

**MENTAL ENLIGHTENMENT SCIENTIFIC –  
METHODOLOGICAL JOURNAL****MENTAL ENLIGHTENMENT SCIENTIFIC –  
METHODOLOGICAL JOURNAL**<http://mentaljournal-jspu.uz/index.php/mesmj/index>**ON SOME COGNITIVE ASPECTS OF POLYSEMINATION****Eldar R. Khasanov***Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Philological Sciences**Jizzakh State Pedagogical University**Jizzakh, Uzbekistan**E-mail: [khasanov@mail.ru](mailto:khasanov@mail.ru)***ABOUT ARTICLE****Key words:** polysemy, verb, cognitive science, polysemy, modern Russian language.**Received:** 06.03.23**Accepted:** 08.03.23**Published:** 10.03.23**Abstract:** The article is devoted to the description and analysis of the cognitive aspects of polysemantic verbs of the modern Russian language. The views of a number of linguists on the phenomenon of polysemy, including domestic researchers, are given. Polysemy has repeatedly become the object of research in cognitive linguistics and a number of other related sciences, which once again emphasizes the relevance of this study. The article gives a schematic description of three types of polysemy (chain, radial and radial-chain), as well as the cognitive features of the verb love.**INTRODUCTION**

Not all researchers saw the obvious need to recognize the ambiguity of lexical units. In the article "The experience of the general theory of lexicography" L.V.Shcherba wrote: "It is wrong to think that words have several meanings: this, in essence, is a formal and even just a typographical point of view. In fact, we always have as many words as a phonetic word has meanings ... ". Even more radically, the phenomenon of ambiguity was denied by A.A.Potebney, who wrote: "The slightest change in the meaning of a word makes it another word." In the concept of this classic of Russian linguistics, the form of the word is absolutized, therefore, he considers even grammatical word forms such as *verst* - *verst* as different words. In this regard, some researchers draw a parallel between the concept of A.A.Potebnya and modern cognitive linguistics, believing that the category of representation developed by him, along with the categories of the internal and external forms of the word, is a forerunner of the mental categories of modern cognitive linguistics, such as concept, conceptual scheme, frame, etc. So, E.G.Belyavskaya writes: "The component of the "internal" (that

is, the semantic) side of the word in A.A.Potebnya is a representation that is close enough to the idea of a conceptual foundation, or an idealized cognitive model, in the semantics of a word within the framework of cognitive linguistics". The similarity noted by the author is hard to deny. However, one should not lose sight of the fact that A.A.Potebnya was interested almost exclusively in the symbolic nature of the word. He does not directly address the problem of linguistic consciousness, and therefore the word for him, in contrast to cognitive linguistics, the word is not an instrument of cognition and thinking, but a means of representing a person's ideas about objective reality.

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

A skeptical attitude towards the phenomenon of polysemy is also characteristic of V.M.Solntseva: "The polysemy of an element is not its obligatory, "original" property, rather, on the contrary, the initial property of any significant element is unambiguity. Polysemy can be defined as a redundant property <...> The concept of polysemy can be interpreted either as the application of the same meaning to different situations, or as evidence of the presence of different morphemes or words, due to the fact that polysemy is difficult to distinguish from homonymy. As we understand, the concept of V.M.Solntseva is also based on the sign theory of language, which, in turn, is based on general semiotics. In semiotics, one of the basic laws is the law on the unambiguous correspondence of the signified and the signifier. Polysemy (as well as homonymy and synonymy) violates the requirements of this law. It is in the light of the sign theory of language and general semiology that these phenomena look like something redundant.

It is necessary to note the existing connection between the polysemy of a derived word and its word-formation complexity, which was characterized by S. Bally: "It is thanks to such semantic mobility that a simple sign can receive numerous meanings, which, having at first a random character, often then become commonly used, while a motivated sign by virtue of its complexity alone, it is deprived of the possibility of representing many meanings. This asserts the existence of a certain regularity, according to which the more morphemes a word contains, the lower its ability for semantic derivation. Based on this, it can be assumed that the syntagmatics of morphemes can be considered as a factor limiting the semantic derivation of a word.

