SYNONYMIC RELATIONS WITHIN THE LEXICAL FIELD "FITNESS"

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Annotation: This article examines the synonymy relations within the lexical field "Fitness." The study explores the historical and theoretical aspects of synonymy, highlighting various linguistic perspectives on synonym definitions. A comprehensive analysis is conducted based on fitness-related terminology, identifying synonymous series and dominant lexical units. The results indicate that most synonyms in the fitness domain are ideographic, with a minimal presence of absolute synonyms.

Keywords: Synonymy, lexical field, fitness, ideographic synonyms, absolute synonyms, linguistic analysis.

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada "Fitness" leksik maydonidagi sinonimiyaviy munosabatlar tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqot sinonimiya nazariyasi va tarixiy jihatlarini o'rganib, turli lingvistik yondashuvlarni ko'rib chiqadi. Fitnesga oid terminlar asosida sinonim qatorlari va dominant birliklar aniqlanadi. Natijalar shuni ko'rsatadiki, fitnes sohasida ko'pchilik sinonimlar ideografik xususiyatga ega bo'lib, mutlaq sinonimlar juda kam uchraydi.

Kalit so'zlar: Sinonimiya, leksik maydon, fitnes, ideografik sinonimlar, mutlaq sinonimlar, lingvistik tahlil.

Аннотация: В данной статье рассматриваются отношения синонимии в лексическом поле "Фитнес". Исследование охватывает исторические и теоретические аспекты синонимии, анализируя различные лингвистические подходы к определению синонимов. Проводится детальный анализ фитнес-терминологии, выявляются синонимические ряды и доминантные единицы. Результаты показывают, что большинство синонимов в области фитнеса являются идеографическими, а абсолютные синонимы встречаются минимально.

Ключевые слова: Синонимия, лексическое поле, фитнес, идеографические синонимы, абсолютные синонимы, лингвистический анализ.

Introduction

Within the field of linguistics, synonymy represents one of the most debated aspects of semantics. Scholars have long examined whether true synonymy—words with identical

meanings—exists or if synonyms are merely words with similar but distinct connotations. The discussion on synonymy dates back to the 18th and 19th centuries, with linguistic theorists arguing whether multiple words in a language can refer to the same concept. While some define synonymy as absolute identity in meaning, others argue for degrees of similarity and variation.

This article explores the concept of synonymy within a semantic field, analyzing different perspectives from linguistic research. It examines theoretical frameworks, types of synonymy, and their application in specialized terminology. Using fitness terminology as an example, the study categorizes synonyms into series based on their shared meanings, demonstrating systematic relationships within the semantic field.

Literature Analysis

Linguists have not reached a consensus on a single definition of synonymy. T.I. Arbekova defines synonyms as vocabulary units that belong to the same category and field, coinciding in at least one meaning (Arbekova, 1987, p. 18). V.P. Danilenko, on the other hand, sees synonymy as the correlation between a set of signs and a shared content (Danilenko, 1977, p. 54). Similarly, T.G. Vinokur describes synonymy as the identity or closeness of meaning between linguistic units such as words, morphemes, or syntactic constructions (Encyclopedia of Russian Language, 1997).

Other scholars, such as R.A. Budagov (2002), A.A. Reformatsky (2001), and L.M. Vasiliev (1967), emphasize the presence of a common denotation as a key criterion for synonymy. Yu.D. Apresyan (1997) identifies five necessary conditions for synonymy, including identical actantial structure and shared semantic components, reinforcing the idea that synonyms must be fundamentally similar in meaning.

Types of Synonymy

Linguists have categorized synonymy into different types based on meaning, usage, and linguistic structure. A.P. Evgenyeva (Kirillova, 2011, p. 94) identifies four types:

- Ideographic Synonymy: Differences in shades of meaning.
- Distributive Synonymy: Differences in word compatibility.
- Stylistic Synonymy: Variations in usage based on stylistic considerations.
- Absolute Synonymy: Words with identical meanings, also referred to as doublets.

A.I. Smirnitsky (Grinev-Grinevich, 2008, p. 105) simplifies the classification into three categories: ideographic, stylistic, and absolute. S.V. Grinev-Grinevich adds a fourth category, conditional synonymy, where words can function as absolute synonyms under specific conditions.

Synonymous Series

Synonyms do not exist in isolation but form synonymous series—groups of words with similar meanings, organized by intensity and nuance. According to Pustoshilo (2011), a synonymous series consists of words systematically related by meaning. Nelyubin (2003) describes them as open systems, meaning new synonyms can be added over time. Each series

is typically centered around a dominant word, which is stylistically neutral, frequently used, and possesses broad compatibility (Antrushina, 2004).

Research Methodology

This study applies linguistic analysis to categorize synonyms within a specific semantic field. The research follows a three-step approach:

1. Literature Review: Examining existing linguistic theories on synonymy.

2. Data Collection: Identifying lexical units related to fitness terminology.

3. Semantic Categorization: Grouping synonyms into series and classifying them based on Smirnitsky's typology.

The study uses a corpus-based approach, analyzing fitness-related vocabulary for patterns of synonymy. Words are grouped into synonymous series based on shared semantic features, and their relationship is assessed according to ideographic, stylistic, and absolute synonymy.

Analysis and Results

Applying Smirnitsky's framework to fitness-related vocabulary, three primary types of synonymy emerge:

- Ideographic Synonymy: The most prevalent type, with words differing in nuance but referring to the same general concept. Example: muscularity, sinew, tone.

- Absolute Synonymy: Rare, found only in cases where words are interchangeable in all contexts. Example: well-being, welfare, weal.

- Stylistic Synonymy: Absent in fitness terminology, as most words are stylistically neutral.

The analysis identifies six synonymous series within fitness terminology, each centered around a dominant word:

Category	Synonyms	Dominant Term
Muscle Strength	athleticism, clout, durability, fettle, power, robustness, stamina, vigor, vitality	physical strength
Muscularity	athleticism, clout, good shape, sinew, tone	muscularity
Good Health	condition, constitution, fettle, soundness, vigor, trim	good health
Activeness	agility, flush, spryness, liveliness, vigor	activeness
Physical Tone	condition, durability, good condition, tone	tone
Well-being	well-being, weal, welfare	well-being

These synonymous series illustrate the systematic relationships among fitness-related words. The presence of a dominant term in each category supports Antrushina's (2004) theory that synonymous series revolve around a stylistically neutral word.

Findings and Discussion

The results confirm that ideographic synonymy dominates fitness terminology, aligning with previous research on semantic fields. Absolute synonymy is rare, with only one instance

(well-being, welfare, weal). The findings suggest that fitness terminology is structured systematically, with clear semantic relationships among lexical units.

The absence of stylistic synonymy indicates that fitness-related words are generally neutral, focusing on descriptive rather than stylistic variation. This differs from other domains, such as literary language, where stylistic synonymy plays a more significant role.

Conclusion

The study of synonymy in semantic fields highlights both theoretical debates and practical applications in lexical analysis. While linguists differ in their definitions of synonymy, most agree on the existence of varying degrees of meaning similarity. The analysis of fitness terminology reveals that ideographic synonymy is the most prevalent type, with only minimal instances of absolute synonymy.

The identification of six synonymous series supports the theory that synonymy operates within structured lexical systems. Each series has a dominant word, reflecting established linguistic patterns. These findings contribute to a deeper understanding of how synonymy functions within specialized fields, offering insights into lexical organization and semantic relationships.

Future research could expand this analysis to other domains, comparing synonymy patterns across different fields of study. Such investigations would further refine linguistic theories and improve our understanding of how meaning is structured within language.

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