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***Onomasiological Aspect of Verbal Predicates Studying:
Bestial Verbal Lexicon***

Abstract. In the article we consider it possible to identify and describe specific verbal communication group, where the verbal name is studied through its relation with objective reality. These are the verbal predicates describing referentially taxonomic class-name "animals, birds, insects," their inherent features of dynamic action and state. We call such verbal lexicon - bestial verbal lexicon. While the research we are to be guided by onomasiological aspect of semantics.

Keywords: onomasiological approach, semantic relations, bestial verbal lexicon.

Verbal vocabulary is mostly combined in lexical-semantic groups, so one of the issues of comparative linguistics is to present lexical-semantic classification of verbal predicates. Modern linguists choose between two ways of solving this problem. The first approach involves the transition of general semantic classification of verbal lexicon to a consistent and complete description of the individual lexical-semantic groups. The second one, the opposite one, leads the studying of the descriptions of the individual groups to the generalizing of the results [1].

In our opinion, the second way to solve the problem appears to be the most promising one. The studying of the broadest groups, based on the unity of lexical semes, brings us to the knowledge of the semantic structure of the vocabulary in a whole, as small groups are always a part of broader ones and can be adequately described only on the basis of this relationship.

It's obvious, that modern linguistics gives priority to the communicative issue of language. That involves studying language as a whole and its structural

units levels in particular, that itself brings to the fore the separation and description of linguistic categories, designed to perform the communicative function of language. This approach is particularly relevant in the field of lexical-semantic level as lexical and grammatical units are means of activating for cognitive elements and their verbal expression in the speech act. As the notion “language in the communication process” best meets onomasiological approach while studying of its structural units and categories, then, based on the above, we consider it possible to identify and describe specific verbal communication group, where the verbal name is studied through its relation with objective reality.

In this article we will make an attempt to study one of the categories of verbal predicates describing referentially taxonomic class-name "animals, birds, insects," their inherent features of dynamic action and state. While the research we are to be guided by onomasiological aspect of semantics. We call such verbal lexicon, followed by R. S. Ganzha, **bestial** (from the Latin word *bestia* – “animal, beast”) [2, p. 37].

Language vocabulary completion at the expense of such verbs occurs during different periods of language. Most often, this trend was due to the fact that such a derivation helped to denote a specific action economically; directly or indirectly related to the fact of a living creature, whose name is used to form a new word or used to denote the class of words. Specific examples can be found in the Russian language, where verb “*коновалить*” (includes root-morpheme ‘horse’; denotes ‘quack doctor’) means ‘to be engaged in treatment of horses without having special veterinary education’ [3] or “*белковать*” (includes root-morpheme ‘squirrel’) means ‘to hunt squirrels’ [4]. These examples have no direct English equivalents, they can be translated only with the help of description.

During the study of such verbal morphological categories as person and mood (as to the subject) it is necessary to conduct the division of verbs into homatic and non-homatic, namely:

Homotic verbs (from the Latin word *homo* - 'man') - verbs denoting processes, the subject of which a person may be: *to read, to speak, to live, to grow, to be*.

Non-homotic verbs (from the Latin word *homo* - 'man') – verbs, denoting processes, the subject of which a person cannot be: *to butt, to fledge*. [5, p. 73]

The fact, that bestial verbs belong to non-homotic verbs, underlines the absence of anthropomorphic references in this group of verbs. Bestial verbs are the verbs, denoting a process which is the subject of an animal: *to lamb, to kitten, to pup, to nest, to fledge*.

The class of verbs with a specialized subject seme 'animal' is quite heterogeneous. In contrast to the specific lexical and semantic groups of verbs that have certain types of semantics and are characterized by a fairly clear links between the elements, the grouping of verbs with seme 'animal' does not have a clear structure.

And this is quite obvious. The abstract representation of the nature of the action is taken into account while lexical-semantic group of verbs allocation. That results that all the words of a lexical-semantic group are characterized by uniformity of semantics [6, p. 7]. While the verbs, combined with subject seme, represent a variety of situations, actions and state actors, performers or carriers. Thus, the group of verbs with subject seme 'animals' includes verbs of different lexical-semantic groups, that are united by one common feature - the seme 'animal' presence in their structure. For example, in the four-volume "Dictionary of the Russian language", edited by A. P. Evgenieva, just over 1,000 of bestial verbs are recorded.

Before looking into the nature of Russian bestial verbal lexicon, we consider it is important to take the issue of translation problems into consideration.

It's obvious that one of the main difficulties of translation lies in the fact that the meaning of the whole text is not exhausted by the sum of meanings of its elements. The meaning of the text is made up by a number of elements, including denotative and connotative meanings of lexical units, the stylistic reference

implied, syntactic meaning of sentences and utterances larger than sentences, suprasegmental elements and lexico-semantic connections between words and phrases.

That is why simply knowledge of the two targeted languages is not enough for translation. Sufficient translation implies both linguistic and extralinguistic aspects with the text itself reflecting the cultural background of the author and the whole people speaking the language. This becomes extremely actual when we are speaking about Russian and English languages, as there is a great gap between two cultures of the peoples speaking these languages.

Every language is characterized by a specific structure of its lexico-grammatical fields and has its own lexical, morphological and syntactic systems. It may result in lack of coincidence between the means of expressing the same content in source language (SL) and target language (TL). In this regard let us turn to the kernel of translation process – word meaning. [7, p. 4-5]

Let us supplement and upgrade the bestial verbal lexicon classification of R. S. Ganzha. We shall distinguish main groups of bestial predicates on their semantic grounds.

