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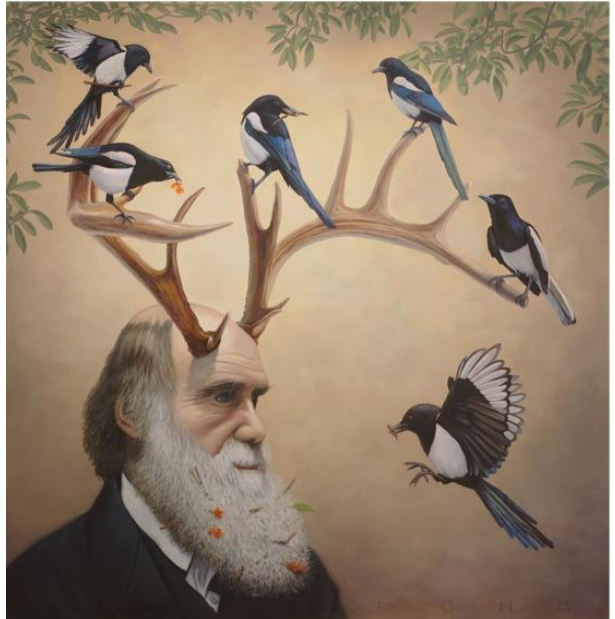
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Semantic models of phraseological units denoting adverse emotions and feelings

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Abstract

The present paper investigates into the semantic features, internal form and meaning of phraseological units (PU) expressing adverse emotions and feelings of a person in the English (EL) and German (GL) languages via a detailed comparative analysis of the semantic models of phraseological units. As a result, most of the PU denoting adverse emotions and feelings of a person are metaphorical and figurative. In conclusion, national-cultural characteristics have a direct explanation of the differences even in closely related languages.

Keywords: Phraseological, Unit, Semantic, Model, Internal.

Modelos semánticos de unidades fraseológicas que denotan emociones y sentimientos adversos

Resumen

El presente trabajo investiga las características semánticas, la forma interna y el significado de las unidades fraseológicas (PU) que expresan emociones y sentimientos adversos de una persona en los idiomas inglés (EL) y alemán (GL) a través de un análisis comparativo detallado de los modelos semánticos de fraseología unidades. Como resultado, la mayoría de los PU que denotan emociones y sentimientos adversos de una persona son metafóricos y figurativos. En conclusión, las características culturales nacionales tienen una explicación directa de las diferencias incluso en idiomas estrechamente relacionados.

Palabras clave: Fraseológica, Unidad, Semántica, Modelo, Interna.

1. INTRODUCTION

Quite a few modern researchers strongly believe that the main feature of phraseological units is in the discrepancy between the content and the expression plans. The latter fact determines the specifics of the phraseological unit adding depth and flexibility to its meaning. Emotions serve the motivating basis of human cognitive activity and constitute an essential part of its cognitive system. Henceforth, the processes of emotions verbalization highlight important aspects of mechanisms and patterns of human thinking.

While verbalizing human emotions and feelings of vital importance is not the naming of objects and phenomena of reality but the expression of a person's attitude to a particular object or situation. However, peoples' different cultural features hinder the progress of equivalent option determination or make it absolutely impossible. The purpose of the study is to carry out a comparative analysis of semantic models in PU denoting a person's adverse emotions and feelings in the English and German languages (ATES, 2018: GALVÃO & HENRIQUES, 2018).

2. METHODS

The research relied upon a number of scientific methods: the method of continuous sampling, the method of phraseological analysis by KUNIN (2002), which includes the method of phraseological

identification along with the method of dictionary definitions, the method of semantic analysis, the method of comparative analysis, the method of component analysis, the method of PUs internal form analysis, the method of classification and generalization as well as the elementary statistical method.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. PU expressing fear, consternation and horror.

