



## **COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS AND THE SCIENTIFIC- THEORETICAL EXPLANATION OF ITS MAIN TERMS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*This article discusses the theoretical foundations of cognitive linguistics, one of the leading directions of modern linguistics, and explains the main terms used in this field. Cognitive linguistics studies the relationship between language and thought, as well as the expression of knowledge through language. The article provides a scientific and theoretical analysis of the essence and meaning of such terms as concept, cognition, frame, script, prototype, and cognitive metaphor.*

At the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century, new scientific approaches emerged in the field of linguistics. One of these approaches is cognitive linguistics, which studies language in close connection with human thinking and cognitive processes. While traditional structural linguistics focused on language units based on their form and system, the cognitive approach seeks to reveal the mental processes underlying these linguistic units.

The formation of cognitive linguistics is directly connected with such disciplines as psychology, philosophy, logic, anthropology, and neurophysiology. The terms that have emerged at the intersection of these sciences constitute the main scientific apparatus of cognitive linguistics.

The main subject of cognitive linguistics is the study of the relationship between language and thought. Language appears as an important tool in a person's perception, understanding, and interpretation of reality.

The main tasks of this field include the following:

- identifying the cognitive foundations of language units;
- studying the conceptual system;
- revealing the relationship between language and culture;
- analyzing the mechanisms through which knowledge is expressed through language

[1].

A clear understanding of the main terms used in cognitive linguistics, their essence, and their proper application is of great importance. Therefore, we consider it necessary to provide explanations of several key terms.

Cognition is the human process of acquiring knowledge, which includes perception, memory, thinking, imagination, and decision-making. In cognitive linguistics, cognition is

interpreted as a factor that forms the basis for the formation and use of language units. Cognition encompasses the following main processes occurring in the human mind:

**perception** (receiving the external world through the sense organs);

**attention** (selecting and focusing information);

**memory** (storing and retrieving information);

**thinking** (analysis, synthesis, and generalization);

**imagination** (the creation of images and models in the mind);

**speech and language** (expressing and transmitting knowledge);

**decision-making and evaluation processes** [2].

**Concept** is a mental unit formed in the human mind, arising from knowledge, experience, and cultural perceptions. A concept is expressed through language but represents a broader notion than individual linguistic units [3].

**Conceptual system** is the collection of concepts in the human mind that serves to perceive and understand the world. Each language and culture possesses its own unique conceptual system.

**Frame** is a structural model of knowledge related to a specific situation or event. Frames allow the human mind to store and process information about reality in a systematic way.

**Script** is a mental representation of events modeled in sequence. It expresses the scenario of actions and helps anticipate the development of events [4].

**Cognitive metaphor** is a mechanism by which one concept is understood through another, serving as one of the main tools of human thought.

**Prototype** is the most typical example within a particular category, forming the central point of that category.

Cognitive linguistics is one of the important directions of modern linguistics, and its terms allow for a deeper understanding of the relationship between language and thought. The scientific study of cognitive terminology enhances the effectiveness of linguistic research..

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