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**Abstract.** Analysis of the definitions of the semantic field shows that the criterion for the interconnection of lexical units and their inclusion in one or another group is “lexical meanings as a whole”, “semantic feature”, “family antique sign”, different meanings of a word or variants of its meaning, components of meaning, etc. Such a general element can also be a concept, a theme, or a certain situation. This article examines theoretical concepts and methodological approaches in the study of the semantic field, which by its name covers very heterogeneous phenomena.

**Keywords:** semantic field, linguistics, philology, method.

### INTRODUCTION

*The idea of vocabulary as a diverse, multi-aspect and at the same time integral system object explains the possibility of building different but interconnected subsystems. Research into the lexical system of a language is usually carried out in the form of identifying lexical groups of various types and volumes, as well as establishing their relationships with each other. The search for ways to study the systemic connections of lexical composition led to the emergence of the semantic field theory.*

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

*In modern linguistics, both domestic and foreign, there is a variety of theoretical concepts and methodological approaches to the study of the field. The term “semantic field” was first introduced by G. Ipsen in 1924 [1]. Since then, it has firmly entered the work of linguists from different countries and different areas of linguistics, and the field model of the language system has a variety of interpretations and applications.*

*Field theory covers, in fact, many points of view, representing very significant variants of the general idea - the idea of the semantic connection of words with each other in a language. Field theory turned out to be effective because in the concept of “field” linguists managed to implement the idea of the presence of a certain structural quantity that unites vocabulary into a lexical-semantic system, where each lex It reveals this value as the dominant seme of the lexical meaning.*

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is easy to notice that the features used as forming the semantic field are divided into two main groups. The first of them consists of features that are somehow associated with lexical meaning; These are linguistic features. The second group consists of features focused on the conceptual, subject-thematic sphere and other areas; they can be called extralinguistic.

In accordance with this, there are two main approaches to the study of semantic fields: linguistic and extralinguistic. At the same time, the extralinguistic approach, the founder of which is considered to be the German scientist J. Trier, was developed earlier than the linguistic one [5].

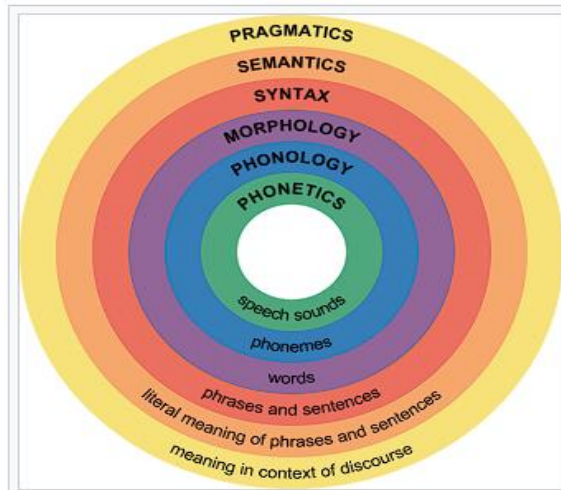


Fig.1. Major levels of linguistic structure. Semantics is shown as the second-outermost layer, encompassed by pragmatics, and encompassing syntax.

J. Trier’s concept is based on the idea of language as an independent closed system that determines the essence of all its component parts. Language divides the world, which exists in consciousness in the form of a system of concepts. This system represents the content side of the language and participates in its division.

Each such field in the conceptual sphere corresponds in the language to a lexical field consisting of a set of individual words. Lexical fields completely cover the corresponding spaces of conceptual fields, thereby outlining their boundaries. On the other hand, the belonging of words to the conceptual field, that is, their ability to express a certain range of concepts, determines the composition of the lexical field, which acts as an independent unit and occupies an intermediate position between the language system as a whole and an individual word. The independence of such units, according to J. Trier, lies in the fact that individual words are not separate carriers of meaning. Each of them has a meaning because other words adjacent to it that are included in the field have it. In this regard, the listener can understand a single word if the entire field of verbal signs is present in his consciousness, that is, the word has meaning only within the whole field and thanks to this whole. An important point of J. Trier’s concept is the affirmation of the presence of a strict (almost unambiguous) correlation between the system of concepts (logical components) and field structures in the lexicon, the presence of an unambiguous determination between the concept and the lexeme. The basis for identifying the semantic field of J. Trier is a logical approach.

As an alternative to the conceptual-logical approach, a linguistic direction has been formed, based on the use of connections that exist between the meanings of individual words, which are considered as basic and independent units of language. Representatives of the linguistic approach to vocabulary study the lexical composition of the language in different ways, use different methods, but they all study words or phrases, groups of words, but not concepts, they study the types of semantic connections of words in the language . And yet there is no need to talk about any single direction in the development of the theory of semantic fields.

The most prominent proponents of the linguistic approach, who with their research laid the foundations for the development of the concept of the semantic field, were G. Ipsen and B. Porzig, who considered the vocabulary of a language as a set of lexical-grammatical and lexical-syntactic groups of words [1, 6], B. Reuning, who applied the method of independent study of semantic systems in different languages [7], L. Rudskoger, who reduced the concept of “field” to the meaning of a polysemantic word [5].

