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CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS AS THE TOOL TO DISCOVER THE EMBODIED SPEAKER'S EXPERIENCE IN DISCOURSE

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Cognitive linguistics, a multidisciplinary field, explores the interplay between semantic and conceptual structures to elucidate the fundamental processes governing language and cognition. This paper integrates seminal contributions from theorists such as Langacker, Jackendoff, Fillmore, Lakoff, and Johnson to offer a nuanced understanding of conceptualization dynamics. By navigating diverse theoretical frameworks, the paper delineates the divergent elements of semantic and conceptual structures. Jackendoff's tripartite model highlights the interdependence of phonological, syntactic, and conceptual axes, while Harras's insights into sensory grounding emphasize their role in linguistic comprehension. Addressing contemporary semantic challenges, the paper explores the nuanced nature of word meaning, utilizing Fillmore's "frame" concept to provide essential context for word sense interpretation within discourse. Methodological approaches to concept structure reconstruction, including Petersen's concept-decomposition techniques and Barsalou's frame-based model, are examined. The paper also delves into concept typology and structure, from Lakoff and Johnson's metaphorical and non-metaphorical concepts to Petersen's classification based on relationality and referential uniqueness. It discusses Minsky's frame-slot approach and explores Ukrainian scholars' contributions to concept classification, considering various factors. Through this holistic exploration, the paper offers a comprehensive framework for understanding the multifaceted nature of conceptualization, highlighting its role in shaping language and cognition across linguistic and cultural contexts.

Keywords: *Semantic, Conceptual structures, Language, Cognition, Word meaning, Frame concept.*

Statement of the Problem. The investigation into cognitive linguistics necessitates a thorough comprehension of the intricate interplay between semantic and conceptual structures. Despite the invaluable contributions from seminal theorists such as Langacker, Jackendoff, Fillmore, Lakoff, and Johnson, a discernible lacuna still needs to be discovered in our understanding of the divergent building elements underlying these structures. Moreover, contemporary semantic challenges, exemplified by the nuanced intricacies of word meaning and the reconstruction of concept structures, demand rigorous scholarly inquiry.

Furthermore, the classification and typology of concepts, intricately entwined with factors such as life environment, content, and modalities of representation, represent pivotal avenues for scholarly exploration within the purview of cognitive linguistics.

Analysis of Recent Research and Publications.

Recent scholarship in cognitive linguistics has cast a probing gaze upon various dimensions of semantic and conceptual structures, imbued with a sense of urgency owing to its contemporary relevance. Notable investigations have explored the tripartite model of the grammatical structure

of natural language, as propounded by Jackendoff, underscoring the intricate dependencies among phonological, syntactic, and conceptual axes. Additionally, scholarly endeavors have delved into the sensory grounding of conceptual structures, accentuating their indelible imprint upon linguistic comprehension. Concurrently, inquiries into the multifaceted terrain of word meaning have endeavored to decipher its intricate nuances, leveraging conceptual frameworks such as Fillmore's "frame" to unravel the contextual underpinnings operative within discourse. Methodological paradigms governing concept structure reconstruction, including Petersen's concept-decomposition techniques and Barsalou's frame-based model, have assumed center stage in contemporary discourse, underscored by their relevance and timeliness. Moreover, scholarly engagements with concept typology and structure have enriched our understanding of metaphorical and non-metaphorical conceptual categories and the taxonomic frameworks predicated upon relationality and referential uniqueness.

The Actuality of the Article. In today's rapidly evolving academic landscape, the study of cognitive linguistics is observed as particularly pertinent. The contemporary relevance of this field is underscored by its importance to various interdisciplinary domains, including psychology, neuroscience, and artificial intelligence. As societies become increasingly interconnected, the need to understand the intricate mechanisms underlying language and cognition becomes more pressing. Cognitive linguistics provides a robust framework for investigating these phenomena, offering insights into how humans conceptualize and communicate ideas.

Moreover, recent advancements in technology have spurred renewed interest in cognitive linguistics. With the advent of natural language processing and machine learning algorithms, there is a growing demand for a deeper understanding of how language is structured and processed by the human brain. This has led to an influx of research aimed at unraveling the complexities of semantic and conceptual structures and developing computational models that can replicate these processes.

Furthermore, the practical applications of cognitive linguistics cannot be overstated. From improving language education methods to enhancing human-computer interaction, insights gleaned from this field have far-reaching implications. As such, the contemporary relevance of cognitive linguistics lies in its theoretical contributions.

