The Lexical Meaning of the Word "Face" in the Modern Language System: On the Material of Russian and English Languages"

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Abstract: This article is devoted to a deep lexical analysis of the meaning of the word "person" in Russian and English. The object of this study is a fragment of the main vocabulary of the language, which includes lexical and phraseological language units, combined on the basis of the commonality of the meaning they express, i.e. on a semantic basis.

Keywords: contrastive analysis, semantic unit, lexical meaning, category of animation, archiseme, sememe, archetype.

Names of persons as an important part of the lexico-phraseological subsystem of the language are still insufficiently studied in terms of contrastive analysis and identification of universal similarities and national-specific differences in the structure of the semantics of units of the original, in our case, the Russian language, against the background of another language, in particular English.

The material of this study was the most frequent lexico-phraseological names of persons in the Russian language, obtained as a result of a selection from the "Frequency Dictionary of the Modern Russian Language" by S.A. Sharov (electronic version), Phraseological Dictionary of the Russian Language, edited by I.V. Fedosov, "Lexico-phraseological dictionary of the Russian language" A.V. Zhukov, "Explanatory Dictionary of Women's Names" by N.P. Kolesnikov, "Dictionary of Russian Proverbs and Sayings" by V.P. Zhukov and their translational correspondences in English, selected based on the results of a definitional analysis of materials from reliable lexicographic sources

This clearly traces the analogy with the lexico-phraseological field, which "is understood as a set of lexemes and phraseological combinations that nominate a certain semantic sphere." The commonality of functions performed by these units of the language, such as nominative, identifying, characterizing, expressive-evaluative, social, also allows using the functional principle as a basis for their association.

Such a set of lexical and phraseological nominative language units, combined with an interdependent combination or combination of two fundamental features or according to the functional-semantic principle, should, in our opinion, be considered as a field formation in the lexico-phraseological system of the language. The commonality of the units that make up this lexical-phraseological field is manifested in their correlation as nominative signs with objects of the same subject series, united by the "animate person" subcategorical feature.

It is known that with the help of the concept of "semantic component" the meaning of a word or phrase can be represented as an object formed by a certain number of discrete elements, for example, macrocomponents, among which there are denotative, connotative and functional, or their constituent microcomponents - sem. Accordingly, the seme structure of a linguistic unit takes the

form of the following model, in which a hierarchy of semantic features that characterize meaning is distinguished, headed by an archiseme: a categorical concept + integral and differential features.

The latter are "a productive scientific abstraction by which the nature of meaning and signification can be revealed." The archiseme in the structure of the sememe has significant specifics, because it is commonly believed that with its help the object of the name belongs to a certain class, since it is an autonomous center of the sememe, and all other semes directly or indirectly define or specify it: an army man is a serviceman, mainly of the ground forces ; ancestor - the eldest relative on the paternal or maternal ascending line; wench - a young lively woman; salaga - a young, inexperienced, inept person; round orphan - having lost both parents; neither peahen nor raven - the one who moved away from some and did not join others. Since archisemes are not a description of a specific attribute of the object of the name, but the result of a logical operation to generalize all of its attributes, then for the accuracy of the contrastive description and comparison of the linguistic units under study, in our opinion, as an archiseme, instead of various options that are offered by explanatory translation lexicographic sources, it is advisable to use the metalinguistic unit "face". It is obvious that by means of the metalinguistic unit "person" in the denotative aspect, the seme structure of any studied denomination of a person, regardless of its belonging to a thematic group, can be described. In our opinion, the archiseme "person" meets the requirements of this study as much as possible, since it is the most common seme in the considered seme structures, which refers the called realia to the category of names of persons and includes a stable complex of implicit integral semantic features: "animation", "similarity man", "possession of mind", "dwelling in society", "ability to work".

Taking into account the fact that the language unit "by its meaning conveys several basic conceptual features that are relevant for the message, the transmission of which is the task of the speaker, is part of his intention" [6], in this study, such features are compared at different levels, including at the level of macrocomponents, values that reflect the structuring of the latter according to the types of transmitted information and can be isolated in its structure and distinguished through semantic oppositions of lexical units. Contrastive comparison of Russian names of persons and their translational correspondences in English is carried out with the help of contrastive analysis and the method of contrastive description of vocabulary and phraseology developed by the scientific school of Professor I.A. Sternin, based on the main terminological tools of contrastive lexicology and lexicography. Such studies are aimed at identifying and fixing the national specifics of the semantics of units of two languages when forming contrastive pairs from them in order to determine translation equivalents, linear and vector close and approximate correspondences, non-equivalent units of the source language and gaps in the comparison language. It has been reliably proved, including in the works of the author preceding this study, that in the process of identifying identical and distinctive semantic features denoted by microcomponents of meaning - semes, the national specificity of the semantics of denominations of persons is effectively described within the framework of the aspect approach. The main aspects of the manifestation of the national specifics of these units are denotative, connotative and functional. An aspect description of a lexical or phraseological unit is its step-by-step description of individual macro-components of meaning using the description metalanguage specially developed in this study. The following order of description of the semantics of names of persons has been revealed:

