

*An Abstract*

**The Peculiarities of the Formation of the Lexical-Semantic Field "The Environment" in Modern English**

The presentation focuses on studying numerous interdependent and interrelated lexical-semantic paradigms - synonymic sets, lexical-semantic groups (LSG), lexical-semantic fields (LSF). The problem may be viewed in terms of the possible ways of classifying vocabulary items. Attempts to study the inner structure of the vocabulary revealed that in spite of its heterogeneity the English word - stock may be regarded from the point of view of the abovementioned sub-systems, the members of which have some features in common, thus distinguishing them from the members of other lexical groupings.

In this article the classification is based on the conceptual or semantic field theory, suggested by G.S. Shchur (Т.С. Шчур, 1974). By the term "semantic field" we understand closely knit sectors of vocabulary each characterized by a common concept Lexical units, which are united either by their full or separate meanings, which are of the systematic character, and in which the meaning of each is determined by the co-presence of the others.

The process of the semantic field studying consists of the following steps: 1) the semantic field identification; 2) the constituent LSF analysis. There are different criteria for the semantic field identification, among them being structural, psycho-physiological, statistical, psycholinguistic, and semantic-logical (Н.Г. Долгих, 1973).

The semantic logical criterion for the semantic field identification is based on the identification principles, suggested by Sh. Bally and is aimed at finding the word-identification, in which the concept or the idea in its most general, abstract and neutral form is expressed (Н.Г. Долгих, 1973).

Numerous lexemes, united by the concept "the environment", selected from the Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language have been analyzed. They form 8 lexical-semantic groups. For example, LSF "Fauna"

comprises the words with the corresponding meaning: animal, predator, bird, pigeon, etc. the key-words of the LSF "Flora" are: grass, plant, planktons, tree, etc. the words air, cloud, moisture, fog define the measures of the LSF "Air resources". The key-words atmosphere, biosphere, lithosphere, stratosphere form another group of words, defined as "Sphere". LSF "Water resources" comprises the words sea, lake, river, ocean and the like. The key-words of the LSF "Nature disasters" are the lexemes earthquake, volcano, tsunami, etc.; the words hill, rock, soil, valley, mountain refer to the group "Relief". These are 8 lexical-semantic groups, the constituents of which are united by the common notional element "the environment".