

REVIEW
of the official reviewer for dissertation work Toxanbayeva Rakhya Kuankanovna
on the theme «Linguo- Semantic Characteristics of Legal Discourse on the Materials of the English Language» presented for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty «8D02306 – Foreign Philology (Western Languages)».

№	Criteria	Eligibility (one of the options must be checked)	Justification of the position of the official reviewer
1.	The topic of the thesis (as of the date of its approval) corresponds to the directions of development of science and/or state programs	1.1 Compliance with priority areas of science development or government programs: 1) The thesis was completed within the framework of a project or target program financed from the state budget (indicate the name and number of the project or program) 2) The thesis was completed within the framework of another state program (indicate the name of the program) 3) The dissertation corresponds to the priority direction of the development of science, approved by the Higher Scientific and Technical Commission under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan (indicate the direction)	The dissertation is aligned with the priority areas of scientific development and national programs in the field of education. 3) The dissertation has been carried out in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Education" (as amended and supplemented as of September 10, 2023), the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Science" (as amended and supplemented as of July 1, 2023), the Concept for the Development of Higher Education and Science in Kazakhstan for 2023–2029, and the State Compulsory Standard for Higher Education (Order of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated July 20, 2022, No. 2, as amended and supplemented as of August 27, 2024). The dissertation topic corresponds to one of the priority areas of Kazakhstani science — "Research in the Field of Education and Science", as approved by the Higher Scientific and Technical Commission under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
2.	Importance for science	The work makes/does not make a significant contribution to science, and its importance is well disclosed/not disclosed	The research makes a significant contribution to the development of legal linguistics, cognitive linguistics, and discourse studies. By examining vagueness and polysemy in the key UK legislative instruments, the study demonstrates how legal meaning is constructed and negotiated through statutory discourse. A particular

			strength of the work lies in its treatment of vagueness as a core feature of legal language, demonstrating how the phenomena function as fundamental mechanism in the creation of legal meaning. The dissertation convincingly demonstrates how legal concepts acquire different senses depending on institutional context and discursive practice. Through detailed analysis, the study reveals how statutory texts rely on ordinary language terms that gain specialized legal interpretation, thereby highlighting the dynamic and layered nature of legal semantics.. The research adopts an interdisciplinary approach, in which the author undertakes a cross-linguistic and cognitive analysis of ambiguity in the Kazakh legal language—which constitutes a notable step forward in the advancement of Kazakh legal linguistics.. Through comparative analysis, parallels are drawn between polysemous legal terms found in British legislative acts and their counterparts in Kazakh legal texts. This aspect of the study holds particular significance for a deeper understanding of the development of the Kazakh legal language. It is worth noting that, in exploring the polysemy and interpretation of legal terms across various legal systems, the author has thoroughly examined a range of legislative documents. Undoubtedly, the dissertation makes a substantial contribution to the study of legal discourse by emphasizing its integrative character within the context of legal communication. It also promotes the further systematization of legal terminology in the Kazakh language. Moreover, the findings of the study will contribute to the development of both linguistic and legal competence within the field of legal practice.
3.	The principle of independence	Self-reliance level: 1) High; 2) Medium; 3) Low; 4) No independence	The dissertation demonstrates a high level of academic independence, as evidenced by a thorough analytical review of theoretical sources related to the research problem, the clearly formulated research aim and objectives, and the appropriate selection of methods and techniques for analyzing the material