In the works of modern scientists of Uzbekistan, polysemy as a phenomenon is given great attention. So, in the book by T.A.Bushui and Sh.S.Safarov expressed the opinion that the problem of changing the meaning of a word cannot be considered as a problem of lexicology or word formation alone. The nature of lexical polysemy, according to the authors, is of a syncretic nature: "It is impossible to solve the problem of changing the meaning without taking into account the functional features of semantics. Determining the functional properties of lexical units is extremely difficult, since this aspect is not sufficiently covered and classified. <...> A detailed description of the inner form of a word requires "consistency" of morphological, syntactic and lexical analysis. For example,

the connection of polysemy with such phenomena as pronominalization, syncretism of grammatical forms, typology of syntactic structures is still unclear” (Our translation - Kh.E.). It is difficult to disagree with this opinion, since, as has been repeatedly recognized above, polysemy is due, first of all, to the syntagmatics of a lexical unit and its components.

It is the indicated syncretism of polysemy as a phenomenon that attracts attention to it from the side of cognitive linguistics and a number of related disciplines. We note in passing that in modern linguistics there are many different directions, the emergence of which became possible due to the interaction of several sciences. These include linguoculturology, entnolinguistics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, computational linguistics, etc. As for cognitive linguistics, in our opinion, it is not entirely correct to put it on a par with the disciplines listed above, although outwardly there are grounds for this. Cognitive linguistics is undoubtedly influenced by such sciences as psychology, epistemology, and semiotics. However, at the same time, it is also characterized by undoubted independence.

E.S.Kubryakova emphasizes: "Cognitive linguistics is a linguistic direction, the focus of which is language as a general cognitive mechanism, as a cognitive tool - a system of signs that play a role in the representation (coding) and in the transformation of information" . It is important for us that the cognitive paradigm in linguistics is largely addressed to the problem of word ambiguity. A number of representatives of cognitive linguistics consider the problem of polysemy of a word to be one of the most important problems of linguistics in general - see below.

We fully support the opinion of N.N.Boldyrev that "today, without the achievements of cognitive semantics, which significantly enrich the general ideas about the language, it is impossible to present semantics as a whole as one of the areas of linguistics" . Of course, this also applies to the problems of semantic derivation and lexical polysemy as its result.

It was studied in the field of cognitive linguistics that largely contributed to clarifying the status of the polysemy of a word and its nature. E.L.Boyarskaya writes about this: “Cognitive linguistics has made a significant contribution to understanding the nature of polysemy. Polysemy is a constitutive property of language and speech, which are examples of activities that are cognitive in nature and character. In addition, it seems to us important that cognitive linguistics studies the role of language in the conceptualization and categorization of reality. Within the framework of this problem, linguistic consciousness (individual and collective) addresses such problems as the problem of selection of meanings, the problem of semantic valence, and the problem of categorical belonging.

It is semantic cohesion that is one of the properties that distinguish polysemy from homonymy. One cannot but agree with the conclusions that E.L.Boyarskaya: “Polysemy, which was previously considered inexplicable, is not so if we consider it from the point of view of the cognitive theory of categorization. It is a natural consequence of the flexibility of the conceptual organization and the

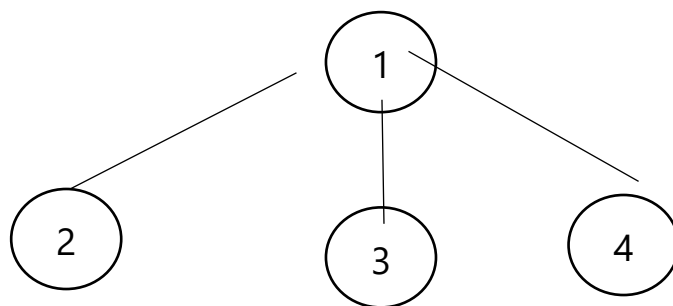
peculiarities of its structure. Indeed, polysemy is largely a consequence of the desire of human thinking for the most adequate categorization of objective (and sometimes subjective) reality. Within the framework of cognitive linguistics, categorization is considered primarily in the light of prototype theory. T.G.Skrebtsova writes about this: “Unlike the classical theory {categorization}, in which any changes in science, technology or social life mean the need to create new categories or a radical revision of the old ones, the prototypical approach assumes the extensibility of the boundaries and the mobility of the internal structure of the category, which allows it is easy to introduce new representatives into it. As we can see, it is the theory of prototypes that makes it possible to reveal the cognitive mechanism of the emergence of new meanings of a word on the basis of existing ones, not accompanied by formal changes in the word.

