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Ekaterina O. Zubareva⊠, Polina P. Chernysheva Perm State University Perm, Russian Federation

fialka21-85@mail.ru

Semantic features of the concept AMOUR in creole language (Based on French and Haitian)

Abstract

Globalization processes, large-scale migration flows lead to an increase in the number of cross-ethnic interactions by means of language that undergoes many changes. When two different languages interact, a prepigin emerges at the initial stage defined as a variable language that does not obey the rules. Over time these rules are formed and then a pidgin is formed. This article aims to determine semantic shifts of the concept AMOUR in the source language (superstratum) and in their variants (substrata). At the first stage of our experiment, French dictionaries were used to perform a component analysis of the lexeme *amour*. At the second stage, texts of classical French literature and modern articles were used to perform a contextual analysis of the lexeme. The analysis of the Haitian language was based on posts and videos in social networks as well as on religious texts. A total of 198 French contexts and 74 Haitian contexts were analyzed. The obtained results enable to conclude that in Haitian creole there is a significant narrowing of the meaning from 15 semantic components to 3 revolving around the definition of a feeling opposite to hatred. Unlike native French speakers, native Haitian creole speakers do not correlate love with art or mythology. The number of usage areas for the lexeme *amour* in Haitian creole is decreased: the lexeme is used only in the context of love-family relations and religious issues.

Keywords: pidgin, creole language, substrate, superstrate, language contact, collocation, semantic shift, narrowing of the meaning

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