



PROBLEMS OF FUTURALITY AND THEIR CLASSIFICATION IN MODERN ENGLISH

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Annotation

The article discusses the problems of futurity in Modern English. It provides information about different approaches to the classification of futurity in Modern English.

Keywords: futurity, classification, grammar, category, function, cognitive.

The modern paradigm of language study and its inner characteristics demands for comprehensive approach that takes into consideration not only structural planes of a language unit but its semantic and communicative aspects. In the view of the anthropocentric paradigm cognitive mechanisms of mentality explicated in mind through lingual functional models are of great interest. Therefore, the importance lies in understanding cognitive and functional basis of the category of future in modern English. The aim of the given article is to study cognitive and functional, as well as semantic-cognitive and communicative qualities of the category of future in modern English basing on scientific literature, fiction, belles-lettres and press materials. Theoretical value of the research is in presentation of comprehensive analysis of language means to express future tense in the framework of cognitive and functional directions. Practical value of the research is the possibility to use its results and principles to comply a lecture course of Cognitive and Functional Linguistics, to prepare manuals and textbooks in the correspondent area. The following research methods are used within the work: method of contextological analysis, descriptive method, method of component analysis, method of field analysis, transformative method, and method of element counting. To get the factual material the method of total selection was chosen. The object of research is semantic-cognitive and functional specificities of future time in the language system [1].

The area of research is structural and semantic qualities of FSF of Futurity and its constituents. The settled aim requires that the following objectives be fulfilled:

- a) description of basic cognitive grounds for categorical development of time notion;
- b) analysis of development of deictic means to express future time;





c) finding out grammatical means used in Modern English to explicitly and implicitly express future time;

d) working out the model of FSF of Futurity taking into account semantic and functional specificities of its constituents;

Studying the category of time in Modern English it is necessary to mention that during the written history the verbal system of the English language was broadened not only thanks to the forming of new grammatical categories. Inside of the existed categories of time new categorical parts are appeared and they fixed the most universal grammatically formalized denotation of the future time and also potential and unreal actions. The existence of the category of future time in English is very arguable matter. And its conceptualization is impossible without the knowing about the development of the given analytical form in the process of the language's evolution. In the given article the process of conformation of the category of future time is considered diachronically and its origins: the combinations of old English verbs "willan" and "sculan" ("will" and "shall") with the infinitive. The specificity of its development consists of the changes of inner relations between components which hadn't some noticeable outer shews (manifestations): an outer shape of the constructions is almost such as it was.

In Modern English the various categories and constructions are graded to the grammatical means of futurity's expression. Represented to your attention in this article there are different patterns of the futurum's FSF (Functional-Semantic Field). We can show it as the following models: The first futural-modal level of the FSF (functional semantic field) of futurity separated from nucleus and for its qualities, also expressed different means that it includes, consists of several periphery fields. On this level such language means are taken in consideration

that the expression of the futurity's notion in the text is the main or one of the main function for them. It means that owing to these means the expression of the meaning of future tense had happened in the explicit way [2].