Thus, cognitive linguistics “rehabilitates” polysemy, starting from the above concepts of denying the normativity of polysemy: “In the semantic theory of recent years <...> there has been at least one indisputable positive change - polysemy has begun to be perceived not as a deviation from the norm, but as one of the most essential properties of all meaningful units of language. Thus, cognitive principles are beginning to be applied in the study of polysemy and contribute to its consideration in a new aspect.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

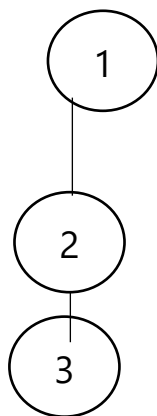
According to the traditional point of view, polysemy should be considered as the presence of several lexico-semantic variants (LSV) in one word. In the process of studying the structural-semantic relationships between LSV, it is advisable to use the classification proposed by A.M.Plotnikova, “if all meanings are associated with one central meaning, then we have a radial type of polysemy” . Consider the verb to believe, which, according to the Big Academic Dictionary of the Modern Russian Language, edited by K.S.Gorbachevich, has 4 meanings: “BELIEVE 1. Have confidence, be confident in something. Believe in the future; 2. Be confident in someone, consider someone capable of meeting expectations, hopes. Believe people. 3. Take something for real, true. Believe any rumors; 4. Have faith, be convinced of the existence of something supernatural, fantastic, etc. Trust in God” .

All derived values are related to the main one (Fig. 1):



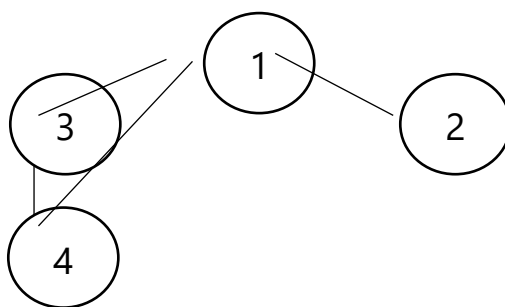
*Pic. 1 Scheme of the radial type of polysemy*

In the event that each of the previous meanings is associated with the next, then we are talking about chain polysemy, which is quite rare. This type of polysemy can be considered on the example of the verb to hurt, which has the following meanings in the above dictionary: “TO BE SICK 1. To be sick; 2. Feel anxiety, worry about someone, about something; 3. Being someone's fan, keenly experience the successes and failures of the object of worship (usually a sports team, athlete, etc.) ”. In this example, the first and second meanings are interconnected by a metaphorical transfer, and the third meaning appeared as a result of narrowing the second (Fig. 2):



*Pic. 2 Scheme of chain polysemy*

The most common type is radial chain polysemy. As an example, we will give the polysemantic verb to love: “LOVE 1. Feel deep affection, devotion to someone, something, based on the recognition of high value, dignity, on common goals, interests, etc. (Love the Motherland); 2. Feel a hot hearted inclination, attraction to a person of the opposite sex (To love a woman); 3. Feel inner attraction, inner inclination, attraction to something (Love your work); 4. Prefer something as the best condition for your existence, habitat. About animals, plants (This fish loves space) ”. (Fig. 3)



*Pic. 3. Scheme of radial chain polysemy*

As already noted, the basis of the semantic connection includes such types of transfers as metonymy and metaphor. Metonymic transfer is based on adjacency (to wash a silver dish - the first dish was served), metaphorical - on similarity in some way (smoke ring - wedding ring, similarity in shape).

The problem of distinguishing between homonymy and polysemy is reflected in the studies of many linguists (V.V.Vinogradov, O.S.Akhmanova, Yu.D.Apresyan and others). The main feature

that makes it possible to distinguish between these two phenomena, according to these researchers, is the semantic similarity of meanings.

On this occasion, Yu.D.Apresyan points out the following: “Lexical polysemy will be defined through the concept of similarity of meanings. The meanings A1 and A2 of the word A are called similar if there are such levels of semantic description at which their interpretations (semantic trees) or connotations have a non-trivial common part, and if it plays the same role in interpretations with respect to other semantic components. Despite this, there is no uniformity in lexicographic practice with a clear distinction between homonymy and polysemy. This is due to the fact that today there is no generally accepted formal method that can reliably distinguish between the meanings of polysemantic words and distinguish polysemy from homonymy.

When systematizing various approaches to the study of the phenomena of polysemy, it is necessary to say about the existence of an invariant and list approach to the representation of polysemy.

The invariant approach is based on the idea of the existence of a common meaning for a word, i.e. some invariant, on the basis of which lexico-semantic variants of the word (LSV) arise in diachrony and exist in synchrony. O.V.Barabash writes: “The invariant theories of the organization of meaning are based on the general idea that units of a language have one meaning, which is transformed depending on contextual uses.” This means that the meaning invariant of the polysemantic exists in the minds of the speakers as an abstract entity. It belongs to the lexeme as an emic language unit. His LSVs are realized in specific contexts as the semantics of alloleks - ethical units of speech. Thus, the relationship between the invariant and the LSV is considered in the light of the "language-speech" dichotomy.