In light of these considerations, this article seeks to contribute to the ongoing discourse in cognitive linguistics by comprehensively analyzing recent research and publications. It aims to provide valuable insights that can further our understanding of language and cognition in the modern era by addressing key issues such as semantic challenges, concept typology, and methodological frameworks.

Task Statement. The task entails a scholarly endeavor of meticulous proportions within the domain of cognitive linguistics, fueled by its contemporary relevance. This involves a meticulous analysis of extant research and scholarly publications to discern gaps and delineate pathways for further exploration. Specifically, the primary task requires a detailed examination of the distinct foundational elements that support semantic and conceptual structures. Central to this endeavor is the scrutiny of methodological frameworks guiding concept structure reconstruction, alongside a nuanced appraisal of concept typology and structure. Through this rigorous academic pursuit, the aim is to furnish scholarly insights that advance the discourse in cognitive linguistics and deepen our comprehension of the intricacies characterizing human conceptualization processes, thereby addressing the urgent needs of the field.

Presentation of the Main Material. Cognitive structure is regarded as commensurate in terms of our constantly replenishing flow of various mental, linguistic, or nonlinguistic activities (Langacker, 1988, p. 50). The primary distinction between semantic and conceptual structures lies in their constituent elements. Semantic structure may be founded on linguistic expressions, while concept structure is universal and comprises numerous images, perceptions, concepts, and thoughts (Langacker, 1987, p. 88; Langacker, 1982, p. 30).

Jackendoff (1983; 1990; 1997) made a great contribution to the development of cognitive theory by discovering the grammatical structure of natural language. According to his assumptions, the grammatical structure is based on three primordial axes: phonological, syntactic, and conceptual, which are regulated by phonological, syntactic, and conceptual formation rules. The building element that unites these three structures is the corresponding rules (Jackendoff, 1997, p. 39). Figure 1 transmits the postulates of Jackendoff's theory about the grammatical structure of natural language.

Phonological and syntactic structures are independent and autonomous, while conceptual structures should be connected to all remaining perceptible and sensory modalities (Harras, 2000, p. 19). Currently, numerous investigations in

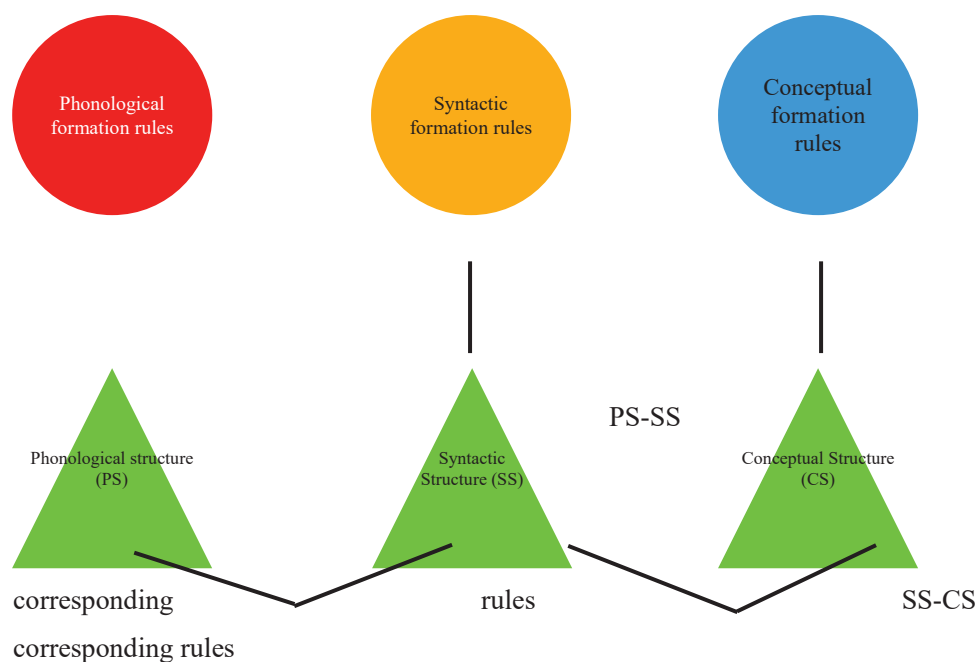


Figure 1. The grammatical structure of natural language.

the field of semantic science enable exploration of word meaning from various perspectives. However, the characteristics of word meaning could cause some sort of misunderstanding and difficulties in developing a functional and complex account. The most important one is the openness of the lexicon since the diversity of word meaning is conditioned by the diversity of individual experiences. For instance, it is necessary to refer to all constituent elements of the physical and social world to plunge deeper into the semantic structure of the researched unit. Finally, the second vivid issue regarding word meanings is its richness conditioned by the presence of various background information. Openness is built upon richness. Regarding the structure, openness does not restrict it in any case; it presupposes it (Gawron, 2008, p. 1-2).

