

MODERN LEXICOLOGY AND ITS MAIN BRANCHES

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Summary

The field of linguistics, the scientific study of human natural language, is a growing and exciting area of study, with an important impact on fields as diverse as education, anthropology, sociology, language teaching, cognitive psychology, philosophy, computer science, neuroscience, and artificial intelligence, among others. Indeed, the last five fields cited, along with linguistics, are the key components of the field of cognitive science, the study of the structure and functioning of human cognitive processes.

In spite of the importance of the field of linguistics, many people, even highly educated people, will tell you that they have only a vague idea of what the field is about. Some believe that a linguist is a person who speaks several languages fluently. What is linguistics, then? Fundamentally, the field is concerned with the nature of language and (linguistic) communication. It is apparent that people have been fascinated with language and communication for thousands of years, yet in many ways we are only beginning to understand the complex nature of this aspect of human life.

Key words: general lexicology, special lexicology, semantics, semasiology, word-formation, idiom, morpheme.

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1. Introduction

The study of all the other components of the language system that words are a part of cannot be separated from the consideration of words in lexicology. Always keep in mind that all of these components are interrelated and have clear relationships with one another in the actual communication process.

There are several branches of lexicology. The general study of words and vocabulary, irrespective of the specific features of any particular language, is known as general lexicology. Linguistic phenomena and properties common to all languages are referred to as language universals. Special lexicology focuses on the description of the peculiarities in the vocabulary of a given language. A branch of study called contrastive lexicology provides a theoretical foundation on which the vocabularies of different languages can be compared and described, the correlation between the vocabularies of two or more languages being the scientific priority. Vocabulary studies include such aspects of research as etymology, semasiology and onomasiology.

The evolution of a vocabulary forms the object of historical lexicology or etymology (from Gr. *etymon* "true, real"), discussing the origin of various words, their change and development, examining the linguistic and extra-linguistic forces that modify their structure, meaning and usage.

The term "word" denotes the main lexical unit of a language resulting from the association of a group of sounds with a meaning. This unit is used in general functions characteristic

of it. It is the smallest unit of a language, which can stand alone as a complete utterance (*Hajiyeva, 2011*).

Lexicology has its own goals and techniques for doing scientific research. Lexicology is concerned with words, variable word-groups, phraseological units, and with morphemes which make up words.

2. Main part

Lexicology is closely connected with other branches of linguistics: lexicography, the history of the language, phonetics, stylistics, grammar, linguo-stylistics, semantics and such new branches of science as sociolinguistics, paralinguistics, pragmalinguistics and others. The treatment of words in lexicology cannot be divorced from the study of all the other elements in the language system to which words belong. It should be always borne in mind that in reality, in the actual process of communication, all these elements are interdependent and stand in definite relations to one another. We separate them for convenience of study, and yet to separate them for analysis is pointless, unless we are afterwards able to put them back together to achieve a synthesis and see their interdependence and development in the language system as a whole.

Lexicography (from Latin *lexikos* – dictionary and *grapha* means writing) is a branch of linguistics that deals with the compilation and study of dictionaries.

In our language, the term lexicography is often used instead of lexicology.

The main goal and task of lexicography is to collect and systematize the words included in the vocabulary of any language, as well as their phraseological units, to explain their derivation, affiliation, and meaning.

In order to master language culture, a rich language, to use words honestly and correctly in speech, it is necessary to master words and vocabulary, which are the building material and basis of the means of communication, which play a major role in the development of science and technology at the cultural level of the people. Lexicography emerged as a result of such a need.

A person with a poor vocabulary cannot clearly express his opinion either orally or in writing, his sentences are dry and unsystematic. As a result, this can hinder the formation of communication between people, their understanding of each other, the activity of thinking, and the normal development of consciousness (*Jafarov, 2007*).

Phonetics for example, investigates the phonetic structure and is concerned with the study of the out or sound-form of the word: pit – pot; tip-tap-top: If we remember that a word is an association of a given meaning, so that top is one word, tip is another. Phonemes have no meaning of their own, but they serve to distinguish between meanings. Their function is building up morphemes and it is on the level of morphemes that the form-meaning unity is introduced into language. Therefore we may say that phonemes participate in signification: [pit] – [tip]: hop (jump) – hoop (loud cry) – heap (number of things) – hip (part of the body), etc (*Hajiyeva, 2011*).

Onomasiology is the study of the principles and regularities of the signification of things or notions by lexical and lexico-phraseological means of a given language. It has its special value in studying dialects, bearing an obvious relevance to synonymity.

Descriptive lexicology deals with the vocabulary of a language at a given stage of its evolution. It studies the functions of words and their specific structure as a characteristic inherent in the system. In the English language the above science is oriented towards the English word and its morphological and semantic structures, researching the interdependence between

these two aspects. These structures are identified and distinguished by contrasting the nature and arrangement of their elements.

Stress also plays an important role in the discrimination between the words. The word “import” is recognized as a noun and distinguished from the verb “import” due to the position of stress.

The importance of the connection between lexicology and phonetics stands explained if we remember that a word is an association of a given group of sounds with a given meaning, so that top is one word, and tip is another. Phonemes have no meaning of their own but they serve to distinguish between meanings. Their function is building up morphemes, and it is on the level of morphemes that the form-meaning unity is introduced into language. We may say therefore that phonemes participate in signification.

