

As the substitution lexeme for the previous words «one» and «ones» have different numeral representation that illustrate certain semantic deviation. These denumerative constructions have been created as the result of the process of conversion and they continue to represent the numeriality and subjectivity. Having the function of substitution of the previously used word the denumerative «one» takes all the functions of the word that is changed. It takes also its contextual compatibility and the position in a sentence, for example: «He says that it was a ten-pound note. One was found in his purse» [2, p. 5]. In the last sentence «one» takes the position of a noun of singular form that has a function the subject.

«He had everything to make his life a happy one» [7, c. 82]. In this sentence «one» takes the place of the noun that has a function of the direct object.

Denumerative «one» plays an important role in the language system. Having the quantitative sense «one» may have certain semantic changes in the process of evolution. Lexeme «one» has the great identifying potential and it may express the uncertainty as in following example: «One morning, a doctor examined Johnsy and took her temperature. Then he spoke with Sue in another room» [11, p. 3].

«One» may be also used after ordinal numerals and in the expression with the last, the next for example: «We had left Reading far behind us before he thrust the last one of them under the seat, and offered me his cigar-cases» [2, p. 3]; «You needn't get any more wine» said Johnsy, keeping her eyes fixed out the window.

The lexeme one is not used after both, after nouns in possessive case, after possessive pronouns my, her, your, our, sometimes after the adjective in the superlative degree, after this, this, that, these, those, either, neither [6, c. 114].

«One» has the functions of subject, the nominal part of the predicate or the object. In the example the lexeme one has the function of the object: «The Inspector took one from an envelope and handed it to him» [2, p. 10]; «Ah, it bolted, and was cared for by one of your neighbors. We must have an amnesty in that direction, I think» [2, p. 16]; «I was already convinced, or almost convinced, that John Straker went down to the stables in the dead of the night and took out Silver Blaze. For what purpose? For a dishonest one, obviously, or why should he drug his own stable-boy?» [2, p. 16].

Lexeme «one» serves as an attribute: «Before deciding that question I had grasped the significance of the silence of the dog for one true inference invariably suggests others» [2, p. 13]; as a subject: «This is not any place in which one so good as Miss Johnsy shall lie sick» yelled Behrman. «Some day I will paint a masterpiece, and we shall all go away» [11, p. 16]. The denumerative «one» serves as the nominal part of the predicate in the next example: «After the beating rain and fierce wind that blew through the night, there yet stood against the wall one ivy leaf. It was the last one on the vine» [11, p. 11].

On the basis of the analyzed examples of denumeratives in fiction texts the frequency of using of the denumerative «one» has been determined. As the notional word the denumerative «one» has been used as a noun, pronoun and the changing words. The
The analyzed examples have shown that the lexeme «one» serves as the multipurpose device of identifying of the subject singleness and its opposition to the multiplicity of objects. It also denotes the uncertainty of the object’s identifying and the impossibility of its separation from other objects. The meaning of the singleness of the objects is the basis component of the semantics of other meanings of the lexeme «one».

Thus the lexeme «one» has a great potential that is realized in the cases of the excess use of this lexeme for creating the sense context. The functioning of the lexeme «one» and its forms in typical contexts determines its connection with the category of subjectivity. With it identifying and limited meaning the lexeme «one» is desemantizated. It means that it is not perceived as the independent notional word in the sentence and it serves in the sentence as the particle. This ability is realized also in its use as the substitution word that takes all the categorical and functional features of the words that are changed.

References:

POLITICAL METAPHORIC ALLUSION

The article is devoted to the study of political metaphorical allusions based on military terms in the English language. The sources of metaphorical allusions have been described. The semantics and functions of the metaphorical allusions in political discourse have been revealed.

Key words: metaphor, metaphorical allusion, sources of metaphorization, functions of metaphorical allusion, political discourse.

Political lexicon, part of the vocabulary of the English language, conveys the notions related to social life and reveals social and ideological phenomena. It has been subjected to considerable changes for the last twenty years and it remains one of the unstable layers in the lexical-semantic system. This fact has aroused the interest of researchers in semantic processes taking place in this sublanguage which is often marked by the presence of tropes and terms including military ones [2–6, 8]. When studying political language, researchers tend to follow three different but related paths. The first is to concentrate principally on the mere content of political language. These studies mostly relate to ethos, the norms and values that are hold by the communicator or the ideological content of the message. This type of research is commonly practiced in communications and in political science. The second is followed by researchers who try to unravel what politicians say by focusing on the structuring of arguments and their validity. These researchers focus on logos or the appeal to logic. This type of research has persisted in almost all branches of the study of political language. The third is somewhat less obvious, though at least equally rewarding: by focusing on the style of political language or its form, researchers try to complement studies that take only manifest content into account. They argue correctly that how politicians say things and how they verbally express their thoughts both affect the meaning the words acquire. They examine language in its concrete use and because they look for connotative meanings and emotional effects [3, p. 271].

This study focuses on metaphorical allusions based on war words in political discourse. The semantical and functional issues related to metaphorical allusions in the sphere of politics are the subjects of the article, which has the aim of providing their interpretations, investigating their sources and use.