As for the list approach, it is used mainly in explanatory dictionaries. E.V.Rakhilina writes about this: “If we consider the traditionally offered (for example, in explanatory dictionaries) simple enumeration (in principle, an unlimited number) of values as an alternative to an invariant description - a “list solution”, then the question arises of how a person generally navigates in this set and why all this diversity is covered by one language unit. Note that in some cases, the “list” arrangement of the LSV of a word in a dictionary entry may reflect the order of derivative values, i.e. to be a kind of analogue of the word-formation chain, built in the description of the process of word-formation derivation. In other cases, the "list" arrangement reflects the hierarchy of LSWs according to the degree of their use in the language.

Be that as it may, both approaches to the representation of polysemy in its synchronous description in explanatory and semantic dictionaries have both their advantages and disadvantages. Cognitive linguistics actually combines both approaches. On the one hand, it takes into account the existence of an invariant, called a "prototype" in cognitive linguistics. On the other hand, it builds a



"chain" or "network" of derived meanings that can be linked to each other by specification or extension relationships. However, E.V.Rakhilina points out: "But a network or chain of meanings for cognitive semantics is only the beginning of the theory of polysemy <...> the most important task of cognitive semantics is the description of types or ways of transition from one meaning to another". In addition, taking into account the fact that within the framework of the cognitive paradigm there is a conscious departure from the dichotomy "synchrony - diachrony", cognitive semantics sets itself the task of explaining the variety of meanings of a particular word, identifying the causes of activity and the mechanisms of its semantic development.

The paradigm of meanings of any polysemantic is a hierarchically organized set of LSWs. As for state verbs, on average they have from two to five LSVs. To confirm the above, we give examples: to love - 4 LSV, to believe - 4 LSV, to hope - 3 LSV, to wait - 4 LSV, to be bored - 2 LSV, to worry - 3 LSV, to feel - 2 LSV, to amuse - 2 LSV.

M.A.Krongauz writes: "Polysemy is described using the concept of a semantic network, in the center of which is the prototypical meaning. A prototype value can be an abstraction that is never implemented in a particular context. Its central role is due to the fact that it binds the semantic network. Concrete meanings of a linguistic unit arise as a result of applying certain and regular operations to the prototypical meaning. As you can see, the term "prototypical meaning" is to a certain extent correlative with the term "invariant meaning". They are united by the fact that both the prototype and the invariant are what is called a hyperseme in component analysis. The peculiarity of the prototype, which distinguishes it from the invariant, is that it has a field structure, i.e. has a center and a periphery. The invariant is conceived as something integral, static and indivisible.

When studying the semantics of verbs as a class of words denoting actions, processes and states, the term "prototypical situation", which was first used by G.I.Kustova, finds its application. It is understood as a cognitive model of the situation denoted by the verb. G.I.Kustova writes: "The original meaning of a word as a way of conceptualizing a certain situation of extralinguistic reality provides speakers with a kind of mental schema (semantic model) for understanding other types of situations that are (to some extent) subsumed under this schema". In order to illustrate this concept, let us give an example of variation of the prototypical situation of devotion, attachment in the semantics of the polysemantic word love.

In its original meaning, this word acts as a representative of affection, the disposition of sympathy (To love a mother. To love the Motherland. To love children), having an emotive connotation. The "semantic memory" of the verb contains an indication of a positive feeling-relationship, which is considered as the main creative force of life: "to love -" to feel deep affection, devotion "love 1. implies a feeling of deep affection, devotion, based on the recognition of a high value, dignity, on common goals, interests, etc. 2. Feeling of hot heart inclination, attraction to a

person of the opposite sex. 3. Inner attraction, inner inclination, attraction to something. 4. To need something as a necessary (favorable) condition for their existence, habitat (about animals, plants) ".

### CONCLUSION

Love involves a feeling or state of deep affection, devotion, sympathy, inclination, attraction, attraction. With the development of some derivative meanings of the verb to love, its main lexical components are preserved, but at the same time, the addition of components (lover, mistress, friendly, etc.) is observed. The form to love, which describes the emergence of a positive attitude towards something, is close in meaning to the verb to get used to, which is part of the series get used to.

Similar processes can be observed in the formation of all lexico-semantic variants of derivatives of the verb love. All of the above meanings of the verb to love represent a field with a strongly centered core, for the reason that in the formation of meanings and the use of this polysemantic in speech, the cognitive scenario of the feeling of devotion, affection is modified.

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