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## SPECIFIC NOUNS AND THEIR FEATURES

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### ABSTRACT

This article presents a linguistic didactic analysis of the most common concrete nouns in our speech, outlines the goals of teaching them to a non-Russian audience, divides these types of nouns into lexical-semantic groups, explains their use with other words, and gives examples and specific nouns that are problematic to be included in the category of definite nouns are listed, the reasons for their problematic nature and specific aspects are explained.

### KEYWORDS

lexical-grammatical types of nouns, lexical-semantic groups, grammatical form, concrete nouns, collective nouns, nouns denoting substance, abstract nouns, singular number, plural number, countable objects, people names, animal names, plant names, names of objects and phenomena, problem.

### INTRODUCTION

The problem of lexico-grammatical categories of nouns turned out to be at the intersection of linguistic, linguodidactic and methodological research. This is evidenced by the following facts: spelling, grammatical and explanatory dictionaries, as a rule, do not record lexical-grammatical categories and their grammatical features, there are no special dissertation studies on

the methodology for mastering the lexical-grammatical categories of nouns in the educational process, there are no fundamental linguistic studies on methods identifying lexical-grammatical categories in connection with the problem of parts of speech and lexical-semantic groups.

If we keep in mind the purely practical side of the matter, then a special study of the lexical and grammatical categories of nouns, especially in a non-Russian audience, is necessary, firstly, in order to correctly use the grammatical forms of Russian nouns (number, case, combination with collective nouns), and secondly, in order to correctly use the direct and figurative meanings of Russian nouns. After all, the possibility of transitions of collective, material and especially abstract nouns into concrete ones, and vice versa, the possibility of transition of concrete nouns into abstract ones, is associated with their use in the singular or plural.

The core, or basic vocabulary of the Russian language, forming its linguodidactic lexical minimum, is generally accepted to be a dictionary of the four thousand most common words in the Russian language, selected by a team of researchers led by Academician N.M. Shansky. The object of this study is precisely this dictionary. Each lexical-grammatical category of nouns can be divided into separate lexical-semantic groups. A specific lexical-semantic group is characterized by its denotative community. This commonality is also manifested in the different predicative design (combinability) of lexical-semantic groups. For example, the names of people have compatibility that is largely different from the compatibility of words-names of animals. And words that name animals have a different compatibility than words that name plants.

In turn, the last group of words differs in their distributional characteristics from words denoting functions and abstract relationships.

Specific nouns of the Russian lexical minimum include words denoting countable objects and phenomena that have different semantics. The most significant lexical-semantic group of words is formed by the names of a person. Adjacent to it are the names of parts of the human body. The next lexical-semantic group is the names of animals. Adjacent to it are the names of animal body parts. The next group is the names of plants. Adjacent to it are the names of the constituent parts of plants.

The next lexical-semantic group of concrete nouns denotes natural objects and phenomena, as well as parts of natural objects. A large group of concrete nouns consists of objects and phenomena created by man. Adjacent to it are the names of parts of objects and processes created by man. Concrete nouns also include numerous substantives denoting abstract properties and relationships. This group of concrete nouns is closely related to the category of abstract or abstract nouns. It is characterized by instability in the use of the plural with semantic shifts. This group of nouns is called concrete abstract nouns.

#### a) Specific nouns - names of people

Man has always been the main social value for people. And since man is the main transforming force of

nature, he thereby acts as the measure of all things. The humanization of nature in language is one of the main properties of the artistic understanding of the world and human communication. It is no coincidence that words denoting people occupy a significant part of the vocabulary of specific nouns. The most common name is fixed in the word man. The plural form of this word in Russian is expressed suppletively in the word people. The form of man is uncommon in the literary language, although understandable to all Russian speakers. It can be heard only in irregular colloquial speech, occasionally in works of art (for example, in Gorky: "Everyone is people, everyone is human").

It is customary to use the words boy, girl, guy, girl, grandfather, grandmother as addresses in Russian.

The names of people in their relation to civil, state and social conditions can be conditionally divided into the following groups:

- the name of civil and state states (delegate, deputy, citizen, veteran, foreigner, foreigner, criminal);
- the name of people according to their social and ideological attitudes (patriot, fascist, capitalist);
- names of people according to their role in public life (leader, activist, organizer, assistant, volunteer, founder, participant, representative, boss, leader, chairman, director, minister).

