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CONCEPT «PEACE» IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: STRUCTURAL AND SEMANTIC CHARACTERISTICS

The concept is treated as a linguo-cognitive, psycholinguistic, linguo-cultural, cultural or linguistic phenomenon. There are two main approaches that are based on the role of language which shapes the concept and shows the boundaries between language and culture. According to the first approach, the concept is a cultural phenomenon. Concepts are self-organizing, integrative, functional systematic, multidimensional, idealized formations based on the notional (pseudo- or pre-notional) basis and which are fixed to the meaning of a sign: the scientific term, or word (phrase) of everyday language, or more complex lexico-grammatical and semantic structures, or non-verbal subjective image, or action [5]. A. Wierzbicka states that the «concept» is an object from the «ideal» world which has the name and reflects the people's cultural understanding of real world [6]. According to J. Stepanov the «concept» is a basic cultural cell in the mental world of a man [2, p. 248]. Concept is a mental structure that represents individual's world building.

According to the second approach, the concept is considered to be a linguistic and cognitive phenomenon. It includes the information about what an individual knows, suggests, thinks, imagines about the objects of our world. The notion of «concept» corresponds to those senses, which a person operates in the process of thinking and which reflect his/her experience and knowledge. So, the concept is connected with the verbal expressive means. Concepts exist in the mentality of a person, so, in order to communicate it is important to verbalize them (to express them by means of language). Verbalization of the concept in the language is conducted both by individual lexical units, phrases and by the texts. It should be noted that the choice of the lexical unit is defined by the personal meaning, mental representation and the general knowledge of the speaker. All these aspects are interconnected.

According to Stepanov, concept's structure has a «layered» character. The specific structure of the concept is defined by the main feature, additional (passive, historical) features, and the inner form. The *inner form* is a foundation on which all the other layers of meaning are built [2]. According to G. Slyshkin and V. Karasik the cultural concept is considered to be a multidimensional meaningful construct, which contain the notional, figurative aspects and the aspect of value. The notional aspect is a fixation of a concept in language. It presupposes the existence of name, description, definition, some comparative characteristics. The imagery aspect of a

concept is its visual, auditory, tactile, taste characteristics of objects, events, events which in one form or another are reflected in our consciousness. The aspect of value is manifested in the importance of educational process, both for an individual and for a team [1].

The concept is considered to be a multidimensional mental unit which includes the evaluative element that predominates. The concept is connected with a so-called «strong» point of consciousness, which irradiates associative vectors. Thus, the structure of the concept includes the *core* (these strong points of the consciousness) and the *periphery* (the less significant associative). According to them, the boundaries of the concept are not clear.

The structure of the concept is not rigid, because the meaning is constantly refined and modified. Besides they are always influenced by other concepts. Therefore the concepts are in constant change and development together with the constant change and development of the world. An ordered collection of concepts in the mind of a person or some ethnical group forms his/her conceptual realm. Language is one of the means to access to the people's mind, their conceptual realm, the content and structure of concepts as units of thinking.

Our paper analyses the concept «PEACE» in its structural and semantic aspect. PEACE is considered to be one of the most important concepts in any culture. Every language has the word «peace». The Online Etymology Dictionary defines it as «a period of harmony between different social groups that is characterized by lack of violence or conflict behaviours, and the freedom from fear of violence» [4]. PEACE is a broad concept but it is typically associated with life, happiness, prosperity, it is connected with social and economic welfare, the establishment of equality, and a working political order that serves the true interests of all people».

The dichotomy of PEACE and WAR cannot be separated. It is difficult to describe the concept of PEACE without the opposition to WAR. So, existing in this dichotomy and depending on the context, PEACE (and WAR) may represent judgments, norms, claims of absolute value related to human nature, culture or to various standards.

Taking into account the theoretical findings, *the concept PEACE is defined as a unit of mental activity of individual consciousness that represents personal interpretation of the socio-cultural experience obtained in the process of socialization; it is associated with the interpretation of the phenomenon of peace in English linguo-culture, and includes notional, figurative information, and the aspect of value which is perceived by the producers (speakers/writers) and interpreters (listeners/readers) of the English language.*

The study defines the structural components of meaning of the concept PEACE. They include nominative, figurative information, and the aspect of value. Nominative aspect corresponds to denotate which categorizes the phenomenon represented by the concept PEACE (the unit by which it is verbalized); figurative information is associated with connotate that defines the realm of what can be related to the concept of PEACE (its name): that is the number of interpretative,

evaluative and emotive associations connected with the concept of PEACE in English linguo-culture.

The analysis of the notional layer of the concept was carried out using the data obtained from the analyses of etymology and definition. With the help of online Etymology Dictionary we defined the etymology of the lexical unit «Peace» [4] which is as follows:

PEACE

– 1140, «freedom from civil disorder» from Anglo-Norm. *pes*, from O.Fr. *pais* (11, c. Fr. *paix*), from L. *pacem* (nom. *pax*) «treaty of peace, tranquillity, absence of war» (cf. Prov. *patz*, Sp. *paz*, It. *pace*), from PIE **pak-* «fasten,» related to *pacisci* «to covenant or agree» replaced O.E. *frið*, also *sibb*, which also meant «happiness»;

– 1200, Sense of «peace of mind»;

– 1300, from Biblical L. *pax*, Gk. *eirene*, which were used by translators to render Heb. *shalom*, properly «safety, welfare, prosperity»;

– 1300, sense of «quiet»;

– 1297, meaning of «absence or cessation of war or hostility» [4].

Such etymological analysis allowed singling out the most common senses characteristic for the lexical unit «peace». They are *absence of war, civil disorder, happiness, quiet, safety, welfare, prosperity*. The following table illustrates componential analysis of the lexical unit «peace» in the most popular dictionaries.

Table 1

Peace	Merriam-Webster's	Longman	Cambridge	Macmillan	Collins
An agreement to end war	+	-	-	+	+
Law and order within a state	-	-	-	-	+
A state of tranquillity or quiet	+	+	+	+	+
Harmony in relationships	+	-	-	+	+
Freedom from war and violence	+	+	+	+	+
Freedom from disquieting or oppressive thoughts and emotions	+	+	-	+	+

So, according to the componential analysis of the definitions shown in **Table 1**, the most frequent meanings of the lexeme «Peace» are *a state of tranquillity*,

freedom from war and violence, freedom from disquieting or oppressive thoughts or emotions.

The knowledge patterns encoded in the internal form of lexical units of the concept PEACE can throw light on social, ethnic, political, and cultural processes typical on the modern stage of development of a specified language community. Thus, the lexeme «peace» can be used in its direct and transferred meaning. The direct meaning presupposes the state of freedom from war and violence between two or more states. And the transferred meaning presupposes the state of harmony in the relationships between people.

One of the characteristic features of the concept PEACE is that it has axiological nature. In English linguo culture, focused on peaceful and harmonic existence, peace appears to be an ultimate moral and ethical value. As a result, conceptual and figurative elements of the concept PEACE exist in inseparable unity with the aspect of value.

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ПОЛИТИЧЕСКИЙ ДИСКУРС И ПОДХОДЫ К ЕГО ИЗУЧЕНИЮ

Институциональный дискурс является объектом активного изучения в социолингвистической парадигме лингвистики, которая выделяет, например такие его типы, как политический, деловой, рекламный, научный.

Институциональный дискурс выделяется на основании двух системообразующих признаков: цели и участники общения. Цель политического дискурса – завоевание и удержание власти, педагогического