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**The meanings and use of the verbs *идти – ходить*:
functional and semantical analysis and categorical situations**

In this presentation, I will examine the semantic meanings of the verbs *идти – ходить* and functions of the verbs in discourse. I will use functional and semantic analysis to investigate the elements that constitute the semantic field in whose core the verbs *идти – ходить* are situated. I will take a close look at the semantic and grammatical shifts which impact these verbs as a result of verbal and extra-linguistic situations and will reveal some prototypical extra-linguistic situations where these verbs form an utterance with other components.

This work is based on the following statements:

1. Both lexemes contain a set of semantemes; the verbs function in combination with certain words according to a semanteme which is used in a given extra-linguistic situation and context.

2. Language meanings, *i.e.* the meanings of elements, categories, and classes of a given language and cognitive meaning, *i.e.* inter-linguistic cognition as alluded to by Bondarko (1996, 5), are involved in the process of production of an utterance. Expanding Nessel's 2000 assertion that there is a correlation between the forms and meanings of verbs of motion, I argue that the lexical meaning of the semantemes and grammatical forms of these verbs are mutually dependant, and the combination of lexical and grammatical meanings affects the formation of an utterance.

3. The meanings often ascribed to these verbs actually relate to other parts of sentences or appear as a combination of various elements and relations between them as suggested by Miloslavskii (1981, 163-164).

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4. Speakers operate in situations or events that match certain prototypes mentioned in Zaitseva's work (1995, 147). Although all individuals have their own perceptions of extra-linguistic reality, they form their speech using components from the common scope of word combinations and sentences.

I will review the seven semantemes of the verb **идти** and its perfective counterpart **пойти** and the five semantemes of the verb **ходить** and the perfective **походить**; I consider prototypical situations where these semantemes can be applied and identify elements that actually realize basic meanings of the analyzed verbs.

The following are semantemes of the verbs идти and пойти.

1. The intention to go somewhere, to visit or to attend a certain place or event in the near or more distant future, or having done so in the immediate past. This semanteme of the verb **идти** and the perfective **пойти** has a meaning *to be going, to have an intention (собираться, т.е. иметь намерение)*.

- Pres.** (a) Я иду на работу (сегодня днём).
(b) Он идёт гулять (сейчас, через пять минут).
(c) Ирина идёт на курсы программистов (в будущем году).
- F. Perf.** (d) Я пойду на работу.
(e) Он пойдёт гулять.
- Past Imp.** (f) Он шёл гулять [coll.], но начался дождь, и он остался дома.

To express near or more distant future, the verb **идти** is used in the present tense: *someone is going to* or the simple future tense: *someone will go to* (ex. a, b, c, d, e). It is used with infinitives that indicate kinds of activities (ex. b, e) and in the past when one had an intention of doing something or going somewhere, but something prevented it (ex. f).

This semanteme could be used with the prepositions **в, на, к**. It can be used with words indicating a moment of time (day/month/etc.) as additional information. It is important to note that it is used when we must indicate the goal, purpose or destination of an intended

trip; on the other hand, we can omit the time – required to accomplish a trip. If the goal or destination of a possible trip is omitted, the sense of an utterance changes because the semanteme changes, for instance in ex. b: the semanteme ‘intention to go somewhere’ could be changed to semanteme 7, ‘state of readiness’ ‘он идет’; in addition, the expression is not complete if the goal is omitted.

2. Affirmation of the fact of going somewhere in the past. This semanteme means *to depart* (**отправиться**).

- Past Perf.**
- (a) Аня пошла на работу рано утром.
 - (b) Где Василий? – Он пошёл играть в футбол.
 - (c) Что дети делали днём? – Они пошли в кино (, но билетов не было, и они вернулись домой).
 - (d) (У Коли болела голова, и была температура вечером. Утром отец звонит с работы.) Коля пошел в школу? – Да, пошел, – все в порядке.

A situation may imply that people who are objects of questions are not in the place where they are supposed to be and/or they **recently** went to a place (ex. a, b, c, d). However, it does not automatically mean that the destination or goal was reached. It could be used with infinitives that express kinds of activities (ex. b). As the first semanteme, it requires indication of the goal, purpose or destination of an intended trip. However, here, time of a trip is also needed, or it is indicated by situation. Otherwise, it changes the context. For instance, ex. a, d. **Аня пошла на работу** and **Коля пошел в школу**—without indicating time may mean that Ania has recently started working and Kolia has recently started to attend school. Here we distinguish a different semanteme (which is #5). The prepositions **в, на, к** are used with this semanteme.

