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Concepts and Content of Terminology and System of Terms in Modern Linguistics

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A B S T R A C T

In this work, the author examines various conceptual characteristics of the term as a linguistic concept within the framework of the current state of linguistics. The author also covers some issues of the process of terminology formation in domestic and foreign linguistics. The aim of the study is to identify the distinctive properties of terms in fixed linguistic structures, as well as in the theory of the term field. The subject of this research is the term as a linguistic unit in its various aspects.

A R T I C L E I N F O

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All aspects of the development and existence of human society are accompanied by scientific discoveries; nowadays science is reaching the international and interethnic level of development. An important factor in the development of science is the unification of world scientific knowledge, which makes it possible to achieve a greater level of objectivity and depth of research. The accuracy of language serves as a basis for science, which determines the very existence of an interethnic scientific society. The basis of the scientific language is terminology, it is subject to a strict hierarchy and accompanies the formation of world scientific knowledge at all levels of its development.

The beginning of terminological activity as an independent scientific direction in domestic terminology can be dated back to 1931. This is due to the publication of the first conceptual article by D. S. Lotte on the problems of unification and standardization of technical terminology "The next tasks of scientific and technical terminology" [1].

Many scientists recognize the theory of terminology as a separate discipline. The important role of terminology in the modern world is undeniable, because the level of development of a society is determined precisely by the state of national terminology. It reflects the state of science of a particular society and is an important component of politics, economics, and culture. The basic unit of terminology is the term.

The use of terms in various fields of activity determines the degree of effectiveness of professional communication, defining the qualitative result of joint work. The term is "the most important and most information-intensive carrier of special scientific information" in specialized and professional communication, as well as in the exchange of scientific, industrial, technical and other knowledge. This is explained by “the very nature of its informational function as a carrier” of special knowledge [2].

The conceptual content of a term is determined by its place in the system. The term, being part of a certain terminological system, refers to a particular field of science, technology, production. It has its own definition (precise scientific definition) among terms in the same field. The same word can be a term in different areas of knowledge. This is not polysemy, but homonymy (compare the term "taxonomy" in botany, economics and mathematics), since terms within their terminological field are usually unambiguous, unlike "everyday" words.

The terms are also associated with a certain scientific concept: they reflect the results of scientific research and their theoretical understanding. In this respect, they are contrasted with general vocabulary.

Collections of terms are an important part of the common language at the derivational and grammatical levels [3]. They are formed on the basis of concepts and lexical-semantic relations. General theoretical as well as applied linguistics are the environment for the development and study of the term, since the term is inseparable from the units of the national language. A term is a unit of the lexical system of a language that has special features that make it possible to distinguish between a term and a non-term. In order to analyse the internal properties of a term, it is studied within the framework of real-life communities of units, terminological systems serving individual branches of knowledge.

In modern linguistics, such properties of a term include: compliance with the term of a concept or concept in the mind of its bearer, belonging of the term to a special field of knowledge, definitive character and consistency in speech.

In the works of different authors, the term as one of the linguistic universals has many definitions, even if it appears in modern research as a word or phrase denoting the concept of a special field of knowledge or activity [4].

The term is "a word or verbal complex ... that enters into systemic relations with other words and verbal complexes and forms, together with them in each individual case and at a certain time, a closed system, which are distinguished by high information content, unambiguity, accuracy and expressive neutrality." [5].

DS Lotte calls the term a word (word combination), which acts as a unity of a sound sign and a concept associated with it in the system of concepts of a given field of science and technology"[6].

S. V. Grinev defines the term as "a nominative special lexical unit (word or phrase) of a special language, used for the exact name of special concepts" [7].

According to AS Gerd, the term is the implementation of "a certain unit of the corresponding conceptual system in terms of content" [8]. Thus, in the definition of the term, various authors single out one or two of the most important or main, in their opinion, characteristics.

In the modern field of terminology, when defining terms, not only words or phrases can be used, but also sentences [9]. Terms-sentences are used in special languages of military, naval, sports and are represented by small groups of command-order semantic orientation.

Consequently, the definition of a term should reflect its key properties and characteristics; it should be succinct and concise. OS Akhmanova defines the term as "a word or phrase of a special (scientific, technical, etc.) language, created (adopted, borrowed, etc.) for the exact expression of special concepts and designation of special objects" [10].

