

MODELING THE *HUMAN LIFE* FRAME CONCEPT ON THE BASIS OF A FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE'S PHILOSOPHICAL-APHORISM CORPUS

Kobiakova Iryna Karpivna, PhD in Philology, Professor
Svitlana Shvachko, Doctor of Philology, Professor
Stepanov Vitalii Valeriiovych, student
Sumy State University, Ukraine

Conference participant National championship in scientific analytics
Open European and Asian research analytics championship

The article deals with revealing mechanisms of modeling a frame structure of the HUMAN LIFE concept on the basis of a corpus of philosophical aphorisms by Friedrich Nietzsche, which is implemented by means of the formula «notion — proposition — slot». Illustrative frame-model schemes of the researched concept and respective tools of verbalizing their elements are represented as well.

Key words: *concept, frame, basic frames, aphorism, corpus.*

Статья рассматривает механизмы моделирования фреймовой структуры концепта ЧЕЛОВЕЧЕСКАЯ ЖИЗНЬ на материале ресурсов корпуса афоризмов Фридриха Ницше, авторами которых являются известные политики прошедшего и современного времени, что осуществляется по формуле «понятие — пропозиция — слот». Дополнительно приводятся иллюстративные схемы фреймовой модели исследуемого концепта, а также соответствующие средства вербализации его составных элементов.

Ключевые слова: *концепт, фрейм, базовые фреймы, афоризм, корпус.*

In the modern computer-technology era linguistics provides a great applied potential of its usage for researching certain phenomena of our world that are generalized and modeled in the form of special schemes called concepts. The given article reveals mechanisms of reproducing a cognitive frame model of the HUMAN LIFE concept on the basis of philosophical aphorisms by Friedrich Nietzsche collected in a single linguistic set — corpus. That defines **the subject matter of our research** — the HUMAN LIFE concept — while **the specific research topic** is constructing a frame model of the above-mentioned concept by engaging philosophical aphorisms as a tool of verbalizing its constituent slots. **The research objective** is providing a final visual frame model of the HUMAN LIFE concept with an accompanying list of aphorisms used for constructing and verbalizing its structure network. To achieve that objective we accord it necessary to complete **the following tasks**: 1) to reveal essence of research theoretical points: what is concept, frame,

aphorism, corpus, etc.; 2) to represent an algorithm that can be used as a fundament for constructing the HUMAN LIFE frame concept; 3) to illustrate the constructed frame model with aphorisms that verbalize its structure. Among **research methods** we engage in our article a registering method (selecting and arranging units into a single linguistic corpus) as well as modeling and thesaurus methods (generating a frame model of the researched concept). **Research practical relevance** consists in using the stated frame-modeling mechanisms for producing similar models when researching other concepts on the basis of aphorism corpora.

Cognitive linguistics is a linguistic branch that considers ways of collecting, keeping and using verbalized knowledge. It is a science about language itself as well as about a reflected world picture.

In its broadest meaning, world picture is regarded as a knowledge set about reality that was generated by public, group or individual consciousness [1, p. 51]. World pictures are divided into objective-reality, cognitive and linguistic pictures.

An objective-reality world picture is an object of human's cognizing the world, which further provides individual and collective consciousness with a cognitive world picture that becomes a certain result of perceiving and considering the environment. The most important cognitive-picture elements are reflected in a linguistic world picture that is interpreted as a total information set about inner and outer worlds fixed in a colloquial language [2, p. 108]. Linguistic world pictures verbalize results of human-consciousness considered reality facts creating certain units that are called concepts.

Concept is one of the main cognitive-linguistics notions. However, there is no single definition in describing concepts. Difficulties in interpreting concepts are conditioned by several circumstances. Firstly, concept is an interdisciplinary formation and is used in many sciences. Secondly, the concept phenomenon itself is a complex issue. Therefore, today concepts are researched in terms of psychological [3, p. 4], logical [4, p. 3], philosophical [5, p. 36], culturological [6, p. 43] and integrative [7, p. 9] approaches.

Nowadays the concept notion is also actively used in two branches — cultural and cognitive linguistics. Within each branch the notion is interpreted differently; therefore there is a great tendency to distinguish cognitive and cultural approaches to defining concepts [8, p. 58]. Such approach differentiation is traced in works by V.I. Karasik, G.G. Slyshkin, Y.D. Tilman, etc.

