

Some morphological and word-building features of imitative words

Shara Mazhitayeva¹, Kalamkas Ordabekovna Saparova¹, Mukhammadgali Iliasovich Abduyov¹, Gulbaram Sayatovna Khamzina², Nurgul Tursynovna Nygmetova³ and Sholpan Akhankyzy Zhetpisbay³

¹Karaganda State University named after E.A. Buketov, Kazakhstan

²North Kazakhstan State University named after M.Kozybaev, Kazakhstan

³Karaganda State Technical University, Kazakhstan

Abstract. Imitative words are language phenomenon that traces back to early times. As any other words they had been improving through the process of language development thanks to folk literatures and every day speech. However, the division of imitative as a separate part of Speech still has not found its solution. There are some actual problems that can be solved. They are: two types of imitative words: words, reproducing or representing a natural sound and words, representing a manner or image, their lexical and semantic features, communicative-pragmatic characteristics, their derivations; general study of imitative words in the Turk and Kazakh linguistics; morphological, semantic, syntactic peculiarities; capacities to build new words, a role in a sentence, the ways to combine with other members of the sentence.

[Mazhitayeva S., Saparova K.O., Abduyov M.I., Khamzina G.S., Nygmetova N.T., Zhetpisbay S.A. **Some morphological and word-building features of imitative words.** *Life Sci J* 2014;11(8s):112-115] (ISSN:1097-8135). <http://www.lifesciencesite.com>. 23

Keywords: word-building, word-formation, ancient Turkic language, comparative-historical researches, imitative (imitative) words

Introduction

The numerous researches connected with word-formation system are conducted in linguistics. Word-formation problems in Kazakh linguistics have generally been considered for recent twenty years. Word-formation is the certain direction in linguistics with the proper object of research J.L. Bybee [1], M.Halle [2], A. Spencer [3]. The complex issues such as word-formation ways, pre-formative language elements, word-formative types and lines, word-formation models, derivative words and their types, word-formative regularities and word-formative meanings, word-formation referring to word classes are the objects of word building research [4], [5].

At the present stage applicable to word building the numerous words forming the word groups are produced through the word-formation ways and types of word-formation meanings. These words have not been scientifically considered in Kazakh linguistics recently, and nowadays become the object of research. Some of them are imitative words. The class of imitative words is a class of the words having own word-formative system that is generally produced in language very early. The class of imitative words has own pre-formative elements, models and types. Besides, the imitative words have also the proper word-formation ways. All this is realized in the Kazakh language by certain objective laws. One of the important issues in Kazakh linguistics is clarifying the functions of the class of imitative words in the word-formation system. There is determined actuality and novelty of our work.

The main objective of research is to pay attention to the spread using the word-formative system of the class of imitative words and further to define more accurately and specify through the ways of word building, semantic groups and pre-formative units the word stock richness of our language as the language with great potential.

Word-formative system of the class of imitative words and theoretical problems of their regularities are not comprehensively investigated yet. We are the first to try to consider them as a special subject. The imitative words are sufficiently analyzed from the semantic point of view in the Kazakh linguistics however there are not examined their functions in word-formative system and syntactic function in the sentence. Therefore there is lack of works defining semantic structure, regularities and communicative-pragmatic characteristics of the imitative words in word building.

But, there are some theoretical problems in defining the role and function of imitative words in word building.

Object of research – word-formation characteristic of the class of imitative words, word-formation ways of the class of imitative words.

In the course of research writing there are applied the word-formation ways of the imitative and form derivative words, i.e. the structural-semantic analysis, descriptive, comparative and typological, comparative-historical methods and the synchronous method of the component analysis, collecting, analysis, comparison, the motivated semantic analysis.

