PECULIARITIES OF THE LEXICO-SEMANTIC FIELD «ENVY» IN MODERN ENGLISH

The article deals with the lexico-semantic macrofield of envy in modern English. The analysis is based on lexicographical sources. The investigated macrofield of envy comprises three microfields: subjective, adjectival and verbal. All of them share the same structure which consists of the nucleus, co-nuclear and peripheral zone. The substantive microfield is the dominant layer in the structure of the whole macrofield of envy, because its constituents name the negative emotion or feeling, that is envy. Componential analysis of the nuclear lexeme made it possible to single out the archiseme of the researched macrofield – «a feeling of discontent and desire to own possessions of others». It is expressed in the definitions of all lexemes that form the analyzed field. Co-nuclear zone consists of the synonyms of the nuclear element and are defined through it or its derivatives. Peripheral lexical items include words that have many additional features, but that generic some in their meaning is rather weakened. Obsolete units and phrases that realize the investigated meaning refer to the marginal layer of the lexico-semantic macrofield of envy in modern English.

Key words: lexico-semantic macrofield, microfield, nucleus, co-nuclear zone, peripheral zone, componential analysis, archiseme, lexeme.

The object of our analysis is the group of lexemes that realize the meaning «envy» in modern English. The main method of studying the interactions of lexical items as systemic linguistic research in terms of identification of its structure and content characteristics.

Analysis of the research into this problem. Many linguists have been investigating the notion of lexico-semantic field [6; 7; 8; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20]; J. Trier, an outstanding German scholar, is considered to be the founder of the theory of field. He distinguished two types of fields «conceptual» and «verbal» [15]. The first theoretical explanation of the «field» was introduced by I. Ibsen [5]. He coined the term «semantic field» on a group of words, that were the names of metals in Eastern language. He introduced a new lexical unit – «envy» in modern English. In the contemporary linguistic researches much emphasis is made on the systematic study of lexical units [1; 4; 7; 16; 20; 21]. The main method of studying the interactions of lexical items as systemic linguistic research in terms of identification of its structure and content characteristics.

Formulation of a research problem and its significance. In the contemporary linguistic researches much emphasis is made on the systematic study of lexical units [1; 4; 7; 16; 20; 21]. The main method of studying the interactions of lexical items as systemic groupings is their description in terms of lexicosemantic field, which is the universal means of the structuring of the vocabulary.

The actuality of the paper is caused by the fact that the chosen lexicosemantic field has not yet been the subject of a separate linguistic research in terms of identification of its structure and content characteristics.

Statement regarding the basic material of the research and the justification of the results obtained. In our work, we understand the term «lexico-semantic field» (the LSF), as the organized set of lexical units, or lexicosemantic variants (LSV), belonging to different lexicographical classes of words. The actuality of the paper is caused by the fact that the chosen lexicosemantic field has not yet been the subject of a separate linguistic research in terms of identification of its structure and content characteristics.

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The structure of lexico-semantic macrofield «envy» consists of a nucleus, co-nuclear and peripheral areas, boundaries between which are blurred, as an individual lexico-semantic variant can be a constituent of several zones. The analyzed LSV «envy» is formed by the overlapping of microfields, which contain lexical units that belong to different parts of speech: nouns, verbs and adjectives. These layers fill the investigated field of envy with categorial determine meanings.

The substantive microfield is the main layer in the structure of the macrofield of envy, because envy (from Latin invidia) is an emotion which occurs when a person lacks another’s superior quality, achievement, or possession and either desires it or wishes that the other lacked it [11]. According to our research the nucleus of the lexico-semantic macrofield «envy» is presented by the noun envy, which is defined as: LSV, a feeling of discontent and resentment aroused by and in conjunction with desire for the possessions or qualities of another; LSV, the object of such feeling [2]; LSV, a feeling of grudging or somewhat admiring, discontent aroused by the possessions, achievements, or qualities of another; LSV, the desire to have for oneself something possessed by another; covetousness; LSV, an object of envy [3]. LSV, a feeling of resentful discontent, begrudging admiration, or covetousness with regard to another’s advantages, possessions, or attainments; desire for something possessed by another; LSV, an object of envious feeling [10]. A feeling of grudging admiration and desire to have something that is possessed by another [14].

