opción

Revista de Antropología, Ciencias de la Comunicación y de la Información, Filosofía, Lingüística y Semiótica, Problemas del Desarrollo, la Ciencia y la Tecnología

Año 36, 2020, Especial N° 26

Revista de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales
ISSN 1012-1587/ ISSNe: 2477-9385
Depósito Legal pp 198402ZU45

Universidad del Zulia
Facultad Experimental de Ciencias
Departamento de Ciencias Humanas
Maracaibo - Venezuela

Opción, Año 36, Especial No.26 (2020): 662-678
ISSN 1012-1587/ISSNe: 2477-9385

A proper noun in artificial languages: theoretical and practical aspects

Andrey N. Belyaev
[1]Federal State Budgetary Educational Establishment of Higher Education Bashkir State Agrarian University, Ufa, Russian Federation
anbelajew@bgau.ru

Olga N. Novikova
[2]Federal State Budgetary Educational Establishment of Higher Education Bashkir State Agrarian University, Ufa, Russian Federation
novikova58@bgau.ru

Alfiya F. Aznabaeva
[3]Federal State Budgetary Educational Establishment of Higher Education Bashkir State Agrarian University, Ufa, Russian Federation
pjatashok@bgau.ru

Yuliya V. Kalugina
Federal State Budgetary Educational Establishment of Higher Education Bashkir State Agrarian University, Ufa, Russian Federation
kel-2004@bgau.ru

Abstract

The article is devoted to the study of proper nouns in artificial languages. The use of the comparative method in the study of proper nouns in artificial languages of different types allowed to determine the degree of their representation and identify their general characteristics – onomastic universals. The result of the pioneering research was the primary classification of artificial languages according to the representation of proper nouns (anthroponyms and toponyms), which set a new vector for their study. In conclusion, in languages aimed at facilitating international intercultural interaction, the original proper nouns are maximally preserved, slightly adapting to morphophonology.

Keywords: Language, Modeling, Artificial, Fictional, Conlang.

Recibido: 20-12-2019 •Aceptado: 20-02-2020

Un nombre propio en lenguajes artificiales: aspectos teóricos y prácticos

Resumen

El artículo está dedicado al estudio de nombres propios en lenguajes artificiales. El uso del método comparativo en el estudio de nombres propios en lenguajes artificiales de diferentes tipos permitió determinar el grado de su representación e identificar sus características generales: universales onomásticos. El resultado de la investigación pionera fue la clasificación primaria de los lenguajes artificiales de acuerdo con la representación de sustantivos propios (antropónimos y topónimos), que establecieron un nuevo vector para su estudio. En conclusión, en los idiomas destinados a facilitar la interacción intercultural internacional, los nombres propios originales se conservan al máximo, adaptándose ligeramente a la morfofonología.

Palabras clave: Lenguaje, Modelado, Artificial, Ficticio, Conlang.

1. INTRODUCTION

Attention to proper nouns (PNs) is due to their ontological status as special language units, their place in the structure of human personality and social and cultural interactions of people. The object of this article is artificial languages, and the subject is PNs. The areas of linguistic interest in such languages were identified in the framework of interlinguistics at the end of the last century: the possibilities and limits of language modeling, the ratio of spontaneous and purposeful in language evolution, the interaction of people and electronic machines, the development of communication theory, the search for new methods of teaching and learning languages, translation studies,

the state language policy; artificial languages should be considered from the perspective of their special characteristics, the rationalization of international communication, in comparison with other sign systems.

The relevance of the study is due to the underdevelopment of the above issues, as well as trends in the development of national onomasticons under the influence of the processes and growth of national identity, media impact, the Internet and language globalization. In the current century, the century of network interaction, when virtual worlds are in the focus of interests, the creation of languages, or conlanging becomes a mass phenomenon due to the inclusion of non-linguists, which touches upon the scientific and naive linguistic view of the world, the role of the name in I – other, I – world, friend-or-foe relationship, reveals the worldview and aesthetic attitudes of the nominee.

