

Olga N. Ivanishcheva
Murmansk Arctic State University
Murmansk, Russian Federation
oivanishcheva@gmail.com

Anthropological linguistics and methodology of studying lexics of the disappearing language of the indigenous small people of the North

Abstract

The purpose of the article is to determine the specifics of the research methodology of such a phenomenon as the endangered language of the indigenous people. The Kildin Saami language is considered as an subject of study, and the vocabulary of this language is considered as an object. The new idea of the work consists in a cognitive approach to the forms and methods of cognition of the endangered language of the Kola North in the framework of anthropological linguistics. It is shown that the reliance on the experience of native speakers of the small indigenous people of the North is crucial in the methodology of its research. Interviews, questionnaires, field studies should be combined in the study of the vocabulary of such a language with the methods of generalization and comparison. It is emphasized that the comparison method in studying the vocabulary of an indigenous minority can be used to solve the problem of distinguishing between scientific and naive knowledge of realities, and therefore, distinguishing between “naive-language” and “scientific” pictures of the world. The specificity of using the comparison technique, which consists in the features of the compared objects, is noted. For endangered languages, the article proposes to compare written sources, including dictionaries of the past and / or beginning of the last twentieth century, and oral materials of modern field research. It is argued that this way of analysis helps to determine the degree of preservation of the language, which is under threat of extinction. It has been established that a cognitive approach to the analysis of the vocabulary of the Kildin Saami language reveals not only the presence / absence of gaps in the linguistic consciousness of the modern native speaker, but also the connotative meanings associated with imposing a traditional folk worldview with the realities of the modern life of the indigenous people.

Keywords: anthropolinguistics, methodology, cognitive approach, Kildin Saami language.

© Ivanishcheva O. N. 2021

For citation: Ivanishcheva, O. N. (2021). Antropologicheskaya lingvistika i metodologiya issledovaniya leksiki ischezayushchego yazyka korenного malochislennogo naroda severa [Anthropological linguistics and methodology of studying lexics of the disappearing language of the indigenous small people of the North]. *Teoreticheskaya i prikladnaya lingvistika* [Theoretical and Applied Linguistics], 7 (1), 63–73. doi: 10.22250/2410-7190_2021_7_1_63_73.