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SEMANTIC FUNCTIONS OF THE POSTVERB UP IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Anotacija

Straipsnyje analizuojamos anglų kalbos frazinių veiksmažodžių (pavyzdžiui, *move up*, *fix up*, *round up*) (Vup-s) antrojo komponento – postverbo *up* semantinės funkcijos keičiant veiksmažodžio leksinę reikšmę ir jos aspektines charakteristikas terminatyvumo / duratyvumo ir veiksmo būdų atžvilgiu. Analizuojant ir klasifikuojant Vup-s pagal jų leksinę reikšmę ir veiksmo būdus, išryškintas kalbos sisteminis pobūdis. Vup-s laikomi derivaciniais vienetais – analitiniais žodžiais – žodžių darybos teorijos požiūriu.

PAGRINDINIAI ŽODŽIAI: semantika, fraziniai veiksmažodžiai, postverbas, leksinė reikšmė ir jos aspektinės charakteristikos, leksinė-semantinė grupė.

Abstract

The article is concerned with semantic functions of the postverb *up* – the second component of English verbs of the type *move up*, *fix up*, *round up* (V_{up}-s) from the point of view of changing the lexical meaning of the verb and its aspectual characteristics in terms of terminativeness / durativeness, and modes of action. Analysis and classification of V_{up}-s according to their lexical meaning and modes of action reveal the systemic character of the language. V_{up}-s are viewed as derivational units – analytic words – in the plane of word formation theory.

KEY WORDS: semantics, phrasal verbs, postverb, lexical meaning and its aspectual characteristics, lexico-semantic group.

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Introduction

The article is concerned with semantic functions of the postverb *up* – the second component of the collocations labelled as “phrasal verbs” in the English language, e.g. *load up*, *burn up*, *drink up*. Phrasal verbs belong to the rich and complex area of the English language. “Their importance lies in the fact that they form such a key part of everyday English. Not only are they used in spoken and informal English, but they are also a common aspect of written and even formal English” (CI 8). Familiarity with a wide range of phrasal verbs and the ability to use them appropriately in the context are among distinguishing marks of a good command of English.

Phrasal verbs have been always drawing linguists’ attention. As in previous times and currently they have been investigated (Dirven, 2001; McCarthy, Keller, Carroll, 2003; Cowie, 1993; Side 1990).

In our research postverbs are treated not as independent words – adverbs, but as detached derivational formants analogous to the German detached prefixes. In other words, the constructions under analysis are viewed not as word combinations, but as specific “analytic words” pertaining not to the sphere of syntax but to the lexical derivatology.

Having defined the status of V_{pv}-s as derivational, **the following aims have been set up:** 1) to show that their second components – postverbs can change the lexical meaning of the verb and its aspectual characteris-

tics in terms of terminativeness / durativeness and modes of action; 2) to analyse and classify Vup-s according to their lexical meaning and modes of action and to reveal the systemic character of the language.

To achieve these aims the following tasks have been set:

- 1) to distinguish Vup-s with regular changes in the meaning from Vup-s with irregular changes in the meaning;
- 2) to determine types of derivational oppositions **the basic verb: the derived Vup** in accordance with the character of changes in the meaning and lexical combinability;
- 3) to define the range of lexical and aspectual meanings of Vup-s in the English language;
- 4) to investigate the development of the abstract meanings of Vup-s from more concrete spatial (directional);
- 5) to analyse the systemic relations among separate lexico-semantic groups;
- 6) to reveal the systemic relations between lexico-semantic groups and modes of action.

Research methods

- 1) The derivational method in accordance with it Vup-s are regarded as formally derived from the basic verbs and motivated by them;
- 2) the method of oppositions which intersects with the derivational method, i.e. the relation V: Vup is regarded as a set of two units having the common meanings and opposed to each other on the basis of a certain relevant feature;
- 3) the method of paraphrasing in combination with componential analysis used to determine the componential structure of Vup-s on the basis of the motivating relation with the basic verbs reflected in the archiseme;
- 4) the distributional method used in the description of lexical combinability of Vup-s and their basic verbs.

Material used in the work is the data collected from dictionaries. About 300 Vup-s and their definitions as well as illustrative sentences have been selected from *Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs* (further L) and *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (further C).

Each meaning of Vup-s is used in the research as a sememe in which the meaning imparted by the postverb *up* can be distinguished, cf. *fill* ‘to cause to become completely full’ (the meaning imparted by the postverb *up* in this derivative is the meaning ‘completely’).

THEORETICAL ISSUES AND INVESTIGATION CONTENT

1. Lexicalized and non-lexicalized phrasal verbs

Vup-s are characterised by a high degree of lexicalization. They are divided into non-lexicalized (literal, systematic) and lexicalized Vup-s.

In non-lexicalized Vup-s the derivational means modifies the meaning of the basic verb according to regular patterns as in *rub* → *rub up* ‘to make (sth) shine by rubbing’ (L 519), *freeze* → *freeze up* ‘to freeze completely’ (L205).

Lexicalized Vup-s are divided into two groups: 1) Vup-s, the meaning of which changes in an individual irregular way based on the development or the transference of the meaning (semantic derivation / motivation), such as metaphorical (*cook* → *cook up*₁ (food) → *cook up*₂ (a plan) or metonymic (*whistle* → *whistle up* a horse) extension of the basic meaning; 2) idiomatic Vup-s reserved for combinations whose meaning may no longer be inferred on the basis of the literal meanings of the constituents, e.g. *gum* ‘to stick together using glue’ – *gum up* ‘to cause trouble in, spoil something, imitate’. Phrasal contractions of such type can be treated as derivational idioms. Here the term “idiomatization” is used in a very narrow sense when the semantic relation with the basic verb is lost and is imperceptible.