The cognitive approach (A.P. Babushkin, N.N. Boldyrev, O.S. Kubriakova, Z.D. Popova, I.A. Sternin) considers concepts in terms of knowledge and cognition defining it as a mental formation, a certain world-knowledge focus, a cognitive structure comprising multi-substrate consciousness units. The cultural approach (N.D. Arutyunova, A. Vezhbytskaya, S.V. Vorkachev, V.I. Karasik, M.V. Pimenova, G.G. Slyshkin, Y.S. Stepanov) regards concepts from language and

culture perspectives as a consciousness element with focusing on its national-cultural originality and unique values for certain communities.

In our article we find it reasonable to accept the cognitive approach and define concepts as a discrete mental formation, a basic human-thinking unit with a relatively arranged inner structure that comprises results of individual or public cognitive activities containing complex encyclopedic information about certain items or phenomena, about interpreting this information by public consciousness and about public-consciousness attitude to the given item or phenomenon [1, p. 34]. From our point of view, such a concept-notion definition is the fullest and most meaningful one.

A difficult problem in the cognitive-research theory is also defining a concept typology. In the above-mentioned approaches researchers propose different principles of their classification, which allows distinguishing such concept types as thinking pictures, schemes, hyperonyms, frames, insights, scripts, kaleidoscope concepts, feeling images, ideas, notions, prototypes, propositions, gestalts, symbols, etc. [9, p. 43–67; 10, p. 8; 1, p. 117–119; 11, p. 5]. Each of these concept types has own features differentiating them among other concepts and conditioning their role for representing world pictures.

A great representing potential of researched-concept essences is provided by frames that are generally regarded as a single category uniting different human knowledge and experience; an arranged representation of a certain reality situation; a structure containing linguistic and extralinguistic information about a notion or stereotype situation [12, p. 224]. As a separate concept type frame actualizes issue of its research methodology. Thus, S.A. Zhabotynska accords it reasonable to engage the thesaurus method that is usually used for constructing thesaurus-dictionary conceptual models [13, p. 75–80]. In particular, in terms of modeling frame concepts she offers to apply propositions of five basic frames (thing frame, action frame, possession frame, identification frame and comparison frame) that are represented by corresponding schemes.

Any frame (by M. Minsky) is graphically reproduced as a network of nodes and node connections [14, p. 212]. Among frame nodes there are notions and slots. Notions are top nodes as main invariable frame elements. Notion levels are usually called frame core. Lower levels consist of nodes whose information is variable, namely it changes depending on a situation. Such nodes are called slots, or periphery. A basis for understanding a stereotype situation is provided by notions that are connected with slots by means of propositions. Concretizing and agreeing slots with notions allows understanding a certain situation.

In our article frame concept representation actualizes an issue how concepts can be modeled in a frame form on the basis of aphorisms. Aphorisms are regarded as brief laconic statements that have a deep generalized thought by a certain author [15, p. 324]. For researches they can be

reasonably applied as an arranged set rather than as separate units. Such arranged sets are called corpora.

In terms of corpus linguistics corpora are interpreted as a set of texts that is stored in a computer-readable form, contains over thousand words and is arranged for maximal language representation [16, p. 48–49; 17, p. 197]. The given article bases on this definition of the corpus notion.

As a single text set, any corpus is characterized by certain features distinguishing it from other random text collections. These features include: representativeness, e-format, annotation (layout), data computer processing and over-1000-word volume [18, p. 26]. For our research the most important of them is representativeness, namely corpus ability to represent certain language properties that occur in each text of an arranged corpus. Such properties can be a common genre of all corpus texts, their common language style, etc. and they are used as a base for constructing corpora for certain practical purposes.

In our case corpus representativeness is realized by the HUMAN LIFE concept that will be a key criterion to construct our own corpus for modeling its frame structure. From this perspective, the given concept can be represented in a corpus of philosophical aphorisms each of which reveals certain features of human life giving us an opportunity to analyze and combine all these features in a single HUMAN LIFE concept. The concept will be produced in a frame-model form, which is implemented according to the following algorithm:

- 1) Arranging a philosophical-aphorism corpus;
- 2) Defining inner structure of each corpus aphorism (themes and rhemes) and its analyzing;
- 3) Modeling a frame network of the HUMAN LIFE concept on the basis of theme-rheme relations where a frequently-occurring similar theme will be a tool for generating slots while a frequently-occurring similar rheme will be a tool of frame-network hierarchical division into notions and slots;
- 4) Reproducing a graphical scheme of the modeled concept by basic frames and illustrating its slots by means of aphorisms from the arranged corpus.

