

## INTERPRETATION LEXICAL MEANING OF THE CONCEPT IRRIGATION"

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## **Abstract**

This article deals with different lexical meanings of the concept "Irrigation". The focus is on the relationship between lexical expressions and conceptual components. First the assumptions about lexicalization and decompositionality of concepts shared by the most semanticists are presented, followed by a discussion of the differences between two-level-semantics and one-level-semantics. The final part is concentrated on the interpretation of conceptual components in communication

**Keyword:** lexical expression, conception, assumption, decompositionality, concept, two-level-semantics and one-level-semantics.

## Introduction

Before interpreting the meaning of the concept "Irrigation" we would like to follow the classical scholastic view of the linguistic sign, which is related to two types of entities: (a) the type of cognitive entities; (b) the type of entities of the external world. Thus as per that relation there is a direct relation between signs and concepts, between concepts and entities of the external world, and there is an indirect relation between signs and entities of the external world being mediated by concepts.

As per the post Saussurean view signs are psychological (or mental) entities. They constitute the linguistic sign having two aspects: the aspect of the significant, image accoustique, i.e. the phonological form, and the aspect of the signify, the concept. Thus they constitute the linguistic sign also having two aspects: the aspect of the significant, image accoustique, i.e. the phonological form, and the aspect of the signify, the concept. The meaning of a linguistic sign is then, following Saussure, composed of the intrinsic relation between significant and signify and the meaning relations the sign holds to all the other signs of a given language, the value. Nowadays the conception has been modified by modern semanticists and they consider the concept as abstract and collective entity in contrast to individual mental image, idea or thought. They are relatively stable (in contrast to most psychological views) and highly structured. The principles of structuring concepts are part of the human cognitive endowment, they



are innate. Linguistic expressions encode concepts as their semantic content is cut out of the conceptual pool which is universal, i.e. independent of any existing language. Because of this twofold relationship of linguistic expressions and concepts as semantic content and universal conceptual structure this kind of semantics has also been called two-level-semantics. The following examples support the above mentioned idea:

- 1.The demonstrations introduce the resources and essential skills needed to determine the proper timing and volume of irrigation. The first interpretation covers basic irrigation concepts and terminology.
- 2. The second one addresses the use of both quantitative (water budget and soil moisture sensors) and qualitative (feel) approaches to determine irrigation timing, outlines environmental factors that influence irrigation decisions, and describes irrigation delivery systems.
- 3. Through exercises and problem solving, students will practice calculating water budgets used to develop irrigation schedules and determine total water volume needed per unit of time.
- 4. The latter calculations will help the student determine needed irrigation delivery systems.
- 5. Additional information on using the water budget approach to man¬age irrigation efficiently, along with details on water sensor technologies, dry farming techniques, and health and environmental impacts of nitrates contamination.

The word "irrigation" in the third, fourth and fifth sentences are used as the phrases and these groups of words could be well described by components, but they have a different organization and logical status from what the meaning postulates. Concepts appear within this theory in two domains: in the domain of semantic form as the conceptual content of a lexical expression; in the domain of conceptual structure in terms of which the actual interpretation of a given linguistic expression is specified.

The domain of semantic form is related to the language-dependent representation of a conceptual structure; the conceptual structure is related to the universal representation of encyclopedic background knowledge. The semantic form of a lexical expression constitutes its core meaning, that is, the context-free meaning as stored in long term memory. The domain of conceptual structure is needed for the Interpretation of a given lexical expression in a certain context and situation. The focus of two-level semantics is upon the representational aspect of meaning as well as on the dynamic procedural aspect of Information processing. This kind of semantics is therefore claimed to be a part of cognitive science and the cognitive information processing. The distinction between semantic form and conceptual structure is mainly

motivated by the overall phenomenon of the under determination of linguistic expressions:

- 1. Irrigation water becomes the medium into which soil nutrients are dissolved (soil solution) and through which nutrients are made available for plant uptake;
- 2. Irrigation water artificially extends the time period in which soil biological activity and nutrient release are elevated.

Linguistically, we know that Irrigation water is a term by means of which we may refer to Irrigation identified by the meaning of providing water to a field, garden and so on. This is the information represented in the semantic form of Irrigation. Conceptually, we have a specific knowledge about each term named Irrigation (example 1 and 2 given above) as we know the subject. Irrigation as the term most likely refers to a name of a process, but Irrigation water is interpreted as the medium into which soil nutrients are dissolved, while in the second example the term Irrigation water refers to artificial extension of the time period interpreted as a change of activity. The different time intervals in (1) and (2) bring in different background knowledge, but the second sentence contains the expression of time period.

A second issue in modern semantics is the view that linguistic forms are immediately related to concepts without any intermediate level of semantic content. In spite of the difference between the two kinds of semantics there are some common assumptions concerning the relation between linguistic expressions and concepts:

In seasonally dry areas, creating more optimal growing conditions for cultivated crops through the process of photosynthesis, water molecules taken up by plants are broken down and their constituent atoms rearranged to form new molecules: carbohydrates and oxygen

Protects crops from frost damage: Irrigation water is commonly used to lower the freezing temperature in orchard systems during threats of damaging frost

Reduces plant stress: By reducing stress on the plant, proper irrigation improves plants' resistance to pest and disease damage and improves crop quality.

The third common assumption concerns the overall phenomenon that words can - in an actual use - encode a whole range of concepts: Precipitation: In areas of regular summer rainfall, where precipitation exceeds ET, irrigation is seldom required. Irrigation demands are based on ET rates. Where ET exceeds precipitation, irrigation is required

Concerning the claim of decompositionality of the conceptual content of words could be chosen levels of semantic complexity, and predicted that semantically complex verbs, such as watch (the result of the irrigation) and tend (to irrigate under some conditions), would be easier to define than the semantically simplest verb, such as see (what was done by,) and own(expertise). This prediction was confirmed: It was easy for the subjects to break down the meaning of a complex verb into simpler components for which there are corresponding words, but it was hard for the subjects to find such components for a simple verb.

The purpose of this article actually is to give an account of how underdetermined utterances or parts of them can be interpreted by a hearer in accordance to the speaker's meaning. They are relatively stable (in contrast to most psychological views) and highly structured. The principles of structuring concepts are part of the human cognitive endowment, they are innate. Linguistic expressions encode concepts as their semantic content is cut out of the conceptual pool which is universal, i.e. independent of any existing language. Because of this twofold relationship of linguistic expressions and concepts as semantic content and universal conceptual structure this kind of semantics has also been called two-level-semantics (Lang, Wunderlich, Schwarz).

But the fundamental assumption of scientists is that the grammatical structure of natural languages offers an important new source of evidence for (the theory of) cognition. The grammatical structure of a natural language is regarded as a triple, consisting of phonological structures, syntactic structures and conceptual structures. Phonological, syntactic and conceptual structures are determined by phonological, syntactic and conceptual formation rules.

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