2. The semantic development of phrasal verbs

Under this heading the semantic development of Vup-s will be discussed from the following principal points of view: 1) the development of the meaning of Vup-s from the concrete one towards more abstract – aspectual; 2) analysis of the semantic functions of the postverb *up* in alteration of the aspectual characteristics of the lexical meaning of the verb in terms of terminativeness / durativeness and modes of action; 3) the analy-

sis in the plane of the lexical meaning is conducted, firstly, in conveying the relation of Vup-s with their bases and, secondly, the classification of them into lexico-semantic groups depending on the meaning of the basic verb and the degree of desemantization of the postverb *up*.

2.1. Development of the meaning of Vup-s from the concrete meaning of direction towards aspectual

In their basic meanings the postverbs specify the direction of the action denoted by the verb, e.g. the lexical meaning of the postverb *up* is the primary meaning of direction 'upwards' as exemplified in: *Would you run up and get my glasses? I've left them beside the bed* (L529).

In view of the development of the postverb desemantization of the postverb occurs, i.e. the directional meaning is lost in derivatives, the postverb *up* acquires new functions, i.e. develops the abstract meanings related to the aspectual characteristics of the lexical meaning of the verb. The aspectual characteristics of the English verb include the category of terminativeness / durativeness and modes of action.

2.2. Semantic functions of the postverb *up* in the plane of aspectuality

2.2.1. Terminativeness / durativeness of verbs with the postverb *up*

Since this article is concerned with the postverb *up* as derivational means it is important to stress the significant role that it plays in the plane of the category of terminativeness / durativeness as the indication on the inherent limit (terminal point) determined by the nature of the action itself¹.

In the derivation of Vup-s terminativeness or durativeness of the basic verb can change or be retained what gives four logical possibilities, which in our material are realized in the following way:

- 1) if the basic verb is durative in the majority of cases the postverb *up* derives terminative Vup as in oppositions: *cough* → *cough up* (*a fishbone*) 'to send (sth) out of the throat by coughing' (L110), *burn* → *burn up* 'to be destroyed by great heat' (L605), *beat* → *beat up* 'to mix (sth) by beating' (L34);

¹ For determination of either terminative or durative character of verbs – both Vup-s and their bases – the test proposed by Z. Vendler (1967) was used.

- 2) the postverb maintains the durative character of the basic verb, as illustrated with the following oppositions: *stand* → *stand up* 'to remain upright', e.g. *What keeps that old house standing up?* (L609); *stick* → *stick up* 'to cause to be raised or kept upright' (L622);
- 3) a shift from terminativeness to durativeness which would seem logically to be the third possibility has not been encountered in Vup-s analysis, i.e. the postverb *up* cannot impart the durative meaning to the bases of terminative character;
- 4) the terminativeness of the basic verb is retained, as a rule, in all cases, e.g. *sell* → *sell up* 'to sell the whole of one's share in business' (L545), *clean* → *clean up* 'to clean thoroughly' (L81).

When the postverb *up* does not cause any shift in either terminative or durative character of the basic verb, the aspectual function of the postverb *up* equals to a zero – in such cases, as a rule, the postverb marks the change of a mode of action and / or lexical meaning or serves as the explicit expression of terminativeness; e.g. *The heat shrivelled the leaves* → *The heat shrivelled up the leaves*.

To sum up: as seen from the presented patterns in the majority of Vup-s the postverb maintains or imparts the meaning of terminativeness to the basic verb. Therefore the given postverb can be considered as the marker of the terminative character of verbs.

For closer inspection of the aspectual meanings expressed by the postverb, one must deal with the modes of action (further MA-s) (cf. the German term *Aktionsart*, Russian *способы действия*) – temporal-quantitative aspectual characteristics of the verbal meaning. The theory of MA-s has been worked out mainly in Slavic languages, particularly, Russian (Sigalov 1978, 44–56; Maslov 1984, 2–14). The assumption can be made that it bears a universal character and can be employed in the investigation of English verbs.

The aim of the following section is to reveal what aspectual meanings in terms of MA-s are developed by the postverb *up*, when it does not retain its original meaning of direction in the derivatives. According to the works of authoritative aspectologists (Sigalov 1978, 44–45; Šeliakin 1987, 66) MA-s are here treated as aspectual lexico-semantic classes of all verbs both derived and non-derived ².

² The basic verb may have a certain MA meaning and in this case the postverb does not change the MA meaning of the verb.

2.2.2. Modes of action of verbs with the postverb *up*

Having examined the Vup-s collected for our analysis it is possible to state that the posverb *up* supplies the basic verb with the meaning of the following MA-s:

