

STRUCTURAL AND GRAMMATICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS

Uzbek State World Languages University
Senior teacher: Seytimbetova Aykumar Pulatbaevna

Abstract: Phraseology tends to reflect the correlation between language and culture. Therefore, the language user needs shared knowledge in order to be able to understand given units properly. The knowledge of connotative meanings of components enables the language user to decode modifications of canonical forms of phraseological units as well as to create their own modifications. This work deals with structural and grammatical analysis of phraseological units and provides examples.

Key words: phraseological units, grammatical, structural, component

Phraseological units may be defined as specific word-groups functioning as word-equivalents; they are equivalent to definite classes of words. The part-of-speech meaning of phraseological units is felt as belonging to the word-group as a whole irrespective of the part-of-speech meaning of component words. Comparing a free word-group, e.g. a long day and a phraseological unit, e.g. in the long run, we observe that in the free word-group the noun day and the adjective long preserve the part-of-speech meaning proper to these words taken in isolation.

Prof. A.I. Smirnitsky worked out structural classification of phraseological units, comparing them with words. He points out one-top units which he compares with derived words because derived words have only one root morpheme. He points out two-top units which he compares with compound words because in compound words we usually have two root morphemes.

Among one-top units he points out three structural types;

a) units of the type (verb + postposition type), e.g. to art up, to back up, to drop out, to nose out, to buy into, to sandwich in etc.;

b) units of the type «to be old». Some of these units remind the Passive Voice in their structure but they have different prepositions with them, while in the Passive Voice we can have only prepositions «by» or «with», e.g. to be tired of, to be interested in, to be surprised at etc. There are also units in this type which remind word-groups of the type «to be young», e.g. to be akin to, to be aware of etc.

c) prepositional- nominal phraseological units. These units are equivalents of unchangeable words: prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs, that is why they have no grammar center, their semantic center is the nominal part, e.g. on the doorstep (quite near), on the nose (exactly), in the course of, on the stroke of, in time, on the point of etc. In the course of time such units can become words, e.g. tomorrow, instead etc.

Among two-top units A.I. Smirnitsky points out the following structural types:

a) attributive-nominal such as: a month of Sundays, grey matter, a millstone round one's neck and many others. Units of this type are noun equivalents and can be partly or perfectly idiomatic. In partly idiomatic units (phrasemes) sometimes the first component is idiomatic, e.g. high road, in other cases the second component is idiomatic, e.g. first night. In many cases both components are idiomatic, e.g. red tape, blind alley, bed of nail, shot in the arm and many others.

b) verb-nominal phraseological units, e.g. to read between the lines, to speak BBC, to sweep under the carpet etc. The grammar center of such units is the verb, the semantic center in many cases is the nominal component, e.g. to fall in love. In some units the verb is both the grammar and the semantic center, e.g. not to know the ropes. These units can be perfectly idiomatic as well, e.g. to burn one's boats, to vote with one's feet, to take to the cleaners' etc.

c) phraseological repetitions, such as : now or never, part and parcel , country and western etc. Such units can be built on antonyms, e.g. ups and downs , back and forth; often they are formed by means of alliteration, e.g cakes and ale, as busy as a bee. Components in repetitions are joined by means of conjunctions. These units are equivalents of adverbs or adjectives and have no grammar centre. They can also be partly or perfectly idiomatic, e.g. cool as a cucumber (partly), bread and butter (perfectly).

Phraseological units the same as compound words can have more than two tops (stems in compound words), e.g. to take a back seat, a peg to hang a thing on, lock, stock and barrel, to be a shadow of one's own self, at one's own sweet will.

According to these classifications of structures of phraseological units, in my research I have analysed the components of phraseological units with the usage of adjectives in the following way;

Component analyses:

Adj + N

A blind alley – тупик

A false alarm – ложная тревога

A smart Aleck- самоуверенный наглец

The awkward age – переходной возраст

The gilded age – позолоченный век

Golden age - золотойвек, период расцвета

Tender age - ранний, нежный возраст

Executive agreement -договор, заключаемый президентом с иностранным государством

Hot air- болтовня, пустые слова; вздор, чепуха, ерунда

The strong arm- применение силы, насилие

Cold arms - холодное оружие

Black jack – кувшин для применения пива.

Black list – чёрный список.

White light – дневной свет.

White man – дисциплинированный человек.

White night – бессонница.

White meat – куриное мясо

V + ADJ + N

To put (or throw) a wet blanket - охладить пыл, действовать расхолаживающе, обескураживать, отбивать

To make along arm- протянуть руку, потянуться за (чем-л.)

To sell smb. a goldbrick - обмануть, надуть, обжулить, облапошить кого-л

To make good cheer- пировать, веселиться

V + ADJ.

To do brown – обманывать

To bleed white – бледнеть

To look balck – грустить.

To go red – покраснеть

V + N + ADJ

To keep the bones green – беречь здоровье.

To catch somebody red handed – задержать кого то в преступлении.

To make the air blue –ругаться, сквернословить

To wear the King scarlet – надевать мундир

To be a button short - винтика в голове не хватает, не все дома

V + ADJ + N + PREP

To make little account of smth – Непридавать значения чему-л

To drive a hard bargain for - много запрашивать, усиленно торговаться

To get a new angle on - стать на новую точку зрения по ка кому-л. вопросу

N + ADJ + N

Worship the golden calf – поклоняться золотому тельцу

PREP + ADJ + N

Of small account - незначительный, не имеющий большого значения; не пользующийся авторитетом

For sour apples - совершенно, совсем

Of good cheer - весёлый, жизнерадостный, полный жизни

In broad daylight - при дневном свете; при свете дня

V + PREP + ADJ + N

To be in great demand – пользоваться большим спросом

To be in different camps - принадлежать к разнымлагерям

V + PREP + ADJ

To be out in the cold – оказаться лишним

To put up a black- допустить бестактность, промах

From the above examples it is seen that every meaning in language and every difference in meaning is signaled either by the form of the word itself or by the context. The complexity or the semantic structure of the word in general, in particular, explained by the fact as reflection of nature, of people life and culture including their history, traditions, and other such like factors which are sometimes full of contradictions and deep unity.

