VERBAL MARKERS OF THE CONCEPT OF PEACE: PSYCHOLINGUISTIC AND LEXICAL ANALYSES

Iryna Melnyk
https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5946-0261
melnyk.ryna@vnu.edu.ua
Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University, Ukraine

Larysa Holoiukh
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6971-6301
lara2709@ukr.net
Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University, Ukraine

Diana Kalishchuk
https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1952-5176
diana_kalishchuk@vnu.edu.ua
Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University, Ukraine

Iryna Levchuk
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8623-7425
levchuk.iryna@vnu.edu.ua
Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University, Ukraine

Received June 3, 2020; Revised August 8, 2020; Accepted September 4, 2020

Abstract. The paper is an attempt to uncover the associative semantics of the concept of ‘Peace’ as reflected in the Ukrainian national linguistic world image. The goal of the article is to carry out a psycholinguistic analysis of the concept’s verbal markers and to compare its associative and lexical meanings at the current stage of the Ukrainian language development. Free word association test involved 148 first- and second-year students of Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University (Ukraine), Faculty of Philology and Journalism, Ukrainian native speakers aged 18–20. It has been proved that responses related to common lexical meanings of the word-stimulus ‘Peace’ recorded in modern explanatory dictionaries are predominant. 105 word-responses have become the object of the analysis – 329 word-tokens in total, out of which 44 words have been used two times or more (from 2 to 59 times – 268 word-tokens in total), 61 words have been used one time only. The received responses have been differentiated according to semantic and grammatical criteria. Traditional responses which coincide with the common lexical meaning, as well as new original responses which reflect the respondents’ individual experience and are non-typical (not recorded in the dictionaries), were received. The semantic principle of the concept of ‘Peace’ words-markers’ systematization was used as the basis of forming 11 lexical semantic groups. Among the most numerous are the names related to the state of environment, people’s inner world, their physical, emotional and mental state, moral
and aesthetic properties (47.1%); names that verbalize relations between people, nations, states (31.9%). The groups of semantically distant responses are mainly represented by the names of concrete names, less frequently – by the names of abstract concepts and integral syntactic structures, which have no relation to any of the lexical meanings recorded in lexicographic sources. Their semantic ties can be traced at the unconscious level which reflects the psycholinguistic meaning of this word. The conducted word association test enabled defining the extension of the concept’s psycholinguistic meaning and thus to record new fragments of the Ukrainian linguistic world image caused by historical, political, and national mental processes.

**Keywords:** concept of Peace, free word association test, psycholinguistic analysis, lexical analysis.

1. Introduction

In modern linguistics, the research based on the word association tests has become rather popular. Reflecting the world in the mind of native speakers, experimental studies provide rather valuable information for the analysis of certain mental fragments. They also help reveal verbal markers of the concepts, establish semantic fields, that reflect a certain area of the person’s inner world and reveal...
peculiarities of perception and comprehension of lexical units and in total they serve as the material to build a linguistic image of the world.

Building associations is a complicated psychological and physiological process, which presupposes connection between particular neurological and mental activities, thoughts, ideas, feelings. Certain images that are fixed in the native speakers’ subconscious are the result of the powerful mechanism of associative connections to a particular word that is articulated, heard or read. Perception of the world and individual style of a person are manifested through person’s associations and through the prism of one’s individual associative image of the world, that has been formed during one’s period of maturing in a certain social, cultural, mental, and linguistic environment.

The idea of studying lexical semantics using associative approach was introduced by Leontyev (1969). The researcher mainly focused on principal unity of psychological nature of semantic and associative characteristics of words (Leontyev, 1969). According to Martinek, using theoretical apparatus of cognitive linguistics to interpret the results of word association tests provides a new perspective for the classification of associative responses. The main task of a researcher is not in creating an artificial classification of the received responses, but in reconstructing the respective conceptual structures in the speaker’s mind (Martinek, 2011).

