

LEXEMES WITH THE MEANING OF INHABITED LOCATION IN ENGLISH AND UKRAINIAN

Our study focuses on the semantics of lexical items denoting the notion of 'inhabited location' in English and Ukrainian which is topical. Although the lexical semantics is a rather developed branch of linguistics, modern research has demonstrated the urgent need for further comparative studies. On the other hand, the transition to a cognitive paradigm aimed at the explanation of the constant correlations and relationships between language, speech and relevant structures of knowledge, operations of thinking and consciousness, makes it possible to consider meaning as a result of categorization and conceptualization of native speakers' experience. In addition, the use of the comparative method to analyze the semantics of the lexical units allows singling out culturally relevant information and identifying both the isomorphic and allomorphic features in the structure of meaning in the languages compared.

The aim of the research is to analyze isomorphic and allomorphic features in the representation of the notion 'inhabited location' in English and Ukrainian. The concept of the lexical semantic field enables us to distinguish between vocabulary items which belong to the nucleus and the peripheral zone of the field 'inhabited location' in the languages compared. The analysis of nuclear and peripheral zones of the LSF 'inhabited location' shows that the lexemes in both languages can be opposed as belonging to urban / non-urban (rural) type of the settlement. The urban type of the settlement is specified with the help of the following semes 'type of government' city (charter), town (local government), 'size' city, town, micro, 'religious centre' city; 'boundaries' town;

The quantitative difference lies in the fact that Ukrainian has only two words which belong to the nucleus (*місто – село*), while in English there are two words to indicate an urban settlement (*town, city*) and one lexical item to denote a rural type of the settlement (*village*). The archeseme 'settlement' is found with the following lexemes *town, village, місто, село* and is substituted by the seme 'type of the settlement' in the word *city*. All the words analyzed actualize the seme 'size'.

The peripheral zone has certain allomorphic features as well. The periphery of the LSF in English is presented by a four member opposition *settlement, hamlet, township,*

townland,. The Ukrainian language has the following vocabulary items *поселення, містечко, сільце, сельбище, селище* which actualize the periphery of the field.

Comparative analysis of the semantics of lexical items to represent ‘inhabited location’ in English and Ukrainian shows certain features of isomorphism and allomorphy. Isomorphic is the presence in Modern English and Ukrainian of opposition urban (*city, town, township, townland* – *місто, містечко*) – non-urban (*village, hamlet* – *село, селище, поселення, сільце, сельбище*) type of settlement.

The further perspective of investigation lies in the analysis of the vocabulary with the meaning of ‘inhabited location’ in other Germanic and Slavic languages.