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LEXICAL-SEMANTIC FEATURES OF AGRICULTURAL TERMINOLOGY

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the variety of principal ways of Agricultural and Machinery Terminology formation in modern English, lexical-semantic base as well as the complexity and heterogeneity of the elements.

Keywords: English, formation, term, terminology.

INTRODUCTION

A continuous extension of human knowledge relates to the formation of new communication spheres, where language use takes on specific registers (professional and scientific jargon), e.g. English for Agriculture. L.Bloomfield assumes that professional and scientific jargon reveals such characteristics as a precision, a continuous exchange with standard language, an exact definition of terms, a large use of different linguistic structures,use of terms, figures, symbols and signs [2, p. 82].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

English for Agriculture is characterized by its professional vocabulary, in particular,its terminology which makes it more informative and recognizable. The globalization of the vocabulary contributes to a number of borrowed words in the modern English Terminologyof Agriculture.

The results of the carried out research prove agricultural terminology to be polyfunctional. It should be mentioned that many terms belong to different language subsystems, e.g.: *mature* is used in standard language as adult, grown-up; ripe; in medicine as mature fetus; in genetics as morphological resistance of plants. Terminological units are characterized by hypero-hyponymy relations. The origin of motivated terms is based on metaphor, metonymy and transfer of function. The semantic way of creation of new terms is the most productive in the creation of nouns. In the process of determinologization the terms loose their exactness and sometimes obtain emotionality [1, p.38].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The main ways of term-building fall into affixation *(e.g.: fertilizer, infiltration, irrigation, seeder, separator);* abreviation (*e.g.: AIMS - Agricultural Information Management Standards);* word-composition (e.g.: *washer-shredder, windrower, grassland, smallseed (box));* conversion (e.g.: *motor - to motor, to fall out - fallout, empty – to empty*).

The most frequent units among multicomponent terms are two-component terms (about 78 %, e.g.: *corn combine, fruit duster, vegitation crusher).* The three-component terms take the second place (about 21 %, e.g.: *drum root cutter, grain cleaning machine, high speed cultivator, selective*

flame weeding). The special terms of compound structure form the major part of the analysed term subsystem.

Certain terms of Agriculture form microfields. The onomasiology structures of these microfields are formed on the basis of integration of three basic frames: object frame, possession frame and action frame. Each microfield can be composed by term groups and subgroups which are formed on the basis of lingual or extra lingual criteria. Synonymic, antonymic, hyper-hyponymic relations in these groups are revealed. The presence of considerable number of synonyms is a salient feature of English Agricultural Terminology.

Since the end of the XX century cognitive approach has played an important role in linguistics. The idea is actually not completely new. Since the earliest time people have identified themselves with the world surrounding them. An ancient Greek philosopher Protagoras famously said: Man is the measure of all things. In the XVIII century an Italianphilosopher Giambattista Vico developed this idea and applied it to the language: 'In all thelanguages most expressions referred to inanimate things are made up by means of transfer of the names of human body or body parts, as well as the names of feelings, relationships tothese inanimate things. Man makes himself the measure of the Universe'.

In this paper we attempt to explore the use of metaphor in the computer terminology,using the cognitive linguistic framework of conceptual metaphor set out by Lakoff and Johnson [3]. Conceptual metaphors are realised linguistically in metaphorical linguistic expressions. As according to Lakoff 'the essence of metaphor is understanding and experiencing one kind of thing in terms of another' [3, p.47].

Anthropomorphic metaphor is one of the basic methods of semantic term building. Itis based on the two principal kinds of productive associations. These associations and, therefore, the transfers are those made according to the formal resemblance and according to the resemblance of functions. For example, *'a head' ('голова') = 'a cylinder head' ('головка цилиндра'*) 'a neck' ('шея') – the formal resemblance; *or 'a mouth' ('рот') = 'amouth' ('отверстие')* – the resemblance of functionx [1, p. 54].

The most productive models of semantic term building are metaphoric transfers by form and function, by function only, by location.

Anthropomorphic metaphor is a very wide-spread and varied phenomenon. The identification of the environment and human being has always been one of the most important means of cognition. The words denoting part of a human body are 'donors' for the terms denoting machine and implement parts:

a) the terms based on the names a human body parts:

'a head' as in '*a cylinder head'*, *'a nail head'*, *'a screw bolt head'*; *'a leg'* as in '*a leg of a cultivator'*;

'an arm' as in – '*arms of a balance', 'power arm', 'weight arm'*;'*a body'* as in '*a body of a tractor'*;

'a heart' as in '*a heart of a stator'*;

b) the terms based on physiological characteristics of a human being:

'a life' as in *'a battery life', 'life of a machine'*;

'dead' as in *'Top Dead Center', 'Bottom Dead Center*' – the word *'dead'* is normallyapplied to something that can be alive.