In scientific works of recent years, due to association tests, vectors of associations as indicators of changes in the native speakers’ mind have been characterized (Alimushkina, 2015); types of verbal connections in associative fields have been defined (Terekhova, 2014; Martynovych, 1989; Horoshko, 2001), certain concepts that belong to different semantic spheres have been analysed (Nedashkivska, 2011; Denysevych, 2011), comparative research has been carried out: results of various word association tests conducted at different times have been compared to define the structure and dynamics of concepts (Zayets, 2010), etc.

In recent years, scholarly works that scrutinize the ontology of war and peace in the context of Christianity and Islam (Semchynski, 2007), from the point of view of linguistic information space of the present, have aroused interest (Building, 2015; Parakonski & Yavorska, 2019), philosophical evaluative paradigm of linguistic means of defining the concepts of War and Peace in modern media has been analysed (Kots, 2019), the concept of Peace has been characterized from the point of view of cognitive linguistics (Khudolii, 2014), associative fields of the word-stimulus “Peace” in East Slavic languages have been analysed (Terekhova, 2014).

In modern world the ontology of war and peace belongs to the timeless problems of struggle of opposites in human life. In human mind war is always associated with aggression, destruction, disaster, death, whereas peace is associated with calm, construction, life. Semantics of these opposing concepts is reflected in modern explanatory dictionaries (see War: “1. Organised armed struggle between
states, nations or armed groups within a country. 2. Fig. A state of hostility between anybody; argument, quarrel with somebody, struggle”) (SUM-11, I: 669) and Peace: “1. No disagreement, hostility, argument; consent (in 4th mean.). 2. No armed struggle between two or more nations, states; opposite war. 3. Compromise between the fighting sides to cease fire; peace treaty. 4. Calm, silence” (SUM-11, IV: 712); War “1. Organised armed struggle between states, social layers, etc. 2. Fig. A state of hostility between anybody; argument, quarrel with somebody, struggle” (VTSSUM: 186) and Peace “1. No disagreement, hostility, argument; consent (in 4th mean.). 2. No armed struggle between two or more nations, states; opposite war. 3. Compromise between the fighting sides to cease fire; peace treaty. 4. Calm, silence” (VTSSUM: 667); War 1. Organised armed struggle between states, nations or armed groups within a country. 2. Fig. A state of hostility between anybody; argument, quarrel with somebody, struggle (SUM-20, III: 469) and Peace 1. No disagreement, hostility, argument; consent (in 4th mean.). 2. No armed struggle between two or more nations, states; opposite war. 3. Compromise between the fighting sides to cease fire; peace treaty. 4. Calm, silence (in mean. 1–3)” (SUM-20, IX: 1621). As we see, the meanings of the lexical units under analysis in reputable explanatory dictionaries of the Ukrainian language mainly coincide. It is worth mentioning that these concepts acquire new semantic shades, get new connotations and evaluative paradigms at the present historic moment.

Today’s war in Ukraine differs greatly from previous traditional world wars. If the main purpose of wars and military operations in the past was to achieve the military goal using physical activities (destruction, occupation, etc.), physical military operations and their results affected cognitive sphere, i.e. the sphere of understanding and comprehension of reality. Nowadays it is vice versa – the war as physical violence aims at affecting human conscience, their behavior (Building, 2015). Today’s war in Ukraine is mainly a powerful information war, “the war in minds and for minds. It is the war for cognitive and communication control, for power over human mind, their emotions, thinking, and consequently, for their behavior. It is the struggle for dominance of certain ideas about the world and events in social and individual environment and simultaneous destruction of opposite, “hostile” opinions and thoughts” (Parakhonsky, 2019, p. 21), “it is quasi-aggressive tool of peaceful life, not only of armed conflict between states. And sustainable development of information space produces new opportunities for using these tools. The Internet enabled it to reach new peaks” (Pochepstov, 2015, p. 3).

Despite the considerable amount of scientific works of philosophical and historical nature on the ontology of war and peace, the variety of approaches to study these linguistic units from the point of view of cognitive linguistics, sociolinguistics, communicative pragmatic linguistics, etc., the issue of dominant and peripheral ideas of these concepts in native speakers’ minds has not been researched enough. This fact contributes to the topicality and prospects of our research. In the context of tough competitive struggle in modern politics, business,
economy and social life the concept of Peace acquires some new sense and requires integral systemic description from the perspective of word association test.

