

Abstract

Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper

Title: COGNITIVE AND SEMANTIC PARAMETRES OF THE FUNCTIONING OF THE LEXICAL UNIT «CLOSE» IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Author: Ilyinova I.

Research Supervisor: Petrenko S.A.

Research Initiator: Chair of the English Philology

Topical Importance: Our diploma paper concerns the study of the lexical unit *close* in different aspects. It deals with *close* as different parts of speech representing a number of basic domains in the English language. This topic deserves studying, as the lexical unit *close* has never been a subject of serious analysis and its usage as a representative of different domains is not in question.

Goals: to find out all the peculiarities of the functioning of the word *close* from different scientific angles.

Tasks: basing on the study of the main thesis of cognitive linguistics to describe the nuclear and peripheral meanings of the lexical unit *close*.

Theoretical value and practical applicability: We offer a methodology of complex systematic description of the lexical unit *close* from the point of view of its functioning in the English texts as a verb, as an adjective, as an adverb and as a noun. The results of the diploma paper can be applied in different spheres of language study – English grammar, cognitive linguistics, lexicology.

Results: The lexical unit *close* originated from its Latin and French roots in the 12th century as a verb, developing later adverbial, adjective and nominative meanings, both direct and metaphorical. The nuclear meaning of this lexical unit has to do with «nearness» which is regarded as a prototypical meaning of the word *close* in our thesis. The lexical unit at issue operates for five basic domains – those of space, state, time, relationship and colour.

Implementation advice: the theoretical material of the diploma thesis can be applied while studying or teaching different courses of cognitive linguistics and lexicology.