



SIGNS AND MEANINGS: PROBLEMS AND PERSPECTIVES

This issue of "Slovo.ru: Baltic Accent" is devoted to the connection between the notions of *sign* and *meaning*. Being aware of the inexhaustibility of the problem, the editors suggest taking Frege's triad *sign - sense - meaning* as a reference point. Frege's work "On Sense and Reference" formed the basis of modern semantics in logic, linguistics and semiotics, and any research in this area would be implausible without it.

At the same time, since Frege initially developed his model for solving mathematical and logical problems, its extrapolations in linguistics and semiotics lead to several problems that have not yet been sufficiently studied. The editorial board proposes to focus on the following discussion points:

1. Frege's conception does not take into account the asymmetric dualism of the linguistic sign. It results in the asymmetry between sign and sense, on the one hand, and sign and meaning, on the other. This generates typologically different phenomena of synonymy and polysemy, and creates a possibility of autonomous functioning of signs and senses.
2. Defining sense as a relation between sign and meaning (denotation), Frege did not take into account such meaning-relevant factors as context and the interpreter. Nor does he take into account the syntagmatic characteristics of the sign.
3. Frege's triad lacks dynamics. Meanwhile, linguistic semantics emerged as a diachronic discipline (1897), the changing relationship between sign and meaning occurs not only in diachrony but also in synchrony.
4. Frege regarded the characteristics of a sign that do not affect its truth value as irrelevant. This means that social, personal, emotional, evaluative and other elements of meaning are not taken into account.
5. Novel interpretation of Frege's model can offer a new perspective of the study of meaning, which can be interpreted not only as an association between two given objects (the signifier and the signified), but as a model of generating senses.



Immanuel Kant
Baltic Federal
University

Other aspects and approaches to the problem are also welcome.

Guest editors

Dr Grigorii L. Tulchinskii, professor, National Research University Higher School of Economics (St Petersburg, Russia).

E-mail: gtul@mail.ru

Dr Ivan B. Mikirtumov, professor, St.Petersburg State University (St. Petersburg, Russia).

E-mail: imikirtumov@gmail.com