

VERBALIZATION OF THE CONCEPT "SMELL" IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Abstract. *This article analyzes verbalization of "smell" concept in the English language by nouns. The article studies the core of the nominative field of "smell", mainly two rows of synonyms, where each component has its own specific semantic characteristics that distinguish it from the main word. In this article the core of the nominative field under analysis is presented as a number of nouns "smell", "scent", "aroma", "fragrance", "perfume", "odour", "stench", "stink", "reek".*

Keywords: *concept, core, synonymic row, semantic characteristics, nominative field.*

Defining of the problem. The research is carried out as a part of the cognitive approach which is one of the most perspective directions in the study of vocabulary in the current development of linguistics. The actuality of this research is determined by the importance of system-structural description of a certain nominative field in the English language system, made on the basis of modern research methods.

Analysis of last publications on the topic. The theoretical basis of our research can be found in works of modern Russian and foreign scientists, who were studying this problem by cognitive linguistics approach. These prominent scientists of various branches are Vasiliev L., Nikolina N., Vainshtein O., Kubryakova E., Arutyunova N., Lakoff J., Jackendoff R. and others. A significant contribution to the study of the theme was made by scientists, aimed at studying the smell as physiological and psychological phenomena. For example, Belyakov A., Artemova A., Brud V. and others.

The purpose of this article is to study lexical units that form the core of the nominative field "smell" and its semantization in the English language, to determine two synonymic rows of the noun "smell" and to consider each of the given lexeme.

Materials and methods: scientific literature analysis, the comparative method, cognitive method, analytical method, descriptive method (used for summarizing the information obtained from the dictionaries).

Substantive units of the analyzed row define the core of the nominative field "smell" in the modern English conceptsphere. In this study, nominative field refers to the set of linguistic means which objectify a concept in a certain period of social development. [3, p.66] Cognitive approach to the study of various language phenomena allows to examine the given concept, as well as the

linguistic means. With its help the core of the given field verbalized. It leads to the need of study the semantics of the considered concept.

We consider that the nominative field "smell" is based on the general concept of all its members. This concept is presented in modern English as a number of various synonyms that are, in fact, constitute the core of the whole category. From the conceptual point of view there is some convention in the consideration of nouns as synonyms, which provides opportunities of the known interchangeability of synonymic rows' members. Nouns, being members of the given nominative field, belong to it on the basis of a lineal resemblance - the principle introduced in linguistics by L. von Wittgenstein. They can be divided into two synonymous rows: the first ones are "*scent*", "*aroma*", "*fragrance*" and "*perfume*". They are used primarily by the food and cosmetic industry to describe a pleasant smell. In contrast to the given row, we defined such lexical units as "*odor*", "*reek*", "*stink*" and "*stench*", which are used specifically to describe unpleasant smells. Let's consider each of them. [2, p. 178]

First of all, it's important to determine the semantics of the lexeme "*smell*". «The Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English» offers the following definition of the noun "*smell*":

Smell

1. [countable] the quality that people and animals recognize by using their nose

"smell of" E.g. *The air was filled with the smell of flowers.*

"sweet/delicious smell" E.g. *There's a delicious smell coming from the kitchen.*

"unpleasant/bad/acrid smell" E.g. British English *the acrid smell of smoke*

"strong/pungent smell" E.g. *a pungent smell of garlic*

2. [countable] an unpleasant smell:

E.g. *I think the smell's getting worse.*

3. [uncountable] the ability to notice or recognize smells:

E.g. *loss of taste and smell*

E.g. *Dogs have a very good sense of smell.*

4. [countable usually singular] an act of smelling something:

E.g. *Have a smell of this cheese; does it seem all right?*

After determining the noun "*smell*", we find out which shades of the meanings can have different components of the nominative field. We can use "*smell*" in all contexts, but the words below are more exact and help us to express more clearly ourselves. Nouns "*stench*" and "*scent*", "*reek*" and "*perfume*", more connected by antonymous relations, can be regarded as members of a nominative field on the basis of a family resemblance. In other words, the noun "*scent*" has components similar in the meaning not only with the nouns "*perfume*", "*fragrance*" and "*aroma*", that is they indicate pleasant olfactory sensation, but with the nouns "*stench*", "*stink*" and "*reek*", denoting

unpleasant odors. The noun "*perfume*" has similar characteristics and properties with a substantive "*fragrance*", which has similar characteristics and properties with the unit "*aroma*" and so on. At the same time substantives "*perfume*" and "*reek*" are not necessary to have anything in common between each other or any little similarity in notions. This way, a lot of nouns denoting "*smell*" category can intersect. At the basic level, besides the main lexeme "*smell*", we can find another lexical unit "*odour*". This fact can be seen as a trend that exists in modern English, that is the existence of two key units in the nuclear part of the nominative field is characteristic of other categories (*large / big, broad / wide, etc.*).

Characteristics of olfactory sensations, expressed by units of basic level "*odour*" and "*smell*", showed that they can be used to describe the smell of any quality, whether it's a pleasant smell "*a yummy banana smell; a clean, aromatic odour*", unpleasant smell "*unpleasant cooking smells; an offensive odour*", or neutral "*a hallucinatory smell; primary odours*". Noun "*smell*" always indicates a bad smell "*What a smell!*" when it is used in a discourse without any signs.

It should be noted that using the substantive "odour" without words denoting meanings can be denoted as pleasant and neutral smells. The degree of saturation of the describing smells can be expressed lexically through various specifiers and encrypted in the immediate context.

