# Semantic Analysis of the Verbal Phraseological Units (on the Examples in the German, English and Karakalpak Languages)

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The article seeks to analyze the semantic peculiarities of phraseological units based on the verbal phrases. The semantic, comparative and descriptive analysis methods were used to describe some differences and similarities of the verbal phraseological units in the English, German, and Karakalpak languages. Lexical meanings of phrases and its types, classification are described through a comparative analysis, and provided with some examples, equivalents or semantic meanings in these languages. Also, the importance of employing phraseological units and its usage in the spoken and written languages are stated. Moreover, in the article, status of Phraseology as a linguistic discipline is described, and classification of phraseological units is given by the researches in this field.

KEYWORDS: phraseology; semantic analysis; verbal phrases; foreign language; English; German; Karakalpak

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### INTRODUCTION

At present learning foreign languages is one of the major tasks of developing of the international relationship in our country. The role of foreign languages is great in developing the country. Phraseology has recently become an independent linguistic discipline. There is still no consensus on the issues of its study. Opinions of linguists differ on how to study phraseology. Linguistic scholars do have difficulties to have a generally accepted term and what is a phraseological unit, respectively, and it is not possible to come to a common view on the classification, which units should be part of phraseological units, and which should not. When we analyze different assumptions, some linguists state that any stable combinations cannot be excluded from the phraseology. Phraseology is a stable combination of words characteristic of only a given language, the meaning of which is not determined by the meaning of the words included in it, taken separately. Due to the fact that phraseology cannot be translated (lost meaning), there are often difficulties in translation and understanding. On the other hand, such phraseological units give the language a vivid emotional coloring. Phraseological units are considered stable verbal complexes of different structural types with a single cohesion of components, the significance of which arises as a result of complete or partial semantic transformation of the component composition. Also, Sarsenbaeva says that phraseological units represent quite a large part of linguistics. As phraseological units reflect the peculiarities of

the culture of the language they belong to, history of our nation, stereotypes we believe in. In addition to this, phraseological units usually are formed from national sayings, prejudices, and cultural traditions. Karakalpak language as well as English is very reach of phraseologisms, and they are used in various styles of language such as literature, colloquial style and publicistic style [11, 12].

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

Burger's category of phraseological expressions that are semantically equivalent but that have regular formal/lexical diatopic differences is divided into further subcategories by Schmidlin and Hofer [2, 3]. One group of phraseological units has different, though semantically roughly equivalent components, example: jemandem ins kommen/jemandem ins Gehege kommen (Common Standard) - to encroach on somebody's territory - Birewdin' tinishlig'in/tinishin buziw. Another group of phraseological units have different constituents which are semantically unrelated, for example: keinen Schimmer haben/keinen Tau haben – to have no glimmer/dew/to have no clue – golinan hesh na'rse kelmew or weder Fisch noch Vogelsein/weder Fisch noch Fleisch sein – to be neither fish nor bird/meat/to be neither fish nor fowl - hesh na'rsege jaramsiz boliw/qolinan hesh bir is kelmew.

Furthermore, one of the urgent issues in the field of phraseology is the studies of verbal phraseological units

(PUs) as the verb is considered to be the nuclear of utterance [7, p. 229-324]. Verbal PUs are classified into nominative and nominative-communicative units, due to the fact that some of them have the form of phrases, while others may have the form of both phrases and sentences [10]. Verbal PU can be completely or partially motivated or unmotivated word combinations with a shift of meaning. Metaphor, metonymy and comparison are the basic types of the shift of meaning. Metaphorical PUs are often hyperbolic or euphemistic. Nonmotivation is caused by both linguistic and extra-linguistic factors. In unmotivated word combinations with partial shift of meaning the connection of the verbal component with other PU components is not motivated. As a result of the false etymology re-motivation of fusions may take place, which is explained by the desire of the man to comprehend the incomprehensible. Most verbal PUs refer to a person, to actions committed by a person, or to the state in which the person is located. PUs, unrelated to the man, are much less common, for example: blow great guns (of the storm, the roar of the storm is likened to thunder of artillery).

## **METHODOLOGY**

Making a new phraseological unit from another phraseological unit can be noted as phraseological derivation. The isolation of phraseological phrases from the composition of more complex phraseological units is one of the ways of forming phraseological units. The newly formed unit begins to live on its own, but its meaning is determined by the semantics of the original phraseology. Thus the unmotivated nature of the phraseological unit: The gray mare means The wife holding her husband under the shoe is explained by the motivation of the proverb the gray mare is the better horse – The wife who is a leader in the home from which this PU was formed by separating the initial components [5, 67]. Moreover, new phraseological units can be formed by separating the initial final components of a more complex phraseology. For example, from the proverb The old birds are not to be caught with chaff formed two PE An old bird 1) An old, shooting sparrow, and to be caught with chaff - to be easily deceived [6, 36]. Moreover, phraseological derivations include: 1) Conversion : from the noun form A play with fire to the verb form To play with fire; 2) Study by analogy: curiosity killed a cat - curiosity will not lead to good the phrase was taken from Shakespearism to care killed a cat - much care will not lead to the goodness; 3) The formation of the verbal phraseological units from the proverb used in the imperative mood: *strike the iron while it is hot*; 4) Expansion of the phraseological units: As merry as a grig - means cheerful, full of life was formed from obsolete phraseology a *merry grig – cheerful guy* [6, 59]; 5) study by contrast: *to* come off the high horse -to stop being too haughty on phraseological unit to get on/ride/mount a high horse which means to be arrogant. Thus, there are many ways of learning phraseological units. The study of phraseology is important both in the theoretical plan and in the practical as well, as it contributes to the conscious assimilation of phraseological units [1, 246].