A natural language (natlang) is not built on a strict logical scheme, the rules allow exceptions; one meaning can be expressed in different ways; languages differ in the systems of their phonological and grammatical categories. Different names for sign systems, in contrast to natural languages created for a specific purpose, according to the plan – artificial, fictional, constructed, planned, authorial – are used interchangeably as well as separately, with an emphasis on either authorship or the fantastic nature of the world served by the language or the obligation of their preliminary grammatical description.

The consideration of artificial languages from the point of view of linguistic universals leads to the conclusion that the presence of PN, at least for naming people and geographical objects, is one of the most frequent universals of these formations (SHUVALOVA, 2010; GORDEEVA, 2017). Therefore, the existence of PN in such languages is of interest: how recognizable this category is, which parameters are stable, and which can be minimized or, conversely, expanded. This perspective is fully correlated with the understanding of the practical importance of creating and studying artificial languages as the ground for the analysis of all kinds of language situations, the ratio of different linguistic, logical, and philosophical categories.

2. METHODOLOGY

The initial stage of the study – the selection of language material – is associated with certain difficulties due to the pool instability of artificial languages: since they are a constructed phenomenon, different projects are at different stages of development, and some are suspended or forgotten. To date, there are about two thousand fictional languages in the world, which differ in purpose, structure, and the number of adherents. In accordance with the most general classification, based on the purpose of creation, they can be divided into auxiliary (auxlangs), or international, or universal, or model languages, developed to facilitate international communication; philosophical, or philosophical and logical languages, striving for strict

logic; and artistic languages, or artlangs, designed for the sake of creative or aesthetic pleasure or for an individual community. Taking into account the structural principle, depending on the non/use of natural languages to create units of different levels, a priori and a posteriori language are distinguished (STRIA, 2016; FABBRI, 2018; GOBBO, 2019). The analysis shows the presence of mixed languages; for example, in Ro, the last syllable in river names corresponds to the beginning of the true word. Based on this, the representatives of different language groups were selected as the materials from open access sources on the Internet (see Table 1).

Table 1: Representation of artificial languages

Language, name	**Description**	**Use**
Esperanto	Auxiliary artificial a posteriori language, presented by Zamenhof in 1887.	It is widely used as a language of real international communication; it is the native language for several thousand speakers; newspapers and magazines are published in it, and radio stations broadcast.
Toki Pona	Analytical and oligosynthetic context-sensitive language, the simplest of artificial languages, created by Sonja Lang in 2001.	Philosophical language of good – to simplify communication through the use of a minimum number of concepts and words, knowledge of life, enjoying its every moment.
Ithkuil / Ilaksh	The most complex philosophical and	Created by QUIJADA (2017), not for use but to show how human language can function in

	logical language.	an optimum way.
Artlangs	The most numerous, heterogeneous and mobile group, including the languages of fictional worlds, authorial languages, creative projects.	The living environment is most often the Internet, which explains their quantitative predominance in the study material – 250 languages from the sites where their linguistic description is given with the exception of the languages of works of literature, cinema, video, and computer games.

At the next stage, the information on PN (rules, theory, and examples) is gathered from textbooks on languages, special sites by the method of continuous sampling, which is then subjected to linguistic analysis, including lexical-semantic, structural-semantic, and cognitive aspects. In the course of the study, it is inevitable to turn to some other artificial and natural languages. The sample size is statistically representative and allows us to identify trends in the representation of the PN category in the languages studied, which, according to our hypothesis, is determined by the purpose of the created language.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To create an artificial language, it is best to start with the development of the so-called proper noun language for the following

reasons. Firstly, onyms manifest friend-or-foe opposition, create a fantastic environment, which is historically seen in the works of fiction, e.g. the countries of Lilliput, Brobdingnag, Laputa and others. Secondly, simple PN grammar is postulated, which can hardly be agreed with, since the PN specificity is noticeable both at the language and speech levels, manifesting itself structurally in the field of semantics, morphology, and syntax; for example, a PN in natural languages has its relations with the category of number, definiteness, and indefiniteness; in metaphorical use, they are considered as common nouns.

On the functional side, they perform a number of functions peculiar to them: nominative, identifying, differentiating, social, emotional, accumulative, deictic addressing, expressive. PNs have variants, their etymology is always hypothetical, they are constantly involved in de-and transonymization processes; linguistic phenomena such as synonymy, antonymy, homonymy, etc. are manifested in PNs somewhat differently than in common vocabulary (Rasooli & Abedini, 2017).

