Features Of Household Lexics, Their Characteristics And Structural Analysis In The Modern English Language

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Abstract

The present paper aims to analyze the most inherent features and characteristics of household lexis in English. Special emphasis has been placed on their names of the objects used in everyday life, kitchen utensils, animal and birds. Lexical units concerning ceremonies, habits and traditions are also among the scope of the paper. Moreover, the study deals with the structural features of the units under consideration. It is believed that the thematic-semantic characterization of every-day lexis can have both pedagogical and linguistic implications, especially when dealing with comparative structures.

Keywords: household lexis, structural features, semantic characteristics

When we say lexics of every-day life we mean total amount of words used to name realies having enterd the domestic life of the people. "This lexics is a part of the main lexical word stock. Lexics of every-day life reflects the life, customs and traditions, psychology of the people in a concrete social stage" (6,1).

In the system of lexics of the English language every-day lexics occupies a special place. Social differentiation of nation-wide language is one the inevitable results of the development of the language. "A language, language of a certain people never obligatorily becomes unique, alone, because alongside the factors causing the formulation of a language separately, other factors causing to make them be used in different constructions, operate as well. Moreover this is associated with the existence of different norms in a language. Variety of language norms depend not only on temporal factors, but also they depend on the local and social differentiation; the influence of same factors shows itself in the creation of the both, in the formulation of the norms of mono language, national (local, territorial) dialects, and in the creation of social variants of the language (they are sometimes also called social dialects) (1) Investigation of every-day lexics appearing in connection with the social differentiation of nation-wide language draws attention with its actuality. Social differentiation of a language does not touch upon its grammar structure. It takes place on the basis of sematics, stylistics and phraseology. Therefore it's possible to accept them as one of the social variants. Every-day lexics is enriched on the basis of relaies taking place in the life long history of the lives of the people. Namely creation of every-day lexics is not only associated with the social factors, but also with historic factors, every-day lexics also reflects historiclives of people through which they have like along. The householdof the people not being monotonous either in the everyday lexics there are words which are understood by all too. "Thus formulation of everyday lexics in the language can be accepted as the result of social differentiation, in order to serve the interests of separately taken group of people in the society, to meet their demand" (2,398). Every-day lexics is different from active lexics, because while the nuclear lexics serves the communication process of different strata of the society, every-day lexics serves concrete layer of the society. A. Radjabar mentions that, "social-professional differentiation being considered in the socio-linguistic plan, greatly differs from social-class, social-territorial, social-ideological differentiation of the language. Thus social-professional differentiation of a language develops more intensively. Its new social-professional variant emerges in accordance with differentiation of science and technique (3,370-371).

The bearers of social-professional variant of a language, as a rule people use "meta language"as a means of communication among themselves or in literature and alongside "meta language" they widely use general spoken language and literary language. Thus among them appears self belongingdiglossia(5,10-11).

The thematic-semantic characterization of every-day lexics and their investigation on this background is of special importance. The every-day lexics of the English language can be characterized in this way:

1. **Names of wear**

   Naming of wear is different "General names of wear", "Names of self-belonging wear", "Names of head cover", "Names of foot wear", "Names of other elements of wear". "General names of wear" in English language are given as apparel, attire, clothes, clothing, costume, garment. "Names of self-belonging wear" are: *shirt, dress, skirt, trousers\pants, gown, blouse, jacket, frock, tuxedo, coat, suit, apron*. But besides them, meet other names of wear such as *sweater, cagoule, cardigan, pantaloons, leggings, croptop, outfit, trousers, suit, T-shirt, jeans, leotard, carduroys*. These names of wear are included into the names of Self-belonging wear. The "Names of head-cover wear" generally are given as *headdress, headwear, headpiece*. Especially under these names we can indicate:*cap, hat, beret, beanie, beater, panama, trilby helmet*. "Foot

wear names" such as *shoe* (general name) *trainer (sneaker), moccasin, sandal, stiletto, flip-flop, clog, court shoe, loafer, lace up(oxford), boot, galoshes, slipper* are regarded as self-belonging names. "The names of other elements in wear" includes names of objects to fill up the ensemble in wear. Here belongs *apron, tie,bow tie, neck tie, gloves, scarf, mitten, belt, sock, stocking, tights, earmuff*.