			under study. The author has examined an extensive body of theoretical and methodological literature on the topic. A lexico-semantic analysis of ambiguity in the official style of legal English has been carried out. The cognitive aspects of the polysemy of legal terms have been identified, and a comparative analysis of legislative texts from the United Kingdom and the language of Kazakhstani legal discourse has been conducted, which is particularly significant in the context of cross-linguistic legal communication.
4.	The principle of inner unity	4.1 Justification of the relevance of the thesis: 1) Justified; 2) Partially justified; 3) Not justified.	The relevance of the given thesis is clearly articulated and grounded in foundational research by both foreign and domestic linguists, as well as in regulatory legal acts that define priority objectives in the field of legal linguistics, semantics, and cognitive linguistics. The main focus is given on the legal discourse through the lens of semantic phenomena such as ambiguity and polysemy within the language of legislation. Despite the acknowledged complexity of legal language and the well-documented challenges it poses for interpretation, empirical linguistics still lacks sufficient studies addressing the functional manifestation of these features in specific legislative texts, particularly in key acts of English law. In addressing this gap, the researcher formulated a set of research questions, which defined both the direction and the strategic framework of the study. This research trajectory underpins the justification and scholarly significance of the author's research aim—namely, the examination of the linguistic, semantic, and cognitive features of legal discourse. The present study contributes to a deeper understanding of whether ambiguity constitutes an inherent and functional characteristic of an effective legal system. Special attention is given to the role of linguistic indeterminacy as a means of delegating interpretative authority to the judiciary in the application of legal norms. Rakhniya Toxanbayeva's research demonstrates how the language of law operates within the common law tradition and reveals how terminological vagueness and the openness of legal formulations contribute to the distribution of legal

		authority. These findings significantly enhance our understanding of the intricate relationship between language and institutional mechanisms within the legal domain, thereby substantiating the relevance of the dissertation. According to Toxanbayeva, legal discourse clearly demonstrates the potential and necessity for studies of this nature, which align with the contemporary demands of legal linguistics and comparative law. The author's work on the correspondence and adequacy of legal terminology translation from English into Kazakh, along with the recommendations offered in this regard, is likewise grounded in the needs of cross-linguistic legal communication.
	4.2 The content of the thesis reflects the topic of the thesis: <u>1) Reflects;</u> 2) Partially reflects; 3) Does not reflect	The content of the dissertation fully reflects the scope and objectives of the research topic. The first major research section is devoted to the concept of <i>discourse</i>. A comprehensive historiographical analysis of the issue is conducted, alongside a contextual interpretation of the core terms relevant to the study—such as linguistic discourse, legal discourse, legal language, legal communication, political discourse, cognitive semantics, frame, polysemy and etc. The theoretical underpinnings and historical development of the concept of <i>discourse</i>, as well as the evolution of discourse analysis, are thoroughly examined. The primary focus is placed on <i>legal discourse</i>, which is characterized by its distinctive linguistic features and communicative purposes. Special attention is given to differentiating the concepts of <i>text</i> and <i>discourse</i>. In this study, the author adopts the view of discourse as language used in social practice, inherently tied to context, power, and institutional functions. The dissertation argues that the term <i>legal discourse</i> is the most appropriate in the legal domain, as it emphasizes the multilayered and complex nature of legal communication, resisting reduction to simplified linguistic constructs. The second section

		explores the nature and key characteristics of Legal English. The author undertakes a meticulous analysis of a wide range of scholarly approaches to this subject, grounded in diverse theoretical frameworks. Particular attention is paid to the historical stages of the formation of Legal English, its formal features, and unique linguistic properties distinguishing it from everyday language. The author highlights semantic ambiguity and polysemy as a central features of legal language, as well as the phenomenon of linguistic indeterminacy in legal texts. A cognitive analysis of polysemous terms in legal statutes is presented, uncovering the semantic mechanisms at work in normative texts. Furthermore, this section provides a detailed examination of lexical vagueness, revealing the processes by which meaning is formed and interpreted within the framework of official legal discourse. The third section focuses on the analysis of polysemy in legislative language, with an emphasis on the cognitive mechanisms underpinning legal interpretation. It investigates how polysemy manifests in the legislation of the United Kingdom and Kazakhstan, examining the functional characteristics of ambiguous expressions in legal texts of both countries. Particular attention is given to the role of translation in the emergence of semantic ambiguity, which complicates the interpretation of legal norms across languages. A comparative approach is employed to identify parallels between polysemous terms in British legislative acts and their counterparts in Kazakh legal texts. The dissertation also highlights the factors contributing to the frequent use of polysemous terminology in the Kazakh language when translating from English.
4.3. The purpose and objectives correspond to the topic of the thesis: 1) <u>correspond</u> ; 2) partially correspond;		The purpose and objectives correspond to the topic of the thesis. This overarching aim is operationalized through a series of research tasks formulated by the author, each contributing to the attainment of the stated goal:

