

**PARADIGMATIC AND SYNTAGMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF
THE SEMANTIC FIELD**

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Abstract

This article analyzes the theoretical and practical aspects of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations between members of the semantic field. The study highlights the systematic interconnection of lexical units, their semantic structure and functional properties in the speech process. Within the framework of paradigmatic relations, semantic relations such as synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy and meronymy are considered, which are interpreted as the main factor ensuring the differentiation of meaning in the language system. Syntagmatic relations are analyzed based on the possibilities of combination of words in the flow of speech, collocational properties and contextual coherence. The article takes as a methodological basis the stages of formation of the theory of the semantic field and the views of representatives of structural linguistics, in particular Ferdinand de Saussure and Jost Trier. The results of the study show that paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations are harmoniously manifested in the complex study of the semantic system.

Keywords

Semantic field, paradigmatic relation, syntagmatic relation, lexical system, synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, collocation, structural linguistics, contextual meaning.

Annotatsiya

Ushbu maqolada semantik maydon a'zolari o'rtasidagi paradigmatic va sintagmatic munosabatlarning nazariy va amaliy jihatlari tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqotda leksik birliklarning tizimli o'zaro bog'liqligi, ularning semantik tuzilishi va nutq jarayonidagi funksional xususiyatlari ta'kidlangan. Paradigmatic munosabatlar doirasida til tizimida ma'no farqlanishini ta'minlovchi asosiy omil sifatida talqin qilinadigan sinonimiya, antonimiya, giponimiya va meronimiya kabi semantik munosabatlar ko'rib chiqiladi. Sintagmatic munosabatlar nutq oqimidagi so'zlarning birikish imkoniyatlari, kollokatsion xususiyatlar va kontekstual muvofiqlik asosida tahlil qilinadi. Maqolada semantik maydon nazariyasining shakllanish bosqichlari va strukturaviy tilshunoslik vakillarining, xususan, Ferdinand de Sossyur va Yost Trinning qarashlari metodologik asos sifatida olinadi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni ko'rsatadiki, paradigmatic va sintagmatic munosabatlar semantik tizimni kompleks o'rganishda uyg'un tarzda namoyon bo'ladi.

Kalit so'zlar

Semantik maydon, paradigmatic munosabat, sintagmatic munosabat, leksik tizim, sinonimiya, antonimiya, giponimiya, kollokatsiya, strukturaviy tilshunoslik, kontekstual ma'no.

Аннотация

В данной статье анализируются теоретические и практические аспекты парадигматических и синтагматических отношений между членами семантического поля. Исследование освещает систематическую взаимосвязь лексических единиц, их семантической структуры и функциональных свойств в процессе речи. В рамках парадигматических отношений рассматриваются такие семантические отношения, как синонимия, антонимия, гипонимия и меронимия, которые интерпретируются как основной фактор, обеспечивающий дифференциацию значений в языковой системе. Синтагматические отношения анализируются на основе возможностей сочетания слов в потоке речи, коллокационных свойств и контекстной связности. В качестве методологической основы статьи используются этапы формирования теории семантического поля и взгляды представителей структурной лингвистики, в частности Фердинанда де Соссюра и Йоста Трира. Результаты исследования показывают, что парадигматические и синтагматические отношения гармонично проявляются в комплексном изучении семантической системы.

Ключевые слова

Семантическое поле, парадигматическое отношение, синтагматическое отношение, лексическая система, синонимия, антонимия, гипонимия, коллокация, структурная лингвистика, контекстное значение.

Introduction. The language system, as a set of interconnected units, has a complex and multi-layered structure. Lexical units are related to each other in terms of meaning and constitute a certain semantic field. The theory of semantic field is one of the important approaches in linguistics that allows for the systematic study of vocabulary. According to this theory, each word does not exist separately, but in interaction with other units.

Ferdinand de Saussure, recognized as the founder of structural linguistics, distinguished paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations between language units. Paradigmatic relations represent the systematic connection between units that can be interchanged in the same position, while syntagmatic relations represent the sequential arrangement and interconnection of units in the discourse chain. Later, the theory of semantic field developed by Jost Trier served to provide a deeper interpretation of these relations within the framework of the lexical system.

Today, the study of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations is of urgent importance not only in theoretical linguistics, but also in applied linguistics, translation studies, and corpus linguistics. Because the place of words in the semantic field and their contextual coherence determine the clarity, expressiveness, and communicative effectiveness of speech.

