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LINGUISTIC FEATURES, SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION AND STANDARDIZATION OF COMPLEX COORDINATION SPORTS TERMINOLOGY (ON THE EXAMPLE OF ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS)

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Abstract. This article examines the formation sources, semantic groups, borrowing mechanisms, and standardization issues of terminology in complex coordination sports, specifically focusing on artistic gymnastics. Within international sports communication and rule updates by the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG), specialized terms governing spatial trajectories, rotational axes, apparatus, and code-of-points evaluation require systematic linguistic analysis.

Keywords: complex coordination sports, artistic gymnastics, sports terminology, semantic classification, loanwords, code of points, standardization.

Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются источники формирования, семантические группы, механизмы заимствования и вопросы стандартизации терминологии сложнокоординационных видов спорта на примере спортивной гимнастики. В условиях глобализации спортивной коммуникации и регулярного обновления правил Международной федерации гимнастики (FIG) термины, обозначающие пространственные траектории, оси вращения, снаряды и критерии судейской оценки, требуют системного лингвистического анализа.

Ключевые слова: сложнокоординационные виды спорта, спортивная гимнастика, спортивная терминология, семантическая классификация, заимствования, правила соревнований, стандартизация.

Annotatsiya. Maqolada murakkab koordinatsion sport turlari — xususan, sport gimnastikasi terminologiyasining shakllanish manbalari, semantik guruhlari, o‘zlashish mexanizmlari va me’yorlashtirish masalalari tadqiq etilgan. Xalqaro sport kommunikatsiyasi hamda Xalqaro gimnastika federatsiyasi (FIG) qoidalarining muntazam yangilanishi sharoitida fazoviy trayektoriyalar, aylanish o‘qlari, snaryadlar va baholash mezonlarini ifodalovchi atamalar tizimli lingvistik tahlilga tortiladi. FIG texnik reglamentlari, uslubiy qo‘llanmalar va sport nutqidan ajratib olingan 100 ta terminologik birlik asosida sport gimnastikasi leksikasi to‘rtta semantik maydonga tasniflangan, morfologik modellari va o‘zlashmalarning moslashuvi ko‘rib chiqilgan hamda terminologiyani unifikatsiya qilish bo‘yicha amaliy tavsiyalar ilgari surilgan.

Kalit so‘zlar: murakkab koordinatsion sport turlari, sport gimnastikasi, sport terminologiyasi, semantik tasnif, o‘zlashma terminlar, baholash kodeksi, me’yorlashtirish.

Introduction. Complex coordination sports — including artistic gymnastics, rhythmic gymnastics, acrobatics, diving, and trampoline gymnastics — occupy a distinct place in modern physical culture and high-performance sport. Unlike endurance or pure strength disciplines, complex coordination events demand extraordinary spatial orientation, multi-axial rotation control, balance precision, and strict aesthetic and technical evaluation [1: 24; 5: 112]. Among these disciplines, artistic gymnastics stands out for its historical depth, diverse apparatus system, and highly codified biomechanical vocabulary.

International sports communication is inherently dynamic. Periodic revisions of the Code of Points issued by the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) introduce new difficulty elements, revised execution deductions, and updated terminology in official English and French documentation [6: 8; 7: 15]. At the same time, national coaching systems, university curricula, sports media, and international translators rely on consistent terminology to convey exact technical meaning without ambiguity [2: 165; 4: 88].

Literature Review. Foundational theories of terminology emphasize that a term functions as a specialized lexical unit tied to a defined conceptual system, striving for precision, systemacity, and stylistic neutrality [2: 171; 3: 42]. Scholars such as D.S. Lotte and V.P. Danilenko highlighted that regulating specialized vocabularies requires minimizing synonymy and homonymy within a given domain while accounting for word-formation patterns and conceptual relationships [3: 42; 4: 88].

Within Uzbek and Turkic terminology studies, researchers have examined how international borrowings interact with internal word-formation resources and how specialized dictionaries should standardize terms without distorting conceptual clarity [8: 112; 9: 59]. In sports linguistics specifically, researchers have noted the tension between informal coaching/athlete jargon used on the training floor and standardized, unambiguous terminology required in official regulations, judging protocols, and academic textbooks [1: 105].

Research Methodology. The empirical corpus of this study comprises 100 terminological units collected via continuous sampling from official FIG technical regulations and Code of Points documentation [6: 19; 7: 27], university gymnastics textbooks, and sports commentary/translation materials in Uzbek, Russian, and English.

Four complementary analytical methods were applied: (1) structural-semantic analysis to classify terms by morphological structure (simple, compound, and multi-word terminological phrases) and thematic domain; (2) etymological and comparative analysis to trace source languages (English, French, German, and internal/calqued forms) and adaptation patterns; (3) quantitative distribution analysis to calculate proportions across structural and semantic categories; and (4) functional-contextual analysis to contrast official regulatory usage with colloquial training speech.

Results and Analysis. Semantic Classification of Artistic Gymnastics Terminology.
Analysis of the 100 selected terms reveals four primary semantic domains reflecting the operational structure of artistic gymnastics:

1) Movement and element terms (38%): terms denoting spatial rotations, somersaults, twists, support phases, and combinations, such as salto, somersault, twist, layout, tuck, pike, kip, and giant swing [6: 44; 7: 51].

2) Apparatus and equipment terms (24%): terms designating men's and women's apparatus and training aids, including floor exercise, pommel horse, still rings, vault, parallel bars, horizontal bar, uneven bars, and balance beam [6: 12; 7: 19].

3) Judging, scoring, and regulation terms (21%): terms related to difficulty value, execution deductions, neutral deductions, fall penalties, and final score calculation [6: 31; 7: 38].

4) Body posture and spatial orientation terms (17%): terms specifying body alignment, joint angles, and directional planes, such as tucked position, piked position, stretched position, handstand, vertical axis, and longitudinal axis [1: 118; 7: 63].

As shown in Table 1, borrowing occurs both directly from international sports vocabulary and indirectly via intermediary languages in regional coaching traditions [3: 54; 8: 145]. Furthermore, many elements carry eponyms honoring gymnasts who first performed or codified a

skill, creating cross-linguistic consistency in proper-name-based skill labels alongside descriptive technical equivalents.

Discussion. Three practical challenges emerge from the analysis of artistic gymnastics terminology in multilingual sports settings:

First, terminological doublets can create ambiguity in official judging and academic instruction. When a single concept is simultaneously referred to by an adapted borrowing and a descriptive translation (for instance, apparatus or scoring terms), textbooks, syllabi, and competition translations should designate a primary standardized term while noting synonyms transparently [3: 54; 9: 114].

Second, informal gymnasium jargon differs from formal technical language. Coaches and gymnasts frequently use clipped or expressive expressions during training to save time, whereas official rulebooks, scientific articles, and examination materials require precise, grammatically complete designations aligned with federation standards [1: 109].

Third, rapid updates in FIG rules demand coordinated terminology management. Collaborative glossaries developed jointly by linguists, gymnastics coaches, technical judges, and sports translators can keep educational materials and competition translations synchronized with international standards [6: 8; 8: 192].

Conclusion. Artistic gymnastics terminology represents a structured yet continuously evolving component of complex coordination sports lexis. Categorizing its terms across movement, apparatus, judging, and body-alignment domains clarifies how international regulations shape specialized language. Standardizing key terms, distinguishing formal regulatory language from informal training speech, and compiling bilingual or trilingual reference glossaries will strengthen sports pedagogy, translation accuracy, and scholarly communication in complex coordination disciplines.

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