

CHANGEABILITY AND SUBSTITUTION OF MEANINGS

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Abstract: *In this course about Changeability and substitution of meanings are fundamental concepts in linguistics that explore the dynamic nature of language and the versatility of linguistic expressions. These concepts delve into how words, phrases, and even grammatical structures can be altered or replaced to convey different shades of meaning, nuances, and interpretations. This introduction aims to explore the intricacies of changeability and substitution of meanings, highlighting their significance in language use, communication, and linguistic analysis.*

Keywords: *Semantic change about lexical and theoretical approaches, factors and challenges of semantic shift.*

INTRODUCTION

Learning foreign languages in Uzbekistan has become very vital since the primary days of the autonomy of our nation which pays much consideration to the rising of instruction level of individuals, their mental development. Some time recently this decree The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev marked the Declare №2909 "On measures for further development of the Higher education system" on April 21, 2017. This declare plays as the fundamental establishment to the last one. At the same time, video selectors and meetings dedicated to improving the system of teaching foreign languages are being held under the chairmanship of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev. "Since we have set ourselves the goal of building a competitive state, from now on school, lyceum, college and university graduates must know at least 2 foreign languages perfectly. This strict requirement should become the main criterion for the activity of the head of every educational institution," said Shavkat Mirziyoyev[1;5]. Language is inherently dynamic, constantly evolving and adapting to new contexts, influences, and cultural shifts. Changeability and substitution of meanings reflect this dynamism by showcasing the flexibility and malleability of linguistic elements. Changeability and substitution allow speakers and writers to express ideas, emotions, and concepts in diverse ways. This versatility enables creativity, ambiguity, and layers of interpretation within language, enriching communication and expression. Changeability involves semantic shifts, where words or phrases acquire new meanings or connotations over time. Substitution of meanings, on the other hand, involves replacing linguistic elements to evoke different nuances or interpretations, highlighting the intricacies of semantic variation.



The historical overview of lexical semantic change provides insights into the evolution of language over time, tracing the shifts in meanings of words and their usage. This aspect of linguistic study is crucial in understanding the dynamic nature of language and how it adapts to the changing needs and perceptions of its speakers. The historical perspective helps to unveil the intricate interplay of cultural, social, and linguistic factors that contribute to semantic change.

Language Evolution:

Languages undergo continuous transformation due to various factors such as cultural developments, technological advancements, and interactions between different linguistic communities. Studying historical texts and linguistic artifacts helps uncover the semantic nuances that have evolved over centuries.

Cultural and Social Influences:

Changes in cultural practices, societal norms, and historical events significantly impact the semantic evolution of words. For example, words related to technology, social structures, or even religious concepts may experience semantic shifts as societies progress or change their perspectives.

Lexical Borrowing and Contact:

Contact between different linguistic communities often leads to the borrowing of words and the assimilation of foreign terms into a language's lexicon. These borrowed words may undergo semantic changes as they integrate into the host language, adapting to local contexts and meanings.

Shifts in Perception:

The perception of certain concepts or phenomena can influence the semantics of related words. Changes in societal attitudes, beliefs, or scientific discoveries may lead to shifts in the meanings of words. For instance, words associated with gender, race, or societal roles may undergo semantic changes as societies reevaluate and redefine these concepts.

Language Contact and Trade:

Linguistic interactions resulting from trade, conquest, or migration contribute to the exchange of words between languages. The semantic evolution of these words reflects the cultural assimilation and adaptation occurring during these interactions.

Historical Texts and Diachronic Analysis:

Examining historical texts and conducting diachronic analyses allows linguists to trace the semantic development of words over time. The study of linguistic changes in literary works, legal documents, and religious texts provides valuable insights into the historical context and the evolution of word meanings.