Therefore, this article systematically analyzes the paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations between members of the semantic field, and sheds light on their interrelationships and functional properties on a scientific basis.

Literature review. The theory of semantic field and the study of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations within it are closely related to the structural approach in world linguistics. Ferdinand de Saussure, recognized as the founder of structural linguistics, interpreted the language system as a set of interacting units and scientifically substantiated the need to distinguish between paradigmatic (associative) and syntagmatic relations between language units. According to his views, any linguistic unit reveals its value in the process of contrasting and combining with other units [1].

Jost Trier played an important role in the formation of the theory of semantic field as an independent concept. He considered the lexical system as a set of interconnected units within a certain conceptual field and emphasized that the meaning of words is determined not separately, but within the system. Trier's approach became the basis for explaining paradigmatic relations through hierarchical and oppositional relations within the semantic field [2].

Later, the work of Leonard Bloomfield and Roman Jakobson expanded the analysis of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations at the phonological and lexical levels [3]. In particular, Jakobson developed the theory of opposition and showed that the distinguishing features of language units have a systematic nature. This served as an important methodological basis for determining the relations of opposition and similarity between members of the semantic field [4].

In modern linguistic research, paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations are also studied within the framework of corpus linguistics, cognitive semantics, and discourse analysis. The collocational possibilities and contextual coherence of words are interpreted as a practical manifestation of syntagmatic connections, which serve to determine the dynamic processes in the language system.

In Uzbek linguistics, the issues of semantic field and lexical system have also been widely studied. Kh. Nematov, R. Rasulov [5], in his works on lexicology, shed light on the systematic nature of word meaning and analyzed synonymous series and meaning relations. Also, the studies of A. Nurmonov and B. Yuldoshev have scientifically addressed the issues of paradigmatic relations, semantic grouping and meaning fields in the lexicon of the Uzbek language [6].

“From the point of view of the semantic field, we come across interesting data on the functional-semantic characteristics of antonyms. The scope of antonyms between members of the semantic field is wider and more multifaceted than the range of antonyms,” emphasizes A. Sobirov [7; 152].

Regulatory and legal documents aimed at the development of language policy and scientific research in our country also create ample opportunities for research in this area. In particular, the decree “On measures to radically increase the prestige and status of the Uzbek language as a state language” and the “Concept for the development of science until 2030”, adopted at the initiative of Shavkat Mirziyoyev, serve to expand the theoretical and practical directions of linguistic research. These documents set the tasks of in-depth study of the language system, creation of scientifically based dictionaries and introduction of modern linguistic methods, which further increases the relevance of the analysis of semantic fields and relations [9,10].

Thus, research conducted in world and Uzbek linguistics interpret paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations as the main constituent factor of the language system. Modern scientific approaches indicate the need to study these relationships in a comprehensive, systematic and functional way.

Methodology. In this study, a complex linguistic approach was used to identify paradigmatic and syntagmatic relationships between members of the semantic field and analyze their mutual coherence. The research methodology was based on the methods of structural-semantic, component analysis, distributive analysis and contextual analysis.

First, based on the structural-semantic approach, lexical units belonging to a specific semantic field were selected. The semantic field of “action” in the Uzbek language was selected as a sample as the research material. Verbs such as “yurmoq”, “bormoq”, “kelmoq”, “chopmoq”,

“sudralmoq” were included in this field. These units have a common “action” semantic and form a paradigmatic system.

In the process of identifying paradigmatic relationships, the component analysis method was used. This method allows us to identify similar and different features of the word by dividing it into structural semantics. For example:

“yurmoq” [+action], [+on feet], [+average speed];

“to run” [+movement], [+on feet], [+fast];

“to crawl” [+movement], [+low speed], [+contact with the ground].

The analysis shows that all units have a common integral sema [+movement], but are distinguished from each other by differential sema. On this basis, they form a paradigmatic series. Thus, paradigmatic relations express an oppositional relationship between units that alternate in the same semantic position.

At the next stage, distributive and contextual analysis methods were used to determine syntagmatic relations. This method serves to determine the possibilities of unit combinations in the flow of speech. For example:

In the combination “to run quickly”, the verb “to run” creates semantic harmony with the verb “to run”;

In the combination “to walk heavily”, contextual harmony occurs between the adjective and the verb;

In the combination “yomg‘gir yog‘di” the verb “yog‘moq” enters into a collocational relationship only with natural phenomena.