NB! It should be noted that cases with the first and the second semantemes focus on intention to do something, on purpose or goal but not on movement itself, and both semantemes express going somewhere by any means of transportation—by vehicle or on foot.

3. Movement on foot while something is happening along the way. In other words, this semanteme means *to be on one's way at a specific time*.

- Pres.** (a) Иду я по улице, как вдруг чёрный кот.
(b) Идёт он и видит своего давнего приятеля.
(c) (Звонок по мобильному телефону.) Где ты? – Иду в магазин.
- Past Imp.** (d) Она шла к дому, когда заметила, что её сумка порвалась.
(e) Куда ты шел утром? – В магазин. Почему ты спрашиваешь? – Я тебя видел из окна.
- F. Imp.** (f) Когда ты будешь идти в магазин, зайди по дороге в химчистку.

It means that while walking somewhere something is happening simultaneously (in the present, past or future grammatical tense) emphasizing that something is occurring **at a real certain moment** in a certain place. Usually, complex or compound (ex. a, d, f) or simple sentences with **coordinate predicates** (ex. b) are used in this case. Whatever conjunction is used in such a sentence, it means or implies *at the same time*. These sentences are often used in discourse when someone is describing what is, was, or will be happening *on his/her way along some place* (ex. c, e). The prepositions **в, на, к, по** with nouns **denoting place or direction** are supplied.

4. Affirmation of process of movement. This can have a general or a particular meaning.

Generalization in the present tense (ex. a, b, c).

- Pres.** (a) Я к / по парку иду 15 минут.
(b) Он встаёт рано и обычно неспеша идёт на работу.
(c) От Киева до Москвы поезд идёт 10 часов.

This denotes one-way movement that usually takes place in a certain time, under certain conditions. The semanteme (ex. a, b) means: to be walking during some time, under some circumstances; the adverb **пешком** is used or implied here. For inanimate objects: it takes some time to reach some place (ex. c). The verb is used in the third person and a noun (subject) indicates a generalized object. Here, prepositions **на, в; к;**

по; от... до, denoting a specific distance/boundary, are supplied. Adverbs implying repetition and the adverb **теперь** are used in this regard.

When used in the past or in the future tense, adverbs of time play a crucial role. Depending on which adverb is used and whether it is used or omitted, an utterance can have a particular or a generalized meaning. In ex. d, e, i, j all the utterances have a particular meaning without adverbs of time.

F. Imp. (d) Я буду идти к парку 15 минут.

(e) Наш поезд будет идти 10 часов.

Past Imp. (i) Я шла к парку 15 минут.

(j) От Киева до Москвы поезд шёл 10 часов.

When the utterance includes adverbs or adverb phrases such as **завтра** *tomorrow* ('the day after today'), **вчера** *yesterday* ('the day before today'), **сегодня** *today* ('the current day'), it also shows or suggests that a certain object was/will be moving in a certain moment/period of time or under a certain condition (ex. f, k).

F. Imp. (f) Сегодня к парку я буду идти 15 минут.

Past Imp. (k) Вчера я к парку шла 15 минут.

When adverbs of time and adverb phrases such as **впредь, с завтрашнего дня, в будущем, отныне, теперь** are used, it implies generalization in the future (ex. g, h).

F. Imp. (g) Впредь я буду идти 15 минут к парку.

(h) Теперь от Киева до Москвы поезд будет идти 15 часов.

When adverbs of time and adverb phrases such as **с прошлого месяца, раньше, до того как** are used, it implies generalization in the past and means that the action no longer takes place (ex. l, m).

Past Imp. (l) Раньше я шла к парку 15 минут.

(m) До того, как установили границу и ввели таможду, от Киева до Москвы поезд шёл 10 часов.

NB! It should be noted that the adverb **сейчас** *at the present time* expresses a general idea in the present, but a single action in the past and future. **Он идёт домой сейчас 15 минут** (see also examples a, b, c). **Он сейчас быстро шёл к дому. Он будет сейчас идти к дому быстро** (see examples from d to i).

5. Attending a certain place, a certain kind of institution—in other words, ‘to begin attending some place’. It is a synonym of **начать ходить**. The prepositions **на, в** are applied here.

