



Concept Of Masculinity In The Language Picture Of Russian And English-Speaking Youth

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ABSTRACT

At the present stage of the development of linguistics, the study of the concept of masculinity in the language picture of young people has special significance in connection with the interest of linguists and linguistically, in the problems of language and thinking, language and culture. At the center of scientific research, thus, the system of "human", "masculinity", as one of the features of human existence, is an important component of this system. It is interesting, especially in this linguistic research, to study the ways of fixation in the English and Russian languages, a number of stereotyped images that form the basis of the concept of "masculinity". Masculinity is an important cultural category that is reflected in the language of young people in various ways. In modern language science, great attention is paid to the study of the concept of masculinity in both English and Russian. The study showed that the sense of masculinity in young people's speech is influenced by social and cultural factors that change it in different directions.

Keywords: masculinity, language, youth, English, Russian, survey.

Introduction

The term "concept" is believed as one of the key concepts of the sciences of cognitive linguistics and linguoculture. Concept is based on the study of the relationship between language, thinking, and culture. To date, a large number of papers have studied the notion of "concept" as a basic concept in cognitive linguistics. Researchers such as E.S. Kubryakova, N.D. Arutyunova, I.A. Sternin, Z.D. Popova, N.N. Boldyrev, D. Lakoff, R.I. Pavilenis, Y.S. Stepanova, V.V. Karadyrov, V.V. Krasny devoted their works to the study of "concept". The heterogeneity and ambiguity of the structural organization of the concept is obvious [Sakaeva 2020]. Therefore, there are a lot of different ways to learn a concept, and all such ways are very unique.

As scholars rightly point out, the term, although well established in modern linguistics, still has no uniform definition. Following Yu. S. Stepanov, one can define a concept by a voluminous thought construct of human consciousness in comparison with the concept. The author believes that a concept is "some cumulative phenomenon, in its structure consisting of the concept itself and the value (often figurative) representation of the person" [Stepanov 1997:40-43]. A.P. Mityaeva in his article, "Approaches to the Study of Concepts" indicates that depending on the science, which is the subject of the concept, the following highlight the main scientific approaches to his research: linguocultural; linguocultural; psycholinguistic/neuropsycholinguistic; semantic; logical-conceptual; logical; integrative» [Mityaeva 2015:5].

Representatives of linguocognitive approach are such scientists as E.S. Kubryakova, N.A. Boldyrev, I.A. Sternin, A.P. Babushkin and others. The researchers interpret "concept" as a unit of operational consciousness, acting as a holistic, undivided reflection of the fact of reality. Scholars studying the concept from the standpoint of a linguo-vocative approach interpret the concept as a mental education in the consciousness of a human being that helps to reach the linguistic picture of the world. The basis of a person's knowledge of the world is such a

unit of information as a concept, and language detects and verbalizes what a person has seen and understood in the world around him.

The linguocultural approach involves studying the specifics of the national concept from culture to consciousness. The founders of this direction are N.D. Arutyunova, V.I. Karasik, D.S. Likhachev, Y.S. Stepanov, L.O. Cheyenko, S.H. Lyapin, V.I. Shahovsky, S.G. Vorkachev, L.V. Bazarov and many others. Scientists consider "concept" as mental education, noted in one or another degree of ethnosemantic specificity. When considering what concept is, the scientists named pay great attention to the cultural aspect: the whole culture is understood as a set of concepts and relations between them, and the concept as the basic cell of culture in the mental world of man.

By the linguistic picture of the world, the picture of the world is understood and reflected through language, inescapably throughout the entire life of the person. In the study of a person in a language, the personal characteristics of a linguistic person have an important value, and gender plays a primary role. Gender defines a person's social, cultural, and cognitive orientation in space, language takes the lead. Man and woman are two inseparable entities that make up a person and represent the cornerstone of human culture, hence, the concepts of "man" and "woman" belong to the category of fundamental ideas. In every culture and language, the concepts of "femininity" and "masculinity" researched by gender linguistics are important components of social consciousness.

Most researchers tend to believe that the terms masculinity and male are not absolute synonyms. As O.V. Kotlyarova notes, some scientists prefer the Romanized term to the Russian, using more often masculinity, "because it denotes not only the selection of male representatives as a special object of research, but also positive, moral quality, not connected with either sex or gender" [Kotlyarova 2015:22].

