SPECIFIC FEATURES OF THE CATEGORY OF NEGATION IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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ABSTRACT
The following article is devoted to the category of negation in the English language .It deals with specific features of the category and ways of the formation of negative elements .The authors carried out a thorough analysis of sentences with negative elements on the basis of comparative typology.The examples have been taken from English and American literature.

KEY WORDS: *The category of negation, negative words, mononegation, polynegation, predicate, negative pronouns, pragmatic features, semantic features, lexical, linguistics, pragmatic, semantic.*

DISCUSSION

The English language has become more than a tool of communication and this is the language of business , world politics and science.Consequently,learning and knowing English has turned into the necessary demand of our life. It is evident that the English and Russian languages are different in a number of language aspects. Owing to the English specific features of grammar system these differences and some similarities must be taken into consideration and also they should be learnt thoroughly. One of the biggest grammatical differences is in the formation and usage of the negative structure.

Negation has always been in the centre of linguistics, formal logic and even psychology . Some linguists confirm that it is impossible to understand the meaning of linguistic negation if one doesn`t apply to the history of the development of this category and the ways of its formation . J.Buranov worked out theoretical foundations of comparative linguistics,(4.284) while U.Yusupov created theoretical foundations of typological and comparative linguistics and pointed out : ``Eighteen parameters must be taken into consideration in the process of comparative analysis of languages``(9.126.)

A.I.Baherev investigated ``не`` and `` без`` which are used in the formation of new words. Analyzing negative elements he concentrated on the lexical ways of the formation of negative words in his scientific research work.(2.99.)

Having investigated diverse negative conceptions : the negation in linguistics,the negation in psycholinguistics and the negation in pragmalinguistics, V.N Bondarko came to the following conclusion : ``The category of negation is considered to be the logic-grammatical category .(3.121.)

Robin Lakoff dealt with the negative category in the following aspects :

- One –root antonyms formed by affixes and without affixes;
- The formation of words with negative semantics ;
- The negation in complex syntactic structures. (3.168)

Pragmatic and semantic features of the category of negation have to be analyzed from the point of functional typology. Implicit, explicit , combined and not combined , on the basis of dictum and mode types of negation can be identified while

analyzing the negative category .Types of languages are determined by means of language factors forming normal,systematic and structural sides of mononegation and polynegation .

A.Hubbel confirmed : ``Polynegation in the English language disappeared more than 300 years ago ``.(7.110-126.)

In most languages negative words : no, nobody, none ,never ,nothing and nowhere are used with negative verbs (polynegation), while in standard English these negative words themselves enough to give a negative meaning.Due to this fact English is considered to be a monenegative language.

1. Rivarez has heard nothing . (E.L.Voinich.)

   -Реварез нечего не слышал.

2. I asked nobody to come here.(E.Hamingway.)

   -Я не просил некого придти сюда.

In order to give a negative meaning it is preferable to use "not … anything" , "not .. anybody".

1. Revazer has not heard anything.
2. I did not ask anybody to come here.

But "nothing" and "nobody" give more emphatic meaning to sentences.

Double and multiple negative words can be sometimes used instead of simple positive structures for special stylistic effects and they are rather literary forms:

1.I don`t dislike you= I like you.

2. Sue can`t have misunderstood it= Sue must have understood it.

So, it can be concluded that the English language is a mononegative language while the Russian and Uzbek languages are polynegative.

Negation in the modern English language is formed by means of suffixes and prefixes, negative pronouns and particles:

a)Affixes which express negation can be seen in the lexical level of the language:

Mother-motherless; care-careless; friend-friendless; like-dislike;   legal-illegal;   regular-irregular; fortunately-unfortunately…

b)The most productive way of the expressing negation is the use of "not" which is added to auxiliary, modal and link verbs and thus, negative forms of predicates give negative meanings to all parts of speech, to subjects, to adjectives, to adverbs etc.

1. You   can   not   alter   the   other things.(E.L.Voinich.)

2. His story was not entirely new.(D.Carter.)

3. I dare not work quickly.(E.L.Voinich.)

c)Lexical way of expressing negation, i.e. with the help of negative pronouns and negative adverbs: nobody, nothing, nowhere, neither…nor, none … :

1.Two is company but three is none.(Proverb)

2.You have nothing to confess. (D.Carter)

3.He neither takes bribes nor keeps mistresses. (E.L.Voinich.)

V.N.Jigadlo, I.P.Ivanova and L.L.Iofic pointed out: "Negative pronouns show the absence of objects or some signs"(8.350.).

In accordance with I.V.Andreyev's opinion, "The negative category must be analyzed in the structure of sentences, and the negation is considered to be a grammatical category".(1.21.)

In our scientific research work we've analyzed English sentences with negative elements on the basis of modaling, determined syntagmatic and paradigmatic relations of negative components and syntaxemes. System relations of syntaxemes and their variants which are revealed by means of the method of experiment have a great opportunity to investigate them from the point of view of comparative typology. Different syntactical and semantical signs of negative elements in the structure of English sentences in different positions can also be indetified with the help of comparative typology.

Having analyzed the category of negation we have concluded that the lexical grammatical way is the most productive in the formation of negative words. And lexical elements expressing negation are met in different positions of the structures of sentences.

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