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## THE CONCEPT OF PATIENCE IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD PICTURE

**Summary.** *The paper considers the definition and characteristics of concept within the main aspects of its study. The experience of working out the various approaches to the interpretation and formation of the concept is reflected. There are seven main aspects studying concepts: the logical-philosophical, philosophical, linguistic, linguacultural, cognitive, psycholinguistic and literary and culturological. In fact, the philosophical tradition still treats the concept as the reduced knowledge about the world. From the point of view of epistemology, concepts are qualified as complex mental formations, opinions expressed in words, knowledge, faith, reason. As a part of the reflective theory, concepts are qualified as the meanings that human beings use in the process of internalization of knowledge about the environment. In the linguistic literature, the concept is considered as a universal entity, which is formed in consciousness on the basis of direct sensual experience, direct operations of a person with objects. Representatives of the linguistic-cultural approach interpret a concept as multidimensional semantic formation, in which value, figurative and conceptual aspects are distinguished. Any concept is realized in language units. We've made the semantic-etymological analysis of the word patience and come to the conclusion that semantic structure of the concept PATIENCE in English consists of the different meanings, forming the conceptual layer of the investigated concept. The concept PATIENCE is widely represented in English linguistic culture and the following basic features of the concept PATIENCE, which form its core are: 1) expectations; 2) endurance; 3) obedience; 4) suffering; 5) self-control; 6) exposure; 7) indulgence; 8) perseverance.*

**Key words:** concept, patience, virtue, mentality.

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## КОНЦЕПТ ТЕРПІННЯ В АНГЛОМОВНІЙ КАРТИНІ СВІТУ

**Анотація.** У статті розглянуто визначення та характеристику концепту в рамках основних аспектів його дослідження. Вивчення концепту як когнітивної одиниці почалося давно і триває донині. Існує сім основних аспектів вивчення концепту: логіко-філософський, власне філософський, лінгвістичний, лінгвокультурологічний, когнітивний, психолінгвістичний та літературно-культурологічний. Філософська традиція трактує концепт як скорочене знання про світ. З погляду гносеології концепт кваліфікують як складні мисленнєві утворення, думки, виражені словами, знання, віра, розум. Як частина рефлексивної теорії концепти – це значення, які люди використовують у процесі інтерналізації знань про навколишнє середовище. У лінгвістичній літературі концепт розглядають як універсальну сутність, формовану у свідомості на основі безпосереднього чуттєвого досвіду, безпосередніх операцій людини з предметами. Представники лінгвокультурологічного підходу трактують концепт як багатомірне семантичне утворення, у якому виділяють ціннісний, образний і концептуальний аспекти. Основними ознаками концепту є передача і збереження знань, неізолюваність, цілісність, креативність, абстрактність, ментальність, емоційність та інші. Концепти вербалізуються окремими словами, ідіоматичними одиницями та реченнями, які проходять лексикалізацію та ідіоматизацію, і відтворюються в мовленні автоматично за наявності певних асоціацій у комунікативній ситуації. Провівши семантико-етимологічний аналіз слова *patience*, ми дійшли висновку, що семантична структура концепту *PATIENCE* в англійській мові складається з різних значень, які утворюють єдине ціле. Концепт *PATIENCE* широко представлений в англійській лінгвокультурі, а його основними, тобто ядерними, ознаками є: 1) очікування; 2) витривалість; 3) слухняність; 4) страждання; 5) самоконтроль; 6) експозиція; 7) поблажливість; 8) наполегливість.

**Ключові слова:** концепт, терпіння, чеснота, менталітет.

**Relevance of the topic.** Conceptual analysis is one of the modern comprehensive approaches in the study of social and humanities studies that enables the investigation of the concept in connection with its internal and extra-linguistic expressions. Concept is a unit of the concept sphere – an ordered set of mental units that includes all the mental characteristics of a phenomenon reflected in the linguistic consciousness.

**The objective of the article is to analyze** the definition and characteristics of concept within the main aspects of its study and make the semantic structure of the concept of patience in the English-speaking world picture.