Understanding the historical overview of lexical semantic change is fundamental for linguists and language enthusiasts alike, as it unveils the intricate tapestry of language evolution and reflects the dynamic nature of communication across different epochs. As mentioned above this article is devoted to analyze functions of pun and Zeugma. The scientist I. R. Galperin considered Zeugma and Pun as Interaction of Primary and Derivative Logical MEANINGS. The study of semantic change involves various

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theoretical approaches that help linguists and scholars understand the mechanisms and patterns underlying shifts in word meanings over time. These approaches can be broadly categorized into diachronic and synchronic perspectives, cognitive linguistics, and the role of metaphor and metonymy.

Diachronic and perspective:

Synchronic perspective:

Cognitive linguistics:

Metaphor and metonymy:

Prototype theory:

Frame semantics:

Semantic change refers to the evolution of the meaning of words over time. There are several types of semantic change, each characterized by specific shifts in meaning. These changes can broadly be classified into the following categories:

Broadening (Generalization):

Definition: Broadening occurs when the meaning of a word becomes more inclusive or general than its original sense. Example: The word "meat" originally referred to any kind of food but has broadened to specifically mean the flesh of animals used as food.

Narrowing (Specialization):

Definition: Narrowing is the opposite of broadening, where the meaning of a word becomes more specific or specialized than its original sense. Example: The term "hound" once referred to any type of dog but has narrowed to specifically denote a breed of hunting dogs.

Amelioration:

Definition: Amelioration involves a positive shift in the meaning of a word over time. Example: The word "knight" originally meant servant or boy but has ameliorated to refer to a person granted an honorary title of knighthood.

Pejoration:

Definition: Pejoration is the opposite of amelioration, indicating a negative shift in the meaning of a word. Example: The term "knight" used to signify a servant or servant-boy but has undergone pejoration to become a title associated with honor. Much of the work has been conducted from typological and cognitive-linguistic perspectives. It has revealed that semantic changes correlated with the types of morphosyntactic changes associated with grammaticalization are regular in the sense that they are replicated not only in the same language but cross-linguistically. They are almost exclusively unidirectional in that lexical meaning may become grammatical meaning. The changes are conceptualized as on a continuum, from contentful (lexical) to procedural (grammatical) meaning. In most languages, auxiliary verbs derive from lexical sources. Linguistic factors, including morphological and syntactic changes, lexical borrowing, and the incorporation of loanwords, also contribute significantly to semantic evolution. The adoption of words from other languages, for instance, introduces new meanings or alters existing ones, reflecting the interconnectedness of linguistic systems. The exploration of factors influencing semantic change is crucial for unveiling the layers of complexity

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within linguistic systems. As we continue to investigate the intricate dance of language and meanings, we gain a deeper appreciation for the ever-changing nature of human communication and the dynamic forces that shape the evolution of language over time.

Cultural factors:

Social factors:

Linguistic factors:

In the study of semantic change, researchers face several challenges that add complexity to the task of unraveling the evolution of meanings within language. These challenges, ranging from issues related to data availability to the inherent subjectivity in interpretation, require careful consideration to ensure the accuracy and reliability of findings. Here are some key challenges in studying semantic change:

Lack of historical data:

Subjectivity in interpretation:

Cross-cultural variability:

Temporal perspective:

Technological challenges:

Interdisciplinary nature:

Dynamic nature of language:

The implications of studying semantic change for lexicology and stylistics are profound, influencing our understanding of language structure, usage, and the nuanced choices made in communication. In summary, case studies of semantic changes contribute significantly to our comprehension of the fluid nature of language. By dissecting the evolution of specific words, linguists and researchers gain a deeper appreciation for the dynamic forces that shape our linguistic landscape. Ultimately, the exploration of these case studies not only enriches our understanding of linguistic phenomena but also has broader implications for fields such as lexicography, language teaching, and the study of cultural history.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the study of semantic change in English illuminates the dynamic nature of language and its inherent ability to adapt to the evolving tapestry of human experience. Through processes such as broadening, narrowing, amelioration, pejoration, and shift, words transform their meanings, reflecting shifts in cultural, social, and technological landscapes. This evolution not only adds layers of richness to the language but also serves as a linguistic mirror reflecting the changing norms, values, and perceptions of society.



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