

# SEMANTIC-GRAMMATICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FEATURES OF ENGLISH PHRASEOLOGY

<sup>1</sup>Khaydarova Guzalkhon, <sup>2</sup>Kakharova Nafisa, <sup>3</sup>Kodirova Maftunakhon, <sup>4</sup>Eralieva Barchinoy

**ABSTRACT--***The article covers the dialectic of generality and specificity of English phraseology in the language and speech stages, phraseological units in separate areas, and their semantic-grammatical and methodological features in the functional methods of speech, especially the semantic, grammatical and emotional-expressive features of professional phraseological units. The article also provides an in-depth analysis of the object of study of phraseological units, the attitude to the stages of formation and development of phraseological units.*

**Key words--***Phraseologisms, phraseological expressions, phraseological compounds, phraseological units, word combinations, English phraseology.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

The field of phraseology, which has a special place and weight in linguistics, has also reached a new level. Phraseological units are closely related to the spiritual culture, customs, profession, place and composition, aspirations, attitude to reality of the people who speak the language.

Phraseological units are one of the most important means of creating imagery and emotional-expressiveness. They serve to enhance the expressiveness of artistic, political, and journalistic texts. Therefore, phraseology plays an important role in stylistics, which is a separate branch of linguistics. Phraseologisms are a concise, semantically weighty linguistic unit that fits the spirit of the time, as national values and traditions require the speaker to express them in a concise, well-founded, figurative, and effective way in a time of development.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Different features of phraseological expressions can also be identified by classifying them according to their external form. This classification focuses more on the number of words in a phrase. The classification can be used to determine the number of words in a phrase. Many linguists argue that phraseological expressions are just more than two words. However, observations show that phraseological expressions consist of two, three or more words. But some linguists believe that there are also one-word phrases. In particular, according to Professor A. Jafarov, one-word phrases are formed at the highest stage of development of idiomatic expressions. Phrases of

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<sup>1</sup> English teachers of National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek oqituvchi123@mail.ru

<sup>2</sup> Senior teacher of National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek

<sup>3</sup> English teachers of National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek oqituvchi123@mail.ru

<sup>4</sup> English teachers of National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek oqituvchi123@mail.ru

this type are expressed by a compound word or a single word, which differs from compound words in that they do not express a direct thought. An idiomatic meaning can be understood through a single word. But it's hard to name these words phrase. Because a phrase has to be a combination of words. The opinions of V.V.Vinogradov, A.Abakumov, A.Shakhmatov are valuable.[1]

Idiomatic words are made up of single words and have an idiomatic meaning. But the phrase cannot mean the features it reflects. According to academician V.V.Vinogradov, the development of phraseological units should begin with phraseological integrity and turn into phraseological compounds. It has to evolve from phraseological integrity to phraseological confusion and then to phraseological compounds. Based on this idea, Sh. Rakhmatullayev's opinion that "idiomatic words are formed on the basis of phraseological compounds" is well-founded.

Phraseological combinations are basically a combination of words, in other words, phraseologies are a separate unit of language, which is structurally free connection or equivalent to a sentence, fully or partially semantically reconstructed figurative and includes fixed phrases.[2]

Most of the phraseologies were created by the people in both English and other languages, their authors are unknown, and their sources are not clear. In this sense, the phraseologist A.V.Kunin has reasonably pointed out the author of most of the English phraseologies is unknown, and the idea that they were created by the people. However, the origins of some phraseological units can be traced. In this sense, phraseology is a microsystem that is part of the general system of language, which reflects the heritage and values of the past, passed down from generation to generation. Many of the phraseological units that make up a system are a source of enrichment for a particular language. Phraseological system consists of phraseological units, the relationship between their main components. Phraseologisms are connections of words that consist of more than one word and are stable in meaning and form. Phraseologisms are used in a figurative sense, in figurative expressions, and have norms and methods of historical use, the meaning of which is clarified in a particular speech process. Phraseologisms are different from sentences that are a unit of speech when they are in the form of a phrase or a sentence. As a lexical unit, they are in many ways close to words, and many of the characteristics of words are also characteristic of phraseology. [3] Other phraseologists expand the concept of the object of phraseology by semantically stable phrases that are equal not only to a word but also to a sentence. That is, phraseology includes not only nominative units but also communicative units. This assumption is supported by A.V. Kunin, A.D. Reichstein and confirmed by others.

