



ANALYSIS OF IMPORTANT FEATURES IN THE STRUCTURE OF PHRASEOLOGISMS IN THE GERMAN LANGUAGE

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Abstract

This article discusses the analysis of the characteristics of phraseologisms in the German language, the ways in which they are formed morphologically, and the need to pay close attention to the context for understanding the meaning of phraseological units. In addition, it has been pointed out that idiomaticity, polylexicity and stability are characteristic aspects of phraseologisms.

Keywords: Phraseology, phraseological unit, feature, phraseological meaning, idiomaticity, polylexicity, stability.

Introduction

It is known that phraseology is a special branch of lexicology and has existed in linguistics as an independent discipline since the early 1970s, and interest in it is still growing (for example, look for the works by H. Burger, W. Fleischer, T. Shippan, B. Votyak, C. Palm, I. Chernysheva, D. Dobrovolsky). The science of phraseology in linguistics or language deals with the function and meaning of individual words in a system and in a language. The following aspects of modern phraseological research in linguistics should be specified:

- 1) the aspect of naming, that is, which parts of the foreign language reality are known through fixed word combinations, as well as the study of their formation mechanisms and modeling problems;
- 2) comparison of semantic integrity to ordinary linguistic signs;
- 3) communicative and pragmatic aspect of phraseological expressions in the text;
- 4) processes of idiomatization and metaphorization in phraseologisms.

In phraseology, alongside with the term “fixed word combinations”, “phraseological expression” is used as a synonym. Also, a phraseological unit (phraseologism) defines in more details the subject of phraseology in the narrower sense of fixed word combinations in many classifications. For terminological consistency, we will use the term “phraseologism” to define this phenomenon.

Fixed phrases are secondary linguistic symbols built on the basis of primary symbols. Structurally, they are groups of words organized according to productive models of syntax. For example, *jmdm. den Kopf waschen* can mean “to wash the head” as a free phrase but *jmdm. den Kopf waschen* as a fixed phrase means “*jmdn scharf zurecht weisen*” meaning



“to criticize someone sharply”. All lexemes appear as secondary linguistic markers in this phrase.

In den sauren Apfel beißen, as a free phrase, has the clear meaning of “to bite into the sour apple”. However, the fixed expression *In den sauren Apfel beißen* „*gezwungen sein, etw. Unangenehmes zu tun*” means “to make something unpleasant”.

In this regard, we are talking about the free and phraseological meaning of the word combination, which corresponds to the direct (denotative) and figurative meaning of the lexeme. Some words have only one meaning in the text, but others have two meanings. In this context, H. Burger talks about ways of understanding the meaning of phraseologism.

For example, only the same understanding can be seen in the following expressions:

a) in the phraseologism *Dank sagen, das Rote Kreuz*, the components retain their literal meaning and do not undergo any semantic changes, and in both given examples have only a free meaning;

b) *gang und gäbe* as a pair of words, the lexical components do not have a free meaning, that is, they are not used separately from the phrase, so the whole phrase has a phraseological meaning;

s) *sich mausig machen* (*sich frech und vorlaut äußern, benehmen*): the originally existing direct meaning (*mausig* hieß „*keck*“, „*frech*“) has disappeared, so that today this expression has only one meaning in the text, that is the phraseological meaning “behave badly”.

Two different understanding processes can be analyzed in the following phrases:

a) *jmdm einen Korb geben*: the phrase can have both free and phraseological meaning, but they are not related to each other, that is, they are homonyms, and different contexts of this phrase are required to understand their meaning;

b) In the combination *Der Apfel fällt nicht weit vom Stamm*, there is a metaphorical connection between free and phraseological meanings. The free meaning of this proverb can be applied to a specific situation, and the phraseological meaning can be understood depending on the context, and it can be translated into Uzbek as “*You will reap what you sow*” and other similar variants;

c) in the phrase *die Achseln zucken*, two meanings can be realized at the same time.

Under the concept of word groups, it is possible to understand repeated syntagms, word combinations with special semantics, predicative combinations and sentences.

Unlike free phrases, fixed phrases have the following characteristics:

1) Polylexication, stable word combinations consisting of several words. However, it should not be forgotten that in German phraseological units consist of two or more words, as well as one word. In it, a phraseology consists of a compound word.

2) Stability: we differentiate the word combination from the combination of those words.

According to Harald Burger, fixed phrases that show these two characteristics can be phraseologisms.

Stability means:

a) lexical-semantic stagnation, i.e. not replaced by any lexeme: *bei jmdm. haben einen Stein im Brett*:



bei jmdm. einen Kiesel im Schrank haben. (In phraseology, no word can be replaced by a synonym.)