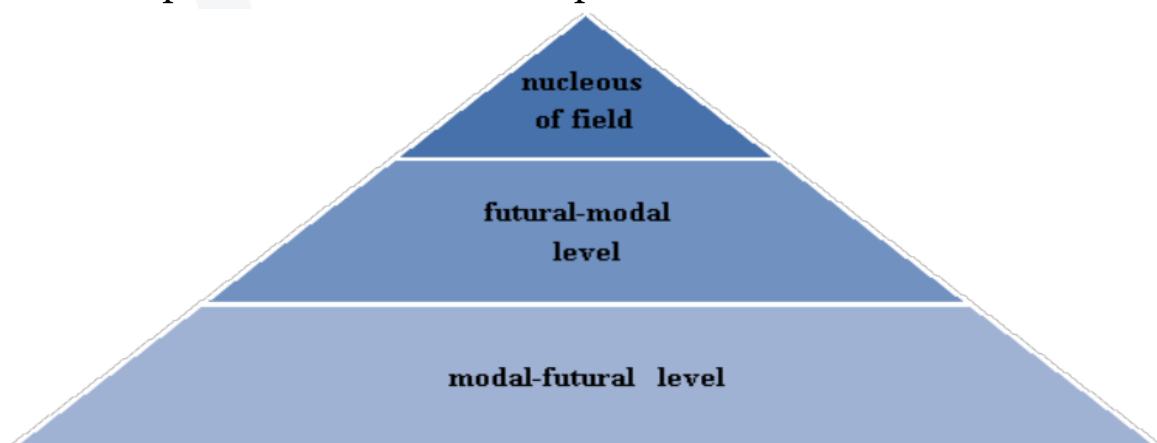
Lexical and lexico-grammatical means, adverbs and adverbial constructions of the time, adverbial clauses are related to the periphery field of the above-mentioned level. They, in its turn, have an additional or qualifier function. On the second modal-futural level of the FSF (functional semantic field) of futurity as a result of its modal meaning, combine the language's means that express the futurity, i.e. by means of these means the expression of the future tense's meaning had happened in the implicit way. Differentiated for its modal characteristics the represented level is divided into several sections. These sections for their semantic characteristic features in a certain degree intersect the first level because the language's means of the first level have a



modal character in the text. The main diversity comprises that the means of the first level realise an expression of the future tense's meaning in an implicit way or as the second meaning.

In Modern English the functional semantic nucleus of futurity is monocentric structure. Its centre is forming by means of grammatical structure and auxiliary verb "will". From the functional point of view language means of futurity's expression – forms with the verb "will" are the universal forms. Notwithstanding that a construction with the verb "will" is not a category which is grammaticalized fully, it has a developed paradigmatic system. A section that comes after nucleus is the constructions which are formed by means of "to be going to", as "Present Continuous" and "Present Simple" tense forms. The future action which is expressed by means of the previous mentioned forms, as a rule, has the highest possibility of realization.

In these three examples that are represented to your attention the mentioned constructions express future will, wish, desire, intention. It is necessary to mention that time learning expressive meanings by means of them, expressed by different means the actions which will happen in future from the semantic point of view specified by means of main meanings of the constructions. In the first example the intention is expressed by means of the Present Continuous form and bare the character of an immediate action. It is more close to realization that the expressed intentions in compare with the other examples.



Model 1. The functional semantic field of futurity in Modern English.

In the other section of the first level there are language constructions which represent the futural-modal constructions. Their using in text is rare and they have the highest shades of modal meaning.

