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**Abstract:** *This article examines the main types of lexical meanings of words in English. It focuses on denotational, connotational, emotive, stylistic, collocational, associative, reflected, thematic, and idiomatic meanings. The study highlights how these meanings function in communication and how context, usage, and culture influence understanding. The article also emphasizes the importance of mastering different types of lexical meanings for achieving fluency and communicative competence.*

**Keywords:** *lexical meaning, denotation, connotation, semantics, collocation, idioms, stylistics.*

**Annotatsiya:** *Mazkur maqolada ingliz tilidagi soʻzlarning asosiy leksik maʼnolari tahlil qilingan. U denotatsion, konnotatsion, emotsional, stilistik, kollokatsion, assotsiativ, aks ettirilgan, tematik va idiomatik maʼnolarga eʼtibor qaratadi. Tadqiqot soʻzlarning kommunikatsiyada qanday ishlashini, shuningdek, kontekst, ishlatilish va madaniyatning tushunishga taʼsirini koʻrsatadi. Maqolada turli leksik maʼnolarni oʻzlashtirishning tilga erkinlik va kommunikativ kompetensiyani oshirishdagi ahamiyati taʼkidlangan.*

**Kalit soʻzlar:** *leksik maʼno, denotatsiya, konnotatsiya, semantika, kollokatsiya, idiomalar, stilistika.*

**Аннотация:** *В данной статье рассматриваются основные типы лексических значений английских слов. Особое внимание уделяется денотативным, коннотативным, эмоциональным, стилистическим, коллокационным, ассоциативным, отражённым, тематическим и идиоматическим значениям. Исследование показывает, как эти значения функционируют в коммуникации, а также как контекст, использование и культура влияют на понимание. В статье подчеркивается важность освоения различных типов лексических значений для достижения беглости речи и коммуникативной компетенции.*

*Ключевые слова:* лексическое значение, денотация, коннотация, семантика, коллокация, идиомы, стилистика.

Words are the basic units of language, and each word carries meaning. In lexicology, the study of word meaning is known as semantics. One important aspect of semantics is understanding the different types of lexical meanings that a word can have. Lexical meaning refers to the meaning of a word as it appears in the dictionary and in actual language use.<sup>1</sup> However, a single word can have different types of meanings depending on context, usage, and association. This article discusses the main types of lexical meanings of a word.

First, the most important type is denotational meaning. Denotational meaning, also called referential or conceptual meaning, is the direct and literal meaning of a word. It is the meaning that you can find in a dictionary. For example, the word “rose” denotes a type of flower. This meaning is objective and does not include any emotional or cultural associations.<sup>2</sup> Denotational meaning is essential for basic communication because it ensures that speakers understand each other clearly.

Secondly, there is connotational meaning. Connotation refers to the additional meanings or associations that a word carries beyond its literal meaning. These associations can be emotional, cultural, or personal. For example, the word “rose” not only refers to a flower but also may symbolize love, beauty, or romance. Connotational meanings can vary from person to person and from culture to culture. Therefore, they are more subjective than denotational meanings.

Another important type is emotive meaning. This type of meaning expresses the speaker’s feelings or attitudes. Words can carry positive or negative emotions. For example, the words “slim” and “skinny” have similar denotational meanings, but “slim” has a positive connotation, while “skinny” may have a negative one. Emotive meaning is especially important in spoken language and literature, where feelings and attitudes play a significant role.

The next type is stylistic meaning. Stylistic meaning refers to the social or situational context in which a word is used. Some words are formal, while others are informal or colloquial. For example, “father” is more formal, while “dad” is informal. Similarly, slang words are used in casual communication, while technical terms are

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<sup>1</sup> Arnold I. V. The English Word. – Moscow: Higher School, 1986. – 295 p.

<sup>2</sup> Lyons J. Semantics. – Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1977. – 897 p.

used in professional or academic contexts. Understanding stylistic meaning helps learners choose appropriate words for different situations.<sup>3</sup>

Another type is collocational meaning, which refers to the tendency of words to occur together with other words. Some words are commonly used in specific combinations. For example, we say “make a decision” but not “do a decision.” These natural combinations are called collocations. Collocational meaning is important for achieving fluency and sounding natural in a language.

In addition, there is associative meaning, which includes all the meanings connected to a word through personal or cultural associations. This type overlaps with connotational meaning but is broader.<sup>4</sup> For example, the word “home” may be associated with comfort, family, and safety. These associations may differ depending on a person’s experience.

Another type is reflected meaning, which occurs when one meaning of a word influences another meaning. This often happens with words that have multiple meanings. For example, the word “cock” can mean a bird, but it also has other meanings, which may affect how the word is understood in certain contexts. Reflected meaning can sometimes lead to ambiguity or humor.

Furthermore, thematic meaning refers to how information is organized in a sentence and how emphasis is given. Although it is more related to sentence structure, it can also affect how a word’s meaning is interpreted. For example: John broke the window

The window was broken by John

Both sentences have the same basic meaning, but the focus is different.

Finally, idiomatic meaning should also be mentioned. In idioms, the meaning of the whole expression is different from the meanings of individual words. For example, “kick the bucket” means “to die,” not literally kicking a bucket. Understanding idiomatic meaning is essential for advanced language proficiency.

In conclusion, lexical meaning is not a simple concept but a complex system that includes different types such as denotational, connotational, emotive, stylistic, collocational, associative, reflected, thematic, and idiomatic meanings. Each type plays an important role in communication and language understanding. For language learners, mastering these different meanings is essential for achieving fluency and using words accurately and appropriately in various contexts.

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<sup>3</sup> Ullmann S. *Semantics: An Introduction to the Science of Meaning*. – Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1972. – 278 p

<sup>4</sup> Cruse D. A. *Lexical Semantics*. – Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986. – 310 p.

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