The actualization/activisation of a pragmatic component in the lexical meaning of the word ‘consultation’ under its discourse influence is in the focus of the present investigation. There are two main modes for exploring word meaning: in relation to other words and in relation to the world. First, traditional method used in dictionaries is to define a word in terms of other words, second, a foundational theory, which is interested in how lexical expressions acquire properties necessary for the use in discourse. The semantic correlation of the lexeme and the discourse stimulates some shifts in the word meaning. We focus our investigation on of the lexeme consultation functioning in political discourse. The professional (political) discourse is usually represented by a semantic net which makes it cohesive and determines the topic. The lexemes in the net share a common component that links them into a semantic domain, for instance, party, negotiation, information, agreement, decision, etc. The semantic domain of ‘consultation’ is inspired by ‘The Theory of Semantic Fields,’ a structural model for lexical semantics introduced by Jost Trier at the beginning of the last century. The basic assumption is that lexicon is structured into Semantic Domains: semantic relations among concepts belonging to the same domain are very dense. To reveal a pragmatic component in the semantic domain of ‘consultation’ linking other registers of discourse, for instance, legal, academic, banking, medical, and family is another step forward in semantic pragmatics.

Key words: lexeme, meaning, pragmatic component, political discourse, actualization, semantic domain, concept.

INTRODUCTION. At present two kinds of word meaning theory can be distinguished: first, a semantic theory of word meaning, which is interested in clarifying what meaning is encoded by the lexical items of a natural language. A framework establishing that the word ‘consultation’ [2, p. 142–149] encodes the lexical concept assistance would be an example of a semantic theory of word meaning, second, a foundational theory, which is interested in how lexical expressions acquire properties necessary for the use in discourse. We focus our investigation on of the lexeme consultation such as conversing in political discourse.

A broad definition of Political Language is suggested by Ursula Okulska and Piotr Cap: an area of studies of language in mainly political setting (viz. ‘language and [in/of] politics’ [1, p. 32–43]) complemented by research on power positions and social perceptions of languages as means of struggle for cultural/command superiority and dominance (viz. ‘language politics’ -see: Blommaert, 1997) [5, p.1–10]. In their definition they underline the political content of the professional discourse and its pragmatic function such as conversing in political discourse.

The professional (political) discourse [4, p. 193-198] is usually represented by a semantic net which makes it cohesive and determines the topic. The lexemes in the net share a common component that links them into a semantic domain: for instance, the political discourse may be based on party, negotiation, information, agreement, decision forming a political domain. The notion of ‘Semantic domain’ is inspired by ‘The Theory of Semantic Fields’ a structural model for lexical semantics introduced by Jost Trier at the beginning of the last century.

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into Semantic Fields: semantic relations among concepts belonging to the same field are very dense [see: 7, 8, 14], for instance, while concepts referring to different fields are typically unrelated. The main limitation of this theory is that it does not provide an objective criterion to distinguish among Semantic Fields.

In computational linguistics for Semantic Fields have been proposed quite recently the concept of Semantic Domain [14] which is a cluster of terms and texts that exhibit a high level of lexical coherence, i.e. the property of domain-specific words to co-occur together in texts [see: 8, 12]. In the present work, we will refer to these kinds of relations among terms, concepts and texts by means of the term Domain Relations, adopting the terminology introduced by. Relations between concepts, components, senses or meanings should not be confused with relations between the terms, words, expressions or signs used to express the concepts [see; 20; 16]. It is, however, common to mix both of these kinds of relations under the heading «semantic relations» (Cruse, Lyons, 1977; Malmkjær, 1995; Murphy, 2003). A contextual semantic domain corresponds to what cognitive linguistics describes as a cognitive frame or cognitive context [6, p. 5–16]. Whereas lexical semantic domains deal with the paradigmatic relations between a lexical item and other members of the same category, contextual semantic domains focus on the syntagmatic relationships between a lexical item and other lexical items that are used in the same context or cognitive frame.

DISCUSSION. Word meaning played a somewhat marginal role in early contemporary philosophy of language, which was primarily concerned with the structural features of sentences and showed less interest in the format of lexical representations and in the nature of the word-level input to compositional processes. Nowadays, it is well-established that the current approach to word meaning is bound to have a major impact in tipping the balance in favor or against a given picture of the fundamental properties of human language (Standford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2015).

The concept of Semantic Domain extends the concept of Semantic Field from a lexical level, in which it identifies a set of domain related lexical concepts, to a textual level, in which it identifies a class of similar documents. The founding idea is the lexical coherence assumption, that has to be presupposed to guarantee the existence of Semantic Domains in corpora [10, p.6-9]. We shall analyze the relations between Semantic Domains at the lexical and at the textual levels, describing the property of Lexical Coherence in texts. We will try to provide empirical evidence for that most of the lexicon in text fragments belongs to the principal legal domain of the text, giving support to the One Domain per Discourse hypothesis.