M.N.Shansky' distinguished phraseological confusion phraseological expressions consisting of not only semantic but also completely independent words, along with phraseological units and phraseological relationships. Therefore, in explaining the concept of the object of phraseology, he states:

*"Whether we include or exclude phrases from the science of phraseology depends not on whether these units are nominative or communicative units, but whether they have been absorbed into consumption over the centuries or have completely disappeared from the process of communication."*

This view is now supported by many linguists. It is also included in textbooks and manuals for modern universities. Summarizing his views on the object of modern phraseology, V N Telia writes that some scholars include only two groups in phraseology - idioms and phraseological units, while others consider proverbs and parables as part of phraseology. This group sometimes includes various clichés and winged phrases. All these

units have one thing in common: they consist of a few words and the need for them in communication is strong. In other words, phraseologies are made up of ready-made and previously used units of communication. [4]

Because phraseological material is complex and multifaceted, in recent years it has been studied using a variety of methods and techniques. The following methods and techniques of studying phraseological units should be emphasized here:

### **III. IDENTIFICATION METHOD.**

Its leading representatives are the leading linguists Charles Balli and A.V. Kunin. Contextological method. Its representative is N.N.Amosova, who studied the phraseological units that occur mainly in the text. Also, the variational method (V.L.Arkhangelsky), the method of phraseological application (V.P.Jukov), the structural-typological method (L.I.Rayzenzon, Y.K.Avaliani, Y.P.Solodub), the comparative method (S.G.Gavrin), the method of studying expressions on the basis of semantic circles (M.G.Tashev), the method of studying lexemes and phrases into denotative and connotative semantics (M.M.Kopilenko).

The methods listed above complement each other and provide a deeper understanding of the different types of phraseological units, their paradigmatic and syntagmatic properties, and valence possibilities. [5]

Phraseology is like an exhibition of paintings with examples of vivid and wonderful traditions, customs and fairy tales of the peoples. Phraseology is not only the most diverse but also the most democratic layer of dictionaries, and this layer is enriched mainly through "live" speech. Phraseology first appeared in literature. When translating a particular work from one language to another, it is no longer possible to translate exactly the same set of words. At the same time, the phraseology of those languages began to be studied. The term phraseology was first used in world philology in 1558 by the English literary scholar Neandr. He was forced to use the term when translating works of art. While much of the phraseological material is contained in dictionaries and other literature, there is also scientific work on phraseological theory in the linguistic literature of Western Europe and America. Until recently, English phraseology was studied in the fields of grammar, stylistics, lexicography, and language history. In all languages, phraseology was studied as part of lexicology.

In the development of linguistics, phraseology has been accepted and studied as an independent branch of linguistics. It should be noted that linguists from Russia and a number of other European countries have done a lot of research on the study of English phraseology. Much positive results have been achieved. Although the French linguist Charles Balli introduced the term phraseology to science, the term is reflected in the work of American and Western European linguists. Balli incorporates phraseology into stylistics. The issue of studying phraseology as an independent branch of linguistics was raised by the famous Russian linguist Y.D.Polivanov. He argues that lexicon studies the meaning of individual words, morphology studies the form of words, and syntax studies the form of word combinations. According to him, along with these areas of language, there is a need for a separate area to study the meaning of certain phrases. Y.D.Polivanov was convinced that phraseology has a strong place in linguistics. The study of phraseology as a solid branch of linguistics was put forward by the Russian scholar V.V.Vinogradov. Vinogradov's great merit is that he semantically divided phraseological combinations into groups. But despite his services, phraseology remained a branch of lexicology because no basic concepts had been developed to prove that phraseology could be an independent branch of linguistics.