The classical scholastic view on the linguistic sign opens prerequisites for developing the idea that it is mutually related to the concept of cognitive structures or any other types of complex units embodied in the external world (Harras, 2000, p. 13). The prominent semiotic triangle developed by Ogden and Richards proves that linguistic signs and concepts are directly interrelated. Meanwhile, these connections may also be indirect in the case of incorporated units within the external world defined by the concepts (Ogden & Richards, 1953).

The significant differences between conceptual composition and semantic form are increasingly preconditioned by the phenomenon of uncertainty of linguistic utterances (Bierwisch & Schreuder,

1992). Taking into account the theory of two-level semantics, concepts are projected from two perspectives:

- within the area of semantic form as the conceptual background of common lexical units;
- within the area of a conceptual structure due to which the authentic interpretation of a predetermined linguistic utterance is particularized (Harras, 2000, p. 17).

Generally, the word meaning within the sentence may acquire numerous shades of connotation regarding the neighboring utterances and the main idea of a text or discourse. Such peculiarities pose a substantial research problem; however, the conceptual background must be reconsidered in this case while dealing with the issue. In the fundamental Fillmore's studies, the notion of "frame" is viewed as an essential conceptual background for investigating the relevant word sense. Almost all types of concepts are possible to comprehend, discover, and analyze in terms of other concepts' backgrounds. In addition, each conceptual background is versatile and multilayered, and these traits allow us to discover another cluster of concepts jointly with clusters of words in all variants. Due to stable connections of words with the help of shared background, frames contribute to the formal principle for discovering the openness of the lexicon (Gawron, 2008, p. 1-4).

We adhere to the traditional Fillmore's interpretation of the frame as a crucial conceptual structure arranging the clear context for the interpretation of units. The interpretation may

be realized through different means and ways. The first one concerns the tight connection of the frame to the word meaning. Respectively, the second one is represented by the attachment of frames to the patterns of the facts exposed in the text. Accordingly, each frame provides specific backgrounds for every lexical items such as suffixes, word forms, and phrases (Fillmore, 1985, p. 232). Any individual expressions form the common ground for the appearance of the complex frame outstanding from the vocabulary domain. Consequently, the spectrum of words comprising everyday vocabulary represents a coherent and versatile framework of personal experience and world perception (Fillmore, 1985, p. 223).

Although connections between frames and lexical items are tight and interrelated, they do not form stable and fixed patterns. According to different communicative situations, these relations may be modified and supplemented. Such openness of the lexicon laid in the foundation of the frame units construes the premises of frame semantics. On these grounds, it also influences the process of construing concepts in terms of the backdrop of the same concepts chaotically and erratically. Additionally, the building of frames against their associated lexical combinations is the most appropriate approach to analyze these connections. Last but not least, there may arise some problems in construing the concepts since they could bump into the lexicon jointly with their associated frames. The best option is to deduce its structure out of existing frames to avoid these misunderstandings. To track the inner relations hidden inside the cognitive unit, it is needed to discover the frame and their associated lexical sets (Gawron, 2008, p. 6-7). To analyze these relations, lexical sets for frames closely related to the concept of MOTIVATION are observed.

In contemporary scientific discourse, cognitive linguists are considering two approaches for reconstructing concept structures. A novel concept-decomposition technique has been introduced by the German research group led by W. Petersen. Despite the cognitive adequacy and formal explicitness of the concept-decomposition

skeleton, their primary objective was to delve into the foundations of two essential characteristics: simplicity and rigidity simultaneously (Petersen, 2015, p. 46-47).

The key methodological framework for modeling this schema was inspired by Barsalou's research. His definition of frames is widely regarded as the most accurate and explicit among various cognitive and related sciences, aimed at uncovering its intricacies, origins, and distinct characteristics. Barsalou's scientific insight demonstrates that each concept consists of numerous frames recursively constructed from the object attributes and their values. Moreover, the structure of a single frame may encompass countless chains with constraints that define the values of attributes and establish internal connections among them. According to Barsalou, the frame structure is represented using labeled graphs. The central element in this framework is a node that denotes the specific category of objects or individual objects represented by the frame. Other essential elements are arcs that serve as supplementary components for linking nodes with each other. However, Barsalou's overall framework includes values, attributes, and the possessor of an attribute. The Figure 2 illustrates the structure of the frame according to Barsalou's model (Barsalou 1992a, 1992b).

