

## SECONDARY NOMINATION: LINGUISTIC APPROACHES AND ANALYSIS

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### **Abstract.**

There are different approaches in linguistics to the understanding of secondary nomination. Some authors claim that secondary nomination is the act of naming the object, event or reality for the second time using a figurative nominative. Others support the idea that secondary nomination is the process when the existing lexical unit obtains a second meaning in a new context. The article discusses the typology of secondary nomination from various perspectives by supporting each approach with appropriate examples.

**Key words:** nomination, secondary nomination, lexical unit, propositive, discursive, context.

### **Аннотация**

*В лингвистике существуют разные подходы к пониманию вторичной номинации. Некоторые авторы утверждают, что вторичная номинация — это повторное наименование предмета, события или действительности с использованием образного номинатива. Другие поддерживают идею, что вторичная номинация — это процесс, когда существующая лексическая единица получает второе значение в новом контексте. В статье рассматривается типология вторичной номинации с различных точек зрения, подтверждая каждый подход соответствующими примерами.*

**Ключевые слова:** номинация, вторичная номинация, лексическая единица, пропозициональный, дискурсивный, контекст.

The problem of nomination has been one of the topics in the research center of encyclopedists, philosophers, and later, linguists, from the ancient stages of the development of science. The word nomination is a multi-meaning term that includes the branch of linguistics that studies the process of naming, the result of this process, that is, the word itself, the structure of naming actions, as well as the nominative function of the word. The aim of the following research is to study different approaches to the problem of nomination and diverse typology suggested by various linguists as well as discussing and explaining them through the analysis of examples.

In linguistics, many researchers distinguish primary and secondary nominations. The primary nomination is the act of naming characterized by a direct relationship that reflects the subject, elements of reality. The primary nominative means the primary meaning of the word, that is, the main meaning that directly names something, an action, a feature. The primary meaning of a word is the same in and out of context. For example, the primary meaning of the word *tree* is “a large plant with a trunk, branches and leaves”. This meaning is understood in the same way in and out of the context. In the sentence “*That big tree near our house provides shade*” the word is understood in its direct meaning. However, in another context the word may serve to mean “a branching diagram or structure that represents relationship, such as family tree”. In this example, “tree” is used metaphorically to represent the branching structure of family relationships, not a literal plant. This is also called a figurative meaning which is also understood as a secondary meaning. Such a meaning appears on the basis of the shape, color, similarity in the nature of the objects and association. The fact that a word is used figuratively to refer to another object or reality is called a secondary nomination. Secondary nomenclature refers to the way language users refer to objects by indirect or secondary terms rather than by using their primary or direct names.

V. N. Teliya defines secondary nomination as the use of nominative means in the language in a new naming function [4]. According to the definitions given in various sources, the secondary name can be understood in two different meanings: the first is the naming of a new meaning or reality with units that exist in the language, and the second is to give a new - figurative name for

an object that already has a name. Such two different concepts can be explained by the fact that the nominal typology is presented differently by various linguists. According to the classification given by V. G. Gak, nomination can be primary and secondary [2]. While he defines the term “secondary nomination” as the situation where the form existing in language is used to name another object, he interprets the fact that the previously named object is called by a different name for the second time as an indirect nomination. The definition given by Ye.S.Kubryakova, V.N.Telia, A.A.Ufimtseva is also close in content to the explanation presented by Gak, but they support the idea that the secondary nomination is divided into “autonomous secondary nomination” and “non-autonomous conditional nomination”. A.F. Zhuravlyov interprets the primary nomination as “the event of naming an object that does not have its own linguistic sign and is waiting for it”, and the secondary nomination as “the event of calling a previously named object with a new name” [6]. According to M.E. Ruth, understanding the term nomination in this sense leads to viewing it as a phenomenon of word formation, but the scope of application of such a typological distinction is limited [5]. Based on this explanation, the secondary noun appears only in the following cases: a) it is derived from the primary noun and usually abbreviated or shortened (for example, *influenza* – *flu* or in English, *Союз Советских Социалистических Республик* – *Советский Союз* in Russian); b) has a clear evaluative or expressive character (for example, occasional nominations, that is, the names that appear on a special occasion: telephone - photomobile, internetol); c) appears on purpose to be used in place of the primary name (in the case of renaming, or replacing language taboos).

