"CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION" AS ORGANIZING FRAME OF INFORMATION STRUCTURE OF THE NOVEL "DA VINCI CODE" BY D. BROWN

"INFORMAÇÕES CONFIDENCIAIS" COMO ORGANIZAÇÃO DA ESTRUTURA DE INFORMAÇÕES DO ANÚNCIO "CÓDIGO DA VINCI" POR D. BROWN

LA "INFORMACIÓN CONFIDENCIAL" COMO MARCO ORGANIZADOR DE LA ESTRUCTURA INFORMATIVA DE LA NOVELA "CÓDIGO DA VINCI" POR D. BROWN

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ABSTRACT: The main aim of the study is to deal with representation features of the concept SECRET in the "Secret Information" frame that makes the plot structure of the novel "Da Vinci Code" by D. Brown. This article depicts the pointed frame and its' sub frames on the basis of the linguistic vocabularies and compares the conceptual semantic field scheme with the conceptual scheme of the novel decided by the analysis of cognitive text. The author reveals the dependence of lexicological and grammatical conditions of the verbalized interrelated concepts on the plot development and establishes the dependence of development of the subject line on the interconnected concepts which are objectified in the novel.

KEYWORDS: Cognitive world view. Semantic field. Frame structures. Concept activation. System of symbols. Components of meaning.

RESUMO: *O artigo trata das peculiaridades de representação do conceito SEGREDO no quadro "Informação Secreta" que compõe a trama do romance "Código Da Vinci" de D. Brown. O autor descreve o quadro acima mencionado e seus subquadros com base nos vocabulários linguísticos e compara o esquema conceitual do campo semântico com o esquema conceitual do romance determinado por meio da análise cognitiva do texto. O autor revela a dependência das condições lexicológicas e gramaticais dos conceitos inter-relacionados verbalizados com o desenvolvimento do enredo e estabelece a dependência do*

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desenvolvimento da linha de assunto com os conceitos interligados que se objetivam no romance.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: *Conceito. Ativação de conceito. Estruturas de frame. Slot. Codificação. Signo. Sistema de símbolos. Campo semântico. Hubs semânticos. Visão de mundo cognitiva. Componentes de significado.*

RESUMEN: *El artículo trata sobre las peculiaridades de la representación del concepto SECRETO en el marco de "Información secreta" que estructura la trama de la novela "Código Da Vinci" de D. Brown. El autor describe el marco antes mencionado y sus sub-marcos sobre la base de los vocabularios lingüísticos y compara el esquema conceptual del campo semántico con el esquema conceptual de la novela determinado por medio del análisis cognitivo del texto. El autor revela la dependencia de las condiciones lexicológicas y gramaticales de los conceptos interrelacionados verbalizados con el desarrollo de la trama y establece la dependencia del desarrollo de la línea temática de los conceptos interconectados que se objetivan en la novela.*

PALABRAS CLAVE: *Concepto. Activación de concepto. Estructuras de marco. Ranura. Codificación. Signo. Sistema de símbolos. Campo semántico. Ejes semánticos. Cosmovisión cognitiva. Componentes de significado.*

Introduction

At the present stage of development of linguistics interest in the frame language structures allowing to store and transfer information increases. T.A. van Dijk, for example, writes about cognitive frames, using which in the conceptual framework, the cognitive science has to "offer an explanation to our ability to make and understand speech acts and also "to influence" this understanding" (DIJK, 1989). The fiction text gives a unique opportunity to define the role of a grammatical factor in designing of frame structures, get the answer to a question how information in one thematic block is structured and how the semantic fields set by different dominant semes are organized.

U. Eko describes a frame as representation of "encyclopedic knowledge" of a situation in special structure of connected components. The scientist comes to a conclusion that the frame is "the potential text or a concentrate of the narration", but specifies that "the same can also be told about the separate sememe presented in an encyclopedia format" (EKO, 2005). The dominant concept is the cornerstone of this or that frame, presented in symbolical coding on the basis of categories of concreteness and procedurality. It can make various semantic fields which enter the contexts expressing the maximum amount of knowledge of the situation. To reveal the features of frame structure functioning in a fiction text, it is necessary to address the lexicographic data representing this or that dominant seme, to make

the scheme of realization of a frame and its possible subframes, and then to compare the received scheme to the selected scheme of this frame structure realized directly in the text.