Consequently, W. Petersen adopted Barsalou's approach as a key framework for frame modeling, supplementing it with her observations regarding attribute properties. Each type of attribute typically serves a specific function, facilitating the transfer of an existing value to a particular possessor. Likewise, the value may be expressed as a complex frame. W. Petersen describes frames as well-structured, rigid, and directed graphs composed of labeled nodes (types) and relevant arcs (attributes) (Petersen, 2015, p. 46-47). Frames reconstructed using this model can be further enhanced to accommodate cognitive typicality effects. Frames could be represented in the cortex through oscillatory neural networks, serving as natural exemplars (Petersen & Werning, 2007).

The second traditional approach toward concept modeling is the frame-slot developed by

Table 1

Lexical sets for the frames related to the concept of MOTIVATION.

WORDS	FRAME
Life, journey, means of transport	PATH
Persistence, inner force, powerless, human's thoughts, human's judgment	OBSTICLES
Money, car, clothes, jewellery	MATERIAL OBJECT
Happiness, sadness, excitement, despair	EMOTION



Figure 2. Barsalou's frame complex.

M. Minsky (Minsky, 1986, p.104). He states that frames represent the concept and are complex and multilayered units. Their structure coincides with the structure of the web and consists of subframes, slots, and subplots as essential linking elements. This method stands at the forefront of research discoveries of the Slavic linguistic school, including the Ukrainian one.

There are other insights concerning concept structures. For instance, R. Jackendoff believes three prerequisites exist for the concept foundation: the presence of the "core", differential characteristics, and prototypical conditions (Jackendoff, 1983, p. 121).

In the Ukrainian scientific circle, almost all scientists view the "field structure" of concepts consisting of complex multilayers such as ethnopsychological, linguocultural, and socio-discursive (Pryhodko, 2006, p. 213).

The peculiarities and properties of the human conceptual system play a key role in Cognitive Science. During the last decades, scientists have been trying to define the true nature of all its elements. The revolutionary approach towards its classification was portrayed by G. Lakoff and M. Johnson. According to their works, the conceptual system is multifaceted and multi-layered in character and metaphorically structured. Moreover, its background is formed with the help of two types of concepts: metaphorical and non-metaphorical.

The essence of metaphorical concepts may be discovered and formed regarding another adjacent concept and not only existing terms within its structure. Generally, it includes the conceptualization of "experience or objects of one kind" concerning "experience or object of a different kind". There are three main types of metaphorical concepts in language: orientational, ontological, and structural metaphors represented by a substantial amount of linguistic expressions.

The non-metaphorical concepts are represented in language as particular entities of human experience that are interpreted in their terms. Considering its framework, it is possible to differentiate three main units construing its foundation:

– Spatial orientations, concerning the placing of objects in space;

– Ontological concepts, forming as the result of obtained physical experience;

– Well-developed experiences and everyday activities (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980, p. 195).

Scientific interest in concept studies led to prominent discoveries in its typology, structure, and general peculiarities of functioning as a most significant cognitive unit. Löbner laid the foundation for the next concept classification, considering functional nouns from different angles and differentiating them in terms of referential uniqueness and relationality (Löbner, 1985). This theory was further developed by German scientist W. Petersen (Petersen, 2015) who took it as a base for the new concept categorization.

He is persuaded that Barsalou's approach considers frames as an exceptional means of construing individual conceptualization through functional concepts. Likewise, frame units form an important web consisting of functional assignments within the attributes. Generally, this contributes to the valid inner connections among frames and concepts. Functional concepts are regarded not as separated linguistic units or expressions but as cognitive patterns of representation, deeply embodied in the neuronal part of the brain. This specific type of concept is formed with the help of functional nouns as the main building elements. Respectively, functional nouns possess a particular core meaning for developing functional concepts. It must be mentioned that because of the absence of profound vocabulary related to scientific evolution, not all languages can describe functional concepts with the help of lexical expressions (Löbner, 2015, p.15-16).

In this specific research, Löbner differentiates another type of concept which is an individual one. In particular, individual nouns do not have enough traits in the structure to be relational, so they are unique. Individual concepts originate from the combination of functional nouns with a possessor identification of the individual concept class. Consequently, functional concepts regulate their referents in relation to possessors (Löbner, 2015, p.26).