Prominent Greek thinkers Aristotle and Plato denoted two types of words: they are nouns and verbs. Dionysius Thrax, a Hellenistic grammarian and a pupil of Aristarchus of Samothrace, distinguished 8 Parts of Speech. Other scholars all over the world till Middle century were of one mind. Imitative words were not included to the list of a Part of Speech. N.I. Ashmarin was the first who studied in the 20s of XX century imitative words of ancient Turk languages [6]. He was famous as a father of imitative words in Turkology. His follower was N.K. Dmitryev. He analyzed imitative words on the material of Oghuz language. Hereafter, a great number of researches devoted to this issue were published by the linguists all over Russia and Central Asia. But, till 1950 imitative words in Indo-European and Turk languages were regarded as adverbs or interjections. Imitative words were the target of research of the following Kazakh linguists: A. Iskakov, Sh. Sarybayev, A. Kaidarov, R.Kussayunov, B. Katembayeva, and others. M. Zhubanova and A. Islam wrote a thesis on Kazakh and English imitative words in comparison with other languages.

There are a lot of questions in studying the role and function of imitative words in word-building. It still requires careful investigation. In linguistics a term, onomatopœia, is frequently given to denote imitative words. In Greek language the compound word onomatopœia means "making or creating names". There is a lack of materials about its role and function in word formation process.

The naming of a thing or action by a vocal imitation of the sound associated with it is known as onomatopœia. Common occurrences of onomatopœias include animal and various objects noises.

«Imitative words, semantically, imitate, echo, or suggest the different kind of clashes of natural phenomena with objects, animal sounds, animal motions; in many of the world's languages, onomatopœia-like words are used to describe phenomena apart from the purely auditive to describe feelings or figurative expressions about objects or concepts» [7,320].

Imitative words are subdivided into 2 types: words, reproducing or representing a natural sound and words, representing a manner or image. According to their functions they have their specific peculiarities. Sound imitative words reproduce various sounds existing in nature, world surroundings, everyday life; descriptive words represent images or actions of objects and phenomena in nature and world surroundings [8].

They also differ in their phonetic and grammatical functions. There are some more facts to divide imitative words into two types in grammar of

other languages. In the Russian language grammar are better known as sound imitating and image imitating [9, 517].

One can see their difference that imitative words imitate or echo sound, descriptive words only describe a sound in specific manner.

There are three major types of word-formation traced back from ancient times: synthetic; analytical; lexical-semantic [10]. To make derivatives from imitative words according to the synthetic approach it is necessary to have lexical meaning and word building suffix. As they belong to a linguistic unit, each of them has its own functions.

«In the synthetic approach to build a new word it is important to use a derivational suffix as far as it is the main member of the word formation process. The synthetic approach envisages a certain place for each morpheme, so a suffix (an auxiliary morpheme) always goes after the main morpheme (the linguistic unit) in the structure of the derivative root. The morphemes have a fixed place in the derivational root structure» [7]. There are also some derivational suffixes that only transform the meaning of the base words without changing their linguistic meaning.

Imitative words with lexical meaning are built by a linguistic unit and word forming suffix. New meanings of the derivatives came from the following words. These words are known as base words. The binding between meanings is made with the assistance of base words to a derivational meaning. Linguistic units that serve the base to derivatives bear a derivational meaning. According to the Linguistic researches it is proved that linguistic units forming another word must have a lexical meaning.

The analytical approach of word-formation differs from the synthetic approach by its word-building units. *Synthetic forms* are built with the help of bound morphemes; analytical forms are built with the help of semi-bound morphemes.

The components of imitative words made on the base of the doubling basically refer to one part of speech.

The "Combining" approach is also insufficient with the given part of speech. It does not combine with any part of speech. It can be combined with simple and complex types of the verbs; but you will not find its combination with the adjectives, adverbs, interjections in the Kazakh. Therefore, one should combine the imitative words with the verbs carefully to give a common meaningful combination; we would like to point out that the imitative words easily go with "et" an auxiliary verb and is written separately. In the combinations with other parts of speech it loses its independence and denotes one single meaning. The auxiliary verb "et" in

combination with the imitative words fully depends on its word form and is dignified a single complicated member.

Lexical-semantic approach had been used in word formation system since the yearly times. «To refer a word from one part of speech to another without any inflection was considered as the main way. Without changing the acoustic structure and word forms new meanings had been added, in this way one word has various functions» [11, 5]. The lexical-semantic approach of word-formation was carefully analyzed in 1989 “Modern Kazakh word formation”.

