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Lexico-Semantic Groups of Words Characterizing a Person in English

Abstract

The article provides a comparative analysis of lexical and semantic groups of words characterizing a person in the Azerbaijani and English languages. It is noted that a comparative study of such a layer of these languages, which includes vocabulary characterizing a person's temper, helps to identify common and individual features, describe the national image, mentality, ethical and moral norms in the culture of the Azerbaijani and English peoples. These groups of words characterizing a person by a variety of features constitute a fairly large volume in the languages under study and represent a set of a number of semantic associations that are grouped by the similarity of certain semantic features. They are divided into smaller groups and subgroups by the components of semantic features within themselves. Each of these subgroups can be considered as a member of another, larger group. Lexical and semantic groups of words defining various properties, attributes, character traits, appearance, as well as moral and ethical qualities of a person are represented quite widely in the languages under study. The listed lexical-semantic groups and subgroups turned out to be closely interconnected and interdependent.

Keywords: *languages, lexical-semantic groups, words characterizing a person, comparative analysis, semantic associations*

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İngilis dilində şəxsi xarakterizə edən leksiko-semantik söz qrupları

Xülasə

Məqalədə Azərbaycan və ingilis dillərində insanı xarakterizə edən sözlərin leksik və semantic qruplarının müqayisəli təhlili verilmişdir. Qeyd olunur ki, bu dillərin şəxsiyyətin xarakterini səciyyələndirən lüğət tərkibini özündə birləşdirən belə təbəqəsinin müqayisəli tədqiqi Azərbaycan və ingilis xalqlarının mədəniyyətində ümumi və fərdi xüsusiyyətlərin aşkarlanmasına, milli obrazın, mentalitetin, etik-əxlaqi normaların təsvirinə kömək edir. İnsanı müxtəlif əlamətlərlə xarakterizə edən bu söz qrupları tədqiq olunan dillərdə kifayət qədər böyük həcm təşkil edir və müəyyən semantic xüsusiyyətlərin oxşarlığına görə qruplaşdırılan bir sıra semantic assosiasiyaların məcmusunu təmsil edir. Onlar öz daxilindəki semantic xüsusiyyətlərin komponentlərinə görə daha kiçik qruplara və alt qruplara bölünürlər. Bu alt qrupların hər birini başqa, daha böyük qrupun üzvü hesab etmək olar. Tədqiq olunan dillərdə insanın müxtəlif xassələrini, atributlarını, xarakter əlamətlərini, xarici görünüşünü, habelə əxlaqi keyfiyyətlərini müəyyən edən sözlərin leksik və semantic qrupları kifayət qədər geniş şəkildə təmsil olunur. Sadalanan leksik-semantik qruplar və alt qruplar bir-biri ilə sıx əlaqəli və bir-birindən asılı olduğu ortaya çıxır.

Açar sözlər: dillər, leksik-semantik qruplar, insanı xarakterizə edən sözlər, müqayisəli təhlil, semantic assosiasiyalar

Introduction

Lexical-semantic groups of words characterizing a person in the Azerbaijani and English languages are poorly studied. Typological study of such a layer of these languages, which includes vocabulary characterizing a person's character, helps to identify common and individual features, describe the national image, mentality, ethical and moral norms in the culture of the Azerbaijani and English peoples. This kind of research shows the importance of taking into account the fact of categorical affiliation of words in the lexical-semantic system of any language. Comparative analysis reveals differences in the semantic structure of these units, determines their place and features of functioning in the lexical-semantic system of the two languages. The study confirms that these words characterizing the psychophysical state of a person belong to one lexical-semantic group (Albakova, 2009, p. 4).

Research

The aim of the study is a typological analysis of lexical-semantic groups that characterize a person in the Azerbaijani and English languages.

Objectives of the article (Evloeva, Bekova, 2021):

- identify and describe lexical-semantic groups that characterize a person's character and appearance in both languages;
- determine their role and functioning in these languages;
- conduct a lexical-semantic analysis of all groups and subgroups that describe a person's character in the specified languages;
- establish the interpenetration and interdependence of these groups.

The theoretical value is that for the first time in a synchronous plan, a description of lexical-semantic groups of words characterizing a person in Azerbaijani and English is carried out. A

typological analysis of the specified words, selected from various dictionaries, is carried out in detail, the material is distributed into groups and subgroups (Kunin, 2001).

Lexical-semantic groups of words that characterize a person by a variety of features constitute a fairly large volume in the languages under study.

Lexical-semantic groups of words that characterize a person are represented quite widely in all languages and are used in various forms of implementing the national language (Albakova, 2009, p. 4).

These groups of words represent a set of a number of semantic associations that are grouped by the similarity of certain semantic features.

The analyzed lexical-semantic groups that characterize a person are divided into smaller groups and subgroups according to the components of semantic features within themselves. Each of these subgroups can be considered as a member of another, larger group (Shorter Oxford English Dictionary on Historical Principles, 2002).