W. Petersen developed the classification of concepts taking into account two main key postulates previously introduced by Löbner:

relationality and referential uniqueness. The non-relational conceptual subdomain includes sortal (SC) and individual (IC) concepts since they do not have any possessor argument in their foundation. However, these two types are not equal. Speaking about sortal concepts, they denote classical and well-known cognitive linguistic categories without any unique reference in contrast to the individual concepts. The relational conceptual subdomain counts proper relational (RC) and functional concepts (FC) due to the meaningful connections between referents and possessors. Specifically, the property of the functional concepts to create an exclusive mapping in the framework of referent and possessor makes their structure complex and particular referent individually referring (Petersen, 2015, p. 45-46). Figure 3 shows the classification of concepts developed by W. Petersen.

Almost all natural languages have all the necessary tools to implement this conceptual classification in real life. Moreover, the richness of vocabulary manages the realization of various concepts through multiple types of nouns. Speaking about English, those nouns that convey non-unique referential concepts (SC and RC) do not include the definite article in their structure. Likewise, nouns building relational concepts (RC and FC) may only exist in the core of possessive expressions. In such linguistic utterances, the role of the possessor could be formed syntactically, applying the possessive case, or analytically, by using the preposition "of". Meanwhile, it should be noted that each vocabulary within the language is unique and multifaceted. Hence, each of these units possesses a great variety of phrases with definite and possessional constructions (Petersen, 2015, p. 45-46).

	non-unique reference	unique reference
non-relational	<u>Sortal concept (SC)</u> : verb, wood person, house	<u>Individual concept (IC)</u> : sun, Mary, pope
relational	<u>Proper relational concept (RC)</u> : entrance, brother, argument	<u>Functional concept (FC)</u> : meaning, distance, mother, spouse

Figure 3. The classification of concepts developed by W. Petersen

Ukrainian scholar O. Vorobyova, working in the domain of cognitive poetics, generalized the concept classification by considering its five principal characteristics:

- life environment forming the ontological essence of each conceptual unit;
- the content;
- place in the hierarchy;
- specific weight in the concept system;
- degree of variability;
- format of their representations (Vorobyova, 2015, p.59).

According to life environment, concepts may be **textual** (Kahanovska, 2002), **discursive** (Pryhodko, 2008; 2009), **philosophical** (Cassin, 2011), **lingo cultural** (Starko, 2004), **ethnoconcepts** (Slukhay, 2005), **artistic** (Vorobyova, 2005; 2012; Nikonova, 2008) and **aesthetic**, being newly discovered and subdivided in the separate independent class.

Another significant classification is based on content background, which varies across different spheres and is multifaceted. The concepts within this taxonomy are divided into: **antropoconcepts** (FATHER, PRESIDENT), **emotional concepts** (Kövesces, 2000), and **concepts-mythologemes** (Kolesnyk, 2003). Furthermore, a large part of this classification is made up of the Pryhodko A. N. typology which comprises three principal categories:

- **categorical** (e.g. SPACE, TIME);
- **theosophical** (e.g. FATE, DESTINY, LIFE, DEATH);

– **teleonomic**, those that evoke the highest spiritual values (e.g. LIE, TRUTH, JUSTICE, INJUSTICE) (Pryhodko, 2008).

According to the place in the textual hierarchy, Kahanovska O.M distinguishes **mega-, macro-, hyper, meso- , cataconcepts** and their constituencies (Kahanovska, 2002).

Another classification concerns the specific weight in the concept system. Pryhodko A. M. developed three main concept types that possess diverse degrees of discourse variability and system reliability: **metachthons**, **autochthons**, and **allochthons** (Pryhodko, 2008, p.126; Pryhodko, 2009, p.126).

The next taxonomy of the conceptual units is developed in accordance with the format of their representations. In its framework, almost every concept belonging to the class may be textual, discursive, cultural, or artistic. There are the following elements within this typology:

- **single concepts** (e.g. HATE, LOVE, LIFE);
- **double gestalts** (e.g. LIFE/DEATH) consist of single concepts, however, they always exist in correlative pairs that ultimately form meaningful gestalt;

– **cluster concept** (e.g. WAY TO GLORY) do not have a single concept (name) in the represented language and are perceived as a certain mental unity (Izotova, 2006, p. 32-33);

– **cumulative concepts** (e.g. SAVOIR VIVRE) are regarded as conglomerates accumulating the conceptual features;

– **pictorial concept** (e.g. GOLD AUTUMN) mostly evokes visual content that is always easier to describe orally;

– **parabolic concepts** (PRAGUE/ ARAB SPRING) possess a particular story or motive produced in the folded form;

– **picture-parabolic concepts** (CHESHIRE CAT'S SMILE) could be not only orally verbalized but with the help of visual emblems;

– **essayistic concepts** (MODERNISM) have the property to stoke a great number of philosophical information and are built by the principle of minimisation (Vorobyova, 2015, p.59).

