

The Role of the Phenomenon of Perception in Linguistics

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ABSTRACT

The article is devoted to the study of the role of perception in linguistics on the basis of new concepts in the modern English language in the processes of secondary nomination associated with the dynamics of cognitive processes of human thinking.

The formation of a cognitive approach to language in modern linguistics has led to an increase in the interest of researchers in the phenomenon of sensory perception, which is considered today as the foundation of cognitive activity, because cognition covers any form of comprehension of the world, which begins with the first contacts of a person with the environment [2]. The processes of acquiring perceptual, sensory-motor experience are considered by scientists to be cognitive along with thinking and speech [3], which means that the best access to the essence of perception is provided by observing language as a form of reflection and expression of thought processes.

Since the dawn of cognitive science, body experience has been considered the foundation of human cognition. Cognition as the highest form of reflection of objective reality, which has been studied by philosophical thought for a number of centuries, is a complex and contradictory process in which sensory and logical reflection constitute the necessary stages or steps. These two steps, according to psychologists, correlate with three levels of mental reflection of the image of the real world in the human mind:

- 1) the level of sensory-perceptual reflection of the properties and features of objects in their totality at the moment of impact on the sense organs;
- 2) the level of representations - secondary images of objects that are formed in the process of their repeated perception and actualized without direct impact on the senses;
- 3) the level of speech and thought processes (verbal-logical, conceptual thinking, intellect) - the result of generalization and abstractions mediated by signs, included in communication. Therefore, it is quite natural that linguists-cognitologists actively focus on the problems associated with the reflection of the sensory level of cognition in the language, determining the significance and degree of reflection of perception in the semantics of language units.

The cognitive approach to linguistic phenomena opens up new possibilities in language learning. If in traditional linguistics the main direction of research is the creation of a general theory of meaning, then in cognitive linguistics the efforts of researchers are aimed at studying the structure of lexical meaning in the mind of a native speaker, its relationship with knowledge in the individual's worldview, thinking, reality and perception. In this regard, one cannot but agree with the opinion of M. Okoneshnikova that “meaning is a cognitive phenomenon behind which there is a certain structure of knowledge” [5]. In cognitive linguistics, based on the empirical data of related sciences, discussions continue about the relationship between reality, consciousness and perceptual experience, which is formed in the course of interaction with the world of reality, with mental representations and linguistic forms verbalizing them. This is no coincidence, since the correlations between cognitive and linguistic structures are extremely diverse and complex and need further research and interpretation.

Thus, it is in the system of language that cognitive processes are reflected, which are based on the psychophysiological activity of a person and, first of all, the processes of perception of the world. The study of a significant layer of English substantives with perceptual features (size, shape, color, tactile properties, sound, etc.) in their semantics allowed us to highlight the collective experience of the representatives of the English society, which was revealed in the processes of categorization of the sensory perception of the world in the course of information processing, received through different perceptual channels with the help of five sense organs [4]. The presence of traces of perceptual experience is fixed in the semantics of a significant composition of the selected English substantives. Therefore, it is necessary to recognize the cognitive significance and relevance of perceptual properties (first of all, visually perceived ones) in the identification of objects, and hence in the identification of their material properties and qualities.

Various types of combination of perceptual features (namely, perceptual paradigms and perceptual registers of attributes) in the structure of the meanings of English substantives carry additional, but no less significant information about the perception of the physical characteristics of objects. Having a different share in the general system of perceptual properties, perceptual signs of size, shape, color, etc., which are associated with the classifying activity of human consciousness on the basis of perceptual experience, are salient for the selected corpus of nouns, which indicates their importance. role in the formation of systemic connections in the vocabulary of modern English.

Naturally, the question arises about the significance of perception for the cognitive base of secondary names. As is known, secondary phenomena in language have repeatedly become the object of close attention of linguists, since the study of the mechanisms of secondary nomination, from the point of view of scientists, leads not only to revealing the essence of semantic processes, but also to understanding the mechanisms of functioning of the human cognitive system as a whole.

The trend towards economy turns nominative activity into the mainstream of secondary nomination, the essence of which, according to V.Nurmatov, consists in rethinking the meanings of words that already exist in the language and in using their material shell in a secondary function for it [4]. As a cognitive process that gives an idea of the creation of new knowledge, this article considers semantic derivation, which “involves not only the formation of a new concept, but also the establishment of its links with the original structure of knowledge in the conceptual system of a person, since the emerging meaning is motivated by the original and its understanding often requires knowledge of the original meaning [5].

The phenomenon of semantic derivation involves considering this phenomenon as a multidimensional phenomenon of the language system associated with the dynamics of the cognitive processes of human thinking.

Scientists believe that the study of the cognitive processes of semantic derivation helps to penetrate into the mechanisms of the multifocal and multifaceted process of cognition. As is known, the processes of semantic derivation are reflected in the semantic structure of a polysemantic word, which is, first of all, an English noun, which has been a traditional object of research attention for many centuries. M. Okoneshnikova presenting the parts of speech in cognitive terms, singled out the main characteristics of a (prototypical) object that can be considered as certain types of knowledge about subject names:

- 1) isolation and independence (these are bodies that occupy a special place in space);
- 2) stability in time ("permanence" and "conservativeness" of the object);
- 3) special sensual, sensory separability of a particular object in the acts of its perception. It is this characteristic that not only unites the entire category of objectivity, but also distinguishes an object from all non-objects [5].

