

EXPLORING THE POLYSEMANTIC FEATURES OF WILD ANIMAL NAMES IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

Khidirova Makhfuza Amirkulovna,

Senior teacher at Denau Institute of Entrepreneurship and Pedagogy

makhfuza.khidirova@mail.ru

Abstract: Polysemy refers to words or phrases that possess multiple meanings, leading to linguistic richness and versatility. Wild animal names are no exception, as they often embody various connotations and associations across different languages. The role of animals in human life has always been extremely high, especially in the early days of mankind, when people and animals coexisted in a natural neighborhood. Languages are rich and diverse, often with unique ways of naming creatures in the animal kingdom. Wild animals, in particular, capture our curiosity and imagination, leading to a plethora of names that describe their characteristics, behaviors, or appearances. In this article, we delve into the polysemantic features of wild animal names in English and Uzbek languages, exploring how these languages capture the essence of these magnificent creatures.

Keywords: Polysemy, semantic change, animal lexicon, cross-linguistic analysis, etymology, cognitive linguistics, cultural semiotics, lexical semantics, bilingual lexicography, comparative linguistics, symbolism.

INGLIZ VA O'ZBEK TILLARIDA YOVVOYI HAYVON NOMLARINING POLISEMANTIK XUSUSIYATLARI TADQIQI

Xidirova Mahfuza Amirkulovna,

Denov tadbirkorlik va pedagogika instituti katta o'qituvchisi

makhfuza.khidirova@mail.ru

Annotatsiya: Polisemantik so'zlar yoki iboralar ko'p ma'noga ega bo'lib, tilning boyishiga va xilma xil bo'lishiga sabab bo'ladi. Xuddi shu xususiyatlar yovvoyi hayvon nomlarida ham mavjud bo'lib, ular odatda turli tillarda turlicha konnotativ ma'nolarni mujassamlashtiradi. Hayvonlarning inson hayotida tutgan o'rni har doim nihoyatda yuqori bo'lgan, ayniqsa, insoniyat paydo bo'lgan dastlabki davrlarda, odamlar va hayvonlar tabiiy qo'shnichilikda birga yashagan. Tillar boy va xilma-xil bo'lib, ko'pincha hayvonot olamidagi mavjudotlarni nomlashning o'ziga xos usullariga ega. Yovvoyi hayvonlar, ayniqsa, bizning qiziqishimiz va tasavvurimizni o'ziga tortadi, bu ularning xususiyatlarini, xatti-harakatlarini yoki tashqi ko'rinishini tavsiflovchi ko'plab nomlarga olib keladi. Ushbu maqolada biz ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi yovvoyi hayvonlar nomlarining polisemantik xususiyatlarini ko'rib chiqamiz, bu tillar bu ajoyib mavjudotlarning mohiyatini qanday aks ettirayotganini o'rganamiz.

Kalit so'zlar. Ko'p ma'nolilik, semantik o'zgarish, hayvonlar leksikasi, tillararo tahlil, etimologiya, kognitiv lingvistika, madaniy semiotika, leksik semantika, ikki tilli leksikografiya, qiyosiy tilshunoslik, simvolizm.

ИЗУЧЕНИЕ МНОГОСЕМАНТИЧЕСКИХ ОСОБЕННОСТЕЙ НАЗВАНИЙ ДИКИХ ЖИВОТНЫХ В АНГЛИЙСКОМ И УЗБЕКСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

Хидирова Махфуза Амиркуловна,

Старший преподаватель Денауского института предпринимательства и
педагогике

makhfuza.khidirova@mail.ru

Аннотация: Полисемия относится к словам или фразам, имеющим несколько значений, что приводит к лингвистическому богатству и универсальности. Названия диких животных не являются исключением, поскольку они часто воплощают в себе различные коннотации и ассоциации в разных языках. Роль животных в жизни человека всегда была чрезвычайно высока, особенно на заре человечества, когда люди и животные сосуществовали в естественном соседстве. Языки богаты и разнообразны, часто с уникальными способами обозначения существ животного мира. Дикое животное, в частности, захватывает наше любопытство и воображение, что приводит к множеству названий, описывающих их характеристики, поведение или внешний вид. В этой статье мы углубимся в многозначные особенности названий диких животных в английском и узбекском языках, изучая, как эти языки отражают сущность этих великолепных существ.

