



ON THE QUESTION OF THE CONCEPT "TERM" IN MODERN LINGUISTICS

Abidova Azizakhon

Lecturer, Andijan State University

Abstract

The article gives various approaches to the definition of the term "term", discusses the basic properties and functions of the term, and also provides requirements for its meaning and form.

Key words: science, definition, term, word, property, requirement, function.

Currently, there is no generally accepted definition of the term that fully reflects its essence. L. M. Alekseeva believes that the weakest link in the theory of terminology is still the clarification of the nature of the term, since the term is not only a multidimensional, but also an internally contradictory object of study. In modern science, there are several approaches to the definition of the term: some scientists give the term a logical definition; others - descriptively reveal the content of the term, attributing to it characteristic features; still others highlight the term by opposing it to some negative unit. Such a multifaceted definition of the term is explained by the fact that the term is the object of several sciences at the same time. It is known that the same term can be included in different terminological systems of a given language, which, according to A. A. Reformatsky, creates interscientific terminological homonymy.

Each science includes its understanding and its features in the definition of the term. Thus, the logician believes that a term is any word, if it is given a strict definition. This understanding of the term originated in ancient Greek science since the time of Plato. Philosophers understand the term as an abbreviation of the definition, thus equating both concepts. Linguists, on the other hand, understand the term as the naming of a concept, and the definition as a detailed interpretation of this name. Sociologists consider any special word as a term, especially if it is associated with science or production, regardless of its origin and whether it has a strict definition.

According to S. V. Grinev-Grinevich, the term must be considered in comparison with the main lexical unit of the language - the word. The problem of the relationship between the term and the word has long been one of the most important in terminology. The linguist argues that the term primarily refers to the general class of lexical units, and its belonging to a special vocabulary is secondary, which, in turn, is due to the relationship with common vocabulary.

Grinev-Grinevich also believes that when considering the characteristics of the term and the requirements for it, one should proceed from the fact that the term is a symbolic unit and should be considered in syntactic, semantic and pragmatic aspects. In this regard, he proposes the following requirements for the term:



1. Value Requirements:

- a) consistency of semantics - the absence of a contradiction between the lexical meaning of the term as a word and the meaning it receives in this terminology;
- b) unambiguity in this terminology;
- c) completeness - reflection in the meaning of the term of the minimum number of signs sufficient to identify the concept it denotes;
- d) lack of synonyms.

2. form requirements:

- a) compliance with the norms of the language - the elimination of professional jargon, deviations from phonetic and grammatical norms, the replacement of forms unusual for the literary language;
- b) brevity:
 - lexical brevity (non-autologous) - fixing in the form of a term the minimum number of identification features, the absence of "empty" elements that do not carry a semantic load; - formal brevity - preference is given to terms with a shorter form;
- c) derivational ability
 - the ability to form derivatives;
- d) motivation - semantic transparency, allowing you to get an idea of the concept called the term;
 - systematicity - the possibility of reflecting in the structure of the term the connection of the called concept with other concepts and the place of this concept in this conceptual system.

3) pragmatic (functional) requirements:

- a) implementation:
 - generally accepted;
 - usability;
- b) internationality - the sameness or similarity in form and content of terms used in several national languages;
- c) modernity - ousting obsolete terms from use, replacing them with modern ones;
- d) euphony - the term should not cause undesirable associations outside of highly specialized use, should not have associative dissonance;
- e) esoteric - the intentional inaccessibility of the term for understanding.

The function of a term is usually understood as the role that the term performs as a means of denoting a general special concept. V.M. Leichik [8] suggests that when analyzing the functions of a term, the functions of the word should be taken as the basis, since the terms are based on the lexical units of the language. The main functions of the term V.M. Leichik considers the following:

- 1) nominative - terms are called general concepts, categories, signs (properties) of concepts, as well as operations (relations) in various special areas of human knowledge and activity: in science, production, the sphere of public life, etc.;
- 2) significative (designation function, sign function) - the methods of designation are studied, the types of language signs according to their motivation (unmotivation), the relationship of signs to types of



objects, it turns out whether the language sign denotes a separate object or a class of objects, how the processes of designating objects (classes) are related (objects) and concepts about objects;

3) communicative (informational) - the word is characterized as a means of conveying some content and stylistic information with the establishment of feedback;

4) teaching - terms serve as a means of transferring special knowledge in space and time and are used, on the one hand, in scientific communication and, on the other hand, in teaching;

5) pragmatic - the sign is associated with the participants in communication, specific conditions and the scope of communication, depends on the attitude that the speaker chooses, influencing the listener: to convince, induce to action, etc.;

6) heuristic - the function of discovering new knowledge. When constructing definitions and classifications of concepts, when trying to uniquely correlate concepts with the terms denoting them, incompleteness or inaccuracy of concepts is often revealed. Scientists note that formalization is most often accompanied by a complete restructuring of the theory, which was previously considered acceptable. Scientific, technical and other terms are part of scientific theories as a means of designating the concepts of these theories;

7) cognitive - the term is defined as the result of a long process of cognition of the essence of objects and phenomena of objective reality and the inner life of a person, as a verbalization of a special concept, which initially can be not just a mental object, but even a manifestation of sensory cognition. Currently, the term in the works of representatives of cognitive terminology is described as the result of a discourse that implements the process of cognition.

Conclusion

Thus, based on the foregoing, we can conclude that in modern linguistics there is no unambiguous definition of the term, which is explained by the fact that the term belongs to different areas of scientific activity, different approaches to its definition and a variety of parameters. The most capacious in content and concise in form is the definition of the term proposed by O.S. Akhmanova, who believes that a term is a word or phrase of a special language, created to accurately express special concepts and designate special objects. The term is multifunctional and performs nominative, significative, communicative, teaching, pragmatic, heuristic and cognitive functions. Certain requirements are imposed on the term: specificity of use, definition, unambiguity, full meaning, absence of synonyms, compliance with literary norms, stylistic neutrality, generally accepted, motivation, many of which do not raise doubts and objections. As for the parameter requiring the complete absence of synonymy, this issue seems to be controversial and open due to the existing irrefutable facts of terminological synonymy in the language.

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