

ARTICLE

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITH THE ADJECTIVE COMPONENTS OF PALATABILITY IN THE ENGLISH AND TATAR LANGUAGES

Olesya A. Yarullina^{1*}, Fanuza H. Tarasova¹, Rasim R. Husnutdinov¹, Ardak Bakytovich Beisenbai²

¹Department of Germanic Philology, Kazan Federal University, Kazan, RUSSIA

²Department of Kazakh Linguistics, L. N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, RUSSIA

ABSTRACT

The article presented below aims at investigating adjectival phraseological units of palatability in the English and Tatar Languages. The main methods of research are those of general linguistic methods and special linguistic methods. As a result of the investigation the authors came to the conclusion that comparative phraseological units with the adjective-component of palatability is more common for English than for Tatar. Proverbs and sayings with the adjective-component of palatability are peculiar for both of the languages. Semantically phraseological units with this component are not so numerous in the English language, whereas in the Tatar language this layer of phraseological units is rather rich. These data may be explained by the specific peculiarities (which are explained in the article) of the nations. The materials presented in the article may be used in the courses of lexicology, phraseology or for further scientific investigations in the field of phraseology.

INTRODUCTION

Phraseology is one of the spheres of linguistic knowledge that has reflected the mentality of nations. In their works linguists pay special attention to the structure and semantic peculiarities of phraseological units, their inner form and the problems of translation.

The work is devoted to the comparative investigation of phraseological units of two structurally different languages: English and Tatar. The Comparative study of the languages enriches linguistics by new data about general, specific and single.

A phraseological unit is a source of background knowledge connected with history, geography and the way of living of the nation. In the range of contemporary linguistic paradigms the comparative research of different languages phraseological systems is given a special role [1].

Phraseological units reflect the wealth of a language displaying cultural paradigms of the speakers of a particular language. They reflect cultural archetypes of an ethno-linguistic community and help to make explicit the peculiarities of its world perception [2].

The classification system of phraseological units suggested by professor A.V. Kunin is based on the structural-semantic principle. Phraseological units are subdivided into the following four classes according to their function in communication determined by their structural-semantic characteristics: nominative, nominative-communicative, interjectional, communicative [3].

Nominative phraseological units are represented by word-groups, including the ones with one meaningful word, and coordinative phrases of the type wear and tear. Nominative phraseological units are units denoting objects, phenomena, actions, states, qualities. They can be:

- a) verbal – to talk through one's hat.
- b) substantive – dog's life
- c) adjectival – long in the tooth; high and mighty, spick and span, brand new, safe and sound. In this group the so-called comparative word-groups are particularly expressive and sometimes amusing in their unanticipated and capricious associations: (as) cool as a cucumber, (as) nervous as a cat.
- d) adverbial – out of a blue sky, as quick as a flash.
- e) prepositional – with an eye to, at the head of.

The first class also includes word-groups with a predicative structure, such as as the crow flies, ships that pass in the night.

2. Nominative-communicative phraseological units contain a verb and include word-groups of the type to break the ice – the ice is broken, that is, verbal word-groups which are transformed into a sentence when the verb is used in the Passive Voice. e.g. to dance on a volcano.

3. Interjectional phraseological units express the speaker's emotions and attitude to things: A pretty kettle of fish! They are neither nominative nor communicative and include interjectional word-groups.

4. Communicative phraseological units are represented by proverbs (An hour in the morning is worth two in the evening) and sayings. Sayings, unlike proverbs, are not evaluative and didactic: It's a small world.

KEY WORDS

adjectival phraseological unit, comparative group, non-comparative group, comparative conjunction, component-adjective of palatability, structural peculiarities, semantic peculiarities.

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*Corresponding Author

Email:

RasRHusnutdinov@kpfu.ru

The purpose of the article is to find out common and specific features of the phraseological units with the adjective components of palatability in the English and Tatar Languages.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

To realize the study the researchers selected material from the monolingual and polylingual dictionaries and other literary sources in the Tatar and Russian languages. Among the methods of data analysis are the following ones: descriptive method, based on observation, oppositional analysis of the English and Tatar proverbs, etymological analysis, method of comparative analyses (used to identify and to distinguish main peculiarities and differences of the studied object in the compared languages), statistical method, method of generalization.

RESULTS

In our study after A.V. Kunin, E.F. Arsentyeva, L.R. Sakayeva we refer to the classical definition of the adjectival phraseological unit: Adjectival phraseological units are those in which attributes are presented by adjectives or predicatives. The researchers distinguish comparative and non-comparative adjectival phraseological units. We distinguish proverbs and sayings as the third structural group.

In the English phraseological units the comparative components “like” and “as” are used. These comparative conjunctions function as link-words between the first component (the basis of the comparison) and the second one (the object of the comparison) [4]. As A.V. Kunin marks it there is a tendency to omit the first conjunction [5]. The use of the conjunction “like” instead of “as” is not considered to be a norm, but in colloquial English it has become a widely-spread tendency. The first component of adjectival comparisons is usually used in its basic literal meaning. In the English language such comparative phraseological units with adjectives of palatability may be presented: mend like sour ale in summer [6].

In the Tatar phraseological units the comparative component “kyebek” or “shikelle” is used, e.g. mailagan kyebek baru [7], yache kapkan kyuse shikelle [8]. The use of the conjunction “shikelle” is more colloquial.