- a) **resultative MA** with the meaning of the achievement of the result of the action (*think* → *think up a name*, *work* → *work up the history of music*, *fish* → *fish up (an old boot)*);
- b) **completive MA** in which the meaning of the achievement of the result is extended by the meaning of the completeness, i.e. have the semes 'completely', 'in full', 'all of', 'thoroughly', as in oppositions: *drink* → *drink up* 'to drink the whole of it' (L152), *close* → *close up* 'to close completely' (L84), *fill* → *fill up* 'to cause to become completely full' (L187), *write* → *write up* 'to give a full written account of (sth)' (L732);
- c) **ingressive MA** with the meaning of the beginning of the action e.g. *blow* → *blow up* '(of wind) to begin blowing' (L42), *take* → *take up* 'to begin (new duties, work)', *fire* → *fire up* 'to start (an engine) with a handle' (L189);
- d) **momentary MA** expressing momentary sudden quick action e.g. *bob* → *bob up* 'to reappear unexpectedly' (L43), *flame* → *flame up* 'to become angry suddenly' (L192); *flash* → *flash up (a sign)* 'to allow to be seen for a moment' (L193);
- e) **stative MA**. Maslov (1984, 13) distinguishes also stative MA among durative verbs of state. The non-developing stable character is a common feature of the state, i.e. it is internally unchanging in the duration of its existence. These features can be considered as aspectual and conform to the definition of MA-s. Thus, it is possible to single out a group of Vup-s of stative MA, e.g. *lie* → *lie up (of a boat or ship)* 'to remain in a harbour, especially for repairs or out of season' (L158), *sit* → *sit up* 'to stay out of bed late', *keep* → *keep up* 'to remain level with (sth or someone)' (L577).

The enumerated MA-s cover the significant part of Vup-s under analysis.

2.3. Lexico-semantic classification of verbs with the postverb *up*

The investigation of the aspectual characteristics of the lexical meaning of the verb constitutes one aspect of the description of the material on the semantic level. The second aspect involves the analysis and classification of *Vup*-s according to their lexical meaning. The description of the material is preceded by the lexico-semantic characteristics of the postverb *up*.

2.3.1. Lexico-semantic characteristics of the postverb *up*

In order to describe derivational functions of the postverb *up* in the plane of the change of lexical meanings of the verbs united into lexico-semantic groups according to the similarity of their lexical meaning, it is necessary to characterize the postverb *up* from the lexico-semantic point of view. The primary lexical meaning of *up* is the meaning of the direction upwards or 'towards a higher position' realized by the verbs of motion and transference in space of the type *fly up* (cf. *They flew up through the clouds into sunshine above*) (L201), *throw up* (cf. *For hours the boy would stand throwing a ball up and catching it again*) (L675).

From the primary spatial (directional) meaning there have developed secondary spatial meanings realized by the verbs denoting various actions that imply motion or transference. This allows to treat secondary meanings of the postverb as a modification of the primary meaning under the influence of the lexical meaning of the basic verb. Such secondary spatial meanings of the postverb *up* can be distinguished:

- 1) 'from beneath the ground or water to the surface', as in *dig* → *dig up* 'to dig and remove sth from the ground' cf. *The old rose bush has died and ought to be dug up* (L134), *haul* → *haul up* 'to pull (sth) up with effort' (cf. *If we can get some string ropes or wires around the sunken boat, we might be able to haul her up*) (L277);
- 2) 'towards a slightly higher level' illustrated with the sentence: *Big logs are washed up every day on the west coast* (L712);
- 3) 'from a prone, sitting, slanting or stooped position to an upright position', as in the verbs *heave* → *heave up* 'to cause to be lifted with effort' (cf. *The elephant heaved itself from its resting position when its*

- master commanded it to stand*) (L285), *permit* → *permit up* ‘to give permission (someone who has been ill) to get out of bed’ (cf. *The doctor will not permit Mother up until her leg is better*) (L416);
- 4) ‘upward from the surface so as to be detached or raised,’ as in *scrape* → *scrape up* ‘to lift (sth) by using a tool with a sharp edge’ (cf. *Scrape up the mud from the carpet*) (L537), *kick* → *kick up* ‘to raise with the feet’ (cf. *The children enjoyed playing by the sea, kicking up the sand into each other faces*) (L323), etc.;
- 5) ‘forward’, as in the verbs *draw up* ‘to pull (sth) forward’, e.g. *Draw up a chair, and join the conversation* (L150); *pull up (a chair)* ‘to cause to move forward’ etc.

The presented examples prove that secondary meanings are close to the primary one.

According to the degree of abstraction and loss of the relation with the primary spatial (directional) meaning of the postverb all the meanings of Vup-s form a semantic continuum – from the evident associative relation (e.g. *foam* → *foam up* ‘(of a liquid) to rise in bubbles’ (L201) up to the complete loss of it, when the postverb loses the function of changing the lexical meaning and serves only as the marker of changing the aspectual meaning.

At the end of the continuum there occur Vup-s with transferred meanings as well as derivational idioms.

A wide range of Vup-s lexical meanings conditioned their division into a number of lexico-semantic groups (LSG).

2.3.2. Classification of verbs with the postverb *up* into lexico-semantic groups

In this section derivational functions of the postverb *up* in the plane of changing the lexical meaning of the verb will be observed. The character of changing of the Vup-s meaning depends, firstly, on the lexical meaning of the basic verb. Similarity in the lexical meanings of the basic verbs and depending on it derivational function of the postverb gives similarity in the lexical meaning of Vup-s reflected in the archiseme.

Below only the largest LSG of Vup-s will be observed. The description of the LSG will be presented according to the following scheme: 1) the common meaning of the group, or the archiseme; 2) an example of the

opposition V:Vup in which the character of the change of the meaning imparted by the postverb is reflected; 3) related with semantics lexical combinability of Vup-s. LSG of intransitive and transitive Vup-s will be observed separately.

