

## Signs of a precedent name (example of the name “Berliner Mauer”)

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**Abstract:** This article systematizes information about the criteria by which it is possible to separate proper names into a special group - a group of precedent names. The article provides a comprehensive list of such criteria and analyzes them. Such a generalized list of criteria can be used in other studies on the theory of precedence. Of particular interest is the visual process of acquiring the status of a case name by the example of the name "Berliner Mauer", its transition to the class of case names is considered on the basis of compliance with specific criteria: basing on a case situation, possessing a superpersonal character and a perception invariant with a special structure, a rather high frequency, emotiveness and figurativeness. The results of the study can be interpreted as a comprehensive method for analyzing the precedence of a proper name, on the basis of which it is possible to determine the status of the onym. The examples of the use of the name "Berliner Mauer" contained in the article can be applied in courses on translation and learning the language of the media.

**Keywords:** cognitive linguistics, linguoculturology, precedence, precedence theory, precedent name, precedent situation, Berlin Wall, signs of precedent phenomena.

Within the framework of cognitive linguistics and linguoculturology, when studying the connection between language and thought, they increasingly turn to the problem of storing knowledge and social representations in the mental space of a person, structured in the process of cognition of objective reality. One of the components of such a cognitive base, according to V.V. Krasnykh, is precedent phenomena - the so-called mentefacts, along with stereotypes, spirits and artifacts of the secondary world, included in the class of representations [1]. This article examines one of these phenomena - the precedent name "Berliner Mauer" ("Berlin Wall") - and attempts to analyze its precedence.

Traditionally, precedent phenomena are distinguished by their superpersonal nature, invariant perception and frequent appeal to them, but according to modern interpretations, they also arise on the basis of a unique phenomenon, are formed on the basis of perception and are characterized by emotiveness and imagery [2]. Thus,

precedent names as a subspecies of precedent phenomena must have the same properties.

The traditional definition of a precedent name (according to the representatives of the "Text and Communication" school V.V. Krasnykh, I.V. Zakharenko, D.B. Gudkov) indicates its connection with a well-known text or with a precedent situation. They actualize the minimized nationally determined representation behind them [3]. As a rule, proper names of different subtypes act as precedent names, but in a number of cases, they can also become primordial common nouns of propositional semantics .

Let us further consider the history of the formation of the above-mentioned precedent name "Berliner Mauer" and analyze what determines the nature of its precedent. The fifties of the twentieth century are characterized by a serious aggravation of the political situation around Berlin. The West German government put into effect the "Halstein Doctrine", according to which diplomatic relations were terminated with countries that recognized the GDR. The very existence of the GDR called into question the sovereignty of West Berlin, since it was located on its territory. As a consequence, the "Khrushchev ultimatum" was put forward - the demand for negotiations on the transformation of West Berlin into a "demilitarized free city", which Western leaders rejected. In August 1960, the GDR authorities restricted visits by citizens of the FRG to East Berlin in order to suppress Western propaganda. The Western powers, in response to the actions of the GDR, reaffirmed their readiness to defend the freedom of West Berlin and guaranteed the presence of the armed forces of the West in this part of the city.

A radical change occurred in the summer of 1961, when the new policy of Walter Ulbricht, whose goal was to "catch up and overtake the FRG", economic difficulties, forced collectivization and low wages forced many citizens to leave the GDR. This prompted the leaders of the ATS countries to limit the crossing of the previously open and marked only by a dividing line of the border between the western and eastern parts of Berlin. This decision was taken by the Council of Ministers of the GDR on August 12, 1961. At one in the morning on August 13, the implementation of the China Wall II project had already begun.

East German historians Hartmut and Ellen Mels later described what happened as follows: "The night fell on August 12-13, 1961. The thermometer showed 13 degrees Celsius. The sky was overcast and a light breeze was blowing. Like every Saturday, most residents of the capital of the GDR went to bed late, hoping to sleep longer on 13 August. Until 0 o'clock this night in Berlin proceeded as usual. But shortly after midnight, the telephone rang in many apartments in the capital, and traffic rapidly increased. Functionaries of the SED, the state apparatus and economic departments were unexpectedly and urgently called to the service. The huge

mechanism moved quickly and accurately. At 1:11 a.m., the German General News Agency broadcast the declaration of the Warsaw Pact states... When the morning of August 13 came, the border between the German Democratic Republic and West Berlin was under control. In the afternoon, security was provided on it”[4].

The second phase of the project was launched on August 15, 1961, when the construction of a concrete block wall around West Berlin began. On the same day, the name of the first defector to West Berlin was recorded in history - the border guard Konrad Schumann, who jumped over the barbed wire fence. The border guards of the GDR were ordered to shoot at anyone who tried to illegally cross the wall, the first such victim of 93 people was Peter Fechter, an 18-year-old builder from East Berlin. Thus, the wall became a symbol of the division of Europe into opposing military-political forces, even despite some détente due to the policy of Willy Brandt and the agreement on Berlin, according to which West Berliners could visit East Berlin once a year.

