Acquisition of Semantic Fields for Learning the Cultural Environment: Based on Novels by J. Grisham

Thesis statement: By acquiring the knowledge of certain semantic fields it is possible to learn the cultural environment.

A description of the topic: The knowledge of cultural environment could be acquired in many different ways. One of the easiest and most pleasant is by reading thrilling novels portraying the real life situations and descriptions as done by John Grisham, one of the well-known American writers who depicted American life style and relationships in American society with true to life punctuality. John Grisham was chosen by the author because in his novels he has described the American life style in very common and comprehensive way, at the same time using rich language material for depicting peculiar culture phenomena.

Approach: The author of the given paper has analysed several works by John Grisham proving that his novels and stories describe the American cultural environment. Special interest is paid to different semantic fields which help John Grisham to create the full vision of American cultural environment. For that purpose the author defines the cultural environment itself and also attempts to classify the criteria for analysis of cultural environment. Further on in the study the author discusses the semantic fields that exist in the analysed literary works by J. Grisham.

Conclusions: As concluded by the author of the given paper, people can learn about other cultures and their cultural environment by reading literature and understanding the semantic fields that are created within these works of literature. The author points out that there may be a problem with translated versions of the novels and stories, because the translations are not always excellent and in many cases do not provide adequacy of translated semantic phenomena to the original meaning of it. This aspect is forecasted for further studies in contrastive linguistics.

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