The purpose of our research is to carry out integral psycholinguistic analysis of the concept of Peace verbal markers and to compare its associative and lexical meanings at the present stage of the Ukrainian language development. The stated purpose presupposes solution of the following tasks: 1) on the basis of the responses received in word association test to single out and characterize lexical semantic groups which model the lexical semantic field of the word-stimulus peace; 2) to define dominant ideas of the respondents and unconscious components of the concept of Peace semantic space to the maximum extent possible; 3) to analyse the received responses according to grammar criterion; 4) to compare the results of psycholinguistic and lexicographic descriptions of the word meaning.

We support the opinion of some scholars to differentiate these two types of meanings in terms of terminology – the ones recorded in explanatory dictionaries, and the ones represented in native speakers’ minds (Popova & Sternin, 2007, p. 66).

According to Popova and Sternin, the systemic lexicographic meaning has been formed in two ways – logically and descriptively. The logical method is connected to the attempts of lexicographers to minimize the features of a certain word meaning. The descriptive method relies on the limited volume of a dictionary entry. Lexical meanings recorded in dictionaries usually form the nucleus of a word meaning. Those semantic features that are not recorded in dictionary entries but are regularly represented in the contexts of a word usage make it possible to state that there are some additional shades in a word meaning, peripheral, potential ones, and confirm the existence of psychologically real (or psycholinguistic) meaning of the word (Popova & Sternin, 2007, p. 67).

The psychological meaning of the word is a structured unity of all semantic components virtually connected to a certain sound representation in native speakers’ minds. This is the volume of semantic components that is activated in native speakers’ minds by a word taken in isolation, in a unity of all its semantic properties – more or less bright, nuclear and peripheral ones (Popova & Sternin, 2007, p. 68).

A psychologically real word meaning may be theoretically defined and characterized in its basic properties due to comprehensive analysis of all recorded contexts of the word usage. In addition, it may also be effectively defined in an experimental way – though the prism of psycholinguistic experiment.

2. Methods and Procedure

Representatives of different linguistic schools (Sternin & Rudakova, 2001; Cremers & Chemla, 2016; Rakosi, 2017) are actively working on elaboration and improvement of psycholinguistic analysis methodology. Semantic space construction using word association test by college students has been studied in the
works (El-Dakhs, Goldfarb, Halpern, Kostruba, Kotys, Letiucha, Oleksandr Petrov, Vadym Zavadsky). The free WAT is one of the most efficient ways to describe concepts. It enables to define the biggest amount of concept features typical for the current state of native speakers’ mind (Kriuchkova, 2005; Kurhanova, 2019; Vivas, Manoiloff, García, Lizarralde, & Vivas, 2019).

Free word association test presupposes that respondents are given a list of words-stimuli to get quick association responses. According to the requirement of the test the associative reply-response should follow at once, without taking time to think, because if there is choice, there is no association process in the sense traditionally accepted in psychology (Frumkina, 2003). It is important to emphasize that free word association test does not restrict the choice of responses by any criterion and presupposes no limits of verbal reactions. Thus, in most cases respondents give not one, but two or even more responses to the word-stimulus. According to Martinek, “second, third, etc. responses, which are usually not recorded in associative dictionaries, also comprise important information which may be used, in particular, to explicate corresponding conceptual structures in speakers’ mind” (Martinek, 2007, p. 14).

To carry out psycholinguistic diagnostics of the concept of Peace verbal markers we have conducted free word association test which has been performed in writing. 148 respondents have been engaged in the experiment (first and second-year students of Faculty of Philology and Journalism, Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University – native speakers of Ukrainian), aged 18–20. To analyse associations there has been elaborated an express questionnaire. The questions have been connected to the word-stimulus Peace and its association field – words related to the word-stimulus. No refusals have been recorded. In this article we only focus on direct responses received to the word-stimulus Peace. Results of other types of reactions, such as phonetic, derivational, phraseological will be analysed in our further research.

