

ЗАГАЛЬНЕ МОВОЗНАВСТВО

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STRUCTURAL AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF EMOTION CONCEPTS IN CROSS-LINGUISTIC PERSPECTIVE

This study examines cross-linguistic structural and semantic features of emotion concepts. It is noted that the expression of emotions in different languages is based on metaphorical, phraseological and syntactic characteristics. The encoding of emotions in lexical and grammatical structures depends on the cultural and historical context. Particular emphasis is placed on the idea that the representation of emotions in languages plays a decisive role in the processes of human cognition and communication. Phraseological expressions play an important role in conveying emotional content through language.

The study shows that, despite the differences in the structure of languages, the semantic and moral meaning of emotions remain very similar. This study lays the foundation for further study of linguistic manifestations of emotions in different languages. It is shown that the expression of emotions in different languages and cultures is carried out through various lexical and semantic means. Universal and specific features of emotion expression are widely studied in the field of linguistics and psychology. The use of units of emotion expression in different language systems varies depending on the social and cultural context. As the research into the role of the human factor in language expands, the importance of studying the means of expressing and depicting emotions increases. The article determines that linguistic means of expressing a person's emotional state are numerous and exist in different quantities and structures at different levels of language. The most obvious information in speech is contained in the names of objects and subjects, as well as in information about them. It turns out that in each language there are generally accepted terms for denoting emotions. An expressive lexical unit expresses a subjective attitude toward an object, sign, action, event, but does not name it. Consequently, the expressive fund of language is generally anthropocentric.

Key words: *emotion concepts, cross-linguistic phraseology, metaphorical expressions, syntactic features, lexical structures, language and culture.*

Statement of the problem. Recently, special attention has been paid to the study of both verbal and non-verbal means of expressing emotions in speech – words, phraseological units, syntactic constructions, phonation, gestures, facial expressions and other emotional characteristics. Language is one of the primary means of expressing a person's emotional experience. Each language encodes emotion concepts through its unique structural, semantic, and phraseological methods. The way emotions are expressed in languages is closely linked to cultural context, historical development, and social factors. This study aims to examine how emotion concepts are structured in different languages and analyze their semantic characteristics. The role of emotions in phraseological units will also be analyzed

to determine their impact on human cognition and language interaction.

Every event and object that a person encounters in daily life evokes a certain reaction. Some objects and events are pleasing, while others cause antipathy or disgust. Some phenomena evoke interest and curiosity, while others are met with complete indifference. Even the characteristics of objects perceived through sensory organs – such as color, taste, and smell – do not leave a person indifferent. When interacting with such features, a person either derives pleasure or experiences discomfort, sometimes in an evident manner and sometimes in a more subtle way. This emotional attitude toward certain qualities of objects is referred to as “emotional tone”.

Various life events and facts, with their complexity and diverse characteristics, can generate more intricate emotional experiences. People's reactions to these events are expressed in the form of various emotional states, such as joy, sadness, sympathy, hatred, anger, pride, shame, and fear. These feelings are generally referred to as emotions or sentiments.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The article involves analysis of recent books and publications by Jackendoff R. [1], Lakoff G. [2], Matsumoto Y. [3], Pavlenko A. [4], Russell J. A. [5], Wierzbicka A. [6], Zhang Y. [7].

Task statement. Despite the fact that a lot of research has been conducted in this area, the number of research papers on the problem of emotionality, emotionality and expressivity is increasing. However, the analysis of research and development shows that there are still controversial issues in the definition of emotivity and emotionality. The main goal is to show the interlanguage structural and semantic features of emotion concepts.

Outline of the main material of the study. For several centuries, scientists from a wide variety of professions have individually placed rational thinking and a person's emotional attitude on two scales. And sometimes it was extremely difficult to determine which of them was primary. Meanwhile, any personal action dictated by a reasonable approach to it is objectively often saturated with emotional impulses of the soul. And no matter how surprising it may seem at first glance, this position belongs to the diocese not only of psychologists or writers, but also of linguists of the current generation. In particular, they raise the question of the structural and lexico-semantic features of emotional mood in general. But while writers are mainly interested in the expression of emotions on the part of the characters of works of fiction, linguists, on the contrary, focus on the expression of emotions in a cross-linguistic perspective. This will be discussed in our brief information review.