Different linguists approach the problem of secondary nomination from different points of view and analyze it based on different linguistic theories. American linguist Charles J. Fillmore describes the secondary nomination within his theory of “Frame semantics”[1]. He argues that secondary nomination involves the use of terms appropriate to a conceptual framework, where the semantic framework itself provides a contextual understanding of the referent. Fillmore's theory suggests that understanding the meaning of words involves understanding broader conceptual frameworks. When studying secondary terms, this approach looks at how well the secondary terms fit into these frames.

Another approach to the question of secondary nomination is based on the theory of referentiality. Although it is not possible to single out any one scholar who advanced this theory based on the ideas of several philosophers and linguists, several influential linguists such as Saul Kripke, David Kaplan, and John Searle have contributed significantly to the development of this theory and its application to secondary nominalization issues. In the context of secondary nominalization, this theory examines how secondary references are established through mechanisms such as deixis (contextual references), anaphora (reference to what has already been mentioned), and other linguistic devices.

The cognitive approach to secondary nomination studies how language reflects and is shaped by cognitive processes in the brain. According to this approach, secondary nominations appear through mental images and conceptual structures. Second-order nominations can be influenced by conceptual metaphors, where human experience in one domain helps to understand the nomination in terms of another domain. For example, the expression “captain of a ship” may be a secondary name for “captain”, but it is understood through a conceptual metaphor involving leadership and control. Similarly, pragmatics deals with how context affects meaning and the object being referred to. This approach is important in understanding secondary referents because it examines how listeners and speakers use context to understand secondary referents.

The functional approach to the problem of nomination involves the study of how language performs various functions in communication. Secondary nominals are analyzed in terms of how they contribute to the functional goals of speech, such as clarity, emphasis, or politeness. In the functional approach, secondary nomination is understood through the adaptation of terms to contextual needs. This means that different descriptions or terms can be used to refer to the same person, depending on the communicative context and the roles the terms play in the discourse process. For example, a person can be called "general director" by his job title in one context, and

"Murod" by his name in another, depending on the selection of the appropriate aspect of the interview process.

Language users purposefully replace familiar language units and forms to avoid "over-repetition" of them or language redundancy and this replacement results in secondary nomination. The act of specifying other functions of the nomination by expanding the semantic scope of the existing name is considered a secondary nomination. As described in the theory of nomination, the mechanism of secondary naming is based on stylistic phenomena such as metaphor, metonymy, euphemism, hyperbole, taboo. Usually, the nature of this phenomenon is explained by the "semantic obsolescence" of certain lexical units. In addition, the secondary nomination is also considered a product of human imagination and is related to the characteristic, associative nature of human thinking, and its creativity. Secondary nomination is expressed using various language tools, and according to these tools, researchers distinguish between lexical, propositional and discursive types of secondary nomination [4].

Lexical secondary nomination is expressed by means of words and phrases, and in which a word or phrase acquires a new, usually expanded, meaning and is used in that second meaning, representing the phenomenon of secondary nomination. For example, if the primary meaning of the word "head" is "the part of a body", its secondary meaning is "head of the structure, leader" and it is reflected in such combinations as "the head of our team", "the head of the department". Examples of lexical secondary nominations are metaphors, metaphorical epithets, metonymies, synecdoche, antonyms, phraseological units. The formation of such units always occurs as a result of semantic rethinking based on the associative nature of human thinking.

Propositive secondary nomination is a whole sentence or a certain part of it serves to name one object, situation, reality. Such a name reflects a situation, event or situation by combining several elements into one statement. Propositive nominations are often found in folklore, literature, advertising, as well as colloquial speech. Their distinctive features are its representation of a micro situation, unity, and performance of a nominative function. In the propositional nomination, a micro-situation containing various elements, such as an object, a subject, an action, serves as a nominative. Although such a nominative unit consists of several words or even a whole sentence, it is perceived as a one and, despite its complexity, functions as a name denoting an event, state or object. For example, the micro situation can be understood from the sentence "I will show you". In it, elements such as state (state of anger and revenge), object and subject are united. An entire sentence serves to name a single "danger" or "warning" condition. The Russian phrase "*С глаз долой – из сердца вон*" means "out of sight as well as out of memory", and the whole phrase is a propositional name for a single "state of loss of interest". A propositional noun originates from a sentence, phrase or sentence that describes a certain micro-situation, combines several elements into one statement, and over time, this phrase stabilizes and begins to function as a nominative denoting a certain event or situation. It follows that the propositional nominative, which allows a concise and expressive description of complex situations and events, is one of the important ways of forming nominative units in the language.