																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						</
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	----

		with the known solutions: <u>1) there is a critical analysis;</u> 2) partial analysis; 3) the analysis does not represent one's own opinions, but quotes from other authors	Republic of Kazakhstan. The innovative cross-linguistic and cognitive analysis of polysemy in the Kazakh legal language contributes to the development and refinement of Kazakhstani legal linguistics. The study demonstrates that the lack of standardized legal terminology, the use of general-language vocabulary, and the influence of traditions rooted in Russian-language legal drafting collectively intensify semantic ambiguity and pose significant challenges for the interpretation of Kazakh legal discourse. This research advances the fields of legal, cognitive, and discourse linguistics. Its findings facilitate a deeper understanding of legal discourse, the interpretation of normative texts, and the conceptualization of legal reality in both English-speaking and Kazakh-speaking legal contexts. The dissertation makes a significant contribution to legal linguistics by revealing the systematic nature of semantic variation in legal terminology. Moreover, the study strengthens the theoretical foundations for the analysis of legal lexicon and lays the groundwork for further systematization and description of legal terminology in the Kazakh language—an area that remains underexplored to date.
5.	Scientific novelty principle	5.1 Are the scientific results and provisions new? <u>1) completely new;</u> <u>2) partially new (25-75% are new);</u> 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The analysis of Rakhiya Toxanbayeva's dissertation supports the conclusion that the principal research outcomes demonstrate a high degree of originality. The following contributions can be highlighted: - a cross-linguistic and cognitive analysis of polysemy in Kazakh legal discourse was conducted; - classification of legal terms within the key legal codes of Kazakhstan was developed; - challenges of translation were identified, particularly in the comparison between English and Kazakh legal languages, as well as difficulties arising from differences in conceptual domains and the emergence of polysemy; - the phenomenon of linguistic indeterminacy was examined

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

		5.3 Technical, technological, economic or management decisions are new and reasonable: <u>1) completely new;</u> <u>2) partially new (25-75% are new);</u> <u>3) not new (less than 25% are new)</u>	The dissertation proposes optimal solutions to the challenges associated with polysemy arising in translation, highlighting the persistent difficulties in achieving precise equivalence between English and Kazakh legal terms. As we know legal terminology undoubtedly one of the most challenging domains of terminology theory as well as in translation studies. The research findings emphasize the importance of contextual analysis, the use of judicial precedents, and reliance on fundamental legal principles to resolve ambiguities. In the field of legal education, the focus is placed on the necessity of incorporating topics related to the linguistic features of legal discourse into the curriculum. This approach will enable future legal professionals to develop critical analytical skills and gain a deeper understanding of the specifics of normative language, particularly in Kazakh.
6.	The validity of the main findings	<u>All main conclusions are/are not based on scientifically significant evidence or well-grounded (for qualitative research and areas of training in the arts and humanities)</u>	All major conclusions are supported by substantial scientific evidence, including legislative materials that illustrate various aspects of legal discourse. They are methodologically justified from the perspective of contemporary linguistics. The study integrates approaches from legal linguistics, semantics, and cognitive linguistics, which collectively define the innovative nature of the research. The bibliography comprises 213 sources, reflecting a profound understanding of the investigated problem and a solid theoretical foundation for the evidential base.
7.	The main provisions for the defense	It is necessary to answer the following questions for each provision separately: 7.1 Is the provision proven? <u>1) proven;</u> 2) rather proven; 3) rather not proven; 4) not proven 7.2 Is it trivial?	The dissertation presents four propositions for defense. Proposition 1 7.1 The proposition is substantiated within the dissertation. 7.2 It is non-trivial in nature. 7.3 It presents a novel contribution to the field. 7.4 It demonstrates a high level of applicability. 7.5 The validity of the proposition is supported by publications in