G. Ipsen studied the linguistic field based on purely linguistic relations [1]. The subject of his study was a group of words related both in terms of formality and meaning - the Indo-European field of metals. The combination of various names of metals was carried out in a multi-stage manner: the first stage is the combination of disparate units into a class of words; the second is their specification through syntactic division; the third is rethinking, metals are included in the designation system. It should be noted that G. Ipsen's theory is limited in application, since there are few similar groups of words that represent both semantic and formal kinship.

The linguistic approach also characterizes the semantic field of B. Porzig [6]. Its fields are verbal complexes, which are simple relationships consisting of a verb and a subject or object, an adjective and a noun. Such relationships create common values, which the author calls "elementary value fields." Linguistic meaning, according to B. Porzig, is determined through its relationship to all other meanings. Moreover, in contrast to J. Trier, B. Porzig allows for a certain independence of words, members of "elementary fields of meaning." This approach has spread to a wide range of phenomena and was further developed in the research of domestic linguists, who interpret various syntactic complexes as semantic-syntactic fields [2].

The study of semantic fields is also carried out in terms of comparing them in two languages in one historical era. This method, which allows one to compare vocabulary sets of different languages, turns out to be effective in determining their similarities and uniqueness. Thus, B. Reuning examines the linguistic field of pleasant emotions in the English and German languages [7]. Linguistic field

B. Roing includes words and expressions that mean certain feelings of a person, united by a common concept - "emotion". The same concept is expressed specifically in different languages, which constitutes the national uniqueness of the language. The author explains the lexical differences in the composition of fields by differences in the national characters of the Germans and the English. Thus, the researcher actually goes beyond purely linguistic analysis, emphasizing the influence of extralinguistic factors on the language.

This method of studying fields by comparing them in two languages is quite productive and still attracts the attention of linguists [4]. Interlingual comparison makes it possible to identify common and specific features of the field structures of the same name in different languages, which helps to solve the problem of the relationship between the universal and idioethnic in a language.

Semantic fields unite not only lexical units, but also the meanings of a polysemantic word. A. Rudskoger analyzes in detail in his study four adjectives of the English language (fair, foul, nice, proper) and more superficially 24 polysemantic adjectives over three centuries. The main attention in the work is paid to the analysis of the semantic scope of each word, that is, the system of meanings of one word is studied, and not the system of semantic relationships of a number of words.

A. Rudskoger studies the four words selected for the study based on determiners and taking into account syntactic constructions. The researcher believes that it is these determinatives that determine the meaning of the word, and not vice versa, the word enters into certain semantic connections due to its meaning; the meaning of the word does not exist outside the context.

A deep study of the meanings of adjectives allowed A. Rudskoger to conclude that polysemy is not completely preserved in any word; some meanings are lost. The polysemantic word itself belongs simultaneously to several conceptual fields.

The question of the field interpretation of a polysemantic word is also being developed by modern linguists. An example is the study by N.A. Borovikova, devoted to the analysis of the semantics of a polysemantic word. By semanteme the author understands "a system of elements of individual semes that form a single semantic structure of a word". All elements of a semanteme are interconnected due to the presence of common semes (grammatical, categorical-lexical, differential, and so on). Semantic connection allows the semantic theme to maintain its unity. In the semantic

theme, the author distinguishes the core and periphery. As an independent field structure, a semanteme exists thanks to a common lexeme (the sound shell of a word), uniting all its elements (sememes) into one whole. Semantemes are not isolated from each other. In the process of language development, sememes die out or new ones arise, which leads to the expansion or narrowing of semantics.

In modern linguistics, the subject of study in field theory is lexical units, united on the basis of the commonality of the meaning they express (semantic principle) or on the basis of a combination of lexical-syntactic features interacting on the basis of the commonality of their functions, based on a certain semantic category (functional-semantic principle).

The fields identified on the basis of these characteristics are semantic system formations characterized by specific connections and relationships.

Interest in the idea of a systematic organization of vocabulary has increased in connection with the study of the so-called “human cognitive organization”. Based on experimental data, studies of this kind testify to the psychological reality of linguistic structural associations, characterized by a core and a periphery. In psychological research in recent years, much attention has been paid to the construction of a prototype theory of meaning, which directly correlates with the linguistic description of the core and periphery at different levels of its consideration; the problem of the status and specificity of semantic features, which are interpreted as the most generalized type of “knowledge about the world” [4], is being carefully developed; Attempts are also made to distinguish semantic features according to the degree of their importance for describing a particular concept. The most significant conclusion seems to be the requirement to take into account in linguistic research the significance of extralinguistic parameters, without which any description of a language remains far from reality.

With all the diversity of material interpreted as a field, it seems possible to identify some of the most general characteristics of the linguistic field, which most researchers write about in one form or another.

The field is a set of lexical elements interconnected by structural relations, the main ones of which are occurrence, convergence, and divergence.

### CONCLUSION

Thus, the field model affirms the idea of language as a system of subsystems that interact and interpenetrate each other. According to this model, language appears as a functioning system in which constant rearrangements of elements and relationships between them occur. In the process of field structuring, dialectical connections between linguistic phenomena and non-linguistic reality, the mechanism of this connection and its regularities are revealed, the features of linguistic consciousness are revealed, and its national-specific features are revealed. The field is one of the forms of systematization of linguistic material (meanings) in the language system.

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