

Abstract
Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper
Bachelors's degree

Title: “Semantic representations of motion event in the contemporary English language”.

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Topical Importance: This diploma paper is devoted to the cognitive-semantic analysis of language units which describe dynamic spatial situations and their metaphorical extensions. Cognitive-semantic interpretation of physical motion expressions and the cases of their metaphoric mapping into other conceptual domains helps to single out the cognitive basis of their meaning and define the conditions which license the usage of the certain lexis.

Goal: The major goal of this study is an attempt to carry out a cognitive-semantic analysis and to clear up the conditions under which some verbs can form felicitous utterances describing physical and abstract motion where the last is motivated by conceptual metaphor.

Tasks: There are a number of tasks one should accomplish to achieve the above set goal:

- to identify the lexical-semantic structure of English language constructions which form motion expressions and the expressions based on spatial categories;
- to present a conceptual structure of motion event;
- to reveal semantic parameters and role structure of the intransitive motion construction, caused motion and way-constructions which objectivize motion and its metaphoric extensions;
- to define the impact of conceptual metaphor the semantics and distribution of motion expressions.

Theoretical value: this study contributes to the development of a number of particular issues related to the problem of space and motion categorization in natural languages.

Practical applicability: the results of this study can be used in the linguistic works devoted to the problems of verb semantics, categories of space and motion in English language; for the lecture course in theoretical grammar, cognitive linguistics.

Results: during the research it has been found out that motion expressions are formed on the basis of intransitive motion construction, caused-motion construction and way-construction. The semantic parameters of lexis which take the position of subject in such sentences are [+/-physical object], [+/-animate], [mobile]. The position of the third argument in intransitive motion and way constructions is verbalized by the words which signify either some state (physical/emotional) or some achievement.

Implementation advice: The data of the conducted research can be used at the lectures and seminars in theoretical linguistics.