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Means of expressing imperative semantics in Russian (Functional-semantic field of imperativeness)

Abstract

The article analyzes the semantics of the imperative and the composition of the functional-semantic field (FSF) of imperativeness in modern Russian. The aim was to establish the types of multi-level language units that express imperative semantics. The material for the study was taken from scientific works devoted to imperative units and the National Corpus of the Russian Language. Particular imperative meanings are considered, including prohibitive, preventive, future tense imperative, immediate action imperative, motion imperative, change action imperative, anterior imperative, permissive, polite imperative, non-categorical imperative, instructions, propositive imperative, desemantized imperative, jussive. It was found that the FSF of the imperativeness of the Russian language is a clearly structured monocentric field, which includes the core (the imperative mood of the verb and motivating sentences), the nuclear zone (analytical forms of the 1st person plural), the near periphery (non-specific forms of the 3rd person), the far periphery (interrogative sentences, infinitives and infinitive constructions, subjunctive mood forms, past tense forms, present tense forms, future tense forms, noun, modal words that convey the semantics of the need for action, non-modal words of the state category, interjections, lexical means of motivation, incomplete sentences of imperative semantics, vocative sentences), extreme periphery (hidden imperative speech acts implemented in the context, and non-verbal means of imperativeness). The conclusion is made about the significant communicative and expressive potential of the units belonging to FSF of imperativeness in the Russian language due to the variety of imperative meanings and the multi-composition of the FSF of imperativeness.

Keywords: imperative, imperative semantics, functional-semantic field of imperativeness, Russian language, core of the field, periphery of the field

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