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REVISITING CLASSIFICATIONS OF TERMS

У статті розглядаються основні лінгвістичні класифікації термінів, зокрема класифікація за морфологічною будовою (терміни-слова та терміни-словосполучення), класифікація за сферою функціонування (загальнонаукові, міжгалузеві та вузькоспеціалізовані терміни), класифікація за кількістю компонентів терміну (однослівні, двокомпонентні та полікомпонентні терміни). Окремо аналізується найважливіша, на думку автора, класифікація – класифікація термінів за походженням.

Ключові слова: *термін, класифікація, морфологічна будова, сфера функціонування, запозичення.*

The present article is concerned with the main linguistic classifications of terms, in particular, classification by morphologic structure (terms-words and terms-combinations of words), classification by the sphere of usage (general scientific, interdisciplinary, highly specialized terms), classification by the number of components of a term (one-word terms, two-component, multicomponent terms). Special attention has been given to the most important classification – classification of terms by origin.

Key words: *a term, classification, morphologic structure, the sphere of usage, linguistic borrowing.*

There are a lot of different classifications of terms, such as: by origin, by structure, by the sphere of usage, by peculiar features, by morphological structure, by the area of operation, etc. Famous linguists also offer their own authorial classifications. All of them are based on common concepts and basics, but sometimes have significant difference. Systematization and classification of terms are incredibly important and are necessary for a deeper understanding of a term, its faster and more qualitative translation.

A.V. Superanska N.V. Podolska and N.V. Vasylieva [1], divide terms by morphologic structure into:

1. Terms-words;

2. Terms-combinations of words, which also fall into the following subtypes:

− free phrases, where each member is a term and can form binary relationships;

− connected combinations of words, where each member separately can be not a term, but in connection with other terms it forms a term-combination of words.

Such classification of terms by morphologic structure is rather traditional in linguistics [1, p. 9]. This classification is conditioned by division of the terms by the meaning of their components and by specifics of semantic connection between components.

By the sphere of usage terms divide into:

1. General scientific terms. They are used practically in all fields of science, for example: concentration, theory, conception, tendency etc. It should be noted, that within specific terminology and in connection with other terms, general scientific terms can concretize their primary meaning, for example: bracing, operating system.

2. Interdiciplinary terms. They are used in several related or, vice versa, opposite spheres. Accordingly, architectural terminology can have a common paradigm of concepts with building and construction spheres.

3. Highly specialized terms. Terms which are used only in narrow fields, and are used by curtain number of people.

Such classification is conditioned by peculiarities of meaning of terms and their rate of expansion. Also, we have to know that this classification is also conditioned by certain synonymy of the term, which is a huge problem of translation studies.

Next classification is classification of terms by structure or by the number of components of a term:

1. One-word terms.
2. Two-component terms.
3. Multicomponent terms.

The most common syntax schemes in architectural terminology are:

I. One-word terms - «A singular noun in nominative case».

Examples: truss, beam, compression, web-girder.

II. Two-component terms.

«An adjective + a singular noun in nominative case» is one of the most wide-spread form of terms.

Examples: longitudinal stability, seismic behavior, vertical plane.

«An adjective + a plural noun in nominative case».

Examples: axial forces, parallel chords

«A noun in nominative case + a noun in genitive case without a preposition».

«An adjective + a singular noun in genitive case»

III. Multicomponent terms.

«A noun in nominative case + a noun in genitive case + a noun in genitive case».

Classification by origin is the most important classification for translators. Having got to know the origin of the term, it is easier for a translator to find a proper equivalent or to form a new word with the help of different methods of translation and translation transformations. Terms borrowed from different languages compose about 40% of words in micro-systems of different linguistic fields. A lot of terms are of a Greek or Latin origin and have a special root. We can classify borrowings from Western European languages into the following subtypes:

a) From the German language were borrowed the words naming military concepts (soldier, headquarters, officer, guardhouse), trade, manufacturing, technology (mine, signal, accountant);

b) From French were borrowed terms naming concepts of socio-political life (parliament, demonstration, democracy), art (plot, suite, director), machinery (chassis, carburetor, probe);

c) From Italian were borrowed a lot of terms-words of musical art (violoncello, solo, pianoforte, adagio, aria, opera, soprano, basso);

d) From English came words defining concepts of sailing (schooner, dock, midshipman), sports (football, basketball, baseball, knockout), economy (manager, leasing, consulting, barter), digital technology (interface, cluster, driver, track ball, touch pad);

e) From the Holland language were borrowed sailing terms (boatswain, keel, bumboat, cabin, sailor, harbor).

So, there are various classifications of terms in modern linguistics, and, as scientists have not arrived at a common view on terms classifications, there is still much to be considered and examined, especially from the point of view of translation studies.

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