The componental analysis of the dictionary definitions of the core lexeme of the investigated macrofield let us single out the archiseme – a feeling of discontent and desire to own possessions of others. This archiseme may be considered a field dominant, because its notion is present in the majority definitions of the investigated macrofield.

In a substantive lexico-semantic microfield the nucleus is presented by the noun envy, that denotes negative emotion, feeling and the state. This meaning is explicitly expressed in the semantic structure of the nucleus lexeme envy by an archiseme a feeling of discontent, desire for the possessions of others; desire to have something possessed by another. Co-nuclear zone of the noun of lexico-semantic macrofield consists of the synonyms of the nuclear lexeme, which are defined through the core element of the field or its derivatives and have partially expressed archiseme. These nouns include: Coveting n – an envious feeling towards or for something [12]; LSV, wrongfull, inordinate desire for the rights or possessions of others [10]. Covetousness n – an envious eagerness to possess something [14]. A feeling of grudging admiration and desire to have something that is possessed by another [3]. Resentful or painful desire for another’s advantages [13]. Envious n – feeling, expressing, or characterized by envy [2]. LSV, a feeling of grudging admiration and desire to have something that is possessed by another; LSV, resentful or painful desire for another’s advantages [13]. Grudge n – a resentful or grievous feeling about (someone else’s) success, possessions, etc [3]. Heartburning n – an emotional discomfort, esp. caused by envy, disappointment, jealousy, or a sense of guilt [14]. Invidia n – the sense of envy and jealousy [14]. Spite and resentment at seeing the success of another [2]. Jealousy n – a state of fear, suspicion or envy caused by a real or imagined threat or challenge to one’s possessive instincts [14]; the state or feeling of being jealous [3]. LSV, a jealous attitude or disposition; LSV, close vigilance [2]. LSV, the quality or state of being jealous; LSV, an instance of being jealous; LSV, a jealous feeling, disposition, state, or mood [10].

The above mentioned nouns are characterized by a differentiating sense «envious, painful, resentful desire to have something possessed by another». The semantic structure of these lexemes includes the emotionally negative evaluative meaning, which demonstrates the aggressive character of envy (grudging admiration, resentful or painful desire, spite, resentment).

Semantic analysis of lexical units with the meaning envy has shown that the number of qualifying features, which illustrate the generic sense «desire to own possessions of a lexical unit» influences the position of the lexeme in the field – large number of distinguishing features in the semantic structure of a lexical unit puts it far from the field nucleus, that is on a periphery. Peripheral zone of the investigated substantive lexico-semantic microfield contains lexemes that acquired some additional semantic features and the archiseme is weakened. To these lexemes belong:

Hatred n – the feeling of one who hates; intense dislike or extreme aversion or hostility [10]; extreme hostility and dislike [2]. Ill will n – hostile feeling; enmity; antagonism [3]; deep-seated hatred, as between longtime opponents or rivals [13]. Malice n – the desire to do harm or mischief [3]; a desire to harm others or to see others suffer [13]. Resentment n – a feeling of displeasure or indignation at someone or something regarded as the cause of injury or insult; pique; irritation [10]. Rivalry n – the condition of being a rival or rivals; competition; antagonism [10]. Backbiting n – the action of speaking spitefully or slanderously about (another) [2].

Peripheral nouns possess qualifying sense of absolutely negative attitude, antagonism, hostility, indignation. The generic sense a feeling of discontent and desire to own possessions of others is implied in the semantics of these lexemes. The obsolete lexical units with the meaning envy also refer to a periphery of an investigated microfield: invidiousness n – LSV, Obs. envyful [10]; heartburn n – Arch. bitter jealousy, envy [10].

There are some noun expressions with the meaning of envy that belong to the marginal layer of the analyzed substantive lexico semantic macrofield: green-eyed monster n – jealousy [2]; jaundiced eye n – jealousy [2]; evil eye n – jealousy, envy [2]. Adjectival lexico-semantic microfield is grouped around its nucleus – the adjective envious, which means: feeling, expressing, or characterized by envy [2]; feeling, showing, or resulting from envy [3]; full of, feeling, or expressing envy [10].