A. denotative macro-component of meaning: archiseme (person / set of persons), gender sign (male / female), integral sign of the thematic group, close to the core or bright differential signs;

B. connotative macrocomponent of meaning: evaluative (non-evaluative / approving / disapproving) and emotional (non-emotional / positive-emotional: affectionate, playful, etc. / negative-emotional: contemptuous, derogatory, etc.) signs;

C. functional component of the meaning: stylistic (interstyle / bookish / colloquial / reduced), social (general / socially limited: technical, student, legal, etc.), temporal (modern / new / obsolete / obsolete), territorial (common / territorially limited: southern, British, etc.) and frequency (highly common / common / little used / uncommon) signs, as well as probabilistic signs of political correctness and tone of communication, the order of description of which was introduced and

justified by the author of the study in the monograph "Names of persons in Russian and English".
For example: commander

sememe-1 person, female, married to a commander / non-judgmental, unemotional / colloquial, common folk, modern, common, common / English translation correspondence: commanders wife;

sememe-2 person, female, likes to dispose, command / disapproving, negative-emotional / colloquial, popular, modern, common, common / English translation correspondence: bossy woman

sememe-3 person, female, heads a military unit, subdivision, paramilitary organization / non-judgmental, unemotional / colloquial, popular, modern, common, little used / English translation correspondence: commander;

flesh and blood of sememe-1,2 =

bone of the bone and flesh of the flesh

semes-1,2 a person or group of persons, male or female, is related by blood to smb. / non-judgmental, unemotional / interstylistic, popular, modern, widespread, commonly used.

Integral semes of belonging to thematic groups are formulated and unified in the process of definitional analysis of the semantics of the names of persons and have the following form: any age; has to somehow relative to smb.; belongs to a the people; resides / comes from smb. terrain; connected by some unrelated relationship with smb.; characterized by smth.; is doing some activities, professionally; is fond of smth.; is taking a course in smth.; enters into a legal relationship with smb.; holds the views of teachings, etc.

The semantic features that make up the structure of the described sememe, in addition to the integral feature of belonging to the thematic group, are classified as differential features and are considered in the process of contrastive comparison as the basic basis for identifying the national specifics of the semantics of the names of persons in one language against the background of another.

Non-coincident semes in the structures of the original sememe and its translational correspondence in the matching language are quite often fixed in the contrastive analysis of semes with vector translational correspondences. In this case, in the absence of equivalent matches, the choice of a translation unit from the semes that make up the contrastive vector chain is based on the presence of not only matching, but also non-matching and non-equivalent semes and is due to more extensive semantic information than that provided in ordinary bilingual translated lexicographic sources (non-matching or non-equivalent semes are in bold):

<center>Tower sememe-2- beanpole</center>

face	face
a male or female sex differ in growth	the male or female sex differs in strong thinness
0	0
non-judgmental	non-judgmental
joking	joking
colloquial	colloquial
common	common
folk	folk
modern	modern
common	common
common usage	common usage

<center>sememe-2- a long drink water</center>

face	face
a male or female sex differ in growth	the male or female sex differs in strong thinness
0	0
non-judgmental	non-judgmental
joking	joking

colloquial	colloquial
common	common
folk	folk
modern	modern
common	common
common usage	common usage

A variant of fixing the results of a contrastive comparison of vector translation correspondences indicating only differential or non-equivalent semes in their seme structure is as follows:

colored - a person, male, does not belong to the Caucasoid race / disapproving, contemptuous / colloquially reduced, popular, obsolete, common, of little use;

non-white - male or female, non-judgmental, unemotional, colloquial, modern, politically correct, tone-neutral; blackamoor - has black skin color, colloquial, obsolete; colored - male or female, has a dark or black skin color, colloquial, tone-unacceptable;

darkie - male or female, has a dark / black skin color, colloquial, tone-unacceptable.

