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### LACUNAE IN TERMS OF SCHOLARS: THE BRIEF OVERVIEW

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*The article opens a brief overview on lacunology as a newborn science, which is adherent to sociolinguistics, nonverbal semiotics and applied linguistics (the object of investigation). The research of lacunology considers the empty places of zero verbalization. The investigation is being conducted in the lingo-cognitive approach in terms of language (i), speech (ii), and speech behavior (iii). The paper is aimed at materializing idea of scientific picture of lacunology and its tomorrow's vistas. The philosophic triad (to be or not to be, to cognize or not, status of people in cognition) is being solved here positively. There exist white gaps (lacunae) in the world pictures, which with times are cognized and verbalized. Relevant methods are involved. Priority is given to etymological, conceptual, componential, and translation analyses. The choice of methods is determined by the nature of empiric facts and aims to investigate them. The basic metasigns in the lacunicon vicinity make an urgent and actual problem for further investigation.*

**Key words:** lacunology, lacunicon, language/speech cognition lacunae, scholars overviews.

Lacunae formation is caused by language deviation, shifts, asymmetric exposure [1, p. 128]. The words *formation* and *shifts* are described by modern linguistics at high theoretical level, while lacunicon has not been considered yet. The purpose of the paper is to make a brief survey of some scientific worldviews on lacunae. The subject matter of the article has been acknowledged in theoretical studies. The relevant category is becoming topical in modern linguistics.

Lacunology as a young science emerged in the international dimension due to the fruitful work and scientific heritage of the Franco-Canadian scientists *Jean-Paul Vinay*, *Jean Darbelnet*, who made a record to elimination and decoding in terms of translation [9, p. 86]. *Gulchera Bykova*, *Vladimir Gak*, *Irene Markovina*, *Alexander Sorokin* and *Iosif Sternin* focused their attention on the problem of lacunarity, definitions and taxonomy [3 - 7]. The Ukrainian linguists *Michael Kochergan* [8] and *Marina Delyusto* [6] investigated also the matter of lacunae.

The term *lacunology* came from the ancient Greek, the Spartan *Laconia* (Gr. Λακωνία), known as *Lacedaemonia*. The word *laconic* derived from the name of the region in which the Spartans were reputed to speak in a concise way [17, p. 644]. The metasign *lacuna* operates in terminology, humanities, music, law, and psychology [1, p. 284]. A new science lacunology is greatly indebted to the linguistic terms. Lacunae as *empty cells* in the language and culture operate on inter-, intra-, contrastive, implicit, culturological and paradigmatic vectors [8, p. 29–30].

The asymmetry of *lacunae* formations in speech (the process of lacunization) can be explained by variability of language system. The benefit of language parsimony lies in economy of the linguistic characters, polysemy, lack of taboo, cultural discrepancy, social differences and various perceptions [11, p. 4].

*Lacunicon* of the naive worldview yields to the scientific terminology. *Lacuna* in the naive picture of the world has realizes semes: рус. “дыра”/ англ. “small pitt”, рус. “углубение” / англ. “small opening”, рус. “пустое место”/ англ. “small blank space”.

The scientific endozone: рус. “отсутствие”/ англ. “lack”, рус. “депрессия”/ англ. “depression”, рус. “лакунарность”/ англ. “lacunarity”.

The phenomena of lacunization and delacunization are considered as linguistic universals viewed in the cases of development and decline of the linguistic forms. The term *lacunization* means “zero verbalization”. The process of finding the proper word or equivalent is called *delacunization* [10, p. 165] or *elimination of gaps*, or lacunar elements [9, p. 4]. The phenomenon *lacunarity* is considered multifaceted (*lacunae of the language* and *lacunae in the speech continuum*). *Lacunae/gaps* refer to the verbal and non-verbal communications, unequally represented in the theory. The problems of fixing and explication of inconsistencies (e.g. *vague cultural linguistic or elements*) remain theoretically loaded home and abroad. The status of the cultural and interlinguistic lacunae/gaps is currently a central and challenging matter. There appear metaphorical gaps in various languages, mismatches of the text frame and slot-and-filler model, quantitative and qualitative inequalities and other challenges. The pragmatic vector of the lacunology correlates with the problems of incongruent images of the world, of the sociotypical behaviour, of cross-cultural and cross-language activities [14, p. 88].

Terminology is being expanded in its volume, cf.: a *reduced form*, *altered/transformed meaning*, *changed/modified meaning*, *faulty interpretation*, *incorrect interpretation*, *wrong interpretation/misinterpretation*, *erroneous interpretation*, *nonproductive substitution*, *discrepancy/variance/mismatch of the multilingual products-correlates*.

The effects of “delacunization” (establishing clarity) are termed as: *expanded comment*, *translation commentary*, *citation in the original language for the untranslatable elements*, *text callout*, *footnote*, *intertextual reference*.