**Analysis of recent research and publications.** There are seven main aspects studying concepts: the logical-philosophical, philosophical, linguistic, linguocultural, cognitive, psycholinguistic and literary and culturological.

A definition of the concept within the framework of the philosophical theory of cog-

nition and reflection of reality varies in the following range: from the broad (complex mental formations – thoughts, knowledge, faith, reason – comprehended on the basis of a broad ontological background of things that represent the surrounding world and personal experience of a human being) to somewhat narrowed (the meanings somebody operates in the process of reduction, or interiorization, knowledge of the surrounding world, stored in the form of quanta – such as life, death) (Krasnobaieva, 2006, p. 28). From the point of view of epistemology, concepts are qualified as complex mental formations, opinions expressed in words, knowledge, faith, reason, etc., and interpreted on the basis of a broad ontological background of things, of their own experience and of the authors' perceptual background.

As a part of the reflective theory, concepts are qualified as the meanings that human beings use in the process of internalization of knowledge about the environment, that is, within the framework of comprehension of all human activity, in

the form of some “quanta” of knowledge (Selivanova, 2008, p. 24).

At the present stage of linguistics, two main approaches to the interpretation of the term concept can be distinguished: 1) a concept as a general notion (traditional understanding); 2) a concept as a complex of culturally determined ideas about the subject (a new understanding of the term within the lingua-philosophical scientific paradigm) (Golubovska, 2004, p. 89).

In the linguistic literature, concept is considered as a universal entity, which is formed in consciousness on the basis of direct sensual experience, direct operations of a person with objects, as a logical category through which culture enters the mental world of a human being, as the main expressive unit of national mentality, as a concept of practical philosophy, as a multi-dimensional formation, as a mental unit of operational consciousness and a global mental unit, representing the object of real or ideal world and verbally stored in the memory of native speakers (Bondar, 2012, p. 85). Concept as an object of linguistic research has verbal expression, which includes etymology of words, synonyms, antonyms, typical syntactic positions, contexts for the use (semantic complexes), semantic fields, estimations, figurative associations, metaphor, phraseology and language patterns, as well as pemia, aphorism, subjective definitions.

Representatives of the linguistic-cultural approach interpret a concept as a certain link between man and culture; as multidimensional semantic formation, in which value, figurative and conceptual aspects are distinguished (Bondar, 2012, p. 85).

Concept as a basic unit of the world picture is of great importance both for the individual linguistic person and for the linguistic and cultural community, because it 1) is a verbalized minimal unit of human experience in its ideal expression with its own field structure; 2) is a basic unit of processing, storage and transference of knowledge; 3) has boundaries and specific functions; 4) is social, its associative field is determined by its pragmatics; 5) is the main link of culture (Zahnitko, 2010, p. 35-36).

No matter what unit a concept may be (cognitive or linguistic-cultural), its structure is complex, since the concept is constantly functioning, being actualized in its various

parts and aspects, comes into contact with other concepts.

**The outline of the main research material.** In this research, we are mainly interested in the concept PATIENCE within the main aspects of its study, in particular, philosophical, linguo-cultural and cognitive.

Having analyzed the English dictionaries (Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language, Longman Active Learning Dictionary, Collins English Dictionary, Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, Cambridge International Dictionary of English, Oxford English Dictionary etc.), we found out that semantic structure of the concept PATIENCE in English consists of the different meanings, forming the conceptual layer of the investigated concept.

As we see, patience – 1) the ability to continue to wait or doing something for a long time without becoming angry or anxious; 2) the ability to accept trouble and other people's annoying behavior without complaining or becoming angry; 3) the ability to wait, or continue doing something despite difficulties, or suffering without complaining or becoming annoyed; 4) the calm endurance of pain, trouble, inconvenience; 5) forbearance under provocation, esp. tolerance of the faults or limitations of other people.

Having analyzed the following vocabulary definitions we can distinguish such features: 1) expectation; 2) endurance; 3) obedience; 4) suffering; 5) self-control; 6) exposure; 7) leniency; 8) perseverance.

