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SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION OF PHRASEOLOGY RELATED TO LABOUR IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

Annotation

Labour is an integral part of human life, closely connected to social status, cultural values, and daily activities. Phraseological units, particularly idioms related to work, reflect linguistic richness, cultural traditions, and social norms. This study aims to semantically classify labour-related phraseological units in English and Uzbek, identify their similarities and differences, and explore their implications for language learning, translation, and applied linguistics. The research shows that while both languages have semantically similar expressions, their usage is shaped by cultural, historical, and social contexts. Semantic classification of idioms provides a systematic framework for understanding, translating, and teaching these expressions, highlighting the interplay between language, culture, and society.

Key words: Labour, phraseology, idioms, semantic classification, cross-cultural analysis, translation, language learning, applied linguistics.

MEHNATGA OID FRAZEOLOGIK BIRLIKLARNING INGLIZ VA O'ZBEK TILLARIDA SEMANTIK TASNIFI

Annotatsiya

Mehnat inson hayotining ajralmas qismi bo'lib, u ijtimoiy mavqe, madaniy qadriyatlar va kundalik faoliyat bilan chambarchas bog'liqdir. Ayniqsa, mehnatga oid frazeologik birliklar va iboralar tilning boyligi, xalqning madaniy an'analari hamda ijtimoiy qarashlarini aks ettiradi. Mazkur tadqiqotning maqsadi ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi mehnatga oid frazeologik birliklarni semantik jihatdan tasniflash, ularning o'xshash va farqli jihatlari aniqlash hamda ularning til o'qitish, tarjima va amaliy tilshunoslikdagi ahamiyatini yoritishdan iborat. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni ko'rsatadiki, har ikki tilda mazmun jihatidan o'xshash iboralar mavjud bo'lsa-da, ularning qo'llanishi milliy madaniyat, tarixiy taraqqiyot va ijtimoiy omillar ta'sirida shakllangan. Frazeologik birliklarning semantik tasnifi ularni tushunish, tarjima qilish va o'qitishda tizimli yondashuvni ta'minlab, til, madaniyat va jamiyat o'rtasidagi uzviy bog'liqlikni namoyon etadi.

Kalit so'zlar: Mehnat, frazeologiya, iboralar, semantik tasnif, qiyosiy tahlil, tarjima, til o'qitish, amaliy tilshunoslik.

СЕМАНТИЧЕСКАЯ КЛАССИФИКАЦИЯ ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЗМОВ, СВЯЗАННЫХ С ТРУДОМ, В АНГЛИЙСКОМ И УЗБЕКСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

Аннотация

Труд является неотъемлемой частью жизни человека и тесно связан с его социальным статусом, культурными ценностями и повседневной деятельностью. Фразеологические единицы, особенно идиомы, связанные с трудом, отражают богатство языка, культурные традиции и социальные нормы народа. Цель данного исследования заключается в семантической классификации фразеологических единиц, связанных с трудом, в английском и узбекском языках, выявлении их сходств и различий, а также определении их значения для преподавания языков, перевода и прикладной лингвистики. Результаты исследования показывают, что, несмотря на наличие семантически сходных выражений в обоих языках, особенности их употребления определяются культурными, историческими и социальными факторами. Семантическая классификация фразеологизмов обеспечивает системный подход к их пониманию, переводу и обучению, подчёркивая тесную взаимосвязь языка, культуры и общества.

Ключевые слова: Труд, фразеология, идиомы, семантическая классификация, сопоставительный анализ, перевод, обучение языкам, прикладная лингвистика.

Introduction. Language is not only a means of communication but also a reflection of culture and social practices. Phraseology, which includes idioms, set expressions, and fixed word combinations, plays a crucial role in conveying nuanced meanings that often cannot be deduced from the individual words alone. In particular, phraseological units related to labour reveal both the linguistic and cultural attitudes towards work, employment, and human effort in different societies. Labour-related phraseology in English and Uzbek provides a fertile field for linguistic research because it combines semantic, cultural, and pragmatic aspects. In English, expressions such as “to burn the midnight oil” or “to pull one’s

responsibility, and productivity. Similarly, in Uzbek, idiomatic expressions like “mehnatga chanqoq bo'lmoq” (to be eager for work) or “ter to'kib ishlamoq” (to work sweatingly) reflect traditional cultural values associated with effort, perseverance, and social contribution. The semantic classification of these phraseological units allows researchers to group expressions according to their underlying meanings, such as effort, diligence, cooperation, or exploitation. Such classification not only enhances the understanding of linguistic structure but also provides insights into the social and cultural dimensions of labour.