Thus, the study of phraseology as a branch of linguistics continued. The first scientist after Y.D. Polivanov and V.V. Vinogradov was B.A. Larin, who raised the issue of studying phraseology as an independent branch of linguistics. He noted that not enough research had been done in the field of phraseology. [6]

#### IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

Comparative-typological research in the field of phraseology opens a wide way to solve the general problems of phraseology. In general, it has a much broader meaning than the etymological analysis of the sources of formation of phraseological compounds. This is a general philological problem, and determining the stages of formation of the oldest, earliest philological models is an important semiotic task. [7] The study of phraseological combinations in connection with the names of various things, events and places, names of people is also a topical issue in modern linguistics. Linguist D. Niyazmetova in her article "Linguistic Study of Food-Composed Phraseology in English" (Biblical Materials) notes that the study of phraseology in linguoculturology is one of the most pressing and controversial issues. [8] The use of linguistic analysis and statistical methods in the analysis of dictionaries can be observed in determining the semantic, linguoculturological features of biblical food-related phraseologies.

Phrases that are grammatically classified in English. Go the wrong end of the stick (misunderstand) – verb+object *Pulla fast one* (trick, deceive smb) – verb+object *Poke your nose into* (interfere) – verb+object *Be over the moon* (extremely happy) – verb+prepositional phrase *Feel down in the dumps* (depressed) – verb+prepositional phrase *Be in the red* (have a negative bank balance) – verb+prepositional phrase

Phraseological expressions include at least two independent words. These syntactically related words are essentially equivalent to a compound or a sentence. [9]

Phraseological confusions are phraseologies in which the meanings of the components are not related to the meaning of the whole unit. For example, *heavy father – a major role in a theatrical play*, *to kick the bucket – to die*, *red tape – bureaucratic methods* are phraseologisms whose meaning does not depend on the meanings of the words they contain. Phraseological confusion is a combination of words whose meaning has changed completely. But unlike phraseological compounds, their meanings are not understood from the meanings of their components, and metaphor-based semantic transitions lose their clarity. *To leave smb in lurch* (to abandon a friend when he is in trouble), *to show the white feather* (to betray one's cowardice), *to dance attendance on smb* (to try and attract smb, to show exaggerated attention) phraseologies are also an example of phraseological confusion.

Phraseological compounds are phraseologisms their meaning is understood from the phraseological meaning of whole phraseological units. Metaphor-based meaning shifts are clear and obvious. The lexical components of phraseological compounds are the most stable.

For example:

- **to look a gift horse in the mouth** (to examine a present too critically, to find fault with smth one gained without effort),
- **to ride a high horse** (to behave a superior, haughtily, overbearing way),
- **a big bug** (a person to importance),

- **a fish out of water** (a person situated uncomfortably outside his usual and proper environment)  
Phraseologisms such as can be an example of phraseological compounds. There is a lot of phraseology. Some of them are easy to translate and some are even international.

- For example, **to know the way the wind blows** – to know where the wind blows.

**Phraseological associations** are words that have a specific valence. One component of such phraseological units is used in its literal sense, and the rest is used in a metaphorical sense. Phraseological associations are to some extent semantically indivisible. Phraseological associations are partially altered combinations of words. The meaning of these phraseological units is easily understood from the meaning of the words that make them up.

To be at one's wits end, to be a goodhand at smth, to come off a poor second, to come to a sticky end, to stick at nothing, gospel truth, bosom friend etc. are examples of phraseological associations.

In the classification of phraseology proposed by N.N.Amosova, phraseological units are divided into phrases and idioms, depending on whether one of the components or a whole compound has a specific meaning.

Phrases usually consist of two words, and one of these components has a special meaning when it is related to the other. For example, *a small horse* has two components, and the first component (*horse*) plays a key role in understanding the specific meaning that is exchanged from the context. This can be seen in the following examples: *small talk, to knit one's brows, husband's tea*.