In May 1989, Hungary, a partner of the USSR in the Warsaw Pact, destroyed the fortifications on the border with Austria, which created a precedent for the GDR, although its authorities did not plan to follow such a scenario. Now the inhabitants of the GDR have the opportunity to get to West Germany through other Eastern European countries, which made it necessary to close the diplomatic missions of the FRG in them because of the huge number of people who want to get to West Germany. But after Hungary fully opened its borders on September 11, 1989, the number of refugees from East Germany in three days amounted to more than 15 thousand people. The Berlin Wall has lost all meaning. On November 9, 1989, the government of the GDR issued a decree according to which citizens of the GDR could freely obtain visas to visit the FRG from the next day. Without waiting for the deadline, thousands of people went to the Berlin Wall, where the border guards at first tried to remove them with water cannons, but could not cope with the crowd and opened the border. Such is the story of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which has become a new national holiday for many people”[5].

So, we can state that in this case there really is a precedent situation, the representative of which was the name "Berliner Mauer". First of all, this is indicated by numerous actions dedicated to the anniversaries of the fall of the Berlin Wall. This is explicitly evidenced by specific references in the press, where the Berlin Wall is often called a symbol of the German split:

*Die Berliner Mauer ist das Symbol der deutschen Teilung und zugleich des Kalten Krieges. - «Бер-линская стена является символом немецкого раскола и одновременно Холодной войны»*”[6].

In these examples, the direct use of the phrase "Berliner Mauer" to designate a specific denotation is found. In addition, it can also be found in political articles and

in entertainment passages intended for tourists: *Der ehemalige DDR-Anwalt gehört seit dem Fall der Mauer 1989 zum Spitzenpersonal der deutschen Politik. Gysi ist mit zehn Jahren im Amt dienstältester Fraktionschef im Bundestag*”[7]. Another proof of the precedence of this name is its use as a semantic predicate. It should be noted that often such use is accompanied by the use of attributes to the precedent name, which only enhances the imagery and effect on the recipient. In particular, O. E. Frolova points out that the following constructions become possible: He is a name; He is like a name; He is a real (typical, second, new, future) name; He is just (directly) a name. And although constructions with a semantic predicate are mainly characteristic of precedent names belonging to the group of anthroponyms, it has been established that such a function can also be performed by other types of precedent names, such as in the following specific example using a chrematonym. In the selected examples, the third design option occurs quite often:

*Farage: Der Euro ist die neue Berliner Mauer. - «Фараж: Евро - новая Берлинская стена».13 In this case, the case name "Berliner Mauer" really plays the role of a semantic predicate with the additional attribute "neu". The "neu" component, in general, is very frequent in combination with the precedent name under consideration, it is also found in a construction like "he is like a name": ”[8].*

It seems appropriate to dwell on the consideration of one more property of precedent names. It has already been noted above that appeals to such names should occur frequently. This is exactly what can be observed in the situation with the precedent name "Berliner Mauer", it is widely used in the press not only in German, but also in English and Russian in the intensive use of interest to us, that is, this precedent name goes beyond limits of circulation in one cultural-national space and becomes, therefore, universal. This fact leads us to the idea that precedent concepts are not closed systems within one sociolinguocultural community, they can pass from one nation to another, representatives of other cultures are able to freely identify their content and independently embed them into their linguocultural the code. Such observations serve as confirmation of the theory of the identity of the logical apparatus among different peoples and the presence of one, common internal language, which crystallizes in different shells in different countries and cultures. They, among other things, testify in favor of the fact that a person structures the world around him given in advance and does not depend on the language with the help of this very language and stores the accumulated experience in his mental space, which was already mentioned at the beginning of the article. So, let's give examples of the use of the precedent name "Berlin Wall" in Russian: To summarize the results of the study, it seems necessary to generalize and systematize the features and characteristics of the precedent name described in this article. Summarizing the information about precedent phenomena obtained from the works of various linguists,

the following can be attributed to the main conditions for acquiring the status of a precedent name:

1. the precedent name must have a “superpersonal character”;
2. such a name must have a perception invariant;
3. members of a linguo-socio-cultural society should relatively often refer to a precedent name;
4. it should have emotiveness and figurativeness;
5. precedent name should be formed on the basis of perception, arise on the basis of a unique phenomenon and be based on a precedent text or a precedent situation, thus actualizing the underlying minimized nationally determined representation;
6. An invariant of a precedent name must have a structure consisting of a core with distinctive features and a periphery with attributes, therefore, its use can be intensional or extensional.

This study proves the legitimacy of considering the onym "Berliner Mauer" in the context of the theory of precedence and giving it the status of a precedent name within this theory. It appeals to a precedent situation; has a high frequency of use in speech (and in the media, in particular); is based on an invariant consisting of a core and a periphery, which makes possible its extensional and intensional use, the latter of which initiates its precedence.

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