

STRUCTURAL AND SEMANTIC PARAMETERS IN MODERN ENGLISH VOCABULARY

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ABSTRACT:

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This topic examines the structural and semantic parameters of modern English vocabulary, focusing on how lexical units are formed and how their meanings are organized and developed. Structural parameters involve word formation processes such as affixation, compounding, conversion, and abbreviation, which contribute to the expansion and organization of the English lexicon. Semantic parameters, on the other hand, deal with the meaning relations of words, including polysemy, synonymy, antonymy, and context-dependent meaning changes. In modern English, word meanings are highly dynamic and continuously influenced by social, cultural, and technological developments. The study concludes that structural and semantic parameters are closely interconnected and play a significant role in understanding the evolution, productivity, and dynamic nature of modern English vocabulary.

INTRODUCTION

Modern English vocabulary is a dynamic and constantly evolving system that reflects social, cultural, technological, and communicative changes in contemporary society. The study of its structural and semantic parameters is essential for understanding how new words are formed, how meanings are developed, and how lexical units interact within the language

system. Vocabulary is not a static component of language; rather, it is continuously enriched through various word-formation processes and semantic shifts. Structural parameters of vocabulary focus on the internal organization of words and the mechanisms of their formation. These include processes such as affixation, compounding, conversion, blending, and abbreviation, which contribute to the expansion of the English lexicon. Each of these mechanisms plays a significant role in creating new lexical units and maintaining the productivity of the language. Semantic parameters, in turn, deal with the meaning aspects of words and their relationships within the lexical system. Phenomena such as polysemy, synonymy, antonymy, and contextual meaning variation illustrate how word meanings are structured and transformed in different communicative situations. The interaction between structure and meaning highlights the complexity and flexibility of modern English vocabulary.

Research Gap

Despite extensive research on English lexicology, most studies have traditionally focused either on structural aspects of word formation or on semantic relations in isolation. There is still a lack of integrated analysis that systematically explores the interconnection between structural and semantic parameters in modern English vocabulary. In addition, relatively few studies address how contemporary social, technological, and cultural changes influence both the formation of new lexical units and their semantic development in a unified framework. Therefore, a comprehensive approach that combines both structural and semantic perspectives remains insufficiently developed.

Aim of the Study

The main aim of this study is to analyze the structural and semantic parameters of modern English vocabulary and to examine their interrelation in the process of lexical development. The study also aims to identify the key word-formation processes and semantic phenomena that contribute to the dynamic nature of modern English, and to demonstrate how these factors collectively shape the evolution of the vocabulary system.

The relevance of this topic lies in the growing importance of English as a global language and the need to understand its lexical development for linguistic, educational, and communicative purposes. This study aims to analyze the structural and semantic characteristics of modern English vocabulary and to demonstrate their interdependence in shaping the language system.

METHODOLOGY

This study applies a qualitative linguistic analysis combined with a corpus-based approach to examine the structural and semantic parameters of modern English vocabulary. The methods are designed to identify patterns in word formation and meaning relations through systematic observation and classification. The primary method used is **descriptive analysis**, which is applied to explain how lexical units are formed and how their meanings function in different contexts. In addition, **comparative analysis** is used to examine similarities and differences among various word-formation processes and semantic categories. A **classification method** is also employed to group lexical items according to structural features (affixation, compounding, conversion, abbreviation) and semantic features (polysemy, synonymy, antonymy, contextual meaning). This helps in organizing the data into meaningful categories for further interpretation.

Research Design

This study employs a qualitative-descriptive research design aimed at analyzing the structural and semantic parameters of modern English vocabulary. The design is based on linguistic analysis of lexical items and focuses on identifying patterns in word formation and meaning relations. A corpus-based approach is also used to ensure objective observation of real language usage.

Participants or Sample

Since this is a linguistic study, no human participants were directly involved. The sample consists of 300 lexical units selected from modern English sources, including newspapers, academic texts, online articles, and contemporary dictionaries. The selected vocabulary represents word-formation types and semantic categories.

Materials and Instruments

The main materials include modern English dictionaries, linguistic corpora, academic articles, and online language databases. Instruments used for analysis include corpus analysis tools, classification tables, and coding schemes for identifying structural and semantic features of words.

Data Collection Procedures

Data were collected by extracting lexical items from selected authentic English texts. The words were then grouped based on their structural formation (e.g., affixation, compounding, conversion) and semantic properties (e.g., polysemy, synonymy, antonymy). Repeated occurrences and contextual usage were also recorded for further analysis.

Data Analysis Process

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The collected data were analyzed using descriptive and comparative methods. Structural features of words were classified according to word-formation processes, while semantic features were analyzed based on meaning relations and contextual usage. The frequency and distribution of different categories were calculated to identify dominant patterns in modern English vocabulary. The results were then interpreted to show the interaction between structural and semantic parameters.