3) Semantic unity of phraseologisms: phraseologisms (this means a narrow group of fixed word combinations) have a high degree of idiomatization (this means semantic change or reinterpretation of the components of the phraseology). The meaning of phraseologism itself differs sharply from the meaning of its components, which is the result of a semantic change of all or some of its components:

etwas schwarz sehen („pessimistisch sein“): the meaning of the phraseologism cannot be divided into *schwarz* and *sehen*, but forms a unity. Other examples:

jmdm einen Korb geben, („jmds. Heiratsantrag ablehnen; jmdn abweisen“ – rejecting a marriage proposal, rejecting someone).

According to the degree of idiomatization - idiomatic (fully idiomatic, another term - idiom)

- all components of reinterpreted (semantically changed) phraseology are distinguished: *ins Gras beißen* (to die), *das ist (everything) kalter Kaffee* (das ist längst bekannt, uninteressant - *this has been known for a long time, it is not interesting*);

- partially idiomatic (partial idioms) - some components retain their lexical meaning. *blinder Passagier* literally means: a stowaway (passenger traveling without permission), *sich in Fäustchen lachen* (feeling evil joy in secret, laughing secretly);

- nondiomatic expressions - they are not characterized by semantic transformation of their structural components. For example, *das Rote Kreuz*, *der Nahe Osten*.

4) Occasional reiteration: on the basis of such features, it is said about the repetition of fixed word combinations in contrast to the repetition of free phrases and sentences.

5) Phraseologisms without a motive - the naming motive is usually determined only on the basis of historical knowledge:

den Rubekon überschreiten (take drastic measures). This phraseologism goes back to the time of Caesar Rome, Caesar: Caesar crossed the Rubicon river and started a war against the Senate and the Republic.

In this connection, we can mention the phrase *ins Gras beißen*, which has two meanings: *the damaged bit the grass of the earth to protect themselves and to be free from pain and suffering*.

Most idioms are unmotivated. The more difficult it is to determine the naming motive of a phraseology, the higher the degree of idiomatization. In this sense, “motivatedness” is the opposite of semantic “idiomaticity”. Or on the contrary, the stronger the motive of phraseologism, the weaker its idiomaticity. Motivated means that the meaning of the phraseology is derived from the free meaning or meanings of the phrase. For example, *das fünfte Rad am Wagen*, *Öl ins Feuer gießen*, *ein unbeschriebenes Blatt*.

According to the semantic classification of V.V. Vinogradov, the following types of phraseologisms can be distinguished:

1. Idioms (phraseological combinations) are completely without motive: *baden gehen* (failed).
2. Phraseological units, which can be used in the same way as free phrases: *das Feft abschöpfen* (*das Beste genießen-the best enjoyment*).



3. Phraseological combinations, which include a verb. *etwas zur Diskussion stellen* (*etwas diskutieren-to discuss something*).

According to T. Shippan's lexical-syntactic classification, they differ as follows:

1. Phraseological units. It can also be a reinterpretation of a free combination, a phrase. For example, *ein Kuckucksei ins Nest legen* (*to do something unpleasant for someone*).
2. Stable compounds. These are stable word combinations in which one (or some) component has a figurative meaning, while the other has a direct meaning. T. Shippan further divides them into:

- a) strong verb/verbal combinations: *Antwort geben, in Aufregung geraten*;
- b) strong noun/nominal compounds: *schwarzer Tee, sauberer Charakter*

According to I. Chernisheva's structural-semantic classification, their classification is based on the following criteria:

- 1) Grammatical (syntactic) structure:
 - a) compound words or phrases
 - b) predicative links, sentences
- 2) Type of connection of components:
 - a) singular phrases
 - c) modeled
- 3) Meaning of constituent parts as a result of semantic change:
 - a) fixed word combinations, the meaning of which is the result of semantic change of all components;
 - b) fixed word combinations, the meaning of which is the result of reinterpretation of some components;
 - c) the meaning of the constituent parts of fixed phrases.

Based on these criteria, I. Chernisheva divides fixed word combinations into four groups.

I. Phraseologisms.

II. Phraseological combinations.

III. Model formations.

IV. Lexical units.

The first group consists of fixed phrases of the phraseological type. Phraseologisms are various syntactic word combinations have a structure consisting of individual connection of components and full or partial semantic changes of components. They have the following distinctive features: they serve not to clearly define objective reality, but to give connotatively expressed meaning. In this case, phraseologisms are characterized by other denotative features. For example, *stumm wie ein Fisch, ein weißer Rabe*.

Phraseologisms can be divided into the following groups:

- a) phraseological units;
- b) fixed sentences,
- c) phraseological combinations.

Phraseologisms have the grammatical structure of a phrase. The meaning arises due to the semantic reinterpretation of all the components. For example, *etw. an den Nagel hängen* (*die Hoffnung aufgeben*).