		1) yes; 2) no 7.3 Is it new? 1) yes; 2) no 7.4 Application level: 1) narrow; 2) medium; 3) wide 7.5 Is it proven in the article? 1) yes; 2) no	peer-reviewed journals. Toxanbayeva R, Kenzhekanova K. Problems of Adaptation of Borrowings and Excessive Use of Borrowed Words in the Civil Codes of Post-Soviet Countries (on the Example of Kazakhstan). <i>International Journal for the Semiotics of Law</i>. Springer Nature, 13 December 2024. Proposition 7.1 The proposition is substantiated within the dissertation. 7.2 It is non-trivial in nature. 7.3 It presents a novel contribution to the field. 7.4 It has a broad scope of applicability. 7.5 The validity of the proposition is supported by publications in peer-reviewed journals. Toxanbayeva. R. History of the Formation of Legal English: Contemporary Problems of the Globalization of Legal Language. <i>Bulletin of KazNU</i>. 1 (182) 2022. Proposition 3 7.1 The proposition is substantiated within the dissertation. 7.2 It is non-trivial in nature. 7.3 It presents a novel contribution to the field. 7.4 It has a broad scope of applicability. 7.5 The validity of the proposition is supported by publications in peer-reviewed journals. Toxanbayeva. R. History of the Formation of Legal English: Contemporary Problems of the Globalization of Legal Language. <i>Bulletin of KazNU</i>. 1 (182) 2022. Proposition 4 7.1 The proposition is substantiated within the dissertation.
--	--	--	--

			7.2 It is non-trivial in nature. 7.3 It presents a novel contribution to the field. 7.4 It has a broad scope of applicability. 7.5 The validity of the proposition is supported by publications in peer-reviewed journals. Toxanbayeva R., Kenzhekanova K. Problems of Adaptation of Borrowings and Excessive Use of Borrowed Words in the Civil Codes of Post-Soviet Countries (on the Example of Kazakhstan). <i>International Journal for the Semiotics of Law</i>. Springer Nature, 13 December 2024. Toxanbayeva R., Kenzhekanova K. The Use of Synonymy and Polysemy in the Civil Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan. <i>Bulletin of ToU — Philological Series</i>. 1, 2025.
8.	The principle of reliability Reliability of sources and information provided	8.1 Choice of methodology - is justified or the methodology is described in sufficient detail 1) yes; 2) no	The research methodology is described in considerable detail. The theoretical and methodological framework of the study is based on the foundational and contemporary works of foreign, Russian, and Kazakhstani scholars. The general theory of discourse draws on the works of M. Foucault, N. Fairclough, T. van Dijk, R. Wodak, M. Halliday, V.I. Karasik, N.D. Arutyunova, Yu.S. Stepanov, E.D. Suleimenova, G.G. Burkibayeva, and G.G. Gizdatov. The study of legal discourse relies on the research of P. Goodrich, J. Maley, D. Curzon, A. Trosborg, P. Tiersma, E.A. Kazhemyakin, M.V. Batyushkina, T.V. Dubrovskaya, A. Chernyshev, G.B. Nomuzova, N. Tulkinbaev, and N.M. Abishev. The theory of legal language indeterminacy is grounded in the works of R. Dworkin, H.L.A. Hart, M. Moore, B. Bix, T.A.O. Endicott, L. Solan, R. Sorensen, R. Poscher, and F. Schauer. Regarding polysemy, the research draws upon the studies of A. Апресян, D.A. Cruz, A. Vicente, I.L. Folqum, S. Lobner, J. Lyons, D.J. Hemel, and D.N. Shmelev.