It should be noted that concept PATIENCE in English is polysemantic, which leads to the use of it in different expressions: *to try smb's patience, to exasperate smb. I have no patience with him; to lose patience; to show patience; to be patient, to have patience, to arm oneself with patience; to exasperate somebody; patience is wearing thin; patience gave a way, he lost his patience, I hadn't the patience, my patience gave out; patience of Job, angelic patience; patience on a monument.*

Having examined the synonymic rows of the concept PATIENCE and thematically related words, we distinguish the following characteristics: 1) great patience, 2) obedience, 3) expectation, 4) self-control, 5) religious virtue, 6) suffering, 7) endurance, 8) perseverance, 9) leniency.



While analyzing the linguistic material (verb conjugations), we conclude that the content component of the concept PATIENCE is represented as follows:

1) to consistently bear physical suffering without complaints: *to bear losses, to sustain losses, to suffer defeat, to suffer change, to bear hunger (cold), to endure cold (hunger), to suffer from want;*

2) to resist moral suffering: *to bear insolence, to bear insults, to bear the humiliation;*

3) to accept the presence of something, someone: *to bear one's cross, to bear wit, to suffer somebody in some manner, to bear coals, to stand one's chance, to submit to one's destiny, to put up with smb's temper, to put up with one another;*

4) to be lenient to someone, something: *bear and forbear;*

5) to wait for a long time without complaints: *there is no hurry, there is plenty of time;*

6) to suffer: *to put up with hardships, to be a martyr, to suffer hell;*

7) not to endure: *to stand no nonsense from one, I won't put up with, I can't put up with this noise any longer, no other man would put up with you for a mother-in law, I can't stand a good deal but I won't have insolence, I can't stand smb./ smth. for some time, I don't have to stand for his insolence, time is pressing, time is getting short, there is no time to be lost, the business is urgent/ pressing, the matter brooks no delay, the matter permits of delay, he is eager to go there, he is impatient to go there.*

Anglo-Saxons believe that patience is

1) wisdom: *But the only wisdom was patience;*  
 2) virtue: *Patience is a virtue darling, you'll soon go up;*  
 3) courage: *In the meantime it seems patience remains a virtue.*

We come across a new interpretation of patience in the consciousness of English people. They believe that patience is 1) a gift: *Those who feel that patience, trust and ability to put up with uncertainty are gifts rather than skills – and gifts which not all adults share;* 2) a need: *Patience, that was the need;* 3) an inspiration: *The patience, care and steady hand of Charles was an inspiration and all were impressed by his results;* 4) a wealth: *Her wealth was her patience;* 5) a passion of Christians: *Patience, which is born out of tolerance and mutual respect, while*

*still remaining firm in belief, is still the calling of the Christian.*

In the collective consciousness of the British, there is the thought that patience is needed: 1) to survive the difficult times: *Patience, mon vieux, she told herself, the lady had a hard time;* 2) to survive in the modern world: *The flow, the flow, the drifting balance of modern life requires a certain kind of patience;* 3) to build a business: *It takes a lot of patience to build a new technology business;* 4) to explain something: *“The chalets are kept for group bookings” Lucy explained with so much patience as she could muster;* 5) to solve the problem: *The problem can only be solved with patience;* 6) to create: *It takes time, patience and ingenuity to create effective miniature pictures from pressed flowers, making it a fascinating part of the craft for some people;* 7) to be good parents: *Stimulation from parents enhances the speed of learning, and great patience is required to perceive and decode the communicating done by babies and children, both verbally and non-verbally;* 8) to succeed: *Patience is a necessary asset for successful training. Successful sales to Japan requires patience and sensitivity to customs;* 9) to hunt: *A trap was made near the entrance, and after three months of patience, she was finally caught;* 10) to find a beloved woman: *Lucy said, “In that case all you need is patience, and one day the right woman will come to you from out of the blue”;* 11) to win the heart of a beloved woman: *A wealthy bullion dealer who was patiently courted by an out-of-work actress for five years ... was cleared yesterday of molesting her;* 12) to help the sick: *I would like a new member of staff to know they are there to help people who can not help themselves and they also have one hell of a lot of patience!;* 13) to work efficiently: *Mary was a stickler for accuracy, which is really needed in this job; you also need a lot of patience to tackle it effectively;* 14) to simplify the dispute: *A little courtesy, tolerance and patience will help to ease the strife, a spokesman said;* 15) to modernize: *Modernization at the local level was also a matter of patience;* 16) to make furniture: *“I have always been interested in woodwork but don't have the artistic skills or patience to make fine furniture,” he said;* 17) to change the world: *Five minutes of your time and patience could alter – oh, the universe – for me!;* 18) to teach: *Sid patiently tutored*

