LINGUISTIC REPRESENTATION OF THE CONCEPT OF FRIENDSHIP
IN THE NOVEL "INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE" BY A.RICE

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Motivația alegerii acestui subiect este explicată de faptul că noțiunea „prietenie" poate fi percepută și explicată în mod diferit. Acest cuvânt are o conotație distinctă și poartă un mesaj individual. Fenomenul *prietenie* este studiat de mai multe științe, din puncte de vedere diferite, motiv pentru care este considerat a fi punctul de intersecție al unor astfel de științe cum ar fi lingvistica, psihologia, sociologia, filosofia și multe altele. Prin urmare, conceptul „prietenie" poate fi considerat și în context de sociolingvistică. Actualitatea cercetării constă în faptul că acest concept este interpretat în mod divers în diferite contexte și elucidarea acestuia din variate puncte de vedere este un obiectiv de cercetare ce prezintă interes.

Like many other polysemantic words, the word "friendship" may possess several interpretations if it is regarded from different points of view and in various contexts. Thus the polysemantic word "friendship" and the ways of rendering and understanding of this concept are regarded and examined in the present article.

The motivation of the choice of this topic is reasoned by the fact that the concept of "friendship" can be understood and explained differently. For everyone this word has a distinct connotation and carries an individual message. The phenomenon of friendship is studied by many sciences, from different angles and this is the reason why it is considered to be the point of intersection of such sciences as linguistics, psychology, sociology, philosophy and many other. Therefore, the word "Friendship" may be regarded in the context of sociolinguistics. The topicality of the research consists in the fact that this word is interpreted in different ways in various contexts and elucidating it from different angles is an interesting research target.

The semantic field of a word could be defined as the set of distinct meanings expressed by the word. Traditionally a 'semantic field' is a kind of meaning continuum which the signs of different languages tend to curve up in different ways. Stig Johansson in his book 'Corpora and Cross-linguistic Research: Theory, Method and Case Studies' compares a semantic field is with a large, vague potential 'sense' which is not necessarily the sense of one sign, but rather the joint 'sense' of a set semantically related signs [Johansson; 72].

A more complicated definition of the term 'semantic field' is given by Adrienne Lehrer as cited by Vendina. According to this definition a semantic field is a set of lexemes which cover a certain conceptual domain and which bear certain specifiable relations to one another. Also, Lehrer mentions the main principle of semantic field theory. Its essence consists in the fact that to understand lexical meaning it is necessary to look at sets of semantically related words, not simply at each word in isolation. By 'semantic relation' relationships between lexical items such as synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy is meant. [Vendina; 283]

The semantic field is a complicated functional unit of the lexico-semantic level. The elements of the semantic field are the words which have their own semantic structure. Lexical meanings of words (seme) form the basis of the relations in the semantic field. The correlation between the elements of a semantic field is revealed as the relation of identity and opposition. These relations between the lexical meanings of words are accomplished with the help of the smallest and indivisible lexical meanings. That is why the lexical meanings are basic notions in the analysis of elements and units of the lexico-semantic level.

The concept is always conditioned by culture and expressed in language means, so the term 'concept' is more preferable than the terms "cultural concept" and "linguocultural concept"; not only to its brevity, but also with its apparent tautology of the past.

In order to improve the formulation of the notion of the concept's reality, it is necessary to compare the concept of the traditional semantic terms, which are the *meaning* and the *concept*. "The meaning is a reflection of the properties subject to human consciousness, occurring by means of word". [Степанов; 10]

The meaning as a minimal set of distinctive features of the subject "tends to the notion as to its limit. [Степанов; 11]

The content of the concept always involves linguistic meaning of word and near (naive) notion. But the importance of covering only part of the concept, and the further (scientific) concept can be not included into

the conceptual field: "Linguistic meanings pass on only the part of our knowledge about the world. The basic share this knowledge keep in our minds in a variety of mental structures – the concepts [Болдырёв; 27].

The concept includes all the cultural foundation of a man: "as broader and richer cultural experience of people as broader and richer potencies of the concept". [Лихачёв; 281].

The concepts are classified on several grounds. The scientist should take into account two of them: 1) *media* and 2) the *type of conscience*.

A concept may be a fact of national, public and individual consciousness. On this basis, it is advisable to separate the analysis of national, social and individual concepts. The individual-authorial concept is an extremely personal vision and experiences this reality. For example, in Russian "soul" is conceptualized as a liquid (pouring out one's heart), but not as a drink.

The social concept includes meanings, common to a particular group of people, but is not characteristic of all speakers. For example, for the faithful soul is immortal: "The soul speaks to us about his immorality, but we cannot prove it ".[Бахтин; 229]

The technique of conceptual analysis is a problem of paramount importance. The content of the concept is always culturally conditioned: nationality, education, human values.

