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# SPECIFIC FEATURES OF LEXICOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF **CONCEPTS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This article provides details on the essential aspects of creating a lexicographic description of concepts, emphasizing the consideration of a word's semantic structure. It also covers the importance of incorporating semantic components as core, periphery, and associative fields when describing a concept, enabling a more comprehensive understanding of a word's meaning and use in various contexts. Additionally, the thesis asserts that the fundamental essence of a concept, as determined by lexicographic analysis, represents the most basic and general aspect of the conceptual content, reflecting primarily minimal elements.

**Keywords**: concept, structure, core, analysis, component, stereotypes, text, lexical units, dictionary, lexicographic description.

Lexicographic description of concepts is an important part of linguistic research, as it allows systematization and classification of lexical units. Specific features of lexicographic description of concepts include several main aspects, such as semantic structure, linguistic and cultural.

Appropriate use of lexicographic and associative materials is effective at various stages of conceptual research. First, dictionary data can be used to determine how the studied concept is expressed in the lexical and phraseological system of the language (the nominative field of the concept) and to determine the strict features of the conceptual content.

Secondly, experimental data can be used to clarify the psychological real content of the concept, lexicographic assessment of the real importance of the identified conceptual features, and to determine the value component of the concept. Currently, the most common approach is to describe the structure of the concept by its core and peripheral components. According to this structure, the core of the concept contains the most vivid emotional and visual image, which has individual characteristics and



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unique personal meanings, because it usually comes from personal experience. The core is the basic layer of the concept along with certain additional cognitive properties.

The description of the structure of the concept should rely more on the individual associations of the speakers, which suggests that such an approach helps to restore the psychologically reliable core of the concept. This is in contrast to the use of vocabulary information, which is not intended to capture individual, specific elements of knowledge. Researchers have pointed out the "limitations" of lexicographic description in relation to the actual knowledge and ideas of the speakers of the language. In linguistic conceptology (identification of the means of verbal expression of a concept and modeling of its content), the contrast between psychologically real and lexicographic meanings was noted: psychologically real meaning is associated with a word in the minds of language speakers, mainly through experimental methods covers all defined semantic features. The lexicographic meaning is briefly formulated and reflected in explanatory dictionaries. It should be noted that both of these meanings represent only a part of the content of the concept<sup>1</sup>. According to another approach, the main essence of the concept determined by the analysis of lexicographic sources is only the most basic and general aspect of the conceptual content, which mainly reflects minimal elements. According to V.Ye. Goldin, modern research shows that associative material reveals not only individual, but also normative and figurative aspects of conceptual content (based on extensive experience), raising doubts about this point of view. Therefore, associative meanings form the psychologically real core of the national concept and form its main layer<sup>2</sup>.

In our opinion, it is important to consider that the two types of research described are directed at different objects of study. According to the first approach, to solve this problem, it is first to reach a psychological concept, a functional unit of thought, using linguistic methods. On the other hand, the use of the second approach inevitably leads to the creation of a unique structure representing an element of knowledge that covers only a part of the real conceptual content.

According to Yu.D.Apresyan, the dictionary description of the lexeme should contain some simple encyclopedic knowledge, as well as meaning. He writes: "Many authors who have written on this topic believe that lexeme meanings are not directly

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ Попова З.Д., Стернин И.А. Семантико-когнитивный анализ языка. – Воронеж: Истоки, 2006. – 226 с. – С. 14.  $^{2}$ Гольдин В.Е. Нормативный аспект лексических ассоциаций// Русский язык сегодня. Проблемы языковой нормы: Сб. статей. – М., 2006. – С. 128-137.



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included in their interpretation. Nevertheless, they should be recorded in dictionary entries, since the most important semantic interactions with other language units in the text are explained by references to connotations."<sup>3</sup>.

Nowadays, it is becoming popular to describe the structure of the concept in terms of its core and periphery 4. According to this structure, the core of the concept contains the most vivid emotional and visual image, which has its own individual meaning, often arising from the life experience of a person. Together with certain additional cognitive features, this core forms the main layer of the concept. The periphery (or field of interpretation) includes the interpretation of specific relations of consciousness, individual cognitive characteristics expressed through various stereotypes, and their combinations, which form the mentality of a certain linguistic and cultural community. Considering this point of view, a question arises. If it is emphasized that the core of the concept is an individual emotional-visual image, is it possible to try to identify such a core with the help of dictionary data? The structure of the concept should be based on the individual associations of the language owners to restore the psychologically real core and not rely on vocabulary information that is not intended to acquire knowledge. Researchers have repeatedly pointed out the limitations of lexicographic descriptions in reflecting the actual knowledge and ideas of language speakers.

Given that associations reflect only certain components of the content of the concept, this alternative method may seem more convenient and the results of the study more important. However, recent studies of associative material contradict this view.

One of the important features of the lexicographic description of concepts is the consideration of the semantic structure of the word. When describing a concept, it is necessary to take into account its semantic components, for example, core, periphery, associative fields. This allows for a more complete and accurate description of the meaning of the word and its use in different contexts.

In addition, the linguistic features of the concept are taken into account in the lexicographic description of concepts. For example, the same concept may have different lexical equivalents in different languages, which requires the analysis and comparison of relevant lexical units. In the lexicographic description of a word, it is important to take into account its morphological, syntactic and phonetic features. Linguistic and cultural features also play an important role in the lexicographic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Попова З.Д., Стернин И.А. Семантико-когнитивный анализ языка. – Воронеж: Истоки, 2006. – 226 с.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Апресян Ю.Д. Языковая картина мира и системная лексикография / В.Ю.Апресян, Ю.Д.Апресян, Е.Э.Бабаева и др.; Отв. ред. Ю.Д.Апресян. – М.: Языки славянских культур, 2006. – 913 с.

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description of concepts. Each language reflects the specific characteristics of the culture and society in which it is used, therefore, when describing concepts, their cultural characteristics should be taken into account. Also, an important aspect of lexicographic description of concepts is to take into account the contextual features of word use. A concept can have different meanings depending on the context in which it is used, so it is important to analyze its use in different situations and texts.

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