There appear some relevant dichotomies: lacunarity :: language, lacunarity :: speech, lacunarity :: lexicography, lacunarity :: speech genres, lacunarity :: thinking, lacunarity :: culture, lacunarity :: gender, lacunarity :: graphics, etc. There are some non-fixed terms: *wasted units*, *empty cells*, *ethos*, *situational lacunae*, *latent structure*, *the category of absence*, *default verbalization*, *lexicographical gap*, *interlacunarity*, *intralacunarity*, *register of lacunology*, *typology of interlinguistic lacunae/gaps*, *contamination of lacunae/gaps* [14, p. 85–86].

Translation strategies and tactics are identified in Anthony Pym’s works, cf.: *transpositions*, *substitutions* or *modulations* [15, p. 34]. Some specifics are treated as untranslated, italics, lost in translation. Scientists let linguistic and mental concepts go from generation to generation. Some constituents are functioning as zero equivalents at that. Researchers frequent here the terms *empty*, *blank missing*, *zero* etc.

The term *lacunology* consists of two morphemes, the first one has a stable etymon submitted authentic LIST OF REFERENCES. Etymon “lacuna” is of Greek origin  $\lambda\alpha\kappa$  (< $\lambda\alpha\kappa\omega\mu\alpha$ ), but alongside the *lac*-etymon is being faced in Latin formant (<*lacūna*) [17, p. 644]. Lacunar elements can be presented in derivative words made by composition or conversion.

According to Iosif Sternin, non-equivalent words present vivid manifestation of national specifics in both culture and language [13]. Anthony Pym has much to do with modern linguistics, translation and lacunology. In his publications (Translation and Text Transfer (1992), Epistemological Problems in Translation and its Teaching (1993), *Pour une éthique du traducteur* (1997) Method in Translation History (1998), Negotiating the Frontier (2000) and The Moving Text: Localization, Translation, and Distribution – forthcoming) the researcher stressed upon the valour of the investigated categories. Anthony Pym emphasized the ideas of recognizing and conveying dark places of uncertainty [15, p. 36–37]. Thus, many social, linguistic and cultural phenomena differ in scholars’ worldviews. Quite optimistic are translators about doing away with lacuna. They claim that everything can be rendered. Equivalents are to be sought. Otherwise, by Anthony Pym there come into terminology *resist translation*, *good markers of the substantiality* and *limits of a culture* [15, p. 27]. Among linguists to deal with translation difficulties was Jean Darbelnet (1904–1990). He was born in Paris, studied at the Sorbonne, worked as a reader at the universities

of Wales, Edinburgh and Manchester. In 1938-39 he taught French at Harvard before moving to Canada in 1940, where he taught at McGill University until 1946, setting up a three-year programme of night classes in translation. Later he taught at Bowdoin College and Laval University. Scholar Jean-Paul Vinay (1910-1999) was born in Paris and studied English at the Sorbonne. He obtained an MA in Phonetics and Philology at the University of London in 1937; served with the French army in 1939-40 as a liaison officer with the British Expeditionary Forces. In 1946 J.-P. Vinay moved to Canada, where he read lectures at the University of Montréal as a Professor and head of the department of Linguistics and Translation. Meanwhile he directed publication of the bilingual Canadian Dictionary in 1962 and delivered a television *course Speaking French*. In 1967 he moved to the University of Victoria in British Columbia. The *Stylistique comparée du français et de l'anglais* of 1958 is a landmark work, a great contribution to comparative linguistics. Moreover, it influences the East European lacunology. The work gave rise to a taxonomic textological [2, p. 169]. Gulchera Bykova a famous ostensible scientist published works on lacunology: "The intralingual lacunarity in the system of the Russian Language" (1998), "The phenomenology of the lexical lacunarity" (2002), "The lacunarity as lexical category of systemology" (2005). Under the scientific guidance of prof. Zinaida Popova (Voronezh School of the Theoretical Linguistics) Gulchera Bykova researched problems of gap concepts, among them – *intralingual lacunarity, white spots of semantic fields, cognition and culture lacunae* [3; 2, p. 170]. Vladimir Gak considered *lacunae/gaps* as 'missing elements in the lexical system of the language, as words lacking in the contrasting languages [4, p. 261]. The scientist claimed that gaps have different verbalization in languages. Vladimir Zhelvis admitted that '*lacuna/gap*' phenomena may be represented by *isolation*' or no fixed equivalency [7, p. 136]. *Gaps/lacunae* are implied inconsistencies in contrasted languages [7, p. 194]. Iosif Sternin focused upon the mirror effect of culturemes [2, p. 169].

The term '*lacuna/gap*' refers to the sphere with zero verbalization as the process of deletion or modification. The category of "*lacunarity*" nowadays has its own paradigm of terms to be further developed in the scientific worldview. Lexicographers are on the alert here. We are not to "put a seal of approval yet. But it is high time to acknowledge the existing cluster of basic terms [1, p. 282].