Ключевые слова. Многозначность, семантическая смена, лексика животных, межлингвистический анализ, этимология, когнитивная лингвистика, культурная семиотика, лексическая семантика, двуязычная лексикография, сравнительное языкознание, символизм.

INTRODUCTION

Language is a fascinating and complex system, capable of expressing a multitude of meanings through words and phrases. The inclusion of our knowledge about the fauna in figurative human characteristics is a natural stage in the development of language [6; 47-56]. One of the intriguing aspects of language is polysemy, which refers to the phenomenon where a single word can have multiple related but distinct meanings. In this article, we delve into the captivating world of polysemy in language, exploring its significance and impact on communication. Polysemy is a fascinating linguistic phenomenon that adds complexity and versatility to language. Polysemy is a natural and inherent characteristic of language. It arises from the fact

that words can acquire different meanings over time through historical, cultural, or social factors. These multiple meanings can coexist, often influenced by context, usage, and individual interpretation. Polysemy adds depth and richness to languages, allowing for nuanced expression and fostering creativity in communication. This linguistic feature can be observed in various languages, including English and Uzbek. Animal names, in particular, often exhibit polysemy due to cultural, linguistic, and historical factors. This article aims to explore and compare the polysemous nature of animal names in English and Uzbek, shedding light on the similarities and differences between the two languages. Language is a complex and dynamic system that allows us to communicate and express our thoughts and ideas. Specifically, we drew a comparison between cognates and polysemous words, which are ambiguous within a given language. Polysemous words are those that have multiple meanings or senses.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The nature of polysemy highlights the dynamic and flexible nature of language. Polysemy is related to the nature of human knowledge, and the diversity of the nature of knowledge in different nations is also reflected in the polysemy of the language of that nation. More precisely, polysemy will have a national character [5; 215]. In this research, a variety of methods are used to achieve specific objectives. Contextual analysis is used to examine how the word is used in different sentences to identify the range of meanings and look for shifts in meaning based on syntactic or semantic cues in the context. Semantic field analysis and historical linguistics methods are used to analyze the semantic field related to the word, which includes examining synonyms, antonyms, and related terms, mapping out the relationships and boundaries between the meanings of a word. Investigate the etymology of a word to see how its meanings have evolved. Trace semantic shifts and how they correlate with changes in culture and society. Many linguists have written dissertations exploring the concept of polysemy as a part of their scholarly work. Here are examples of scholars whose doctoral dissertations have contributed to our understanding of polysemy:

Bryn Hauk's dissertation "Polysemy and Synonymy: Their Management in Translation Theory and Multilingual Lexicography"(2015) delves into the translation and lexicographical challenges posed by polysemy and synonymy, focusing on practical applications in multilingual contexts. Anatol Stefanowitsch's dissertation "Constructional Semantics as a Limit to Grammatical Alternation: The Two Benefactive Constructions in English" (2004) explores, among other topics, aspects of polysemy as they relate to alternation phenomena in English. These scholarly works showcase the academic rigor and depth of analysis that goes into examining polysemy within linguistic research. The problems of using polysemous lexemes in the Uzbek language are highlighted in the works of D.Akhmedova. In her work, D. Akhmedova underlines the complexities of employing polysemous lexemes in Uzbek. She advocates for the faceted method as a practical approach to cataloging words with multiple meanings, acknowledging that this enables clearer identification of the particular semantic domain each meaning falls within [1; 201-205]. In her dissertation, she notes that corpus tagging often relies on the immediate lexical context, the "neighbor," to discern multiple meanings. She suggests that linguists must meticulously encode a comprehensive set of rules, accounting for both common and exceptional instances, into the linguistic support database [2; 247]. Scientist M.Abdurakhmanova and researcher A.Rakhmanov in the article "Polysemy in corpus linguistics", emphasized the importance of computer methods, in particular, in the selection of alternative units in the translation process, in mastering the semantics of polysemous words, using the colloquial, that is, the method of semantic blockade. The meanings of polysemous words are analyzed as part of a syntactic blockade. It was noted that the method of word combinations (right and left collocates) can also be used in the analysis of polysemous words, only in this place the specifics of the Turkic languages, in particular the Uzbek language, based on the subordinate dominant relationship in these compounds, will be revealed [3].