2. **Names of eaten utensils (kitchen-cookery names)**
   Names of eating includes "Names of general eating", "Self-belonging names of eating", "Special names of eating" and "Names of drinking" which are divided altogether into 4 groups. "Names of general eating" are given as *meal, food and dishes'*. "Names of self-belonging eating" are marked with the words such as *breakfast, lunch, dinner, (supper), appetizer*. Most of the drinks in England are *tea (çay), coffee (kofe), beer (pivə), wine (çaxır)*.

3. **Names of objects of every-day life**
   Kitchen utensils includes *spoon (tea-spoon, table-spoon), fork, knife, cutlery, cup)egg-cup), mug, glass, goblet, plate, platter, dish, crockery, bowl (salad bowl), saucer, mug, pan,frying pan, fryer, casserole, pressure cooker, steamer, wok, fish knife, bread knife, cheese knife, fish slice, potato masher, pot, ladle, rolling pin, wooden spoon, whisk, colander, sieve, juicer, tin-opener, grater, corkscrew, opener, peeler, kettle, tea-pot, tea-towel, salad seers, chopsticks, napkin.*Names of furniture and names of house-hold technique include *cupboard, chair, drawer, table, oven,microwave oven, cooker, blender, grill, barbecue,draining board, freezer, fridge,fridge-freezer,cooler,sink,tap,dish washer,blender,toaster,appliance, food processor, coffee machine, kettle, bread bin,waste bin, cake tin, cake pan), hammer, nail,maller, chisel, file, nut, bolt, screwdriver, adjustable spanner (monkey wrench), spanner (wrench), handsaw, drill, plane, wrench (pliers), saw.*

4. **The names of folk medicine and names of remedial plants**
   These names are: *basilica, betony, borage, blueberry, brier, bur, calendula, chamomile, cane, can-dock, caraway,celery,coltsfoot, coriander,cranberry, cowberry,comfrey, daffodil, daisy,dandelion, dill, dead man's finger,elecampane,fumitory, ginseng,goat's rue,golden rod,hawthorn,hyssop,lavender,licorice,lime,lungwort,mallow,melilot,milfoil,mint,mistletoe,melissa,nettle,origa num,parsley,plantain,primrose,raspberry,rose,sage,sea-buckthorn shamrock,sedge,silverweed,soapwort,sorrel,sulfurwort,thyme,thistle,valerian,veronica.*

5. **The names of domestic birds and animals:**
   Domestic animals*: cat, donkey (ass), cow, goat, horse, lama, mule, ox,pig, sheep, calf*. We can say that domestic animals are also a part of household. Home birds include *chicken, hen, duck, goose, cock, turkey*.

6. **Ceremony realies:**
   a)   Wedding ceremony names:
      These names are:*wedding, wedding band, wedding breakfast, wedding gown, wedding ceremony, wedding ring, wedding reception, ceremony rehearsal, bride, bridegroom, bridemaid, groom, best man, horseshoe, banns, honeymoon, couple, engagement, marriage, priest, gold, registry office, witness, trousseau*.

   b) Words associated with mourning ceremony. In English words denoting mourning   ceremony can be dealt with in the first place: *mourning, death, funeral, grave, death bed, soul, coffin, grave yard, bier, corpse, dead, gravestone, cemetery, sorrow, grief, condolence, sadness*.

7. **The names of customs and habits**
   a)   Names of sporting games: These are: *backgammon, chequers, billiards, skittles, domino, cribbage, quoits, darts, chess, football, cricket, croquet, tennis, rounder, baseball, badminton*

   d) Names referring to dance:

   In any region of Britain there exists its own music anddances. For example: In the North of Ireland before only ril dance was danced, but in the south only jig (slides) dance was danced. The earliest forms of Scottish dances were *ring* and *chain*dances.

