

LINGUISTICS

E.A. Volkova

(Southern federal university. Rostov-on-Don, Russia)

Semantic changes in the English language

The article is devoted to the semantic changes in the English language. It brings forth the problem of the word meaning definition. The article reveals the structure of the lexical meaning, changes of its denotative and connotative components. It explores the essence of semantic changes such as transformations of meaning, presents the most prevalent types of semantic changes in the English language and clarifies their causes. The theoretical research is based on the practical material.

Key words: semantic changes, specialization, degradation, amelioration, metaphor, metonymy.

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