In modern Kazakh linguistic the word-formation is recognized as a separate branch. “A conversion, it is the creation of a word (of a new word class) from an existing word (of a different word class) without any change in form. This approach is very popular and it has its specific features”. [7, 207-208]. We cannot ignore the functional and grammatical characteristics of the conversion in the field of word-formation in Kazakh linguistics.

Discussion

The language has been enriched developed and complicated throughout its history and it has been built on its specific principles. In the second half of the XX century a great number of works had been written about the Kazakh word-building, since it began to exist as a branch of linguistic science along with Lexicology and Morphology. It is specified in studying the patterns of relationship between words by both analyzing semantics and forms.

Kazakh language is one of the richest languages in the world. It is generally assumed that the enrichment of language vocabulary large depends on extralinguistic factors. Word building is one of the main ways of enriching the Kazakh vocabulary.

In “Kazakh Grammar” “Word-building” is denoted as a specific branch of lexicology which has two functions, firstly a function of lexical enrichment, whereby new words are coined to denote it new, or newly salient, concepts, and secondly a transposition function, whereby lexemes are permitted to appear in a new word class so that the same meaning can be transferred to a new function in a sentence [7,193].

Word-building studies the patterns on which a language forms new lexical items (new unities, new words), morphology - grammatical structures.

In general, many language phenomena, rules and principles in the system of word-formation trace back from ancient Turk. It is greatly demonstrated in grammar rules of Orkhon Yenisei monuments (The Orkhon monuments are the oldest known examples of Turkic writing).

«There is a small amount of foreign borrowings in Orkhon Yenisei scripts, such as names

of ranks, ethno and toponyms of Chinese and Sogdian languages» [12,134].

This fact also proved that even in ancient times the system of word-formation has been enriched by other foreign languages. Many scholars have remarked in their works that the system of word-formation mentioned in ancient scripts could be referred as a basis to contemporary word-formation. Thus, the system of word-formation has a long history in its linguistic development the word building elements, methods, samples came through great changes, some of them were more in usage, others less; some meanings were broadened, others were lost at all; or filled by new affixes.

Each new historical period gives an impact on the word-formation system in its own way. The scholars’ researches of this scientific field should evoke the interest among specialists and community that respects its native language and cares much about its word stock. Old literatures and rich folk literatures had also broadened the stock of word formation. People collected words that had been fallen from every day usage to keep their initial meaning; to make it clear to further generation, to improve language culture, to find the appropriate usage to archaisms.

The XVIII century linguists have tried to prove the theory that the origin of imitative words traces back to the times when early men first started to speak, but contemporary the West scholars have remarked that imitative words fail to have certain lexical meaning therefore cannot be regarded as a part of language word system. A.M. Sherbak concluded the following. ‘The sketch book on comparative morphology of Turk languages, that “Imitative words have a specific meaning: reproducing some sound or image. Henceforth, imitative words, along with, individual words and conjunctions should be included into the system of language communicative means” [13, 123].

Initially, word-formation of various words first appeared with writings and drawing. The words, certain notions were collected systematically in dictionaries meeting different aims; they served as an account of development of the universe, a record of writings reflecting spiritual life of people.

The methodological basis of the thesis consists of scientific conclusions and statements, the thoughts related to the field of word building, the scientific works concerning word-formative resources of the class of imitative words that is works by such scientists as N.O. Oralbayeva, A. Salkynbay, B.K. Kassym, O. Tokkozhayev, A. Iskakov, Zh. Sarbalayev.

The methodology of research are "The Kazakh grammar" (2002), "The explanatory dictionary of the Kazakh language" (1989), "Word-

formation system of modern Kazakh language" (1989), such works by N.O. Oralbayeva as "Word-formation structure of numerals in modern Kazakh language" (1989) and "Word-formation bases of monolingual explanatory dictionaries" (2002) by M. Malbakov. In addition, there have been given the examples from works of fiction in Kazakh language [14].