At the same time, in order to achieve objective results, we have combined psycholinguistic and lexicographic data for verbal representation of the concept. To fulfill this we have also utilized the following methods: observation of linguistic data, descriptive method with its techniques of systemic comprehensive study of associative and lexical meanings of the concept of Peace; psycholinguistic analysis – to define emotional responses of a person to the given word-stimulus; contextual analysis – to study extralinguistic factors, from the perspective of which verbal markers of the concept of Peace have been characterized; component analysis – to differentiate the received words-reactions into semantic groups, etc.

3. Results and Discussion

Taking into account the traditional conditions under which word association test has been carried out, where only the first answer is taken into consideration, the number of the responses received to the word-stimulus coincides with the number
of respondents (148). As 105 words- responses have been received – 329 word-tokens – responses to the word-stimulus peace, we have decided to present them in full. It enabled us to reproduce the system of associations, created by the analysed word-stimulus: calm (peace) / спокій 59, peace of mind / спокій (на, в) души 5, peace of mind / душевний спокій 3, peace in the country / спокій в країні 2, peace in the state / спокій в державі 2, harmony / згода 27, friendship / дружба 18, happiness / щастя 16, silence / тиша 8, love / любов 8, consent / згода 8, kindness / добро 7, agreement / порозуміння 7, harmony / лад 6, rapport / взаєморозуміння 6, dove / голуб 6, по war / відсутність війни 5, safety / безпека 5, joy / радість 5, sin / сонце 5, light / світло 5, life / життя 5, blessing / благославляти 5, harmony / гармонія 3, smile / посмішка 3, welfare / благополуччя 3, tears of joy / слюзи радості 3, tears / слюзи 2, freedom / свобода 2, support / підтримка 2, friendliness / дружелюбність 2, balance / рівновага 2, cosiness / затишок 2, solidarity / міцність 2, strength / сила 2, commonwealth / співдружність 2, laughter / сміх 2, angel / ангел 2, holiday / свято 2, God / Бог 2, bird / птах 2, family / родина 2, happy family / щаслива родина, all family / вся родина, child / дитина 2, smiling child / усміхнена дитина, happy child / щаслива дитина, mom / мама, happy mom / щаслива мама, granny / бабуся, sky / небо 2, clear sky / чисте небо, cloudless sky / безхмарне небо, bright sky / світле небо, stability / стабільність, humanity / людяність, justice / правосуддя, decency / порядність, liberty / воля, independence / незалежність, prosperity / добробут, confidence / впевненість, warmth / тепло, compromise / компроміс, reconciliation / примирення, comfort / комфорт, mutual respect / взаємоповага, truce / перемир’я, tranquility / умиротворення, peacefulness / миролюбство, soul / душа, consolation / втіха, eternity / вічність, defender / захисник, cat / кіт, in a friendly way / дружно, joyfully / радісно, peacefully / спокійно, trust / довіра, field / поле, demonstration / демонстрація, Independence Day / День незалежності, Minsk Agreements / Мінські угоди, yellow and blue flag / жовто-блакитний прапор, willow / верба, guilder rose / калина, bread / хліб, salt / сіль, chewing gum / жувачка, super! / супер!, wahey! / клас!, cool! / сіла!, Ukraine / Україна, Lord / Господь, Mother of God / Божа Матір, The Son of God / Син Божий, Holy Spirit / Святий Дух, grace of the Lord / благодать Господня, playground / дитячий майданчик, flowers are in bloom / квіті цвітуть, greens abound / зелень буся, birds are singing / птахи співають, doves are flying / голубі літають, cheerful people are walking around the city / весели люди гуляють по місту, child is running along the path / дитина біжить стежкою. Out of the abovementioned responses, 44 have been used two times or more (from 2 to 59 times –268 word-tokens in total), 61 have been used only one time.