Among intransitive Vup-s the following LSG are distinguished:

- 1) LSG of motion in an upward direction. It is composed of the sememes derived according to the pattern *The bird flew* → *The bird flew up from the grass*. The members of this group are sememes from the oppositions: *run* → *run up* 'to move quickly up (sth such as slope of stairs), as by running' (L529), *shoot* → *shoot up* 'to move quickly up upwards' (L566), *spiral* → *spiral up* 'to rise with a twisting curling movement' (L595), *walk* → *walk up* 'to go upstairs', cf. also *jump* → *jump up*, *hop* → *hop up*.
- 2) LSG of Vup-s of change of the subject's state, e.g. *The day brightened* → *The day brightened up*. The group consists of Vup-s in which the basic verb already has the meaning of the change of the subject's state to a higher or the highest degree and the postverb only makes this meaning more explicit. The group consists of the following Vup-s from the oppositions: *mount* → *mount up* 'to increase, form a large amount gradually' (L394), *swell* → *swell up* 'to become bigger as with air liquid, etc.' (L639), *grow* → *grow up* '(of children or young animals) to become older and bigger' (L269). In these Vup sememes the relation with the primary spatial meaning is perceived. The group is also notable for metaphoric Vup-s such as *boil* → *boil up* 'to increase to a dangerous level', e.g. *Jim's anger boiled up* (L43), *dry* → *dry up* 'to become silent' (*The actor dried up in the middle of his speech*), *loosen* → *loosen up* 'to be generous with one's money' (*Do you think the old man will loosen up when we tell him our pitiful story*) (L373).
- 3) LSG with the archiseme 'to emerge'. The group includes Vup-s representing the derivational pattern: *The bottle was bobbing on the water* → *The bottle bobbed up to the surface of water*. As in the previous group here the relation with the primary spatial meaning is perceived associatively. This LSG comprises sememes of the type *come* → *come up* 'to appear or take place' (L98), e.g. (*His case comes up next week*), *show* → *show up* 'to arrive' (*Only thirty members*

showed up for the yearly General Meeting) (L569), *pop* → *pop up* 'to move, jump or stand up suddenly' (*The pictures in this book pop up when the pages are opened to amuse children*) (L438). In *loom up* 'to appear in a threatening way' the postverb *up* is facultative, e.g. *A ship loomed (up) through the fog* (L373). The meaning 'to emerge' can also be observed in synonymic Vup-s, such as *blaze up*, *burn up*, *fire up*, *flame up*, *flare up*.

- 4) LSG with the archiseme 'to begin', e.g. *A voice piped* → *A voice piped up*, i.e. 'started to speak'. The group is represented by the following oppositions: *blow* → *blow up* '(of weather) to arise with the wind' (L42); *open* → *open up* 'to start to talk more about yourself and your feelings' (C 996), *strike* → *strike up* 'to begin playing music' (*The band struck up as soon as the Queen stepped ashore* (cf. also *The band struck up a march*) (L630). The above mentioned sememes *blaze up*, *burn up*, etc. can also have the meaning of beginning.

LSG of transitive Vup-s:

- 1) LSG of transference in space. This group encompasses the Vup-s derived from the verbs expressing various actions, such as *pull*, *kick*, *jerk*, etc. The postverb *up* adds the spatial meaning 'in an upward direction', e.g. *He hit the ball* → *He hit the ball up*, cf. also *pull* → *pull up*, *throw* → *throw up*, *snatch* → *snatch up* 'to seize (someone or sth) and lift it or him suddenly', *bring* → *bring up* 'to bring (sth or someone) upstairs or to a higher level' (L55).
- 2) LSG of changing the state of an object is constituted of causative Vup-s. In regard to the structure of this LSG, it is worth mentioning that the notion 'change of state'; is very wide. It embraces various changes of a surface, form, consistence (i.e. a degree of firmness, density of a substance), emotions.

From the derivational point of view, this LSG comprises the Vup-s derived from causative verbs. The postverb *up* supplies the basic verb with the following meanings:

- 1) 'to the highest degree', expressed by the semes 'completely', 'fully', e.g. *dirty* → *dirty up (a dress)* 'to make very dirty (i.e. completely dirty)', *feed* → *feed up children* 'to feed fully', *wear* → *wear up (a*

- coat*) 'to get full use from it'. The meaning 'completely' is also added to the process verbs, such as *freeze* → *freeze up*, *dry* → *dry up*.
- 2) the basic process verb already has the meaning of the change of state to a higher or highest degree. The postverb makes this meaning more explicit e.g. *toughen* → *toughen up (the body)*, *brighten* → *brighten up (the house)*;
 - 3) the postverb imparts the meaning of the change of state to durative basic verbs, e.g. *track* → *track up (a floor)* 'to make dirty with one's shoes', *pump* → *pump up (the tyre)* 'to fill with air', *splash* → *splash up (the wall)* 'to spoil (sth) with many drops'.

In the Vup-s of the type *brighten up the house*, *pump up the tyre* the relation with the primary spatial meaning is perceived associatively.

In addition, it must be pointed out that a part of the LSG denoting causation of the change is constituted of Vup-s with transferred meanings, such as: metaphoric: *ball* → *ball up (mud)* 'to make look like a ball', e.g. *Children like to ball mud up in their hands and throw it at each other* (L15); *churn* → *churn up₁ (earth)* 'to make move violently, to stir or disturb sth' → *churn up₂ (a person)* 'to sicken make upset, to cause to feel strong dislike' (L79) and metonymic: *shake* → *shake up (medicine)* 'to mix by shaking', *root (a plant)* 'to tear out, pull up by the roots' (L562) → *root up (earth)* 'to turn over by rooting', as in the sentence *The pigs have rooted up the muddy ground looking for food* (L516).

