

PHRASEOLOGY AS A LINGUISTIC BRANCH

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Abstract

This article examines phraseology as a significant and independent branch of modern linguistics. Phraseological units – including idioms, proverbs, sayings, and other fixed expressions – are analyzed as important elements that reflect the national and cultural characteristics of a language. The paper explores the structural, semantic, and functional features of phraseological units and their role in both spoken and written discourse. Additionally, it highlights the interconnection of phraseology with other linguistic disciplines such as semantics, stylistics, and lexicology. The challenges of translating phraseological units, their role in conveying the mentality of a nation, and their importance in intercultural communication are also discussed.

Keywords: Phraseology, phraseological units, idioms, semantics, structure, lexicology, stylistics, translation, intercultural communication, linguistics, spoken and written discourse, national mentality, fixed expressions.

Introduction

Phraseology is a significant branch of linguistics that deals with the study and analysis of phraseological units-fixed expressions and multi-word combinations that have a specific meaning. This field explores how these expressions function within language, their formation, and their role in communication. Here's an overview of phraseology as a linguistic branch: Phraseology examines set expressions and idiomatic phrases that are used in everyday language. These units often have meanings that are not deducible from the meanings of the individual words that compose them. For example, expressions like "kick the bucket" or "spill the beans" have meanings that are not immediately obvious from the literal interpretation of the words.

Phraseology is the part of a language in which a nation's cultural potential is accumulated. A language's phraseological reserve is a universal treasury of cultural installations, stereotypes, standards, and traits. Phraseological units are created, developed, and employed in any language not so much to describe the world and the people in it, but to flourish it, to evaluate the objects, and to communicate the speaker's subjective attitude. V.N. Telia wrote: "Phraseological of a language is considered to be a mirror in which the community identifies its national identity"

According to Prof. Kunin A.V., these are stable word-groups with meanings that are either partially or fully transferred from their literal meanings (e.g., "to kick the bucket," "Greek gift," "drink till all's blue," "drunk as a fiddler," "as mad as a hatter"). Rosemarie Gläser defines a phraseological unit as a lexicalized, reproducible billexemic or polylexemic word group in

common use. It has relative syntactic and semantic stability, may be idiomatized, carry connotations, and can serve an emphatic or intensifying function in a text. [5:125]

Main Body:

In phraseology, the basic units of analysis are often referred to as phrasemes or phraseological units. According to Prof. Kunin A.V., phraseological units are stable word-groups with partially or fully transferred meanings (e.g., “to kick the bucket,” “Greek gift,” “drink till all's blue,” “drunk as a fiddler,” “as mad as a hatter”). Rosemarie Gläser describes a phraseological unit as a lexicalized, reproducible bilexemic or polylexemic word group. The meaning of a phraseological unit can sometimes be inferred from one of its components (when it is motivated). In cognitive linguistics, idioms are believed to have conceptual motivation. However, many phraseological units cannot have their meaning deduced from the meaning of their components (when they are not motivated). In such cases, compositional analysis is used to uncover the semantic meaning within the semantic field. [6:143]

The status of most word-groups cannot be definitively determined using these criteria because, as a rule, we deal not with complete idiomatization and stability but with varying degrees of these distinguishing features of phraseological units. No objective criteria for the degree of idiomatization and stability have yet been proposed. For example, “to win a victory” is considered a phraseological combination according to the semantic approach because it is almost completely motivated and allows for certain variability, such as “to win,” “to gain,” and “a victory.” According to the functional approach, it is not a phraseological unit, as the degree of semantic and grammatical inseparability is insufficient for the word-group to function as a word-equivalent. “Small hours,” according to the contextual approach, has a literal meaning. However, if we classify it based on the functional approach, word-groups that are partially motivated are assessed differently depending on which criteria of phraseological units are applied. [7:134]

