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SEMANTIC STRUCTURE OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

Annotation

This article is devoted to the semantic structure of phraseological units and the main characteristics of phraseology. Moreover the differences and similarities of Uzbek and English phraseological units are studied with the help of scientific research works.

Key words: Proverbs, phraseological units, folklore, combination, comparative linguistics.

СЕМАНТИЧЕСКАЯ СТРУКТУРА ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ ЕДИНИЦ В АНГЛИЙСКОМ И УЗБЕКСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

Аннотация

Данная статья посвящена семантической структуре фразеологизмов и основным характеристикам фразеологии. Кроме того, с помощью научно-исследовательских работ изучаются различия и сходства узбекских и английских фразеологизмов.

Ключевые слова: Пословицы, фразеологизмы, фольклор, сочетание, сравнительный анализ, лингвистика.

INGLIZ VA O'ZBEK TILIDAGI FRAZEOLGIK BIRIKLARNING SEMANTIK TUZILISHI

Annotatsiya

Ushbu maqola frazeologik birliklarning semantik tuzilishi va frazeologiyaning asosiy xususiyatlariga bag'ishlangan.

Shuningdek, o'zbek va ingliz frazeologik birliklarining farq va o'xshashliklari ilmiy tadqiqot ishlari yordamida o'rganiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: Maqol, frazeologik birliklar, xalq og'zaki ijodi, birikma, qiyosiy tilshunoslik.

Introduction. In modern English Phraseology is one of disputable items, and it seems that this linguistic discipline is not going to lose its actuality. The results of researches that have been done on phraseology show that this problem has not been solved yet.

Phraseology is the study of set or fixed expressions, such as proverbs, sayings, idioms, phrasal verbs, and other types of multi-word lexical units (often collectively referred to as phrasemes), in which the component parts of the expression take on a meaning more specific than or otherwise not predictable from the sum of their meanings when used independently. Although, Uzbek linguists explained why society needs phraseology and proverbs. Most of English phraseological units are connected with antic mythology, history and literature. Many of this phraseological units are international and are used in many languages.

Phraseological units in English are mostly native English translations, whose authors are unknown. They are all connected with the traditions, customs and beliefs of the English people, as well as with legends and historical facts.

A proverb is a product of the definite nation as a folk saying during considerable long time. They are handed down through years and ages as frames or models of human life typical situations. A Proverb is considered as a phraseological unit with figurative meaning in linguistics and to be equal to a sentence according to a complete utterance that they can form in a speech. Moreover, their diverse expressiveness and emotiveness are obviously noticed during the process of conversation. Therefore, proverbs can represent the speech situation clearly.

Nowadays the English language becomes the means of international communication, the language of trade, education, politics and economics. By learning English language, we can come across phraseological units, their semantic and structural

aspects. Phraseological stock of the English language possesses great role in reflecting the culture of the nation. This research paper is devoted to the investigation of structural and semantical aspects of phraseological units. The work includes several theories and the examples for the semantic features in English and Uzbek languages.

Phraseology deals with the development of methods for studying phraseological units, the principles of their selection, classification of phraseology- descriptions of dictionaries. This science deals with study of primary, initial forms of meanings of phraseological units, definition of their sources. Phraseological units are highly informative units of language; therefore, they cannot be considered as "decorations" although in some cases, for example in interpretation they can be used as "decorations", but it is considered obsolete. Phraseologisms are one of the language universals, since phraseological units are met in every language.

Phraseology characterizes all aspects of a person's life, his attitude towards work, for example "Golden hands" (positive meaning that characterizes a hardworking person), or "To beat the bucket" (is used to imply somebody's death). Sometimes phraseological units show an attitude towards other people for example "A bosom friend", a disservice, personal advantage and disadvantage, for example "a black sheep", "a snake in the grass", or to show the condition of the person, for example "to make someone blush".[1] Consequently, phraseologisms are used in everyday speech, literature, poems, works of art, journalism. They give expressiveness to the utterance, they serve as a means of creating imagery and they make our speech brighter, more emotional, more imaginative.

Literature review. Phraseological units and proverbs were widely studied in the world linguistics and Uzbek

linguistics as well. In particular, Charles Bally distinguished "combinations of words according to the degree of their stability: combinations in which there are freedom of grouping of components, and combinations that do not have such freedom"[2].

