CORPUS LINGUISTICS: APPROACHES AND FEATURES OF THE NOMINATIVE SPACE ANALYSIS

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The relevance of the analysis of language data with the help of corpus research is gaining momentum. Corpus linguistics is a research approach that has developed over the past several decades to support empirical studies of language variation and use, resulting in research findings that have much greater generalizability and validity than would otherwise be feasible [1, p. 159].

A large number of scholars have been involved in the theoretical and practical development of corpus studies: V. Zhukovska [9], V. Shyrokov, O. Demska, L. Kovbasiuk, O. Vanivska, L. Klymenko [6], I. Kulchytskyi, V. Rykov, V. Zakharov, E. Tognini-Bonelli [8], M.A.K. Halliday [5], T. McEnery, D. Biber [1], G. Desaglier, M. Brysbaert and others.

Empirical data of corpora allow linguists to draw objective conclusions based on a large amount of collected material, rather than on individual subjective perception of language [3, p. 15].

As the newest information-semiotic direction of linguistics, corpus linguistics reveals close connections with computational and cognitive linguistics. From the first it receives tools for processing language material [9, p. 114], and with the second has a common nature of research material [6, p. 22]. While conducting language research both areas analyse language based on discourse [5, p. 97–98; 6, p. 22]. As well as cognitive linguistics, corpus linguistics is engaged in search of the standard (usus) and deviations from it [6, p. 22]. The study of the distributive features of the meaning of a word also belongs to the common features [6, p. 22].

It is noted that corpus linguistics, through the use of technical means, provides an opportunity to the quick and efficient establishment of any elements of the study, which directly affects the efficiency and effectiveness of the analysis of the nominative space of concepts [2, p. 407]. The necessity to use corpus research methods is explained by the fact that while conducting the conceptual analysis in cognitive linguistics there is a lack of formalized methods of testing and approbation of results [6, p. 22].

To date, corpus analysis is one of the most effective in the study of the nominative space of the concept, as the study of nominative space must be comprehensive, because the nominative space is a dynamic formation, which

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is formed from a certain set of nominations of phenomena of different nature when applying the strategies and means of language adaptation of cognitive structures [4, p. 275]. As for the phenomenon of «nominative space», the definition of this term is somewhat vague [7, p. 120] that is why it requires detailed analysis in further research.

As it has been noted, the notion of «space» is one of the most promising in linguistics, as it allows a researcher to group elements of one level, system or aspect [7, p. 120]. It should be noted that with the help of corpus analysis the linguistic information is confirmed or refuted, which makes it possible to explore the nominative space of any concept from the maximum possible viewpoints.

The peculiarities of corpus analysis are that due to this type of research there is an opportunity to clarify the results and conclusions of previous language studies. A key advantage of corpus analysis is the ability to reproduce a linguistic experiment [9, p. 114]. Also, there is an opportunity for the researcher to carry out new, broader and systemic for the storage of empirical material linguistic messages [2, p. 407].

There also should be mentioned the main approaches to corpus studies: corpus-based and corpus-driven ones [9, p. 115]. The central concern for corpus-based studies is the representativeness of the corpus [1, p. 162]. It is stated that the primary goal of corpus-based research is to analyse the systematic patterns of variation and use for those predefined linguistic features [1, p. 162]. The research is based on a representative sample of real texts [9, p. 116]. That is, the researcher confirms or clarifies previously obtained data now using corpus analysis. It is noted that such an analysis is deductive, because it begins with the already existing descriptions, categories and classifications, which are operated by the linguist before working with the corpus, which are then tested on corpus data [9, p. 116].

In contrast to the corpus-based analysis, the corpus-driven one is more inductive, so that the linguistic constructs themselves emerge from analysis of a corpus [1, p. 162], this type of research uses the potential of the corpus to identify language categories and units that have not been previously recognized [1, p. 168]. The corpus is seen as more than a repository of examples to back pre-existing theories or a probabilistic extension to an already well defined system [8, p. 84], it gradually builds a theory in the presence of evidence [8, p.17].

In our further studies of the nominative space of concepts, we will conduct the studies on the grounds of the corpus-based research, because our goal is to confirm, clarify or refute previously established linguistic data.

Thus, it is stated that nowadays corpus linguistics plays an important role in linguistic studies, it allows a researcher to analyse the nominative space of

concepts from different perspectives, which gives a more detailed picture of this or that phenomenon. Depending on the purpose of the study, the linguist may rely on corpus-based or corpus-driven approaches that allow either confirmation of data or the creation of their own hypotheses about language.

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