

Word Meaning

- 1.1 Reference
- Reference is the conventional or arbitrary relationship between language and the world. Part of the word meaning is the reference.
- 1.2 Concept
- Though meaning and concept are closely related, they belong to different categories: concept is the result of human cognition while meaning is the result of language use.
- 1.3 Sense
- Sense denotes the intrinsic semantic relationship inside the language. It is not concerned with the connection between words and what these words indicate in the word. The sense of an expression is its place in a system of semantic relationships with other expressions in the language.

Types of meaning

- Grammatical
- Lexical
- Conceptual
- Associative

Motivation

The term motivation is used to denote the relationship existing between the phonemic or morphemic composition and structural pattern of the word on the one hand, and its meaning on the other. There are three main types of motivation: phonetical motivation, morphological motivation, and semantic motivation.

Phonetical motivation

When there is a certain similarity between the sounds that make up the word and those referred to by the sense, the motivation is phonetical. Examples are: bang, buzz, cuckoo, giggle, gurgle, hiss, and purr.

Morphological motivation

- Morphological motivation tries to establish the connection of meaning of the word to its form from morphological point of view. Sometimes, we can work out the meaning of a word if we know the meaning of the morphemes that constitute that word.
- Loudspeaker
- loud speak er (как что делает деятель, исполнитель)

Semantic motivation

It is based on the co-existence of direct and figurative meanings of the same word within the same synchronous system. Mouth continues to denote a part of the human face, and at the same time it can metaphorically apply to any opening or outlet: the mouth of a river, of a cave, of a furnace.