Data and Methods

The choice of Dan Brown's novel "Da Vinci Code" as the material of research is caused by the fact that the cognitive linguistic analysis of the concepts realized in the novel represents unique opportunities for studying their features. In "Da Vinci Code" one can track the correlation of concepts and symbols which strategic representation often causes the change of the readers' conceptual paradigm.

The novelty of this research lies in the fact that the role of frame structure and its concepts in creation of story line of the novel is described for the first time.

The purpose of the present article is to identify the mechanism of concepts functioning in the fiction text.

The relevance of work is caused by lack of special researches on a role of conceptual and frame structures in the plot organization of fiction texts and need of further studying of interference of the concepts making different frames.

The theoretical importance of the research consists in identification of structure and features of the dominant frame "Confidential information" on the basis of lexicographic sources and on material of the text of the novel "Da Vinci Code" by D. Brown, detailed description of verbalization of the concept SECRET with the development of the story line of the novel.

Object of a research is the thematic contexts allocated in the novel by D. Brown "Da Vinci Code" by the principle of belonging to the semantic field of privacy.

Subject of study – the lexical structures representing realization options of the concept SECRET.

Results

The phenomenon of keen interest of the person in disclosure of secrets can be explained with the aspiration to minimize empty slots of information or to fill them with "true" sense, thereby explaining the phenomena of reality and learning the world. The complex structure of the semantic field of the concept "privacy" is caused by its difficult development and filling by the most different values from children's age. The semantic

volume of the concept SECRET is crossed with binary conceptual oppositions TRUTH — LIE, GOOD — EVIL, creating several polar scenarios within one frame.

Having considered options of representation of the concept SECRET on the basis of foreign lexicographic sources (Soule's Dictionary of English Synonyms, 1979; Oxford American Dictionary, 1980; New Webster's Dictionary of The English Language, 1989; The Concise Oxford Dictionary, 1978; The BBI Combinatory Dictionary of English, 1990; The Concise Oxford Dictionary,1978), we came to a conclusion that the concept SECRET is implemented in a dominant frame "secret information" in subframes "storage of secret information" and "receiving the confidential information".

Frame "secret information", thus, represents the triple semantic structure consisting of three semantic tops: subject of action "storage of the confidential information", object to action, subject of action "recognition/obtaining information". "Each semantic top can be presented in the slot form with the corresponding name and contents. The maintenance of each slot is filled with information on value of this or that semantic top" (ZVADA, 2003), and the semantic field characterizing semantic top proceeding from different parts of speech is formed.

Let's consider the representations of semantic tops of the frame "secret information".

1) Subject of action "storage of confidential information": slot "Keeper of information" (few, specified people, man of mystery, Mr X, members sworn to secrecy, secret police, limited number, secret agent, secret society, Secret Service, sphinx, guardian); slot "Characteristics of the information keeper " (reticent, secretive, retired); slot "Possession of information (to possess, to make a secret, to know); slot "Right for possession of information" ; slot "Concealment of information" (to keep from general knowledge, to maintain private, to guard, to conceal, not to make known, to cover, not to make public, not to expose to view, to keep a secret, to seclude, to retire, not to disclose information, to not to reveal a secret); slot "Issue of information" (neutral/positive connotation) (to explain, to expose to view, to reveal, to open a secret, to make known, to divulge); slot "Issue of information" (negative connotation) (to betray confidence, to blurt out).

Thus, the subject of action "Storage of the confidential information" is the privileged person who possesses certain information, having the right to it, hiding it and having potential to reveal it. Positive and negative connotations in characteristics of the information keeper testify about a valuable component of semantic top of all frame, indicating its importance in a cognitive picture of the person's world.

2) Object to action "Storage/obtaining information": slot "Object of the non-material world" (question, thing to be kept secret, point, information, lore, mystery, knowledge, subject, process, negotiations, orders, errand, password, method, rites); slot "Object of a material world" (door, compartment, documents, files, treaty, passage, hideout); slot "The complicated access to information" (enigma, puzzle, mystery, brain-twister, poser, teaser; vexed question, point, knotty crux; word-puzzle, anagram, acrostic, crossword; difficulty; code, cipher, cryptogram, hieroglyphics; unintelligibility; conundrum, riddle, riddle-me-ree, rebus; dumb charade charade,; labyrinth, intricacy, maze); slot of "Characteristic of information"(secluded, privacy, close, open, true, having faculty of secrecy, confidential, covert, concealed, hidden, covered, veiled, privy, shrouded, furtive, cryptic, unseen, unrevealed, clandestine, sly, mysterious, obscure, underhand, latent, surreptitious, stealthy, closely guarded, military, recondite, abstruse, state, trade).