According to DS Lotte, the requirements for the terminology system are systematic, distinct, intelligible and accurate [6]. There are three conditions for a set of concepts that a terminological system must meet:

- the term system should be based on the classification of concepts;
- based on the classification schemes, the terminology system should have a need to highlight the terminated features and concepts;
- units of the terminology system should reflect the unity of the term being terminated with others, as well as their specificity.

It is also necessary to take into account the following criteria when identifying terminological systems [11]:

- integrity: the term system should be a collection of terms that implement a single concept;
- structuredness: the terminological system should have structural relationships between elements, which manifest themselves in the form of terminological fields, series, hierarchical dependencies, manifested in the form of generic and other relations, and also be part of a higher order system, since the terminological system is part of a common language system ;

- elementality: the term system should be a set of elements identified in a certain way;
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- dynamic: terms can change both in terms of expression and in terms of content;
- functionality: terminology serves a specific area of human activity.

The manifestation in the specifics of the paradigmatics of the term and the special nature of compatibility with other terms within each term system is the dependence of the term on the system of concepts [12].

I.A. Sternin presented the concept of the term field, which is based on the general field concept of the language. Let's present the main provisions of the concept:

- the elements of the term field are in a systemic relationship with each other;
- elements of the term field have a semantic commonality and a single function performed in the language;
- elements of the term field are characterized by a homogeneous and heterogeneous formal structure;
- a term field can consist of micro term fields;
- the structure of term fields, consisting of at least two microtermino fields, has a vertical organization. It shows the structure of microfields. Also, the structure has a horizontal organization, indicating the relationship of microfields;
- the term field has its own core and peripheral zone;
- nuclear components of the term field are obligatory and dominant for a certain field and carry out its main function more fully and unambiguously in comparison with peripheral units;
- the functions of the term field are distributed between the nuclear and peripheral components;
- the boundaries between the nuclear and peripheral zones are blurred;
- constituents of a term field have the ability to simultaneously belong to the core of one term field and the peripheral part of another;
- term fields as well as simple semantic fields can pass into each other over time. However, in term fields such transitions are characterized by a more distinct distribution of term units.

Units with different linguistic systemic organization can be combined in one term field, and, conversely, units with the same type of linguistic organization can belong to different terminological fields.

The terminological field, while possessing its distinctive characteristics, retains general properties. In this case, we can give an example of any compact part of the vocabulary covering a certain conceptual area. Being "an extra linguistic given, the terminological field creates conditions for the formation, functioning and transformation of terminological systems as certain linguistic categories" [13].

The terminological field, as well as the semantic one, in its structure is characterized by the presence of systemic relations and the semantic commonality of its components. These elements are in the system hierarchy, and the core of the field contains the dominant. There is no clear border between the core and the periphery; there is also relative autonomy, the continuity of the designation of its semantic space and the interconnection of the semantic fields of the entire vocabulary [14]. The field structure includes 4 components. This is the center and periphery of the field, the dimension of the field, the semantic relationship of its units, as well as the relationship of this field with other adjacent fields.

The field measurement appears to be three-dimensional. The paradigmatic field is represented by the relations of the units of the field with each other in paradigmatic series and semantic groupings. The syntagmatic field shows the relationship of field units in speech. A word-formative or derivational field denotes the ratio of field units to the elements of reality designated by them. This indicates the possibility of field units to enter simultaneously in different fields. This phenomenon with respect to terminological vocabulary is inherent in the so-called inter-scientific or interdisciplinary homonymy. These three planes of the terminological field together enhance the effectiveness of applied linguistic research.

The basis of the structural relations of the units of the terminological field are semantic-paradigmatic categories. The most common are: hyper-hyponymic connections, polysemy, homonymy, synonymy, conversion and antonymy. Terminology is more characterized by the so-called interdisciplinary homonymy, categorical polysemy, as well as synonymous and antonymic relations of terminological units, although it is believed that the "ideal term" should not be ambiguous or have synonyms.

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Thus, the terminological field is the linguistic environment for the existence of a term. In it, he realizes all his characteristics and carries out his main function of naming a special concept.

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