

ENDINGS OF NOUNS AND ADJECTIVES

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ABSTRACT

The article describes the phenomenon of desubstantivation of nouns of adjective declension. It is shown that the linguistic basis of desubstantivation is the internal form of these nouns. The author examines occasional and usual desubstantivation, analyzes the structural-semantic varieties of initial nouns and adjectives formed on their basis.

Keywords: substantivation, desubstantivation, occasional, noun, adjective, internal form, rederivation, inflection.

INTRODUCTION

Desubstantivation of nouns of adjective declension refers to a variety of reverse word formation. Rederivation has the peculiarity that as the initial stage of the act of word-formation it presupposes a certain comprehension by the speaker of the internal form (hereinafter VF) of the basic word — because, as is known, the derived unit in this case, both in structure and in semantics, is simpler than the producing, i.e. it is formed as the motivational basis of the latter.

Desubstantivation is not an exception in this sense and, in fact, manifests the reflection of a native speaker in relation to the internal structure of the nomination that is expressed by a noun of adjective declension. The specificity of the formal-semantic mechanism of desubstantivation is determined by the specifics of the VF of these nouns. It is in this regard that this phenomenon will be considered. Most of the adjective nouns used in modern Russian are the result of substantivation of adjectives, participles or pronouns-adjectives (hereinafter the term "adjective" will be used in a broad sense). The activity of substantivation on the basis of an adjective is conditioned by the fact that any word of this part of speech names a feature of the object, "and therefore it contains a vague indication of the very object in which this attribute is laid." During substantivation, both lexical and grammatical properties of the adjective are transformed. Thus, the substantivate blind serves as a means of naming a person, while the denotation of the adjective blind is any object capable of having an organ of sight. Since the lexical meaning of a word describes its denotation, a change in denotative referencing also leads to a change in the lexical content of the word.

The noun blind calls a person "whole" and contains in its lexical meaning all the essential features of the concept "man", while the particular attribute blind is the motivating basis for the nomination, its VF. The change in the grammatical properties of an adjective during substantivation is associated with the transformation of the significance of the initially purely structural, concordant categories of gender, number, and case. A necessary condition for this lexico-grammatical transformation is the placement of the adjective in a syntactic position typical for the noun. Substantivation, on the one hand, is a kind of diachronic word formation. This is the so-called "transition" of an adjective into a noun. The final result of this rather long

process is determined by the use of the motivating word in its original meaning and function as an adjective, the degree of usalization of substantive semantics, and the greater or lesser perceptibility of the noun's ellipsis.

On the other hand, nouns of adjectival declension can be "instantaneously" formed according to the model of substantivates already existing in the language, as, for example, the words sandwich, kebab, pancake, insect. As V.M. Nikitevich rightly notes, the derivatives of substantivation and affixation functionally coincide, "by different means the same goal is achieved — the expression of classificatively identical derived meanings", cf. cunning (-aya, -oe, -ye) → cunning, cunning → cunning. At the same time, when comparing synonyms of the type cunning — cunning, the difference in the ways of representing the identical mental content in both cases becomes obvious. In the case of affixal noun formation, the interpretation of the motivational basis of the nomination as a "feature of a person" is expressed by a suffix formant, and the derived word has a derivational type of VF: the semantics of VF is determined by the semantics of the morphemes participating in the derivational process. At the same time, the suffix formant transforms not only the original lexical (and categorical) meaning, but also the original formal structure. In the process of substantivation, there is a metonymic transfer of the name of the attribute to the object-carrier of this attribute, while the formal transformation of the structure of the generating word is reduced to the reduction of its particular paradigms.

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