Professions play a special role in the social life of people. Professional activity is the basis of the economic, political and social life of the people. It is no coincidence that there are more words - names of professions in any language than other types of names of people.

Among the names of professions, there are words that can be attributed to any profession. They characterize one or another aspect of the profession (professionalism, skill, position, nature of work, attitude towards property). The dictionary of the most common words includes words such as worker, worker, workers, unemployed, specialist, foreman, foreman, drummer, owner, mistress, amateur.

Among professions, professions associated with industrial and agricultural labor occupy a special role in the socio-economic life of countries. The dictionary contains the following words: worker, driver, railway worker, painter, machinist, blacksmith, mechanic, mechanic, joiner, builder, weaver, turner, miner, driver, peasant, peasant woman, collective farmer, collective farmer, milkmaid, fisherman, combine operator, machine operator, tractor driver

The names of people related to military service can be divided into two semantic groups:

- names of people in relation to various aspects of military service (warrior, fighter, defender, commander, sentry, partisan, adversary, enemy,

traitor, winner, soldier, officer, captain, general, admiral, marshal);

- the name of people according to their relationship to military professions (cosmonaut, pilot, policeman, sailor, sailor, parachutist, border guard, intelligence officer).

The names of people related to sports can also be divided into two parts:

- general names of people characterizing their attitude to sports (athlete, sportswoman, coach, fan, champion);

- names of people according to their sports professions (basketball player, basketball player, wrestler, volleyball player, volleyball player, goalkeeper, gymnast, gymnast, skier, hunter, tourist, football player, hockey player).

Among the names of service professions (the so-called employees), the dictionary contains the following words: clerk, librarian, doctor, doctor, cashier, hairdresser, cook, tailor, dressmaker, postman, conductor, salesman, secretary, judge, tour guide.

Thus, the first lexical-semantic group of concrete nouns - names of people, presented in the dictionary of the 4000 most common words in the Russian language, contains two hundred and twenty-four names. Words - names of a person have the greatest distributional capabilities compared to specific nouns.

They can be combined with verbs of movement (a person is running), action (a person is cutting down a tree), activity (a person is working, building a house), state (a person is sick), feeling (a person is chilling), feeling (a person is looking, hearing, perceiving), thinking (a person thinks, reasons), speaking (a person tells, addresses someone), functioning (a person manages, organizes).

Verbs that are characteristic of a person can be combined with the names of inanimate objects in figurative meanings (Yesenin. "The golden grove dissuaded ...").

Adjectives in combination with words - names of people can denote mental abilities (smart person), moral qualities (kind person), functional properties (organized person), states (healthy person), size (huge person), shape (stooped person), weight (heavy person), color (red-haired person), physical and biological qualities (elastic, flabby person). Adjectives characteristic of other lexical-semantic groups of concrete nouns are used with words - names of a person in a figurative meaning (iron woman).

Words denoting parts of the human body included in the dictionary "4 thousand most common words" can be divided into several subgroups. The first subgroup is words related to the entire human body. The mentioned dictionary contains three such words - body, member, bone. This is followed by vocabulary



characterizing the head and its parts, the body and its parts, arms, legs and their parts, as well as internal organs. Words related to the head can be divided into subsections. The first subsection is the name of the head and its main parts: head, face, back of the head, neck, throat, ear. This includes words denoting scalp: hair, braid, mustache, beard.

The dictionary contains the following words (second subsection) related to the face: forehead, lip, cheek, nose, eye, mouth. In turn, the word mouth is associated with the words tooth and tongue. And by the way, eye - eyebrow, eyelash, tear.

Among the words denoting the human body in the dictionary are: body, shoulder, chest, stomach, side, back. The meaning of a hand is revealed in the words: arm, elbow, hand, fist, palm, finger. The meaning of the leg is revealed in the words: leg, knee, nail (can also be attributed to the hand).

Among the names of internal organs, only the word heart is represented. In total, there are 39 words in the dictionary - names of parts of the human body.

Some of these words can also be used in relation to animals (all or some): body, bone, throat, ear, lip, cheek, nose, tooth, tongue, eye, tear, belly, side, back, hand, finger, leg (for example, in relation to a horse), heart.

