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ON THE STUDY OF CATEGORICAL ORGANIZATION OF THE CONCEPT «SYSTEM» IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE CONSCIOUSNESS

The article analyses certain types and results of the categorization of system objects reflected in the modern Russian language. Using methods of traditional and cognitive semantics, the author explores linguistic representations of categorization levels in the understanding of the 'system' phenomenon. The author attempts to correlate the identified classification rubrics with various knowledge formats as well as to consider the structure and content of these rubrics in the context of everyday and professional knowledge.

Анализируются некоторые результаты и типы категоризации системных объектов, нашедшие отражение в современном русском языке. С использованием методов традиционной и когнитивной семантики на материале этих единиц исследуется языковая репрезентация категориальных уровней осмысления феномена системы, предпринимается попытка соотнести выявленные классификационные рубрики с разнообразными форматами знаний, а также рассмотреть структуру и содержание этих рубрик в контексте бытового и профессионального знания.

Key words: categorization, categorization types and levels, concept, linguistic conceptology, the phenomenon of a system, professional and everyday knowledge types.

Ключевые слова: категоризация, уровни и типы категоризации, концепт, лингвоконцептология, феномен системы, профессиональный и быденный виды знания.

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The interest in the study of conceptual bases of language semantics characterizes the cognitive linguistics throughout its development and corresponds to the fundamental property defining research vectors of this field of knowledge. According to the common position among the thought units participating in the formation and functioning of linguistic meanings the central position belongs to the concept as «the basic operational unit of the thinking code» [1, p. 34], which incorporates the whole complex of knowledge about the fragment of experience and is involved in the main thinking processes – acts of categorization and conceptualization. Among the most attractive verbalized concepts for the analysis were named the units of interprofessional (metaprofessional) knowledge demonstrating the interosculation of ordinary and special representations of reality. The concept «SYSTEM» belongs to a number of the most important concepts of our time, which possess all the previously mentioned properties, and this fact creates an additional interest for the referring to the contained therein verbalized results from the system objects categorization.

From the general nominative field of the concept «SYSTEM» different units included in lexico-phraseological, derivational and associative subfield have been selected as the actual material for our research. The correlation of conceptual content and language semantics with any categorical level was being realized using the method of conceptual-taxonomic analysis as a set of techniques for the study of «hierarchical organization of linguistic objects» respectively the hierarchy of concepts expressed in their semantics [2, p. 51].

As the analysis has shown, the largest number of cognitive classification criteria defining the slots of frame «SYSTEM» and serving as a benchmark for the system object recognition belongs to the middle, or base, level of logical abstraction, which entirely conforms with the position of the categorization theory about the leading role of this level for everyday conscience [3, p. 40–44]. The word «system» in its core meaning performs the function of basic concept representative at this categorical level. With the use of different explanatory dictionaries summary definition of this meaning can be formulated as ‘an ensemble of interconnected, regularly arranged and jointly functioning elements (objects, phenomena, attitudes, principles, knowledge, etc.) etc. that form some integrity, unity based on the common characteristic, destination’.

The subordinate level of the system objects taxonomic categorization reflects their specificity and, therefore, supposes a deeper and longer experience in the interaction with these objects. The language manifestation of named level is possible due to relatively numerous denominations of various kinds of systems. The detailing of one or another system on the subordination level is achieved by the specialization of the above classification criteria into the context of some conceptual area. So, for instance, we can consider in analyzable level the content of such meanings of key denomination or its shades of meaning, as (the summary definition are shown in a random order): 1. // ‘A thought-out plan’; 2. ‘An accepted, established order in respect of a range of phenomena, relations’; 3. ‘A form of organization, arrangement of smth. (economic, state, political, social, etc. units)’; 4. ‘A form of social organization, social order, formation’; 5. ‘A complex technical or electronic device,



which consists of mechanisms, acting in coordination'; 6. 'A set of *economic, governmental units* related through their tasks and organizationally united'; 7. 'A combination of *methods*, which are the basis of any doctrine or ideology'; 8. // 'A set of *methods, techniques, rules* of doing smth.'; 9. 'An informal *youth association, movement*'; 10. 'An *operating system*'; 11. 'That has become normal, ordinary, regular routine (colloquial)'; 12. // 'A set of elements, united by a common feature, *classification, grouping*'.