The analysis of the responses received has enabled us to define the most frequent ones, out of which the lexeme-association calm (peace) / спокій 59 is dominant. Sometimes its semantics is concretized using nouns or adjectives, such
as peace of mind / спокій (на, в) душі 5, peace of mind / душевний спокій 3, peace in the country / спокій в країні 2, peace in the state / спокій в державі 2. Besides, for 8 respondents peace is associated with silence / тиша, for 3 of them – with blessing / благодать, for 1 – with tranquility / умиротворення, which are semantically close to the word calm (peace) / спокій. It is worth mentioning that such associations to the word-stimulus peace coincide with one of its lexical meanings, recorded in dictionaries (see peace / мир in 4th meaning – its “calm (peace), silence”(SUM-11, IV: 712; VTSSUM : 667; SUM-20, IX: 1621).

The following responses are quite frequent: harmony / злагода 27, friendship / дружба 18, love / любов 8, consent / згода 8, agreement / порозуміння 7, harmony / лад 6, rapport / взаєморозуміння 6, which directly or indirectly correlate with the first lexical meaning of the word-stimulus (see peace “1. No disagreement, hostility, argument; consent (in 4th mean.) ” (SUM-11, IV: 712; VTSSUM: 667; SUM-20, IX: 1621). The unique responses mutual respect, trust, support, friendliness are semantically close to these words.

The second lexical meaning of the word-stimulus peace, namely “2. No armed struggle between two or more nations, states; opposite war” (SUM-11, IV: 712; VTSSUM: 667; SUM-20, IX: 1621) is directly or indirectly related to the following responses of the respondents: no war / відсутність війни 5, safety / безпека 5, life / життя 5, commonwealth / співдружність 2, stability, welfare / стабільність, благополуччя 3, prosperity / добробут, confidence / впевненість, decency / порядність, independence / незалежність, liberty / воля. The third lexical meaning of the word-stimulus peace, namely “3. Compromise between the fighting sides to cease fire; peace treaty” (SUM-11, IV: 712; VTSSUM: 667; SUM-20, IX: 1621) can be traced in the following non-repetitive responses: true / перемір’я, reconciliation / примирення, compromise / компроміс, Minsk Agreements / Мінські угоди. Other responses of the respondents are not related to the lexical meanings recorded in dictionaries: happiness / щастя 16, kindness / добро 7, harmony / гармонія 3, coziness / затишок 2, joy / радість 5, consolation /втіха, holiday / свято 2, light / світло 5, warmth / топло, sun / сонце 5, smile / посмішка 3, laughter / сміх 2, tears / сльози 2, joyfully / радісно, in a friendly way / дружно, peacefully / спокійно. It is worth mentioning that those are emotional evaluative lexemes with positive connotation.

Responses that belong to a specific type of the word-sentence are sporadic. In Ukrainian linguistics units of this type have been classified as “non-segmented exclamations-sentences” (Vykhanovets, 2004, p. 374), which indirectly correlate with utterances. They do not define extralinguistic situations, but only render emotions and feelings of the speaker that are related to such situations, or express their subjective positive or negative assessment: super! / супер!, wahey! / клас!, cool! / сила!

Semantically distant associations correlate with the names of concrete concepts: sky / небо 2, angel / ангел 2, mom / мама, God / Бог 2, bird / птах 2,
family / родина, child / дитина, defender / захисник, cat / кіт, field / поле, demonstration / демонстрація, Independence Day / День незалежності, blue and yellow flag / жовто-блакитний прапор, granny / бабуся, Lord / Господь, Mother of God / Божа Мати, The Son of the God / Син Божий, Holy Spirit / Святий Дух, Ukraine / Україна, willow / верба, guilder rose / калина, bread / хліб, salt / сіль, chewing gum / жувачка; abstract concepts: eternity / вічність, soul / душа, humanity / людяність, justice / правосуддя, solidity / міцність, strength / сила; syntactic structures: clear sky / чисте небо, cloudless sky / безхмарне небо, bright sky / світле небо, smiling child / усміхнена дитина, happy child / щаслива дитина, happy mom / щаслива мама, happy family / щаслива родина, all family / вся родина, playground / дитячий майданчик, flowers are in bloom / квіти цвітять, greens abound / зелень буяє, birds are singing / птахи співають, doves are flying / голуби літають, cheerful people are walking around the city / веселі люди гуляють по місту, child is running along the path / дитина біжить стежкою. These associations do not correlate with any of the lexical meanings of the word-stimulus, recorded in the dictionaries. We believe that their sense connection with the word-stimulus peace can be traced at the unconscious level, which reflects psycholinguistic meaning of this word. The association chewing gum / жувачка, which seems to be absurd as it has no relation to the word-stimulus, needs to be clarified. When used in the appropriate context: peace, friendship, chewing gum (a Ukrainian idiomatic expression) / мир, дружба, жувачка – it acquires additional semantic shades. It should be mentioned that in such association line it is used in colloquial speech.