Past Perf. (a) Саша пошла в музыкальную школу (спортивную секцию).

F. Perf. (b) Ирина пойдет на курсы программистов (в школу балльных танцев).

We can predict some possible contexts and situations where this semanteme is used. E.g., when one has started or will start attending secondary school, day care, sport club, some kinds of schools or courses.

6. Approaching some place by someone. In other words, the semanteme means *someone or something is coming*. The situation may imply that someone is waiting for someone or something. The verb **идти** in such a case is used in the third person singular or plural in the present tense (ex. a, b). The adverb **сюда** is implied here.

Pres. Imp. (a) Наконец идут.

(b) Идет наш автобус.

If we change, for example in ex. a, the third person to the first, we will shift to a different semanteme (it will be the seventh one here). If we change the present tense to the past or to the future, we eliminate this sense of an utterance.

7. State of readiness for another action. It means *I am/we are going in a moment / I am/we are ready – готов/готовы*.

Pres. Imp. (a) Ещё минута – и (я) иду / (мы) идем.

(b) Ты идешь уже? Сколько можно ждать?

(c) Она уже идет.

Here, we distinguish a personal deixis where there could be participants of the communicative/speech act, namely a sender/speaker (the first person) and a receiver/listener (the second person). Thus, the verb **идти** is used in the present tense in the first person singular or plural (ex. a), implying that the message is directed to the listener—the second person. It can also be used in the second person singular or plural when the speaker is asking the listener (ex. b). It could be a situation when the third person is used. For instance, the speaker is telling the listener about someone (ex. c). Often, the adverb **уже** is used here.

The following are semantemes of the verbs ходить and походить /to walk for a while.

1. This semanteme means **going somewhere or visiting some place on a regular basis**. It is used to express going somewhere by any means of transportation—by vehicle or on foot.

Pres. (a) Я хожу на работу (три раза в неделю).

(b) Он ходит гулять (часто, каждое воскресенье).

Past Imp. (c) Я ходила на работу три раза в неделю.

(d) По воскресеньям они с дочкой ходили кататься на качелях.

F. Imp. (e) Я буду ходить на работу (три раза в неделю).

(f) Он будет ходить гулять (часто, каждое воскресенье).

It designates a repeating, regular trip to some place that suggests/implies frequency; and it confirms a habitual action. It is used with infinitives to indicate the kinds of activities (ex. b, f). The present grammatical tense is used without specifying the beginning and end of an action which continues in extra-linguistic reality (ex. a, b).

Adverbs or adverb phrases of frequency are used or implied in such cases as with ex. a, b. To express a repeating, regular trip in the past tense adverbs or adverb phrases of frequency are needed (ex. c, d). The grammatical past tense may mean that the present extra-linguistic situation has changed. The grammatical future tense confirms what will

happen regularly in the further life. Here we have the same situation with adverbs as with the utterances in the present tense—they may be implied (ex. e, f).

The prepositions **на, в, к** are used here.

2. Going somewhere or visiting some place once. It means that someone went somewhere and came back (ex. a, b, c). This semanteme, like the previous one, is used in situations when one went somewhere by whatever means—by vehicle or on foot. In situations where this semanteme is used the focus is on the place where someone was at a certain time.

- Past Imp.** (a) Он ходил гулять, а сейчас он дома.
(b) Аня ходила на работу утром, а потом пошла в библиотеку.
(c) Где ты был? – Ходил в кино.

Adverbs and adverb phrases of time affect the meaning in the past tense. To express a **round trip—accomplished single action** adverbs or adverb phrases which denote a specific moment combine with the verb **ходить** in the past, e.g. **потом, сейчас, вечером, в понедельник** and so on. Also, the phrase **Аня ходила на работу** (ex. b) might be replaced with **Аня была на работе**. Again, the situation and the context may imply that the ‘event’ took place once at a certain moment (ex. c).

3. Attending some institution, class. Focus here falls on the place of attendance rather than on the action itself. It could be a synonym of *посещать – to attend, or заниматься – to take courses, classes*. The semanteme is not combined with adverbs of frequency.

- Pres.** (a) Она ходит на курсы визажистов.
F. Imp. (b) Он будет ходить в детский сад (в будущем году).
F. Perf. (c) Олег походит на баскетбол пару месяцев.
Past Imp. (d) Они ходили на курсы программистов.
(e) Он ходил на фигурное катание с пяти лет.
Past Perf. (f) Олег походил на баскетбол несколько месяцев и бросил.

