

УДК [811.111'37:811.581'37]:903.2

Елена Игоревна Будникова, к. филол. наук
Минский государственный лингвистический
университет, Минск, Беларусь
э-почта: geronimo1981@mail.ru

Alyona Igorevna Budnikova, Cand. of Sc.
(Philology)
Minsk State Linguistic University, Minsk,
Belarus
e-mail: geronimo1981@mail.ru

Юй Чень, аспирант
Минский государственный лингвистический
университет, Минск, Беларусь
э-почта: crcdd51@outlook.com

Yu Chen, PhD Student
Minsk State Linguistic University, Minsk,
Belarus
e-mail: crcdd51@outlook.com

ТИПЫ ФУНКЦИОНАЛЬНЫХ КОМПОНЕНТОВ СЕМАНТИКИ НАИМЕНОВАНИЙ АРТЕФАКТОВ (сопоставительный аспект)

В статье выявляются и сопоставляются типы телических признаков в структуре значений наименований артефактов, профилируемых в процессах деривации, на примере наименований артефакта *нож* в английском и китайском языках.

Ключевые слова: телические признаки; структура лексического значения; деривация; метонимия; метафора.

FUNCTIONAL SEMANTIC FEATURES IN ARTIFACT TERMS (a comparative study)

The article reveals the results of the study on types of telic semantic features in artifact terms profiled in derivation and collocations on the example of an English artifact term *knife* and its Chinese equivalent 刀 (dao).

Key words: telic features; lexical meaning structure; derivation; metonymy; metaphor.

According to The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (URL: <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2022/entries/artifact>), artifacts are objects made intentionally, in order to accomplish some purpose (e. g. a hammer, a pen, scissors, a bus, etc.), which are commonly contrasted with naturally occurring objects (e.g. a dolphin, a chamomile, grass, rain, etc.). Given the leading role of human intention in creating artifacts, it is obvious that when it comes to artifact terms (words denoting artifacts), the telic, or functional, semantic components constitute their semantic core. Cf. *knife* «a tool, usually with a metal blade and a handle, used for cutting and spreading food or other substances, or as a weapon» (Cambridge Dictionary); *bus* «a large motor vehicle designed to carry passengers usually along a fixed route according to a schedule» (Merriam-Webster

Dictionary). However, the pivotal role of telic components in the semantics of artifact terms can be illustrated not only by their extensive lexicographic fixation, but also by their potential to guide the derivational processes of a word.

The study based on English and Chinese artifact terms meaning ‘a sharp cutting tool or weapon with a handle’, i. e. *knife* / 刀 (*dao*), showed that although the meanings of the derived units of these words quite often rely on the function performed by the artifact, the telic features profiled are not uniform. The sources of the material are as follows: 1) WordNet (URL: <https://wordnet.princeton.edu>), 2) BNC (URL: <https://www.english-corpora.org>), 3) 汉语大词典 (URL: <https://www.hanyudacidian.cn>), 4) 汉典 (URL: <https://www.zdic.net>).

For instance, in examples (1) – (4) we observe the profiling of primary function of a knife as a tool (to cut, mark, spread) and a weapon (to hurt, injure) due to the metonymic shift from the idea of a knife to the idea of the action performed by it / the intended result of the action / the doer of the action etc.:

- (1) *knife* ‘to cut, mark, or spread **with a knife**’;
- (2) *knife* ‘to injure (someone) **with a knife**’;
- (3) 刀 ‘to cut or harm **with a knife**’ 用刀切割或伤害;
- (4) *knife crime*; *knife murder*; *knife attack*; *knife maniac*.

The same refers to metaphoric derivatives (5) – (7) based on the shift from the concept of an artefact to the similar functional characteristics found in other objects or people:

- (5) *knifelike* ‘cutting or able to cut **as if with a knife**’;
- (6) 剪 ‘a cutting tool **similar to a knife**’ 类似刀的切割工具;
- (7) *knifelike* ‘painful **as if caused by a sharp instrument**’.

Quite on the contrary, the derivatives (8) – (10) are formed as metaphoric extensions on the basis of features additional to the main function. They refer to the manner of performing the main function by a knife (easily, finely, roughly) viewed as similar to other actions (moving, thinking, behaving):

- (8) *knife* ‘to move **easily and quickly** like a knife cutting through something’;
- (9) *knifelike* ‘having or demonstrating ability to recognize or draw **fine** distinctions’;
- (10) 二把刀 ‘a person with **unrefined** skills; literal: two knives’ 技艺不精之人.

In example (11) the basis for the metaphoric meaning of the derivative is the result of the function, but unlike in example (3) profiling the intended result (cutting, hurting), in (11) the result is not so obvious (cutting open):

- (11) 分 ‘to cut open, **separate**’ 切开, 分开; 初 ‘start, beginning’ 开始, 起始.

In example (12), due to the metaphorical mapping, the idea of a knife is paired with the idea of a threat, which may be viewed as additional evaluative feature (consequence) to the main function:

- (12) 笑里藏刀 ‘beneath a calm exterior lies a hidden **threat**; literal: hidden knife in a smile’.

In other words, derivatives and expressions (8) – (12) are based on features accompanying the primary function of the artifact, sometimes contrasting in English and Chinese: cf. (9) vs. (10).

Moreover, the occurrence of collocations like *knife throwing* in the English corpus suggests another type of telic features in artifact terms – the **secondary** ones, i. e. not specified in their semantics by default (cf. the results obtained in [1, p. 46–47] for natural kind terms).

The study is to be continued on a wider scope of lexical data, but the results obtained so far demonstrate that telic semantic features in artifact terms are versatile, culture specific and reveal various possible components of scenarios of artifact use.

ЛИТЕРАТУРА

1. Тур В. В. Актуализация латентных признаков в семантике компонентов сочетаний «существительное + существительное» в современном английском языке: дис. ... канд. филол. наук. Минск, 2015. 147 с.