

**RADIAL, CHAIN AND MIXED POLYSEMY  
IN POLYSEMANTIC WORDS IN ENGLISH**

В статье освещена проблема появления у слов в процессе развития лексической системы новых значений, описаны механизмы образования многозначности. Исследовано формирование радиальной и цепочечной полисемии, когда в первом случае вторичные значения вытекают из главного и непосредственно связаны с ним, а во втором – каждое новое значение напрямую связано с предшествующим. Тот факт, когда в одном и том же слове отмечены как радиальная, так и цепочечная полисемия, служит признаком смешанной полисемии, являющейся более продуктивной формой в английском языке. Примеры трех типов полисемии сопровождаются схемами, которые иллюстрируют особенности образования новых значений и связи между ними.

The deeper system which exhibits itself in the change of words actively in the system of language is considered the lexis field. In due courses, borrowings enter the lexis system, on the account of word forming possibilities of the language, new words appear in the language. Word forming and borrowing of new words always cause the enrichment of the word stock of a language. There are some other lexical units which don't enrich the word-stock of a language. These units are the words which exist in the language and in some of them a number of semantic changes take place as a result of change of meanings. Semantic change realizes the meanings of the word, different from the former meaning.

Semantic derivation forms the phenomenon of polysemy. The lexis unit of the language, having gained a new meaning either changes into a polysemantic unit, or as a polysemantic unit, it itself expands the circle of meaning.

In this respect facts on the features of expansion of the circle of meanings in the monosemantic and polysemantic words in the process of investigation, and on the specification of their quantitative characteristics are considered. There are languages which possess tendency to polysemy, while some others do not. For the analytic structure of the English language the phenomenon of polysemy is characteristic. In this language the language phenomenon of conversion or the possibility of transition of a word from one part of speech into another one is to a certain degree wider. This problem has been drawn to investigation by O. S. Akhmanova, V. G. Gak and others [1, c. 214–215; 2, c. 126].

In the English language along with an ordinary lexis polysemy, polysemy resulted by the formation on the influence of derivative units of other parts of speech have also widely spread. Discovery of the signs causing the development of the meaning, the features of impact of the process of transition into the other parts of speech, on the semantic word formation, now have turned to the problems which still more attract the attention of the investigators.

The polysemy phenomenon is investigated by the methods of seme, componential and comparative analyses. The direct denotative meaning of a word (semema) may possess, derivative nominative meaning, motivated connotative meaning including connotative meanings which lose the motivation or become motivated. Being so, specification of the development lines of the changes of meanings is of special importance.

The causes that polysemy and the phenomenon of polysemy take place are different. At the same time, which words acquire polysemy in the language depends on different factors.

It has not been determined yet in which of the parts of speech the circle of polysemantic words has still wider spread. The feature which is obviously seen is that the great number of articles or objects existing in reality causes for the formation of stills more polysemantic words. All these issues are of great importance for the both practical and theoretical investigation of polysemy.

In the development of lexis meaning, metaphorization is of great importance. We think that the transition of quality and signs onto different objects creates great possibilities. Time and place relations are also inclined to metaphorization. All these features show that development of lexis meanings towards polysemy should be studied from different directions.

One of the major factors in the relations among the meanings of a polysemantic word is semantic coordination. It is necessary to pay attention to the problem, while separating the initial and derivative meanings of the words. If a word possesses two meanings and if their initial, or the first meaning, including the derivative meaning or the second meaning are known to us, then the semantic coordination among the meanings, including the polysemantic development become clear.

If we take the consistency of the vocabulary meanings of the word *Booze* as a basis, the initial meaning will be ‘içgi’ (drinking). Narrowing in the semantics of the word has taken place (generally drinking) and a transition from gender to type (alcoholic drinking) has occurred. At present it bears the meaning of ‘alcoholic drinking’. And we mark this meaning with  $A_1$ .

From the word *Booze* the derivative meaning of ‘A party with alcoholic drinking’ has derived from the word. The main coordinative seme is in its initial meaning and has taken place in the meaning of the word *drinking*. The derivative meaning has been derived from the main meaning. If we mark the meaning of ‘a party with alcoholic drinking’ with  $A_2$ , we may show the scheme of semantic development of the polysemantic word as follows.



**Booze** n 1) a drunken; 2) beer pub, Out of these two meanings, the meaning of ‘drunkard’ is the initial meaning. The word which semantically is linked with a place, where alcoholic drinking takes place, later on gained a second meaning. Semantic relation has been set up on the meaning of drinking (alcoholic). If we include its changeable meaning and mark it with  $B_1$ , but the derivative meaning with  $B_2$  we can give the meaning development of polysemy as follows.