Both units "*smell*" and "*odour*" are not recommended to use in describing the beauty and perfume smells. Both nouns are common in the designation of the smell of a human body, and both of them take a negative meaning in such cases "*body odour; the smell of his body*". It should also be mentioned that the noun "smell" is more stylistically neutral word, while substantive "*odour*" often has a terminological colouring, as it is more typical on the pages of scientific text styles. The noun "*odour*" is more often used in American English. [1, p. 348]

A noun "*perfume*" is used to name the flower fragrance describing a smell in the room, container. For example: "*a strong perfume filled the room*". It's a pleasant smell, more intense than a fragrance. Sometimes this smell is so strong that it becomes overwhelming or even repugnant.

Fragrance – a pleasant, sweet, and delicate smell. For example, "*Above all, she loved the delightful fragrance of Eastern spices that filled her kitchen every afternoon.*" The noun "*fragrance*" often names smells of a particular sort of any flora representative in describing the flavors of different colors. For example, "*the fragrance of Rosa centifolia*". While the noun "*scent*" is used for marking "collective" flavor plants, indicating a smell characteristic of a class, for example, "*the scent of roses, the scent of lilacs*". [1, p. 198]

Aroma is a pleasant smell that is easy to distinguish and that can be pervasive, spreading around its source. For example, "*He adored the aroma of coffee in the morning, so much so that he often dipped his nose into the coffee*

jar." Substantive "aroma" according to the dictionary can be used to describe a rich vegetable and floral aromas. Three substantives of the one synonymic row "scent", "fragrance" and "aroma" are used to refer to the characteristic smells of cosmetics and perfumes. The features that distinguish them: noun "scent" is the most common way to express flavors. For example: "the scent of perfumed oil". The lexeme "fragrance" is used to denote smells of female cosmetics "a delightful fragrance of her skincare lotion", and substantive "aroma" is used rather to express smells of men's perfumery, or very rich, heavy women's perfumes: "the aroma of the shampoo clinging to him". [1, p. 199]

Substantives "scent", "aroma" and "fragrance" are found in contexts that describe a smell, but not how the smell affects the olfactory organs of people. In this case, the nouns are used in the articles and scientific papers as terms that are stylistically marked. The results of the analysis suggest that from the point of view of saturation of the transferred flavors only the unit "scent" is typical to use in contexts describing the subtle and delicate flavors. And all the rest of synonyms of the subgroup "aroma", "fragrance" and "perfume" tend to be used mainly for marking saturated and strong odors.

Nouns which form another synonymous row of the given concept "stench", "stink" and "reek", are used to describe the unpleasant smell emanating mainly from rotting or decomposed substances "the stench of decomposition". "Stink" can be both a noun and a verb, "stench" and "odor" are nouns, and "reek" is a verb. The substantive "stink" is the most common in the descriptions of the smell of death. In almost all such cases in the immediate vicinity to the synonym we use units which are cognate with "death". E.g. *The traffic was badly jammed up there, and the stink of death had been sickly potent.* Source smell in the above example - the bodies of people "the stink of death". Here the smell of death.

The noun "stench" tends to refer smells which are peculiar to water from the bloom or dirty water "the stench of the canals", and is often used when creating description of stale, unpleasant, pervasive smell of rotting seaweed "the stench of seaweed rotting in the sun", rotten fish "the stench of rotting fish", thrown subjects by the water on the shore which were laying for a long time on the bottom "the stench of a fishermans net from the sea bottom", the smells of wasted food, rubbish, "the stench of garbage", stale eating "the stench of bad cabbage", homeless animals "the stench of London stray dogs", and unwashed people "the stench of their bodies which needed urgent washing".

The most common referents that convey smells are expressed by synonymous unit "reek". For example, unwashed human body or skin of an animal "the awful reek of the dog's skin", as well as litter or manure "the pungent reek of cow dung". Nouns "stench" and "stink" also tend to describe the odor characteristic of the effects of combustion products, the use of the noun "stench" in such cases to describe the characteristic smell, connects with the

pain, misery, physical torments of man. Thus if substantive "stink" in the designation of olfactory sensations often used in descriptions of facts burning objects that were burned as a result of negligence and does not entail serious consequences, the use of the noun "stench" characteristic to describe the smell, filled with pain, misfortune, physical torments of man. As nouns the difference between "reek" and "stink" is that reek is a strong unpleasant smell while stink is a strong bad smell.

The noun "stench" is often used to denote a specific, but unpleasant smell that appears in the process of a preparation of a dish "the stench of tinned fish". At the same time the noun "stink", nominating smells, is used more for marking food rather used to describe smells emanating from finished, but too fatty, and therefore unhealthy food or fat, which they prepare "the stink of fatty hamburger".

Conclusions. Thus, we considered two rows of the synonymous nouns that verbalize the concept of "smell", each of which includes four lexemes. The first row includes unites, combined by the idea of a pleasant odor "scent", "aroma", "fragrance", "perfume", and the second – units, denoting unpleasant smell "odor", "reek", "stink", "stench".

Due to the modern synonymous differentiation trend in English language in terms of imagination, description of fragments of the reality there is a manifestation of a strong trend that reinforces those aspects of the dualistic nature synonyms, through which they begin to unite in a row. In the given analysis we have identified the features of each of the following nouns and defined under which circumstances the usage is the most typical of the each member of a synonymous row.

We see a perspective of the study in the linguistic-cognitive analysis of the concept "smell" verbalization by the help of other parts of speech such as verb and adjective.

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