All lexemes of these microfield convey the qualifying meaning, which is used to describe the subject of envy, because being envious is characteristic of human beings only.

Co-nuclear zone of adjectival lexico-semantic microfield of envy is represented by the synonyms of the core adjective. Semantic structure of the analyzed lexical units contains an explicitly expressed sense envious, jealous of the possessions of others, desirous of another’s advantages. These are the following adjectives:

Begrudging adj – envious of the possessions or achievements of others [2]; Green-eyed adj – jealous, envious; distrustful [10]; resentfully or painfully desirous of another’s advantages [13]; jealous or envious [3]. Invidious adj – tending to cause discontent, animosity, or envy; envious [9]; LSV, grudging; envious [3]; resentfully or painfully desirous of another’s advantages [13]. Jaundiced adj – LSV, affected by or exhibiting envy, prejudice, or hostility; showing or affected by prejudice or envy or distaste [2]. Jealous adj – LSV, envious or resentful of the good fortune or achievements of another; LSV, having to do with or arising from feelings of envy, apprehension, or bitterness [2]; resentful (of) or vindictive (towards), esp through envy [3]; resentful and envious, as of someone’s success, advantages; proceeding from suspicious fears or envious resentment [10]; resentfully or painfully desirous of another’s advantages [13].

The periphery of the adjectival microfield of envy contains lexemes that can be classified according to their additional semantic features into several groups: the first group is characterized by a differentiating sense very eager, desirous to have something. Appetent adj – marked by eager desire [2]. Aspiring adj – desiring or striving for recognition or advancement [2]; full of ambition [9]. Craving adj – intensively desiring or longing [13]. Desiring adj – longing, craving, yearning [10]. Desirous adj – wishful, desiring [14]. Greedy adj – having or showing a selfish desire to have more of something; very eager to have something
The nucleus of this LSF is verb *envy* – envying (someone) the possession or enjoyment of something [2]; to envy or resent the pleasure or good fortune of [10].

Adjectives with the same *reluctant, harmful, malicious* because of envy belong to the second peripheral group and are characterized by the negative evaluative meaning:

*Grudging* adj – reluctant, unwilling [2]; displaying reluctance or unwillingness [10]. *Malicious* adj – characterized by intense ill will or spite; having the nature of or resulting from malice; deliberately harmful, spiteful [10]. *Spiteful* adj – filled with, prompted by, or showing spite; malicious; motivated by spite [14].

The third category of peripheral adjectives includes lexemes with the qualifying seme *doubtful, lacking trust and confidence*. They are:

- **Distrustful** adj – feeling or showing doubt; unable or unwilling to trust; suspicious; lacking trust or confidence [3]. *Suspicious* adj – lacking trust or confidence [13]; LSV, to suspect, distrustful [2].

Verbal lexico-semantic microfield of envy consists of verbal units which convey an action or a state of being envious or jealous. The nucleus of this LSF is verb *to envy* – LSV, to feel envy toward (another person); LSV, to regard (something) with envy [2]; to be envious of (a person or thing) [3].

Co-located zone of the investigated verbal microfield contains the lexemes that are defined through the core of the given field, the verb *to envy*, or its derivatives. They all have an explicitly expressed seme *to be envious, to regard with envy* in their semantic structure.

- **To drool** v – to make an effusive show of pleasure or often envious or covetous appreciation [9]. **To begrudge** v – LSV, to envy (someone) the possession or enjoyment of something [2]; to envy or resent the pleasure or good fortune of [10].

Verbs that have acquired additional semes such as *to have an intense desire or longing* and *to feel angry and bitter* are the constituent parts of the periphery of the analyzed microfield:

- **To covet** v – to feel strong or immediate desire for (that which is another’s) [2]; to wish, long, or crave for (something, especially the property of another person) [3]; to wish for greedily or with envy [9]. **To crave** v – to have an intense desire for [2]; to have a greedy, obsessive desire [13]. **To hanker** v – to have a strong or persistent desire [9]; to have a strong, often restless desire [2]. **To hunger** v – to have a strong desire [9]. **To long** v – to have an earnest, heartfelt desire, especially for something beyond reach [2]. **To lust** v – to have a passionate yearning or desire [10]. **To resent** v – to feel bitter, indignant or aggrieved at [3]; to be angry or upset about (someone or something that one think is unfair) [9].

