

## SPECIFICITY OF HOMONYMS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Kadirova Matluba Axmadjonovna

A senior teacher of English language at Academic Lyceum of Termez  
State University

### Annotation:

The article is devoted to the study of homonymy in English. This article gives the concept of homonymy and considers the classification of homonyms, the main reasons for the appearance of homonyms, especially homonyms in English and cases of their use in fiction and dictionaries. Based on the analysis, it is concluded that the phenomenon of homonymy is quite frequent and difficult phenomenon in English, as well as homonyms are able to enrich and decorate any language, allow to create a large number of puns based on this sound of words.

**Keywords:** homonyms, origin, classification of homonyms, features of homonymy, sources, word formation, conversion.

Homonyms are units of a language (words, morphemes), different in meaning, but identical in writing or sound. Many researchers in the concept of «homonymy» include only the sound form of the word, some add to it and graphic form. Words that are similar in writing or sound usually have very different meanings. Knowledge of homonyms and their correct use is important and necessary in the practice of English. According to linguists, in modern English homonyms make up about 18-20% of the total vocabulary.

The phonetic changes that occurred in the vocabulary during the development of the language historically contributed to the emergence of a large number of homonyms. As a result of these changes, words that had previously been variously spoken began to take on a similar sound form and homonyms appeared. Borrowing is also a source of homonymy. The borrowed word can become similar in pronunciation or writing to the original word or borrowing. The most productive way to form homonyms is word formation and conversion. As a result of conversion, a word that is one part of speech acquires the meaning of another part of speech.



The main sources of homonymy in English are: 1) conversion; 2) word formation; 3) borrowing; 4) abbreviations; 5) phonetic changes. Phonetic changes are one of the sources of homonymy. Word formation can be a source of homonymy, in particular, one of its types - conversion. Conversion refers to the process of creating a lexical grammatical homonym that belongs to another part of speech.

Homonymy is a source for increasing expressive characteristics of speech. The most famous in modern English is the classification of I. W. Arnold. It studies homonyms, homophones and homographs and divides them into 12 classes.

Let's highlight the most important ones:

1. Partial homonyms having a similar initial form, but different paradigms.
  2. Partial homonyms that coincide in separate word forms but not in the original.
  3. Words that belong to one part of speech but differ in their original form and coincide in another form.
  4. Different semantic meaning in the same original form, similar grammatical meaning under different paradigms.
  5. Words that differ in lexical and grammatical meaning, not in paradigm.
- Homonyms formed by conversion.

In the English language, the following classification of homonyms is distinguished: partial homonyms, absolute homonyms, homophones, homographs, paronyms. These homonyms are the most common in the English language and represent a common concept for both native speakers with formed linguistic personalities and linguacultural. This is not so much reflected in individual cases of use as on the permanent rules allowing an objective assessment of everyday life» [Pavlenko 2019:95].

It should be noted that «in the search for semantics of significant historical and linguistic concepts, in the system of explanatory education, it is mandatory to establish the authenticity (authenticity) of the text relative to its author, in order to exclude substitution and interpretation of homonyms in additional senses» [Karpova 2013: 250].

Heterogeneous texts should be checked against the original texts within the entire body of the author's works.

Thus, having studied the basic dynamics of absolute and partial homonyms in the linguistic space of modern English language, some homonyms-concepts, monemes



and phrases were characterized, which are part of the active vocabulary of any representative of the English culture with a formed linguistic personality, and transferred the resulting structural and functional properties in the overall formal analysis of interpretations and their semantic corpus. Modern English is distinguished by a high degree of homonymy. Throughout its history, the English language has undergone linguistic changes associated with the phenomenon of homonymy. Homonyms are linguistic signs that have identical meaning, but different significances.

Conversion and splitting of polysemy are two ways through which the internal life of the language takes place and the natural appearance of homonyms. The lexical detachment of homonyms is reinforced by the unstable system of relations between them and the presence in each of them of an independent semantic center. The main feature of inconsistency of words-homonyms in the sense is the absence of a single component connecting them and the difficulty of its identification with the help of dictionaries. Based on homonyms, jokes and anecdotes are created. Homonyms are able to enrich and decorate any language, allow you to create a large number of puns based on this sound of words.

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