THE LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF NATIONAL CLOTHING NAMES

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Abstract. National clothing serves as a vital aspect of cultural identity, reflecting the history, traditions, and values of a community. The names of these garments often carry significant linguistic features that reveal much about the cultures they represent. This text explores various national garments, their names, and the linguistic characteristics associated with them.

Key words: national clothing, cultural celebrations, national holidays, phonetics, morphology.

Understanding National Clothing. National clothing, also known as traditional attire, varies worldwide and is often worn during cultural celebrations, religious ceremonies, and national holidays. Each garment often resonates deeply with the identity and heritage of the people it represents. For instance, the kimono in Japan, the sari in India, and the kilt in Scotland are not merely clothing items; they are symbols of cultural pride and heritage.

Linguistic Features of National Clothing Names. The names of national garments often reflect various linguistic features, including etymology, phonetics, morphology, and semantics. These features help us understand the cultural significance of the clothing.

Etymology refers to the origin of a word and how its meaning has changed over time. Many national clothing names have roots in the languages of the people who wear them. For instance, the term "sari" originates from the Sanskrit word "sati," meaning "strip of cloth." This etymological background highlights the simplicity and utility of the garment as a piece of fabric that can be draped in various ways.

Another example is the "kimono," derived from the Japanese words "ki" (to wear) and "mono" (thing). The name itself indicates its primary purpose, which is to be worn. This linguistic feature emphasizes the practical nature of the garment while also showcasing the aesthetic value embedded in Japanese culture.

Phonetics

Phonetics is the study of the sounds of human speech. The phonetic structure of clothing names can also provide insights into cultural identity. For example, the name "kilt" has a sharp, clipped sound that may reflect the robust and resilient nature

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associated with Scottish culture. In contrast, the name "hanbok," a traditional Korean attire, has a smoother, flowing sound that may symbolize the grace and elegance of Korean heritage.

Additionally, the phonetic aspects can reveal the influence of other languages. The name "poncho," for instance, comes from the Spanish word for a type of cloak, reflecting the historical interactions between indigenous peoples and Spanish colonizers in Latin America.

Morphology

Morphology involves the structure of words and the formation of their components. Many national clothing names are compound words that combine multiple elements to convey specific meanings. For example, the name "dirndl," a traditional dress worn in Germany, is derived from the Bavarian word "Dirndl," meaning "little girl." This morphological structure suggests a connection to the garment's historical association with femininity and youth.

Similarly, the "barong tagalog," a formal shirt worn in the Philippines, combines the Tagalog words "barong" (meaning "to wear") and "tagalog" (referring to the local people). This morphological combination emphasizes the pride in Filipino identity and heritage, showcasing how language reflects cultural significance.

Semantics

The semantics of clothing names focuses on their meanings and the cultural symbolism associated with them. Many national garments carry meanings that go beyond their physical form. The "sherwani," a traditional attire in South Asian cultures, symbolizes nobility and grandeur, often worn during weddings and formal occasions. The name itself evokes images of elegance and sophistication.

Similarly, the "cheongsam," a traditional Chinese dress, signifies femininity and grace. The name derives from the Cantonese term "qipao," which translates to "long dress." Such semantic connections highlight how clothing names encapsulate cultural values and societal norms.

CONCLUSION

The names of national clothing are rich with linguistic features that offer profound insights into cultural identities and traditions. By examining the etymology, phonetics, morphology, and semantics of these names, we gain a deeper understanding of how language and culture are intertwined. National garments are more than mere fabric; they are embodiments of history, values, and pride. Recognizing the linguistic characteristics of these names allows us to appreciate the diverse tapestry of global cultures and the stories woven into each garment.

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