Linguist E.D.Polivanov was the first person who worked on the matter "phraseology as a linguistic discipline". He wrote in his work on phraseology: "And now there is a need for a special department that would be commensurable with the syntax, but at the same time includes in itself not the general types, but the individual meanings of the data of individual (lexical) meanings of individual words"[3]

Prof. G.B.Antrushina, "there is not any barrier between proverbs and phraseological units due to the fact that phraseological units are created from the proverbs"[4]. For example, the phrase "to catch straw" appeared based on the proverbs – "a drowning man catches at straws". The effectiveness of a proverb lies largely in its brevity and directness. Many Uzbek linguists worked on phraseology: T.Mirzayev [5], A.Musaqulov, G.Usmanova [6], A.Ashirbayeva [7].

Although, Uzbek linguists explained why society needs phraseology and proverbs. N.Z.Shaykhislamov and K.S.Makhmudov [8] opened the main features of phraseology in linguistics.

The results of literature review show that, phraseological units were comprehensively studied in the world linguistics, however, in Uzbek linguistics, there is a need for implementing those theories in practice. This issue determines the actuality of our research.

Research Methodology. The methods are applied in this study are the following:

Descriptive method was applied in order to present the overview of the semantic and structural features between phraseological units and proverbs.

Theoretical analysis made it possible to analyze the scientific peculiarities regarding the structural and comparative features of phraseological units and proverbs.

Besides these mentioned methods there were used comparative method to analyze two languages semantic-structural features.

Distributive method was widely used due to the fact that the proverbs examples of both languages.

Analysis and results. Making a new phraseological unit from another phraseological unit (phraseological derivation). The isolation of phraseological phrases from the composition of more complex phraseological units is one of the ways of forming phraseological units. The newly formed unit begins to live on its own, but its meaning is determined by the semantics of the original phraseology. Thus, the unmotivated nature of the phraseological unit "The gray mare" means "The wife holding her husband under the shoe" is explained by the motivation of the proverb "the gray mare is the better horse"-"The wife who is a leader in the home" from which this phraseological unit was formed by separating the initial components [9]. Moreover, new phraseological units can be formed by separating the initial final components of a more complex phraseology. For example, from the proverb "The old birds are not to be caught with chaff" formed two PE "An old bird"-An old, shooting sparrow, and "to be caught with chaff"-to be easily deceived [10].

As it was mentioned above, there are a number of linguists who were engaged in the investigation of phraseological units. Mainly, western and Russian linguists were working on this field of linguistics. Western scientists gathered different words, word groups, combinations and described them as idioms. The first person who studied various word groups on a scientific basis was A.A.Shakhmatov. He depicted all these features in his book

"Syntax". Semantics, Grammar and Lexicology are the fields of linguistics which are closely connected with Phraseology. If we have a look at the national peculiarity of phraseological units the following levels may appear, as: "Phonological level, grammatical level, and lexical level": Phonological level is considered from the view that every language has its own phonological system and the phraseological units of this language should comply with this system.

Lexical level: While investigating lexical level it should be taken into an account that all countries have their own traditions, customs, beliefs and historic facts. There are a number of phraseological combinations which are closely connected with these facts, e.g. "the bard of Avon", "Fleet street" [11]. Consequently, the speaker who comes across, or uses this kind of phraseological units should be aware of the exact meanings of these units.

Grammatical level: All phraseological units should comply with its grammatical structure of language.

If to subdivide phraseological units for the degree of the national characterization, they may be divided into three groups:

1) international phraseological units: understanding of the meaning of such kind of phraseological units is based on the users' point of view, because this kind of units are based on universal images. For example, "the alpha and omega of something", "to discover America", "to cross the Rubicon", "the heel of Achilles", "Trojan horse", "Pandora's box", "Herculean pillars", "I came, I saw I conquered", "The ten Commandments" etc. [12].

2) locally unmarked phraseological units: this kind of phraseological units consist of neutral thoughts; the components of these units do not possess the character to show any peculiarity of any nation. In short, this kind of phraseological units includes simple words, and the combination of these words make a new phraseological unit, for example, "to burn one's fingers", "to break one's heart", "to snake in the grass";

3) locally marked phraseological units: this type of phraseological units directly depicts the national and cultural thoughts of any country, e.g. "to catch the Speaker's eye", "to set the Thames on fire", "to carry coals to Newcastle", "something is rotten in the state of Denmark", "to dine with Duke Humphry", "to cut off with a shilling". There are some phraseological combinations which may be translated in several languages that are regionally or culturally close to one another: for example, "as pale as paper", "measure twice, cut once", "to know something as one knows his ten fingers" and so on.