The first group includes the *verbs of motion and state* describing a specific way of movement and action, typical for animals.

It is to be mentioned that, group of verbs of motion in all languages represents a vital concept - movement - the most amazing phenomenon in the world. Movement in the modern world is considered to be the basic property and the main feature of life. Today, the term "movement" means not just one's body moving relatively to the other, but also includes a change in body temperature, electromagnetic radiation, or it can be associated with changes and trends in society and nature. On this basis, the concept of "movement" has such a breadth of interpretation, which allows us to consider this concept one of the fundamental categories in different sciences, especially in physics, philosophy and linguistics.

That is practical, symbolic and axiological role of motion that determines the interest of linguistics to this concept. In this case, in linguistics, to the verbs of

motion refers any token indicating change of position of an object or its parts with respect to some reference point. Consideration of category of movement in line with the functional-semantic areas allowed to present the structure of this category, the principles of its organization, the position of the categories of being.

This large group of bestial verbs includes following items:

a) Verbs of motion:

«Порхать» – *to flit, to flutter* (birds and butterflies), «рыснуть» – *to trot* (horses, wolves, etc.).

b) Verbs denoting specific animal states:

«Взмылиться» - *to cause to foam / lather* (about a horse), «нагулять» – *to fatten, to put on weight*.

In a case of such Russian verbs, they do not have a regular correspondence in English, as no one, even the most complete dictionary may reflect all the shades of meaning of the word. Thus in the translation into the English language one should use the tracing of Russian verb semantic component.

c) Verbs denoting death:

«Околоть,дохнуть,валиться» (to die in large amount) – *to die, to fall*.

Variability of this group of verbs is widely represented in the Russian language, thus English verbs have one equivalent “to die”. That is why while translating from English into Russian translator should base on the analysis of context implying the potential meanings inherent in the semantic structure of the text and create a contextual equivalent.

The second group of bestial verbal lexicon includes verbs denoting the ***animal life*** in general or areas of their habitation and spreading.

As an example, let’s take Russian verbal pair «водиться – вестись», that means “to live in a certain areas of habitation, be found”. Into the English language that lexical notions can be transferred as “*to be found, to be there*”: *there is fish in the river or fish is found in the river*.

The third group of bestial verbal lexicon includes verbs denoting the ***method of reproduction***, the birth of cubs: «вывестись» - *to grow, to raise*;

«вылупиться» - *to hatch*; «выклевываться» (about a bird) - *to peck out, to hatch*; «жеребиться» (about a horse) – *to foal*; «телиться» - *to calve, (about deer) to fawn, etc.*

Practically all the verbs from the group mentioned above have their direct English equivalents. Remarkable, these verbs do not have masculine as indicate only female actions.

Next goes group of verbs denoting *specific actions* of animals: «артачиться» - *to jib, to be restive* (about a horse, do not obey, to resist the action of rider); «вылизаться» - *to lick its fur, to lick itself clean*; «грызться» - *to fight* (in the meaning of “to bite” about dogs), etc.

The fifth group of bestial verbal lexicon includes verbs denoting *sounds* made by animals: «лаять, гавкать» - *to bark*; «мяукать» - *to mew*; «мычать» - *to moo*; «ржать» - *to neigh*; «стрекотать» - *to chirr*; «жужжать» - *to buzz*; «квакать» - *to croak, etc.*

All the verbs from the group mentioned above have their direct English equivalents.

The meanings of the equivalents practically does not depend on the context, so to translate them one should merely look them up in a dictionary. The demand to consult dictionaries is essential. No guesswork is allowed in translation: a word should be either known or looked up.

Verbs denoting the *physiological actions* of animals, including *meal*: «клевать» - *to peck* (about birds); «брать» - *to bite* (about fish); «настись» - *to graze* (about cattle), etc.

Among all the verbs in this research, one can distinguish verbs that reflect the dynamic characteristics of an entire animal kingdom or many species of animals: *to eat, to breathe, to fly*, as well as of specific individuals and fauna: *to coo* (pigeons), *to croak* (frogs). It is quite natural that the collocation of first type verbs is much wider than of the second one.

Despite the fact that verbs tend to create semantic relations more often than other parts of speech, especially synonyms and antonyms, the specified lexical

meanings of bestial verbs hinder the formation of synonymous and antonymous relations. Particularly, antonyms are missed within bestial verbal lexicon. Synonymous relations are poorly represented in the defined class of verbs. Particularly the group of verbs that denote a way of reproduction completely misses synonymous connection.

Thereby, the presence of a developed hyponymy, underdevelopment of synonymous relations and a complete lack of antonymous relations points to the fact that bestial verbs possess mainly one semantic notion and can be referred to the predicate-attributive words. This is the functional group of verbs from which the speaker understands the meaning of taxonomic class "animals, birds and insects." Thus, when comparing bestial verbal lexicon in the English and the Russian languages one can find several types of semantic relations between them. The aim of the translator in this case is to establish a correlation between these meanings and to present an adequate translation.

Thus, it is possible to make an unambiguous conclusion about the existence of such a functional-semantic group as bestial verbs that assign referentially taxonomic class names "animals, birds, insects," their inherent dynamic features of the action, and the state of the process, as well as including verbs with 'animal'-component in the composition.

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