

Anastasia A. Shiyanova
Ob-Ugric Institute of Applied Researches and Development,
Khanty-Mansiysk, Russian Federation,
SyaziA@mail.ru

Semantics of the Khanty adjectives characterizing weather phenomena

Abstract

The article considers the semantic structure of the Khanty adjectives characterizing weather phenomena. The study is carried out on the material of Western dialects of Khanty – Kazymsky, Shuryshkar and Priural. The material for the study was a card file composed of examples of bilingual dictionaries on the Khanty language, folklore collections and samples of spoken speech collected from Khanty native speakers. The result of the study was a description of the semantics of the language units characterizing weather events in all studied dialects of the Khanty language. Five word-building patterns were discovered for the adjectives: 1) «N+ =əḡ/=εḡ», 2) «N + =ḡ», 3) «N + =и/=ы», 4) «V + =am/=əm», 5) «N + =am». These adjectives form 4 lexico-semantic groups. Neither systematization of these lexico-semantic groups has been previously performed, nor the 5 word-building patterns have been previously reported in the literature devoted to the Khanty language. Another contribution was clarification of lexical units characterizing natural phenomena.

Keywords: Khanty language, Khanty dialects, adjectives, vocabulary, semantics, word-building patterns, natural phenomena characteristic features.

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