By studying the semantic features of phraseologies, it was found that they have the phenomena of phraseological polesemia, phraseological synonymy, phraseological antonymy and paronymy. The paradigmatic and syntagmatic features of phraseologies indicate their use of grammatical, morphological, syntactic, and lexical-semantic means. The variation of phraseologies depends on the exchange, use, omission of their components, transformation. Phraseology differs depending on the grammatical and morphological structure of the verb, form, preposition, etc. Phrases that are part of phraseology sometimes lose their independent meaning. Phraseologisms are very rich in synonyms, especially in lexical-semantic terms. The phrase **to be in a bad mood**, which is used in the sense of **being upset**, has 9 synonyms in English: *to be down in the mouth, to be in a bad temper, to be in a bad humor, to be in a low spirit, to be in a dumps, to be out of humor, to be out sorts, to be out of spirit, to be out of spirits*. Phraseologisms consist of meaning and additional accents. Phraseological meaning is the information that a phrase expresses about a sign and movement. For example: *My daughter raised my head to heaven*.

Structural synonyms are phraseological units whose lexical structure is similar, but whose meanings, stylistic orientation, and imagery differ. Phraseological variants can be both structural and multi-structural. The following types of phraseological variants are distinguished:

1. Lexical options – not to lift (raise, stir yoki turn) a finger, close (near) at hand, give a green light, a friend at court;
2. Grammatical variants are divided into three types:
  - a) morphological – the procrustes' bed = the Procrustean bed;
  - b) Syntactic – take away smb's breath = take smb's breath away;
  - c) morphological-syntactic – a Herculean labour = herculian labour's = a labour of Hercules;
3. Spelling options – hand in glove = hand-in-glove;

4. Combined options – arouse/stir up a nest of hornet = bring/riese/stir a hornet's/hornets' nest about one's ears;

In English, there is also a type of noun phrases that have a professional component with an adjective + numerical structure:

a) This includes phrases with a rhythmic accent and a pattern of adjective + noun: cold cook, dry nurse, wet nurse;

b) The first part is phrases made up of complex words: back-seat driver

c) Phrases from the word groups noun + noun: lion hunter, fortune hunter, merchant tailor, Jerry Builder

Phrasemes with a substantive creative structure with a professional noun component include: 1) and – head cook and bottle washer is a four-piece phrase with conjunction. “Cook” and “bottle” are not synonymous but belong to the same semantic field. 2) a four-piece phrase hewers of wood, drawers of water 3) the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker; tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor – components of a single semantic field combined with a single utterance.

Verb nominative units include:

1) Comparative verb phrases with subordinate structure: to work like a heavy; to swear like a tinker; the driver's mouth is broken; the blacksmith's word is foul

2) The phraseological unit of the verb “to spell the baker” is two-component, indicating an objective meaning.

## V. CONCLUSION

In short, phraseology is a separate branch of linguistics that is used in the general sense of phraseological units in a language and in the sense of the field that studies such a unit. Phraseological units are linguistic units that have specific semantic, lexical, and grammatical meanings, and the words they contain are grammatically and semantically interconnected and have a single meaning. Phraseological units are also used figuratively, and have historical usage norms. Phraseological units form a separate system in the language. They are semantically and grammatically formed expressions. They have a unique morphological and syntactic structure. The words in phraseology are grammatically and semantically related to each other. Phraseologisms are used figuratively. The norms and methods of their historical use are clarified in the course of a particular speech, because they are fixed expressions that have a full or partial figurative meaning.

The semantic nature of phraseological units is based on the syntactic combination of their components. According to phraseologists, phraseologisms that have a partially figurative meaning are the weakest connection between their components that is, the more the meaning of phraseological units differs from the meaning of its components, the higher the degree of semantic coherence.

In short, phraseological units, regardless of their language or subject, are formed on the basis of the way of life, customs, national culture, spiritual experiences described in oral works, the expression of dreams of today and tomorrow. In other words, phraseology is a linguistic unit created by the people.

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