

Some Concepts on Systematization of the Vocabulary of Ethics

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Abstract: The article deals with some issues connected with the systematization of the vocabulary of the terms of ethics in the English language in the XVI – XVIII centuries and gives comparative analysis of different points of specialists on this field. This article also analyzes the linguistic nature of the social and ethical vocabulary and style inherent in the initial stage of the formation of a system of ethical and philosophical concepts in national English.

Key points: ethics, society, development, technology, phonology, morphology, syntax, terminological system, philosophy, lexical system, semantic-syntactical parameters, word combination, prepositions, parts of speech, borrowing, achievements, natural science.

In the historical development of the English language, the epoch we are studying is particularly important, since this period the existence of a linguistic norm becomes undoubted. The steady development of production and social consciousness in the Middle Ages, certain achievements of science and technology led to the fact that the cultivated ideological postulates began to restrain the further progress of mankind. While ensuring the relative freedom of the human personality, and hence a certain flourishing of its creative activity, feudalism could not, however, create the necessary conditions for the comprehensive ties of the individual with nature and society and, thereby, the material prerequisites for the comprehensive development of man.

It required “a kind of reorientation towards, as it were, the restoration of the corporeal-material ideal of being of antiquity, accompanied by a gradual rejection of the ascetic-quietist ideals of the Middle Ages, which is reflected in the self-designation of the coming early bourgeois era - the Renaissance”. This was also facilitated by a number of crisis scientific discoveries that radically changed the picture of the world. Thanks to the great discoveries of N. Copernicus, J. Bruno, G. Galileo and others, a new experimental natural science is emerging, new branches of science are rapidly developing. Under the influence of great geographical and scientific discoveries, religious and mythical ideas about the world are collapsing and the principles of a scientific and realistic worldview are gradually being formed, which accordingly leads to changes in ethical and aesthetic canons. As a result, the results become unexpected, assumptions and guesses become audacious, which naturally leads to an urgent need for a critical analysis of the knowledge gained¹. The formation of a new worldview was given an impetus by the great socio-economic and technical shifts associated with the names of J. Gilbert, T. Harriot, D. Neper, W. Harvey and others. A new powerful rise of realism in literature is associated with the formation of bourgeois nations and the national consciousness of the English people, which is expressed in a specific national culture and becomes generally accessible and democratic in nature. Already Shakespeare’s dramaturgy “acquires the character of a clearly expressed national certainty in the live reproduction of historical

¹ Методологический анализ историко-философского знания. – Киев: Выща школа, 1984. – С.157; Ступин Л.П. Проблема нормативности в истории английской лексикографии XV-XX вв. – Л.: ЛГУ, 1989. – С.42.

processes and topical social conflicts, remaining Renaissance in terms of the breadth of human life and the height of the sound of humanistic ideals”².

The completion of this process was undoubtedly facilitated by a comprehensive study of the classical heritage, which led primarily to the enrichment of the lexicon of the English language. Scientific works are already being created in English, translated literature is receiving significant development, a scientific and philosophical movement is being widely deployed, the crown of which is the materialistic philosophical system of Francis Bacon, the ancestor of all experimenting science and who completes the philosophy of the Renaissance and opens a new stage in the development of European scientific and philosophical thought of Modern Times. The establishment of the English language as the language of scientific and philosophical literature took a more difficult path. There were no significant changes in the language of science of this period, since “the Latin language in the linguistic life of England of the XVI-XVII centuries. and even the XVIII century. was the center around which the search for the norm of the English literary language was conducted”. Nevertheless, in 1531 Thomas Eliot wrote the book “The Governor” / in English. This was the first attempt to create a scientific work in the native English language. T. Elliot made it quite deliberately to prove that serious works can be written in English, although the English language of that time did not yet have its own special industry terminology.

The formation of ethical and philosophical vocabulary in the XVI-XVII centuries in England took place on the one hand, under the influence of national specifics of socio-economic and cultural development, and on the other - reflected the main trends of general linguistic evolution. Despite the presence of two contradictory and opposite trends - purism, on the one hand, and the widespread use of Latinisms to create missing terms, on the other. Both the first and the second directions are indicated by the conscious nature of the struggle for a particular language policy.

