Language form
Is the dialectical unity   of

Content
(the signified sense, meaning)

Language forms

Stylistically neutral
Use of language forms is neutral (easy, ordinary, usual). There are not any restrictions in using , we can use them freely (Zero-marking) e.g. *child*

Stylistically marked
There are something specific, distinctive in using these language forms. Their use is restricted on something. We should know about using restrictions (Markings, connotations) of the corresponding language unit ,e.g.*: kid* (colloquial), i*nfant* (official, bookish)

Their denotative meaning is identical

They differ through their stylistic-connotative marking

- temporal-historical marking; - regional (territorial) marking; social marking; functional-communicative marking; subjectiv-emotional marking:

Registers of speech

A lofty Style   a neutral Style a „lower" Style

Stylistic layers, Stylistic colouring

- Solemn
- Passionate
- Ironic
- Wrathful
- Sarcastic
- Jocular/humorous
- Derogatory
- Rude
- Disapproving
- Endearing, etc.

Structure of Stylistic Meaning

Temporal connotations: archaic/obsolete words, historisms, neologisms, anachronisms, fashion- words

Territorial connotations: dialects, variants; foreign words/ barbarisms

Social connotations (norm aspect): Standard English Colloquial English Non-standard English

Social connotations (various strata of society): Terms, Professionalisms, Jargonisms, Argot, Slang

System of Stylistic Connotations

Functional-communicative connotations
Functional styles:
belles-lettres style
publicist style, newspaper style, scientific prose style, official documents style, colloquial style

Subjective-emotive connotations:
Emotive connotations
The evaluative component
Expressive connotation

Temporal Connotation

Archaic/obsolete words, which belong to some previous stage of language development but can still be found in works of fiction.

E.g. *Behold! (=Look!); Hark! (=Listen!); Nay (=No); thou/ to thee(=you/ to you); whilst (=while); awhile (=for some time), etc.*

Historisms are words which reflect some phenomena belonging to the past times.

E.g. *Knight, yeomen, archer, sling, ram, etc.*

Neologisms are words that have recently come into the language and are still felt as rather new.

E.g. *Computer, astronaut, supermarket, mini/maxi/midi, etc.*

Anachronisms (ana+chronus) are words which are not suitable or relevant to certain time periods.

E.g. *The knight telephoned his lady-love to arrange an appointment.*

Territorial Connotation

Dialects. To the dialects are usually referred the non-standard varieties of English used on the territory of Great Britain. English dialects are divided into _northern_ (including the _Scottish_ dialect) and _southern_ (including ´_cockney_´, the dialect of the area south of London).

Variants. The word variants (varieties) refers to the use of English outside the territory of Great Britain.

E.g. _The English language of the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zeeland, etc._

Foreign words/barbarisms are new borrowings from other languages, which are not completely assimilated in the language (phonetically or grammatically). They usually belong to a _lofty (bookish)_ style.

E.g. _a propos, bonjour, de facto (= in point of fact), status quo (= the existing state of things), ibid/ibidem (= by the same author), etc._

Social Connotation in Respect to the Accepted Literary Norm

In the aspect of **literary norm** of the language three subsystems of English can be distinguished:

Standard (Received) English – the variant that is fixed in the written language, in works of fiction, in radio and TV speech, etc.

Colloquial English: Literary-colloquial English;

Familiar-colloquial English.

Non-standard English, which is represented by dialects and variants of the language found in the different geographical areas where English is used.

Social Connotation in respect of various strata of society

Terms are generally associated with a <u>definite branch of science</u> and therefore with a series of other terms belonging to that particular branch of science. Terms are coined to **nominate new concepts** that appear in the process of technical progress and the development of science. Terms always come in <u>clusters</u> which form the <u>terminological system</u> of any particular branch of science. *The essential characteristics* of terms are: *their highly <u>conventional</u> character; terms are generally <u>easily coined and easily accepted</u>; a term is <u>one with a concept</u>; terms are <u>monosemantic</u> and therefore easily call forth the required concept; they <u>belong to the scientific style</u>, but they may as well appear in other styles*

Professionalisms are the words used in a *definite trade, profession* or calling by people connected by *common interests* both at work and at home. They commonly designate some <u>working process or implement of labour.</u> Professional words name anew already existing concepts, tools or instruments, and have the typical properties of a special code. Professionalisms belong *to the non-literary layer* of the English vocabulary. The main feature of a professionalism is its <u>technicality.</u> They are used within a definite community as they are <u>linked to a common occupation and common social interests</u>. The semantic structure of a professionalism <u>is not transparent</u> and not easily understood. Like terms, professionalisms are <u>monosemantic.</u>