The given frame-modeling algorithm is derived from a similar algorithm for modeling concepts on the basis of proverbs, which was researched by us previously [19, p. 72]. We find it reasonable to apply exactly this algorithm because proverbs and aphorisms are identical notions with the only difference in their authorship: while the former have unknown folklore origin, the latter are created by certain famous persons (writers, public figures, politicians, etc.) at certain time in history. That is why this algorithm is well-applicable for current frame-modeling reasons.

Before implementing the above-mentioned algorithm we arrange a philosophical-aphorism corpus. Our corpus is constructed on the basis of the virtual corpus (the Internet) where we find two

websites dedicated purely to aphorisms by Friedrich Nietzsche — <http://best-aphorisms.ru/fridrih-nitsshe/> [20] and <http://www.aphorisme.ru/by-authors/nicshe/?q=843> [21]. These websites contain many Nietzsche's aphorisms which we read and select among them the most suitable ones for frame-modeling aims. All selected aphorisms are saved in the *Microsoft Word* text editing program and translated into English because the two above-mentioned websites are in Russian. Then we proceed to frame-modeling itself according to the algorithm.

Analyzing themes and rhemes of separate aphorisms gives an opportunity to establish what features are connected with human life (themes) and in what life spheres these features are shown (rhemes). Thus, frequently-occurring rhemes generate three branches, or subframes, of the HUMAN LIFE frame concept that are filled with slots representing certain human-life qualities defined on the basis of frequently-occurring themes. Finally, we get a HUMAN LIFE concept whose network is reproduced in a hierarchical order with propositions of thing and possession frames. Firstly, the HUMAN LIFE frame notion is divided into three constituent subframes — SINGLE LIFE, MARRIED LIFE and PUBLIC LIFE, — which is performed according to thing-frame propositions «SOMETHING (HUMAN LIFE) exists AS (SINGLE LIFE, MARRIED LIFE and PUBLIC LIFE)». Then these three human-life branches embodied in subframes are further divided into constituent lower frames reproducing subaspects of their analysis — NIETZSCHE'S ANALYZING HUMAN DEEDS AND CHARACTER and NIETZSCHE'S ADVICE HOW IT IS REASONABLE TO LIVE (the SINGLE LIFE frame) as well as LOVE RELATIONS and FAMILY LIFE (the MARRIED LIFE frame) — while the PUBLIC LIFE frame is not divided into subframes. All these elements are reproduced through possession-frame propositions «SOMETHING (SINGLE LIFE) has SOMETHING (NIETZSCHE'S ANALYZING HUMAN DEEDS AND CHARACTER)», etc., which finally results in revealing slots describing the essence of the obtained subframes that are also engaged by possession-frame propositions.

The modeled HUMAN LIFE frame concept is graphically reproduced in a scheme form (figure 1), which is accompanied by a list of Nietzsche's corpus aphorisms [22] that verbalize the frame-concept slots (table 2).

