

Summary

Subject-matter: Concept «Verstand» in present-day German language

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Topicality of the research is determined by the need of deep research of present-day German speech and ways of expressing of concepts in speech. Obviously, there is not any field of human activity where a characterization of mind is not used, inasmuch as mind reveals itself in the human communication.

Objective of the research: concept «Verstand» verbalized by means of lexical and phraseological units in German language.

Subject of the research: national universal and specific linguistic means realizing concept «Verstand» in present-day German language.

Goal of the research: to reveal and describe the national originality of linguistic concept «Verstand» in present-day German language.

The tasks of the research:

1. to specify the definition of concept;
2. to establish distinguishing features of concept «Verstand» in German colloquial speech, to distinguish linguistic units realizing in their semantic structure the meaning of mind and to structure elements of corresponding conceptual fields;
3. to make comparative interpretation of German lexical and phraseological units realizing concept «Verstand» and to reveal conceptual metaphors of mind as ways of objectification of concept;
4. to study a use of concept «Verstand» on the material of texts from publicistic and fiction in order to reveal possibilities of its expansion or contraction.

Theoretical significance of the research consists in revealing and description of lexical-semantic features of concept «Verstand» in present-day German language.

Practical significance of the research consists in a possibility to use it further for teaching German language.

The results of the research:

1. Most typical types of word formation of German colloquialisms: compounding, affixation, conversion, blending, reduplication, sound symbolism, loan words from another language.

2. A head, mind, brain are associated with: a) a roof, a facade, top floors; b) mechanisms and devices, their parts and defects they can have; c) various kinds of containers and receptacles; d) weaving.

3. Mental defects are explained by: a) presence of animals in a head, also by influence of animal world on a human, frequently by dint of a bite; b) various kinds of substances that get into a human body; c) external actions of other people (hit, slap with smth.); d) influence of supernatural powers or creatures and god.

4. Journalistic and literary-art functional styles frequently appeals to conversational style.

5. Concept expands due to using a wide range of synonyms of word "Verstand" and prepositions are used with this noun in journalistic functional style.