These examples show the existence of selectional restrictions of syntagmatic relations. For example, the combination “tosh yog‘di” is grammatically possible, but semantically incompatible. Thus, syntagmatic relations determine the combinatory possibilities of language units in real speech.

Also, paradigmatic relations were studied in depth on the basis of synonymous series. “A synonym set is a set of elements (in this case, words) named after a leading word or dominant word. The dominant is one of the elements of this set. A special case of this situation in the dictionary is the use of a common name instead of a specific name, for example: apples, pears, and quince form a set of fruits”, emphasizes Y. N. Karaulov [8; 109].

For example, the units “go‘zal”, “chiroyli”, “latofatli” belong to the same semantic field. They have common semantics [+positive assessment], [+aesthetic feature], but differ in stylistic coloring and frequency of use. Contextual analysis showed that “latofatli” is more actively used in literary texts, and “chiroyli” is actively used in everyday speech. This demonstrates the inextricable connection of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations.

In order to strengthen the theoretical conclusions, fragments were selected from text samples (artistic and journalistic style) and the paradigmatic interchangeability and syntagmatic connection features of lexical units in them were compared. As a result, it was found that paradigmatic relations constitute the vertical (selection) axis of the language system, and

syntagmatic relations constitute the horizontal (connection) axis. In general, the methods used served to comprehensively reveal the systematic arrangement of units within the semantic field, their meaning differentiation, and their functional properties in the speech process. The harmonious analysis of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations made it possible to interpret the language system as a holistic mechanism.

Results and Discussion. During the research, it was found that paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations between members of the semantic field are systematic and interconnected. The results obtained showed that each lexical unit operates in the language system in two directions - on the axis of selection (vertical) and combination (horizontal). This serves as a practical confirmation of the concept of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations, which is based on structural linguistics.

The results of the paradigmatic analysis showed that, in the example of the semantic fields of “action” and “evaluation”, lexical units are united on the basis of a common integral seme, and differentiated by differential seme. For example, the verbs “yurmoq”, “chopomoq”, “sudralmoq” have a common [+action] seme, but are differentiated according to the nature of the speed, method and subject. Similarly, the units “beautiful”, “beautiful”, “delightful” form a paradigmatic series and differ in the level of stylistic and emotional coloring. This confirms the existence of hierarchical and oppositional relations within the meaning space.

Syntagmatic analysis revealed the combinatory possibilities of units in real speech. Distributive observations showed that each lexical unit is combined with other units within a certain semantic compatibility. For example, combinations such as “fast running”, “slow walking” represent a natural syntagmatic connection, while examples such as “*stone ran” remain outside the norm due to semantic restrictions. Thus, syntagmatic relations are subject not only to grammatical, but also to the laws of semantic selection.

The results of the study showed that paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations are not independent of each other, but are an interconnected system. Paradigmatic selection determines the possibility of syntagmatic combination. For example, when the verb “to run” is chosen, adverbs that indicate greater speed (“fast”, “rapidly”) form syntagmatic harmony with it. On the contrary, units such as “slowly”, “barely” are compatible with the verb “to crawl”. This indicates that paradigmatic exchange is manifested through the syntagmatic structure of speech.

Table 1. Paradigmatic and Syntagmatic Relations within the Semantic Field

Criteria	Paradigmatic Relations	Example (English)	Syntagmatic Relations	Example (English)
Definit ion	Vertical associative relationship based on substitution within the same position.	run – walk – sprint	Horizontal combinatory relationship based on co-occurrence in context.	run fast

Semantic Basis	Based on similarity, contrast, or hierarchy (synonymy, hyponymy).	beautiful – pretty – attractive	Based on contextual compatibility and collocation.	heavy rain
Functional Role	Determines choice and differentiation.	child – kid – youngster	Determines grammatical and contextual coherence.	make a decision
Structural Axis	Selection axis (vertical).	hot – cold – warm	Combination axis (horizontal).	cold weather
Restriction Type	Semantic opposition or inclusion.	animal – dog – poodle	Selectional restrictions and contextual limits.	*stone runs (semantically odd)

This table presents a comparative analysis of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations within the semantic field. It can be seen from the table that these two types of relations constitute different, but interconnected axes of the language system.

