

## THE ROLE OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

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### Abstract

This article explores the relationship between language and culture through phraseological units.

**Keywords:** Phraseology, culture, language, mentality

### Introduction

#### Аннотация

В статье рассматривается взаимосвязь языка и культуры на основе анализа фразеологических единиц.

**Ключевые слова:** фразеология, культура, язык, менталитет

The relationship between language and culture is considered one of the most pressing issues in modern linguistics. Each language reflects the historical experience, customs, values, and worldview of a particular nation. This connection is especially evident in phraseological units, as they constitute the figurative and cultural layer of the language (1. Bally Ch., 1909. 156).

Phraseological units serve as a means of expressing culture through language. They convey the lifestyle, social relations, and values of a people. Behind every phraseologism lies a specific historical experience and collective consciousness. For this reason, phraseological units become an important object of study in linguacultural research (2. Cowie A.P., 1998. 189). One of the essential characteristics of phraseological units is their close connection with national mentality. The concept of mentality encompasses a nation's mode of thinking, values, and social perspectives. This mentality is expressed through language, particularly through phraseologisms. This, in turn, allows phraseological units to be viewed as a form of cultural reflection through language (3. Wierzbicka A., 1997. 78).

In this light, the study of phraseological units goes beyond mere linguistic observation, serving as a primary methodology for reconstructing the historical paradigms of human thought. These figurative expressions encapsulate the archaic beliefs, ritualistic behaviors, and social transitions of an ethnocultural community, preserving them within the

contemporary language system. By examining how these historical fragments survive within idiomatic structures, researchers can trace the evolution of cultural concepts and understand how past experiences continue to govern modern communicative behavior.

Furthermore, within the framework of modern cognitive linguistics, phraseology is recognized as a vital instrument for cross-cultural conceptualization. Since phraseological units compress complex cultural narratives into concise linguistic formulas, they present a unique challenge for translation and international communication. A thorough comprehension of these units prevents semantic distortion in multicultural discourses, thereby facilitating more accurate academic exchange and fostering deep intercultural dialog in a globalized scientific community.

Phraseological units also reflect a people's worldview and attitude toward nature. For instance, in certain languages, phraseologisms related to animals are widely used. This demonstrates the historical connection of the people with nature. From this perspective, phraseological units are regarded not only as linguistic units but also as a system of cultural signs (4. Dobrovol'skij D., 2005. 112).

Til va madaniyat o'rtasidagi bog'liqlik tarjima jarayonida ham yaqqol namoyon bo'ladi. Frazelogik birliklarni boshqa tilga tarjima qilishda ularning madaniy mazmunini hisobga olish zarur. Aks holda, frazeologizmning asl ma'nosi yo'qolishi mumkin. Bu esa tarjimada ekvivalentlik muammosini keltirib chiqaradi (5. Fernando C., 1996. 167). Phraseological units also perform a social function in speech. Through them, individuals express their mutual relations, evaluate one another, and convey their emotional states. This enhances the communicative and pragmatic significance of phraseologisms (2. Cowie A.P., 1998. 201).

Furthermore, phraseological units expand the figurative expression capabilities of a language. They render speech more impactful and expressive. Especially in fiction (belles-lettres), phraseologisms are considered one of the primary means of character and imagery creation (1. Bally Ch., 1909. 178).

Another important aspect of phraseological units is their connection with collective memory. Through them, the historical experience and cultural heritage of a nation are transmitted from generation to generation. This demonstrates the cultural-preservative function of phraseologisms (3. Wierzbicka A., 1997. 102).

Linguacultural analysis of phraseological units shows that they possess multilayered meanings in which linguistic and cultural components blend harmoniously. This makes their study even more complex and intriguing.

In the linguacultural analysis of phraseological units, identifying their conceptual foundations is of great importance. Each phraseologism expresses a specific concept, and this concept is directly linked to the cultural experience of the nation. From this point of view, phraseological units serve as an important source for studying the conceptual system of a language. The cultural component of phraseological units is reflected in their semantic structure. These units are often not translated literally, as their meaning is figurative and

metaphorical. Therefore, context and cultural knowledge play a crucial role in understanding them (5. Fernando C., 1996. 189).

Phraseological units also serve as a means of transmitting social experience through language. They reflect the stereotypes, values, and social norms existing within a society. This demonstrates the sociocultural significance of phraseologisms. Furthermore, phraseological units are used as a means of identification during the speech process. That is, they can be utilized to determine the national or cultural identity of the speaker. This further expands the social function of phraseologisms (4. Dobrovolskij D., 2005. 178).

Additionally, the exchange of phraseological units between different languages is being observed in the process of globalization. However, maintaining national identity within this process is of paramount importance. Therefore, studying phraseological units is relevant not only from a linguistic perspective but also from the viewpoint of preserving cultural heritage.

All in all, phraseological units are multilayered entities that reflect the complex relationships between language and culture, and their in-depth study is considered one of the important tasks of modern linguistics. Consequently, phraseological units constitute one of the primary means reflecting the connection between language and culture. Through them, national mentality and cultural values are expressed. This profound alignment between idiom and identity suggests that the preservation of phraseological wealth is inextricably linked to the preservation of intellectual diversity itself. In an era marked by linguistic globalization and the rapid homogenization of discourse, localized metaphorical systems face the risk of gradual attrition. Consequently, the meticulous documentation and analysis of distinct phraseological frameworks do not merely serve an academic curiosity, but rather function as an essential strategy for safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage of humanity.

Ultimately, recognizing phraseological units as dynamic repositories of a nation's soul shifts the pedagogical paradigm in advanced language acquisition. Mastery of a language's grammatical matrix represents only a preliminary stage; true intercultural competence requires the deciphering of these idiomatic codes. By integrating deep phraseological analysis into contemporary curricula, educators can equip the next generation of researchers and global citizens with the semiotic tools necessary to navigate, respect, and bridge the nuanced cognitive landscapes of the modern world.

## References

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