The conceptual analysis of the key word semantics leads to the conclusion that the dominant direction for the specification of the collective notions about a system on subordination level of the categorization is to clarify the ontological nature of its elements. In this way the main notional information about a system «is projected» to various, primarily, artifact conceptual areas. Such cognitive contexts accumulate the results of comprehension of the phenomena from social, political, economic, technical, scientific spheres of human activity. The special case is constituted by mental representation of organized human activity with the assistance of the schematized knowledge about the time as a spiral, which implies phase event frequency ('That has become normal, ordinary, regular routine') or vector pointing toward the expected events ('A thought-out plan') [4, p. 104].

However, the greatest number of elements objectifying the subordinate level is revealed in the group of descriptive names of different system kinds. These names represent the mass known or limited by a professional group distinctive characteristics of the existent systems. The concrete specification (differentiation) aspect in a given case depends on the content of a category important attribute into one or the other cognitive context. E. g. *financial system* (финансовая система), *marketing system* (система маркетинга), *system of international relations* (система международных отношений), *rocket-powered system* (ракетная система), *satellite systems* (спутниковые системы), *the system of CIS* (система стран СНГ), *technical systems* (технические системы), *phonetic system* (фонетическая система) and many others (the slot 'An ontological character of system elements' is highlighted and specified), *multilevel (educational) system* (многоуровневая система (обучения)), *centralized system (of the FMS bodies)* (централизованная система органов ФМС) or *centre of (political) system* (центр (политической) системы), *system of work for «two days after two»* (система (работы) «двое суток через двое»), *hierarchy of (political) system* (иерархия (политической) системы), *levels of (budgetary) system* (уровни (бюджетной) системы) and other (the slot 'A structure' is specified), *system of views of fascism* (система взглядов фашизма), *preventive measures system* (система мер_ по профилактике), *the system of Commonwealth of Independent States* (система стран_ СНГ), *supplies system* (система поставок) (the slot 'A discrete set' is focused with the further specification), *security system* (система безопасности), *cooling system* (система охлаждения), *system of education* (система обучения), *educational system* (воспитательная система), *system of chronology* (система летоисчисления), *computing system* (вычислительная система), *power supply system* (система электропитания), *heat supply system* (система теплоснабжения), *system of credit* (система выдачи кредитов), *payment system* (платежная система) (the slot 'A functioning purpose' is exposed to the clarification).



The cited language material serve as the evidence, which shows the unity of verbalized specific subconcepts on the basis of a general concept «SYSTEM» whereas the integration of different cognitive contexts on its basis allows us to talk about the matrix organization of its content on the subordinate level [2, p. 46–49].

It appears that the quantitative prevalence and high nominative density of subordinate meanings, which have arisen during the development of this concept in the collective conscience, are provided by the high degree of pragmatism of a world naive picture, its function to impress, first of all, the elements of practical man interaction with the surrounding world [5, p. 69]. Naturally, therefore, that psychologically real value of the concept subordinate component have also found its expression in the associative processes. According to the data of the experiment, this categorical level is represented by 50 % of the received responses in the associative field «system», of which, respectively allocated cognitive contexts, 12 % refer to the field of political life. Under the experimental data, this level of categorization is presented by ~ 50 % of received reactions, that the associative field «system» contains. In accordance with cognitive contexts 12 % of them refer to the political life, 10 % reflect the very different realities of the social way of Russians, about 7,4 % more or less explicitly objectify the area of IT, the field of technical equipment and installations cover nearly 5,8 % of subordinative reactions continuum. 4 % of associations represent various items from the mathematical and physical sciences, the «definitional domain» of 3,7 % in the conceptualization of a system is the medical cognitive context, 3 % correlate with the biology field, 2 % are related to ideas about the cosmos and the Universe. Nearly 1,5 % represent generally valid key notions for scientific realm. The knowledges from linguistics and geology / chemistry are observed in 1 % and 0,05 % of responses, respectively.