So, first of all, let us ask a simple question: how certain actions of a person based on emotions are related to psychological processes of thinking or aspirations. From the point of view of modern psycholinguistics, the emotional side of solving some scientific or even everyday problems is a strong incentive to declassify something complex, confusing, or even more simply, obscure and inaccessible. From a methodological perspective, emotions undoubtedly allow us to broaden our intellectual horizons, in which students of different ages improve their skills while simultaneously acquiring new knowledge. Naturally,

we are most interested in the language side of this problem. Therefore, we note that any emotions ideally register the motivational structure of a personality. If we talk and write about the nature of certain emotions in the cross-linguistic perspective we have outlined, then we should definitely point out the role and meaning of individual lexemes, which to a certain extent reflect a person's mental potential. The essence of the matter lies in the fact that the emotional and emotive sphere as such is of a substantive and logical nature. Moreover, the emotional aura, if it can be said so, is marked by that special atmosphere, which, depending on the multitude of linguistic shades expressed by it, as a rule, must be considered in a specific contextual environment.

Perhaps this question would have been in the air in our brief review if it had not been for the intervention of reputable linguists. It turns out that even today, the essence of expressing various shades of a person's emotional state in a cross-linguistic perspective has not changed significantly.

We consider it advisable to say a few words about the terminology of the concept we have mentioned. Emotions in this, that is, a close and pronounced perspective are included in the system of certain linguistic resources. So, one of the initial "explosions" of emotions may be associated with an intellectual and cognitive assessment of a certain or very specific situation. At the same time, a positive or negative emotion can be the result of both a desirable and quite predictable, as well as an undesirable and therefore, most often unexpected event for a person. For each such reaction (positive or negative), a range of individual linguistic means is also found. So, the root cause of positive emotions, as a rule, is the assessment of intellectual and cognitive orientation. The cross-linguistic perspective manifests itself within the boundaries of perceptual perception of emotions. The positive ones are perceived within the framework of the perspective we have indicated, mainly as expected or desirable. The negative ones are "attached" to a fan of similar events (or their assessments), which, in fact, provoke the corresponding emotions. It is interesting to note that in both cases, scientists rightly associate the manifestation of any emotion with the assessment of a person's activity (work or preferences).

Meanwhile, the polar poles of emotions in a cross-linguistic perspective, one way or another, in their external or internal manifestations, are a kind of signaling of controlled or, conversely, uncontrolled speech production.

Expressions of almost any emotional state of a person can be observed at all linguistic levels. In other words, at the level of phonetics, vocabulary, grammar and syntax. And this is not an exaggeration or a scientific stretch at all. Thus, emotions manifest themselves vividly in intonation and in the placement of accents. Therefore, we attribute this to phonetic means. Moreover, both in written and spoken language. At the stylistic level, emotions help to betray the inner content of the text, of course, with the help of individual lexemes or phrases. Further, specific prosodic components are used to express a person's emotional state. They are primarily subject to differentiation, as in phonetics, vocabulary and syntax.

2. Concept of “emotion”.

Emotions exist to characterize human needs and the objects directed toward them. Throughout the evolutionary process, emotional states and feelings have biologically stabilized and transformed into mechanisms that maintain optimal life functions. At the same time, emotions serve as one of the primary tools for regulating the functional state of the organism and human activity. They alert the organism to harmful influences, activating its defense mechanisms and optimizing the adaptation process [4].

Emotions have long been the focus of scholars in various disciplines, including linguistics, pedagogy, philosophy, and psychology. Consequently, emotions are considered a multifaceted research area that requires an interdisciplinary approach [6].

An analysis of psychological literature shows that emotions are classified according to various criteria: modality, intensity, depth, duration, impact on humans, conditions of occurrence, and functional characteristics. For instance, in the studies of psychologists such as Izard, Krasavsky, Rubinstein and etc., three main functions of emotions are highlighted:

- Cognitive function;
- Reflective function;
- Regulatory function.

A. Wierzbicka also categorizes emotions into positive and negative. However, in modern psychological research, there is no consensus on the distinction between the terms “emotion” and “feeling”. Typically, emotions are associated with the fulfillment of physiological needs, whereas feelings are considered more complex psychological constructs based on intellectual and social experience [6]. Contemporary research indicates that the boundaries between these concepts are becoming

increasingly blurred, and some scholars use the term “emotion” as a general term encompassing both concepts.

