

Adjectives of Tactile Perception in a Comparative Aspect (In Russian and English Languages)

Marina S. Achayeva and Natalya S. Subbotina
Yelabuga Institute of the Kazan (Volga) Federal University, Kazanskaya St. 89,
Yelabuga, Republic of Tatarstan

Abstract: The study is devoted to a comparative characterization of the words belonging to a lexical-semantic class of adjectives of tactile perception in Russian and English languages. The equivalents in the sphere of tactile perception are considered. This class of words is the lexical-semantic universal for all natural languages. These adjectives belong to the category of quality; they nominate tactile perception of the world by a man. Similarities and differences in their structure and lexical compatibility reflect features of perceptual and mental perception of the natives of Russian and English languages.

Key words: An adjective, tactile perception, tactile sensations, semantics, perceptual

INTRODUCTION

As it is known, an adjective is a part of the lexical-semantic class of predicate words which name a non-procedural attribute (property) of objects, events or other signs that a name indicates. Adjectives nominate a qualitative indication of the subject, beyond its relation to other objects, events or signs. Semantic basis of an adjective is first of all, the concept of quality which is interpreted widely in grammar.

The subject of our study is the adjectives of tactile perception which is the lexical-semantic universal for all natural languages. Tactile sensitivity is the feeling arising from the effect on the skin surface of different mechanical stimuli. It is a kind of touch and depends on the type of exposure: touch or pressure. Sensitivity occurs because of the stimulation of the tips of the fingers, lips, tongue where there is a large variety of mechanoreceptors.

The aim of this study is to describe the adjectives of a tactile perception in Russian and English languages (Achayeva, 2012).

MAIN PART

The problem of semantic structure, functioning and compatibility of adjectives of tactile perception are reflected in the researches of Astapkina (2012) and Moiseeva and Bubyreva (2010), etc.

In linguistics, the lexical-semantic group is the vast number of its members, the organization of words which is united by the common (base) semantic component. Semantic component includes one and the same classeme

or some a set of words referring to a specific part of speech and the same lexigrams-semes denoting lexical and grammatical categories of this part of speech (Lecanto, 2002). Suprun (1983) defines lexical-semantic group as segments of vocabulary (paradigms), uniting lexemes with the same subject orientation and uniform semantics that have overall and the most important semantic factor (invariant), related to the same part of speech and is characterized by synonymous (in the broad sense) and antonymic relations between individual members of the segment.

The specificity of lexical and grammatical semantics of different parts of speech forces us to modify the general scheme of lexical identification in order to see semantically close to each other components and similar in semantics of words (Babenko, 2014).

In the "Dictionary Thesaurus of Russian adjectives, distributed by thematic groups" edited by Babenko (2014) adjectives are divided into lexical semantic groups of different levels of the hierarchy (spheres, classes, groups and subgroups). It stands out denotation-ideographic class of adjectives of tactile perception. They are: satin, velvet, velvety, wet, rough, hard, ice, sticky, soft, sweet, hard, warm, silk; rough, cold, bitter, sour, spicy, salty, bland, smooth, hot, sticky, sticky, prickly, wet, non-smooth, delicate, impalpable, uneven, slippery, hastily, tactile, sticky, smooth, oily, slippery, dry, cold, biting, cold, sensitive, silky, silky, rough, bristly, tasty, taste, astringent, sticky, bitter, salty, sweet and sour, tasteless, soft, savory, spicy, fresh, sweet, tart, thin, herbaceous.

In English, there is also a lexical-semantic group of adjectives calling tactile sensations for example, sweet; damp, dry, smooth, tough, sour, soft, flavourless, viscous, cooled, tactile, trenchant, sugary, solid and others. It should be noted that in the English language in addition to adjectives characterizing tactile sensations, nouns are often used: satin, damp, velvet, sweet and others.

In English as in Russian, the specific value of the adjective is implemented primarily in combination with nouns and largely determined by the semantics of the latter. Adjectives of tactile perception can be combined with substantive lexical units of smell: spicy meals, spicy jokes, acoustic: loud music, loud man, visual: dark room dark days , flavoring perceptions: sweet; sweet heart, bitter taste; bitter tears.

One of the important components of any lexical-semantic group is the presence of a base identifier or a base word. The base identifier has certain properties and differs significantly from the other words of their group. The base word is usually more common than other lexical units of the group. High frequency of its use is due to the fact that its lexical meaning is different, first of all because of its generalization. Typically, this word has a neutral stylistic coloring; it lacks connotative elements of meaning. That is why, it may occur in combination with the missing concretization this is the base word can be in almost any context. The semantics of basic words manifests the topic of a lexical semantic group.

We found that the specificity of the lexical semantic group of tactile adjectives in Russian and English languages is the lack of basic identifiers as they show a clear semantic heterogeneity.

CONCLUSION

In general, the system of Russian-English equivalents of adjectives of this lexical semantic group can be represented as follows: velvety, rugged, icy, silk, shaggy,

salty, insipid, humid, sticky, prickly, wet, uneven, delicate, intangible, crooked, pitted, cooled, adhesive, flat, tallow, slippery, biting, perceptible, silky, silk, shaggy, rough, bristling, tasty, flavouring, astringent, viscous, bitter-salted, sour-sweet, unappetizing, unsweetened, luscious, subtle, grassy, sugary.

So, the lexical-semantic group of adjectives of tactile perception in Russian and English is a universal class of words. These adjective belong to the category of quality, they nominate tactile perception of the world by a man. Similarities and differences in their structure and lexical compatibility reflect features of perceptual and mental perception of the Natives of Russian and English languages.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The research is performed according to the Russian Government Program of Competitive Growth of Kazan Federal University.

REFERENCES

- Astapkina, E.S., 2012. Laws of Semantic Derivation Adjectives of Tactile Perception: Abstract Dis. Cand.Phil.Sci., Minsk, pp: 20.
- Achaeva, M.S. 2012. Nominative Space of Derivational Nests Parametric Adjectives in Russian and English: Abstract Dis. Cand. Phil. Sci., Kazan, pp: 22.
- Babenko, L.G., 2014. Thesaurus of Russian Adjectives, Distributed in Thematic Groups. M.
- Lecanto, P.A., 2002. Modern Russian Language: Textbook for Universities.
- Moiseeva, S.A. and J.A. Bubyreva, 2010. Adjectives of Tactile Perception as an Object of Nomination and Synaesthetic Transfers, Voronezh.
- Suprun, V.I., 1983. On the Lexical-Semantic Groups of Words, 3: 4-6. <http://www.grani.vspu.ru>.