Verbal expressions with the meaning *to envy* also belong to the peripheral zone of the verbal lexico-semantic microfield of envy: *to be green with envy; be jealous about; cast envious eyes; die over; turn green; eat one’s heart out; have hard feelings.*

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The actualization/activisation of a pragmatic component in the lexical meaning of the word ‘consultation’ under its discourse influence is in the focus of the present investigation. There are two main modes for exploring word meaning: in relation to other words and in relation to the world. First, traditional method used in dictionaries is to define a word in terms of other words, second, a foundational theory, which is interested in how lexical expressions acquire properties necessary for the user in discourse. The semantic correlation of the lexeme and the discourse stimulates some shifts in the word meaning. We focus our investigation on the lexeme consultation functioning in political discourse. The professional (political) discourse is usually represented by a semantic net which makes it cohesive and determines the topic. The lexemes in the net share a common component that links them into a semantic domain, for instance, party, negotiation, information, agreement, decision, etc. encode the political discourse. The notion of «Semantic domain» is inspired by «The Theory of Semantic Fields», a structural model for lexical semantics introduced by Jost Trier at the beginning of the last century. The basic assumption is that lexicon is structured into Semantic Domains: semantic relations among concepts belonging to the same domain are very dense. To reveal a pragmatic component in the semantic domain of ‘consultation’ linking other registers of discourse, for instance, legal, academic, banking, medical, and family is another step forward in semantic pragmatics.

**Key words:** lexeme, meaning, pragmatic component, political discourse, actualization, semantic domain, concept.

**INTRODUCTION.** At present two kinds of word meaning theory can be distinguished: first, a semantic theory of word meaning, which is interested in clarifying what meaning is encoded by the lexical items of a natural language. A framework establishing that the word ‘consultation’ encodes the lexical concept assistance would be an example of a semantic theory of word meaning, second, a foundational theory, which is interested in how lexical expressions acquire properties necessary for the user in discourse. We focus our investigation on the lexeme consultation such as conversing in political discourse. A broad definition of Political Language is suggested by Ursula Okulska and Piotr Cap: an area of studies of language in mainly forming political discourse. We focus our investigation on the lexeme consultation such as conversing in political discourse.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.** The professional (political) discourse [4, p. 193–198] is usually represented by a semantic net which makes it cohesive and determines the topic. The lexemes in the net share a common component which links them into a semantic domain [see: 15, p. 32–68] that reveals the ideological character of political discourse, as Teun A. van Dijk stresses.

**POLITICAL DISCOURSE ACTUALISING A WORD PRAGMATIC COMPONENT**

**Practical Implications.** Extending the scope of political discourse is a need of the current times. In the framework developed by the present study, the professional (political) discourse could be understood as a nexus of political sociality and communicative practices. The practical implications of the current study are twofold. First, it could contribute to the ongoing discussion on the nature and role of political discourse in society. Second, it could provide insights for the practitioners working in areas such as public relations, political communication, and political education.

The actualization/activisation of a pragmatic component in the lexical meaning of the word ‘consultation’ under its discourse influence is in the focus of the present investigation. There are two main modes for exploring word meaning: in relation to other words and in relation to the world. First, traditional method used in dictionaries is to define a word in terms of other words, second, a foundational theory, which is interested in how lexical expressions acquire properties necessary for the user in discourse. The semantic correlation of the lexeme and the discourse stimulates some shifts in the word meaning. We focus our investigation on the lexeme consultation functioning in political discourse. The professional (political) discourse is usually represented by a semantic net which makes it cohesive and determines the topic. The lexemes in the net share a common component that links them into a semantic domain, for instance, party, negotiation, information, agreement, decision, etc. encode the political discourse. The notion of «Semantic domain» is inspired by «The Theory of Semantic Fields», a structural model for lexical semantics introduced by Jost Trier at the beginning of the last century. The basic assumption is that lexicon is structured into Semantic Domains: semantic relations among concepts belonging to the same domain are very dense. To reveal a pragmatic component in the semantic domain of ‘consultation’ linking other registers of discourse, for instance, legal, academic, banking, medical, and family is another step forward in semantic pragmatics.

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