Thus, a secret can belong to objects of a non-material or material world, its disclosure can be carried out by a solution of a riddle, a puzzle – commission of the correct, required actions.

3) Subject of action "Recognition/obtaining information": slot "Potential recipient of information" (public, others); slot "Obtaining information" (to understand, to disclose, to discover, to open, to reveal, to learn, to explain, to know, to decipher, to seek, to attain, to uncover, solve, to ferret out); slot "Revealing of information" (to make public, to expose to view, to explain, to make known, to divulge).

Thus, the recipient of secret information does not belong to the exclusive group of people, possessing information, but he can independently find out about a secret by search and self-training and, like the keeper of information, can eventually reveal it to the other members of the society.

The family of words of the dominant representative of the concept SECRET — a lexeme *secret* — is presented by lexemes of *secrecy, secrete, secretion, secretive, secretarial, secretariat, secretary,* specifying the semantic relations developing within the frame "secret information" which kernel is the concept SECRET.

In a word-formation chain *secret – secretive – secretively – secretiveness* the adjective s*ecretive* emphasizes the intended nature of privacy of the subject of action "storage of the confidential information": "Inclined to make secrets, intentionally uncommunicative, needlessly reserved" (The Concise Oxford Dictionary, 1978); "making a secret of things unnecessarily, uncommunicative" (Oxford American Dictionary, 1980), and in this context

the negative connotation takes place, making the moral and axiological component of meaning objectified.

Lexemes *secretarial, secretariat, secretary* bear the indication to privacy, secrecy, confidentiality (confidential matters) – from lat. secretus; "originally a confidant, one entrusted with secrets" (New Webster's Dictionary of the English Language, 1989).

The analysis of dictionary definitions and semantic relations between them, developing in two dominant frames, in turn, shows obligatory correlation and conditionality of the concept SECRET by concepts INFORMATION, KNOWLEDGE, LANGUAGE, EXCLUSIVENESS. At optional level, in the periphery of the semantic field of privacy such binary concepts as TRUTH/LIE, TRUST, MYSTIC and LIFE/DEATH can be implemented. Degree of interrelation of meanings depends on the dominant concept of this or that semantic field. In the semantic field of the concept SECRET "privacy" surely means exclusive knowledge of any information which can be transferred by means of language, so that the concepts of exclusiveness, knowledge, information and language will belong to the center of the semantic field. On the contrary, verbal representations of the concept SECRET will be involved in the semantic field of the concepts INFORMATION, KNOWLEDGE, LANGUAGE, EXCLUSIVENESS at the level of the periphery of the field as all described concepts do not mean privacy in an obligatory order. For this reason we do not find any indications in the dictionary entries devoted to the seme "secret".

The intensification of the above-mentioned concepts within the frame "Secret information" becomes possible thanks to such property of frames as their interrelation and interpenetration (DEMYANKOV, 1996; BOLDYREV, 2001). Frames contain the information on a situation, sign expression of concepts, relations between them and therefore they cannot be isolated from each other. All existing frames are correlated among themselves, their semantic fields cross, imposed at each other. The concepts which are the cornerstones of one frame can belong to the periphery of another frame and vice versa. Associative connection in this case helps the current thoughts of the person and makes the transition from one frame to another fast, allowing to compare the different phenomena and to categorize them.

Let's consider how the concept SECRET and other concepts interconnected with it are presented in the novel "Da Vinci Code" by D. Brown.

We analyzed all cases of use of such lexemes as *secret* (157), *secrecy* (9), *secretly* (8), *secretive* (1), *secretariat* (17), *secretary* (2) in the text.

The lexeme *secret* was found 157 times, and all word usage within this or that context can be designated at groups of lexemes, which verbalize the dominant frame "Confidential information".