The lexical-semantic group of names of human body parts is adjacent in meaning to the lexical-semantic group of nouns of human names. The same semantic predicates (verbs and adjectives) that are used with the names of people can also be used with the names of parts of the human body. Wed: A man dances - his legs dance. A person eats, his mouth eats. A person sniffs - his nose sniffs. A person cries - his eyes cry. A person hears - the ears hear. They cut a person's hair - they cut their hair. The difference in their use concerns not vocabulary, but stylistics. Wed: A person sings - the throat sings, the mouths sing; A person fights - fists fight (Here there is a change in the connotative, axiological attitude of the author of the text).

The next lexical-semantic group of specific nouns - names of animals - is represented by a small number of words: animal, beast, predator, bird, chick, fish, insect. Adjacent to them is a group of words denoting animal body parts: horn, paw, tail, wing, beak, egg.

Specific animal nouns can be combined with some of the predicate words (verbs and adjectives) characteristic of human names. For example: stand, lie down, run, eat, drink, watch, listen, etc. However, in many cases similar phenomena related to humans and animals are denoted by different words. Wed: A person eats - an animal eats, gobbles, chews, slurps. A person speaks - the animal roars, barks, grunts, meows, growls, bleats. The man laughs and scolds. - The horse

neighs, the dog barks. A man sings and a wolf howls. A man screams - a lion, a bear growls, barks.

The use of predicates characteristic of animals in relation to humans plays a stylistic role (A. Pushkin: "The mouth is chewing").

Similar phenomena occur with the names of animal body parts. Typically, a part of an animal's body that is similar to the corresponding part of a human body is called differently. Compare: A person has a face, an animal has a muzzle, a snout, a face, a mug. A person has a head, an animal has a head. A person has a leg, an animal has a paw and hooves. A person has a nail, an animal has a claw.

The lexicon of the most common words contains a small number of names of plants, their species, parts and fruits. The common names are represented by the two words plant and tree; the two words fir-tree and nut represent the names of trees; other types of plants are recorded in the words vegetable, fruit, berry, mushroom, flower. Parts of plants are represented by the words trunk, bush (possibly used as a special name for the plant), stem, leaf, branch, root. The words fruit, cone, seed, ear are used as names of fruits.

The lexico-semantic group of plant names has its own distributional semantic features. The number of predicates with which it can be combined is significantly less than the number of predicates with which previous groups (names of people and animals)

can be combined. Among them there is a common group of words. For example, plants (like people and animals) can grow, stand, develop, bend, sway, drink (water). But unlike people and animals, a plant can turn green, turn yellow, or dry out. These verbs, when applied to people and animals, can only be used in a figurative sense. A characteristic feature of the compatibility of plant names with verbs is the use of both direct action verbs and reverse action verbs. The plant can grow, but it can be cultivated. The plant can drink water, but it can be given water to drink. These examples are also typical for the world of people and animals. But there are examples that are specific only to plants. For example, a plant is planted, watered, hilled, processed, pruned, mowed, cut down, cut, sawed.

The next group of concrete nouns is the names of natural objects. Among the words - names of physical bodies in the dictionary of the most common vocabulary are the names: star, sun, planet, moon, stone, atom. They are accompanied by words with the names of atmospheric objects: sky, cloud, cloud. The names of reservoirs and water streams are more fully presented: ocean, sea, lake, river, stream, swamp, puddle.

Specific natural objects are represented by a small number of words: mountain, island, shore, ravine, snowball, hole. A large number of words represent the names of natural areas: landscape, place, terrain,

valley, meadow, field, desert, plain, steppe, forest, grove.

The names of natural phenomena are quite fully represented in the dictionary. Among them, the largest place is occupied by words that carry the dynamic properties of natural phenomena: explosion, impact, sunrise, sound, earthquake, storm, blizzard, wind, thunderstorm, rain, lightning, fire, fire, echo, miracle. Another group of words - names of natural phenomena - has the meaning of static images: ray, shadow, rainbow, stream, wave, drop, wound, spot. The boundary between these two groups is arbitrary.

The following group of words are names of spatial changes: area, remainder, section, handful, piece, step, sip, row, circle, orbit, edge, part, pole, middle, end, side, corner, nook, shape, figure, hole, ball, triangle, ring, dash, line, point, chain, route, path, network, center. Many of these words in figurative meanings in very rare cases can denote abstract concepts.