The difference and interconnection between *grammar* and lexicology is one of the important controversial issues in linguistics and as it is basic to the problems under discussion in this book, it is necessary to dwell upon it a little more than has been done for phonetics and stylistics.

Lexicology is connected with grammar because the word seldom occurs in isolation. Words alone do not form communication. It is only when words are connected and joined by the grammar rules of a language communication becomes possible. The connection between lexicology and grammar is seen in the following.

- a) Each word belongs to some part of speech and has characteristics typical of it.
- b) The grammatical form and function of a word may determine its lexical meaning

Words are divided into notional words and form words. The morpheme is the central unit of morphology, a branch of grammar, and also a unit of which words are built, thus studied also in lexicology (*Pereyma, 2020*).

Another discipline on which lexicology borders in the discussion of certain issues is *linguo-stylistics*. Here the main focus is on the choice of lexical means. And although Lexicology is concerned with the causes and development of new connotations in the semantic structure of the word, while in stylistic research the emphasis is on the functioning of such expressive, emotional and evaluative elements in spoken or written contexts, it is obvious that the knowledge of these phenomena cannot be segmented into purely lexicological or stylistic.

The main research object of lexicology is the word. It determines the meaning of the word (literal and figurative), learns its stylistic relevance (neutral), its origin (Turkish and borrowed), and chooses the appropriate synonym and antonym of the word. The lexical composition of the Azerbaijani language can be studied synchronously (at the same time) and diachronically (at different times), but it is preferable to study the vocabulary of the Azerbaijani language synchronously. Of course, this does not mean that the vocabulary is composed: it is not important to study it in a diachronic plan. The sequential development of the historical and current state of individual language phenomena is the subject of linguistic study. At certain stages of historical development, the state of the language – lexical, grammatical, phonetic elements – is investigated as a whole system. The volume and diversity of the units in the dictionary, its openness, the special complexity of the internal dynamism, the specific conditioning of the units-words give a well-known reason for the legitimate doubts of the systematic explanation.

The main task of the lexicology of the modern Azerbaijani literary language includes the study of the stylistic differentiation of the dictionary, the relationship of the internal units of separate thematic and lexical-semantic groups of words. In addition, lexicology includes a number of semasiological problems, the problem of meaning, the meanings of words, their expressive possibilities, or other objects and phenomena of non-linguistic reality (*Hasanov, 2005*).

The study of words and vocabulary in general that focuses on their most typical or universal features (so-called “language universals”) while ignoring the specific features of any individual language is known as general lexicology. Special lexicology, on the other hand, is concerned with specific aspects of a language's vocabulary (English, Russian, German, etc.). In the current course, which is a lexicology course, we will study contemporary English vocabulary both synchronously and diachronically. Semantics (semasiology) is the study of word development, etymology, and stylistics. It is closely related to lexicology.

In semantics, the content plan of lexical units is studied – the semantic structure and related issues; in onomasiology, the principles of naming objects or concepts are studied; etymology determines the origin of words; In lexicology, the lexical richness of language is studied as a system, since this wealth is not a simple, mechanical sum of words and phrases, but lexical units that are related to each other, the existence of one requires the existence of the other and the system. elements in which the word and the elements as a whole are in relation to the “tissues” and “cells” of the “organism”: the connection between the expressive and semantic sides of words, lexical meaning and its semantics. this is evidenced by the paradigmatic and syntagmatic features of the meanings of words.

Lexicology does not study each word in isolation, but in conjunction with other words. Lexicology is closely related to such branches of linguistics as lexicography, phraseology, semantics or semantics, etymology, stylistics, the study of word formation, etc. The word's status as a separate language unit is one of the major issues with lexicology. Lexicology also studies the relationships of words, such as synonymy, antonymy, free or interdependence of word meanings.

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, lexicology develops the laws of practical use and development of vocabulary, the principles of methodological classification of words. The norms of use in the colloquial and literary languages, professionalism, dialectics, archaism, neologisms, standardization of lexical phrases are also analyzed and certain conclusions are drawn from them. It is that area of linguistics that is connected to every facet of learning and mastering the English language. Even though English has a large vocabulary, its significance is predicated on the fact that it is still in use today. The most widely spoken language on earth is it. It is that area of linguistics that is connected to every facet of learning and mastering the English language. Even though English has a large vocabulary, its significance is predicated on the fact that it is still in use today. The most widely spoken language on earth is it.

General lexicology is the study of words and vocabulary in general that focuses on their most typical or universal features (so-called “language universals”) while ignoring the specific features of any individual language. Special lexicology, on the other hand, is concerned with specific aspects of a given language's vocabulary (English, Russian, German, etc.). In this lexicology course, we will study contemporary English vocabulary both synchronously and diachronically. With regard to special lexicology the synchronic approach is concerned with the vocabulary of a language as it exists at a certain time (e.g., a course in Modern English Lexicology). The diachronic approach in terms of special lexicology deals with the changes and the development of the vocabulary in the course of time. It is special historical lexicology that deals with the evolution of vocabulary units as time goes by. Semantics (semasiology) is the study of word development, etymology, and stylistics, and it is closely related to lexicology.

The two fields of morphology and lexicology are inextricably related. The terms are taught in both cases. Their learning of the word's various facets varies. The study of a word's meaning is called lexicology, while the study of its grammatical meaning and the ways by which it is conveyed is called morphology.

A specific grammatical form is used to express each grammatical meaning. It is possible to express grammatical semantics through grammatical forms.

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