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Words acquire multiple meanings through various processes, including historical, cultural, and contextual factors. Over time, words can undergo semantic shifts, broadening or narrowing their meanings. The historical development of wild animal names is quite fascinating, as it often reflects numerous influences, including the languages and cultures of the people who first named them, the characteristics of the animals, and sometimes the name of the person who discovered the species. For example, The name "lion" comes from the Latin word 'leo,' which was passed into Old English as 'leon' and ultimately 'lion.' The Latin word itself has ancient roots, possibly stemming from the Proto-Indo-European root *lew-*, meaning "to roar." Each of these names tells a story about how humans have tried to describe, categorize, and understand the vast array of animal life with which we share our planet. Over time, these names may change or gain new meanings, but they often carry with them a linguistic connection to our past. English is known for its extensive vocabulary, and animal names are no exception when it comes to polysemy. For example, the word "bear" can refer to the large mammal, but it can also be used as a verb meaning to tolerate or endure. Similarly, the word "seal" can represent both a marine mammal and a stamp or mark of approval. These multiple meanings of animal names can lead to semantic ambiguity in communication and require context for proper interpretation. English wild animal names often exhibit polysemy, with individual words carrying various related but distinct meanings. For example, the term "bear" can refer to the animal species itself, but it can also have metaphorical connotations. In some contexts, "bear" can symbolize strength, resilience, or even an individual's personality traits. In next example, literal Meaning of the animal name fox refers to the small to medium-sized mammal belonging to the Canidae family, but metaphorical meaning can imply slyness, cunningness, or cleverness. Foxes are known for their distinctive features, such as their bushy tails and cunning hunting techniques. When someone refers to someone else as "sly as a fox," they are highlighting their ability to navigate situations cleverly and strategically. This metaphorical usage of "fox" is often

associated with someone who is cunning, deceptive, or skilled in outsmarting others. Polysemic wild animal names are frequently utilized in literature, metaphors, idiomatic expressions, and allegorical references. Animal names, like other words in language, can experience semantic shifts and undergo evolution over time. Additionally, English has historically borrowed words from other languages, resulting in further expansion of polysemic wild animal names. For example, "jaguar" derives from indigenous South American languages and now signifies a specific type of big cat. While English is a globally spoken language, there might be variations in the polysemic features of wild animal names across different English-speaking regions or cultures. Local beliefs, traditions, and cultural associations might shape the additional meanings or nuances attributed to specific animal names in distinct contexts. Polysemic features within English wild animal names offer a broad range of meanings, cultural symbolism, and opportunities for creative expression. The multifaceted nature of these names not only enables efficient communication but also reflects the diverse perspectives and cultural intricacies surrounding their human counterparts in the animal kingdom. Cultural factors play a significant role in shaping polysemic meanings. Different cultures may assign additional meanings to words based on their collective experiences, values, and beliefs. Context plays a vital role in disambiguating polysemic meanings. The intended meaning of a word can be deduced by considering the surrounding words, syntactic structures, or non-verbal cues. For example, the word "bat" can refer to both the flying mammal and the implement used in baseball, but the context helps determine the intended meaning. One way in which polysemy occurs is through semantic extensions. Words can evolve and expand their meanings beyond their original scope. For example, the word "mouse" initially referred to a small rodent, but it also came to refer to a computer input device due to its resemblance. Semantic extensions open up possibilities for new associations and connections, contributing to the polysemy of language. Polysemy in language is heavily influenced by cultural and historical factors. Different cultures, with their

unique experiences and perspectives, may assign additional meanings to certain words based on their collective knowledge and beliefs. For instance, the word "snake" carries symbolic associations with deceit, temptation, and rebirth in many cultures, highlighting the impact of cultural interpretations on word meanings. These polysemous animal names, like in English, contribute to the richness of the Uzbek language. In Uzbek, the polysemy of animal names is equally intriguing and culturally significant. Here, we explore the polysemantic features observed in animal names in the Uzbek language: Uzbek wild animal names often carry cultural symbolism and reflect the values, beliefs, and folklore of Uzbekistan. For example, the Uzbek word for "wolf," known as *qorqon*, not only refers to the animal species itself but also represents bravery, independence, and is used as a human's name in Uzbek traditions and proverbs. In the past, this name means "gray" or "blue" in the ancient Turkic language [8]. This demonstrates how polysemic animal names can be deeply rooted in cultural narratives. Similar to English, Uzbek has undergone linguistic evolution and historical influences, resulting in borrowed or inherited polysemic animal names. Uzbek, as a Turkic language, has been influenced by several neighboring languages throughout its history. This contact with other cultures and languages has led to the borrowing of animal names, adding further layers of meaning and polysemy to the Uzbek lexicon. Understanding the polysemic features of animal names in Uzbek requires considering the context in which they are used. Depending on the situation or the intended message, different interpretations and associations may arise. As with any language, Uzbek continues to evolve over time, influenced by social, cultural, and technological advancements. This evolution may introduce new polysemic animal names, adapt existing meanings, or integrate borrowed terms. The contemporary usage of polysemic animal names in Uzbek underscores the dynamic nature of the language and its ability to adapt to the changing needs and experiences of its speakers. Exploring the polysemy of animal names in Uzbek allows for a deeper understanding of the language's nuances, the cultural heritage it represents, and the