So, first of all, it is necessary to designate sounds of a new language, to define rules of their combination and then proceed to the formation of names for people and geographical objects. At the same time, it is desirable to focus on the semantics of anthroponyms formed on the basis of common names and toponyms bearing the object characteristic. HENNING (1995), the ideologist of the conlang

movement on the Internet, emphasizing the connection between the language and culture, proceeds from the existence of models for creating personal names of people and toponyms (TAJVIDI & ARJANI, 2017).

He offers tables of their etymological components with meanings, phonetic and morphological correspondences in possible languages and thus creates a name generator (HENNING, 1995). Today, the onomastic creativity is the subject of active discussion in the world Network; special attention is paid to the PN structure, their basic etymology, naming rules, (VAN LANGENDONCK & VAN DE VELDE, 2016). The primary importance of learning about PNs as signs related to grammar, culture, self-awareness is also emphasized when studying natural languages.

But following the relationships between the levels of the language system, phonetics serves only as a substrate for the formation of grammatical units, leads to morphology and syntax, viz categorically conditioned inflection of the proprietary part of the lexicon, the PN combination with other word classes of the new language, their order in the statement that will be shown in the analysis of specific artificial languages.

Out of all the languages created to facilitate international communication, Esperanto is the most accessible one for mastering. It is constantly evolving, which is provided by basic vocabulary taken

from Indo-European languages, an agglutinative grammatical system with features of isolating languages. The combination of lexical roots and about 40 affixes allows the creation of a huge variety of words that can express new concepts. The main parts of speech have a system of endings that make them easy to recognize; spelling corresponds to pronunciation. According to STRIA (2016), today Esperanto occupies an intermediate position between artificial and natural languages since it meets the criteria of the human language both in terms of purely linguistic and sociolinguistic parameters (STRIA, 2016).

Geographical names and ethnonyms do not differ from their original forms to the extent that the phonology of Ithkuil allows and to the extent that these concepts can be distinguished. On the other hand, widely used alternative names can be used; for example, China can be rendered as îpal ¯Čuň ˇkwo, which is technically the most correct since it is based on the most similar possible phonological equivalent of the Mandarin word Zhōngguó (IPA [tʂʊŋkwɔˇ]), but the name îpal Čin, based on a historically formed root (from Persian and Sanskrit), may also be acceptable. All available object names, official and colloquial, are subject to transliteration.

Hundreds of languages, created for fantasy, hedonistic purposes, for the sake of pleasure, are a motley picture of all the categories, forms, styles, and sounds you can think of in a variety of combinations to show certain meanings and relationships. It should be noted that HENNING's (1995) order on the PN primacy is not respected. The

analysis allowed us to distinguish several groups of artlangs according to the degree of PN representation (see Table 2). Let us say at once that this is the first attempt at classification; the involvement of other languages in the analysis can slightly change the picture, add grounds for division. The existence of mixed groups is natural.

Table 2: Representation of PN in artificial languages

Degree of PN representation	**Language, name**	**Example**
1. PN is not represented.	Akutirolis Euxino Kti	-
2. PNs are mentioned casually, randomly, without reference to other language objects and relationships.	Bizzarelang Félorian Galeiga	Deutsland Canada = Kanad Euroba
3. PNs are transcribed and transliterated.	Esperanto Bonadil, Kasiro Gęčokaxʖa Turug	ArhximEdo No examples are given, so it can be assumed that we are talking about existing international rules. Hungary = Majal Poland = Lenc oran
4.Some phonomorphological and grammatical characteristics of PN are specified, ways of their oral and written transfer are shown.	Alitalia	All nouns, both common and proper, are written with a capital letter, with maximum preservation of the original word: Moskva.
5. PNs – personal names and surnames – are given by the list.	Sixam	Aphpo, Eni Jish
6. PN is included in the life of the community described.	Laceyiam	Martayinăm, Kąltarvan – the name reflects the maternal lineage.