There are 9 parts of Speech in the Kazakh linguistics: nouns, adjectives, numerals, pronouns, verb, adverbs, conjunctions, interjections, imitative words. Having its own peculiarities each Part of Speech built new words differently. Due to its capacity some of them (nouns, adjectives, verbs) are more active in the process of word-formation; others (numerals, imitative words, interjections) are less.

Also in some languages imitative words still relate to interjections and adverbs, but in many Turk languages and the Kazakh Linguistics the status of imitative words were determined and they could be found as the independent Part of Speech, differ from interjections, with its specified linguistic features.

In Kazakh Language grammar there are 8 Parts of Speech. They are: nouns, adjectives, verbs, numerals, pronouns, imitative words, interjections. In 1948 a linguist of imitative words in Kazakh language, A. Isakov, in his articles about imitative words suggested to coin them as a fully independent Part of Speech. Finally, in 1954 he achieved his aims by introducing a new part of speech in Modern Kazakh linguistics. Since that time imitative words and words, representing a manner or image were introduced as an independent Part of Speech and were denoted as a language category. But in some other languages, namely Indo-European and German languages imitative words have still been regarded in the structure of interjections [15], [16].

Conclusion

In research work the class of imitative words in the Kazakh language is generally analyzed and considered to be the language category as the examined separate word class. In spite of this fact there are only some problems to be the object of scientific research in the field of word-building.

The linguistic character of imitative words as the separate class of words in the word-formative system of the Kazakh language is analyzed in the thesis from the linguistic point of view for the first time. This makes it possible to come to following specific conclusions:

- there is analyzed the formation of the class of imitative words by three different ways;

- there is examined the role of imitative words in the word-formation issues of Kazakh language and the syntactic function carried out by these words in the sentence, the different groups of lexicalized words;

- there is studied the applying the imitative words in fiction, and also their word-formation characteristic in linguistic application by the form of complex comparison;

- there are specified the pre-formative units of the class of imitative words, their specific features and semantic structure.

Corresponding Author:

Dr. Mazhitayeva, Karaganda State University named after E.A. Buketov, Mukanov street, 1. Building 8. Karaganda, 100026, Kazakhstan.
e-mail: S_mazhit@mail.ru; sh-mazhit@inbox.ru

References

1. Bybee J.L. 1985. Morphology: A study of the relation between meaning and form. Amst.
2. Halle, M. 1973. Prolegomena to a Theory of Word-Formation, Linguistic Inquiry. 4. Blackwell, Oxford. pp. 451-464.
3. Spencer, A., 1991. Morphological Theory, Blackwell, Oxford.
4. Marchand H., 1960. The categories and types of present day word-formation. Harrassowitz.
5. Plag, I., 2003. Word-Formation in English. UK: Cambridge University Press. Hans.
6. Ashmarin N.I., 1928. About morphological categories of imitations in the Chuvash language. Kazan, Kazakh language grammar, 2002. Astana: Elorda, 784.
7. Bauer, L., 1983. English word-formation. Cambridge.
8. Historically comparative grammar of Turk languages. Morphology, 1988. Moscow, 560.
9. Scalise, E. & E. Guevara. 2005. 'The lexicalist approach to word-formation and the notion of the lexicon.' In: P. Štekauer & R. Lieber (eds.), Handbook of word-formation. Dordrecht: Kluwer. pp. 147-187.
10. Oralbaeva N.O., 1988. The word building system of Numerals in Modern Kazakh language. Almaty: Science. 104.
11. Turk languages. Encyclopedia, 2002. Astana, 700.
12. Sherbak A.M., 1987. The sketch book on comparative morphology of Turk Languages: Adverbs, functional parts of speech and imitative words– L: Science, 1987. 150.
13. Kazakh language glossary, 2008. Almaty: Dayk-Press, 968.
14. Ackema, P. & A. Neeleman. 2004. Beyond Morphology: Interface conditions on Word Formation. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
15. Haspelmath, M., 2003. Morphology. London: MacMillan Press LTD.

5/12/2014