Conclusions. In conclusion, the exploration of cognitive linguistics, enriched by the contributions of renowned theorists such as Langacker, Jackendoff, Fillmore, Lakoff, and Johnson, has illuminated the intricate interplay between semantic and conceptual structures. Through the analysis of diverse theoretical frameworks, the study has delineated the divergent building elements of these structures, recognizing the interdependence of phonological, syntactic, and conceptual axes in natural language.

Furthermore, insights into the sensory grounding of conceptual structures have underscored their

pivotal role in facilitating linguistic comprehension. Addressing contemporary semantic challenges, the examination of word meaning has revealed its nuanced nature, necessitating an understanding of the contextual provision elucidated by Fillmore's "frame" concept. Methodological approaches to concept structure reconstruction, including Petersen's concept-decomposition techniques and Barsalou's frame-based model, have provided invaluable tools for unraveling the complexities of conceptualization. Moreover, the exploration of concept typology and structure, encompassing metaphorical and non-metaphorical concepts, and Petersen's classification based on relationality and referential uniqueness, has broadened understanding of the diverse manifestations of concepts.

By delving into Minsky's frame-slot approach and Ukrainian scholars' contributions to concept classification, the multifaceted nature of concept representation has been recognized, influenced by factors such as life environment, content, hierarchy, weight, and format of representation. Through this holistic investigation, a comprehensive framework has been constructed for understanding the multifaceted nature of conceptualization, shedding light on its profound impact on language and cognition across linguistic and cultural contexts. This synthesis of theoretical insights and empirical findings contributes to the ongoing discourse in cognitive linguistics, paving the way for further exploration and understanding of the intricate dynamics of human conceptualization.

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КОНЦЕПТУАЛЬНИЙ АНАЛІЗ ЯК СПОСІБ ДОСЛІДЖЕННЯ ДОСВІДУ МОВЦЯ У ДИСКУРСІ

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Когнітивна лінгвістика, багатодисциплінарна галузь, котра досліджує взаємодію між семантичними та концептуальними структурами, котрі беруть участь у низці фундаментальних процесів, що керують мовою та пізнанням. Ця стаття об'єднує основоположні роботи таких теоретиків, як Р. Лангакера, Р. Джекендоффа, Ч. Філлмора, Д. Лакоффа та М. Джонсона та представляє ґрунтовний аналіз динаміки концептуалізації мовних одиниць. Виходячи з різноманітних теоретичних підходів, в її основі також окреслюються відмінні структурні компоненти семантичних і концептуальних структур. Тристороння модель Р. Джекендоффа виокремлює взаємозалежність фонологічної, синтаксичної та концептуальної осей, у той час як аналіз сенсорної модальності Дж. Гарраса підсилює їх роль у лінгвістичному світосприйнятті. Вирішуючи сучасні семантичні виклики, стаття досліджує природу значення слова, використовуючи концепцію “фрейма”. Цей підхід представлений Ч. Філлмором, котрий вважає, що за допомогою фрейма можна дослідити сенс слова в дискурсі. Окрім цього, також розглядаються методологічні підходи до реконструкції структури концепту, включаючи техніку декомпозиції концепту В. Петерсен та фреймову модель Л. Барсалоу. У статті також висвітлені типологія та структура концепту, від метафоричних і неметафоричних підходів Д. Лакоффа та М. Джонсона до класифікації В. Петерсен, заснованої на реляційності та референційній унікальності. Зважаючи на варіативність проведеного аналізу, це дослідження підсилюється фреймово-слововим підходом Мінського та класифікацією концептів, котра розроблена українськими вченими. Завдяки цілісному дослідженню у статті представлено комплексна основа для розуміння багатогранної природи концептів, яка підкреслює їх роль у формуванні мови та пізнання в мовному та культурному контекстах.

Ключові слова: семантичні структури, концептуальні структури, мова, когніція, значення слова, фрейм, концепт.