Thus, outlining respondents’ dominant ideas and defining unconscious components of the concept of Peace semantic space, we mainly focused on the frequency of responses to the respective word-stimulus and correlation of its associative and lexicographic meanings.

The results of free word association test to some extent correlate with the responses to the word-stimulus peace, recorded in Words Associations Network, such as disarmament, tranquility, treaty, prosperity, quiet, accord, reconciliation, negotiation, ceasefire, truce, peacekeeping, justice, armistice, goodwill, mediation, serenity, overture, envoy, righteousness, loving, breach, harmony, strife, discord, bloodshed, endowment, stability, diplomacy, hostility, happiness, agreement, conflict, reparation, neutrality, allies, mediator, aggression, pledge, unity, war, everlasting, perpetual, peaceful, loving, humanitarian, negotiate, war, disturb, reaffirm, restore, ratify (Words Associations Network).

The abovementioned confirms the opinion of Popova & Sternin (2008) that the psycholinguistic meaning of a word is wider and more extensive than its lexicographic one which “is generally included in psychologically real meaning” (Popova & Sternin, 2007, p. 68), though its components may occupy different places in the psycholinguistic meaning based on their intensity.
The analysis of the responses received in this word association test has been carried out according to the grammar criterion which presupposes their division into pragmatic and syntagmatic. 21 associations belong to syntagmatic ones: peace of mind / спокій (на, в) душі 5, peace of mind / душевний спокій 3, peace in the country / спокій в країні 2, peace in the state / спокій в державі 2, no war / відсутність війни 5, tears of joy / сльози радості 3, clear sky / чисте небо, cloudless sky / безхмарне небо, bright sky / світле небо, happy family / щаслива родина, all family / вся родина, happy mom / щаслива мама, smiling child / усміхнена дитина, happy child / щаслива дитина, playground / дитячий майданчик, flowers are in bloom / квіти цвітуть, greens abound / зелень бує, birds are singing / птахи співають, doves are flying / голуби літають, cheerful people are walking around the city / веселі люди гуляють по місту, child is running along the path / дитина біжить стежкою. Six syntagmatic responses occurred more than once (from two to five times – 20 word-tokens in total), 15 responses have been given only one time. Syntagmatic associations constitute 10.64 % of the total number of all responses analysed. We believe they prove figurative worldview of the respondents, reflected in the individual picture of the world.

cій, chewing gum / жувачка, super! / супер!, wahey! / клас!, cool! / сила! We have singled out 84 words-associations of this type (a significant part of them have been used more than once: from 2 to 59 times, 294 word-tokens altogether), which constitute 89.36% of the total of all responses analysed. They are all nouns, with a few exceptions, i.e. they belong to the same part of speech as the word-stimulus. Predominance of paradigmatic grammatical associations represents students’ analytical and integrated thinking.