The new interest in language issues was relevant not only for England, it was a sign of the time when the struggle for the native language was becoming one of the effective ways to manifest national identity. Many researchers note that the main factor of scientific thinking in this era is the ideological criteria of the interpreter, depending on which the research methodology is built. This fully explains the scientific orientation of the formation of scientific terminology. Therefore, in the terminology of ethical and philosophical content there may be lexical units that, at first glance, relate to the terminology of natural and didactic-psychological sciences. However, the phenomena correlated with them are included in the scope of the author's philosophical worldview, so the meanings of these units also have a philosophical character³.

In England of the XVI-XVII centuries, supporters of the universal use of the language (Thomas Nash, George Puttenham, Edmund Spencer, Thomas Eliot, etc.) sharply raised the issue of replenishing its lexicon and, above all, the creation of English scientific terminology. A review of the genre-diverse literature of this period shows that the bulk of terminological vocabulary is created by rethinking the semantics of words and phrases of the general literary language. Moreover, its characteristic feature in this case is imagery and connotation, that is, an expansive interpretation of the word-concept. This imagery is characteristic of the initial stage of term creation - when a concept new to the national linguistic consciousness is introduced and which, for clarity and intelligibility, is figuratively compared with already known concepts. It is this phenomenon that we encounter when we analyze terminology that reflects the worldview of a particular writer or thinker. This is especially evident in the works of a deep, bright philosophical and ethical

² Бабич В.Н. Лексико-семантическое развитие группы слов с общим значением «вера», «доверие» в английском языке XVI-XVIII вв.: (Опыт социолингвистического исследования): Дис. ...канд.филол.наук. – Киев, 1988. – С.12.

³ Shukurova, M. A. (2017). Useful strategies in teaching grammar in english language classes. *Міжнародний науковий журнал Інтернаука*, (1 (1)), 146-148; Askarovna, S. M. (2021). Historical background on the systematization of the vocabulary of ethics. *ACADEMICIA: An International Multidisciplinary Research Journal*, 11(3), 25-29.

orientation, where the author strives for the most objective, in his opinion, reflection of the phenomena of the social reality of his era⁴.

The actual language picture in England was quite complex both in territorial and socio-political terms. Although the existence of Latin in the higher spheres of communication of the English language was still largely supported by the power of centuries-old traditions, in the XVI century the activity of humanists and their views on the relationship of both languages became a new impulse. In the field of the structure of the language, the main issues concerned spelling and the expansion of lexical composition.

Learning your native language in England is gradually becoming an end in itself. At the end of the XVI century, work began on the description of the language and its codification. Grammarians and orthoepists are included in this work, first of all (Hart, William Bullocar, A.Gill, C.Butler, Ch.Cooper)⁵. At the same time, lexicographers who sought to fix the vocabulary of the language developed their activities. If the first such dictionaries were bilingual Latin-English dictionaries of new words, then at the beginning of the 16th century dictionaries of so-called “difficult” words appeared (Robert Cawdrey, H.Cockeram, E.Coles). Bilingual dictionaries reached the apogee of development in the XVI century. These are dictionaries by Thomas Eliot, Richard Huloet, Thomas Cooper, John Baret, John Ryder, etc⁶.

All this leads to the fact that the nature and position of original and translated literature is changing: it becomes highly demanded. The conquest of the right to use the English language in all genres of scientific and literary creativity was the most important issue of the time. At the same time, the interaction of the scientific and artistic literary language with the spoken language should be emphasized, because the language Shakespeare spoke was the language in which he wrote.

Proceeding from the above, it can be argued that the tasks of language here went far beyond the limits of pure linguistics - it was a struggle for a new humanistic thinking, for a genuine cultural flourishing, which required adequate forms of its linguistic explication, which was also expressed in a vivid form in the process of term creation in the field of philosophical vocabulary in general and the vocabulary of ethics in particular. The creation of scientific terminology on a national-English basis by significantly filling the lexicon turned out to be on the agenda.

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