

## CULTURAL LAYER OF A WORD: CONNOTATION AND DENOTATION

Go‘zaloy Askarovna Sobirova

Teacher, Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies

Sanamoy Muzaffarkizi Topilova

4<sup>th</sup> year student, Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies

**Annotation:** This article analyzes in detail the concept of the cultural layer of a word, its connotation and denotation aspects. Denotation is defined as the main, objective meaning of a word, expressing a common meaning for all language users. Connotation, on the other hand, includes additional, subjective aspects of meaning of a word, including cultural, emotional and stylistic characteristics. The article shows with the help of examples how the culturally specific connotative meanings of a word are related to the worldview, traditions and values of different peoples. In addition, the importance of maintaining a balance of connotation and denotation in interlingual translation is discussed.

**Keywords:** Denotation, connotation, cultural layer, interlingual translation, cultural identification, language and culture, semantic analysis, cultural context.

**Introduction:** Language, as one of the most important social and cultural phenomena of humanity, is a means of expressing human thinking, worldview and culture. In each language, words embody not only lexical meanings, but also cultural, emotional and stylistic layers inherent in them. From this point of view, the concepts of denotation and connotation in linguistics are considered an important theoretical basis for analyzing the interrelationship of language and culture.

Denotation denotes the objective, basic meaning of a word common to all language users. It is mainly based on the lexical-semantic nature of the word and provides a direct expression of real reality. Connotation reflects the emotional, subjective and additional meanings of the word in the cultural context. These meanings are often inextricably linked to the national characteristics of the language, cultural traditions, and historical and cultural experience of society.

This article examines the concepts of connotation and denotation as the cultural layer of a word. First, the theoretical foundations of denotation and connotation are considered, and then their cultural aspects are analyzed. In addition, the role of cultural connotations in interlingual translation, how they are manifested in the worldview of different peoples, and the difficulties that arise in this process are discussed. Studying this topic is of great importance for a deeper understanding of the cultural aspects of language, as well as for a more effective organization of the process of intercultural communication.

The cultural layer of a word reveals the extent to which language and culture are interconnected. Therefore, this issue is important as one of the current research topics in the fields of linguistics, linguocultural studies, translation studies, and cultural studies.

**Main part:** One of the main tasks of language is to express the cultural heritage of humanity and pass it on from generation to generation. Each word, through its denotative and connotative layers, reflects not only objective reality, but also the historical, cultural and emotional experience of the people. While denotation expresses the objective meaning underlying the lexical basis of the word, connotation encompasses the emotional, stylistic and cultural aspects of the word. Although these two layers are inextricably linked in the semantic system of the language, their nature and features of use differ significantly from each other.

Denotation is the primary, clear, and objective meaning of a word that is understandable to all language users. For example, the denotative meaning of the word “house” is a building in which people live. This meaning is objective and independent of cultural context or individual feelings. Denotation plays an important role in the direct use of language as a means of communication, because it provides simple understanding.

Connotation is the cultural and emotional “coloring” of a word, which is interpreted differently by different peoples and cultures. For example, the word “house” is considered a symbol of protection and tranquility in one culture, while in another it can mean family unity. Connotations are formed through the historical experience, traditions, and values of a society. In this regard, connotation is the main means of expressing the cultural layer of a word.

Cultural connotations reflect the unique worldview, customs, and values of a people in the language. For example:

- While the color “white” is a symbol of purity and innocence in many cultures, it is a symbol of mourning in others.
- The word “tiger” is seen as a symbol of courage and strength in some cultures, but is interpreted as a symbol of danger or predatoryness in others.

Examples like these show that although the denotation of words is the same, their connotations can change depending on the cultural context.

Difficulties arise when translating words rich in connotation into other languages, because it is sometimes difficult to preserve cultural connotations. For example, the English word “home” means not only a place to live, but also a “place close to the heart.” When translating this word into other languages, it is an important task for the translator to correctly convey the cultural connotation.

As society develops, the layers of denotation and connotation of words also change. Some words acquire new meanings as a result of new technologies or social changes. For example, the word “online” was previously a purely technological concept, but now it is enriched with many cultural and social connotations.

The study of the denotative and connotative layers of a word is one of the important issues of linguocultural studies and linguistics. These analyses help not only to solve problems related to the semantics of words, but also to understand intercultural communication more deeply. Paying attention to connotation helps to prevent misinterpretations in intercultural communication and to appreciate cultural diversity. Denotation and connotation show the harmony of objectivity and subjectivity, commonality and uniqueness in language. In particular, the study of the cultural layers of a word creates a wide opportunity for a deeper understanding of the culture, values, and emotions of different peoples. This process contributes to more effective intercultural dialogue and the development of national and international relations.

**Conclusion:** Language is one of the most important expressions of the cultural heritage of mankind, and in its semantic system, the denotative and connotative layers of the word play an important role. Denotation expresses the objective, universal lexical meaning of the word, through which language acts as the main means of communication. However, the connotative layers of the word, that is, the emotional, stylistic and cultural aspects, reflect the unique worldview, values and cultural experience of the people in the language.