There is also a type of phraseological units which are connected with person or everything that is connected with the person. These kinds of phrases are called anthropocentric. They denote actions or statements, for example: grasp the nettle means to manage everything courageously in order to solve any problem, or to put all one's eggs in one basket means to bet all you have/to make a risk [5, 43]. Sometimes the component or components of

phraseological unit name any object or animal. However, the meaning of it becomes referred to only human beings. For example, a new broom means a new director or a big fish in a little/small pond means the boss [6, 23]. The structure of majority of the phrases that refer to a person, usually do not consist of simple, different word groups, but of potential phraseological units which are linked with unreal images. For example, to have nine lives like a cat means to have surprised ability to survive/hard to be killed or like a bat out of hell means too fast, wrestle with an angel means to fight with very powerful rival [5, 23]. As a result, we may highlight that not only phraseological units, but also their prototypes refer to a person. Simple shift of phraseological units play really great place for enlarging phraseological system of contemporary English language.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

There are different ways of classifying phraseological units [2, 3]. There is a necessity for the typology of items borrowed from other languages that is based on the lexical materials which phraseological units contain. Thus, we employ Haugen's and Weinreich's classifications, and their criteria of *substitution* and *importation* as a main point. Thus, three main types of phraseological borrowings could be differentiated [8]. The first group includes direct loans, phrases and sentences that have been imported wholesale from English (*No pain, no gain; Meet and Greet; Blind Date*). On the other hand, there are some borrowings (in other words: loan translations) that lexical material was fully substituted by morphemes, German in this case. We can see this in the following examples in the German, English and Karakalpak languages: ein Problem adressieren - to address a problem - qanday da bir qiyinshiliqqa jolig'iw. A further distinction can be created as a result of relative similarity to the original. While the examples mentioned above represent rather close translations, phraseological units such as: 1) Gib uns Süßes, sonst gibt's Saures/Süßes oder Saures - Give us something sweet, otherwise you'll get something sour/trick or treat - Atag'anin'di bermesen' bizge, ashshinin' da'min tatasan'; 2) Wem es in der Küche zu heiß ist, der sollte nicht Koch werden - if it's too hot for you in the kitchen, you shouldn't become a cook/If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen – Gu'ldi su'ygen, tikeninde su'yedi.

In Burger's words, for about half of the phraseological expressions typical of Swiss standard (for example: phraseological Helveticisms), there are corresponding expressions in German such as den Anschein machen/den Anschein haben – To appear/give the impression of – Koʻrinis beriw/Ta'sir qaldiriw. Also, Burger estimates the same degree of relationship between phraseological expressions typical of Austrian standard and Common German expressions [2, 3. p. 196]. We can see this in the following phrases: 1) etwas geht jemanden einen Schmarren an/etwas geht jemanden einen Dreck an - something is none of one's damned business - O'zin'e tiyisli bolmag'an iske murnin'di sugpa; 2) sich (selber) an der Nase nehmen/sich an die Nase fassen (Germany) - to take/touch one's own nose/to take a good look at oneself (instead of criticizing others) - Aldin o'zin'e baq, keyin nag'ara qaq/O'zin'diki bolmag'an iske *aralaspa* where variants could be grouped around the same core word [9].

#### **CONCLUSION**

Thus, Phraseology is a section of linguistics that studies the phraseological composition of language in its present state and historical development. We assume that there may not be single classification of phraseologisms of German, English and Karakalpak, since scientists divide phraseological units based on different principles: structure, semantics, communicative function, etymology of phraseological units, approaches to their translation into other languages. Using phraseologisms, idioms in communication is a difficult problem for people learning German, English languages as a foreign one. Also, if people intentionally avoid using idioms, in this case their oral and written speech, most likely, will be dull and high-flown. So we consider this research to be quite topical in this term of investigation. The sources of phraseology attract the attention of many linguists who investigate its matters in order to disclose them and reveal their core information. Phraseological units can socio-historical, intellectual, accumulate emotional information of a specifically national character. It is these facts that justify the choice of the topic of this thesis, its relevance and significance for phraseology, lexicology in particular and for philological science in general.

Following C. Carballo, we can note that language is not isolated, and it is a social and cultural tool, for this reason, phraseological competence of a communicator depends to a great extent on the cultural knowledge of the linguistic system [4]. Thus, situational context really matters while learning and it is the one that asks for specific utterances and expressions that fit particular situations. Also, that context may vary regarding traditions and conventions from one language to another, so what in a community is an act of courtesy or politeness may result offensive to a different population. In this way, intercultural learning is also promoted through these units. These special features of languages and people should be explained and analyzed by foreign language learners so that they are able to think differently and immerse themselves into the foreign language's environment. As C. Carballo [4] defends, teachers should never forget that cultural knowledge and phraseology have to interrelate so that the students can become proper users in the foreign language, since it might be stated that a non-native speaker comes to master the target language when he/she can encode and decode a significant number of phraseological units.

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