THE SEMANTIC FIELD OF TIME IN INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION (IN THE EXAMPLE OF ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES)

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Abstract:
The article discussed about "Time" is a fundamental concept that influences various aspects of human life, including communication patterns, social interactions, and cultural perceptions. In intercultural communication, the semantic field of "time" plays a crucial role in shaping cross-cultural interactions and understanding. This article investigates the nuances of how the concept of time is understood and expressed in English and Uzbek languages, highlighting the implications for intercultural communication dynamics.

Key words: time, intercultural communication, semantic field, lexical units, semantic signs, units, invariant, core

Intercultural communication is inherently complex, involving the exchange of ideas, values, and perspectives across linguistic and cultural boundaries. One crucial aspect of intercultural communication is the understanding and interpretation of temporal concepts, which vary significantly across cultures. The semantic field of "time" encompasses a diverse range of linguistic expressions, cultural rituals, and conceptual frameworks that shape individuals' perceptions of past, present, and future [1, p355].

By examining the interplay between language, culture, and temporality, this article aims to shed light on the intricacies of intercultural communication dynamics, focusing on the examples of English and Uzbek languages. Analyzing the content fields of the Uzbek language lexicon offers a deeper understanding of the conceptual categories and domains that shape communication in Uzbek-speaking communities. Each field represents a distinct aspect of human experience or knowledge, such as kinship, nature, emotions, or technology. Furthermore, exploring the internal structure of these fields reveals the hierarchical organization of lexical items within them. Certain words may serve as superordinate terms that encompass broader concepts, while others function as subordinate terms that specify or elaborate on particular aspects. The mutual relationships between structural units within the lexicon's meaningful fields highlight semantic associations and networks. Synonymy, antonym, hyponym, and other semantic relations contribute to the richness and flexibility of language use, allowing speakers to convey nuanced meanings and express complex ideas. [2, p36]

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Semantics play a vital role in intercultural communication by shaping the comprehension and interpretation of language and cultural significance. Within sociolinguistics, effectively translating dramatic texts across diverse cultural contexts poses a significant challenge, demanding the deciphering of culturally contextualized communication. Modes of address also convey precise meanings that vary across linguistic and cultural landscapes, impacting cross-cultural communication dynamics. Language, as a semiotic medium, mirrors subjective temporal perceptions, employing time-related metaphors to conceptualize temporality, underscoring language's significance in intercultural interaction. Cultural variations in cognition can influence how artifacts are perceived, underscoring the importance of understanding semantic preferences for designers operating in diverse cultural milieus. Accurately conveying information and semantic nuances is paramount for averting misunderstandings and conflicts in intercultural exchanges. [3, p245]

Understanding Time in English Culture: In English-speaking societies, "time" is commonly perceived as linear and organized. There is a strong emphasis on punctuality, with expressions like "time is money" emphasizing the value placed on efficiency and productivity. English speakers typically plan their activities meticulously, adhering strictly to schedules and deadlines. Moreover, the language itself mirrors this temporal focus through idiomatic phrases such as "time flies" or "running out of time," highlighting the fleeting nature of temporal experiences.

Conceptualizing Time in Uzbek Culture: In contrast, the perception of "time" in Uzbek culture is characterized by a more flexible and fluid approach. Traditional Uzbek society prioritizes interpersonal connections and communal harmony over rigid adherence to schedules. Consequently, punctuality may not hold the same level of importance as in English-speaking cultures. Instead, time is often seen as cyclical, intertwined with nature and the rhythm of daily life. In English, idiomatic phrases like "time is of the essence," "time waits for no one," and "time heals all wounds" encapsulate various conceptualizations of time. Moreover, temporal vocabulary includes precise units of measurement such as seconds, minutes, and hours, as well as abstract notions like era, epoch, and eternity.

Similarly, the Uzbek language is rich in temporal expressions deeply rooted in cultural traditions and historical contexts. Words such as "vaqt" (time), "davr" (period), and "payt" (moment) capture different facets of temporal experiences. Idiomatic phrases like "vaqti kelganda" (when the time comes) and "vaqti kelar" (it will be time) reflect the dynamic nature of temporal perception. Cultural influences profoundly shape the conceptualization of time, with factors such as historical events, religious beliefs, and societal norms playing significant roles.

In English-speaking cultures, the Industrial Revolution and the advent of capitalism promoted a mechanistic view of time as a finite resource. This perspective is evident in the emphasis on punctuality, adherence to schedules, and the segmentation of time into discrete units for work, leisure, and personal activities.

Conversely, Uzbek culture draws upon Islamic traditions and nomadic heritage, which prioritize communal harmony, hospitality, and harmony with nature. As a result, time is perceived as more flexible and elastic, with an emphasis on relational time spent with family, friends, and community members.

In conclusion, the semantic domain of "time" offers a framework for examining the complex relationship among language, culture, and communication in

intercultural settings. By acknowledging the cultural factors that influence temporal perspectives and linguistic representations, individuals can better address challenges in cross-cultural communication, promoting mutual understanding, empathy, and collaboration across diverse cultural backgrounds. Embracing diverse temporal viewpoints enriches intercultural exchanges, fostering deeper connections and harmony within the global community. The concept of "time" provides a framework for examining how language, culture, and communication interact in intercultural settings. By acknowledging how cultural factors influence perceptions of time and linguistic expressions, individuals can better navigate challenges in cross-cultural communication.

References:

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