		8.2 The results of the thesis were obtained using modern methods of scientific research and methods of processing and interpreting data using computer technologies: 1) yes; 2) no	The materials utilized in the study include a selection of primary and secondary legal texts in both English and Kazakh, with particular emphasis on legislative acts such as the Consumer Rights Act of 2015, the Labor Rights Act of 1996, and the Criminal Justice Act of 2003, as well as the principal legal codes of the Republic of Kazakhstan, including the Criminal Procedure Code, the Labor Code, and the Civil Code. The research results presented in the dissertation were obtained using both traditional and contemporary cognitive and discourse-oriented approaches. In accordance with the aims and objectives of the study, the following methods were employed: critical analysis of theoretical concepts, discourse analysis, analysis of legal vocabulary based on English and Kazakh legal terminology, the method of exhaustive sampling, comparative method, statistical method, and interpretative method. The examination of a large corpus of scholarly literature and legislative acts enabled the author to: - identify instances of polysemy in Kazakh legal texts, including the Civil Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, and the Labor Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan; - analyze the specifics of English legal discourse and compare it with the Kazakh legal discourse; - detect similarities and differences in the treatment of indeterminacy and polysemy in English and Kazakh legal discourses; - highlight issues related to translation and interpretation within multilingual legal systems. For comparative analysis and identification of translational discrepancies, bilingual legal dictionaries, etymological dictionaries, and English-Kazakh legal glossaries were utilized to assess strategies for conveying meaning in interlingual legal communication.

		8.3 Theoretical conclusions, models, identified relationships and patterns have been proven and confirmed by experimental research (for areas of training in pedagogical sciences, the results have been proven on the basis of a pedagogical experiment): 1) yes; 2) no	Theoretical conclusions, identified relationships and patterns have been proven and confirmed by experimental research for areas of training in pedagogical sciences such as in comparative linguistics, cognitive linguistics, in theory of translation, in the theory of discourse
		8.4 Important statements are confirmed / partially confirmed / not confirmed by references to current and reliable scientific literature	The key assertions are well substantiated, as the candidate references current and reliable scholarly literature contemporary studies in the fields of legal discourse, cognitive linguistics, legal language terminology, as well as translation studies.
		8.5 Used literature sources are sufficient/not sufficient for a literature review	The sources used are sufficient: the candidate has conducted an analytical and critical review of scholarly works on the researched problem. The bibliography, comprising works by Kazakhstani and foreign authors, includes 213 titles.
9	Practical value principle	9.1 The thesis has theoretical value: 1) yes; 2) no	The dissertation research of Toxanbayeva Rakhya undoubtedly holds theoretical significance. For the first time, polysemous legal terms are systematically identified and classified within the framework of the key legal codes of Kazakhstan. The research findings enhance the understanding of legal discourse, the interpretation of legislation, and the conceptualization of legal reality in both the English and Kazakh legal contexts. This study contributes to the field of legal linguistics by emphasizing the systematic nature of semantic variability in legal terminology. The propositions and conclusions of the dissertation make a significant contribution to the development of theoretical foundations for the analysis of legal vocabulary and lay the groundwork for future efforts aimed at the systematization and description of legal terminology in the Kazakh language an area that remains largely underexplored.
		9.2 The thesis is of practical importance	The practical significance of the study lies in the high potential for