The most of the words establishing every-day lexics possess characteristic features. Every-day lexics in English, especially, the names of eating and wear are the most ancient layers of the language and for hundred years beginning with the formulation of the English people up to the present time have developed and enriched. This layer of the English vocabulary have been established mainly on the bases of Anglo-Saxons, also Celts (wales), scablands, and Icelanders every-day lexics.

A part of lexical units containing every-day lexics consists of dialects. The formulation of every-day lexics being the product of historicaldevelopment in stages we may meet archaisms used even in the present time. Every-day lexics as mainly reflects the names of realies of substantial culture, they mainly consist of names and these words as terms, express concrete objects and phenomena, names of labor and other processes. As they possess concrete meanings, they differ from the words having abstract meanings; in the words of every-day lexics, we may say there is no

polysemanticism. These words uniting in lexic-semantic groups (LSG) can be point of exit in the formulation of mental lexicon (4,12).

As the words entering every-day lexics express the names of realies, they are the units which undergo the least changes and only together with the names of realies they manifest themselves in the language and together with realies they can lose their use.

There are both similar and different features between terminologicallexics and every-day lexics. These similarities are as follows:

    a) both units of every-day lexics and terminological units are words:
    b) both units of every-day lexics, and terms bear normative functions – they name phenomena, things and notions;
    c) both types of words are of historic category;
    d) both types of verbs have restricted environment of usage;

The differentiations between terms and every-day lexics are as follows;

    a) Terms belong to high level style, but every-day lexics belong to neutral style;
    b) Every-day lexicsae more ancient.
    c) Terminological lexics has dynamics whereas, every-day lexics is conservative;
    d) To standardize terms are possible, but every-day lexics isn't standardized
    e) Every-day lexics bears local character but terms are the phenomena of literary language and are obligatorily used in the literary language.

There are also similarities and differences between the local dialect and every-day lexics. Similar features are: both of the lexic groups are used in the restricted environment. Distinctive features: dialect lexics from the geographical view point is used in restricted environment, but in the every-day lexics there is not such a restriction, instead from the social view – point it is used in the restricted environment. Between these two lexical categories the difference lies in the fact that in the local dialect all the words included in to the group of main and secondary parts of speech are used whereas professional lexics include only names. Among them one more difference shows itself in the fact that in the local dialects emotionality exists, but in every-day lexics this feature is lacking.

Between everyday lexics and lexic of the uneducated there are similar and different features too. Among them the biggest difference is in the fact that every-day lexics from the stylistic view point is neutral but lexics of the uneducated possessed lower stylistic colouring.

Everyday lexics of the English language is may be divided into three groups: 1)everyday lexics of simple words; 2)everyday lexics with words of simple structure and 3)everyday lexics with wordsof composite structure.

A great number of everyday lexics contain the words with simple structure, i.e. from the view-point of modern language they consist of only roots. Before analyzing these words we must say that there exists such an opinion that the root words historically consist of three phonemes- sound complex – a consonant+vowel+consonant. There is also an opinion that the root words consist of two phonemes (vowel + consonant).

1.1 Features of every-day lexics with simple structure.

In the every-day lexics of the English language we have not come across words with one phoneme.

1.2. Structural Features of every-day lexics with one syllable.

In the every-day lexics in English the following types of monosyllabic words exist:

    a) CVV construction "tie", "cow"
    b) words of CVC structure cap, hat, mug, pan, wok, pot, saw, cup, gin, rum, tap, dog, nut, cat, pig, hen
    c) words of VCVC structure: oven
    d) words of CVVC structure: coat, suit, nail, goat, beer, dead, boot, soul
    e) words of CCVC structure clog
    f) words of CVCCC structure pants
    g) words of CVCC dress, skirt, chess, scarf, grill
    h) words of CVCCV structure ladle, horse
    i) words of CVVCV structure sieve, goose
    j) words of CCVVCC structure priest
    k) words of CCVCVC structure of gloves
    l) words of CVCCCV kettle, fridge