Due to the inextricable connection between culture and language, each word is combined with the historical experience and traditions of different peoples through its connotation. Therefore, culture adds its own semantic coloring to the word through connotation. For example, it was shown that colors, animals or everyday concepts have different symbolic and emotional meanings in different cultures. This situation complicates not only linguistic analysis, but also interlingual translation.

The distinction and complementarity of connotation and denotation are important for a deeper understanding of intercultural communication, appreciation of cultural diversity, and development of interethnic relations. In particular, in the process of interlingual translation, it is not enough to preserve the denotative meaning; the translator must also take into account the cultural context by correctly reflecting the connotative layer of the word.

Studying the cultural layers of the word, while expanding our linguistic and cultural knowledge, helps to strengthen dialogue between peoples in the context of globalization. In-depth study of this area of linguistics is relevant not only theoretically, but also practically. After all, by understanding language and culture, it is possible to strengthen cultural bridges between humanity and achieve intercultural harmony.

Thus, the study of the concepts of denotation and connotation provides an important theoretical and practical basis for a full understanding of the objective and subjective meanings present in language, for the acceptance of different cultural worldviews, and for improving the quality of global communication.

### References:

1. Слышкин Г.Г. От текста к символу. Лингвокультурные концепты прецедентных текстов в сознании дискурса. –М.: Издательский центр «Академия», 2000.
2. Алефиренко Н.Ф. Лингвокультурология. Ценностно-смысловое пространство языка. Учебное пособие. –М.: Флинта, Наука, 2010.
3. Хроленко А. Т. Основы лингвокультурологии. Учебное пособие. М. : “Наука”, 2009
4. Madina Khaydarovna Boboyeva, & Guzaloy Asqarovna Sobirova. (2024). Analysis of the use of Prepositions in English-Uzbek Translations. *Information Horizons: American Journal of Library and Information Science Innovation (2993-2777)*, 2(11), 8–10. Retrieved from <https://grnjournal.us/index.php/AJLISI/article/view/6188>
5. Nargiza Komiljonovna Mukhamedova, & Munisa Mansurovna Bahrombekova. (2024). Methods of Purposeful English Teaching: Analysis and Results. *Information Horizons: American Journal of Library and Information Science Innovation (2993-2777)*, 2(12), 25–27. Retrieved from <https://grnjournal.us/index.php/AJLISI/article/view/6338>
6. Nasretdinova, M. N., Saydikramova, U. X., Saydikramova, Fuzaylova, N. A., Fayziyeva, A. K., & Jabborova, Z. T. (2024). Analysis of Stylistic Aspects of the Appearance of Ellipsis in Speech. *South Eastern European Journal of Public Health*, 1676–1680.
7. M.R.Abdullayeva and others. Social Psychological Features of the Process of Professional Stress in Pedagogical Activity // *Journal Power System Technology ISSN: 1000- 3673, V 48, Issue 4. 2024/12. Pages 3325-3334*
8. Samieva Sayyora Ne'matovna, Mirkhasan Mirsaidov. (2023). DUOLINGO AS A MODERN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY IN THE TERMS OF TEACHING FOREIGN GRAMMAR. *IQRO* , 3(1), 384–388. Retrieved from <https://wordlyknowledge.uz/index.php/iqro/article/view/1255>
9. Samiyeva Sayyora Ne'Matovna (2018). Comprehending idioms in the context. *Наука и образование сегодня*, (5 (28)), 93-94.
10. Samiyeva S.N. COMPREHENDING IDIOMS IN THE CONTEXT // *Наука и образование сегодня* №5 (28), 2018 - С. {см. журнал}. Свободное цитирование при указании авторства: <https://publikacija.ru/nashi-avtory/pedagogiche43t2r23skie-nauki/593-comprehending.html>
11. Parhadjanovna, S. S. (2023, October). MASTERING THE ART OF READING: TECHNIQUES AND STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE READING SKILLS. In *International Scientific and Current Research Conferences* (pp. 482-485).

13. M.Abdullayeva. NASRIY TARJIMANING MILLIY-MADANIY XUSUSIYATLARI (XX asr oxiri XXI asr boshlarida ingliz tilidan bevosita tarjimalar misolida)// Tadbirkorlik va pedagogika Ilmiy -uslubiy jurnal. ISSN: 2181-2659. [4/2024], Pages 3-10
14. Saidakbarova, S. P., Mukhamedova, N. K., Jalolova, I. M., Mirabdullayeva, Z. O., & Akramkhodjayeva, D. A. (2024). The Role Of Speech Genres In The Communication Process. Educational Administration: Theory and Practice, 30(5), 2500-2503.
15. Asqarovna, S. G. (2023, October). Professionalism and ELT (English language teaching). In International Scientific and Current Research Conferences (pp. 486-491).
16. UZBEK WEDDING AND TRADITIONS IN TRANSLATIONS: Yangi O'zbekiston taraqqiyotida tadqiqotlarni o'rni va rivojlanish omillari. (2024). Yangi O'zbekiston Taraqqiyotida Tadqiqotlarni o'rni Va Rivojlanish Omillari, 7(4), 187-195.
195. <https://pedagoglar.org/04/article/view/2968>