		and there is a high probability of applying the results obtained in practice: <u>1) yes;</u> 2) no	applying its results in the development of academic courses on legal discourse, cognitive semantics, legal lexicography, and terminology, which can be incorporated into the curricula of law and philology faculties. The findings may serve as a foundation for creating specialized courses such as "Introduction to Kazakh Legal Discourse," "Legal English for Kazakh-Speaking Specialists," "Comparative Study of Legal English and Kazakh Legal Languages," "Comparative Legal Linguistics," and "Intercultural Communication in Jurisprudence."
		9.3 Are the practice suggestions new? <u>1) completely new;</u> 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The dissertation represents an original interdisciplinary study of the lingual-semantic and cognitive features of legal discourse, with a particular focus on vagueness and polysemy in legislative texts of the United Kingdom and their comparison with the language of Kazakh legal discourse. The research integrates approaches from legal linguistics, semantics, and cognitive linguistics, which collectively define the innovative character of the study.
10.	The quality of writing and design	Academic writing quality: <u>1) high;</u> 2) average; 3) below average; 4) low.	The quality of academic writing is assessed as high. The dissertation is characterized by a well-developed scientific style of presentation, with appropriate use of metalinguistic tools. The conceptual and terminological framework accurately reflects the subject matter of the research. Citations and references are formatted in accordance with the standards of academic writing. It should be noted that all structural components of the dissertation are logically organized and coherent, and the propositions and conclusions submitted for defense are well-substantiated.
11.	Notes on a thesis	The theoretical and practical significance of the dissertation research is beyond doubt. At the same time, the following remarks of a recommendatory nature should be noted:	1. <i>One of the central issues that invites scholarly debate concerns the author's choice of the term "discourse" as the primary conceptual tool in the dissertation. The concern lies not so much in the selection of the term itself, but rather in its consistent application without sufficient contextual differentiation. On the one hand, the author adheres to the established understanding of discourse as a communicative phenomenon; on the other</i>

		hand, the term is occasionally employed interchangeably with text, language, or genre, which results in a certain degree of terminological ambiguity. This issue is particularly evident in Chapter Two, dedicated to the theoretical foundations of legal language (Theoretical Framework of Legal Language), where the terms "legal language", "legal English", and "statutory language" are used without clear semantic distinction. In several instances, it appears that the use of the term language would have been conceptually more appropriate and precise in relation to the phenomena under analysis. It would be desirable for the author to provide a more rigorous theoretical justification for the contextual use of the concept of discourse, particularly in light of its complex and multifaceted nature. 2. The dissertation under review sets out to investigate the specific features of polysemy as manifested within the legislative frameworks of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Kazakhstan. The research is primarily focused on the functional analysis of polysemous expressions in legal texts across both legal systems. Notably, particular attention is devoted to the role of translation as a factor contributing to semantic ambiguity, which frequently complicates the interpretation of legal norms in a cross-linguistic context. It would be advisable for future research to devote particular attention to a detailed examination of the mechanisms through which ambiguity arises as a result of translational transformations, as well as to explore the implications of such ambiguity for legal interpretation and law enforcement practice. 3. It should be emphasized that these remarks in no way detract from the overall quality of the research, nor do they diminish the theoretical and practical significance of the findings presented in the dissertation. The academic level of the publications authored by doctoral candidate Rakhya Toxanbayeva is high.
12.	Scientific level of the doctoral student's articles on the topic of research (in case of defense of the dissertation in the form of a series of articles, the official reviewers comment on the scientific level of each article of the doctoral student on the topic of research)	
13.	Decision of the official reviewer (pursuant to paragraph 28 of the present Model	The dissertation entitled "Linguo-Semantic and Cognitive Characteristics of Legal Discourse: Based on the Materials of the English Language" is a completed, independently conducted scientific work. Its author, doctoral candidate Rakhya Kuantkanovna Toxanbayeva, fully deserves to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty «8D02306 – Foreign Philology (Western Languages)».

In reviews, official reviewers indicate one of the following solutions:

- 1) to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Doctor of Specialization;
- 2) send the thesis for revision (except for cases of thesis defense in the form of a series of articles);
- 3) refuse to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Doctor of Specialization.

Copies of the reviews of the official reviewers are handed over to the doctoral student no later than 5 (five) working days before the defense of the thesis.

Official Reviewer:

Candidate of Philological Sciences,
Associate Professor of the Germanic and Romance
Philology Department of M. Kozubayev University

Maira Erengaipovna Kakimova

*Жадырған негізгі
мәселелерін*

*Қазақстан Республикасының
Ғылым және Білім Министрлігі*

М. Козубаев Университеті

М.К.