It's interesting to mention that in different languages the terms based on the resemblance of function sometimes use names of different parts of body, but having the same function or form: for example, the function of a joint is used in the English term *'elbow'* (literally '*локоть*') and Russian '*колено';*

'an eye' is used to name something resembling an eye by form means a hole for fixing something in the technical language. In Russian it corresponds to *'ушко'* with the meaning'*a loop'*.

Computer terminology formation depends on metaphor as well. On the surface, the 'high-tech' world of information technology appears to be an unlikely environment for creative language use involving linguistic phenomena such as metaphor. However, a close examination of computer terminology reveals an abundance of metaphorical expressions that are used at all levels and in all segments of the industry. But how can metaphor, whichhas traditionally been almost exclusively associated with the domains of literature and rhetoric, be compatible with the language related to the electronic world, and what role couldit play in a technical environment?

The most frequently-manifested conceptual metaphor in IT terminology is '*a computer is a living being'*. This metaphor gives rise to a number of interesting metaphoricalphenomena. These examples show how we think and speak about computers in metaphoricalterms:

1) The computer says that my accounts don't balance. (Only human beings can say something).

2) John's computer is dead. (Only a living being can die).

3) My computer is sleeping. (Only a living being alive can sleep).

Like a living being a computer can be infected by a virus. So a computer can be ill and cured.

Metaphors based on form or function are also widely used in terminology term formation:

1) The Metaphor*: Mouse.*

The Concept: Hardware resembling the mice which enables point and click on a computer screen. The term '*mouse*' was obviously coined due to the appearance of the device, which resembles a mouse (shape-based metaphor).

1) The Metaphor: *Desktop.*

The Concept: Desktop refers to the area behind the windows (function-based metaphor).

2) The Metaphor: *Carousel* is a machine for children, which rotates.

The Concept: UI element where the contents are rotated in a timely basis (function- based metaphor).

3) The Metaphor: *Accordion* is a music instrument which is played by compressing and expanding.

The Concept: UI element with compressible and expandable list of items. Each item can be "expanded" or "stretched" to reveal the content associated with that item (function- based metaphor).

4) The Metaphor: *Breadcrumbs* are the trails of pieces of bread.

The Concept: A navigational guide denoting the hierarchy of folders that were navigated in order to arrive at the current folder location. (function-based metaphor). The origin of the term comes from the 'Hansel and Gretel' fairy tale. The breadcrumb trail that Hansel left for their family.

5) The Metaphor: *Bootstrapping or Booting* - Tall boots may have a loop or handleat the top known as a bootstrap, allowing one to use fingers to pull the boots on.

The Concept: A technique by which a simple computer instruction or program activates a more complicated system of instructions or programs (function-based metaphor).The phrase appeared in the early 19th century United States (in the sense 'pull oneself overa fence by one's bootstraps'), and means an absurdly impossible action.

Some word meanings in the AgroCorpus There were academic words from the AgroCorpus that were used with technical rather than academic meaning. The word culture provides an example of a word from the AWL used with technical meaning in the field studied. When observing the frequent sequences of words that accompany this word, or its clusters, it was revealed that culture

was used with meanings associated with agriculture, meaning ‘‘cultivation of plants” (blueberry cell cultures, cultures were grown, cultures were maintained, cultures were incubated, size fractionated culture) and to biology(the culture medium, chitin broth culture, block liquid culture), meaning ‘‘experimental growthof microorganisms in a nutrient substance”. This example adds further evidence to the point made by Hyland and Tse that disciplines use words with preferred meanings and collocational behaviour, as well as to the problems of homography identified by both Gairns, R. & Redman, and Jordan. Also, the collocations of the word strategy in our corpus further add to the examples provided by Gairns, R. & Redman, to illustrate the tendency of words to have field-related collocational patterns. These authors found marketing strategy in business, learning strategy in applied linguistics and coping strategy in sociology. In the AgroCorpus, the common collocates were specific to the field, such as control strategies, management strategies, and adaptation strategy.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the principal ways of agricultural and machinery terminology formation in the English language have been regarded and systemized. The conclusion can be made about the variety of formation ways and semantic base as well as the complexity and heterogeneityof the elements building the terminological field.

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