Emotions are an integral part of the emotional landscape of language, and their expression is realized through linguistic units that reflect national cultural values. The expression of emotions through language occurs via various lexical and grammatical means, which can be classified as follows:

- a) Lexical units that name or convey the meaning of emotions;
- b) Various discursive strategies that describe emotions;
- c) Sentence and phrase structures that express emotions in speech. The formal and content-based manifestation of the means of objectifying emotions depends on the context. Observations show that descriptions of emotions are usually presented in the third person or the first person in the past tense. However, when reacting immediately to a specific event, descriptive expressions acquire a performative meaning.

The study of emotion concepts is an extremely relevant research area in understanding the relationship between language and culture. Emotions, as fundamental human feelings, are expressed through language in a highly progressive manner. Cross-linguistic studies indicate that while emotion concepts have universal traits, they also vary according to the structural-semantic characteristics and cultural framework of each language. This article examines the structural features of cross-linguistic emotion concepts, exploring their functions within language systems and their role in communication.

Emotion concepts are extensively studied in psychology, linguistics, and cognitive science. They are universal, yet their expression is influenced by cultural factors. For example, while concepts such as “sadness” or “joy” carry similar functions across multiple languages, the structural and semantic mechanisms used to express them can differ [3].

Emotion concepts constitute a crucial part of human experience and are expressed in highly specific forms through language. Despite structural and functional differences in how emotion concepts are constructed and utilized across languages, the way humans perceive and express emotions often shares numerous similarities based on cultural and social contexts. For instance, in Eastern and Western languages, the frequency of use, metaphorical value, and semantic nuances of emotion concepts often convey different meanings. In some languages,

words expressing emotions possess highly specific semantic nuances, whereas in others, they are used in a broader context. For example, in English, the word “love” represents various aspects such as friendship, familial love, and romantic affection. However, in Japanese, two separate words, “ai” and “koi,” distinctly define these emotion concepts.

Cross-linguistic studies show that while emotion concepts are universal, the internal structure and semantic system of each language significantly determine how these concepts are used. In some languages, emotion concepts are expressed through simple syntactic structures, whereas in others, they are conveyed through metaphorical and poetic forms [1].

Additionally, cultural context, communication norms, and social conventions play a key role in shaping the structural features of emotion concepts across languages. For example, in collectivist societies, emotion concepts are closely linked to social harmony and are often expressed indirectly, whereas in individualist societies, emotional expressions tend to be more direct and explicit. This also explains why synonymy and antonymy relationships between words vary across languages.

3. Structural Features of Emotion Concepts in Language

The structural properties of emotion concepts in language are analyzed from syntactic, lexical, and morphological perspectives. These aspects can be explained as follows:

3.1. Lexical-Semantic Features

Each language possesses a specific range of dialectal or synonymous expressions for emotion concepts. For example, in English, the words “happiness,” “joy,” and “delight” are synonyms that express the same emotion concept in different contexts [2]. The structural and semantic characteristics of emotion concepts vary across languages, often manifesting in lexical-semantic, morphological, and syntactic aspects. The ability to express the same emotion concept progressively in different languages is linked to various semantic and structural factors [5].

Lexical-semantic differences are often based on cultural principles and are reflected through conceptual metaphors. For instance, in English, the concept of “anger” is associated with heat and high temperatures, as seen in expressions such as “hot-headed” and “boiling with rage.” However, in Japanese, the same concept is more commonly explained as a loss of inner calm, reflected in phrases like “ikari ga tsukamaranai” (unable to control one’s anger) [3].

3.2. Morphological Aspects

The morphological expression of emotion concepts varies significantly across different languages. In some languages, emotion concepts are conveyed through specific prefixes and suffixes. For example, in German, the word “traurig” (sad) contains the suffix “-ig”, which denotes an adjective. Meanwhile, in Chinese, words expressing sadness emerge through morpheme combinations. In Russian, the word “радость” (joy) originates from the root “рад-” (happiness), which is also found in other emotion-related words.

3.3. Syntactic Features

From a syntactic perspective, some languages express emotion concepts using passive constructions or specific grammatical structures. For instance, while English uses the simple sentence “I am happy,” Spanish requires the specific verb form “Estoy feliz.” These differences illustrate structural variations across languages.

The ability to express the same emotion concept progressively in different languages is influenced by both semantic and structural factors. For example, the same feeling may be expressed using different structural and semantic methods in different languages. In English, the word “fear” denotes the concept of being afraid. However, in Russian, two separate words – “страх” and “боязнь” – convey different degrees of the same concept [6].