In the English dialect the word *brooze* is also used in the meaning of ‘a lead deposit’. At first sight it is impossible to see a semantic relationship between the word *booze* and this meaning. But there exists such a relation. The worker, working in the lead deposit have to breathe the air mixed with heavy components of the lead metal which results with headache or dizziness among the workers working in this deposit. Alcoholic drinking has also the similar influence or effect on those, who receive alcoholic drinking. Namely, semantic relation is explained by the case, which appears as a result of participation in the process at a certain place.

**Bakery** n 1) baker’s shop; 2) the profession of a baker [3, s. 143]. Relations between these meanings have been set up on the meaning of ‘bread’. The first meaning is an initial meaning and can be conditionally marked with (C<sub>1</sub>) but the second meaning with (C<sub>2</sub>) a derivative meaning.



The semantic analysis of the polysemantic words having two meanings show that on the basis of the initial meaning, a derivative meaning is formed.

The relationship between the initial and derivative meanings is built up on the leading seme of the main meaning and the main direction of the development of the meaning is directed from the main meaning towards the derivative meaning.

Now, let’s continue the analysis among the words, having three meanings.

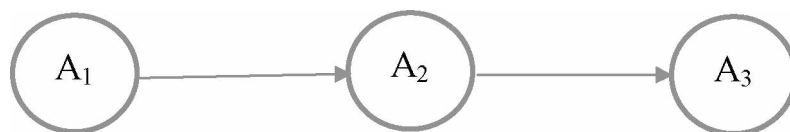
The word **babble** n 1) child’s babble; 2) nonsense, idle talk; 3) understandable speech, noise [Ibid, s. 135].

The first meaning has been taken from understandable speech of a child at the early days of saying something which is understandable. The second meaning, being different from the first one expresses the speech which is understandable, but though the speech is understandable it is considered as something unimportant. Just from this meaning the derivative meaning ‘nonsense’, ‘absurd’, ‘idle talk’ has been formed. The third meaning expresses both the understandable state of the speaker, and understandable noises mixed with one another. So, we may conditionally mark the first or the initial meaning with A<sub>1</sub>, the second meaning with A<sub>2</sub> and the third meaning with A<sub>3</sub>.

The fact that the second meaning derives from the first one is linked with the importance of the speech. Even if a child speaks in his/her native language, what he/she says is unknown, absurd. The meaning of nonsense from the view of importance possesses the similar meaning. Namely the speech of the addressee does not bear any importance for the listener.

The third meaning is explained by ‘understandable speech’ or ‘noise’. Between these two explanations, certainly there are both similarity and difference. The similarity of meanings lies in the fact that between the ‘understandable speech’ and ‘noise’ there is similarity. But talking “nonsense”, “absurd” is a

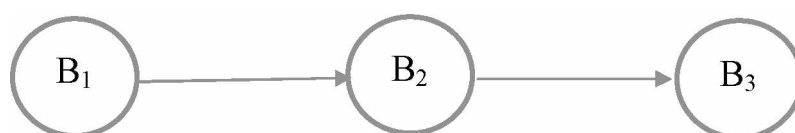
speech which is linked with the meaning of speech, which is not proper or correct. If we approach the semantic relation from this view point, it is possible to say that the third meaning has derived from the second meaning.



It is necessary to note in the bilateral or translation dictionaries in the explanation of the meaning there takes place a certain freedom of translation. Here mentioning of the possible meanings in the object language is taken as a basis. But in the explanatory dictionaries, the demand of exact revelation of the meanings of the words is leading. From this view point it is also possible to study or analyze to what degree the introduction of the meaning of the word as ‘noise’ is correct.

The word *bare* v means 1) to make naked; 2) to reveal; 3) to empty [3, s. 154]. The second meaning has derived from the first meaning. The action explains the revelation or discovery what is hidden. The meaning of ‘making bare’ is also such a process. The different feature lies in the fact that there is no notion of constituency of the meaning of ‘making bare’ till the end. In the meanings of ‘revelation’ it does not become clear to what degree revelation of the problem is meant.

The third meaning can be explained by one or by several meanings of the Azerbaijani word *boşaltmaq* (to empty). In all the cases the meaning of ‘açmaq’ (to open) is strong with semantic relations. If we mark the meaning of the word *bare* with B<sub>1</sub> and the second meaning with B<sub>2</sub> and the third meaning with B<sub>3</sub> then we may show the scheme of polysemantic word, possessing three meanings as follows.