INVESTIGATION. The objective of the research is to reveal a semantic correlation of the lexeme consultation and its discourse, primarily, a political one. The data consists of a small corpus of real-life of text fragments of political discourse. The corpus consists of British and American political discourse represented by text fragments of various registers (laws, speeches, reports, addresses, etc.). We shall start with the lexical meaning of the noun consultation to reveal its basic meaning and the ways of its enrichment.

In lexical semantics the word meaning is represented as a set of components arranged in a fixed order. We consider that in functional or compositional semantics the meaning is represented as a set of components with a self-regulated hierarchy due to the word combinability in the text. [cf.:13, p. 1–24]. One of the issues is that research on word meaning has attempted to address is how much of the meaning associated with a given instance of use is due to the word itself, and how much is due to the context (linguistic or extra-linguistic) in which each token is embedded. Another issue that has exercised researchers on word meaning has been how best to model the semantic representations associated with words. Traditionally, linguists have distinguished that part of a word’s meaning which is core (semantic knowledge) and that which is non-core (pragmatic or encyclopaedic knowledge) [3, p. 1–22].

First we shall employ the traditional method to define a word in terms of other words. Definitions and terms are essential for any systematic knowledge. Their rigorousness and other properties vary a lot, from vague terms and implicit definitions to specialized terms with formalized definitions. According to Merriam-Webster, the lexeme consultation definition has the following constituents: (examples omitted from this quotation), for instance:

1. A meeting in which someone (such as a doctor or lawyer) talks to a person about a problem, question, etc.
2. A discussion about something that is being decided.
3. The act of looking for information in a book, on a map, etc.
5. The act of consulting or conferring.

Every natural language has a lexicon organized into lexical entries, which contain information about lexemes. These are the smallest linguistic expressions that are conventionally associated with a non-compositional meaning and can be uttered in isolation to convey semantic content [Standford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2015]. Definitions are a list of necessary and sufficient conditions for particular meanings. [17, p.225]. This is a typical ‘dictionary definition’: it defines a word using a compact prose description. Note that in terminology, we might prefer restricting the meaning to just ‘a word or expression that has a precise meaning in a specific context’. Here we are interested in the meaning of the noun lexeme consultation. It is evident that the lexical meaning of consultation can be modeled as a semantic structure with an ordered hierarchy [16, p. 32-68]: meeting, discussion, information supply, council, conference, deliberation. In their turn they have their own potential basic meaning: meeting – a gathering of people for a particular purpose (such as to talk about business); discussion – the act of talking about something with another person or a group of people; a conversation about something; information (search/supply): knowledge that you get about someone or something; facts or details about a subject; council- a group of people who are chosen to make rules, laws, or decisions about something; decision- a formal meeting in which many people gather in order to talk about ideas or problems related to a particular topic (such as medicine or business) usually for several days; deliberation – careful thought or discussion done in order to make a decision.
Addressee Receives Information
Addressee Makes a Decision.

Let’s recall semantic roles or cases to reveal all the possible semantic components in the meaning of consultation. We shall make up a list of semantic roles constituting one of the most common and simplest forms of lexical semantic representation adopted. Semantic roles are also referred to as «case frames» (Fillmore 1968) or «theta-grids» (Stowell 1981). They acquired a prominent role in linguistic theory thanks to the works in the 70-ies and 80-ies of Gruber (1965), Fillmore’s (1968, 1977) seminal papers, and Jackendoff’s early work (1972, 1976). Nevertheless, they go back to Panini’s karakas (cf. Cardona 1974). In terms of Semantic roles or cases, first, both participants are Agents, then the Addressee becomes the Doer of an action and the Addressee becomes the Benefactive, the place of meeting is Locative and Discussion is Instrument. Semantic roles attempt to capture similarities and differences in word meaning that are activated in various situations or frames that will contribute to the mapping from semantics to syntax. They belong, then, to the semantic/syntax interface generating a discourse, in our case – a political discourse, for instance:

1.1. In the course of consultations in accordance with the provisions of a covered agreement, before resorting to further action under this Understanding, Members should attempt to obtain satisfactory adjustment of the matter.

1.2. During consultations Members should give special attention to the particular problems and interests of developing country Members.

1.3. Additionally, the revised draft DCC Licence was published in November 2012 and continues to be developed in light of other smart metering consultations and the DCC licensing competition.

1.4. If a request for consultations is made pursuant to a covered agreement, the Member to which the request is made shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed, reply to the request within 10 days after the date of its receipt and shall enter into consultations in good faith within a period of no more than 30 days after the date of receipt of the request, with a view to reaching a mutually satisfactory solution.

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component negotiation.

2.1. All solutions to matters formally raised under the consultation and dispute settlement provisions of the covered agreements, including arbitration awards, shall be consistent with those agreements and shall not nullify or impair benefits accruing to any Member under those agreements, nor impede the attainment of any objective of those agreements.

2.2. This Understanding shall be applied only with respect to new requests for consultations under the consultation provisions of the covered agreements made on or after the date of entry into force of the Agreement.

2.3. This consultation has been carried out in accordance with the Government’s consultation principles.

2.4. Members affirm their resolve to strengthen and improve the effectiveness of the consultation procedures employed by Members.