The most significant lexical-semantic group of concrete nouns are the names of objects, objects, processes and concepts created by man. This lexical-semantic group of concrete nouns can be divided into four main subgroups. The first subgroup includes the names of objects and objects created by man. Common names are represented by the words: thing, object, sample, product, cargo. The next subgroup is the names of objects created by man on the basis of

natural objects. It is represented by the words: alley, pool, bouquet, boulevard, garden bed, yard, road, zoo, canal, skating rink, well, feeding trough, edge, camp, grave, embankment, vegetable garden, park, lane, playground, beach, obstacle, halt, avenue, pond, area, garden, square, territory, path, path, sidewalk, street.

The next subgroup is the names of materials for production. It is formed by the words: part, wire, log, plate, nail, fabric.

A large subgroup of concrete nouns consists of the names of buildings. They are represented by the words: balcony, tower, bathtub, bathroom, showcase, gate, hydroelectric station, hotel, dacha, door, palace, house, fence, hall, castle, building, hut, apartment, cage, column, room, corridor, Kremlin, fortress, porch, roof, kitchen, bridge, window, stove, dam, window sill, floor, threshold, ceiling, frame, shed, birdhouse, wall, table, column, pipe, window, attic, floor. They are accompanied by words naming objects: cinema, mausoleum, monument, theater, screen, kiosk, stage, museum, library, club. The subgroup may include names of objects created by animals: nest, burrow.

In the dictionary “4 thousand most common words” the words – names of clothes – are widely represented. These include: bow, beret, blouse, boot, felt boot, mitten, collar, tie, heel, pocket, suit, jacket, jacket, ribbon, T-shirt, sock, glove, jacket, scarf, dress, raincoat, belt, button, belt, shirt, sleeve, boot, sweater,

shoe, apron, cap, robe, stocking, hat, scarf, overcoat, hat, lace, fur coat, skirt.

This subgroup of words includes words denoting bedding, sun protection and bedspreads: curtain, carpet, blanket, pillow, towel, bed, sheet, napkin, tablecloth.

A small subgroup is formed by words denoting sports equipment: paddle, stick, ball, tent, parachute, puck.

The names of objects created by man include the names of food products: loaf, pancakes, roll, sandwich, candy, cutlet, pie, cake, sausage.

The distributional feature that unites these words into one class is their compatibility with the word is.

The second main subgroup of words - names of objects created by man - are words denoting social functions and functional aggregates. The names of public functions include the names of specialties and positions (not to be confused with the names of persons by specialties and positions). The dictionary of the most commonly used vocabulary contains only a few words of this type: position, profession, specialty.

All words denoting functional aggregates (institutions) can be divided into two classes. The first class includes concrete nouns - names of associations or aggregates characterized by relative homogeneity.

These names include the words: ensemble, army, brigade, state, group, squad, unit, class, team, team, committee, circle, ministry, people, nationality, nation, orchestra, department, queue, party, generation, regiment, government, trade union, district committee, republic, family, council, union, country, crowd, fleet, front, crew.

Despite all the differences in the meanings of the words included in this semantic group, what is similar in their meaning is that they all denote groups of people divided according to their functional properties.

The third subgroup of concrete nouns denoting objects created by man are words that name processes, their results and methods of measuring them.

Words denoting social processes (actions of many people) include: aggression, attack, conversation, battle, uprising, meeting, strike, match, Olympics, operation, process, travel, rehearsal, date, meeting, meeting, sports competition, lesson, exam, excursion. They are accompanied by words denoting events: congress, competition, concert, revolution, subbotnik, congress, matinee, festival, anniversary.

Words denoting communicative processes include: speech, dictation, agreement, remark, news, information, oath, promise, obligation, description, hello, order, request, advice, TV show, joke.



The distributional feature of words denoting communicative acts is the need to be used with words denoting the addressee and the content of communication. For example: Speech to workers about the current moment; A comment to an employee regarding the quality of work.

Close to these words in meaning and distributional characteristics are words denoting the time dimension of socially significant processes: date, break, period, five-year plan, stage. They are usually combined with verbal nouns: the date of the event, the anniversary of the events, a break in work, the period of circulation, stages of the journey.