The associations on the word-stimulus peace make up 11 lexical semantic groups to denote: 1) the state of environment, people’s inner world, their physical, emotional and mental state: calm (peace) / спокій 59, cosiness / затишок 2, silence / миша 8, godsend / благодать 3, balance / рівновага 2, light / світло 5, warmth / тепло, peace of mind / спокій (на, в) душі 5, peace of mind / душевний спокій 3, happiness / щастя 16, love / любовь 8, kindness / добро 7, harmony / гармонія 3, joy / радість 5, consolation / втіха, smile / посмішка 3, laughter / сміх 2, tears / слюзі 2; tears of joy / слюзи радості 3, tranquility / умиротворення, confidence / впевненість, life / життя 5, solidarity / міцність 2, strength / сила 2, humanity / людяність, decency / порядність, joyfully / радісно, peacefully / спокійно, in a friendly way / дружно; 2) relations between people, nations, states, etc.: harmony / злагода 27, consent / згодо 8, friendship / дружба 18, peace in the country / спокій в країні 2, peace in the state / спокій в державі 2, no war / відсутність війни 5, safety / безпека 5, agreement / порозуміння 7, harmony / лад 6, rapport / взаєморозуміння 6, support / підтримка 2, friendliness / дружелюбність 2, commonwealth / співдружність 2, stability / стабільність, independence / незалежність, prosperity / добробут, compromise / компроміс, reconciliation / примирення, comfort / комфорт, mutual respect / взаємоповага, truce / перемир’я, peacefulness / миролюбство, trust / довіра, welfare / благополуччя 3; 3) family relations and people based on the functions they perform: defender / захисник, family / родина 2, happy family / щаслива родина, all family / вся родина, child / дитина 2, smiling child / усміхнена дитина, happy child / щаслива дитина, mom / мама, happy mom / щаслива мама, granny / бабуся; 4) confessional nominations: Lord / Господь, angel / ангел 2, grace of the Lord / благословення Господня, God / Бог 2, soul / душа, eternity / вічність, Mother of God / Божа Маті, the Son of God / Син Божий, Holy Spirit / Святий Дух; 5) flora and fauna: bird / птах 2, dove / голуб 6, cat / кіт; willow / верба, guilder rose / калина; 6) space concepts: Ukraine / Україна, playground / дитячий майданчик, field / поле; 7) cosmological concepts: sun / сонце 5; sky / небо 2, clear sky / чисте небо, cloudless sky / безхмарне небо, bright sky / світле небо; 8) social political and state concepts: liberty / воля, freedom / свобода 2, justice / правосуддя, holiday / свято 2, demonstration / демонстрація, Independence Day / День Незалежності, yellow and blue flag / жовто-блакитний прапор, Minsk Agreements / Мінські угоди; 9) household nominations: bread / хліб, salt / сіль, chewing gum / жувачка; 10) statements: Flowers are in bloom / Квіту
Thus, the detailed analysis of the received associations made it possible to single out 11 lexical semantic groups, out of which the most numerous responses are connected with the state of environment, people’s inner world, their physical, emotional and mental state, moral and ethic properties (155 word-tokens – 47.1 %). A significant part of the respondents associates peace with “calm (peace)”. In this association line we have also defined non-typical responses: confidence / впевненість, life / життя, joyfully / радісно, in a friendly way / дружно, peacefully / спокійно, etc., related to students’ personal experience.

The next largest group of associations directly connected to relations between people, nations, states (105 word-tokens – 31.9 %). Repetitive responses are harmony / злагода, consent / згода, friendship / дружба, agreement / порозуміння, harmony / лад, rapport / взаєморозуміння, etc., non-repetitive ones are as follows: mutual respect / взаємоповага, independence / незалежність, stability / стабільність, welfare / благополуччя, reconciliation / примирення, truce / перемир’я, etc.

