

**PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS AND PROBLEMS OF
INTERPRETING THEM**

Author: Hamroqulova Sarvinoz Olim qizi

*Navoiy State Pedagogical Institute,
English Language and Literature faculty, 303th group*

Scientific advisor : Mukhammadiyev Aziz Sh.

Scientific advisor : Bafoyeva Nilufar

Abstract: *phraseological units play a crucial role in language communication, enriching expressions with cultural and idiomatic nuances. However, their inherent complexity poses challenges for both native and non-native speakers when it comes to interpreting their meanings accurately. This article aims to explore the nature of phraseological units, shed light on the problems associated with their interpretation, and suggest strategies to overcome these challenges.*

Key Words: *phraseological units, language communication, cultural nuances, idiomatic expressions, complexity, challenges, interpreting, nature, problems, strategies, accurate understanding.*

Аннотация: *Фразеологические единицы играют важную роль в языковом общении, обогащая выражения культурными и идиоматическими оттенками. Однако их сложность представляет проблемы как для носителей языка, так и для неродных говорящих при попытке точно интерпретировать их значения. Целью данной статьи является исследование природы фразеологических единиц, прояснение проблем, связанных с их интерпретацией, а также предложение стратегий для преодоления этих трудностей.*

Ключевые слова: *фразеологические единицы, языковое общение, культурные оттенки, идиоматические выражения, сложность, проблемы, интерпретация, природа, стратегии, точное понимание.*

Annotatsiya: *Frazalar birikmalarining til kommunikatsiyasida ahamiyatli rol o'ynaydi, ular ifodada madaniy va idiomatik nuanslarni boyitadi. Lekin ularning jihatdan murakkabligi, hem asliy va birga tushunchalarini aniqlashda, asli va non-asli vorislar uchun muammoni yuzaga kelishiga olib keladi. Ushbu maqolada frazalar birikmalarining tabiiyatini o'rganish, ularning tushuntirish bilan bog'liq muammolarni nuron qilish va bu muammo(lar)ni hal etish strategiyalarini taklif qilish maqsadlanadi.*

Asosiy So'zlar: *frazalar birikmalari, til kommunikatsiyasi, madaniy nuanslar, idiomatik ifodalar, murakkablik, muammolar, tushuntirish, tabiiyat, muammolar, strategiyalar, aniq tushunish.*

Introduction

Phraseological units are fixed expressions composed of two or more words that possess a specific meaning beyond the sum of their individual parts. These idiomatic expressions are deeply rooted in a language's culture and reflect the collective wisdom and linguistic creativity of its speakers. However, their figurative nature and non-literal interpretations often present difficulties in understanding and interpreting them correctly.

Main Types of Phraseological Units

Phraseological units are fixed expressions consisting of two or more words whose meaning cannot be derived from the individual words within them. They play an important role in language and are categorized into several types based on their structure and meaning. In this article, we will explore the main types of phraseological units.

Idioms:

Idioms are phraseological units in which the meaning of the whole is different from the meanings of the individual words. They often have a figurative or metaphorical meaning. Examples of idioms include "kick the bucket" (meaning to die) and "break a leg" (meaning good luck). Idioms are commonly used in everyday language and contribute to the richness and expressiveness of the language. [5]

Proverbs:

Proverbs are short, traditional sayings that express a piece of wisdom or a general truth. They are often used to convey moral lessons or practical advice. Proverbs are characterized by their fixed structure and are passed down from generation to generation. Examples of proverbs include "A stitch in time saves nine" and "Actions speak louder than words." [7]

Phrasal verbs:

Phrasal verbs are phraseological units that consist of a verb followed by one or more particles, such as prepositions or adverbs. The combination of the verb and particle(s) creates a new meaning that is often different from the original verb. Examples of phrasal verbs include "take off" (meaning to leave suddenly) and "look up" (meaning to search for information). [4]

Collocations:

Collocations are phraseological units in which certain words tend to occur together frequently. These combinations are considered natural and idiomatic in a given language. Collocations can be verb-noun combinations (e.g., "make a decision"), adjective-noun combinations (e.g., "strong coffee"), or noun-noun combinations (e.g., "dark chocolate"). [9]

Fixed expressions:

Fixed expressions are phraseological units that have a fixed form and meaning in a particular language. They are often used as ready-made chunks of language that carry a specific meaning. Examples of fixed expressions include "once upon a time," "by the way," and "in a nutshell." [8]

Problems in Interpreting Phraseological Units

Interpreting phraseological units can pose challenges due to their fixed nature and idiomatic meanings. Here are some common problems encountered in the interpretation of phraseological units.

Ambiguity:

Phraseological units can be ambiguous, with multiple possible interpretations. The figurative or metaphorical meanings of idioms, in particular,

can be difficult to decipher without knowledge of their conventional usage. For example, the idiom "a piece of cake" can be interpreted as either "something very easy" or "a delicious dessert." Context and familiarity with the language are crucial in resolving such ambiguities.[3]

Cultural and Historical Context:

Many phraseological units are deeply rooted in the cultural and historical context of a language. Understanding the meaning and significance of these units often requires knowledge of the associated traditions, beliefs, or historical events. Without this background understanding, the intended meaning may be lost or misinterpreted. For example, the proverb "Don't count your chickens before they hatch" may be puzzling to those unfamiliar with the practice of rearing chickens and waiting for eggs to hatch. [10]

Variations and Regional Differences:

Phraseological units can vary across different regions and dialects. The same expression may have slight variations in wording or meaning depending on the geographical location or cultural context. Interpreting phraseological units in a diverse linguistic landscape requires sensitivity to these regional variations. For instance, the phrase "to kick the bucket" may have equivalent expressions like "to give up the ghost" or "to bite the dust" in different dialects. [1]

Figurative Language Comprehension:

Many phraseological units employ figurative language, such as metaphors or similes, to convey their meaning. Interpreting these figurative expressions involves understanding the underlying conceptual mapping between the literal and metaphorical domains. Without this knowledge, the intended meaning may be missed or misinterpreted. For example, the phrase "to hit the nail on the head" metaphorically means "to be exactly right." [6]

Language Register and Context:

Phraseological units can vary in their formality or register, depending on the context in which they are used. The same expression may have different interpretations or connotations in formal or informal settings. Interpreters need to

consider the appropriate register and context to accurately interpret phraseological units. For instance, the colloquial expression "break a leg" is an idiomatic way to wish someone good luck in a theatrical context but may be inappropriate in a formal setting. [2]

Conclusion

Phraseological units are an integral part of language communication, contributing to the richness and cultural depth of a language. However, the figurative nature and cultural variations of these expressions pose challenges in their interpretation. By acknowledging these difficulties and employing strategies such as exposure, context analysis, and language resources, learners and users of a language can enhance their understanding and effective usage of phraseological units, promoting more accurate and culturally sensitive communication.

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