

PHILOLOGICAL SCIENCES

FUNCTIONAL AND STRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF SEMANTIC VARIABILITY IN ENGLISH VOCABULARY

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Introduction. The study of semantic variability of lexical units in English-language sources is extremely relevant in the modern scientific environment. The analysis of the lexical-semantic system of the English language demonstrates its dynamism and adaptability to new communicative needs.

Keywords: Semantic variability, lexical units, functional style, terminologisation, co-reference, specificative constructions.

Aim. The article examines the phenomenon of semantic variability of lexical units in English discourse. It analyses the dependence of their meaning on functional style, particularly in formal business, scientific, journalistic and literary contexts. Particular attention is paid to the mechanisms of semantic transformations, such as lexical shift and terminologisation, as well as the role of co-referential and specificative constructions in ensuring the cohesion and coherence of the text. The aim of this work is to identify the patterns that determine semantic transformations and their influence on the formation of the content structure of the text. Semantic variability in the context of functional styles is of significant importance. Lexical-semantic changes are systematic in nature and determined by the functional features

of communication. *Formal business and scientific styles* are characterised by minimal semantic variability. In these styles, lexical units tend towards unambiguity and precision in order to avoid ambiguous interpretation. This is achieved through the use of standardised clichés and specialised terminological vocabulary.

Journalistic and literary styles demonstrate significant variability. In them, words are often used with connotative meanings to give emotional colouring. In artistic style, polysemy serves to create imagery, and context plays a decisive role in revealing the multiple meanings of a word. They often go beyond the dictionary meaning and acquire individual authorial connotations [1. p. 34]. The mechanisms of semantic dynamics include *lexical shift*, as a fundamental aspect of linguistic dynamics, which consists in changing the typical meaning of a word and its transition to another lexical-semantic group. This process can be caused by *metaphorical* and *metonymic transfer*, *synecdoche*, as well as *contextual activation of potential semes*. The process of *terminologisation*, i.e. the transition of commonly used vocabulary into terminological vocabulary, is also an important mechanism of semantic change. It is realised through narrowing or broadening of meaning, as well as through metaphorical and metonymic transfers. Semantic variability is the driving force behind terminologisation, allowing language to adapt to the description of new concepts. An important role belongs to co-reference and specificative constructions

Results and discussion. The concepts of *coreference* and *specificative constructions* (SC) are key to analysing the semantic structure of a text. *Coreference* is positioned as a linguistic phenomenon where several units of text refer to a single object, ensuring coherence and avoiding repetition.

Specificative constructions (SC) play a crucial role in ensuring clarity and accuracy. Their function is to clarify the meaning of a noun phrase. SC not only ensure the cohesion and coherence of the text, but also help to avoid ambiguity and determine the focus of attention [2, p. 82].

Conclusions. Proper use of SC is critical for creating accurate and effective messages. Thus, semantic variability is a fundamental property of language that ensures its flexibility, expressiveness, and adaptability.

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