The first criterion is that paradigmatic relations, by definition, represent a vertical connection between units that can be interchanged in the same syntactic position (for example: run – walk – sprint). Here, units can replace each other. Syntagmatic relations, on the other hand, represent the juxtaposition and combination of units in the speech process (for example: run fast). Thus, paradigmatic relations represent selection, and syntagmatic relations represent combination.

The second criterion is the semantic basis. Paradigmatic relations are based on similarity, opposition, or hierarchy (synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy). For example, beautiful – pretty – attractive form a synonymous series. Syntagmatic relations, on the other hand, rely on contextual compatibility and collocation. For example, in the combination heavy rain, there is a natural semantic harmony between the adjective and the noun. This indicates the presence of restrictions on the selection of words.

The third criterion is the functional role. The paradigmatic relation determines the lexical choice in speech and provides differentiation of meaning (child – kid – youngster). The syntagmatic relation forms grammatical and contextual integrity (make a decision). This allows us to distinguish between the internal (structural) and external (speech) functions of the language system.

The fourth criterion is the structural axis. The paradigmatic relation represents the selection (vertical) axis, and the syntagmatic relation represents the combination (horizontal) axis. This approach is consistent with the theoretical views based on structural linguistics.

The fifth criterion is the type of restriction. While in paradigmatic relations semantic opposition or commonality is the main factor (animal – dog – poodle), in syntagmatic relations selection constraint and contextual compatibility are important (stone runs – semantically incompatible). This example shows that syntagmatic relations depend not only on grammatical, but also on semantic criteria.

The analysis of the table shows that paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations are a complementary system. Paradigmatic selection determines the possibility of syntagmatic combinations, while syntagmatic context influences the selection of a suitable unit from the paradigmatic series. Therefore, in the in-depth study of the semantic field, it is necessary to analyze both relations in a complex manner.

During the discussion, it was found that the systematic analysis of relations within the semantic field also creates an important theoretical basis for modern areas of linguistics - corpus linguistics, computational linguistics and natural language processing (NLP) based on artificial intelligence. Because automatic translation, text analysis or the creation of semantic networks require accurate modeling of paradigmatic and syntagmatic connections between words.

Also, the systematic study of semantic fields in Uzbek linguistics is of great importance in the creation of national lexicography and explanatory dictionaries. The identification of paradigmatic series of language units and their syntagmatic possibilities serves to further improve dictionary articles.

In general, the conducted research showed that paradigmatic relations reflect the internal structure of the language system, and syntagmatic relations reflect its functional behavior in speech. Their harmonious analysis confirms the need to further deepen the theory of semantic fields and apply an integrated approach in modern linguistic research.

Conclusions. Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations between members of the semantic field are one of the main organizational mechanisms of the language system. Paradigmatic relations represent the vertical system of lexical units based on choice, and syntagmatic relations represent the possibilities of their horizontal combination in the speech process. Both types of relations act in harmony with each other, ensuring the structural and functional integrity of the language.

As a result of paradigmatic analysis, it was determined that units within the semantic field are combined on the basis of a common integral seme, and are differentiated semantically through differential seme. This indicates the existence of a hierarchy of meanings and oppositional relations in the language system. Syntagmatic analysis confirmed the combination of lexical units within the framework of collocational and contextual compatibility in real speech, and their subjection to the laws of semantic selection.

The study also showed that there is an inextricable connection between paradigmatic choice and syntagmatic combination: each choice made in the language system determines the combinatorial possibilities in speech. This justifies the need to study semantic field theory based on a comprehensive approach.

Recommendations:

1. In Uzbek linguistics, it is advisable to study semantic fields using broader empirical materials based on corpus linguistics.
2. In identifying paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations, the use of statistical and computer linguistic methods, along with component analysis, gives effective results.
3. When compiling explanatory and translation dictionaries, it is necessary to show the paradigmatic sequence of words and the possibilities of syntagmatic combinations.

4. Creating semantic field models is recommended as a relevant direction in the development of natural language processing (NLP) systems.

5. Teaching paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations based on practical examples in teaching lexicology and semantics in higher education institutions strengthens students' knowledge.

In general, an in-depth study of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relationships between members of the semantic field is of great scientific importance in understanding the language system as a holistic mechanism and in developing theoretical linguistics and applied linguistics.

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