LSG with the archiseme 'to create' is presented of verbal units derived according to the pattern *She stitched a dress* → *She stitched up a dress* or *He thought_{vin}* → *He thought up a name*. The meaning of the postverb is 'into existence'. The relation with the spatial meaning of the postverb is very weak and can be perceived in the change of meaning of Vup-s derivation. This group selects mainly Vup-s with transferred meanings: metaphoric: *chuck (the keys)* 'to throw carelessly' → *chuck up (a building)* 'to build hastily' (L79); metonymic *dream* → *dream up (an idea)* 'to think of; invent' (L150) and even derivational idioms: *trump (a card or its player)* 'to defeat with a trump' – *trump up (accusations)* 'to invent in order to make someone appear guilty of crime' (L691).

LSG with the archiseme 'to destroy'. The notion of destruction is very wide. It includes the destruction, damage, spoiling of inanimate things,

parts of human body, persons, agreements, activities, etc. Verbal units of this group are derived according to the pattern *They beat him* → *They beat him up* i.e. ‘attacked and hurt seriously’. The spatial meaning of the postverb is lost. It supplies the basic verb with the meaning of the achieved result or completion of the action or makes the meaning of the Vup more explicit. Here belong Vup-s from the oppositions: *scratch (the table)* → *scratch up (the table)* ‘to spoil considerably by making marks with sth sharp’ (L537), *burn* → *burn up (wood)* ‘to destroy completely by fire’ (L60), *blow* → *blow up (a bridge)*. This LSG is notable for a large number of metaphoric Vup-s: *jam* ‘to cause sth to become, wedged or fixed so as to be unworkable’ → *jam up (works)* ‘to spoil; cause difficulty in’ (L307); *chew* → *chew up₁ (meat)* → *chew up₂ (cassette)* ‘to damage, destroy’ e.g. *Your tape deck has chewed up my cassette* (C233). Metonymic Vup-s *shoot* → *shoot up (a bar)*, *drink* → *drink up (money)* and derivational idioms: *louse* ‘to pick lice from’ – *louse up* ‘to spoil sth; ruin sth’, *tuck* ‘to thrust in the edge of (a garment, sheet, etc.) so as to hold in place’ – *tuck up* ‘to hang (a person)’ are also encountered.

Having analysed the major LSG, deconcretization of the meaning of the postverb *up* is observed – from the primary spatial meaning up to the loss of it.

3. Systemic relations in the corpus of verbs with the postverb *up*

Having examined a large number of Vup-s it is possible to state the following systemic relations in the corpus:

- 1) the relations between lexico-semantic groups and modes of action.

The classification of verbs into LSG and MA-s is based on different criteria: the first is based on the similarity / difference of the lexical meanings of Vup-s and the second on the temporal-quantitative aspectual characteristics of the same Vup-s according to the character of the flow of the action in time. As a result these two classifications interconnect. In principle, the relations between them can be of three types:

- a) verbs of different MA-s can enter the same LSG, e.g. LSG of emergence can be composed of Vup-s of the resultative MA e.g. *show*

- up* ‘to appear, arrive’, ingressive MA (*flame up* ‘to burn again’), momentary MA (*loom up* ‘to appear suddenly and threateningly’).
- b) phrasal verbs of the same MA can enter various LSG, e.g. Vup-s of creation *put up (a hotel)* ‘to build’, *mock up (a model)* ‘to make a copy of sth’, as well as verbs of destruction (*blow up (a bridge)* ‘to destroy using a bomb’, *smash up (a car)* ‘to destroy very badly’ according to the mode of the achievement of the result of action can be ascribed to the resultative MA;
 - c) one MA according to its composition can coincide only with one certain LSG, e.g. ingressive MA coincides with the LSG with the archiseme ‘to begin’.

3.1. Systemic relations among various LSG

On the basis of Vup-s investigated in this research, an observation can be made that their meanings are very similar, since there is a close relation between the LSG of causative Vup-s and LSG of their non-causative equivalents (see Table 1).

Table 1

Causative Vup-s and Non-causative Vup-s.

Causative Vup-s

- 1) LSG of transference in space
The Russians moved troops up to the Turkish frontier.
- 2) LSG of change of object’s state
Steam misted up the windows.
- 3) LSG of destruction
Engine failure cracked the plane up.

Non-causative Vup-s

- 1) LSG of motion
Troops moved up.
- 2) LSG of change of subject’s state
The windows misted up.
- 3) LSG of disappearance of a subject
The plane cracked up.

Centre and Periphery of LSG

The scheme of LSG, for example, the LSG of destruction, i.e. its centre and periphery will be presented bellow (See Figure 1). Having examined the centre and periphery of LSG of destruction an observation can be made that in the periphery there are more examples than in the centre. The periphery is mainly filled with metaphoric Vup-s, metonymic Vup-s as well as derivational idioms are rarer encountered (see Figure 1).

between different subsystems. Peripheral sememes tend to lose specific features of a particular LSG and enter other LSG. In this way, LSG form a semantic continuum which is determined by two factors: 1) the structure of the sememe and 2) semantic structure of the world (Gudavičius 1994, 33) Further these factors are discussed more thoroughly.

1. Vup-s that belong to different LSG often have common semes and according to them sememes from one LSG become members of other LSG and vice versa. For instance, a semantic continuum is constituted by the following LSG of Vup-s:
 - a) LSG of change of state, e.g. *furbish up (silver)* 'to polish, clean, remove unwanted coating'; *dry up (the ground)* 'to remove moisture or liquid from sth'.
 - b) LSG of cleaning, e.g. *mop up (a pool)* 'to clean, remove (liquid) with a mop', *sweep up (broken glass)* 'to remove (dirt) with or as with a brush';
 - c) LSG of removing, e.g. *root up (weeds)* 'to remove (a plant) pulling it up by the roots', *tear up (unwanted plants)* 'to get rid of, remove by pulling roughly'.