*me on stars and assured me that technically the climb was easy, so I would cope.*

Very often, with patience the British:

1) wait: *I'll wait with patience till another Day;*  
 2) listen: *Time was suspended and the police heard my life story at least twice with patience;*  
 3) agree: *There were signs of inequalities and economic problems that people had to accept with patience;*  
 4) receive: *"My lord, I thought, to give you what you wanted, and what you will never get by patience," he protested defensively, but with resentment thick in his voice;*  
 5) create: *With the patience and advice from my local vet we set up a recovery programme;*  
 6) learn: *These important studies, made at night with great patience;*  
 7) play: *She starts to realize that he is bound to win, he is playing her in with an eternity of patience, amused and confident;*  
 8) produce: *Although the drawing tools are limited to free-hand pixel editing, lines and fills, with patience you can produce any symbol that you require;*  
 9) answer: *So that when his mouth closed on hers she reacted passionately, and a great wave of love and affection for him, and for his patience, engulfed her, and carried her away;*  
 10) say: *Instead, she said quietly, and with more patience than she felt;*  
 11) reach the highest level: *Only with patience, persistence and a willingness to approach the highest levels.*

Patience as a vitally important virtue, nevertheless, receives high positive evaluation and acquires the corresponding value status in the collective consciousness of the English people. The allegations analyzed show that patience is: 1) exceptional: *Patience was essential;*  
 2) parental: *Mrs. Finni's parental patience finally snapped this summer;*  
 3) small: *She had a little patience but she tried;*  
 4) strong: *I'm sure, much rather have Patience Strong than Christopher Logue on his books;*  
 5) great: *Immense patience ... I mean, he said with exaggerated patience;*  
 6) superhuman: *He negotiated Chelmsford with impeccable traffic discipline and superhuman patience;*  
 7) unlimited: *Marie, their high-spirited young nanny, had endless patience with the timid child;*  
 8) ruthless: *But the history of his life so far shows (and he freely admits it) that the old John Barleycorn lies in wait for him with implacable patience;*  
 9) important: *Patience is important in our life;*  
 10) that gives life: *It is patience that has kept Lennie alive so long;*  
 11) eternal: *He*

*was shadowy and had no face, and his patience was forever;*  
 12) holy: *She was going to use the sainted patience, the one he found most difficult to handle;*  
 13) tired but good: *Come on, baby, says Sadat, managing to convey a weary but still kindly patience;*  
 14) reasonable: *If you contain yourself in reasonable patience, and permit me to do what I came here to do, we will all be better off.*

But whatever the patience is, it has its limits: *But he added that patience had limits and he could wait a few days or two weeks.* And worst of all, it can end: *We just ran out of patience with him;* become exhausted: *"You are a fool," Kirov spat, his patience suddenly exhausted;* or lost: *He finally lost both patience and nervous and became the fourth player in the match;* run out: *He was at the end of his patience when a message came from Merymose.* That's why we have to keep patience: *She could hardly keep her patience if the train was delayed and she arrived late.*

It is believed that the English do not have patience: *Unfortunately, as Rowell mentioned later, the Englishmen lacked a little in patience.* And therefore they call for patience: *More patience, less nerves.*

The British themselves ask for patience: *Give me patience, Give me a little more patience, because it is fast approaching to the end.* After all, they are convinced that the one who has patience has faith: *Faith wouldn't be, if there were no patience with it.*

The English people believe that patience should be sought after: *If you are not blessed with the patience of a particularly well-disposed saint, look elsewhere.* And if they have found it, they want it to last long: *Blanche wanted her patience to be long, but she shrugged stoically.* But being patient is not easy, and therefore one who has patience must receive a reward: *Every patience must be rewarded.*