More than half of the considered constructs do not mention PNs at all. Based on the statement about the universality of this category in artificial languages (SHUVALOVA, 2010), this can be explained by the incompleteness of the linguistic project, the attitude to onyms as to the peripheral part of the language space. On the other hand, perhaps the PN regularity does not attract the developer's attention. However, within the framework of conlanging, it is impossible to exclude the deliberate omission of PNs as an attempt to coin a language without some part of it, especially since there are precedents. For example, the Kēlen language challenges natural languages by abandoning the verb: relations between substances are expressed using several relational words. In logical languages Loglan and Lojban there are no usual parts of speech, all notional words are called words of the first-class – predicates which function as nouns, adjectives, verbs depending on the syntactic construction they are used in (RINER, 1990).

But not all mysteries are solved in natural languages. Thus, some scholars call Riau Indonesian a language without nouns and verbs. Others do not recognize it as a true language, considering it an insufficiently studied dialect. A compromise is the possibility of grammatical and semantic categories without morphosyntactic expression. With regard to PN, it is believed that the claim that all languages have PN is rather a postulate than the result of a systematic typological study of the languages of the world. It simply repeats the linguistic intuition that the naming of places and persons is an essential functional operation and that therefore, there must be toponyms and anthroponyms in all languages (HELMBRECHT, 2015).

The fourth group is mixed, so we add the following to the examples in the table: in Abasha, PNs refer to class V nouns and are used only in the singular form; in Mngwan Jui, there are rules for syntactic compatibility of the title and geographical descriptor with PNs, which can be declined and used with particles.

The languages of the fifth group serve fictional races and peoples and offer lists of personal names and, sometimes, surnames for native speakers. According to the semantics of the base word, one can distinguish: a) anthroponyms derived from words with positive semantics, which is also typical for natural languages, e.g. Saun names: Sàunnang < great man; Menerian names: Menlkairn < sunlight; b) anthroponyms without reference to the source of occurrence, e.g. Sixam names: Tixxis; c) anthroponyms from natural languages, e.g. Laduri names: Gabdulla, Pali.

In a number of cases, anthropogenesis models are specified, e.g. in the Barsoomian language, a male child receives the father's personal name as a surname, and a female child receives this name with some changes: Kantos Kan is father of Djor Kantos (son), Tor Hatan is father of Sanoma Tora (daughter). Naming exceptions in this language apply only to members of the Royal family.

The sixth group includes the languages that give the most complete picture of the PN existence in the constructed system through its inclusion into socio-cultural relations in the described community, e.g. in Laceyiam, a complex naming system reflects the maternal lineage and the plurality of

name sources that adapt to the phonetic and grammatical rules of the language. Full naming includes a matronym, a surname, and a given, or personal, name that is romanized for emphasis. Each naming part has its own formation rules. The language serves the planet inhabitants, has a long history and numerous interlingual connections.

The census even identifies the most popular female and male names, e.g. Martayinăm, Jaukäkūml (female), Kặltarvan, Mūncanyan (male); in the Ktarh language, the name indicates the status and origin of the bearer. Each part of the full naming of a resident of the republic is strictly regulated by the number of syllables and by the source word. The rules for assigning the named modifier, additional names and vocative options are clearly spelled out in accordance with the social status. The proper noun is the main way of referring to the world. It represents its bearer as reality. Characters of fictional worlds are ontologically incomplete without a name, and have no stable identity (RYAN, 2018).

4. CONCLUSION

The study was based on the recognition of the inherent relationship of any artificial language with a natural one. The correlation runs in several directions with respect to the names of people or anthropomorphic creatures:

- Models of personal name formation defined by a number of languages are correlated with real languages, first of all, according to the positive semantics of base words of names, e.g. in the Al-Bhed language;

- Lists of names, for all their singularity, cannot be considered absolutely unique since the name attractiveness is determined by the traditions of a particular linguistic and cultural community and is subjective. In addition, many of the strange onyms are created using existing models, e.g. in Sixam we observe the doubling of consonants in the name, names with an apostrophe, and double names characteristic of today's English-speaking area: Xoxxaw, Evi Bip, Ne'xafughos;

- Naming practices in fictional communities echo the traditions of many peoples of the Earth to consider a newborn a full member of society only after their naming, e.g. in the Akana language;

- There is a transition of people's names from artificial languages to natural ones: once esperantized, anthroponyms are positioned now as derived from Esperanto and can enter a real anthroponymicon.