As evident from the example all the sememes contain the seme 'remove' which makes the three mentioned LSG interrelated.

The LSG of Vup-s with the meaning 'change of state' is also interconnected with the LSG of creation and destruction which, though opposite in meaning, form a part of one semantic continuum, e.g. *fix up a table* (creation) – *scratch up the table* (change of state) – *smash up the table* (destruction).

The conclusion follows that a similar componential structure of the members of LSG make the LSG intersect, on the basis of which certain systemic relations between LSG are established.

1. Polysemy of a word is another source of systemic ties between LSG. The meanings of a polysemantic word form certain hierarchy: the main meaning is the semantic centre, peripheral sememes, viz. sememes used in figurative meaning, often belong to different LSG. For instance, the verb *mess up* in its direct meaning 'to make (sth) dirty or untidy' is ascribed to the LSG of Vup-s denoting change of state. Used in the figurative meaning 'to spoil (arrangements, etc.) carelessly' this unit becomes a member of the LSG of destruction.

Relations between separate LSG can be manifested in the following ways: 1) LSG includes figurative meanings from other LSG; 2) figurative meanings of LSG become the members of other LSG. The LSG of *Vup*-s with the meaning of destruction is characteristic of the first type of relations, i.e. the major part of the meanings in this LSG are figurative meanings of the words that belong to other LSG, i.e. LSG of destruction is characterized by centripetal activity. Thus, the LSG of destruction contains figurative meanings that enter from the following LSG:

- 1) LSG of change of state: *muck up (the floor)* 'to make dirty' (change of state) → *muck up (chances)* 'to spoil (destruction)';
- 2) LSG of cleaning: *wipe up (spilt milk)* 'to take up (liquid, etc.) by wiping (cleaning)' → *wipe up (an enemy force)* 'to destroy'.
- 3) LSG of transference in space: *string up (Christmas lights)* 'to fasten in high position' (transference in space) → *string up (a bomber)* 'put him to death by hanging' (destruction).

The presented examples indicate that figurative meanings of *Vup*-s lose specific features of a certain LSG, transcend its borders and become members of other LSG of *Vup*-s.

In the following scheme the systemic relations of the LSG of destruction with other LSG are presented (see Figure 2).

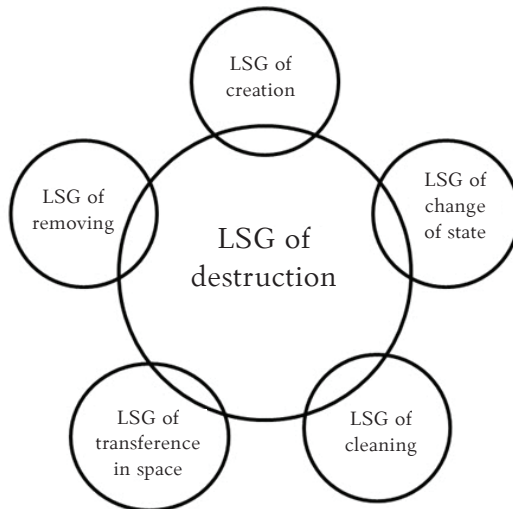


Figure 2. Systemic relations of the LSG of destruction with other LSG

To sum up, the LSG of Vup-s are not isolated. Linked to each other by semantic ties characteristic of the language as a whole and its subsystems, they constitute a semantic continuum of LSG and prove the systemic character of the language.

Conclusions

1. The article is concerned with semantic functions of the English postverb *up* in the plane of changing the lexical meaning of the verb and its aspectual characteristics in terms of terminativeness / durativeness and modes of action in phrasal verbs of the type *dry up build up, wipe up* (further Vup-s). In the plane of the analysis and classification of Vup-s according to their lexical meaning and modes of action systemic character of the language is revealed.
2. Vup-s are characterized by a high degree of lexicalization. They are divided into: a) non-lexicalized (literal) Vup-s in which the shift of meaning is standard and regular, e.g. *eat* → *eat up (dinner)* and b) lexicalized Vup-s based on the semantic motivation of the verbal meaning, such as metaphoric (*lap up₁ (water)* → *lap up₂ (information)*) and metonymic (*drink* → *drink up money*). Vup-s of the type *stand – stand up* ‘to cheat sb’, i.e. whose relation with the basic verb’s meaning is lost are referred to as derivational idioms.
3. In their basic meanings postverbs specify the direction of the action denoted by the verb. In view of the development of the phrasal verb, the most important of the non-spatial meanings is the resultative (or completive) one – i.e. aspectual meanings.
4. In the plane of changing of the aspectual characteristics of the lexical meaning of the verb the main function of the postverb *up* is changing of the durative verb into terminative, e.g. *work* → *work up (notes)*, *roll* → *roll up (into a ball)* or it can supply the basic verb with the meaning of the mode of action (MA), cf.: *fish* → *fish up (an old boot)* (resultative MA), *open* → *open up* ‘to open completely’ (completive MA), *pipe* → *pipe up* ‘to begin to sing in a high voice or play a wind instrument’ (ingressive MA), etc. Consequently, the investigation of the functions of the postverb *up* in the plane of aspectual characteristics of the lexical meaning of a verb is im-

portant for the analysis of the category of aspect in the English language which developed the means such as postverbs for marking terminativeness and modes of action. These means deserve the same attention of grammarians as the investigated in detail modes of action in Slavic and other languages. Contrary to the common opinion, it is possible to affirm that in the plane of aspectuality the English verb differs less from the verbs in German, Slavic and other languages as it has been claimed until now. Typological comparison of the range of functions of the English postverb *up* and its functional equivalents in other Indo-European languages in the plane of changing the lexical meaning of the verb and its aspectual characteristics with the aim to establish similarities and differences might be useful.