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component hearing.

3.1. Information and Consultation Directives (national level)

3.2. Responses to this consultation should be sent to...

3.3. The consultation can be found on DECC’s website.

3.4. Responses to this consultation should be sent to...

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component conferencing.


4.2. The Dispute Settlement Body is hereby established to administer these rules and procedures and, except as otherwise provided in a covered agreement, the consultation and dispute settlement provisions of the covered agreements.

4.3. If the consultations fail to settle a dispute within 60 days after the date of receipt of the request for consultations, the complaining party may request the establishment of a panel.

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component discussion.

5.1. The Government will undertake this formal consultation exercise before the DCC Licence comes into force with the intention that the SEC will have time to have effect at that point.

5.2. Consultations shall be confidential, and without prejudice to the rights of any Member in any further proceedings.

5.3. Supplementary consultation on updated draft legal text.

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component dispute/mooting.

6.1. The detail of the SEC legal text may evolve as a result of the DCC competitive process, the consultation on transition and further policy development.

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component agreement.

7.1. The rules and procedures of this Understanding shall also apply to consultations and the settlement of disputes between Members concerning their rights and obligations under the provisions of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (referred to in this Understanding as the «WTO Agreement») and of this Understanding taken in isolation or in combination with any other covered agreement.

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component examination.

8.1. The Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body provided for in paragraph 1 of Article 2 (referred to in this Understanding as the «DSB»), in consultation with the parties to the dispute, shall determine the rules and procedures to be followed within 10 days after a request by either Member.

The nucleus meaning consultation activates the component settlement.

Relational theories of lexical semantics hold that any word can be defined in terms of the other words to which it is related [see: G.A.Miller et al.]: Consultation → Negotiation; Consultation → Hearing; Consultation → Conferencing; Consultation → Discussion; Consultation → Dispute/Mooting; Consultation → Agreement; Consultation → Examination; Consultation → Settlement. An algorithm for components identification must distinguish sets of linguistic contexts, raising the question of how much context is required. The limits of a linguistic context can be defined arbitrarily, but we prefer to define it in terms of sentences or fext fragments, that is to say, two words co-occur in the same context if they occur in the same sentence [see: G.A. Miller et al.]. Words whose meanings are sufficiently similar in some respect are often said to constitute a SEMANTIC DOMAIN, though this term is rarely if ever given a precise definition. G.A. Miller and associates have developed a lexical database called WordNet which contains more than 118,000 different word forms and more than 90,000 different words and phrases: Approximately 17% of the words in WordNet are polysemous; approximately 40% have one or more synonyms. It is a kind of multidimensional thesaurus, in which these types of lexical relations are explicitly encoded [15, p. 235–312]. Thus WordNet is an attempt to model the way in which a speaker conceptualizes one component of word meaning.
Any political consultation is undertaken to reach an agreement, settlement through conceding, then it includes the pragmatic component bargain: (1) an agreement between parties settling what each gives or receives in a transaction between them or what course of action or policy each pursues in respect to the other; (2) something acquired by or as if by bargaining; (3) a transaction, situation, or event regarded in the light of its results (Merriam-Webster Dictionary). Therefore a new pragmatic component is activated in the basic potential meaning of the lexeme consultation under the influence of the current political discourse.

**CONCLUSIONS AND PERSPECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH REFERENCES.**

The relational theories of lexical semantics point out that any word can be defined in terms of the other words to which it is related, the lexeme consultation in the context can be defined in the following way:

- Consultation → Negotiation;
- Consultation → Hearing;
- Consultation → Conferencing;
- Consultation → Discussion;
- Consultation → Dispute/ Mooting;
- Consultation → Agreement;
- Consultation → Examination;
- Consultation → Settlement.

All the given lexemes are sufficiently similar in some respect to constitute a SEMANTIC DOMAIN, wherein the component bargain means «an agreement between parties settling what each gives or receives in a transaction between them or what course of action or policy each pursues in respect to the other». The concept of Semantic Domain [14] which is a cluster of terms and texts that exhibit a high level of lexical cohesion, i.e. the property of domain-specific words to co-occur together in texts. The notion of «Semantic domain» is inspired by «The Theory of Semantic Fields» a structural model for lexical semantics introduced by Jost Trier at the beginning of the last century. The basic assumption is that lexicon is structured into Semantic Domains: semantic relations among concepts belonging to the same domain are very dense. Any political consultation is undertaken to reach an agreement, settlement through conceding, then it includes the pragmatic component bargain: (1) an agreement between parties settling what each gives or receives in a transaction between them or what course of action or policy each pursues in respect to the other; (2) something acquired by or as if by bargaining; (3) a transaction, situation, or event regarded in the light of its results. The development of the semantic domain consolidation as a ‘representant’ of the conceptual system is marked by the pragmatic component bargain.

To reveal a pragmatic component in the semantic domain of consultation linking other registers of discourse, for instance, academic, legal, banking, medical, and family is another step forward in semantic pragmatics.

**References:**


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