Besides, the categorical hierarchy of interesting concept includes the superordinate level. The chief mean of its representation in the Russian language, in our opinion, is the lexeme «order». The established logical part of more archaic concept «ORDER», that is 'a state of good organization, livability, regularity' ('состояние налаженности, организованности, благоустроенности, правильности') [6, p. 310], leveling the others absorbs only the most outstanding system characteristics ('a structured set of elements') from the psychological point of view which are familiar to our day-to-day empirical experience and perceived in the form of gestalt. So, the above experience fragment serves as a necessary prototypical framework, which contributes greatly to the development of the concept of «SYSTEM».

On the contrary, the results of logic cognition of a system, which are viewed at the level of professional consciousness, provide the basis for construction a model of the studied object, determining a method and aspects of its research. Accordingly, we can assume that in contrast to ordinary thinking in the process of scientific oriented thought development exactly this conceptual framework plays a role of source prototype. Such «asymmetry» in the sphere of prototypical senses caused by the dependence of a category structure and content on the ratio of theoretical and everyday knowledges can be considered, seemingly, as a particular expression of anthropocentric factor in the categorical division of the world. Its most evident influence of



the human factor, however, is noted in the field of secondary – evaluative – system objects categorization, which implies a mental correlation of these objects with the respective axiological category [3, p. 102]. As a result of axiological classification the comprehension of professional reflection products is realized from the perspective of collective and individual value orientations (sensory, aesthetic, ethical, rational), i.e. further – personal – interpretation of special knowledge in terms of the daily conscience [7, p. 15–16]. This, for one's part, leads to the expansion of pragmatic evaluation zone of the concept, to its conversion into a unit of metaprofessional knowledge. The content of associative reactions allows to draw a conclusion that the axiological interpretation covers, a separate cognitive elements or refers to entire fragments of subordinate object-logic content into the studied concept. In compliance with our observations, under the great influence of socio-political events in the life of each person precisely conceptual fragment, which corresponds to the understanding of a system as the political or social organization, participates with the most activity in evaluative comprehension of the system objects. So, the extralinguistic factor of instability in social and political life predetermines the quantitative prevalence of associations with normative and utilitarian values (quasi values) meaning in the process of free and directed experiments with incentive «system» (~38% и ~33%). With a chain of these reactions should be numbered such as *bureaucrasy* (бюрократия), *cruel* (жесток), *corruption* (коррупция) 3, *injustice* (несправедливость), *deceit* (обман) 2, *lawlessness* (беззаконие), *has failed* (дала сбой), *mafia* (мафия), *falsehood* (ложь), *МММ*, *clumsy* (неповоротливая), *injust* (несправедливая), *constraint* (скованность), *criminal* (уголовная), *oppression* (угнетение), *humiliation* (унижение) 1 (by the results of the free experiment), *putrid* (прогнившая), *outdated* (устаревшая) 4, *mercenary* (продажная), *slavish* (рабская) 2, *absurd* (бестолковая), *bureaucratic* (бюрократическая), *thievish* (воровская), *silly* (глупая), *false* (ложная), *sluggish* (медлительная), *insufficient* (несовершенная), *dishonest* (нечестная), *injust* (несправедливая), *vicious* (порочная), *fetter* (сковывающая), *dead-end* (тупиковая), *suffocating* (удушающая), *outdated* (устаревшая), *defective* (ущербная) 1 (by the results of the directed experiment «System – what?»)

The state of psychological discomfort in these conditions contributes naturally to the interpretation of the social and political systems «through the prism of» psychological evaluations category (~0,8% и ~1%) indicating the feeling of fear and feebleness: *evil* (недоброе), *dangerous* (опасный), *damaging* (разрушающее), *hopelessness* (безвыходность), *of pain* (боли), *pain* (боль), *feebleness* (бессилие) 1, *hard* (тяжелая), *cursed* (проклятая) 1.

