

LINGUOCULTURAL ASPECT OF IDIOMATIC COMPOUND WORDS

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Annotation: The present article is devoted to investigation of English and Uzbek idiomatic expressions or phraseological units which contain culture-related information. They were divided into main groups: idiomatic expressions with the structure of knowledge related to religion, myths and legends, literature, geography, history and culture.

Keywords: idiom, idiomatic expression, phraseological unit, semantics, structures of knowledge, linguo-cultural content.

The objectives of the research: English and Uzbek idiomatic expressions with linguocultural content. The following methods of the research were used: descriptive method, comparative and cross-cultural analysis. Results obtained: linguocultural information in the semantics of English and Uzbek idiomatic expressions has been revealed and approved by numerous examples. Conclusion: the structures of religious, mythological, historical, literature-related, geographical and national-specific knowledge have been defined in the meaningful content of idioms.

Idiomatic expressions differ from common word combinations by their fixed structure and stability of the components. Idiomatic expressions or idioms are often called “phraseological units” or “phraseologisms” in linguistic issues. Such units directly reflect people’s culture, way of their life, they are so called “national spirit” of a definite nation.

Phraseology, which is the branch of linguistics that studies idiomatic expressions or phraseological units, always deals with national-cultural content of a language

system. It is connected with history of the nation and reveals national mentality of native language speakers.

The semantic or meaningful essence of idioms is a huge store of knowledge, which turns to be topical and is disclosed in the process of communication thus giving a chance to a reader/listener to comprehend the meaning of this or that phraseological unit. For example, let's analyze the English idiom Damon and Pythias, which means “very close friends”, “good friends”. When we call two friends by this expression we mean that they are very close and faithful to each other. In the Uzbek language such friends are called by a similar expression: *иккаласи бир тешикка тупуради*. But this idiom belongs to a colloquial style and can't be used in literary or official style.

In the meaning of idiomatic expressions different aspects of language can be disclosed: religious-moral, social, mythological, historical, etc. Such language units convey significant knowledge about the world picture and people.

Awareness of the special national and cultural identity of phraseological units, initially intuitive and a priori, accompanied phraseology from the very beginning of this linguistic discipline at all stages of its development. Thus, the development of various approaches to the identification of national-cultural feature in phraseology corresponded to the stages of development of the language image in linguistics.

The interests of linguistics are focused on the background knowledge of native speakers and on non-equivalent vocabulary. Background knowledge is defined as "knowledge of the realities of speakers and listeners, which is the basis of language communication". When studying phraseology in linguo-regional studies, extralinguistic factors reflected in the component composition of phraseological units are identified and classified.

Special attention to the plan of expression of phraseological units highlights the meaning of historical and etymological interpretation of elements or prototype of phraseological units. Within the framework of the linguistic-cultural approach, the national-cultural originality of phraseological units is expressed in the mention of

certain extralinguistic realities that are characteristic of this culture and belong to the background knowledge of native speakers.

Literature has also enriched English phraseology by original images. Names and family names, even nicknames of personages of novels, poems, fairy tales are used in phraseological units to characterize people with similar personal qualities. The work of the great English writer William Shakespeare undoubtedly enriched English phraseology with its unique images and phrases: come out-Herod Herod – to surpass Herod in cruelty; play the jack (or Jack) with somebody – to cheat, deceive someone; Hamlet with Hamlet left out – something devoid of its essence; Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark –something devoid of its essence; king’s (Queen’s) English – literary English; Cordelia’s gift – a soft, gentle female voice; A Daniel come to judgment – an honest, righteous judge (in modern language used ironically):

‘I shall have to toss for it’. He tossed a penny in the air, ‘Muriel will call’, said her father in the tone of a Daniel come to judgement (Compton Mackenzie, “The Rival Monster”).

Shakespeareanism includes the following expressions for men and women: men in buckram – fictional people (for the sake of bragging); dance barefoot – stay an old maid; curled darlings – rich suitors, rich idlers; the faithful Adam – a faithful, old servant (named after a character in the Comedy of W. Shakespeare "As you like it"); better a witty fool than a foolish wit – better a witty fool than a stupid wit; it’s in his buttons – he’s lucky, he’ll be a success.

However, in modern English phraseology, such units may experience some changes associated with the constant development of the language system: chartered libertine – a person who is allowed to do whatever he wants. The genius and talent of Shakespeare is confirmed by the fact that the images, names, situations and sayings created by him entered not only his native English, but also other languages of the world.

From the novel by Charles Dickens "Oliver Twist" in English phraseology appeared a unit with the nickname of the pickpocket John Dawkins: an Artful

Dodger– a scoundrel. Another phraseological unit is associated with the hero of the novel "David Copperfield": King Charles's head – an idea, the subject of insanity. In the novel "Little Dorrit", Charles Dickens calls the bureaucratic institution the Circumlocution Office. The writer John Poole was the creator of the phraseological unit Paul Pry – a man who pokes his nose into other people's affairs, too curious person.

And the famous phraseological unit man Friday (the faithful servant) carries an etymology from the novel "Robinson Crusoe" by Daniel Defoe. That was the name of Crusoe's loyal assistant. In modern phraseology, man Friday means a dedicated assistant in all matters. By analogy, the phraseologisms girl Friday was created – a loyal assistant (usually about a girl secretary).

Thus, the character of a proper name is determined by many factors: the geographical environment, culture, history, and religion of the people.

These are just some examples which describe and disclose history and culture of people. In the modern English and Uzbek languages there are hundreds of similar examples of idiomatic expressions which are closely connected with history, geography, literature, myths and legends, religion and culture. They are very interesting for both lingual-cultural investigations and self-learning and broadening one's outlook as well.

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