Relevance. Labour is an inseparable part of human life, closely connected with a person’s social status, cultural values,

and daily activities. Therefore, studying attitudes towards labour through language is important not only from a linguistic perspective but also from cultural, social, and pedagogical viewpoints. Phraseological units, especially labour-related idioms and expressions, reflect the richness of a language and the values of its speakers. Investigating the semantic classification of labour-related phraseology in English and Uzbek allows researchers to identify similarities and differences between the two languages, as well as to develop practical applications in linguistics, translation, and language teaching.

Aim

The aim of this study is to investigate labour-related phraseological units in English and Uzbek and to classify them according to their semantic meanings. This research seeks to reveal the connection between language and culture, highlight the linguistic features of these phraseological units, and demonstrate their potential use in language learning and teaching.

Main part

Language reflects not only communication but also culture, social practices, and human values. Phraseology, encompassing idioms, fixed expressions, and collocations, conveys meanings that often cannot be deduced from individual words alone. Labour-related phraseology is particularly important because it mirrors societal attitudes towards work, diligence, cooperation, and effort. In English, idioms like “to burn the midnight oil” or “to pull one’s weight” indicate commitment, responsibility, and productivity. In Uzbek, equivalents such as “ter to’kib ishlamoq” or “mehnatga chanqoq bo’lmoq” reveal cultural appreciation for perseverance and diligence. Studying these expressions helps understand how language encodes cultural values. Semantic classification allows grouping phrases by meaning, such as effort, cooperation, or exploitation. This study aims to explore these classifications in both English and Uzbek, revealing linguistic patterns and cultural reflections. Understanding these patterns is crucial for translation studies, cross-cultural communication, and language teaching. Moreover, this research contributes to comparative linguistics, helping learners and translators appreciate subtle semantic distinctions. Finally, it highlights the interplay between language, culture, and social perception of labour in different communities.

Phraseology is a branch of linguistics that examines set expressions, idioms, and lexicalized word combinations. Scholars such as Vinogradov and Moon have emphasized the importance of idiomatic units in reflecting a culture’s worldview. Labour-related phraseology captures values, attitudes, and historical experience of work within a society. English and Uzbek phraseology show similarities in figurative usage, though they differ in structure and origin. The study of phraseology includes semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic analysis. Semantic analysis categorizes idioms based on meaning, while pragmatic analysis focuses on context and usage. Phraseology also serves cognitive purposes, illustrating how abstract concepts like effort, reward, or laziness are encoded in language. Cross-linguistic comparison allows researchers to uncover universal patterns and language-specific features. Labour idioms provide insight into moral and social norms of different communities. They reflect work ethics, cooperation, and personal responsibility. By examining these patterns, linguists can trace historical influences and cultural evolution within a language. This theoretical framework underpins the methodology of the present study.

English contains a wide range of labour-related idioms expressing diligence, productivity, and social responsibility. Expressions like “to work one’s fingers to the bone” or “to carry

the load” convey effort and dedication. Idioms may also imply laziness or exploitation, such as “to slack off” or “to be saddled with work”. Semantic analysis allows classification into categories: effort, collaboration, responsibility, and burden. These idioms often reflect historical work practices and societal expectations. Many expressions use metaphorical language, linking labour to physical effort, endurance, or struggle. Understanding these idioms requires knowledge of both lexical meaning and cultural context. Their use in literature, media, and everyday speech reinforces social norms. Analysing these idioms helps English learners grasp nuanced meanings beyond literal translation. It also aids translators in conveying cultural concepts in target languages. Moreover, they reveal societal attitudes toward work ethics, teamwork, and personal accountability. Such analysis enhances cross-cultural competence and linguistic awareness.

Uzbek phraseology similarly reflects cultural perceptions of labour and effort. Idioms such as “ter to’kib ishlamoq” (to work sweatingly) and “mehnatga chanqoq bo’lmoq” (to be eager for work) highlight diligence and dedication. Other expressions may indicate laziness or burden, like “bo’sh ish bilan mashg’ul bo’lmoq” (engaged in idle work). Uzbek idioms often employ imagery drawn from agriculture, crafts, or communal work. Semantic classification groups idioms into categories: perseverance, collaboration, responsibility, and burden. These idioms encode traditional values, social norms, and ethical principles. They also serve cognitive functions, helping speakers conceptualize effort, reward, and social contribution. Analysing these units reveals differences and similarities with English idioms. Such analysis is essential for translation, pedagogy, and comparative linguistics. It helps learners understand culturally loaded meanings. Finally, Uzbek labour idioms reflect historical and socio-economic contexts, including the importance of cooperation and collective effort.

