

BASIC COMPONENTS OF COMPLEX PREPOSITIONS IN ENGLISH AND THEIR FUNCTION

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Abstract

This article describes the mathematical interpretation of the laws of physics and the issues of teaching it. It is shown that the mathematical expression of these laws consists of relatively simpler linear, quadratic, exponential, and other functional relationships between physical quantities. The existence of limits to the implementation of these laws is shown by several examples, which show that in areas beyond the limits, legalities become complex. It is noted that such a mathematical approach can help students understand the essence of laws and remember them for a long time.

Keywords: complex preposition, semantic change, cognitive approach, anthropocentrism, semantic expansion, causal meaning, grammaticalization.

Introduction. The special role of prepositions in English in expressing the semantic-syntactic relations of nouns in the sentence and the words that replace them is often mentioned in scientific literature, but until recently, prepositions in English have rarely become the subject of separate research. The main meanings of English prepositions are described in classical grammar and works of English studies. At the same time, there are no works dedicated to considering both the connection between the meanings of the preposition and the distinguishing features that separate semantically similar prepositions. Therefore, we decided to study the problem of prepositions with complex content that have undergone a semantic change in English.

Main body

The number of meanings in prepositions is very large, and the connections between the meanings are diverse. This requires the study of the semantic meaning of prepositions [6; p. 5]. According to tradition, the meaning of the preposition regarding the word group is the meaning of relation. However, scientists have different opinions about this relationship. According to some scientists, prepositions have their lexical meaning [1; 2; 3; 4; 10]. They write that prepositions can name relations between objects of extralinguistic reality. Prepositions, including prepositions with complex content, are the main means of expressing the semantic-syntactic relations of nouns and their substitutes in a sentence, and their analysis is an important part of studying modern English grammar.

Semantic changes in the structure of language units can occur concurrently with categorical changes. Taking this into account, we found it necessary to explain the semantic changes (shifts) that occurred in the composition of complex prepositions with causal content. The spiritual changes that took place in the preposition are mainly anthropocentric. An anthropocentrism is an approach that evaluates events only in terms of values that are important to humans. It is observed that changes in meaning are mainly related to a person's personality, outlook, and mentality. Observations due to the complex preposition based on past semantic changes, there is a movement of mechanisms specific to the phenomenon of analogy. Analogy, according to some researchers, is related to paradigmatic structures and affects the structure of compounds and their use.

For example, the word *due* is used as a synonym of the unit *owing*, expressing the meanings of

"obligation" and "belonging to something".

Compare:

1) due that is owed or payable as an enforceable debt;

a) Three thousand Ducats due to law (Shaks. Merch. 1596).

"Three thousand ducats are owed to the law".

a) The amount of service due from the serf had become limited by custom (Green short Hist., 1874).

"The amount of service owing from the service had become limited by custom".

1) be due to: "attributable to"

The difficulty in the Phielbus, is really due to our ignorance of the age (Jowett Plato. 1875).

Evidence from the Oxford English Dictionary testifies that the semantic changes in the complex preposition due to are similar to those of the preposition owing to. In other words, the causal content of the owing to the structure has been transferred to the due to a structure based on analogy. It is noted in the Oxford dictionary that this migration was motivated by analogy: the compound due to is often used by illiterate people, so it has become a complex preposition like owing to [14]. In the following example, it can be observed that the structure is used in the status of a complex proposition:

OED: due to "owing to, in consequence of".

a) The Koturah was faxed to her capacity because he was advertised to go first to Adelaide (Clover, 1897);

b) Due to the inability to market grain, prior farmers have for some time been faced with a serious shortage of funds to meet their immediate needs (Elizabeth, 1957).

In the first of these sentences, the complex preposition due to refers to the meaning of "payment obligation", and in the second, the generalization of meaning at the level of "social and general obligation" is observed. While in the previous examples, due to expressing the content of obligation, in the last two sentences, the meaning of "cause" or "causality" is activated. Meaning, which originally referred to physical or social reality, is rising to the stage of logical reality. Finally, if we proceed to the analysis of the stages of semantic development of the complex preposition "thanks to" in the English language, it should be noted that the derivational basis of this preposition is "thank" meaning "purpose". The structure created by combining this noun with the preposition to has gone through a series of semantic changes. To explain this, we refer again to the information recorded in the Oxford English Dictionary :

1. Gode thon kes and monie thewes for te teche fele schrewes (Prov. Hending. 1300).

"God's thought and money needed for the technology was not easy to see".

2. It you wilt good, know to whom thon doest it, and there shal be much thanke in thy good deeds (Bible Ecclns. 1609).

"If you want to do good, know to whom you do it, and there shall be much favorable thought in the good deeds".

It can be seen from the above examples that the word thank, which originally had the meaning of "purposeful thought", later acquired the meaning of "benevolence, inclination". Such changes in meaning have become a connection between objects or events. The activation of metonymic transfer mechanisms in this way is a consequence of paying special attention to a certain aspect of events. In particular, the above-mentioned semantic change, i.e., the emergence of the meaning of "desired goal, thought" is the result of a person's subjective thinking.

In the process of grammaticalization, it is necessary to pay attention to the fact that prepositions are polysemantic words. In recent decades, the number of works on the ambiguity of prepositions has

increased significantly, which is related to the interest in the semantic nature of polysemantic words. There are several main approaches to describing the semantic nature of prepositional meanings. The first approach is to enumerate the different values of the language unit. At the same time, the authors of works in which this approach is implemented usually do not deny, and on the contrary, they write that there is a connection between values, but for various reasons, they do not describe these connections. The opposite approach is carried out in invariant theories, where a linguistic unit has one meaning, but depending on the contextual use, it is changed. However, the general meaning is usually very abstract, and it is very difficult to associate with it some specific meanings of the linguistic unit.

Cognitive semantics, in which we studied the semantics of English prepositions, advocates an intermediate approach: a basic meaning is introduced that explains most cases of use of a linguistic unit but does not cover all the diversity of the use of linguistic units. Over time, it is believed that other meanings have been formed from the main meaning, which is the basis for the emergence of future meanings. So, according to cognitivism, the semantic structure of a preposition is a network of meanings in the center of which the main meaning is located, separated from the chain of meanings. In cognitive research, the construction of the semantic structure of grammaticalized units restores the history of the development of their meanings, at the same time, it is assumed that the restoration of connections between meanings and the determination of the semantic structure of language units can be carried out with the knowledge of the facts of synchronicity and the general laws of grammaticalization.

CONCLUSION

Thus, it can be concluded that the analysis of the semantic features of prepositions with complex content in English and the connections between meanings enriches the knowledge about the semantics of polysemantic words and the types of meaning transfer. In this regard, it is allowed to mention the data of diachrony in this article, but they are not used as evidence of synchronic events. Expressions such as "a meaning derives/emerges/forms from another meaning" are used only to describe the directions of semantic derivation at the synchronic level.

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