Finally, a **frequency analysis** is applied to determine the most common structural and semantic patterns in the collected data, allowing the researcher to identify dominant trends in modern English vocabulary development.

RESULT

The analysis of modern English vocabulary revealed that both structural and semantic parameters play a significant role in shaping the development of the lexical system. The findings show that word-formation processes such as affixation, compounding, conversion, blending, and abbreviation are highly productive in contemporary English and contribute to the continuous expansion of vocabulary.

Among the structural processes, compounding and affixation were found to be the most frequently used mechanisms in forming new lexical units. Conversion also demonstrated a high level of productivity, particularly in informal and digital communication contexts.

In terms of semantic parameters, polysemy was identified as the most dominant phenomenon, indicating that many English words carry multiple related meanings depending on context. Synonymy and antonymy were also widely observed, contributing to lexical richness and expressive variation. Contextual meaning changes were especially evident in modern media and technological discourse. The results further indicate a strong interrelationship between structural formation and semantic development. Newly formed words often undergo semantic expansion, while existing words acquire new meanings due to social and technological changes. This demonstrates the dynamic and adaptive nature of modern English vocabulary. Overall, the findings confirm that modern English vocabulary is highly productive, flexible, and continuously evolving, with both structural and semantic factors contributing equally to its development.

DISCUSSION

The findings of this study demonstrate that modern English vocabulary is characterized by a strong interaction between structural word-formation processes and semantic development. The dominance of compounding, affixation, and conversion confirms that English remains a highly productive language capable of continuously generating new lexical items to meet

communicative demands. The results also show that semantic phenomena, particularly polysemy, play a crucial role in enriching vocabulary. The presence of multiple meanings within single lexical units reflects the flexibility of English and its ability to adapt to different contexts, especially in digital communication and media discourse. The comparison between structural and semantic parameters indicates that while structural processes are more rule-based and systematic, semantic changes are more dynamic and context-dependent. This difference highlights the complementary nature of the two aspects: structure provides stability in word formation, while semantics ensures adaptability in meaning.

1. Results

The analysis of modern English vocabulary shows that structural word-formation processes such as compounding, affixation, and conversion are highly productive and frequently used in creating new lexical units. Among semantic phenomena, polysemy is the most dominant feature, followed by synonymy and antonymy. The data also indicate that many new words are formed due to technological, social, and cultural developments, especially in digital communication.

2. Comparison

A comparison between structural and semantic findings reveals that structural processes are mainly responsible for creating new word forms, while semantic processes are responsible for expanding and modifying meanings. Structural changes are more observable at the morphological level, whereas semantic changes are more context-dependent and flexible. Compared to structural patterns, semantic changes occur more frequently in everyday usage.

3. Explanation (Why results are similar or different)

The results are similar in showing that both structural and semantic parameters contribute to vocabulary development. However, they differ in function: structural processes create new lexical items, while semantic processes adjust or extend meanings of existing words. This difference exists because word formation follows grammatical rules, whereas meaning change is influenced by context, culture, and communication needs.

4. Interpretation

The findings suggest that modern English vocabulary is a dynamic and interconnected system where structure and meaning continuously interact. Structural mechanisms ensure the growth of new words, while semantic mechanisms guarantee flexibility and adaptability in communication. This interaction reflects the evolving nature of English as a global language and highlights its ability to adapt to modern social and technological changes.

The interpretation of the results suggests that modern English vocabulary evolves through a continuous interaction between linguistic creativity and social influence. Technological innovation, globalization, and cultural exchange significantly contribute to both the creation of new words and the transformation of existing meanings. Overall, the study confirms that vocabulary development in modern English cannot be fully understood by examining structure or meaning separately.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, modern English vocabulary should be understood as an integrated system where structural formation and semantic development work together. This interdependence ensures the adaptability, expressiveness, and global relevance of the English language in contemporary communication. This study examined the structural and semantic parameters of modern English vocabulary, highlighting their roles in the development and expansion of the lexical system. The findings demonstrate that English vocabulary is highly dynamic, continuously evolving through productive word-formation processes such as compounding, affixation, conversion, blending, and abbreviation. The research also confirms that semantic features, particularly polysemy, synonymy, and contextual meaning changes, significantly contribute to the richness and flexibility of modern English. The interaction between structural and semantic parameters shows that new word forms often lead to new meanings, while existing words adapt to new communicative contexts. The study also emphasizes that a comprehensive understanding of both structural and semantic aspects is essential for linguists, teachers, and learners, as it provides deeper insight into the nature and development of the English lexicon.

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