Semantic classification organizes phraseological units according to underlying meaning. Categories for labour-related idioms include: effort and diligence, collaboration and teamwork, responsibility and accountability, laziness or avoidance, and exploitation or burden. Classification relies on analysis of literal and figurative meaning, context of usage, and cultural connotations. This approach enables systematic comparison between languages. Semantic grouping highlights conceptual overlaps and differences. English and Uzbek idioms may share meaning but differ metaphorically. For example, physical effort metaphors are common in both, but cultural imagery varies. Semantic classification supports language teaching, translation, and cross-cultural communication. It also facilitates corpus-based studies of idiomatic usage. By grouping idioms by meaning, researchers can identify cultural priorities reflected in language. This method ensures consistent and replicable analysis. It also provides a foundation for further comparative and cognitive linguistic studies.

Comparing English and Uzbek idioms reveals both universal and language-specific patterns. Both languages emphasize diligence, responsibility, and social contribution. Differences arise in metaphorical sources: English often draws on industrial or military imagery, while Uzbek idioms rely on agricultural and communal work metaphors. Semantic categories such as effort, collaboration, and burden are present in both. Idiomatic frequency and context differ according to cultural norms. Translation studies benefit from this comparative perspective, highlighting challenges in preserving meaning and connotation. Analysing both languages deepens understanding of cultural values encoded in language. Cross-linguistic comparison also identifies potential pitfalls for learners and translators. It highlights the need for context-

sensitive approaches. Overall, the analysis enhances awareness of cultural and linguistic diversity.

Understanding labour-related idioms has practical implications for education and translation. In language teaching, idioms improve comprehension, fluency, and cultural competence. Learners gain insight into societal attitudes and values. Semantic classification aids in organizing teaching materials and exercises. In translation, idioms require careful handling to preserve meaning and connotation. Cross-linguistic differences necessitate adaptation or explanation. Phraseological awareness supports effective communication in multilingual contexts. Moreover, teaching idioms enhances learners' ability to interpret figurative language. In professional contexts, knowledge of idioms improves workplace communication. This application demonstrates the real-world value of linguistic research.

Discussion and Results. The study of labour-related phraseological units in English and Uzbek provides important insights into the semantic, cultural, and social aspects of both languages. Analysis shows that these phraseological units can be grouped into key semantic categories, including work motivation, responsibility, collaboration, burden and obligation, and laziness or avoidance of work. In English, many expressions are based on metaphors related to industry, military, or individual effort, while in Uzbek, they are mostly derived from agricultural, craft, and collective work experiences.

Comparative analysis indicates that although semantically similar units exist in both languages, cultural and historical contexts influence their meaning and usage. For instance, the English idiom "to burn the midnight oil" and the Uzbek phrase "ter to'kib ishlamoq" both reflect dedication to work, yet the first is typically used in academic or professional settings, whereas the latter refers to physical labour. Similarly, expressions indicating laziness or avoidance of work reveal social attitudes toward responsibility and diligence in each culture. Semantic classification of these phraseological units enables a deeper understanding of their meaning, cultural significance, and practical use in translation and language learning. The research shows that labour-related phraseology reflects not only linguistic structures but also the cultural and social values of a society. Identifying similarities and differences between English and Uzbek units allows learners,

translators, and researchers to interpret and apply these expressions more accurately across different contexts.

The analysis of labour-related phraseological units in English and Uzbek revealed several key patterns. Firstly, these expressions can be classified into main semantic groups: work motivation, responsibility, collaboration, burden and obligation, and laziness or avoidance of work. In English, many idioms are based on metaphors related to industry, military, or individual effort, while in Uzbek, they are mostly derived from agricultural, craft, and collective work experiences. The study found that although similar semantic meanings exist across both languages, cultural and historical contexts shape their specific usage and interpretation. Expressions highlighting dedication, diligence, and responsibility demonstrate societal attitudes toward labour and highlight the importance of work ethic. Conversely, phrases indicating laziness or shirking duties reveal social norms regarding acceptable behaviour and moral expectations. Overall, the results indicate that labour-related phraseology not only reflects linguistic structures but also embodies cultural, historical, and social values. Semantic classification provides a systematic framework for understanding these expressions, facilitating more accurate translation, language learning, and applied linguistic research. These findings confirm that examining labour idioms in different languages can deepen understanding of the interplay between language, culture, and social behaviour.

Conclusion. Labour-related phraseology in English and Uzbek provides a rich resource for linguistic, cultural, and pedagogical studies. Semantic classification reveals patterns of meaning, highlighting similarities and differences between languages. English idioms often employ industrial or physical metaphors, while Uzbek idioms use agricultural and communal imagery. Both reflect cultural values of diligence, cooperation, and social responsibility. Comparative analysis aids translation, language teaching, and cross-cultural understanding. This research underscores the interplay between language and culture in shaping attitudes toward labour. Understanding these idioms enhances linguistic awareness, communication skills, and cultural competence. Future studies may expand to other languages or explore historical evolution of labour idioms. Overall, semantic analysis of labour phraseology enriches both theoretical and practical understanding of language.

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