All words that emphasize a person's character, we first divided into two large groups (Zyazikov, 2013):

I. Lexical-semantic groups that determine a person's character.

II. Lexical-semantic groups that determine a person's appearance.

In turn, we divided the lexical-semantic groups that determine a person's character into even smaller lexical-semantic groups and subgroups:

A. Words that emphasize certain properties, character traits of a person in connection with his attitude to the surrounding reality (Dahkil'gov, 2013):

1) the qualities of a person that determine his attitude towards someone or something:

responsive-həssas, hospitable-qonaqpərvər, kind-mehriban, loving-sevən, stingy-xəsis, generous-səxavətli, gentle-mülayim.

In addition, these words help to distinguish a person from others in a positive or negative way, and provide a general description of a person's character (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, 2000);

2) human qualities that characterize his attitude to work and public affairs:

hard worker-çox işləyən, hardworking-çalışqan, lazy-tənbəl, mandatory-çarəsiz, neat-səliqəli, disciplined-intizamlı, responsible-məsuliyyətli, slow-yavaş, unhurried-arxayın, sluggish-ləng, apathetic-iştahlı;

3) properties that characterize a person's attitude to the surrounding nature, animals, and things:
arrogant-təkəbbürlü, selfish-eqoist, proud-məğrur, boastful-lovğa;

B. Words that characterize the intellectual properties and state of the individual:

1) intellectual properties:

smart-zəkali, intelligen-ağıllı, knowledgeable-bilikli, competent-bacarıqlı, thoughtless-düşüncəsiz, incapable-bacarıqsız.

These words reflect a person's mental abilities, the ability to develop and have progressive views on life (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, 2000);

2) words that reflect a person's worldview:

educator-maarifpərvər, religious-dindar, superstitious-mövhumatçı, progressive-qabaqcıl.

C. Words that characterize innate abilities and various inclinations:

1) the presence/absence of any interest or desire for something (Matiev, Evloeva, 2022):

skillful-bacarıqlı, awkward-əfəl, jealous-qısqanc, trusting-etbarlı, punctual-dəqiq, whiny-zingilti, tearful-gözüyaşlı (Gorchhanova, 2016).

Such words reflect a person's inner state, his attitude towards others and his abilities;

2) possession/absence of talent, gift:

gifted-qabiliyyətli, talented-istedadlı, talentless-istedadsız, brilliant-dahi, great-ulu, əzəmətli.

D. Words that characterize a person by his language or speech: eloquent-natiq, talkative-söhbətçil (Gorchhanova, 2016).

E. Words that characterize a person by moral and ethical qualities:

Drunkard-sərxoş, swindler-fırıldaqçı, slanderer-böhtançı, fool-axmaq, ungrateful-nankor.

Lexical-semantic groups that define a person's appearance in Azerbaijani and English are also divided into groups and subgroups:

A. Words that indicate facial features such as color, skin features, beauty:

Lush-sulu, blooming-çiçəklənmə, swarthy-qarabəniz, pale-solğun, pockmarked-çopur, red-haired-qırmızı saçlı, rough-kobud, beautiful-gözəl, slender-qamətli, ugly-çirkin, pretty-göyçək, attractive-cazibədar, cute-ağıllı, severe-ciddi.

B. Words that emphasize the features of a person's physique (Sagov, 2021):

1) a person's height:

tall / high-hündür, long-uzun, lanky-yekəpər, stocky-cüssəli, short-qısa, small-balaca;

2) features of the figure:

fat-kök, obese-şişman, large-iri, thin-arıq, skinny-cılız, statuesque-əzəmətli;

3) features of body parts:

Broad-chested-iri cüssəli, muscular-qoluqüvvətli, strong-güclü, powerful-qüdrətli, broad-shouldered-enli kürək, stocky-cüssəli (Gorchhanova, 2016);

The analyzed lexical-semantic groups of words defining various properties, attributes, character traits, appearance, as well as moral and ethical qualities of a person are presented quite widely in the languages under study. The listed lexical-semantic groups and subgroups turned out to be closely interconnected and interdependent. Individual subgroups are mutually permeable. In addition, our observations of these words showed that quite often certain internal qualities of a person are conveyed through his appearance and vice versa. Here we can observe deep connections between these words (MacMillan English Dictionary, 2002).

The main units of describing a person in both languages are adjectives and adjectival nouns expressing the meaning of a person's appearance. The most widespread are qualitative adjectives: full, thin, skinny, emaciated, fat, plump, tall, short, experienced, wise, etc (Sagov, 2021).

As the analysis showed, the fullness of all the studied groups and subgroups of words that characterize a person in Azerbaijani and English turned out to be approximately the same. And the analysis of the fullness of subgroups in both languages revealed that the most widespread words are those that characterize the external features of a person (Martazanova, 2015).

Conclusion

Thus, the conducted research led to the following conclusions.

Lexical-semantic groups of words characterizing a person by a variety of features constitute a fairly large volume in both languages under study. They represent a set of a number of semantic associations that are grouped by the similarity of certain semantic features. They are divided into smaller groups and subgroups by the components of semantic features within themselves. Each of these subgroups can be considered as a member of another, larger group. The studied groups of words defining various properties, features, character traits, appearance, as well as moral and ethical qualities of a person are represented quite widely in the languages under study. The analysis showed the presence of universals in these languages. They contribute to the expansion of the lexicographic database of languages and in the future can serve as a tool in studying issues of lexical semantics.

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