5. The postverb *up* usually modifies the lexical meaning of the basic verb. Depending upon the meaning of the basic verb and the degree of desemantization of the postverb Vup-s are divided into a number of lexico-semantic groups (LSG), such as 1) LSG of intransitive Vup-s which comprise LSG of motion directed upwards (*run up, spiral up*). LSG of changing of the state of a subject (*grow up, swell up*), LSG of emergence: (sb/sth) *pop up, (sth) loom up*); LSG of the beginning of an action (*strike up, blow up*), 2) LSG of transitive Vup-s including LSG of transference in space (*pull up (the rope), kick up (sand)*), LSG of changing of the state of an object (*pump up (the tyre), steam up (economy)*), LSG of creation (*drum up (an idea), scrape up (a story)*), LSG of destruction (*shoot up (a bar), gobble up (weaker countries)*). In the LSG of motion and transference in space the postverb *up* maintains its spatial meaning 'upwards', in the LSG of emergence, change of state and creation it is perceived associatively and in the LSG of destruction, it is lost. Vup-s acquire a resultative or completive meaning. In the article systemic relations in the Vup-s corpus have been stated, such as relations between MA-s and LSG, between the LSG of causative Vup-s and the LSG of their non-causative equivalents. Systemic relations among different LSG have been also revealed. It has been proved that separate LSG can intersect each other and constitute a semantic continuum. On the basis of the LSG of destruction it

has been shown that LSG of destruction is not an isolated system and there are no strict boundaries in it. LSG of destruction can intersect with other LSG, such as LSG of change of state, LSG of cleaning, LSG of removing, LSG of creation, LSG of transference in space. Thus, from the standpoint of structural linguistics the lexico-semantic system of the language is regarded as the sum total of relations among its elements – sememes.

6. The obtained results of the research allow to state the place of postverbs in the system of derivational means of the English verb. On the basis of the fact that the postverb *up* modifies the lexical meaning of the verb and changes its aspectual characteristics it is possible to assert that this postverb and apparently other postverbs of the English language can be treated as derivational formants functionally analogous to the verbal prefixes (non-detached, as in Slavic, Baltic and other languages, and detached as in German). The functional identity of postverbs and prefixes is conditioned historically by its common origin from locative (spatial) adverbs and / or prepositions.

In regard with the defining the status of the postverb *up* as derivational means postverbs can be treated as derivational analytic verbs, i.e. the constructions *blow up*, *hack up*, *coil up* cannot be considered as free combinations of two words with the status of independent parts of speech. Consequently, it is expedient to include the derivation of analytic verbs by means of postverbs into the list of verbal derivational means, which in traditional English grammar comprises affixation, conversion and compounding.

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POSTVERBO *UP* SEMANTINĖS FUNKCIJOS ANGLŲ KALBOJE

Santrauka

Straipsnyje analizuojamos anglų kalbos frazinių veiksmažodžių (pavyzdžiui, *move up*, *fix up*, *round up*) (*V_{up}-s*) antrojo komponento – postverbo *up* semantinės funkcijos keičiant veiksmažodžio leksinę reikšmę ir jo aspektines charakteristikas terminatyvumo / duratyvumo ir veiksmo būdų atžvilgiu. Analizuojant ir klasifikuojant *V_{up}-s* pagal jų leksinę reikšmę ir veiksmo būdus išryškkinamas kalbos sisteminis pobūdis.

V_{up}-s yra skirstomi į neleksikalizuotus *V_{up}-s*, kurių reikšmės lengvai nuspėjamos dėl reguliaraus jų reikšmės kitimo (pvz.: *sing* ‘dainuoti’ → *sing up* ‘garsiau, smarkiau dainuoti’, *drive* → *drive up* ‘privažiuoti’), ir leksikalizuotus *V_{up}-s*, kuriuose išskiriamos dvi viena po kitos einančios fazės:

- 1) *V_{up}-s*, atsiradę dėl semantinės derivacijos (motyvacijos), t. y. turintys tokias perkeltines reikšmes, kaip metaforos (*mess* → *mess up*₁ (*a carpet*) ‘supurvinti kilimą’ → *mess up*₂ (*a trip*) ‘sugadinti kelionę’) ir metonimijos (*root* ‘knaisioti’ → *root up* ‘surasti knaisiojant’);
- 2) idiominiai *V_{up}-s*, kurių reikšmė keičiasi nuspėjamu būdu ir ryšys su pamatiniu veiksmažodžiu yra visiškai nutrūkęs, pvz.: *stitch* ‘dyg-

sniuoti, siūti' – *stitch up* 'išduoti, apgauti', *louse* 'ieškoti utėlių' – *louse up* 'sugadinti (reikalą), sužlugdyti'.