Characteristics of the subject of action "Storage of the confidential information" in the novel "Da Vinci Code" (in brackets the number of word usage of the most frequency expressions is specified):

1)   Type of the subject of action. Active: secret diaries (7), Passive: system of compartmentalized knowledge, Tarot, a keystone (171), the sole guardian of one of the most powerful secrets ever kept, secret archive (3), family (56), the Masons (21), collection of documents, secret messages, verses, paintings (83), the Priory of Sion (176), secret society (23), a woman, the possessor of a powerful secret, keepers of the secret of the Holy Grail. secret documents (101), secret brotherhood (43), The Rosicrucians, secret sects (5), the one with secrets (1), secret guardians (6), life.

At the general coincidence with lexico-semantic options presented in lexicographic sources more detailed filling of frame slots is observed. So, the sema "secret society" is detailed by a number of synonyms, and secret societies – the Priory of Sion, masons, Rosicrucians – are directly called in the novel. These societies are united by the general idea of protection of Graal in the art reality of the book. They are the carriers of the elite knowledge coded in certain symbols and available to reading and understanding only by "worthy" - the lexeme *worthy* is used in the text of the novel 14 times.

In comparison with the only indication in lexicographic sources to such seme as "family" (*skeleton in the cupboard* means "someone or something kept hidden, especially by a family") (Barron's Handbook of Commonly Used American Idioms, 1991) the high rate of the use of lexemes, which verbalize the concept FAMILY ,is indicative (besides *family* 56 we come across *grandfather* 245, *grandmother* 18, *granddaughter* 17, *mother* 14, *father* – 9 times occur in the text, and all family members are the carriers of secret knowledge and, finally, the descendants of Jesus Christ who is in the text of the novel twice called the father in biological sense of this word).

The ability to store the confidential information is also transferred to lifeless objects which are almost always correlated to lexemes *code* or *symbols* in minicontexts of the novel. Documents, diaries, poems, pictures, a cornerstone contain ciphered messages which are possible to read only in case of possessing the meanings of symbols – for this reason Jacques Sonyer advises his granddaughter to find Robert Lengdon – professor of simbology.

The importance of possessing secret knowledge of a secret language, the use of lexemes *code, symbols, cipher* indicate to the objectification of the significant concept LANGUAGE.

2) The ability to store the confidential information is reflected with verbs in combination with the specifying lexemes of different morphological accessory: a) seme "possession": to possess a secret, to carry a secret; to know the secret, to have a secret, b) seme "protection": to protect secrets with cipher, to protect a secret, to guard a secret, to hide secrets, to cover up a dangerous secret, to keep secret, never to divulge a secret, not to give up secrets easily, never to write down a secret.

The repeated demonstration of the sema "protection of the confidential information" first of all indicates the importance of the secret which is protected by a complex system of the symbols developing into a certain code. A secret which can undermine, according to the main characters of the novel, ideological fundamentals of Christianity at the lexical level possesses additional "protection" by the adverbs confirming serious intentions of its keepers.

3) The ability to transfer the confidential information can be noticed in the following collocations: to pass on the secret legends of this secret have been passed on, (to protect a secret by passing it, must pass on the secret, to try to pass a secret o someone of the family, Tarot had been devised as a secret means to pass along ideologies), a plan to unveil a secret, to send secret communiqués, buying lives by telling the secret, to share the secret of a keystone, to unlock an ultimate secret, to reveal a true secret, to transfer a secret verbally, to have a secret to tell, to make a secret known, to tell a secret about a family, to dare release the Sangreal secret, to surface the secret, to unveil a secret; to lose a secret.

Lexemes *family, legends, communiqués, known, lives, true* respectively represent the concepts FAMILY, LANGUAGE, KNOWLEDGE, LIFE/DEATH, TRUTH, confirming mutual conditionality and semantic crossing of frames.

It should be noted that the expressions representing the seme "secret revealing" similarly also belong to characteristics of subject of action "recognition/receiving confidential information".

4) The situation of privacy is expressed by a phraseological combination *to move in secret circles*.