way it shapes communication among Uzbek speakers. For example, the animal name “biy” expresses following meanings in Uzbek language: 1. The head of a tribe or a union of tribes; the patriarch of nomadic or semi-nomadic Turkic peoples. 2. A word of honor or title given to persons of high rank. 3. A large poisonous spider with a body length of up to 3.5 cm, covered with long yellow hairs. 4. Open, wide bare field [8]. Polysemic animal names in Uzbek are often intertwined with folklore, traditional practices, and local beliefs. Uzbek, like many languages, exhibits regional variations and dialectal nuances. The polysemic features of animal names may vary across different regions of Uzbekistan, reflecting local customs, traditions, and specific associations within local communities. These regional variations contribute to the rich linguistic diversity of Uzbek.

CONCLUSION

Polysemy in animal names is a fascinating linguistic phenomenon observed in both English and Uzbek languages. Exploring these polysemous meanings provides insights into the intricacies of language and its cultural nuances. Further research and analysis in this area can contribute to a better understanding of how polysemy manifests in different languages and the factors influencing its development. The polysemantic nature of wild animal names in English and Uzbek languages demonstrates the captivating linguistic creativity and cultural depth embedded within these languages. With each word carrying multiple meanings and associations, these names capture the essence of the animal kingdom while reflecting the values and beliefs of their respective communities. Exploring these polysemantic features allows for a deeper comprehension of the intricate relationship between language, culture, and the natural world. One innovative research idea for a dissertation in the field of polysemantic features of animal names in English and Uzbek languages could be to investigate the cultural and linguistic factors that contribute to the polysemy of these names. Another idea could be to explore the historical development and evolution of polysemantic features in animal names, tracing their origins and changes over time in

both languages. Such research would provide valuable insights into the complex nature of animal names and their cultural significance in English and Uzbek languages. Polysemy adds depth, complexity, and versatility to language. It allows words to transcend their original meanings and encompass a spectrum of related concepts.

REFERENCES

1. Axmedova D.B. Semantik razmetka tizimida ko‘p ma’nodlilik va filtr. Berdaq nomidagi Qoraqalpoq davlat universitetining axborotnomasi. – 2020 yil 4-son. – B. 202-205.
2. Axmedova D. Atov birliklarini o‘zbek tili korpuslari uchun leksik-semantik teglashning lingvistik asos va modellari. Filologiya fanlari bo‘yicha fal. dok-ri. diss. – Buxoro, 2020. – 247 b.
3. Abdurahmonova M., Raxmanova A. Korpus lingvistikasida polisemiya // “Kompyuter lingvistikasi: muammolar, yechim, istiqbollar” Respublika I ilmiy-texnikaviy konferensiya. – Vol. 1 №. 01 (2021).
4. Amirkulovna, K. M. (2023). Different Features and Interpretation of Phraseological Units with Zoocomponent in English and Uzbek Languages. *CENTRAL ASIAN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HISTORY*, 4(4), 78-83.
5. В. А. З в я г и н ц е в , Семасиология, Изд. МГУ, 1957, стр. 213;
6. Gurevich T., Japanese: zoonyms translation problem / T.M. Gurevich // Comparative Linguistics. Typology of languages. Translation Theory: Issues of the 3rd International Conference. Moscow-Kazan, 2006–2008.— Moscow: Moscow State University, 2008 — P. 47–56.
7. G.Sh. Kakhramonovna. From the Experience of Filtering Polysemy Words and Their Use in the Language Corpus. Pindus Journal Of Culture, Literature, and ELT ISSN: 2792 – 1883 Volume 9.- 2021

8. <https://uz.wiktionary.org>