



“THE CONCEPT OF CATEGORY IN MODERN LINGUISTICS”

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Abstract: In this article, the concept of category in philosophy and linguistics is studied, as well as the definitions given to the concept of category by various scientists and philosophers and the groups of categories proposed by them are presented.

Key words: the concept of category, systematization, categorizations and conceptualizations, cognitive science, prototypical category

Аннотация: В данной статье исследуется понятие категории в философии и языкознании, а также представлены определения, данные понятию категории различными учеными и философами, и предложенные ими группы категорий.

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Ключевые слова: понятие категории, систематизация, категоризации и концептуализации, когнитивная наука, прототипическая категория.

Annotatsiya: ushbu maqolada falsafa va tilshunoslikdagi kategoriya tushunchasi o'rganilgan shuningdek, kategoriya tushunchasiga turli olimlar va faylasuflar tomonidan berilgan ta'riflar hamda ular taklif etgan kategoriya guruhlari keltirilgan.

Kalit so'zlar: kategoriya tushunchasi, tizimlashtirish, kategoriyalash va konsepruallashtirish, kognitiv fan, prototip kategoriya.

Linguistics is closely interconnected and intertwined with such sciences as philosophy, psychology, cultural studies, semiotics (code, system of signs), physics (acoustics), neuropsychology, etc. The main idea of learning a language in throughout the 20th century were systemization and structuring, but today the main principles are anthropocentricity, discursiveness, integrativity, communicativeness, etc. Linguistics is usually called linguistics of the second half of the 20th – early XXI century. Significant changes have taken place in linguistics which distinguishes it from linguistics until the middle of the twentieth century" [6;8]

Thus, at the present stage, there is great interest in research which are aimed at interdisciplinary understanding of linguistic phenomenon, respectively, at the end of the last century, many new scientific disciplines, such as linguoconceptology,

sociolinguistics, cultural linguistics, psycholinguistics, etc. appeared. Modern linguistics is striving for a process of unification with a number of sciences, which study people and their language.

The concept of category can be chosen from the point of view of different sciences. Each specific science has its own system of categories. They develop simultaneously with the improvement of our knowledge: transforming links between categories, their content expands. A detailed description of the category concept can be found in the Brief dictionary of cognitive terms", because the processes of systematization, categorizations and conceptualizations are the subject of attention of cognitive science. "Category is one of the cognitive forms of thinking of a person, allowing to generalize their experience and carry out their classification" [4;245]. From an etymological point of view, the word "category" goes back to the ancient Greek word "categoria" and means "to oppose". Aristotle for the first time used this word in his work "Organon".

At all levels of the language you can meet the concept of category. In modern linguistics grammatical, lexical, pragmatic, semantic and other categories can be distinguished.

At present, there are several approaches to classify categories to certain sets: classical method; method based on family community; prototypical; cognitive; oppositional; logical.

Interest in categories has not disappeared since ancient times, only in certain periods of attitude towards them was unfavorable. Plato and Aristotle began to develop the classical theory of categorization. So, the famous Athenian philosopher Plato, in his dialogue Cratylus, writes about the principle of systematization of objects, based on their universal features. This, for example, is indicated in the dictionary. Category is short explanation of all the usual terms that are included in the sentences ". The ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle in his treatise "Categories" explores categorization in three directions: ontological, logical and linguistic. According to Aristotle, every word has a certain meaning also generalized semantics. The philosopher calls categories as generalized meanings of individual words and phrases.

So, the concept of "category" was first introduced into scientific use by Aristotle, who distinguished ten categories. The first explains the being, and the remaining probabilities: locality, time, position, quantity, attitude, action, quality, suffering, dressing. Aristotle's concept of "categories" is extremely significant for all sciences. The existential categories he singled out are described by appropriate and complete for its definition by signs, which implements the equality of its members, which have the same properties.

The English philosopher William of Ockham summarizes all ten categories of Aristotle to three: substance, relation and quality. According to the Dictionary of philosophical terms", category (from the Greek. statement, sign) - "general concepts and features that describe the structural organization of nature, society and rational activity" [5;247].

Scientist J. Lakoff wrote that the cognitive revolution influenced the concept of a category, it refers to the re-examination of the systematization process of the phenomena of reality in the form in which it carried out every day in a person's life.[6;143]

According to E.S. Kubryakova, about the issue of categorization, in terms of cognitive science: "... on the basis of which the ordinary man and how he brings

together the infinite variety of his sensations and objective variety of forms of matter and forms of its movement in certain headings, that is, classifies them and brings them under such associations - classes, categories, groupings, sets, categories " [4;46].

