



Chapter 12

SECOND PART

Intensification

In many cases the change of meaning is describable in terms of intensification, i.e., change from a weaker to a stronger meaning

The word (**kill**) meant
(**strike/beat/ torment**), but in
modern English usage it
means (**put to death**)

DISEASE

TEXTSTUDIO

During the Middle English period, the word **(disease)** meant **(lack of ease, discomfort)**. Later on, this word acquired a greater intensity of meaning and nowadays it is used as a synonym for **(illness)**.

Weakening

the change in the semantic content of certain words can be understood in terms of a movement from a stronger to a weaker meaning.

The word (**naughty**) meant
(**wicked / evil**) but in present
– day English it means
(**disobedient**)

The word (**astound / astonish**) meant (**to be struck by thunder**) but in present – day English it means (**a high degree of surprise but nothing more than surprise**)

Definition

- ▶ **“Astonished”** – *ekplesso*, from *ek*, "out of," *plesso*, "to strike," literally, "to strike out," signifies "to be exceedingly struck in mind, to be astonished" (*ek*, intensive). (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)
- ▶ They were amazed or filled with wonder by His teaching.

Astound



Shock or greatly surprise

- The landslide news astounded her.
- The taste of dessert is sure to astound anyone who likes chocolate.
- The blast astounded everyone.
- The language of the corporate world never fails to astound.

The word (**annoy**) meant (**harm / injure**) but in present – day English it means (**displease / make angry**)

"Annoy " in a Sentence

Annoy

Meaning: (v) to make someone angry

It really annoys me when people forget to say thank you.

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Synecdoche

In certain cases, the meaning of a part is shifted to the meaning of the whole or the meaning of the whole is shifted to the meaning of one of its parts

SYNECDOCHE

- Definition:
 - The whole is replaced by the part or the part by the whole.

Example:

50 heads of cattle

Explanation:

“head” is used to mean whole animals.

For example:

I have four mouths to feed at home.



"Mouths" (parts of people) =
"People" (the whole)

*The strings were praised for their
excellent performance.*



"The strings" (parts of a violin) =
"violins" or "violinists" (the whole)

Check out my new wheels!

[Translation: Check out my new car!]

"Wheels" (parts of a car)
= "car" (the whole)



The word (**town**) meant (**hedge /
fence**), (**fences were parts of
towns**) but with the passage of
time the meaning of the part
was transferred to the meaning
of the whole

The primary meaning of the word (hand) is (the palm and the fingers).

Over the years, this word has developed a number of secondary meanings like (a person/ an individual man or woman/ a helper)

EXAMPLES

He employed over a hundred hands in his new factory.

How many extra hands will we need to help with the harvest?

Come and give me a hand in the garden.

We have just taken on a new hand at the farm

Would you please lend / give me a hand with this suitcase?

The word (**head**) means (**upper part of the human body**), and it is also used to mean (**a person in charge of something / a director or leader**)

Dinner will cost £20 a/per head (= for each person).

I met the head of the History department.

If you said "check out my new wheels," "wheels" is an example of synecdoche, used to refer to a "car." A part of a car, in this example, represents the whole of the car.

Metonymy

► DEFINITION:

It means change of name . Here a name or word is used instead of another.

An attribute of a thing or a person is represented by another closely related to it.

Metonymy

The meaning of an object changes in such a way as to be applicable to another object associated with it.

There is nearness in space, time or shape.

The old meaning of the word (jaw) is (cheek), but its new meaning is (jaw)

The word (**horn**) which is used to refer to (**horns of animals**) is also used to refer to (**musical instruments of certain types**)



(The pen is mightier than the sword) in which "pen" stands for writing and "sword" stands for physical power.

Metaphorical Extension

The shift of meaning operates through a metaphor in the sense that the new meaning of the word is a metaphorical extension of its old meaning

The original meaning of the word (**bitter**) is (**bite**). The sense of (**biting**) was later transferred metaphorically to the word (**bitter**). So, when we say that a particular food is **bitter in taste**, as if **that food bites us when we eat it.**

A hippopotamus
(hippos= horse, potamos= river)
is so called
because to the people
of ancient Greece
it looked like a horse



The name
Hippopotamus
means 'river horse'
in Greek.

NATURE

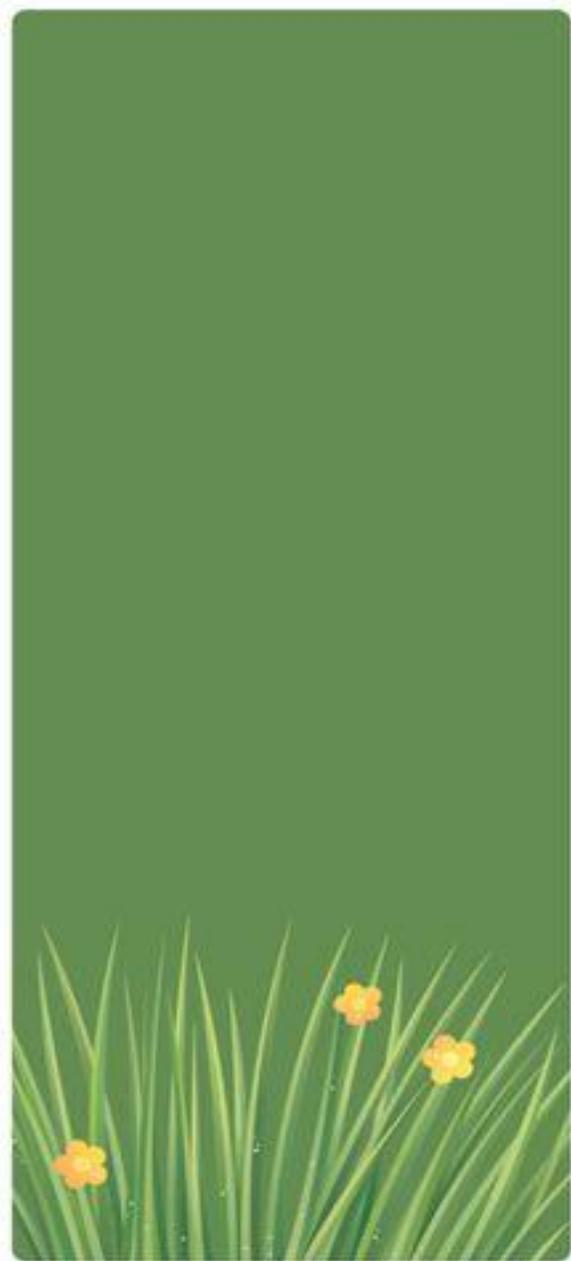




A **leopard** (**leon= lion, pardos= tiger**) is so called because the people of ancient Greece thought it to be partly like a tiger and partly like a lion

(**Daisy**) is a modernized form of an Old English expression meaning (**day's eye**). **Daisies** are so called because they open their petals in the morning and close them in the evening





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