There is still another approach to the problem of phraseology in which an attempt is made to overcome the shortcoming of the phraseological theories discussed above. The main features of this new approach which is now more or less universally accepted by linguists are as follows: Phraseology is regarded as a self-contained branch of linguistics and, not as a part of lexicology. Phraseology deals with a phraseological subsystem of language and not with isolated phraseological units. Phraseology is concerned with all types of set expressions. Set expressions are divided into three classes: phraseological units (e.g. red tape, mare’s nest, etc.), phraseomatic units (e.g. win a victory, launch a campaign, etc.) and borderline cases belonging to the mixed class. The main distinction between the first and the second classes is semantic: phraseological units have fully or partially transferred meanings while components of, phraseomatic units are used in their literal meanings. Phraseological and phraseomatic units are not regarded as word-equivalents but some of them are treated as word correlates. Phraseological and phraseomatic units are set expressions and their phraseological stability distinguishes them from free phrases and compound words. Phraseological and phraseomatic units are made up of words of different degree of wordness depending on the type of set

expressions they are used in. (cf. e.g. small hours and red tape). Their structural separateness, an important factor of their stability, distinguishes them from compound words (cf. E.g. blackbird and black market). Stability of use means that set expressions are reproduced ready-made and not created in speech. They are not elements of individual style of speech but language units. Lexical stability means that the components of set expressions are either irreplaceable (e.g. red tape, mare's nest) or partly replaceable within the bounds of phraseological or phraseomatic variance: lexical (e.g. a skeleton in the cupboard – a skeleton in the closet). grammatical (e.g. to be in deep water – to be in deep waters), positional (e.g. head over ears – over head and ears), quantitative (e.g. to lead smb a dance- to lead smb a pretty dance), mixed variants (e.g. raise (stir up) a hornets' nest about one's ears- arouse (stir up) the nest of hornets). Semantic stability is based on the lexical stability of set expressions. Even when occasional changes are introduced the meaning of set expression is preserved. It may only be specified, made more precise, weakened or strengthened. In other words in spite of all occasional phraseological and phraseomatic units, as distinguished from free phrases, remain semantically invariant or are destroyed. For example, the substitution of the verbal component in the free phrase to raise a question by the verb to settle (to settle a question) changes the meaning of the phrase, no such change occurs in to raise (stir up) a hornets' nest about one's ears. [4:249]

There are grounds to believe that there is an interdependence between the two ways of lexicalizing free word-groups, which makes them mutually exclusive. For instance, compounds are more common in certain parts of speech, while phraseological units are more prevalent in others. Phraseological units are frequently found as verb equivalents, whereas compound verbs are relatively rare. This suggests that the lexicalization of free word-groups and their transformation into either compound words or phraseological units is influenced by the type of word. Little is known about the factors involved in the lexicalization process that results in the formation of phraseological units. This issue might be explored in terms of the degree of motivation. It can be assumed that a free word-group becomes a phraseological unit when it acquires semantic inseparability and becomes synchronically non-motivated. [3:359-361]

Phraseological units (idioms) fill in the gaps left by the lexical system of language, which is often the only representation of things, qualities, states, circumstances, etc. when other symbols aren't available. keeping in mind that "the name itself - is not only indicate referents process, but the process of learning." The tension between the language's limited lexical resources and the demands of thought is lessened through phraseology in education. When a lexical phraseological synonym exists, they typically have a different stylistic quality. A language's rich history can be found in phraseology. The history of the population, as well as the distinctiveness of their culture and way of life, are reflected in phraseologies. Along with a solely national phraseology in English phraseology, there are various international phraseology. Idiom frequently wear bright national character. English phrasebooks contain a complicated blend of original and borrowed phraseology, with the former clearly dominating. Some phraseologies still contain archaic components that are relics of earlier times. [1:27-28]

Phraseology is the part of a language in which a nation's cultural potential is accumulated. A language's phraseological reserve is a universal treasury of cultural installations, stereotypes, standards, and traits. Phraseological units are created, developed, and employed in any language not so much to describe the world and the people in it, but to flourish it, to evaluate the objects, and to communicate the speaker's subjective attitude. V.N. Telia wrote: "Phraseological of a language is considered to be a mirror in which the community identifies its national identity" [2:284].

In conclusion According to the construction, etymological, structural-semantic, which section of the sentence they can be in, and motivational degree of meaning according to which word group it is expressed, linguistic phraseologisms are classed. Despite the fact that phraseology is considered a separate study in modern linguistics, it is closely linked to lexicology, grammar, stylistics, phonetics, history of language, history of philosophical sciences, logic, and geography. Phraseological units, as easily stored units in a language, are always units with a clear meaning, consistent content, and a structure. Linguists emphasize the importance of a language's phraseological fund's connection to tradition and stability as stable units in both quantity and quality.

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Resume

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