REVIEW

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of the dissertation of Svetlana Yordanova Taneva: "Main trends in the terminological systems of dental medicine and maxillofacial surgery (on English and Russian-language material)",

submitted for a PhD degree in 2.1. Philology, General and Contrastive Linguistics (Term formation in English and Russian languages)

The dissertation comprises an impressive volume of 316 pages, of them 232 pages of main text, 65 pages of appendices and a detailed bibliography. Its overall structure is neat and consistent, and the text is divided into three chapters. It is helpful that each chapter ends with a summary, which further contributes to the logical clarity of the presentation, as well as allows for quick references.

The research subject of the dissertation is topical: the doctoral student compares two terminological systems – in English and Russian, respectively, focusing appropriately on several aspects: metaphorization, structural-syntactic characteristics, etymological diversity, and synonymy. The two specific terminological systems of dental medicine and craniofacial surgery are characterized by their rapid development today due to the topicality of these medical fields.

As new medical terms are generally coined mainly in English due to its status of a modern *lingua franca*, their transfer to other languages is a dynamic linguistic process that deserves special attention. The picture is further complicated by the base of classical Greek-Latin terminology, typical of medicine. The choice of both languages: English and Russian, is well motivated.

The Introductory part coherently presents the relevance of the study, its research subject, goals and methods, thus laying a solid foundation for further analysis. Eight specific tasks have been formulated, the implementation of which is carried out successively later in the main text. They are mainly related to the metaphorization traced in various aspects of the considered terminological systems. Particularly interesting here is the more general cognitive perspective of the phenomena under consideration, as well as the semantic orientation.

The literature review presented in **Chapter One** surveys a very wide range of works in English, Russian and Bulgarian. There, the nominative theory is convincingly assigned to cognitology. As a consequence, the systematic nature of terminology is thoroughly represented from a cognitive point of view. The main discussed issue is

nomination, developed in detail. Also, the analysis of the fundamental notion of *concept* is particularly informative. Apart from the comparison of foreign authors' ideas, it is noteworthy that the achievements of the leading Bulgarian authors in this field are very well reflected in the dissertation.

Chapter Two develops in great detail the theoretical overview of metaphor in regard to terminological systems. Within the cognitive approach, metaphorization is developed as a specific way of operating with knowledge and transmission of information from the conceptual source-field to the conceptual goal-field.

Particularly interesting is the comparison of metaphor theories developed by Russian scholars with those by Western European scholars. In this way the author actually draws comparisons not only at linguistic level, but also at cultural-linguistic level – in view of the conceptualization of the conceptualization. This gives an in-depth and interesting culture-specific background to the particular linguistic analyzes.

The work handles the topic of metaphor very competently – specific motivating features of metaphorical meanings are considered, such as similarity in form, color, consistency, appearance, etc.; attention is paid to the categories of *frames* and *scenarios*, the types of metaphors; synonymy is discussed as part of the metaphor term-formation model. The author is not afraid to enter the particularly complex field of those metaphors that implicitly represent complex cognitive structures, the understanding of which requires cultural knowledge. Also, metonymy as a system-forming factor is surveyed.

A seminal contribution here is the diagram of the center and the periphery of medical language. It presents in a generalized form the complexity of medical terminology in terms of its origin. The diagram motivates a number of important linguistic issues, which the author further develops explicitly. What is also very important is the investigation of synonymy within the metaphor term-formation model, as it is a central problem. According to the author's calculations, synonymy occurs in 25 - 40% of the whole terminology fund. Ms. Taneva appropriately separates three groups of synonyms, which she describes comprehensively in view of the terminological variation.

Essentially, the terminology fund of dental medicine and craniofacial surgery is presented in a very accessible and systematic way. In addition, the current field of bioengineering is concerned. The dissertation would benefit if some of the very extensive overview sections on specific issues in this chapter were shortened a bit.

A significant contributive aspect of **Chapter Three** is the development of metaphorical models according to the source-field, based on the corpus of dentistry and craniofacial surgery. The lexical diversity of the analyzed terms is impressive: 618 initial metaphorical units, extended to 1012 in the study of etymology and synonymy.

Two main categories of metaphorical models are distinguished. The first of them comprises 13 anthropogenic metaphorical models with the respective basic components. To the second category Taneva assigns 7 non-anthropogenic metaphorical models, together with their basic components. These results are due to extensive and in-depth analysis, which is the core of the proposed dissertation.

Particularly valuable in this chapter is the field research: "Conceptual blending through the cognitive prism of students majoring in Dentistry." It shows that the author has ability for independent investigation, experimentation and processing of research data. The field study explores 30 metaphorical units within an appropriately-chosen theoretical framework following Gilles Fauconnier and Mark Turner. A clear hypothesis is advanced and interesting results are presented. In regard to noun phrases, two different structural-syntactic models are distinguished: with a noun component and with an adjectival + noun component.

Each model and its features are richly illustrated by detailed and clear diagrams, in which the analyzed phenomena can be traced very clearly. The diagrams show specific comparative characteristics of metaphorical models highlighted by Taneva in the corpus of dentistry and maxillofacial surgery, such as the correlation between these models, the number of units representing them, the ratio of anthropogenic and non-anthropogenic models, and others. Here the author exhibits not only excellent knowledge of statistical methods in corpus linguistics but also ability to apply it adequately to the studied material.

The precise wording of the questionnaire in view of the set goal and its compliance with the characteristics and knowledge of the respondents is impressive. Besides, the etymological characteristics of the units are very well presented in regard to an impressive range of source languages. In addition, in the metaphorical models the author

identifies areas of metaphorical transfer, which is another major component of her research work.

Taneva's field study results in a very detailed and in-depth analysis of the most important features and factors of medical terminological nomination. Moreover, she considers those features in view of their mutual combination – an aspect that gives exceptional depth to her work. At the same time, it shows that metaphorical terms are not constructed chaotically but are built within the framework of regular structural-syntactic models, specific for the English language.

In describing these models, she demonstrates an excellent knowledge of the constituent phrase structure of the language, as well as strong etymological awareness. The anthropogenic model is highlighted as dominant by means of convincing statistical generalizations. Detailed synonym lines are presented, which, from a practical point of view, could be very useful in the acquisition of terms by medical students.

The doctoral student has submitted a summary of the dissertation, which adequately reflects its content. The attached report indicates that Taneva complies with the minimal national requirements for a doctoral degree according to the NACID format. Her research papers are also thematically compliant with the requirements. The doctoral student has five publications in international journals and three in Bulgarian. She has actively participated in electronic and in-person forums in her field of research.

Based on the excellent qualities of the dissertation, I express my positive assessment and propose to the respected scientific jury to

award the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Svetlana Yordanova Taneva.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tzvetomira Venkova

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