The fourth large subgroup of concrete nouns denoting objects and processes created by man is a subgroup of names denoting cognitive concepts, documents and cultural products. This subgroup can be divided into three parts. The first part is formed by words denoting cognitive concepts: question, impression, conclusion, task, task, conclusion, class, dream, opinion, model, science, answer, plan, concept, idea, principle, reason, problem, work, method, means .

A distinctive feature of these words is the ability, in rare cases, to denote abstract concepts in figurative meanings (and, accordingly, to be expressed in the singular form). For example: A matter of honor, Being impressed, Coming to a conclusion, First class carriage, This is science for you, etc.

The second part is the name of the documents, including insignia. Document designations include the following words: certificate, ticket, document, law, application, receipt, constitution, penny, slogan, stamp, coin, postcard, report, package, passport, signature, voucher, report, schedule, recipe, ruble, list , certificate, telegram, check. And this group of words, in extremely rare cases, in figurative meanings can act as abstract nouns:

Ticket to nowhere, Document of the century, Commander's order is the law, Life is a penny, Slogan of the day, Brand of the company, Package of laws, Start to life, Recipe for all occasions, Unchangeable ruble, etc.

The subgroup of words that serve as designations of distinctive signs includes the words: poster, letter, wreath, coat of arms, anthem, sign, banner, icon, name, number, medal, minus, order, patronymic, plus, handwriting, rule, percentage, point, signal, sport, surname, flag, number. Words of this category, as well as the previous ones, can in rare cases be used in an abstract sense: Remain a dead letter, Hymn of life, Sign of consent, Good name, Three minus one, “Our Fatherland is Tsarskoe Selo” (Pushkin), Take it as a rule, Signal of trouble, Smile is the flag of the ship (Lebedev-Kumach).

The third subgroup - words denoting cultural products, can be conditionally divided into two parts: The first

part will include words that, in principle, are not used in an abstract sense (although it is possible to imagine such figurative situations where this becomes possible). These words include: album, atlas, notebook, newspaper, herbarium, globe, report, magazine, riddle, title, note, map, book, envelope, title, cover, opera, excerpt, poster, record, saying, proverb, play, collection, snapshot, article, wall newspaper, poem, arrow, line, table, dance, notebook, volume, film, quote.

The second part of the words of this group can be used in appropriate linguistic situations in abstract meanings. These words include: primer, paper, exhibition, chapter, note, diary, toy, illustration, picture, picture, book, collection, doll, lecture, song, letter, portrait, example, program, advertising, drawing, fairy tale, dictionary, word, performance, page, text, topic, textbook, phrase, draft, drawing. For example: Paper will endure anything, Not real life, but an exhibition, Take note, Like a toy (doll), Picture of a city, Dressed up like a picture, History book, Swan song, Writing lessons, Son - the spitting image of his father, Not life - but a fairy tale. Dictionary of the Russian language, Keep your word, Textbook of life, etc.

Among the concrete nouns of the Russian language there are those that appear only in the form Pluralia tantum. Their grammatical feature is countability, the ability to be used with collective numerals (one, two,

three, etc.) or relative adjectives (one, another). Specific nouns of Pluralia tantum, included in the dictionary of the most common vocabulary, have different semantics: there are names of clothes and shoes (trousers, panties, sneakers), household items (scales, rakes, scissors, glasses, watches); sports equipment (skates, skis, sleds, sleds, chess, checkers); food (canned food), cultural objects (swings, nurseries), information (information), measures of measurement (vacations, summer, day), signs (money). Among the specific nouns included in the specified dictionary, there are several indeclinables: metro (vehicle), coat (clothing), menu (list), taxi (car). The last three examples are used with numerals, the word metro is used with the words one and another.

Among the specific nouns contained in the dictionary “4 thousand most common words” there are examples, the assignment of which to this category of nouns causes great difficulties. These words are the names of the universe (space, world); nature (reality, nature); directions of parts of the world (north, south, east, west), names of natural zones (taiga, tundra), fatherland (homeland, fatherland). These words are used only in the singular. At the same time, they have specific lexical content: they indicate real spatial areas. These words can be used with the pronouns all, all (all space, all world), all tundra, all taiga, all north, all south, all east, all west of the country). Thus, an alternative arises: either classify these words as concrete nouns,

but then explain why they are not used in the plural, or classify them as abstract nouns, but then explain why their content is abstract. The first alternative is preferable: to consider these nouns as proper concrete names, since their semantics is associated with the uniqueness of their existence.

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