

EXTRALINGUISTIC FACTORS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL IDIOMS

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Abstract

The article dwells on the extralinguistic factors of the development of international idioms. The main roots of the independent development are taken into consideration. The link between international phraseological units and spheres of material, cultural and socio-economic life is stated. Phraseological parallelism in international units is observed on the examples of European languages.

Keywords: international idioms, European languages, etymological-genetic analysis, phraseological parallelism, extra-linguistic factors.

INTRODUCTION. The overwhelming majority of international phraseological units formed independently in European languages are semantically motivated formations. Therefore, the general extra-linguistic basis of the independent occurrence of the majority of the international phraseological units is amenable to synchronous disclosure. Many identical or similar facts of the material and spiritual life of peoples receive the same reinterpretation in different languages independently of each other. The action of universal extralinguistic stimuli in the first place determines the coincidence of the imagery, the similarity of its orientation.

METHODOLOGY. The general extralinguistic basis for the independent development of phraseological parallelism is made up of factors covering many areas of the material and spiritual life of people. [1, p. 34].

Phraseological units taken from the following dictionaries by the method of the comparative etymological-genetic analysis were demonstrated in the article: “Oxford Dictionary of Idioms” by J. Siefring [2], “German-Russian phraseological dictionary” by L. E. Binovich [3] and “Spanish-Russian phraseological dictionary by E. I. Levintova [4].

RESULTS. The images of a number of international phraseological units go back to the universal phenomena of nature and are based on a rethinking of the main and most common signs and features characteristic of these phenomena [1, p. 116]. For example, the formation of some international phraseological units of the given group is stimulated by the associations of similarity and contrast at the same time: eng. *like night and day*, rus. *как день и ночь*, germ. *wie Tag und Nacht verschieden sein* ‘to be totally different’.

A significant proportion falls on the imagery of which is determined by the properties of substances. Comparative parallels are especially numerous among them: rus. *таять как воск*, eng. *melt like wax*, it. *struggersi come la cera* ‘to be very weak due to illness’.

The origin of many international phraseologisms is connected with the peculiarities of habits, behavior of animals, birds, and insects, which are equally noticed by different peoples. For example, fear, vigilance in dogs and wolves, is accompanied by tail pressure (specific signaling of this state), which is transparently reflected in the phraseological images: rus. *поджать хвост*, eng. *put on tail between one's legs*, ger. *den Schwanz einkneifen*, sp. *meter el rabo entre las piernas* ‘to retreat, surrender’. The desire to escape from decisions, to hide from life, is associated with the peculiarities of the ostrich to bury their heads in the sand: rus. *страусовая политика*, eng. *ostrich policy*, germ. *Vogel-Strauß-Politik*, sp. *politica de avestruz*, fr. *politique de l'autruche*.

A relatively small group consists of internationalism, based on the signs, characteristic of the plants. For example: rus. *крепкий орешек* – eng. *a hard nut to crack*, germ. *eine harte Nuß zu knacken* ‘a person or thing not easily understood or influenced’.

Extremely rich is the reservoir of international phraseology based on the properties and functions of organs, parts of the human body. For example, many somatic international phraseologisms with the component “hand” are associated with it as a symbol of labor activity: rus. *приложить руки*, germ. *Hand anlagen*, sp. *meter las manos*.

Opinion about the random and unpredictable nature of the occurrence of the majority of phraseological units can emerge when studying phraseological materials based on one language [1, p. 66-67]. The study of the processes of internationalization of phraseology, and especially along the line of independent development of parallelism, allows us to speak not only about the “randomness” of the occurrence of phraseological units, which, as a rule, prevents interlanguage convergence, but also about the regularity and certain predictability of their education, especially in the lexical-thematic and thematic-semantic relations. This generally refers to the different bits of the FP, and distinguished both in terms of the degree of semantic fusion, and the functions they perform.

CONCLUSIONS. The connection of the images of international phraseologisms with the most diverse spheres of material, cultural and socio-economic life of peoples, their history, manifestation of human psychophysiological activity, with natural phenomena, facts about animals and flora is traced. A significant commonality is the stimulating basis of the independent phrases of phraseological parallelism.

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