In the structures of the two sememes that make up a contrastive pair, mismatches of seme or seme concretizers can be revealed, both in each macrocomponent of the meaning separately, and simultaneously in several or all at once. For example, the translated correspondences of the Russian word yuzhanin - southerner - Southerner, unlike the original sememe, have in their structure a probabilistic denotative seme "especially the south of the USA or the south of England"; the English translation equivalent to the Russian refugee - refugee includes a probabilistic causal seme "especially during military operations or for political / religious reasons", which refers to the denotative macrocomponent of the meaning; in the word vacationer, the translated correspondences holiday-maker and vacationer differ according to functional-territorial semes: "common - British - American"; in the pair youth - cub, a mismatch of connotative emotional semes is revealed: "disparaging - ironic"; inconsistencies in these two macro-components of meaning - connotative ("unemotional - disapproving") and functional ("inter-style - official business", "nationwide - legal") were recorded in translation correspondences teenager - adolescent; in a contrastive analysis of the Russian word old woman and the translation correspondence oldster, there are discrepancies between the denotative semes "female - female / male", the connotative semes of emotion "diminutive - jocular", and the functional-stylistic semes "interstyle - colloquial", etc.

The universal and national, represented in the Russian and English national consciousness and reflected in both languages, are evidenced by examples of phraseological equivalents that have a complete match in meaning and phraseological image in both languages and, therefore, are characterized by the absence of national color or "zero national specificity" [1]: skin and bones = skin & bone; white crow = white crow; double agent = double agent; toy of destiny = plaything of destiny; prodigal son = prodigal son; number one = number one. Semantic-figurative phraseological equivalents may have discrepancies in their constituent components with full correspondence of semantic meanings and internal images: blood with milk = milk and rose (milk with a rose); straw widow = grass widow (grass widow); golden youth = gilded youth (gilded); finger-boy = Tom Thumb (hero of a fairy tale); living relics = a walking skeleton (walking skeleton); minion of fate \u003d favorite (favorite) / a spoilt child (spoiled child) of fortune; a person of the same height as you \u003d a man of your inches (a man of your inches); soul mate = a twin soul (twin soul); highway robber = knight of the road (horseman/knight of the road); servant of God = the servant of God (servant of God).

The forms of manifestation of the national specificity of phraseological semantics include differences in phraseological image with semantic equivalence of phraseological units, for example: a frightened crow (afraid of a bush) ≈ a burnt child (dreads the fire) (a burnt child is afraid of fire); the talk of the town ≈ the talk of the town (what the whole city is talking about); the last spoke in the chariot ≈ a tiny cog in the machine (a tiny cog in the machine); from the pot two inches ≈ knee-high to a grasshopper (knee-high to a grasshopper); five minutes to five (someone) ≈ within an inch of

becoming smb (in an inch from becoming someone), etc. The following pairs of phraseological correspondences can serve as examples of semantic national specificity (the presence of seme differences):

big shot (colloquial, common) ~ big wheel / big cheese / gun / shot (slang, American); dearest half (female) ~ my better half (male or female); priest of science (high, little used) ~ a high priest of science (colloquial, common). Russian and English phraseological units are also identified, which have a semantic-figurative national specificity, i.e. the presence of separate seme interlingual differences and the difference in phraseological image: guilty without guilt (interstyle, modern) ~ more sinned against than sinning (others are more sinful than sinful themselves, bookish, obsolete); a person out of place (interstyle) ~ a round peg in a square hole (a round plug in a square hole, colloquial); all without exception (interstitial) ~ every man Jack (every Jack, colloquial).

The semantic features of the names of persons, identified through contrastive comparison, can not only relate to national-specific or universal characteristics, but also belong, depending on their position in the family hierarchy, typological features, species affiliation or brightness, to signs that are essential or insignificant for identification. equivalent, close or translation matches in contrastive pairs. As the practice of this study shows, the essential semantic features of Russian and English names of persons are described, first of all, with the help of the archiseme and the integral seme of belonging to a thematic group. They may also include bright differential denotative characteristics, connotative evaluations and emotions, or bright functional semes. According to the results of the study, the essential distinguishing features of the seme structure of the names of persons are described by the following oppositions to seme: person - a set of persons; non-judgmental - disapproving / approving; non-emotional - negative/positive-emotional; book / high / official business - interstyle / colloquial / reduced; common - unused; modern / new - obsolete / obsolete. Non-essential semantic signs in our case should be considered a sign of gender, probabilistic signs, a number of connotative and functional signs, which are described by the following pairs of semes: negative-emotional - contemptuous / dismissive / derogatory; interstyle - colloquial, common - American / British.

The presence of significant integral features in the semantics of the names of persons that form a contrastive pair allows us to draw qualitative conclusions about their belonging to equivalent or close translational correspondences. The absence or inconsistency of essential integral features in the semantics of the unit of the source language against the background of the semantics of the unit of the reference language allows us to attribute them to approximate interlingual correspondences, as well as to identify the phenomena of non-equivalence and lacunarity in two languages.

Summing up, we note that when a language unit denotes a national-specific realia that is important or even central to the life of one of the peoples, the features of the seme structure of this unit at the levels of macro- and micro-components of meaning against the background of its translation correspondence can be identified, described and classified in the above manner based on the use of a contrastive technique.

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