But the scientist always support of a certain world-views, from which it is almost impossible completely abstract. Therefore, the concept as an object invisible world is not an objective reality, but the construct, the resulting scientific description.

This is especially true for the peripheral areas of the concept. Thus, the chosen method of the conceptual analysis significantly affects on the content of the concept. It is believed that the first method of conceptual analysis has been applied by Arutyunova. [Арутюнова; 10]

Yet the elements of a conceptual view of the language have been discovered in the nineteenth century. For example, Vendina sees linguistic activity of Dahl spontaneously empirical implementation of the anthropocentric approach, and in his dictionary she sees – an inventory of concepts of Russian culture. [Вендина;20] The name of the concept can be attributed to the technique of Buslaeva, as cited by Vendina. The concept is reconstructed by analyzing the metaphorical compatibility of abstract nouns, giving an opportunity to see an object of ideal world in visual images.

Summing up the achievements of modern linguistics in the studying concept, we propose the following techniques of full of conceptual analysis:

a) Etymological analysis of the name of the concept.

At the time of its original nomination is fixed vision of this reality, elaborated in the internal form of word - in etymon. The inner form of the concept ("Etymological sign") is open only to specialists, but indirectly also exists for the rest. The problem of linguist is to indicate the sources of formation of the concept. [Степанова; p.48]

b) During the operation of the word in the language, its original value fixed in the etymon, does not die. This conditions of the necessity of diachronic analysis, revealing the history of the formation of a concept.

c) Synchronic analysis breaks down into a number of particulars: the establishment of semantic valence of word; the analysis within a word semantic relationship and between synonymous, antonymic, associative and metaphoric relations; the study of derivational nests; the elucidation of grammatical specific of word. The samples of interpretation are the works of Russian scientists, in the project "logical analysis of language", and works of Polish linguistics A. Vezhbitskaya. [Вежбицкая; 201]

d) Linguostatistic account of the name frequency of the concept.

Quantitative parameters, without revealing the content of the concept, enable us to establish its importance in the national language consciousness. Of course, the relevance of the concept is not always directly proportional to the frequency of the use of the word, but forgets about the frequency in clarifying the specifics of the national culture is impossible. Thus, A. Vezhbitskaya includes in parameters, which define the specific culture, the degree of elaboration of the dictionary of the semantic field, and frequency of use of the word. [Вежбицкая; 203]

e) Analysis of the translated texts can figures out the significance of the name of the concept, not only for the interpreter, but also in the national language consciousness, and hence the importance of the concept in this culture. [Вежбицкая; 204]

f) The content of the concept is spread from a few words, so that a holistic analysis involves the analysis of all possible linguistic resources of this concept, as well this as exploring the field of related concepts.

This list only gives the required minimum techniques for its adequate description. The using of these methods can range depending on the specific of the concept and the selected type of conceptual analysis.

The analysis of the concept of "friendship" in the English language space is the part of linguo-culturological direction, the procedure of analysis was proposed by Stepanov. He identifies three "layers" of concept: the main, additional or "passive; features and the inner form, usually unconscious at all, captured in the outer, verbal form [Stepanov; 25].

Meaning of the English word "friend" has changed over the centuries in a way that reveals profound changes in human relations. It is known that dictionaries are the locks and took shape most well-established definitions. It is interesting to trace the evolution of the concept of "Friendship" on the material analysis of dictionary definitions in various lexicographical sources.

For example, in the dictionary Noah Webster's 1828 American Dictionary offers the following definition: **Friendship, n. friend'ship.**

1. An attachment to a person, proceeding from intimate acquaintance, and a reciprocation of kind offices, or from a favorable opinion of the amiable and respectable qualities of his mind. Friendship differs from benevolence, which is good will to mankind in general, and from that love which springs from animal appetite. True friendship is a noble and virtuous attachment, springing from a pure source, a respect for worth or amiable qualities. False friendship may subsist between bad men, as between thieves and pirates. This is a temporary attachment springing from interest, and may change in a moment to enmity and rancor. 2. Mutual attachment; intimacy.3. Favor; personal kindness. 4. Friendly aid; help; assistance. 5. Conformity; affinity; correspondence; aptness to unite.

In the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English 1995 year offers the following definition: **friendship:**

1. [countable] a relationship between friends;2.[uncountable] the feelings and behavior that exist between friends. **friend** [countable]:1.A person you like, someone who you know and like very much and enjoy spending time; 2.A supporter, someone who supports an organization such as a theatre, art gallery, charity etc by giving money or help; 3.not enemy, someone who has the same beliefs, wants to achieve the same things etc as you, and will support you;4. parliament/court of law (British English) a) my honorable friend used by a member of parliament when speaking about another member of parliament) my learned friend used by a lawyer when speaking about another lawyer in a court of law.

In Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2003 year I find next definition: **friend (companion)** noun:

1) A person whom you know well and whom you like a lot, but who is usually not a member of your family: 2) Someone who is not an enemy and whom you can trust: 3) Someone who gives money to a theatre, other arts organization or charity in order to support it: **friendship noun -** when two people are friends.

Thus, based on the comparison of dictionary definitions of lexicographical sources, it becomes obvious that the actual layer concept «Friendship» includes the following components:

- Friendship - is affection to any person based on close acquaintance with him and his assessment of positive qualities;
- Friendship- is a noble and pure feeling, characterized by constancy;
- Friendship - a disinterested mutual aid.

«Friend» as a component of the concept of "Friendship" is as follows:

- A friend can be one, friends should not be much;
- Friends are the people who are pleasant to each other, which like to spend time;
- A friend - a supporter, sometimes giving money and sympathy;

Different - it is not a member of the family, but close as a brother;

- A friend is opposed to the enemy.

Thus, it is clear that friendship is lasting relationships between people based on mutual affection, respect and trust. Unwritten code of rules combines friends in a single whole, among which the main are: mutual understanding, openness, and ability to count on the rescue, empathy, sincerity and selflessness. Analysis of the material suggests that over time the content of the concept of "friendship" is changing. In the Webster dictionary in 1828 include such components of the concept "Friendship", as the sincerity and generosity, reciprocity and consistency. In modern dictionaries, a friend - is the one with whom a good time.

The actively used lexemes in connection with the concept of "friendship" are determined. In the first place appear consent, compatibility, understanding, ability to form groups, common interests, intimate,

sexual and family relation, sponsorship, love, the beginning and the restoration of friendship. From these values, we can conclude that the basic meaning of friendship is communication with a person, based on mutual similarity, knowledge of the qualities of this man and love that brings peace and tranquility; it has a beginning, can be interrupted and then resumed.

A friend is opposed to the enemy. Based on the results of the study of Thesaurus Rouge, the interpretation of the concept will be implemented by considering the elements that can be distinguished by the most heavily used lexemes:

Friendship – Amity; Friendship – Sociality; Friendship – Brotherhood; Friendship – Likeness; Friendship – Knowledge; Friendship – Love; Friendship – Intimacy; Friendship – Support;

Friendship – Introduction; Friendship – Reconciliation; Friendship – Not enmity.

It is not excluded that in the process of research will be highlighted and other elements that make up the concept of "friendship".

Based on the theory of the concept of friendship we would like to analyze and demonstrate the different kind of friendship among the following characters in the novel "Interview with the Vampire" by Anne Rice: Louis, Lestat, Claudia and Armand.

Above all, we would like to analyse the relationship between Louis and Lestat. We identified the following types of friendship between these characters: <u>friendship-sociality</u>, <u>friendship-brotherhood</u>, <u>friendship-knowledge</u>, <u>friendship-introduction</u>, <u>friendship-intimacy</u>, and <u>friendship-likeness</u>.

Louis was fascinated by Lestat, and so it was their **Friendship-introduction.**

Lestat was looking for his next victim. Getting between Louis and Armand was necessary; Lou was looking for a teacher who would have shone him all the secrets.

e.g.: The moment I saw him, saw his extraordinary aura and knew him to be no creature I'd ever known, I was reduced to nothing. […]From then on I experienced only increasing wonder. As he talked to me and told me of what I might become, of what his life had been and stood to be, my past shrank to embers.

Friendship-likeness

They are starting to make friends on the basis of similar interests and lifestyles, and this important fact in human relations.

e.g.: He was for all appearances of the same class now as myself, which meant little to me except that it made our lives run a little more smoothly than they might have otherwise.

e.g.: It was detachment that made this possible, a sublime loneliness with which Lestat and I moved through the world of mortal men.

Friendship-intimacy

e.g.: I believed that, having gone through all the pain you again will be kind, filled with love, so wild, insatiable curiosity with which you first came to me, that thirst for knowledge that led you to my cell in Paris. I was hoping that the pain will pass, you will forgive me for the death of Claudia. She never loved you as much as I loved you and how you loved us both. I saw this and believed that I could tie you to himself and to hold, and then will be opened before us, and we teach each other.(in the dialogue of the characters used the words, a room to sleep alone, bed, love)

Friendship-support.

e.g.: I came in answer to your prayers. Life lost its meaning, the wine has become tasteless, and the food is disgusting. What if I deliver you from it all (Lestat expressed the desire to help Louis and this expression is a shining example of friendship- support) and give you new life that will last forever ...

Lestat's main task and duty was to help Louis survive as as vampire, he taught and guided him.