Characteristics of the subject of action "Recognition/receiving confidential information":

1) desire to learn a secret: *to crave to know a secret;*

2) gaining of secret information: *to learn secrets (you can't learn all the secrets at once); to witness a secret ritual, to extract a secret message, to take control of the secrets held over Vatican, to obtain very secret information, to retrieve secret documents;*

3) relation to the classified information: positive – *to appreciate secrets, fear to lose a secret;* negative*: to hate secrets, not to bear secrets kept from somebody, not to like secrets, to bury a secret.*

The paradigm of positive/negative attitude to secrets in the novel is expressed in three options according to an ideological position of heroes . The positive relation to secrets, their idolization is characteristic of group of scientists. Their feelings are confirmed by emotional words, frequently with the indication to extraverbal behaviouremas: unexpected jolt, life passion, wonder, to be paralyzed by sudden revelation, to react with surprise, shiver of amazement, a rising air of academic anticipation, to be surprised, a pulse of excitement, to be deeply amused, to reverberate with excitement.

Representatives of other groups (we do not take into account the direct carriers of the confidential information) are negative to secrets: police officers – as obliges, priests – for fear to lose prestige of Church (the concept FEAR is widely presented by the various lexemes in the novel relating to different parts of speech). But only Sofie Neve – "does not love", "hates", "does not transfer" secrets. Frequent flashbacks to the childhood of the main character describe her pastime in solving of rebuses, crossword puzzles, anagrams and other riddles. Besides, the child lived in the atmosphere of privacy and from time to time faced symbols which nobody wanted to explain to her in spite of the fact that the grandfather wanted to teach Sofie to respect and trust each other (*this way we learn to respect and trust each other*). For Sofie the concept of trust (TRUST) became important. The lexemes of minicontexts organize the subject line of this heroine and objectify TRUST concept are closely connected with TRUTH concept. In different situations – whether it is in the childhood or in adulthood – axiological aspects of the semantic field of the concept TRUST are the central aspect of her language picture of the world. So, in the childhood she is tormented by a complex of fault that she betrayed trust of her grandfather (betrayed the trust), she doubts whether she will betray his trust in her adult life (she wondered if she could break his trust again) , Sofie asks R. Lengdon to trust her (trust me), she doubts whether it is possible to trust Li Tibing (Can you trust him? <…> You're certain we can trust this man), places emphasis that Robert is the only person whom she can trust (My grandfather asked me to trust you). Subsequently Sofie begins to protect the secret entrusted to her, even without knowing its full contents, for the reason, that her grandfather entrusted her this secret; she

even chooses not such parenthetical constructions as, for example, *I think/suppose*, but *I trust* (I trust you've seen enough of our magic forest?).

Sofie is a cryptologist (a code-breaker), her profession – to solve codes of various degree of complexity, but this ability turns to be insufficient for Graal secret comprehension. It causes a number of negative emotions in the heroine. To disclosure of a secret she can come only through trust – trust to R. Lengdon, the teacher of semiotics knowing the language of symbols , who was trusted by the member of her family.

Characteristics of the object of action "Confidential information":

1) Type of object: secret meaning, secret message, secret rituals, secret truth, secret society inductions, a secret pagan tribute to a woman's womb, secret information, a secret pagan cult, secret communiqués, secret circles, the Sangreal secret, secret tongue, secret initials, Da Vinci's little secret, secret knowledge, secret location, secret history, secret orders, the secret of a keystone, Mona Lisa's secret, the Priory's final secret, a secret of the holy Grail, the secrets held over Vatican, secret codes hidden in the paintings, an astonishing chronicle of secrets, the brotherhood's secret, secret lover;

2) Characteristics of the object: a secret to die for, ancient secret, a secret of incredible power, one of the best-kept secrets, one of the most powerful secrets ever kept, the brotherhood's greatest secret the deepest secret, some dark secret, powerful secret, a true secret, a dangerous secret, important secret, the biggest secret, an ultimate secret, appalling secrets, a sacred secret, a secret so powerful.

3) The location of the object and its privacy are emphasized with an idiom *under the rose*, objectifying the concepts SECRET and GODDESS.

Strengthening the seme of importance of a secret is reached by the superlative degree of comparison of adjectives, the use of solemn vocabulary and intensifying particles.

Conclusion

Thus, having considered the semantic structure of the frame "Confidential information" and representational peculiarities of its dominant concept SECRET, we come to the conclusion that the verbal objectifications of this concept present a story line of the novel "Da Vinci Code" by D. Brown.

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