

**Abstract**  
Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper  
(Master's degree)

**Title:** The linguistic features of the lexical-semantic field of "food" (in Russian and Spanish languages)

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**Topical Importance:** The lexical-semantic field selected for the study, combining the vocabulary indicating the food is one of the basic fields in the semantic space of any language, but at the same time has a cultural identity in every language. Comprehensive comparative studies of linguistic units of lexical-semantic field of "food", there are few; on the basis of Russian and Spanish at the moment they are not observed at all.

**Goals:** comparative study of lexical-semantic field of "food" as the main unit of the division of semantic space Russian and Spanish languages

**Tasks:**

- Define the concept of "field" in linguistics;
- Clarify the characteristics of the field's system and structure;
- Specify the structural features of the lexical-semantic field of "food" on the basis of Russian and Spanish;
- Characterize the types of relationships within the lexical-semantic field of "food" in Russian and Spanish;
- Create a database MS Access 2010 to reflect the results of comparative studies.

**Theoretical value and practical applicability:** the theoretical significance of the work is that the materials and the results of this study, as well as created the classification may be used in the future in scientific works, which develop the problem of lexical-semantic fields, and in the works devoted to the study of lexical-semantic field of "food": linguistic as well as cultural. The results of research, lists of tokens on "food" in the Russian and Spanish languages and comparative database on the subject, classification, developed in this study can be used in practical classes of a foreign language, as well as in the course of such disciplines as lexicology, intercultural communication, cultural linguistics, and in the classroom of special courses on comparative linguistic research.

**Results:**

In terms of field theory in the language of the semantic space is embodied in the form of fully occupying its semantic fields, each of which is the formation of higher order with respect to the lexical-semantic field.

The core of the considered lexical-semantic field in the Russian language is a token of "food", while as the core of the LSP in Spanish denotes token "comida". The perinuclear space represents direct synonyms of tokens "food" and "comida". On the perinuclear space is required around 3%. The remaining 97% are the tokens at the periphery. Tokens of the far periphery, and homonyms, ambiguous words carry the intersection with other fields.

In the "food" there are two microfields: *food / la comida & beverage / las bebidas*, which in turn are divided into 42 groups both in Russian and in Spanish. The 42 groups Russian field presents the *infusion* group, which is not in the Spanish lexical-semantic field of "comida". Features of the Spanish lexical-semantic field of "food" consists in the fact that it is characterized by the union of groups of *dried fruits* and *nuts* called *frutos secos*, distinction of *bayas* by size, the presence of *guiso* category (*estofado, cocido*).

The most hyper-branched ranks of hyponymy form such linguistic units as *soups, appetizers, second meat dishes, bread and bakery products* and *confectionery*. The large number of hyponyms should be considered a feature of generic relations in the lexical-semantic field of "food". In Spanish, the highest number of tokens is represented within the group *Sopas* in

Russian - *Bakery products*.

The relationships of hyponymy certainly are very developed and branched units in the form of relations lexical-semantic field of "food", but it is not the only one. Also as part of the lexical-semantic field of "food" in Russian and Spanish we can observe antonymy (5 units (u) in Russian, 7 pcs. in Spanish), homonyms (25 pcs. In Russian and 32 units. In Spanish), polysemy (36 pcs. in Russian and 47 units. in Spanish) synonyms (50 pcs. in Russian and 47 units. in Spanish).

Among the linguistic units of synonymous relationships are found different categories of synonyms: absolute, non-absolute, cognate, one-word, neutral, book, conversational, colloquial, reduced obsolete.

Lexical units in the lexical-semantic field of "food" in the Russian and Spanish languages enter into a variant relationship (phonetic, grammatical, accent options). The latter type of the least represented in the lexical-semantic field of "food" in Russian and Spanish.

The lexical-semantic field of "food" polysemy relations lie both within the field and beyond. Frequently observed models of polysemy are: the plant - its fruit; product - a dish made from it. The largest number of meanings observed lies in the token *bread, pan, pasta*.

Names of food enter into a relationship of homonyms, which are observed within the lexical-semantic field of "food", and go beyond it. The material of our research presents actual homonyms, homofoms, homophones and homographs, as well as two special forms: homophone + homofom (in Spanish), homofom + homograph (in Russian).

Antonymy is underrepresented in the lexical-semantic field of "food" in Russian and Spanish languages, however it is characterized by special relations - relations of graduality.

Based on the results of the study, we have created a database of "Food in the Russian and Spanish." This is an innovative product based on MS Access 2010, easy to use: it has an interface understandable to each user. The database "Food in the Russian and Spanish languages" offers materials on antonyms, homonyms, polysemy, synonymy in Russian and Spanish lexical-semantic field of "food"; also there is present a brief comparative gastronomic glossary (Russian-Spanish-Russian).

**Implementation advice:** In this study we have only made a modest attempt to analyze the taxon of the lexical-semantic field of "food". Further research perspective is seen in the study of *food* in cognitive direction, as well as its consideration within the frame of the theory. Moreover, after the comparison of the lexical-semantic field of "food" in Romance and Slavic languages, a special interest shows a further comparison of the language by using the language systems of other groups (eg, German) or another branch (eg, the Sino-Tibetan).