Among the cognitive characteristics of the concept a well-known ability of systems to keep functionally significant resistance demonstrates the greatest evaluative relevance. It's usually favourable for the human experience. Accordingly, with the subjective interpretation of this conceptual «quantum» the category of positive psychological evaluation on intellectual criterion is often activated. Compare, for instance, the following responses: *accuracy* (четкость) 5, *calm* (покой, спокойствие), *strict* (строгий), *exactness* (точность) 2, *poised* (уравновешенный) 1, *accurate* (четкая) 9, *adjusted* (отлаженная) 6, *steady* (устойчивая) 4, *reliable* (надежная), *strict* (строгая), *stable*



(стабильная) 3, exact (точная), inviolable (нерушимая) 2, durable (прочная), approved (проверенная), sharp (отточенный), persistent (упорная), spent (отработанная), faultless (безошибочная), resolute (непоколебимая), protected (защищенная) 1 (on the whole ~17% и ~22% according to data from two experiments). Otherwise when the mind of the native speaker associates the notion about stability with the background knowledge about of the boring, monotonous event course, the category of polar axiological sign comes into effect: characterlessness (безликость) («the characterlessness evolves from the fact that everything and everyone are the same in the system, it has no originality, no "zests"» («безликость связана с тем, что в системе все и все одинаковое, никаких оригинальностей, никаких "фишек"»)), grey (серый) 2, banal (банальная), domestic routine (бытовуха), fixation (заикленность), boredom (скука) 1, indifferent (безразличная), colourless (бесцветная), ordinary (заурядная), monotonous (однообразная), uniform (однотипная) (~7,3% и ~3,5%).

Among the conceptional features, on which the axiological categorization is built, should also point such as 'a functioning with a purpose' and 'the presence of structure'. The first of these characteristics is cognitive support (reference) for making a positive value in accordance with the utilitarian and teleological rational measures. The ideal situation in this case is represented by reactions like constructiveness (конструктивность), efficiency (эффективность) 2, quick (быстрая), purposefulness (целеустремленность), use (польза) 1, effective (эффективная) 7, modern (современная) 5, flexible (гибкая), working (работающая) 4, happy (удачная), handy (удобная) 3, optimal (оптимальная) 2, useful (полезная) 1 (~7% и ~13%).

Following the other parameter, the human consciousness interprets the static and dynamic relationship between a parts of system as a manifestation of beauty and, as a result, just the category of aesthetic evaluation with the sign «+» is focused upon this characteristic. The use of given evaluative criterion is embodied in reactions of harmony (гармония), completeness (завершенность), coordination (координация), coordinated (скоординированный) 1, harmonious (слаженная, стройная) 5, orderliness (стройность), solidarity (сплоченность), beautiful (красивая), elegant (элегантная) 1.

Completing the above observations we would like to emphasize the cooperation between different categorization types in the transforming process, which concerns the conversion of scientific-theoretical concept «SYSTEM» to the unit of metaprofessional knowledge. Being realized today in all discourse types and founded as the basis for categorical processes the keyword enriches its «conceptual history» more and more noticeable at the same time continuing to look for «its niche in the language world picture... of linguo-cultural community by reference to already existing units» [8, p. 172].

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С. Л. Васильев, Н. А. Пробст

ФУНКЦИОНАЛЬНО-СЕМАНТИЧЕСКИЕ ОСОБЕННОСТИ УГРОЗЫ РЕКВЕСТИВНОГО ТИПА (на материале советских и российских художественных фильмов)

Массовый кинематограф выступает одним из экспликаторов культурно-ментального состояния нации, в полной мере отражающих состояние языка. На основе анализа фрагментов советских и современных российских кинокартин определяются роль и назначение угрозы реквестивного типа, устанавливаются состав и значение различных содержательных компонентов данной разновидности директивных речевых актов. Под угрозой реквестивного типа понимается вопросительная-побудительная конструкция со значением прескриптив-угрозы — один из способов косвенно-производного выражения соответствующего значения.

Mass cinematography reflects the cultural and mental state of any nation as well as the state of its language. Based on the analysis of the fragments of the Soviet and contemporary Russian films, the author determines the role and purpose of the requestive threat as a speech act, and identifies the composition and role of various components of requestive threat speech acts as a type. Requestive speech acts are a means of indirectly derived expression of a corresponding meaning.

Ключевые слова: речевая тактика угрозы, косвенная угроза, прескриптив-угроза, вопросительно-побудительные конструкции.

Key words: speech tactics of threat, indirect threat, prescriptive threat, interrogative imperative sentences.