Lacunae can be eliminated by omission or shift. The omission works in the terms *deletion of lacuna, zero of translation and italics*. The vague element may be rendered by shifts, transposition, substitution or modulation. These principles were actually with the 'Canadian School of translation' [2, p. 172].

The term "*lacunicon*" was suggested by Yuriy Sorokin. Later the term *lacunicon* came to mean "*a mechanism that controls the filtering of all incoming information*" [5, p. 33]. *Lacunicon* as a terminologic registry includes semes "lacunarity", "absence", "reduction", "compression", "truncation", "elision", "implicity", "voids of communication", "speech emptiness", "pauses", "silent effect", and cognition lacunae. The linguistic lacunicon consists of grammatical, lexical, phonetic, and syntactic sectors.

Lacunar phenomena work wonders in linguistics. Words come and go. They keep memory of bygone days fresh, provided semantized ideas are prolific, informative, and valorous. Language units are good at communication and investigation. We do not make language, we expand, co-build it. Newly born notions are verbalized, linguistically marked. Undiscovered notions await their exteriorization. Thus, mental and linguistic process go together, but apart. As a team, they stimulate both lacunalization and delacunalization. Lacunarity proves non-stop vivacity, the integrity of concepts and categories.

The modern linguistics, translation studies and nonverbal semiotics gave birth to a new science which is becoming vital today. The lacunae/gaps are associated with the problem of translation difficulties attributed to the lack of room in the target/original languages.

The register of the linguistic terms of the lacunicon consists of units within the paradigmatic cluster: *zero morpheme, anacoluthon, the lexical-stylistic anacoluthon,*

*phonetic reduction, abbreviation, contamination, interlingual lacunas/gap, intralingual lacuna/gap, ellipses, reduced forms of words, apocopation (shortening), contraction, lexical lacuna/gap, grammatical lacuna/gap, phonetic lacuna/gap, elision, consonant reduction, devocalization, devoicing, zero syntax.*

In the syntactic cluster of the register work linguistic terms: *compression, summarization, rhetorical question, interrogation.* There function some cultural-oriented terms: *ethos, ethnonyms, nationally biased lexicon, xenonyms.* The cognitive terms are adherent to the cluster of the linguistic lacunicon: *knowledge lacuna/gap, cognitive lacuna/gap, semantic lacuna/gap, narrowing, generalization, syncretism.*

The lacunization and delacunization are new terms in the lacunicon register. Lacunology is a new linguistic discipline with its own fixed and non-fixed notions. Terminology of lacunicon is in the state of on-going true-up renewal. The dynamic development at that is being comprehended and categorized – completely or partially (confer: deletion, modulation, and description). Lacunae bring eternal hardships and oddities. Nowadays, the emergence of a new science – lacunology – is being objectivized by scholar's theories home and abroad. The young science has given a good start and tomorrow is with it.

#### ЛАКУНИ В РОЗУМІННІ ВЧЕНИХ: КОРОТКИЙ ОГЛЯД

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*Стаття розкриває сучасний погляд вчених на лакунологію, яка адгерентно охоплює сфери соціолінгвістики, невербальної семіотики та прикладної лінгвістики. Дослідження лакунологів стосується категорії порожніх місць у мові, мовленні та способах їх делакунізації. "Порожня категорія" досліджувалася канадськими науковцями Жаном-Полем Віне (1910-1999) і Жаном Дарбельне (1904-1990) та східноєвропейськими когнітологами Ю. Сорокіним (1936-2009) і Г. Биковою. У сучасній лакунології виокремлюються декілька напрямків дослідження: лакуни мови (I), лакуни мовлення (II), лакуни пізнання (III).*

**Ключові слова:** лакунологія, лакунікон, студії вчених, лакуни мови, лакуни мовлення, лакуни пізнання.

#### ЛАКУНЫ В ПОНИМАНИИ УЧЁНЫХ: КРАТКИЙ ОБЗОР

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*Статья раскрывает современный взгляд учёных на лакунологию, которая адгерентно охватывает сферы социолингвистики, невербальной семиотики и прикладной лингвистики. Исследования лакунологов касается категории пустых мест в языке, речи и способах их делакунизации. "Пустая категория" исследовалась канадскими учеными Жаном-Полем Вине (1910-1999) и Жаном Дарбельне (1904-1990,) восточноевропейскими когнитологами Ю. Сорокиным (1936-2009) и Г. Быковой. Современная лакунология включает несколько направлений в научной картине мира: лакуны языка (I), лакуны речи (II), лакуны познания (III).*

**Ключевые слова:** лакунология, лакуникон, студии ученых, лакуны языка, лакуны речи, лакуны познания.

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