The second structural group of the adjectival phraseological units is non-comparative. The examples in the English language are: for sour apples [9], in the Tatar Language – tyamsezgya kityu [10].

The third group of adjectival phraseological units may be characterized as proverbs and sayings. The examples of the phraseological units in the English Language are: a rotten apple injures its neighbours, that which was bitter to endure may be sweet to remember, the nearer the bone the sweeter the flesh [11]. The Tatar proverbs and sayings with the component-adjective of palatability are as follows: tyamle syuz belyan gyenya boz eretep bulmiy [12], tyamle nyarsya az bula [13].

Semantically the phraseological units with adjective-components of palatability in the English and Tatar may be divided two large groups: phraseological units with negative connotation and those with positive connotation. In the English language phraseological units containing such adjective as sweet have a positive meaning: no sweet without some sweat, the sweet and the bitter, as sweet as sugar [5]. Such adjectives of palatability as sour, bitter, rotten provide the phraseological units with negative meaning: for sour apples, a rotten apple injures its neighbours [14].

In the Tatar language phraseological units with the adjectives of palatability are much more numerous. And there is greater variety in the expression of positive and negative meanings. Such adjectives as bally, tyamle, taty, maily express something pleasant: tyamle tyel, tyamle tamak [3], tyamle nyarsya az bula, tyamle toshlyar [9]; taty uyga talu, taly hiyal, taty zhiderep yache kostiru [3], taty yoky, taly ometlyar, taty hiyal [9]. The adjective maily in the Tatar language is the symbol of something very pleasant as well as bally, as butter and honey have been considered to be the most delicious food, that is why phraseological units with these adjectives of palatability are positive: bally kyul, maily kyuz, mayly urin [3]. As we see there are no equivalents to such adjectives as bally and maily.

But with the help of the negative component tyugel phraseological units with positive adjectives may become negative: maily botka tyugel, maily samsa ashau tyugel, bally kalach tygel [3].

These were phraseological units bearing positive meaning with the help of the adjective-component of palatability in the Tatar language. Now we start investigating negative phraseological units with adjective component of palatability. The result is reached with the use of the following adjective-components – yache, toche: yachegyan yon, yache ikmyak bulu, yache tangnan, yachesen-tochesen kyuryu [3], toche kamirdan yavyalyagyan, toche nazlanu, toche kaimak hyalfyase, toche tellyanu [3], toche syuzlyar, toche telle [13].

In the Tatar language both negative and positive phraseological units with adjective component of palatability are widely spread. If the adjective-component is positive in meaning the negative connotation may be reached with the help of the particles not in the English language and tyugel in the Tatar language.

DISCUSSION

The data found out as a result of our linguistic investigation provides us an opportunity to reveal the peculiarities of the nations reflected in the English and Tatar phraseological units with the adjective-component of palatability. The universal and specific features were found out as a result. According to Dedej understanding the phraseological unit depends on different types of the context, because the linguistic context is important to distinguish the constituent members of a unit.

According to the structure of adjectival phraseological units in the English language the amount of comparative phraseological unit is greater than that in the Tatar language. In the Tatar language this structural group is not so popular. In the English language this group is formed with the help of the conjunctions “as” (more formal) and “like” (more colloquial), in the Tatar language they are “kyebek” (more formal) and “shikelle” (more colloquial).

The group of non-comparative phraseological units with the adjective-component of palatability was presented by the following constructions: participle+preposition+noun, preposition+adjective+noun. Such phraseological units were common in both of the languages.

The structural group represented by proverbs and sayings was widely used in the Tatar language. That may be connected with the fact that the Tatar nation greatly respect representatives of senior generations and the life experience of adults is accumulated in proverbs and sayings of the nation.

Speaking about semantic peculiarities we may point out that in both of the languages the adjectives of pleasant taste (sweet, tyamle, tatly, bally, maily) create the positive meaning of the whole phraseological unit, though with the help of such particles as “not” in the English language, and “tyugel” in the Tatar language, the negative connotation may be reached even with positive adjective components. The adjective components of unpleasant taste (sour, bitter, rotten; yache, tyamsez, toche, tozly) make up phraseological units with negative connotation.

It is vividly illustrated by the results of the investigation that the perception of palatability adjectives coincides in the studied languages, that is why it makes no difficulty to guess whether positive or negative notions are meant. This is common for both of the languages, but the difference is that some adjective components are not presented in the English phraseological units.

CONCLUSION

Thus, based on the examples revealed during the analysis of the phraseological units with the component-adjective of palatability we can come to the following conclusions. In the English language comparative phraseological units with the conjunctions “like” and “as” are rather popular, non-comparative phraseological units are of the same frequency, and proverbs and sayings is the most widely-spread structure. In the Tatar language comparative phraseological units are of rare use. The third structural group (proverbs and sayings) is the most frequent.

Taking into consideration semantic peculiarities of the phraseological units with the adjective component of palatability we find out that phraseological units with the adjective components of palatability are not so widely spread in the English language, that may be connected with the fact that food intake and the taste of the food is not of such importance in the English language and hasn't become the symbol of positive or negative processes in life. Quite the contrary in the Tatar language, where the food intake process, the quality of the food is even the measure of respect, the symbol of one's attitude to another person, the phraseological units with the adjective-component of palatability are rather frequently used.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

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None

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