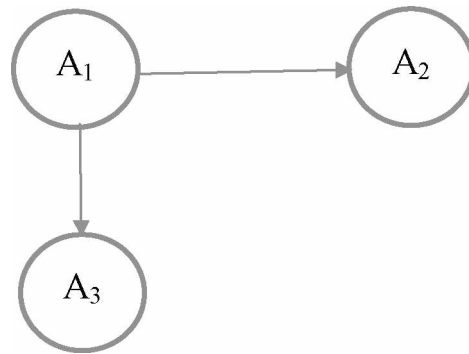


In the analyzed polysemantic words possessing three meanings from the initial meaning the first derivative meaning and from the first derivative meaning the second derivative meanings are formed. The derivation of meanings in this way is called chain polysemy.

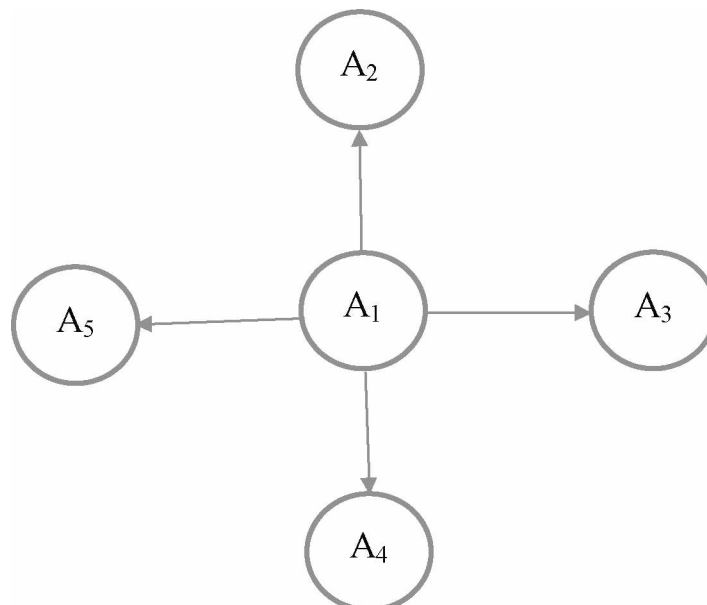
The chain polysemy is possible not only for the words possessing three meanings, but also for the words, possessing more than three meanings. The fact that derivative meanings systematically derive from one-another, is one of the types of polysemy.

**Barrack** 1) kazarma (barrak); 2) a hut; cabin 3) an attic [Ibid, p. 153]. In the semantics of this word-a location for dwelling is the main meaning. At the same time there are the semes of meanings linked with discomfort or smallness of the place to live. The second and the third meanings have possessed the relations with the first meaning. Semantic relation with the third meaning is farther, because if in the first and the second meanings the dwelling place has a basic meaning, in the

third meaning the meanings of keeping close, to hold, to protect show themselves as the semes. Despite the farness of the meaning, both derivatives have been formulated on the basis of the first meaning.



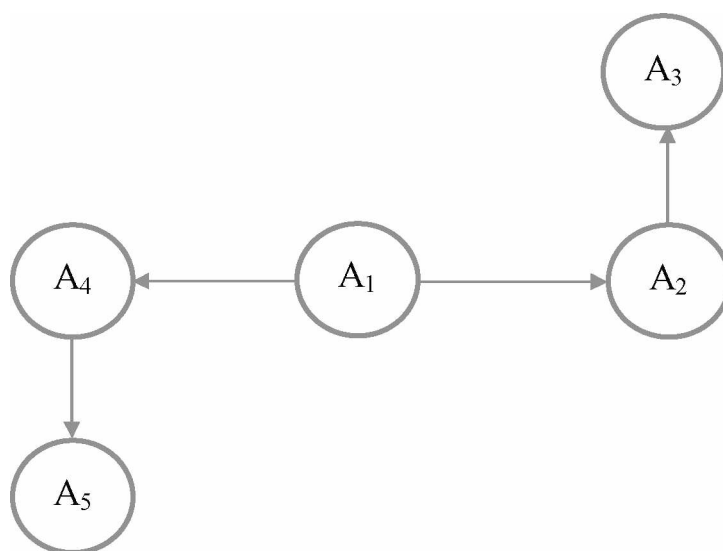
When the number of meanings of a polysemantic word is many, it is possible that all these meanings might derive from the first meaning. In this case in the radial polysemy the number of derivatives from the main meaning is equal to the number of other meanings with the exception of the main meaning. While drawing up the schemes of the mentioned cases, it is possible to achieve an imaginary determination of the directions of derivation, because each derivative meaning is related to the main meaning and the development direction of the meaning is directed from the main meaning to the derivational meaning. The fact that radical polysemy is the initial polysemy finds its affirmation by the fact of derivation of the second meaning from the first one, namely from the initial meaning. In the radial polysemy each of further derivation too is directly related to the main meaning. As the number of meanings increases, the derivational meanings keep apart and grow farther from the main meaning. Often, it is more difficult to prove the relationship of derivational words with the words which possess more meanings in number. The number of derivational meanings of radical polysemy ( $T_n$ ) in all meanings ( $N$ ) is one number less ( $T_n = N - 1$ ). For e.g. if a word has 5 meanings, the remaining 4 meanings may derive from the first meaning.