Phraseological units are referred to the most important group of phraseologisms. Depending on their relationship between parts of speech, the following subgroups are distinguished:

- verbal phraseological units:

den Mund halten (schweigen),

jmdm. den Kopf waschen (jmdn scharf zurechtweisen);

- substantive phraseological units:

das schwarze Gold (Erdöl),

ein unbeschriebenes Blatt (ein unerfahrener Mensch);

- adverbial phraseological units:

unter vier Augen (allein mit jmdm., zu zweit),

um ein Haar (fast).

Verbal phraseological units are interconnected with the verb, and metaphor occurs due to the similarity of processes, intensity, according to the characteristics of the verb as a conditional word.

Some verbal phraseological units take a verb prefix from the process. Thus, the phraseology *jmdm auf den Busch klopfen*, means not only “*etwas zu erkunden suchen*”, “*to seek to learn something*”, but also “*to seek to study thoroughly with skillful questions*”. *Sich bei jmdm. lieb Kind machen* means “*to gain a good reputation and thus gain advantages, to flatter*”. Verbal phraseological units include:

a) phraseological units with component violations: *Hals über Kopf tun* (acting without thinking), *die Beine unter die Arme nehmen* (to run away quickly, to hurry), *den Kopf unter dem Arm tragen* (to be seriously ill). Nevertheless, their motivation is completely clear to a native speaker, which can be understood through the basic lexemes (head, foot, etc.).

b) language units, which phraseological connotation is based on historical events, for example, *nach Kanossa gehen* (humble, apologize), *den Rubikon überschreiten* (take an irreversible decisive step).

c) phraseologisms are verbal phraseological units formed on the basis of old habits that have disappeared, for example, *jmdm. einen Korb geben, sich einen Korb holen* (to refuse a marriage proposal, to refuse someone), *bei jmdm. auf dem Kerbholz stehen* (to owe someone).

The meaning of the internal form of such phraseologisms is not clear because of this.

Verbal phraseologism can act as different parts of a sentence, just like a verb: **as a predicate**, for example. *In dieser Gesellschaft spielte er die erste Geige*; **as the noun**, for example: *Die erste Geige in dieser Gesellschaft zu spielen, war ihm leicht*; **as an attribute**, for example: *Sein Wunsch, die erste Geige zu spielen, erfüllte sich*.

Phraseological units with nouns of type (a): *ein schwerer Junge* (criminal), *die weißen Mäuse* (traffic police) are marked stylistically. These nominal phraseological units are composed mainly for stylistic variation.

Type (b) consists of substantive phraseologisms expressing features that function as strong judgments. These are the following: *ein totgeborenes Kind* (a hopeless cause), *ein gelehrtes Haus* (a wise man), *ein unbeschriebenes Blatt* (an inexperienced man). The substantive



phraseological unit is an abbreviation of the proverb *Stille Wasser sind tief*, which means “invisible, hard to see”.

The difference between substantive phraseological units of type (a) and (b) is in the syntactic function and the use of the article. Phraseologisms in the sentence (a) can also perform predicative function, the last two functions perform the function of definite article and indefinite article. With type (b), only the function of the predicate and therefore only the indefinite article can be used.

Adverbial phraseological units:

d) prepositional groups: **unter 4 Augen; um ein Haar;**

e) pairs of words (Wortpaare): **hin und wieder; ab und zu;**

f) comparative phraseological units: **stumm wie ein Fisch, stumm wie ein Grab.**

Pair words are combinations of two words that are very productive in German. The overall meaning arises through a metaphorical or metonymic transfer of designation or a semantic combination of two components. A pair of words can be in the ratio of components of similarity, synonymy: *Feuer und Flamme* (sofort für etw. begeistert sein), *mit Haut und Haar* (ganz, völlig, Grund und Boden (Grundbesitz, Haus und Hof (jmds. gesamter Besitz). Oder sie können im Verhältnis der Antonymie stehen: arm und reich; alt und jung (alle).

The overall meaning can also arise due to the tautological connection of the same parts of speech: *Schritt für Schritt; Stunde für Stunde* (allmählich).

Meanwhile, in this article, an attempt to review and analyze the various features of phraseologisms in the German language was made once again.

The following comments and thoughts related to German phraseology call for more and more in-depth study of this area:

1. Phraseologisms in the German language are considered one of the main ways to increase the vocabulary of this language.
2. It is possible to clearly understand and distinguish the characteristics of phraseology in German, unlike phraseology in other languages.
3. The German language is rich in phraseology. A lot of scientific work has been carried out in this area and continues unceasingly.
4. Today, the issue of conducting the field of phraseology on a hybrid basis is one of the most urgent problems in linguistics.
5. In this sense, our research is also devoted to the comparative study of German and Uzbek languages.

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