Figure 1. Frame Model of the HUMAN LIFE Concept

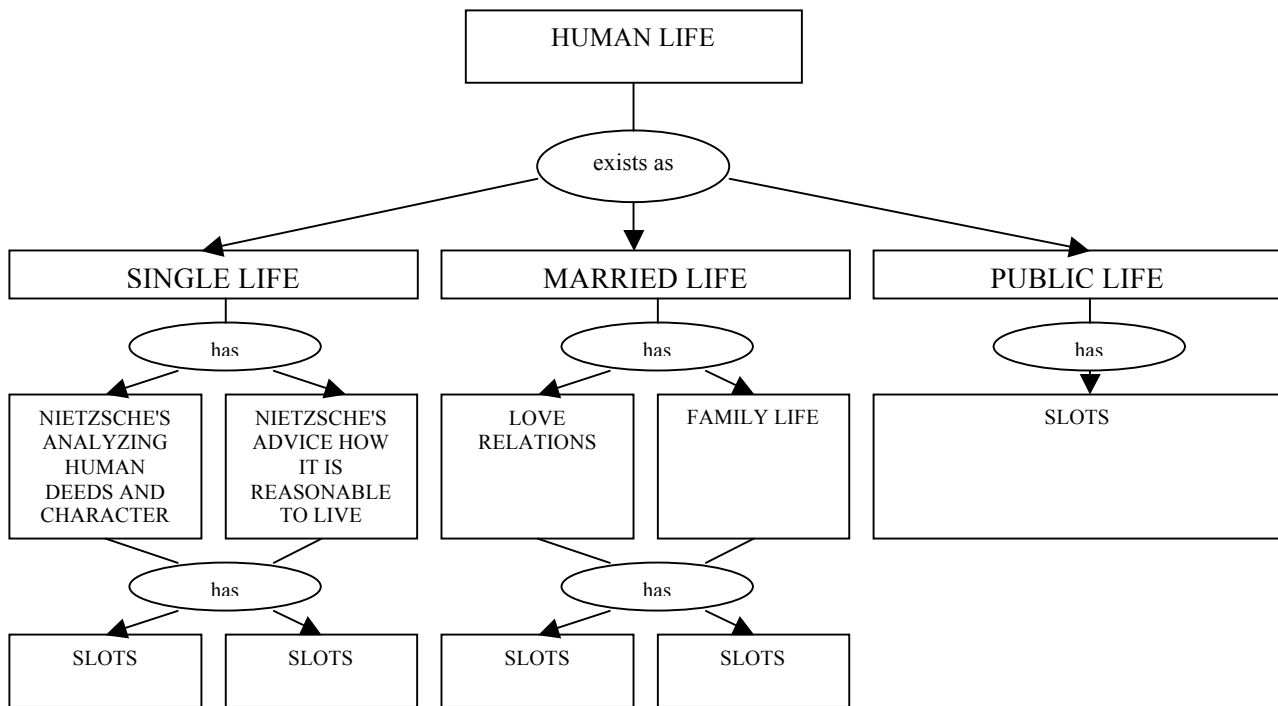


Table 2. Slots of the Corresponding Subframes of the Modeled HUMAN LIFE Concept

The SINGLE LIFE Possession Frame

The NIETZSCHE'S ANALYZING HUMAN DEEDS AND CHARACTER Possession Subframe

Slot
When you know you life purpose, you will find a way out of any emergency
Valuable experience is obtained from the life past rather than from books.
People learn to live by their past mistakes and endured emergencies
It is only older age that understands and analyzes life difficulties properly
Honor is what you achieved rather than your origin
Bad deeds are not forgotten reminding us constantly of them
People actually dislike stealing and committing crimes for surviving
People constantly want higher wealth, success and happiness
Only strong people succeed in surviving and wealth
People can never be content with their life till the end
Human envy is eternal
Money spoils people
All people are spoiled and nobody of them is sacred and sinless
Poverty teaches people how to survive
Death is the grand leveler
Happiness and delight help to forget temporarily about one's problems
In human life delight and sorrow go in turn
People always aspire to eternal life suffering from it
People are highly valued for convincing, resolution and courage
A crowd's common opinion is usually false
Heroism inflamed by self-conceit gradually destroys a person's soul
There is no common idea what is actually evil or good — everything depends on a certain person
Any invincible human has a weak spot
A talented person is mad
The most difficult thing is to know oneself
People's actions usually depend on the opinion of the surroundings to them

People's committing actions often depends on their position in the social hierarchy
People aspire to glory
People like a passion for achieving an aim rather than an achieved aim itself.
People respect somebody's reproach rather than praise
People never want to leave the beloved
Each human is unique
Deeds for the sake of love are unique
People become tyrants because of constant problems and sufferings
Philosophers got used to analyzing life of modern people only
Human habits are difficult to be changed
People dislike when their surroundings teach them how to live properly
People regard their views and decisions as the truest ones
Human is the worst enemy for himself
Clever and wise people can also err
People can perform many things for their true friends
People are often lonely because of ultimate disappointment in the surroundings, which makes them trust nobody
People die of loneliness and lack of love
Self-conceit cannot be eradicated from human soul

Table 2

Slot
Feeling sorry for the poor is disgrace but people give alms to increase their self-conceit
Generous and kind people are usually exploited by the others to obtain benefit and increase self-conceit
If a person exploits you, he is morally weak in life
It is a face rather than speech that reveals whether people lie or tell the truth
Some people's trust and self-conceit increases by telling always truth on principle
Mocking is the worst human punishment, torture and humiliation
People hate worthy enemies and mock at weak persons
One dislikes telling truth because it is usually humiliating or shameful
Some people prefer defending while the others like attacking
Irresolute people want to be loved rather than to love
People always want to revenge their offence on offenders
People aspire to absolute freedom

