Anglo-Saxon concept "wood" as an element of national mentality

© V.I. Bykanova

Peter the Great Saint-Petersburg Polytechnic University, 195251, Russia

The research is done within the framework of cognitive linguistics and is aimed at the reconstruction of national mentality. We offer to use place-names for cognitive studies, thus broadening their scope. Hence, we emphasize the importance of recreating Anglo-Saxon concept "wood". For reconstructing the concept we employed an original method, based on the system of substantial, anthropological, economic, protective, locative, orientation, affective and habitation descriptors. This approach permits to focus on the specific ethnic characteristics of Anglo-Saxon concept "wood/forest". We conclude that this element plays an important part in the ethnic mentality.

Keywords: descriptor, cognitive linguistics, concept, ethnic mentality, place-name studies, ethnicity.

REFERENCES

- [1] Superanskaya A.V. *Chto takoye toponimika*? [What is toponymy?]. Moscow, Nauka Publ., 1984, 182 p.
- [2] Karaulov Yu.N. Russkiy yazyk i yazykovaya lichnost [The Russian language and linguistics personality]. Moscow, LKI Publ., 2007, 264 p.
- [3] Murzayev E.M. *Toponimika i geografiya* [Toponymy and geography]. Moscow, Nauka Publ., 1995, 304 p.
- [4] Tsivyan T.V. *Model mira i ee lingvisticheskie osnovy* [Model of the world and its linguistic basis]. Moscow, KomKniga Publ., 2006, 280 p.
- [5] Mills A.D. *A Dictionary of British Place-Names*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2003, 533 p.

Bykanova V.I. (b. 1962), Cand. Sci. (Philology), the Head of the Department "English for Physics and Mathematics", Peter the Great Saint-Petersburg Polytechnic University. Honorary Worker of Higher Professional Education of the Russian Federation. Research interests include cognitive linguistics. e-mail: valvox@yandex.ru