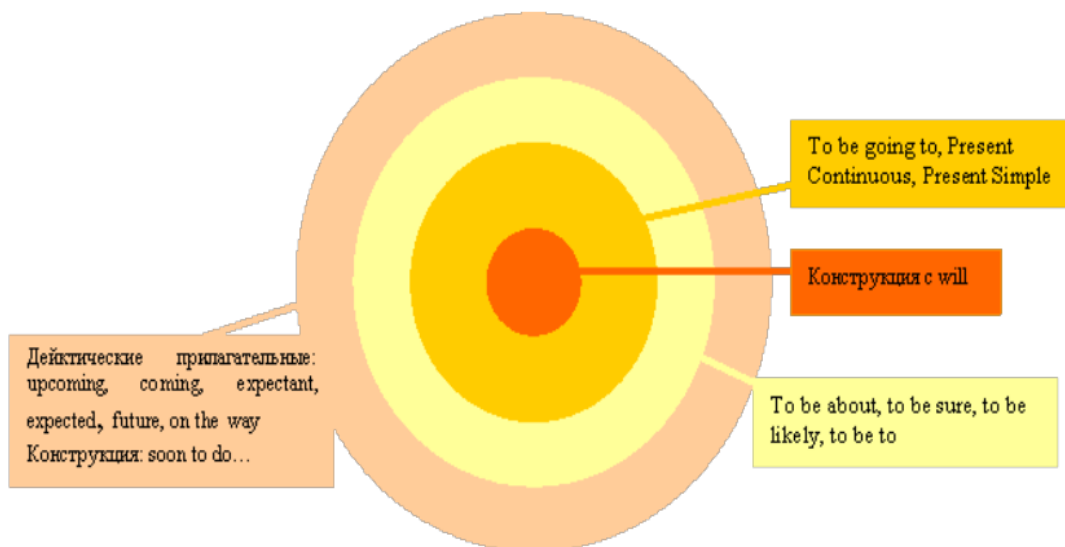




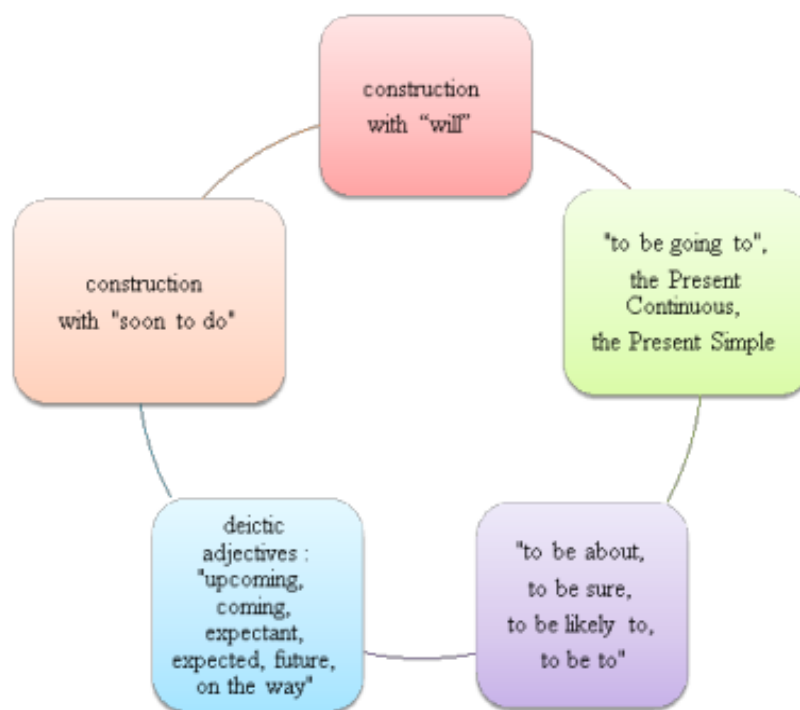
Here belong the constructions with “to be about, to be sure, to be likely”, with modal verb “to be to” and modal construction “there is to do”. These means have the modal shades of vivid meaning of future action’s probability and possibility. Look on such constructions in the following sentences and analyse their functional semantics: The sun in Pisces has lowered your boredom threshold, and your home, school, and social lives are all about to drive you insane. Sovereign Wealth Funds will continue to buy up big chunks of Western banks and blue-chip companies, as well as investing more broadly in a new range of countries and currencies (which is likely to make future movements stronger and more unpredictable). Even with the world’s heritage disappearing at an alarming rate, there are still amazing discoveries to be made [3]. In the third section of the first level there are language’s means of expression of the future time and functioning as the attribute they coordinate the determining object with the future tense. Here belong the deictic adjectives, for instance: “upcoming, coming, expectant, expected, future, on the way” and so on. Such kind of the adjectives and the elliptic constructions are often used in the text of advertisements and other kinds of text. For example: BABYMOUSE. The sassy mouse with attitude to spare! Get ready to rock with Babymouse: Rockstar! Coming this fall!. Coming soon in Archaeology [4].

The construction formed by means of the adverb “soon” + infinitive or the construction formed by means of the infinitive which comes after the determining noun must be referred to the descriptive section. Such constructions have the function of the attribute and show the future quality or the situation of the appointed subject or object. For instance, we can give some examples with the constructions formed by means of expressions “soon to be wife, the work to do”: To be launched in 2007, it won’t capture light from other Earths. Instead, from a vantage far beyond the moon, it will chase their shadows (National Geographic, 2004). Actress Diane Lane takes us on the remarkable journey that is her life – from a most unorthodox childhood to her second shot at love to her secret for being the sexiest soon-to-be-40-year-old in Hollywood [5].





Model 2. Constructions with the future meanings in Modern English.



In conclusion, we are going to say that we have discussed the main points of futurity in Modern English. We hope that we will try to investigate other aspects of futurity in our future work.

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