The Polysemy in which the derivative meanings are fitful to the first meaning from which they are derived, it is called radial polysemy.

Thus, the chain and radial types of polysemy are different from one-another. The analyses of different polysemies show that the radial and chain polysemies represent themselves in the meaning development of one and the same word. Such polysemy is called a mixed type of polysemy.

Mixed polysemy may have different model types and such differentiation of models depends on the semantic relationship of newly-formed meanings, having derived from derivational meaning. When we say on the existence of different models of mixed type of polysemy, we mean the distribution of radial and chain polysemy in different branches of meaning constituency. In the scheme, indicated below, a possible model of mixed type of polysemy has been demonstrated. If in this model  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ ;  $A_1 \rightarrow A_4$ ;  $A_2 \rightarrow A_3$ ;  $A_4 \rightarrow A_5$ ;  $A_1 \rightarrow A_4 \rightarrow A_5$ ;  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rightarrow A_3$  indicates branches of meanings in chain polysemy,  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$  and  $A_1 \rightarrow A_4$  shows the radial polysemy structure. In one and the same word the fact that both radial and chain polysemy exist as a whole they set up a mixed type of polysemy.



Now, let's consider concrete example belonging to mixed polysemy.

**Glass** 1. n 1) a hard, usually transparent, substance used, for example, for making windows and bottles; 2) a container made of, used for drinking out of glass; 3) the contents of a glass; 4) objects made of glass, for example: We keep all our glass and china in this cupboard; 5) a protecting cover made of glass on a watch, picture or photograph frame, fire alarm; 6) glasses or formal spectacles; a weather glass; 7) a mirror; 8) a barometer. 2. v 1) to hit sb. in the face with a glass; 2) to cover sth. with a roof or wall made of glass.

In this example chain polysemy shows itself in the first, second and third meanings, but in the radial polysemy *glass* exhibits the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and the eighth meanings. Generally in the word *glass* mixed type of polysemy is determined. We should also note the fact that mixed type of polysemy is more widely spread in the English language.

Thus, investigation shows that as a result of determination of development of the main and derivative meanings of the polysemantic word, it is possible to distinguish the radial, chain and mixed type of polysemy.

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Polysemy is a widespread problem in the English language. English is richer with lexical and lexico-grammatical polysemantic words than many other languages. There are three types of polysemy: radial, chain and mixed. The polysemy in which the new meanings are derived from the first meaning is radial polysemy. In the chain polysemy derivative meanings are systematically derived from one another. The analysis of different polysemies shows that the radial and chain ones are represented in the meaning development of one and the same word. Such polysemy is called a mixed type polysemy.

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#### КРИТЕРИИ НАДЕЖНОСТИ ПЕРЦЕПТИВНОЙ ИДЕНТИФИКАЦИИ ЕДИНИЦ АНГЛИЙСКОЙ РЕЧЕВОЙ ПРОСОДИИ

Статья посвящена проблеме восприятия просодических характеристик фразы. Перцептивная инвариантность просодических структур реализуется через высокую степень согласованности аудиторов в определении локализации и распознавании элементов просодической структуры фразы. Вариативность восприятия просодии трактуется как объективно обусловленное и в этом смысле неизбежное явление по ряду причин. В результате экспериментального исследования установлены наиболее перцептивно устойчивые и вариативные элементы фразы, а также объективные причины константности и вариативности в восприятии фразовой просодии.

Восприятие устной речи вызывает интерес исследователей в различных областях науки. В лингвистике, в частности в фонетике, эта проблема занимает особое место в силу неразрывной связи между порождением и восприятием звука. Существование особого раздела фонетических исследований – перцептивной фонетики – отражает значимость процессов восприятия и их закономерностей для создания фонологико-фонетического описания языка и формирования общеречевых и собственно фонетических навыков у индивидуумов.