Primary Taxis: Prototypes and their surroundings

Abstract

The article considers the issues of prototypical semantics actualization of the primary taxis in statements with prepositional deverbatives. The focus is made on statements with prepositional deverbatives with taxis-forming prepositions während, seit, vor; nach, bis, in, bei, mit in the temporal meaning. Such statements, related to the sphere of primary (chronological, logically unconditioned) taxis, are characterized by taxis-chronological meanings of simultaneity and non-simultaneity without accompanying adverbial elements of logical conditioning (mode of action, purpose, concession, condition, cause, following, etc.). Modern fiction and non-fiction excerpts taken from German corpora served as the material for the study. Continuous sampling methods was used to select 1500 tokens containing the prepositions that were further analyzed using onomato-semasiological approach. The obtained results enabled to draw several conclusions. First, in sentences with the temporal preposition während and the heterogeneous taxis prepositions in, bei, mit in the temporal meaning, the primary taxis categorical situations of simultaneity are actualized. Second, in statements with taxis-forming prepositions of temporal semantics vor, nach, seit, bis, primary-taxis categorical situations of different temporality (following, precedence) are actualized. Third, in the presence of iterative verbs (iteratives, distributions, multiplicatives), deverbatives with the semantics of genetic/derivational iterativeness/multiplicativity and iterative quantifiers (adverbials and attributes of cyclicity, multiplicity, usability, frequency, counting complex, etc.) iterative-primary taxis categorical situations of simultaneity/non-simultaneity are represented in the examined statements. Diagnostics and description of prototypical elements that actualize primary taxis categorical situations of simultaneity and asynchronicity will enable to perform further sub-categorization of the taxis category in German.

Keywords: taxis, primary taxis, simultaneity asynchronicity, prototypes, prototypical semantics, primary taxis categorical situations.

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