E.g. *tin-fish (=submarine); a midder case (= a midwifery*

Jargonisms build a group of words in the <u>non-literary</u> vocabulary that exists in almost every language and whose aim is to <u>preserve secrecy within one or another social group</u>. Most of the jargonisms are absolutely incomprehensible to those outside the social group which has invented them. The following jargons are well known in English: *the jargon of <u>jazz people</u>; the jargon of <u>the army</u>, known as military slang; the jargon of <u>sportsmen</u> and <u>fans</u> of sports teams; the jargon of <u>thieves</u> and <u>vagabonds,</u> generally known as cant; etc.*

E.g. *<u>fly boy</u> (*=pilot); *<u>coffin</u>*(=unreliable aeroplane); Molotov cocktail (=bottles with explosive materials).

Argot – words that are used by a particular group of people = Jargon: *military argot.*

Slang. The term ´Slang´ is quite ambiguous and obscure. Slang seems to mean everything that is *below the standard* of usage of present-day English. No other European language has singled out a special layer of vocabulary and named it *slang* parallel with *jargon, cant, argot*, and the like. It is indeed sometimes impossible to distinguish between a slang word and colloquial word or a jargonism, e.g. *chink (money), fishy (suspicious), governor (father), hum (humbug), etc.*

The "*Dictionary of American Slang*" defines slang as either all kinds of *nonce-formations* or *jocular words* and *word combinations* that are formed by using the *various means of word-building* and also by *distorting* the form or sense of existing words.

According to *I.R.Galperin,* the term ´slang´ should be used for those forms of English which are either *mispronounced or distorted* in some way *phonetically, morphologically or lexically*. It should also be used to specify some elements which may be called *over-colloquial.*

E.g. *bread-basket (= the stomach); to do a flit (=to quit one´s flat ore lodgings at night without paying the rent or board);*

Functional-Communicative Connotation

Functional styles are ***subsystems of the language*** in respect to their ***functions***. The stylistic connotation of a word may be a sign of a certain functional style to which the word belongs, without carrying any emotional or evaluative element.

E.g. **Colloquial style**: _to fix a watch, to fix an appointment, to fix breakfast,_ etc.

Scientific or official style of speech: _to cause/ to inflict bodily injures; to cause/to inflict damage; to impose a tax/a fine; an impoverished person, deforestation problems,_ etc.

 Belles-lettres style: _salad of racial genes; hollows and dells of memory; the sun of my infancy had set,_ etc. (Nabokov)

 Publicistic style or newspaper style: _public opinion, a nation-wide crisis, crucial/pressing problems, election, General Assembly of the UN, civic rights,_ etc.

Subjective-Emotive Connotation

Emotive connotations express various feelings or emotions. E.g. *Will you lend me some money*? –*Not bloody likely. (bloody* expresses *irritation, anger* of the speaker)

The evaluative component charges the word with negative, positive, ironic or other types of connotation conveying the speaker´s attitude in relation to the object of speech, e.g. *To sneak , a sneak, sneaky*; but sneakers; *a scary girl*; *It´s a pretty state of affairs when I can´t afford the price of a pint of beer any more!*

Expressive connotation either increases or decreases the expressiveness of the message, e.g. the so-called "intensifiers", words like "absolutely, frightfully, really, quite", etc.

Many scholars hold that **emotive and expressive components cannot be distinguished** but Prof. I.A.Arnold maintains that *emotive connotation always entails expressiveness* but not vice versa.

E.g. *She was a sweet little **thing**. (thing is emotive* because it is used with an emotive adjective *and expressive).*

   *She was a small thin delicate **thing** with spectacles. (thin* is definitely *expressive but not emotive).*

There are not strict distinctions between emotive and expressive connotations therefore the term *"emotive-expressive" connotation* is very popular.

It should be noted that linguists do not include into the stylistically coloured vocabulary words that directly express some positive or negative evaluation of an object.

E.g. *Don´t read this **bad** book. (*the denotative meaning, stylistically neutral/ unmarked)

   *Don´t read this **trash** (rot/stuff*). (the connotative meaning, stylistically marked).

E.g. *to create a false story* (expresses the negative evaluation by the denotative meanings of the words);

   *to fabricate, to concoct (*there is a derogatory connotation)