The present tense states the fact that one is attending a specific place, is taking some courses at the present time (ex. a). To confirm what place someone will attend in the future the verb **ходить** is used in the future tense (ex. b). The latter looks like ex. b of semanteme 5 for the perfective **пойти** in the future (**Ирина пойдет на курсы программистов**). There is a slight difference, though. When it is important to emphasize the fact that one will **start** attending a place, we use **пойти**, but if one **will be attending** a place regularly, we use **ходить**. In the past tense the utterance may just confirm the fact of attendance at a place with or without indicating time (ex. d), or it can imply that the situation changed and someone is doing something else (ex. d). Finally, the perfective verb **походить** indicates temporariness; it means here ‘to attend for a while’ (ex. c, f). The meaning changes if the full name of the place of attendance (ex. a, c) or a specific time of taking classes (ex. e) is not indicated.

The prepositions **на, в, к** are used here.

4. Walking. This semanteme emphasizes the process of walking itself and may indicate a regular, repeating action (ex. a, b, d, e, g); it can be a singular action as well (c, f, i, h).

Pres. Imp. (a) Он много ходит. (Она быстро ходит.)

(b) Каждое утро я хожу на работу пешком.

(c) Где она (сейчас)? – Ходит (по парку).

Past Imp. (d) Она всегда много ходила.

(e) Она раньше много ходила (, а сейчас у нее нет времени).

(f) Ходили по пещерам часа два.

F. Imp. (g) Они будут ходить пешком как можно чаще.

Past Perf. (i) Они походили по лесу и пошли домой.

F. Perf. (h) Куда вы? – Походим.

To express going on foot, the verb **ходить** combines with adverbs that denote the manner of walking **быстро, медленно, много, мало** (ex. a, d, e), or with the adverb **пешком** (ex. b, g); or it is used with the preposition **по** meaning *around* with nouns in the dative case that denote the location of walking (c, f, i). It is used in combination with

adverbs or adverb phrases of frequency to demonstrate repetition (ex. b, d, e, g); on the other hand, to express a single action the verb combines with adverbs or adverb phrases of time (ex. f); the perfective **походить** used in a certain context could imply a single action (ex. i, h).

Depending on what the extra-linguistic situation is, the past tense may be used to demonstrate changes at the present time (ex. e). As with **semanteme 1** the future tense confirms what will happen in life ahead.

The prepositions **на, в, к, по** are used here.

5. Spending time going somewhere. Situations where this semanteme is used imply that someone is or was going or will go to certain places during a certain time—focusing on spending time in a certain place. It is used with the preposition **по** meaning *to* with nouns in the plural in the dative case. Combinations with nouns that denote location **по барам, по выставкам, по концертам, по ресторанам** could be used in such utterances.

Pres. (a) Чем они занимаются по воскресеньям? – Они ходят по магазинам каждое воскресенье.

Past Imp. (b) Где был Сергей сегодня? – Он ходил по музеям целый день.

F. Imp. (c) Что твоя сестра будет делать в Москве? – Будет ходить по театрам.

A certain time during which the action is, was, or will be taking place is expressed by adverb or adverb phrases **of time** such as **вечером, два часа, всю субботу** (ex. b). Such combinations as **каждое воскресенье, в воскресенье** или **по воскресеньям** express both meanings—a certain time and frequency (ex. a). Frequency could also be expressed by the adverbs or adverb phrases **в выходные** или **по выходным** meaning **каждые выходные, иногда, редко**, etc. The situation shown in ex. c implies that a person will spend some time in Moscow going to theaters. Changing the dative to the accusative will put primary emphasis on the destination. E.g. **Она будет ходить в театры.**

Thus, we have seen that the verbs **идти – ходить** express certain meanings in particular extra-linguistic situations; with these verbs, adverbs or adverb phrases of time and frequency and spatial prepositions play a crucial role in the realization of meanings in discourse. Changes in language meanings can affect the sense of an utterance, as for example the use of the dative in the fifth semanteme of the verb **ходить**, or the use of the perfective aspect in the past tense of the verb **идти** in semanteme 1, which shifts the meaning to semanteme 2.

Notes:

The number of semantemes considered was limited by the time constraints of a conference paper. The order of presentation of the semantemes is associated with the order in which the author presents meanings of the verbs **идти – ходить** to college students.

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