The principle of integral perception of speech or literary work does not exclude the necessity of a most intents attention to its constituting elements. So far as the basic unit of the language is a word, it is necessary to linger at the notion of the word it is meaning.

As I have studied and analyzed all literatures, I found out that the adjective in phraseology sometimes lost its meaning but anyway the function of the adjective in phraseology is an **attribute**. As an example the following adjectives proof my opinion.

A blind alley – тупик

A false alarm - ложная тревога

A smart Aleck - самоуверенный наглец

The awkward age - переходный возраст

The gilded age – позолоченный век

Golden age - золотой век, период расцвета

Tender age - ранний, нежный возраст

Executive agreement - договор, заключаемый президентом с иностранным государством

Hot air - болтовня, пустые слова; вздор, чепуха, ерунда

The strong arm - применение силы, насилие

Cold arms - холодное оружие

It would be interesting now to look at phraseological units from a different angle, namely: how are all these treasures of the language approached by the linguistic science? The very miscellaneous nature of these units suggests the first course of action: they must be sorted out and arranged in certain classes which possess identical characteristics.

But which characteristics should be chosen as the main criteria for such a classification system, the structural, the semantic, those of degree of stability, of origin.

It should be clear from the previous description that a phraseological unit is a complex phenomenon with a number of important features, which can therefore be approached from different points of view. Hence, there exist a considerable number of

different classification systems devised by different scholars and based on different principles.

The traditional and oldest principle for classifying phraseological units is based on their original content and might be alluded to as "*thematic*" (although the term is not universally accepted). The approach is widely used in numerous English and American guides to idiom, phrase books, etc. On this principle, idioms are classified according to their sources of origin, "source" referring to the particular sphere of human activity, of life of nature, of natural phenomena, etc. So, L. P. Smith gives in his classification groups of phraseological units used by sailors, fishermen, soldiers, hunters and associated with the realia, phenomena and conditions of their occupations. In Smith's classification we also find groups of phraseological units associated with domestic and wild animals and birds, agriculture and cooking. There are also numerous phraseological units drawn from sports, arts, colour etc.

Phraseological units denoting features of character of person's

Give a good (fine, splendid, etc.) account of oneself - показать себя молодцом

Good advice is beyond price - подлый человек

A smart Aleck - самоуверенный наглец

An angel of light - дорогой, всеми любимый человек

A straight arrow - прямой, честный человек

Black beast - ненавистный человек

An old bird - опытный, осторожный, бывалый человек

An old campaigner - бывалый человек

Of good cheer - весёлый, жизнерадостный, полный жизни, неунывающий

Phraseological units denoting variety of action

Get a new angle on smth - стать на новую точку зрения по ка- кому-л. вопросу

Have a long arm - иметь длинные руки, достигать всюду

Make a long arm (for) - протянуть руку, потянуться за (чем-л.)

Be glad to see smb. 's back (или the back of smb.) - радоваться избавлению от

кого-л

Go from bad to worse - становиться всё хуже и хуже, ухудшаться

Go to the bad - сбиться с пути истинного

Drive a hard bargain - много запрашивать, усиленно торговаться

Be in the black - вести дело прибыльно, получать прибыль

Put up a black - допустить бестактность, промах

Climb (get или go) into the black - (начать) давать прибыль, стать рентабельным

Disappear into the blue - растаять, раствориться в воздухе

Sell smb. a gold brick - обмануть, надуть, обжулить, облапошить кого-л

be in (или belong to) different - camps принадлежать к разным лагерям

Keep good company - бывать в хорошей компании

Phraseological units denoting object and quality

Cold deck - колода краплёных или подтасованных карт

Dry death - любая смерть кроме смерти от утопления

Black (или dark) comedy - чёрная комедия

Diplomatic cold - дипломатическая болезнь

False coin – подделка

A natural child - внебрачный ребёнок

Black letter book - книга, напечатанная готическим шрифтом

The Black Belt - „чёрный пояс“,

This principle of classification is sometimes called "etymological". The term does not seem appropriate since we usually mean something different when we speak of the etymology of a word or word-group: whether the word (or word-group) is native or borrowed, and, if the latter, what is the source of borrowing. It is true that Smith makes a special study of idioms borrowed from other languages, but that is only a relatively small part of his classification system. The general principle is not etymological.

It is obvious that this classification system does not take into account the structural characteristics of phraseological units. On the other hand, the border-line separating unities from fusions is vague and even subjective. One and the same phraseological unit may appear motivated to one person (and therefore be labeled as a unity) and demotivated to another (and be regarded as a fusion). The more profound one's command of the language and one's knowledge of its history, the fewer fusions one is likely to discover in it.

The list of used literature:

1. Arnold I. V. The English Word. –Moscow. “ВШ”,1973.– P. 60.
2. Adams Valerie. **Complex Words in English.** – Harlow: Longman,2001.– P.69.
3. Buranov J.B, Muminov A.A. Practical Course in English Lexicology. – Tashkent. “Ukituvchi”,1990. – P. 54.
4. **Baigent, M.** Teaching in Chunks: integrating a lexical approach. – London: Modern English Teacher, 1999. –P.135.