In some languages, the expression of emotions is structurally rooted in cultural frameworks. For instance, in Japanese, emotional expressions are often embedded within the “keigo” politeness system, which leads to emotions being conveyed in an indirect manner.

4. Phraseological Units in the Study of Emotions

Phraseological units play a crucial role in the study of emotions, as they reflect the internal semantic system of a language. These units can be classified as follows:

4.1. Metaphorical Expressions

Emotion concepts are frequently expressed metaphorically. For example, in English, “heartbroken” and in Azerbaijani, “başına dərdi düşmək” (literally: “trouble falls on one’s head”) both represent the same semantic field of deep sorrow. Such expressions illustrate how emotions are perceived and conveyed in different languages.

4.2. Idiomatic Structures

Some idiomatic expressions cannot be translated literally. For example, in English, “to be on cloud nine” denotes extreme happiness, but this phrase does not carry the same semantic weight in other

languages. Similarly, in Russian, the phrase «душа нараспашку» (literally: “soul wide open”) conveys emotional openness, yet this concept may not have an exact equivalent in other languages.

4.3. Culture-Specific Phraseology

Each language and culture possesses unique phraseological units. For instance, in Turkish, the expression “içi yanmak” (to burn inside) signifies sorrow, a phrase that also exists in Azerbaijani. However, in some cultures, the same emotion may be represented using entirely different symbols or metaphors.

Conclusion. The study of the structural-semantic features of emotion concepts across languages allows for a deeper understanding of how language influences human emotions. Each language encodes emotion concepts through its own syntactic, lexical, and phraseological systems. This field of research

plays a significant role not only in linguistics but also in the study of intercultural communication [7].

Emotion concepts exhibit different structural and semantic features across languages, highlighting their close connection to cultural contexts. Comparing phraseological units across languages demonstrates the importance of metaphorical and idiomatic characteristics in the expression of emotions. The linguistic representation of emotions is not limited to the lexical level; it also manifests in syntactic and grammatical structures.

Research findings indicate that the study of emotion concepts helps in understanding the influence of human cognition on language and contributes to a deeper comprehension of its conceptual structure. Future studies could further explore how emotions are described in different languages and their role in communication, allowing for a more in-depth investigation of this subject.

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Гусейнова Х. М. СТРУКТУРНІ ТА СЕМАНТИЧНІ ОСОБЛИВОСТІ ЕМОЦІОНАЛЬНИХ КОНЦЕПТІВ У КРОС-ЛІНГВІСТИЧНІЙ ПЕРСПЕКТИВІ

У цьому дослідженні розглядаються крос-лінгвістичні структурні та семантичні особливості концептів емоцій. Зазначається, що вираження емоцій у різних мовах ґрунтується на метафоричних, фразеологічних та синтаксичних характеристиках. Кодування емоцій у лексичних та граматичних структурах залежить від культурного та історичного контексту. Особливо підкреслюється ідея у тому, що репрезентація емоцій у мовах грає вирішальну роль у процесах людського пізнання і комунікації. Фразеологічні висловлювання грають важливу роль у передачі емоційного змісту з допомогою мови.

Дослідження показує, що, незважаючи на відмінності в структурі мов, семантичне та моральне значення емоцій залишаються дуже схожими. Дане дослідження закладає основу подальшого вивчення мовних проявів емоцій у різних мовах. Показано, вираження емоцій у різних мовах та культурах здійснюється за допомогою різних лексико-семантичних засобів. Універсальні та специфічні особливості вираження емоцій широко вивчаються в галузі лінгвістики та психології. Використання одиниць вираження емоцій у різних мовних системах варіюється в залежності від соціального та культурного контексту.

У міру розширення досліджень ролі людського фактора у мові зростає важливість вивчення засобів вираження та зображення емоцій. У статті визначено, що мовні засоби вираження емоційного стану людини численні та існують у різних кількостях та структурах на різних рівнях мови. Найбільш очевидна інформація у мові міститься в найменуваннях об'єктів та суб'єктів, а також інформації про них. З'ясовується, що у кожній мові існують загальноприйняті терміни позначення емоцій. Експресивна лексична одиниця виражає суб'єктивне ставлення до об'єкта, знаку, дії, події, а чи не називає його. Отже, експресивний фонд мови загалом антропоцентричний.

Ключові слова: емоційні концепти, міжмовна фразеологія, метафоричні вирази, синтаксичні особливості, лексичні структури, мова та культура.

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