The author of the theory of family communities or similarities is L.Wittgenstein. According to this concept, the selection of categories is carried out not according to due to the fact that the main object and members of the group have special properties, and the account of the similarity of certain properties of the main member of the group and the rest, which are included in this group [8;67]. According to this theory, only a certain proportion of the elements of the category will find any of these properties, the rest of the elements will have other characteristics. Similar characteristics cannot be distinguished, which will be common to all members of a category that are at the same time common to them.

The scientist E. Rosch defined the prototypical category and the periphery. She singled out the center (core) and the periphery (members of the category). main idea of this theory lies in the fact that the properties that denote the concept and affecting the formation of categories, have different values, importance. In contrast, representatives of categories have different selections of these properties that differ in one and are similar in others properties. A little later we will take a closer look at the prototypical category theory of E. Rosch. [8;27]

According to J. Lakoff, in the categories identified on the basis classical, prototypical, oppositional and logical approaches, in the process of cognition of the surrounding reality were taken into attention is not all cognitive operations. Based on this, only modern scientific research categories began to be considered as cognitive categories in linguistic expression. In these works, the concept of "semantic categories", are considered as linguistic entities. It should be noted that the cognitive approach also determines categories based on prototypes.

Compared to the prototypical approach, in terms of psychology, the cognitive approach highlights the prototype as an image, ideal or stereotype [6;148]. In general, cognitive categories help a person to imagine the surrounding reality in his mind, in which there are "certain headings of experience in the development of the world and various interaction with him" [1;5].

The main idea of the oppositional approach to the selection of categories lies in the fact that members of the same category are contrasted with another, one can find commonalities between a member of a category and a prototype in terms of significant properties. Objects of the surrounding world according to their characteristics somewhat similar and different, I must say, everything around us is not messy, but organized.

In terminological dictionaries, a category is defined through a concept, which indicates their obvious relationship: "Category (from the Greek *kategoria* - statement, accusation, sign) is an extremely general fundamental concept that reflects the most significant, regular connections and relationship between reality and cognition" [2;840]. One of the main terms of Kantian philosophy are categories. Kant identified four categories and denoted them by categories of reason: categories of modality, relations, quality and quantity. It should be noted that, in cognitive linguistics many of the listed categories are classified as concepts. As noted by I.Kant, in his Critique of Pure Reason: "We cannot think either one subject, except with the help of categories; we can't know either one conceivable object except by

means of intuitions corresponding to the categories. In his interpretation, he identified three significant points:

1. Categories connects with judgments, with logical functions;
2. Kant interprets categories as carrying concepts, with the help of which subjectively associative connection of concepts is transformed into generally valid;
3. Categories are equated to scientists with the right features commonality of concepts in consciousness. It turns out that not a single perception, which is not subject to the categorical norm of connection of concepts, cannot be presented by us [3;212].

Language categories are important components of relationships in system of linguistic and extralinguistic linguistic education, therefore, they should be tested as cognitive-discursive formations. The language category takes place in the presence of identified signs conceptual structures and forms of their functions, having found for this meaning specific means of representation. Purposes of language categories are to highlight the appearance of its special manifestations, report the type and play a role not only in the systematization of information, but also in the presence of the messages and detection. The language categories are certain conceptual organizations, in other words, the type or form of knowledge of the surrounding reality. They are in close interaction with thought processes, that is, all knowledge about world are arranged in our head in the form of categories.

In conclusion, linguistics is an interdisciplinary science that is closely interconnected with other sciences such as philosophy, psychology, cultural studies, and physics. In recent times, linguistics has undergone significant changes, moving from a systemic and structured approach to anthropocentricity, discursiveness, integrativity, and communicativeness. The interest in linguistic phenomena and their categorization has given rise to new scientific disciplines such as linguoconceptology, sociolinguistics, cultural linguistics, and psycholinguistics. The concept of "category" is an essential part of linguistics, and its definition and classification have been studied by various philosophers and scientists throughout history. Categories can be classified based on various methods such as classical, family community, prototypical, cognitive, oppositional, and logical. Overall, linguistics continues to strive for unification with other sciences that study people and their language, and the study of categories in language remains as a crucial area of interest for researchers.

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