1.3. Structural features of two-syllabic every-day lexics

English every-day lexics has the following features in 2 syllabic words.

    a) words of CVVC structure soda,
    b) words of CVCVC structure apron
    c) words of CVCVC structure sandal, jacket, mallet, helmet
    d) words of CCVCCV structure whisky, goblet, trilby, brandy

1.4   Structural features of every day lexics with three syllables

There exists the following types of everyday lexics with 3 syllables in the English language:

a) words of CVCVCV structure, panama, domino
b) words of CVCVCVC structure funeral
c) words of VCCVCVC structure apparel

1.5   Structural features of every-day lexics with three syllables.

In the English language among the words of every-day lexics we have come across only one word. Word of CVCCVCVCV structure casserole

2.   Words of every-day lexics with derivational structure.

In the English language lexical units having derivational structure in the every-day lexics occupy one of the main places. These words as to their ways of establishment we may say that don't differ from the other words not belonging to the everyday lexics. But it's necessary to mention that all the word-forming suffers belonging to the English language, not all always take active part in the word-building process of the words of everyday lexics.

Lexical units of derivational structurein every-day English are formed by means of adding the followingaffixes to the roots of the morphemes:

1) Word forming suffixes established by morphological means are divided into two groups:
a) Suffixes forming names from names
b) Suffixes forming names from verbs

a) Suffix "er" forms names from names juice-juicer, boat-boater and in the word sweater. The root is sweat and -er is a word forming suffix
b) Suffixes forming names from names also forms names from verbs. From these words also forms names from verbs. From these words also are formed lexical units. For example: slipper-slip+er, opener-open+er, puler – pul+er, trainer-train+er, freezer – freeze+er, blender – blend+er, toaster – toast+er, cool+er etc.

Here if we regard the words engagement and marriage, we shall see that thee words have also been formed by means of word forming suffixes. Engage+ment-ment here is a word forming suffix and in the word marriage maryy+age – age is also a word – forming suffix, also in the word appliance-apply is the root and ance is a suffix by means of which a new name has been formed from a verb.

As to the carried out investigations it became clear to us that the suffix "er" is the most frequently used suffix a mong the suffixes forming names by morphological means. This suffix forms names from both the names and the verbs.

3. Compound words of everyday lexics in English are also used. Usually between the components of such words there is the component of such words the correlation of in subordination among thecompound words some are written with dash or without it. Compound words written without a dash: cockscrew, cupboard, sundress, overcoat, horseshoe, bridegroom, bride maid, screwdriver etc.

Now we would like to analyze the separately taken words as to their structure are two words. In the word cockscrew there are two words.

Cork+screw

Cupboard-cup+board

Sundress-sun+dress

Overcoat-over+coat

Horseshoe-horse+shoe

Bridegroom-bride+groom

Words written with dash: tea-spoon, table-spoon, tin-opener, egg-cup, tea-pot, tea-towel, fridge-freezer etc.

Words of composite structure of every-day lexics include word combinatios as well. Such word combinations are cocktail dress-cock+tail+dress, smoking, jacket-smoke+ing+jacket, wooden spoon-wood+en+spoon, frying pan-fry+ing+pan; microwave-micro+wave+oven;fishknife-fish+knife:coffee machine coffee_machine; wedding ceremony-wedding+ceremony;cakepan-cake+pan.

Conclusion

Thus, as can be seen, household lexis used in various domains, have their own semantics features and structural patterns. In other words, each of the thematic-semantic categories possesses features that distinguish it from others. The same seems to be true for cases when ceremonies and traditions are dealt with. On the other hand, structural feature analysis enabled to reveal the clusters that are typical of English. In some cases, comparisons have been carried out between two languages that are typologically and genealogically different: English and Azerbaijani. It can be implied that the findings of the analysis of semantic feature analysis of household lexis and their structural characteristics can be used by both syllabus designers and teacher-practitioners.

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