People thank God for the patience: *Thanks for your patience. I am very grateful to the minister for his patience.* And therefore they are urged to obtain patience: *"You take patience, Delia, I beg you to take patience",* they wish patience: *"Have patience! Patience, patience, patience," exhorted Arafat this week.* Or they advise to learn patience: *"The old nanny thinks that it's good for her wives to learn patience in the depths of her heart".* Besides patience

is not for everyone, but only for the teacher: *I am deeply grateful to the Technique and to my teacher for the patience that he had*; judge: *On the Chancery side, the main qualifications are, I think, patience and thoroughness*; the gardener: *Optimism and patience are the basic requisites of the city gardener*; and those who suffers: *Our God, we commend to Your loving care all who suffers; grant them patience*.

To better comprehend the Anglo-Saxon's understanding of patience, we also have taken into account the use of the combinations of the word patience and other words. Such compounds can be synonymic and antonymic and better reveal the content of the concept "Patience".

Based on the material, patience is closely linked to 1) endurance, which is one of the components of patience; 2) perseverance and desire to achieve the goal; 3) tolerance; 4) care; 5) time; 6) accuracy; 7) understanding; 8) practice.

There are set expressions in English, such as *with time and patience, with practice and patience*, which are often used in the speech of the people and indicates the importance of patience in the lives of the English.

Impatience is negatively assessed and regarded as a vice: *My worst fault is patience* and a curse: *Patience is the curse of our day and age* in the consciousness of the English people. After all, because of impatience, accidents may happen: *Many accidents happen through impatience*; people lose control of themselves: *But Wapnick has become over-eager, and his impatience triggered the series of errors that led him downfall*.

Interesting is the fact that often patience is opposed to impatience. The words impatience, impatiently are popular in the speech of the English people. They impatiently 1) shrug: *George shrugged impatiently*; 2) ask: *"Well?" Asked Bragg impatiently*; 3) interrupt the conversation: *"Yes, yes," interrupted Pumfrey impatiently*; 4) observe: *Maggie muttered, looking around impatiently*; 5) wait: *Before the fire in the sitting room, she waited impatiently for Thomas and his approval*.

However, impatience can be considered as positive feature. It is desirable to have impatience

that signals about love: *I am looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday with the usual impatience but Friday may be more convenient*. Sometimes impatience shows a desire to work: *Aren't there times when a little purposeful impatience to do this work needs to be shown*.

Thus, the analysis of denotative lexemes objectively reveals their nature and assist distinguishing the main vectors of Anglo-Saxon's comprehension of the concept PATIENCE 1) persistently do something to achieve the goal, to succeed; 2) consistently without complaining bear physical suffering; 3) sustainably without complaining love and endure family life; 4) leniently treat someone, something; 5) control yourself; 6) look forward to the best; 7) teach and bring up children to be good parents; 8) create; 9) solve problems; 10) bear the presence of something, someone; 11) build a business; 12) change the world.

**Conclusions.** Having studied the linguistic material, we conclude that the concept PATIENCE is widely represented in English linguistic culture and we distinguish the following basic features of the concept PATIENCE, which form its core: 1) expectations; 2) endurance; 3) obedience; 4) suffering; 5) self-control; 6) exposure; 7) indulgence; 8) perseverance. And the core of this concept, as we see it on the basis of investigating dictionary entries comprising verbal lexemes of the word patience in lexicographic English sources, can be represented as follows: to endure physical suffering without complaints; to withstand moral suffering; to accept the presence of something, someone; to bear someone, something; to wait for a long time without complaining; to suffer; not to endure.

**The prospects for further research in this area.** The findings of this study will contribute to is comparative analysis of the concepts PATIENCE in the English-language picture of the world and Ukrainian-speaking picture of the world. Because such concepts belong to multi-dimensional mental units having wide representativeness in national language pictures of the world, reveal the originality of the national semi-otic space and make it possible to determine the peculiarities of ethnic worldview orientations and the originality of world perception.

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