Such "sensory distinguishability" finds its representation in the semantics of names that constitute the category "Natural spaces" - one of the most representative in terms of the number of perceptual features in the semantics of the original units in the English language. Compare: ravine a deep and narrow valley with steep sides; plain a large area of flat land, etc.

This semantic domain, which is formed by the names of natural objects, is one of the most important fragments of the linguistic picture of the world of the English society. In this regard, the question arises about the productivity of this concept sphere for the cognitive base of secondary names that verbalize natural objects in the English language consciousness, and about determining the mechanisms of semantic derivation (types of transfers) for this concept sphere. It should be noted that cognitive linguists note the specific nature of the perception and mapping of space and spatial relationships both in human consciousness and in language, since ideas about space are a basic fragment of a naive picture of the world, which is especially refracted by each individual language.

To find out which perceptual features are salience for the cognitive base of secondary names of natural objects, we will analyze the ratio of the original and figurative meanings of this concept sphere. Compare Mountain 1. a very high hill, often with rocks near the top. In the semantics of the original word, a perceptual feature of a very large size (a very high hill) finds fixation; a feature that far exceeds the norms of the general human perception of objects, which in this particular case makes it possible to distinguish a mountain from other elevations (hill, knoll, etc.) and to conceptualize the height of the mountain as the dominant dimension of the object. The metaphorical mountain means "a huge collection of objects", for example: 1) You'll never eat that mountain of food. - You will never eat such a mountain of food (cf. in Russian: a mountain of pancakes, fur coats, plates, bricks, boxes, etc.); 2) I've got a mountain of work to do. - I have a lot of work, etc. In this regard, the conclusion of N.A. Karimov that "the assessment of the size of an object is not absolute. It focuses on the norm, individual for each subject, and only deviations from the norm in one direction or another are marked" [4]. The lexemes "summit", "top", "peak" is grouped according to the parametric attribute "height", which combines them with the word's 'height' and "mountain".

In the lexeme of the initial names, the perceptual (visually observable) sign of height becomes the source of some semantic shifts in the structure of the meaning of these names, having received a new figurative meaning of "pragmatic height" (the highest point of development) or the pinnacle of an emotional state or the pinnacle of social/professional success. For example: summit 2: the topmost level attainable <the summit of human fame; top 6: the highest position (as in rank or achievement) (2): a person or thing at the top - the highest, first place, the highest level in an official or social position; rank; (2) the head (of a family, clan, formation) [4].

Of interest in this regard are stable expressions like: "to come out on top" 1) win the

competition, come out on top 2) succeed in life “to come to the top”; 3) excel, succeed. The conquest of the top of the mountain in this case is associated with the achievement of a certain result or success in a person's life, which is reflected in linguistic forms. The perceptual sign of size, presented in the parameters of height, is the basis for a figurative meaning, which indicates the primacy of human perception of the parametric characteristics of material objects and objects of the surrounding world and their cognitive significance for the processes of secondary categorization of reality.

In the secondary nomination, i.e. figurative version of the lexeme 'peak', the following meanings are actualized: a) highest point, maximum; top (of a curve); climax; b) peak value, maximum. Wed It was a time of peak demand for the product. March is one of the peak periods for our business. The athletes are all in peak condition. We need extra help during the peak season etc.

Recently, the phrase “prime time” (BrE also “peak time”, peak “viewing time”) has been actively used: 1) broadcasts at the time when they are watched by the maximum number of viewers in the evening; 2) the most convenient time (for viewers); 3) the most expensive time (for advertisers). The basis of the shift in meaning was the visual sign of the form, which is fixed in the direct nominative meaning of the lexeme peak “the pointed summit of a mountain” – “peak”; “pointed peak” (about mountain ranges) [5].

Noting the significance of a person's perceptual experience for the metaphorical understanding of the world, it should be emphasized that the sensually perceived marking of perceptual concepts in the primary meaning of substantives is the basis for their transposition into other non-material spheres in the secondary nomination, which has a certain "connotative loading". It is also necessary to point out the different significance of perceptual features in the dynamic processes of secondary nomination.

Despite the fact that almost all types of perceptual features are involved in these processes, a certain focus of attention on the most relevant features, their necessary selection, and, as a result, elimination of irrelevant information, is likely to take place in the human mind. Here, the opinion that “out of all the countless real connections between multifaceted objects and phenomena only a few that are essential for the analysis of cause-and-effect relationships and an orderly reflection of reality” are actively selected [1].

Based on the data of our study, the visually perceived features 'size' and 'shape' are the most productive in the processes of secondary nomination, since they are accessible to direct sensory perception; as a result, they have the deepest psychological basis for comparison, which provides a constant and universal empirical basis. for various kinds of semantic shifts (mostly metaphorical). We share the opinion of N.A. Karimov that “in direct nomination, the main conceptual feature of the object is preserved in all word usage, and in indirect and indirect nomination, one of the essential or secondary features, which creates a shift in the meaning of the word” [3]. Further study of the dynamic processes of secondary nomination in the semantic structure of polysynaptic substantives will contribute to the description of the perceptual experience of a person in all its infinite diversity, since it is in these cognitive processes that the connection between perception and the processes of conceptualization and categorization of the world is manifested.

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