The analysis of artificial languages confirmed the hypothesis that the PN representation is determined by the language purpose. In

languages aimed at facilitating international intercultural interaction (for example, in the auxiliary languages such as Esperanto, Ido), the original PNs are maximally preserved, slightly adapting to morphophonology. They are considered on a par with borrowed words and respectively transliterated and transcribed in the new language. The same applies to a number of artlangs, but, unlike the international languages mentioned above, with more than a century of use, the PN syntax is not developed there. The special PN status is emphasized even in the 88.93 digital languages, where only onyms are rendered in letters.

The PN morphophonology is most fully represented, which is quite understandable. For some authorial languages, this level of description is sufficient. The grammar of the proprietary vocabulary is not paid attention to, either due to the incompleteness of the language project or for some other reasons, including an attempt to produce a language without PNs. In any case, if PN is recognized as a linguistic universal (and in many languages, the PN is not mentioned at all), it will make the language originators think a lot to fit this special group of words into the language system being developed at all levels. For example, how PNs can change if a set of declensions is postulated depending on the noun morphophonology; if there is an article – interaction with it; questions of onymic derivation, etc. The research prospects are seen in the further study of the phenomenon of artificial languages, the definition of their functionality and relations with natural languages.

REFERENCES

FABBRI, R. 2018. **Basic concepts and tools for the Toki Pona minimal and constructed language.** The International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology. UK.

GOBBO, F. 2019. **International Auxiliary Languages**. The International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology. UK.

GORDEEVA, E. 2017. **Features of manifestation of linguistic universals in personal artificial languages**. Bachelor's work. Siberian Federal University. P. 92. Russia.

HELMBRECHT, J. 2015. **On the Form and Function of Proper Names – a Typological Perspective**. Sprachtypologie und Universalienforschung STCE Die Grammatik der Toponyme als typologisches Forschungsfeld. Russia.

HENNING, J. 1995. **Inventing a language for naming people and places. Bachelor's work.** Siberian Federal University, P. 92. Russia.

QUIJADA, J. 2017. **Reaper J. Ithkuil: A Philosophical Design for a Hypothetical Language.** New York: John Quijada, P. 446. USA.

RASOOLI, M., & ABEDINI, M. 2017. "The Relationship between Organizational Support and Job Satisfaction of Experts and Managers of Islamic Azad University of Qeshm and Subsidiaries (International Units, Medical, Sama, Hormuz and Khamir)**". Dutch Journal of Finance and Management.** Vol. 1, No 2: 42. https://doi.org/10.29333/djfm/5818

RINER, R. 1990**. Loglan and the choice of clarity: a truly user-friendly language for humans and their machines.** New York: John Quijada, P. 446. USA.

RYAN, M. 2018. "What are characters made of? Textual, philosophical and world approaches to character ontology". Neohelicon. Vol. 45, No 2: 415-429. Germany.

SHUVALOVA, O. 2010. "Fictional languages and linguistic universals". Neohelicon. Vol. 45, No 2: 415-429. Germany.

STRIA, I. 2016. **Inventing languages, inventing worlds. Towards a linguistic world view for artificial languages.** Wydział Neofilologii UAM w Poznaniu, p. 264. Poland.

TAJVIDI, G. R., & ARJANI, S. H. 2017. "Appraisal Theory in Translation Studies: An Introduction and Review of Studies of Evaluation in Translation". **Research in Applied Linguistics.** Vol. 8, No 2: 3-30.

VAN LANGENDONCK, W., & VAN DE VELDE, M. 2016. **Names and grammar. Carole Hough.** The Oxford Handbook of Names and Naming, UK.

UNIVERSIDAD
DEL ZULIA

opción
Revista de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales

Año 36, Especial N° 26 (2020)

Esta revista fue editada en formato digital por el personal de la Oficina de Publicaciones Científicas de la Facultad Experimental de Ciencias, Universidad del Zulia.
Maracaibo - Venezuela

www.luz.edu.ve

www.serbi.luz.edu.ve

produccioncientifica.luz.edu.ve