English Phraseological Units With Somatic Components

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Abstract—The aim of this article is to represent the way of interpretation of phraseological units, reflecting human’s perception and understanding of the world with the help of the names of human body parts. Native language speakers use such words to describe various fields of their activity including mental activity.

Keywords: somatism, component, phraseological unit, metaphoric model, somatic phraseological unit, lexico-semantic potential, somatic nomination.

1. Introduction

Phraseological units are one of the most striking manifestations of the national cultural specificity of the language. They act as a way of packaging complicated a complex of experiences and thoughts in a condensed form, represent a clod of cultural information and allow to say a lot, saving linguistic means, getting to the depths of the national spirit [1: 50]. In linguistics, not only linguistic conceptualization of the human body as a whole, but also its parts, organs and actions performed by them. “The individual, being a thinking and creative being, reflects the world in a special way in his consciousness and defines in its place, becoming at the same time a starting point, relative to which all that exists is perceived” [5: 95]. This is related to the presence in the phraseology of modern English of a large number of units containing somatic components, that is, the names of parts of the body of a person or animal, which are one of the oldest layers in the vocabulary of the language.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

For the first time in linguistic use, the term "Somatic" was introduced in Finno-Ugoric studies by F. Vac, who, considering phraseological units of the Estonian language composed of words names of parts of human bodies, called them somatic. He concluded that they are one of the oldest layers of phraseology and make up the most the common part of the phraseological composition of the Estonian language [2: 23]. The term "somatic phraseological unit" in application to the material of the Russian language was first used by E. M. Mordkovich in the article “Semantic-thematic groups of somatic phraseological units”, where he claims that most the number of somatic phraseological units appears in functions of negative characteristics [4: 244]. Man's comprehension of his own body stimulates the process of self-knowledge of the individual. Somatic vocabulary emphasizes the importance of this lexical layer in describing the picture of the world formed in the mind of the individual. The person uses somatic nominations to model knowledge about the environment of the world.

3. MAIN PART

The study of somatic phraseological takes into account both their various and general universal properties in the structure and semantics, nationally peculiar signs that give the phraseology of the language originality and uniqueness. Widespread use of somatisms in the composition of phraseological units is largely due to by what somatisms are one of the oldest layers in the vocabulary of personal languages and are included in the core of the main the composition of the vocabulary fund of the language. Somatic phraseological units contribute to the relevance of the content, a vivid image, nationality, uncomplicated technical design and stylistic manifold.

A characteristic feature of somatic phraseology is the presence in the language of many numerical analogs very close in volume different directions of word combinations. This feature sharply distinguishes somatic phraseological units from other thematic groups of phraseological units.

The anthropocentric component of phraseological series is widely represented by units that characterize a person, his physiological, mental and emotional-sensory sphere. Active in phrase formation are somatisms associated with perception of the world, its knowledge and change, evoking associations with life, feelings, physical and mental labor, human
character. Somatic phraseology is formed by phraseological units, one of the components which is the name of a part of the human body. For example: head and shoulders above (the others / the rest) - much better than other similar people or things; burn your fingers, have / get your fingers burned / burnt - to suffer unpleasant results of an action, especially loss of money, so you are not keen to try the same thing again and others.

Formation of somatic phraseological units based on metaphorical or methonimic transfer is the most effective for their appearance.

As part of the study, we turn to "Bodily" interpretation of aspects that characterize that stimulate human mental activity. First of all, the mental activity of human is associated with the head, since it is associated with the idea of the head the brain, one of the main functions of which is the function of thinking. This conditional has the lexical and semantic potential of this word as a supporting component of somatic phraseology.

Semantic structure of the head lexeme includes the following values:
1) top part of a body that has your brain, eyes, mouth etc. in it;
2) your mind and thoughts;
3) leader of a group;
4) top / front part of something, etc. [7: 695].

As you can see from the above definitions, the main meaning of head somatism is the upper part of the body. The meaning of "mind, mental activity" is figurative. This value and updated in the phraseological units of the investigated the field. Thus, in the phraseological units studied by us the metaphorical model "mental activity - head" is realized.

Having a head is a sign of positive mental characteristics: have a good head on your shoulders - to be clever; to be a head taller than someone - to be far superior to someone (mentally or morally). The head has different characteristics, it can be "Good", "wise", "smart", which also positively characterizes the mental activity of a person: an old head on young shoulders, a wise head on young shoulders - a child or young person who thinks and talks like an older person who has more experience in life; a clear head -the ability to think quickly and calmly in a difficult situation. The absence of a head, on the contrary, gives a negative assessment of mental abilities human: have no head for something - not to be able to understand something; lose one’s head – to become confused or crazy; can’t make head nor / or tail - to not be able to understand something at all.

It was discovered that phraseological units in whose head is presented as a container. Leaving this container is a sign of insanity or temporary insanity: be off your head - to be crazy; be out of your head – to be unable to think clearly, especially because of having taken drugs or drunk too much alcohol.

It is known, the brain consists of a cortex and pain their hemispheres connected to each other nerve fibers. Substance brain replacement unable to exercise mental activity, leads to its functional violations. The brain is replaced with such a foreign substance like stones: have rocks in one's head- to be silly or crazy, as well as a substance, find in bad shape: not be right in the head - to be mentally ill; something unusual strange: odd / queer in the head - mad, not sensible; soft, flabby: soft in the head – stupid or crazy; weak: weak in the head - to be mentally ill. Imbalance in the structure of the brain, which consists of a hard and soft compound solid tissue, that is, the presence of only hard or only a soft, flabby substance, or replacement with something incomprehensible, leads to its disfunctions.

4. CONCLUSION

While doing a research on Phraseological units we have came across that they occur on the semantic base and lexical somatic words can lean competitive meaning. All meanings of lexical somatic words cannot give proper meaning. For this reason phraseological unit of somatic words may not have same semantic meaning in languages.

11. Salixova N. (2020) The key of effective communication is pronunciation