Friendship-knowledge

We know our friends, we know their good and bad traits, and we know their habits. The friendship appears throw the knowledge.

e.g.: And do you think you can find other vampires by yourself? They might see you coming, my friend, (and here we see even use phrases my friend, that is also a proof of friendship among the heroes), but you won't see them. No, I don't think you have much choice about things at this point, friend. I'm your teacher and you need me.

e.g.: He hinted there was much I didn't know and must know and that he alone could tell me.

Friendship-sociality existed between Lestat and Louis. After becoming a vampire, he tries to comprehend a new entity. He was looking for answers to many questions. He tries to find them from his teacher.

e.g.: `That is how you see it!' I protested. " `That is the way it is,' he answered. `You talk of finding other vampires! Vampires are killers! They don't want you or your sensibility) They'll see you coming long before you see them, and they'll see your flaw; and, distrusting you, they'll seek to kill you. They'd seek to kill you even if you were like me.

Friendship-love

e.g.: She now has dealt a mortal blow to me, took away the most important thing - deprived of his love.

e.g.:... he robbed me of my will, so I'm just fascinated looking at him and felt like he was just on a rope, my heart pulls to himself.

In the concept of friendship itself, we found the words love, heart, whisper; such verbs as to love, to tremble, that show the atmosphere of friendship-love.

These concepts of friendship will be tested in two directions: first, will be considered a cause of a particular friendship, why it appeared, what motivates characters; in the second, we select the words that characterize a certain kind of friendship. Thus we may summarize upon the kind of friendship which could have been seen more commonly in the novel written by Anne Rice.

We begin with **friendship-introduction**. All our heroes are introduced for various reasons, such as familiarity between Louis and Lestat occurred by accident, Lestat was looking for his next victim. Getting along for Louis and Armand was necessary; Louis was looking for a teacher who would have shown him all the secrets.

So we can summarize that the **friendship-introduction** occurs <u>by chance</u> or <u>necessity.</u> Words, expressions or grammatical constructions that characterize this friendship are the same: the time, which they used, is past simple:

e.g.: I saw him, He said, It was moments" because the introduction was long time ago, the characters in his memoirs describe their heroes externally.

They share experiences that they had when meeting.

After introduction, the heroes became brothers in blood, as they create their fellows in this way, hence there **is friendship-brotherhood and friendship-likeness**, the characters are similar to each other, they share a way of life, origin, common interests and goals. They are linked very closely.

e.g.: "I was infinitely closer to him; I saw as a- vampire; we could do it."

The **friendship-brotherhood and friendship-likeness** occur <u>by origin, in course of time, and interests.</u>

When friends spend a lot of time, they become closer to each other, between them might be love. This further entails an intimate relationship. Now we say about **friendship-love and friendship-intimacy**. This is due to the fact that people no longer shy and don't afraid of each other, they are open and often shows very different feelings. Between Louis and Lestat, and Louis and Armand there was **friendship-intimacy**, and between Louis and Claudia there was one-sided love. They are slightly different from each other. In friendship-intimacy we face the following expressions: he whispered, I want you, we will love each other. And in friendship-love we see other expressions, more emotional and delicate: "I cannot live without you; my heart pulls to him; my love; heart, soul and other.

And finally we will talk about **friendship-knowledge and friendship-sociality**. We consider these two concepts of friendship together, as they are similar and inseparable. During the communication we address many aspects; we share joy, talks about our doubts, express our views, give advice, and share our experience and knowledge. When depicting **friendship-knowledge** the imperative mood is used:

e.g.:`Go out; Rid yourself; don't fall; you shouldn't be feeling this fear at all; Vampires are killers; Traveling by ship, you damn well better live off rats; Killing is no ordinary act.

Friendship-knowledge and friendship-sociality occur by need, desire to help.

Thus, to sum up, we may conclude that:

- **Friendship-introduction** occurs by chance or necessity.
- **Friendship-brotherhood and friendship-likeness** occur by origin, in course of time, and interests.
- **Friendship-love and friendship-intimacy** occur by affection, physical attraction, and feelings.
- **Friendship-knowledge and friendship-sociality** occur by need, desire to help.

Summarizing our lexicological analysis in the second part, we can draw the following conclusions in the novel "Interview with the vampire" by Anne Rice, the most frequent concepts of friendship are: **friendship-brotherhood and friendship-likeness** as these concepts are found friendship among all the heroes, then on the second place is **friendship-knowledge**, since the characters were in need of information and news related to their origin, and on the third place is **friendship-love** and **friendship-intimacy**.

Both, the theoretical and practical material have helped draw the following conclusions. The analysis of the concept of 'friendship' emphasized once again the concept's complexity as its semantic field seems to be absolutely unbounded by one single work, by one single definition or general phrase. Each person, each individual involves in this concept his own experience, his own feelings that is why even the greatest masterpieces of the world literature could not agree totally upon a definite perception of this concept although they hide a very close relationship and immediacy of soul tribulations.

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