

Summary

Subject of the master's thesis: Comparative analysis of conceptual fields «Human Intellectual Capabilities» in German and Russian.

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Relevance of the research is due to the fact that the problem of the nomination of a person's mental abilities has not been adequately covered in the studied languages.

The aim of the study is a comparative lexicographic description of German and Russian vocabularies, referring to mental abilities, taking into account the word-formation methods.

The tasks of the research:

1. To study the theoretical material devoted to the study of conceptual, semantic and lexical-semantic fields, to illuminate the problem of the linguistic picture of the world and linguocultural codes.
2. To study the existing works on the comparative analysis of the studied languages.
3. To establish the signs of the concepts of mind and stupidity in German and Russian.
4. To carry out a structural analysis of the collected material.
5. To compare the results of the study, to highlight the similarities and differences in the perception of the phenomena by representatives of the German and Russian cultures.

The theoretical significance of the research lies in the fact that it is based on cognitive language study, which enhances understanding of the content and scope

of the language of objectification of conceptual field «Mental abilities», forms the idea of conceptualizing the world, reflected in German and Russian culture. Using of the research materials and their further refinement make it possible to develop theoretical textbooks on the subject.

The practical significance of the research lies in the possibility to use the results of research in lexicography, in the practice of teaching and learning the German language.

The results of the research. In the field «Mental abilities» are manifested universal and nationally specific aspects.

Universal aspects:

1. The conceptual field «Mental abilities» is a complex mental formation that is verbalized at all levels of the German and Russian languages.
2. The components of the field form in both languages a relative structural symmetry: the representative words of the comparable concepts have similar features fixed in lexicographic sources.
3. Most of the lexical and phraseological units that make up this field are notable for their evaluation, stylistic coloring, expressiveness, and are represented mainly by common-spoken, slang, stylistically reduced vocabulary.
4. The large number of appraisal units representing negative evaluations of intellectual qualities is explained by the fact that our idea of the norm is based on the abstract, averaged level of the normative scale and correlates with the positive value (it is normal to be kind, intelligent, honest), but for speakers it is always more relevant to reflect the digression from the norm and their attitude to it.
5. In both languages prevail a negative evaluation of the low intellectual abilities and a positive attitude towards intelligent individuals.
6. In both languages were found examples expressing an indulgent, pitiful and even approving attitude towards unintelligent individuals.
7. In both languages has been found a large amount of linguistic material that attests to the negative perception in the society of boasting and demonstration of their intellectual abilities.

8. The semantics of the linguistic material correlated with the field «Mental abilities» is due to the following appraisal comparisons: the speed of thought processes, the clarity of thought, the sharpness of the mind, the foresight, the power of intellectual abilities, the breadth of horizons, «intellectual fullness».

9. Analyzed language material allows us to identify different linguocultural codes and to determine their significance for each language studied.

National-specific features are manifested:

1. In the differences in the volume of cognitive signs of the concepts «mind» and «stupidity».

2. The differences in the volume of linguocultural codes.

3. In the Russian language was discovered much more linguistic material in which stupidity turns into a big mind as a result, which indicates a more loyal attitude of Russian culture towards this characteristic of man.

4. A large number of linguistic material testifies to the importance of the interrelation of mental abilities with material well-being for Russian culture. In the Russian language picture of the world, the rich people often appear to be not smart, and as people who have made their wealth undeserved. In German, this section is presented in a small number of examples.

5. On the example of the material of the Russian language was revealed the significance for the Russian culture of the concepts «ум» and «пазъм», while in the German language such differences were not found.

Recommendations: the processed material and the theoretical conclusions of the work can be useful in teaching the German language, mainly in the field of lexicology. The selected research material can be used in the compilation of everyday-colloquially oriented Russian-German dictionaries.