Pagrindinė (pirminė) postverbo *up* reikšmė yra krypties (erdvės) reikšmė 'į viršų, aukštyn', kai postverbas yra jungiamas prie veiksmažodžių, reiškiančių judėjimą arba perkėlimą erdvėje. Kai pamatinio veiksmažodžio reikšmė su tuo nesusijusi, prasideda postverbo desemantizacija: *Vup*-s praranda erdvės (krypties) reikšmę ir įgyja abstrakčių (aspektinių) reikšmių, prarasdami erdvės komponentą. Iš aspektinių *Vup*-s reikšmių svarbiausios yra rezultatinė arba kompletyvinė reikšmės.

Tyrimo rezultatai atskleidžia, kad postverbas *up* gali keisti veiksmažodžio leksinės reikšmės aspektines charakteristikas, pvz.: terminatyvumo / duratyvumo aspektu postverbas pamatinį duratyvinį veiksmažodį keičia terminatyviniu (*fish* 'žvejoti' → *fish up* 'sužvejoti', *cough* 'kosėti' → *cough up* (*a bone*) 'iškosėti (kaulą)').

Kartu su terminatyvumu postverbas *up* keičia pamatinio veiksmažodžio veiksmo būdą. *Vup*-s gali būti suklasifikuoti pagal šiuos veiksmo būdus (VB): a) rezultatinis VB (*beat* → *beat up* 'sumušti'); b) kompletyvinis VB *dry* '(iš)džiūti' → *dry up* 'visiškai išdžiūti'); c) ingresyvinis VB (*blow* → *blow up* 'kilti (apie audrą)'); d) momentinis VB (*bob* → *bob up* 'staiga iškilti į paviršių'); e) statyvinis (*stick* → *stick up* 'kyšoti, styroti aukštyn').

Postverbas *up* keičia veiksmažodžio leksinę reikšmę. Atsižvelgiant į pamatinio veiksmažodžio reikšmę ir postverbo *up* desemantizacijos laipsnį *Vup*-s skirstomi į leksines-semantines grupes (LSG).

Intranzityvinių ir tranzityvinių veiksmažodžių LSG pateikiamos atskirai.

Išskiriamos šios intranzityvinių *Vup*-s LSG: 1) judėjimo aukštyn / į viršų LSG (*walk* → *walk up* 'užlipti į viršų'); 2) subjekto būsenos pakeitimo LSG (*freeze* '(su)šalti' → *freeze up* 'visiškai sušalti'), subjekto pasirodymo LSG (*pop* → *pop up* 'nelaukta pasirodyti, iškilti'), veiksmo pradžios LSG (*pipe* → *pipe up* 'pradėti kalbėti plonu balsu').

Tranzityvinių *Vup*-s LSG: 1) perkėlimo erdvėje LSG (*throw* → *throw up* 'mesti aukštyn'); 2) objekto būsenos keitimo LSG (*pump* → *pump up* (*a tyre*) 'pripumpuoti (padangą)'); 3) objekto sukūrimo LSG (*stitch* → *stitch up* (*a dress*) 'sudygsniuoti (suknelę)'); 4) objekto sunaikinimo LSG (*burn* → *burn up* 'visiškai sudeginti').

Subjekto judėjimo ir objekto perkėlimo erdvėje LSG postverbas turi pirminę erdvės reikšmę ‘aukštyn, į viršų’, pasirodymo, būsenos keitimo ir objekto sukūrimo LSG ši reikšmė suvokiama asociatyviai, objekto sunaikinimo LSG erdvės reikšmė yra išnykusi. Postverbas suteikia pamatiniam veiksmožodžiui rezultatinę arba kompletyvinę reikšmę.

Tyrimo rezultatai atskleidžia sisteminius ryšius tarp LSG ir veiksmo būdų, tarp kauzatyvinių Vup-s leksinių-semantinių grupių ir jų ekvivalentų – nekauzatyvinių Vup-s leksinių-semantinių grupių. Taip pat buvo nustatyti sisteminiai ryšiai tarp įvairių LSG. Pavyzdžiui, objekto sunaikinimo LSG nėra uždara sistema ir ji neturi griežtų ribų. Gauti rezultatai parodė, kad objekto sunaikinimo LSG gali susipinti su tokiomis LSG, kaip valymo LSG, perkėlimo erdvėje LSG, objekto pašalinimo LSG, sukūrimo LSG, objekto būsenos keitimo LSG.

Taigi struktūrinės lingvistikos požiūriu kalbos leksinė-semantinė sistema yra ryšių visuma tarp jos elementų – sememų.

Vup-s analizė gali padėti nustatyti postverbų vietą anglų kalbos derivacijos priemonių sistemoje. Remiantis tuo, kad postverbas gali keisti veiksmožodžio leksinę reikšmę ir jos aspektines charakteristikas, galima tvirtinti, kad šis postverbas ir tikriausiai kiti anglų kalbos postverbai gali būti laikomi derivacijos formantais, kurie analogiškai baltų, slavų ir kitų indoeuropiečių kalbų prefiksams ir atskiriamiesiems prefiksams vokiečių kalboje.

Postverbų ir prefiksų funkcinį panašumą lėmė jų bendra kilmė iš prieveiksmių arba prielinksnių su krypties reikšme. Taigi fraziniai veiksmožodžiai turi būti laikomi ne žodžių junginiais, bet derivaciniais analitiniais žodžiais, kurie apibrėžiami kaip nominatyviniai ženklai, ekvivalentiški žodžiui, tačiau (skirtingai nuo žodžio) neturintys morfemų vientisumo. Taigi analitinių žodžių derivaciją galima įtraukti į anglų kalbos derivacijos priemonių sistemą, kurią tradicinėje anglų kalbos gramatikoje sudaro afiksacija, konversija ir žodžių sudūrimas.