From the first sight we may think that any free word group and phraseological unit are similar. However, it is not like this. There are plenty of differences between them. The main fact that makes hard to distinguish between them is that the limitation line between them is not seen clearly. The lexical and grammatical valency have some features which differ them.

Grammatical valency means that one word may appear in different grammatical structures. This ability differs separate meanings of a poly-semantic word, such as: V+N- to grow roses (wheat)= "to cultivate", V+V-to grow to like= "to begin", V+A-to grow old (tired, dark)= "to become", V+D-to grow quickly (rapidly)= "to increase".

In the case when grammatical valency of any word that refers to the same part of speech is not adequate. For example, "to propose (suggest) a plan". In this expression the only word "propose" can be followed by an infinitive of a verb: e.g. "to propose to do something".

Lexical valency- when words may be utilized in different lexical contexts. V+N- to deliver letters= "to distribute letters" or to deliver a blow= "to strike a blow" or

“to deliver a lecture” = “to give a lecture”. The usage of grammatical valency is cramped by lexical valency: A+N- “Blind people” (+) - “Blind sugar” (-) or “A smiling girl” (+) - “a smiling crocodile” (-). However, sometimes the combinations which are literally absurd may be utilized in several places figuratively. For example: “Look at him. A smiling crocodile” [13].

According to A.V.Koonin, “there are the following distinguished features of phraseological units of free word groups”:

1) the main characteristic feature of phraseological units is their being semantically complex. Consequently, the meaning of phraseological units may be fully or partially transferred: e.g. “to burn one’s finger”. The meaning of this phraseological unit is figuratively used, it is metaphor based on likeness of action;

2) semantic togetherness and structural dissolubility e.g. “to kick of the bucket” (to die);

3) the components of any phraseological units never may be replaced with, as it happens in free word groups”[12]. No one may predict the formation of it. There are several grammatical patterns of phraseological units as the following: noun phrases, verbal phrases, adjectival phrases and some semantic phrases:(metaphorical formation, metonymic formation).

Let’s have a look at the distinguishing features of phraseological units in this paragraph. Phraseological units have fixed stability which is sometimes called macro-stability. However, this macro-stability includes micro-stabilities as the following ones:

1) the stability of usage: phraseological units exist in the language system as ready-made form, they do not appear in the speech process, no one can make his own phraseological unit or add/change any detail/component of it by himself. They stay in dictionaries unchanged and handed to the next generations;

2) the stability of meaning: as phraseological units are fully and partially transferred metaphor and metonymy are the main types of transference. Firstly, let’s give some examples

to the fully transferred phraseological units. For example: “Bull in a China shop”. “to make a mountain out of a molehill”, “like a fish out of water”, “Tide and time wait for no man”. Now let’s give examples for partially transferred meaning: “as brave as a lion”, “as sly as a fox”[14]

Sometimes the meaning of any phraseological unit may lose its previous meaning, e.g. “to give up the ghost”. Before the meaning of this phraseological unit was “to die”. But now it means “the car or train, which stopped functioning”.

3) lexical stability: if we talk about the lexical stability, we may divide it into two subparts as: a) without any lexical substitution: “to pay through the nose” (to pay a very large sum of money), “Tommy Atkins” (American soldier), “a bloody Mary” (a drink). However, in many cases they may have their own grammatical forms as well: “He kicked the bucket” (He died). b) limited substitution is possible as well: “close (near)at hand, not stir(to raise) a finger”, “to close (shut)one’s eyes to something).

Conclusion and recommendations. Scientific significance of the research extends the scientific understanding of the phraseological units and proverbs of the English and Uzbek languages and its units, extent of meanings in two languages. The scientific conclusions and the analysis can be used in the creation of textbooks and manuals on English and Uzbek proverbs, including selected courses in linguistics and in scientific seminars. Scientific importance of the results lies in the fact that the results of the research will provide a deeper analysis of comparative, semantic and structural aspects of proverbs in English and Uzbek, as well as the enrichment and development of existing theories.

The practical significance is that its conclusions can be used effectively in the linguistic area, in order to introduce a more effective language to practice.

Moreover, by means of phraseological units, professionals have the possibility to discover the value of this linguistic tool and it improves the quality and expressiveness of speech.

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