Non-typical responses are the ones that comprise lexemes to denote family relations and people based on the functions they perform: family / родина, child / дитина, mom / мама, granny / бабуся, smiling child / усміхнена дитина, etc. (12 word-tokens – 3.6 %); confessional nominations: Lord / Господь, grace of the Lord / благодать Господня, God / Бог, the Son of God / Син Божий, etc. (11 word-tokens – 3.3 %); nominations of flora and fauna: dove / голуб, cat / кіт; willow / верба, guilder rose / кіт, etc. (11 word-tokens – 3.3 %); space concepts: Ukraine / Україна, playground / дитячий майданчик, field / поле (3 word-tokens – 0.9 %); cosmological concepts: sun / сонце, sky / небо, clear sky / чисте небо, cloudless sky / безхмарне небо, etc. (10 word-tokens – 3.0 %); sociopolitical and state concepts: demonstration / демонстрація, Independence Day / День Незалежності, yellow and black flag / жовто-чорний прапор, Minsk Agreements / Мінські угоди, etc. (10 word-tokens – 3.0 %); household nominations: bread / хліб, salt / сіль, etc. (3 word-tokens – 0.9 %); statements: Flowers are in bloom / Квіти цвітуть, Merry people are walking around the city / Веселі люди гуляють по місту, Child is running along the path / Дитина біжить стежкою, etc. (6 word-tokens – 1.8 %); speaker’s feelings and emotions that correlate with non-segmented exclamations-sentences: Super! / Супер!, Wahey! / Супер!, Cool / Сила! (3 word-tokens – 0.9 %) (see Table 1, Figure 1).
### Table 1.
**Lexical Semantic Groups of the Word-Stimulus Peace**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the group</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of environment, people’s inner world, their physical, emotional and mental state, moral and aesthetic properties</td>
<td>47.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations between people, nations, states</td>
<td>31.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family relations and people based on the functions they perform</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confessional nominations</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flora and Fauna</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space concepts</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmological concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociopolitical and state concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household nominations</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statements</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker’s feelings and emotions that correlate with non-segmented exclamations-sentences</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1.**
**Lexical semantic groups of the word-stimulus peace**

![Diagram showing the distribution of lexical semantic groups related to the word-stimulus peace. The diagram includes percentages for each group, such as the state of the environment, family relations, confessional nominations, and statements.]
These associations reflect peculiarities of respondents’ worldview, individual figurative worldview.

4. Conclusions
Psycholinguistic analysis of the concept of Peace verbal markers made it possible to define typical and non-typical respondents’ ideas of the word-stimulus peace from the perspective of free word association test. The first responses belong to the dominant ones. They correlate with the lexical meaning of the word-stimulus recorded in modern dictionaries and reflect direct connection between the word-stimulus and associations. The latter ones are non-typical, unconscious elements of the concept of Peace semantic space, that outline personal worldview of the respondents, and they have no relation to the lexical meanings recorded in dictionaries. Their sense connection is possible only at the unconscious level and concerns the psycholinguistic meaning of this word. In the analysed associations paradigmatic responses (89.36 %) prevail over syntagmatic ones (10.64 %). On the basis of the received responses lexical associative field of the word-stimulus peace has been modeled and characterized. It includes 11 lexical semantic groups. The most numerous responses are connected to the state of environment, people’s inner world, their physical, emotional and mental state, moral and ethic properties (47.1 %). The next largest group reflects relations between people, nations, states (31.9 %). Few respondents associate the word-stimulus peace with nominations to denote family relations and people based on the functions they perform (3.6 %); confessional nominations (3.3 %); nominations of flora and fauna (3.3 %); space concepts (0.9 %); cosmological concepts (3.0 %); social political and state nominations (3.0 %); household nominations (0.9 %); statements (1.8 %); speaker’s feelings and emotions (0.9 %). These associations reflect personal experience and peculiarities of respondents’ worldview. We see the prospects of this research in the in-depth analysis of associative fields of the words connected to the word-stimulus peace through the prism of psychological and linguistic factors.

References
Алимушкина О. А. Векторы ассоциирования как индикаторы изменения сознания носителей русского языка. Филологические науки. Вопросы теории и практики. 2015. №6(48). Ч.1. С.17–19.
Заєць І. Г. Структура та динаміка асоціативних полів лексем дівчина, жінка, хлопець, чоловік. Вісник Дніпропетровського університету. Серія «Мовознавство». 2010. Вип. 16. № 11. С. 127–133.
Коць Т. Онтологія війни й миру в мовно-інформаційному просторі сьогодення. Культура слова. 2019. № 90. С. 132–149.


Sources


References (translated and transliterated)


228
Verbal Markers of the Concept of Peace: Psycholinguistic and Lexical Analyses


Sources (translated and transliterated)