Methodology

The theoretical basis of the research was the work of such scientists as Y.S. Stepanov, F.A. Tugushev, V.I. Karasik, Y.D. Apresyan, E.S. Vetrov, S.M. Utych, D.C. Roberts, V.A. Dektova, E.Y. Bunebova, V.V. Bazab. The achievement of the goal of the study led to the need to use a complex of general scientific theoretical (theoretical analysis, concretization, modeling) and empirical (study of special literature, instructions, dictionaries) research methods.

Results

According to a study by gender, language and party correlation scholars in Utah State University, among the most masculine words used were "jock", "cocky", "thug", "roughneck", "violent", "destruction", "terrorist", "rough", "domination", "deadbeat", "handsome", "two-fisted", "savage", "brash", "hero", "prison", "bravado", "captain", and "chief" [Roberts, Utych 2020:44].

Paremia is a vivid reflection of the mentality of people. The following features of the linguocultural concept of «masculinity» in paremias are noted in the researches of the scientists of the analyzed languages:

□ the attention of scientists attracts the study of the concept of "woman" much more often than the concept of "man". In the study of the dictionary V.I. Dal "Proverbs of the Russian people" more than 2/3 of the entire composition of proverbs describe or are about women, while the proverbs describing men are only 1/3. However, it is not true to conclude that women are valued more than men. In this case, this leads to the idea that there are more restrictions on women.

□ the popularity of male mentality in both languages studied. In a study, V.A. Detkova noted that the analysis revealed a significant prevalence of male mentality in the paremias of both languages: in Russian, this mentality is reflected in 811 paremias, which is about 70% of the total number of paremias, in English - in 473 paremias, about 90%, which characterizes the dominant role of men in Russian and English societies. Both languages have identified a group of paremias whose gender mentality cannot be determined because of their gender universality. In this group, there are 122 Russian (about 10%) and 24 English (5%) paremias [Detkov 2013:170].

As the study revealed, the notion of masculinity expressed in the language picture of young Russians and English is generally positive and noble. From the perspective of these people, men are endowed with such characteristics as firmness of spirit, straightforwardness, courage, restraint, and confidence. Identified with such categories as spirit, intelligence, activity, force, rationality, masculinity has always been perceived as the opposite, hostile to femininity, alien to such concepts as nature, passivity, weakness, emotionality. In this regard, it is customary to discuss the contrast of two gender categories within the measurement of "domination – subordination".

"Masculinity" is an active and voluminous linguocultural concept that varies in different cultures and historical periods. It includes many attributes that are usually associated with the "ideal" image of men in a particular culture. This concept includes physical strength, the ability to protect oneself and one's loved ones, the ability to act decisively, courage, self-control and independence [Karasik 2001:16].

It is interesting to note that the idea of masculinity among young people is not unchanged, and in different cultures and historical eras this concept may have its nuances. For example, in ancient Greek culture,

masculinity among young people was closely associated with the idea of heroism and militancy. Men were judged by their ability to be brave warriors and defenders.

On the other hand, in modern Western society, masculinity among young people is often associated not only with physical strength and the ability to protect but also with emotional resilience, leadership and the ability to take responsibility. It also includes respecting and valuing others, including women and people of other cultures or sexual orientations.

It is important to understand that masculinity is a social construct that can be rethought and changed. The concepts of masculinity among youth may include multiple expressions of masculinity that transcend stereotypes. However, the notion of masculinity is not universal and can vary across cultures and societies. Some cultures may value masculinity based on power and dominance, while others value other traits, such as emotional openness, cooperation, and caring for others. These differences may be related to historical, religious, social and cultural factors that influence images and perceptions of masculinity. The concept of masculinity among youth is closely linked to sociocultural norms and values, which can change over time and vary according to context. In modern society, we also see various tendencies to revise traditional notions of masculinity and to incorporate more flexible and gender-insensitive concepts.

English and Russian are exposed to different social and cultural factors that change the understanding of masculinity among young people. For example, in the English language, the influence of globalization, feminism and gender equality on the expansion of the notion of masculinity and the emergence of new types of men (metrosexuals, new men), and in the Russian language the influence of traditional masculinity crisis and the emergence of new problems of men.

After decades of development, theoretical studies of masculinity have accumulated a large number of research results, but there are yet pending issues that require further study.

Conclusion

English and Russian thus have both common and specific expressions of masculinity among young people. In many English-language studies, the concept of masculinity is closely related to current social events and school education. The concept of masculinity is in the process of being transformed by globalization, feminism, gender equality and other factors, so that in modern linguistic research new tendencies are emerging to change the concept of masculinity.

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