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Adjectives representing spatial relations in the Amur local accents of Russian

Abstract

Language reflects the peculiarities of the perception of space forming a linguistic picture of the world unique for each ethnos. Spatial relations can be verbalized by different parts of speech. This study aims to consider adjectives with spatial meaning used in Russian dialects of the Amur Region. The focus is made on adjectives reflecting vertical and horizontal models of space. The study revealed the preferences of dialect speakers in the choice of adjectives to describe spatial relations as well as the main groups of objects receiving spatial features. Thus, the adjectives *high – low* are used to characterize the components of the environment, the height of trees, plants, descriptions of buildings, structures, clothing, shoes while the adjectives *wide – narrow, long – short* characterize the spaces of natural realities, houses, the size of household items, working tools, equipment for fishing and hunting. The results showed the use of both common and dialect adjectives with the spatial meaning as part of the general meaning of the attribute.

Keywords: linguistic space, local accent, perception, adjective, semantic content, linguistic picture of the world

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