The SINGLE LIFE Possession Frame

The NIETZSCHE'S ADVICE HOW IT IS REASONABLE TO LIVE Possession Subframe

Slot
Live for the day and do not regret
Act how you find reasonable rather than polite, moral or conventional
Be ready for unforeseen emergencies
Keep measure and do not get a swollen head when reaching success and glory
Achieve new aims constantly if there is any opportunity
Succeed in achieving your aim without any help
Do not help the weak — make them settle their problems themselves
Never lose your dignity in conflicts
Respect your enemies
Be capable of answering by proper words to make people interested in dealing with you
Be capable of proving your point of view by giving proper arguments
Act confidently and you will succeed

Use courage for defeating only proper people
Do not be silent when settling problems
Do not waste you efforts.
Sometimes forget temporarily about your problems and relax
Enjoy each moment of happiness
Treat people in a manner they deserve it
Do not wait for benefiting from your virtues
Be kind and generous only to a proper extent, otherwise you will be slighted
Think properly before marrying somebody
Do not try to teach somebody if it is impossible to change their behavior for better
If you want to revenge an offence on somebody, tell the truth openly about them
Search for people who will value your efforts
Do not show off your achievements and self-conceit

Table 2

The MARRIED LIFE Possession Frame

The LOVE RELATIONS Possession Subframe

Slot
People lose their mind in love
Women like self-confident and determined men
Men like women because of an interest and desire to win their heart
A beloved woman is the best
A loving woman is ready for any sacrifice
Women revenge because of love more brutally than men
Women can only love rather than to be a friend because they feel constrained
An ideal woman is found seldom
Women show openly their real attitudes and love to men only when jealousy or hatred are filled in them
Women are respected for their more natural temper as well as for abilities to hide their evil intentions under smiles
Women dress up for men who are chief for them
Love to a partner consists in passion for him rather than in compassion for him
There are conflicts in any love relations
If a person loves truly, he can live his all life even in unreciprocated relations to make somebody happy
Love is cruel if a man just wants to satisfy his own desires rather than to make his woman happy or glad
Women behave too arrogantly if nobody loves them
People often need partners only to have a sex rather than to have relations themselves
Chastity is underestimated today
Women often hate other women because of the former's incapability of charming men
Women are much more sensual than men
Women feel men rather than understand them
Women have a strong sexual desire but are ashamed to reveal it
Human dignity consists in loving rather than in being loved
A hating man is full of anger while a hating woman is full of stupidity to commit mad deeds
Men like loving while women prefer being loved
Men like women with drawbacks
Only a skilled and ideal man can awaken femininity in a woman

The more men ignore women, the stronger love is.
Deeds for the sake of love are unique
Obligatory love mutuality reveals human vanity
Love merit is the greatest self-conceit
Demand for too much things makes love intolerable

The MARRIED LIFE Possession Frame
The FAMILY LIFE Possession Subframe

Slot
Think properly before marrying somebody
Before marrying somebody consider your wife's temper and appearance in the next 20 years
Marriage makes spouses endure each other for the whole life
Marriage imposes new responsible duties and limits on people

Table 2

Slot
In course of time spouses dislike marriage itself and each other's character
A good marriage is based on mutual understanding and ability to compromise
There are conflicts in any marriage
A husband should be a breadwinner while a wife should be his support
If you do not love a spouse and are fed up with that, it is better not to endure and leave him or her
A true love forgives a spouse for unfaithfulness
Bringing up a child parents inspire them with a huge love
Children should be better than their parents who have to provide them with all possibilities to achieve wealth
Sons are similar to their fathers by character
In the family a wife understands her children better than a husband and behaves more reasonably as well
Men like loving while women prefer being loved

The PUBLIC LIFE Possession Frame

Slot
Crowd cannot think reasonably and its common opinion is usually false
Crowd distorts personal human opinion by imposing its own one
Society cannot live without attempts to change their life
Religion and science are not connected with one another at all
Religion distorts reality
Power always subdues religion
Moral prevails over religion; they are different things
Weighed and slow decisions rule the state
Power achieves its aims by any possible means.
Nations will always find flaws in their states
Power usually lies to population
Nation always aspires to life improving in future
A public person is always surrounded with gossip
History is created by truly great people
Any power problems are settled and eradicated evolutionally
Both spiritual growth and decline clash in society
People should improve in course of society and power changes

Culture is full of chaos
Law is not eternal and perfect

Thus, the HUMAN LIFE frame concept modeled by means of the Friedrich Nietzsche's philosophical-aphorism corpus is revealed through thing and possession subframes representing its essence in three corresponding spheres of human life. Further researches will be aimed at providing similar frame models of certain concepts on the basis of other philosophical aphorisms, for example those by Immanuel Kant.

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