Discursive secondary nomination is the process of naming or creating new concepts, events or objects, carried out within the framework of a text or speech (discourse). Unlike short phrases or individual words, a discursive name requires a detailed context and is based on the whole content of the text, including logical connections, argumentation, and pragmatic aspects. Contextuality is considered to be the main feature of the discursive denomination, and the denomination appears within a certain text or discourse. Several sentences, and even a whole text, are needed to explain and reveal the meaning of the secondary name that appeared in the process of such a nomination. The purpose of the discursive nomination is inextricably linked with the purpose of the text, and it can be used for purposes such as discussion, explanation, and creation of a new concept. The difference between secondary nomination and other types is that discursive nomination is temporary in nature. It is used once in a speech or within a certain text and does not become a stable combination. Discursive nomination is found in scientific texts, political discourse, works of art, and journalistic texts or speech. Commenting on the new name introduced

by the author in the text itself is one of the main features of discursive nomination. For example, in the scientific context, a discursive nomination can be observed in the following form: "In this research, under the term *cognitive resonance*, we understand the characteristic of the concept to form associative connections based on previously acquired knowledge in the human mind." In the given example, the discursive nomination is "cognitive resonance". The scientific explanation of this combination may actually be different, but in this article the author used it to name a certain feature of the concept. Since it does not carry similar meaning in another context, such a nomination is considered discursive. It can be used one or more times only in this scientific environment. In the political context, we can see the discursive nomination analysis in the following example: "In the end, *the American dream* is not a sprint, or even a marathon, but a relay. Our families don't always cross the finish line in the span of one generation. But each generation passes on to the next the fruits of their labor" (Julian Castro, U.S. Secretary of Housing & Urban Development)[7]. In this quote from the speech of a US politician, the author uses the phrase "the American dream" in a metaphorical way to name a kind of family relay process. The fact that the phrase "American dream" is a discursive noun can be explained by the fact that it was used in this sense by Julian Castro, and many other politicians and artists used it in different meanings. In the following quotes: "To me, the American Dream is being able to follow your own personal calling. To be able to do what you want to do is incredible freedom." (Maya Lin, architect) , "For many, the American dream has become a nightmare" (Bernie Sanders, U.S. Senator). The combination "the American dream" was used to name objects such as "freedom or being able to do whatever you want", "nightmare". It can be understood that it is used in such a context only based on the discourse in which the nomination is used. Examples of discursive nomination can also be found in works of art. In a novel, the author can use a whole description or a series of actions to create a new symbolic image. For example, in the novel "1984" by George Orwell, *Big Brother* is a symbol of the totalitarian state, and its content is revealed through the text of the work. But it is difficult to understand the meaning of this phrase without knowing the context of the entire novel.

To sum up, different linguists introduced various typology of nomination. In some researches, nomination is divided into natural and artificial, in others, it is classified as direct and indirect. The most common classification is that nomination can be primary and secondary. Secondary nomination is studied from different perspectives by a number of linguists. On the one hand, secondary nomination is the process of naming already named objects by figurative names including phraseological units, metaphorical and metonymical devices in order to provide additional expressive meaning to the object. On the other hand, it is the act of extending the semantic circle of the nominative unit by using it in different meaning both in the context and out of it. In addition, the problem of secondary nomination is studied from the point of several approaches such as structural, functional, onomasiological and cognitive. Onomasiological approach is the most common in linguistics in terms of defining and analyzing the notions related to the problem of nomination. Lexical, propositive and discursive types of secondary nomination were identified throughout the research and discussed by analyzing the examples for each type. In general, secondary nomination reflects the cultural values of the nation. Understanding secondary nomination involves cognitive process in human mind which means the activation of background knowledge and linguocultural literacy. Thus, the semantic awareness of nominative units in their secondary use enable effective language learning, appropriate semantic interpretation and cross-cultural communication based on mutual understanding.

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