Fear is an emotion arisen in situations of a threat to the biological or social existence of an individual and aimed at a source of real or imagined danger. Fear varies in a fairly wide range of shades (fear, horror, panic) depending on the nature of the threat, intensity and specificity of the experience. We observe an intensification of feelings-states - from fear, horror to panic. In English fright refers to the following PU: to have tongue cleaved to the roof of one's mouth – numb with fright; to look as if one had seen a ghost – frightened, as if seeing a ghost, look very frightened. In the German language, the micro field fright includes the following PUs: jmdm. klebt die Zunge am Gaumen; jmdm. bleiben die Worte in der Kehle stecken; Gespenster sehen (DUDEN, 1988: MOGHADAS, FARZAN & GHASEMI, 2018).

PUs expressing horrors are as follows: in English one's hair stands on end; one's blood turns to ice; to scare smb. to death; in

German *jmdm. stehen die Haare zu Berge/jmdm. sträuben sich die Haare; jmdm. erstarrt/gefriert/gerinnt/stockt das Blut in den Adern; Gummibeine haben/bekommen* etc. The following PUs are typical of the German language and are not present in English: *wie von Furien gehetzt/gejagt/gepeitscht* (mythical Furies - goddess of revenge); *mit Hangen und Bangen* (Hangen - obsolete form of Hängen); *jmdm. in die Beine fahren; Dampf [vor jmdm., etwas] haben* (earlier the word Dampf also had the meaning of embarrassment, depression); *[fast] auf den Rücken fallen*. Panic is reflected in English in PUs to press the panic button; blue fear (funk); in German *Bammel haben; jmdm. sitzt die Angst im Nacken* (BILYALOVA, BAZAROVA & GILYAZEVA, 2017).

PU's expressing emotions are deprived of specific denotations. It highlights the diffuse nature of the phraseological units and the feelings they reveal. So, for instance, English *blue fear* and German *jmdm. sitzt die Angst im Nacken* denote both panic and strong fear at the same time, whereas English *one's tongue cleaved to the roof of one's mouth* and German *jmdm. bleiben die Worte in der Kehle stecken* express both fright and feeling of awkwardness. All PUs expressing fear, consternation and horror are represented by two types: some of them are associated with the physiological sensations and perception of a person; others deal with the inner experience of a certain feeling. The temperature changes in the body are one of the physiological manifestations of fear. So the feeling of cold can be expressed in English by such PUs as *one's blood ran cold; to get cold feet about smth.* In the German language, this semantic model includes

the given FE: jmdm. erstarrt/gefriert/gerinnt/stockt das Blut in den Adern; kalte Füße kriegen (LITVINOV, 2007).

The following PUs differ in their internal form but they have the same meaning in both languages: to be in a cold sweat and Blut und Wasser schwitzen. Another manifestation of fear is a shiver represented in PUs to shake like a leaf; to quake in one's shoes; zittern wie Espenlaub; mit Zittern und Zagen; vor jmdm., vor etwas Manschetten haben. The latter PU of the German language corresponds in meaning to English PU with a different internal form: in fear and trembling. Some of fear symptoms are associated with rapid heartbeats or heart sinking. Thus, quite a few PUs contain components heart and herz: have one's heart in one's mouth; one's heart misses a beat; jmdm. rutscht/sinkt das Herz in die Hose; jmdm. bleibt das Herz stehen (DOBROVOLSKY, 1990).

A distinguishing feature of fear is blanching of a face: be as white as a sheet; to be as white as a ghost; to change colours; die Farbe wechseln; weiß wie die [gekalkte] Wand. The latter German PU has not got a complete equivalent in English. Another particular symptom of fear is numbness and stammering. So we observe a number of PUs describing these processes in both languages: one's tongue glued itself to the roof of one's mouth; to lose one's tongue; in German jmdm. blieb die Luft weg. Fear affects the human psyche. Fear comes along with slow thinking, loss of reason and consciousness: to be scared out of one's wits (senses); to get into a lather; to frighten the daylight out of smb.; mehr Angst als Vaterlandsliebe haben. Table 1 shows the

number of PUs expressing fright, fear and panic in both languages according to the semantic models:

Table 1. Quantitative characteristics of the PUs of the subgroup Fear in English and German

Semantic models of PU denoting fear, consternation and horror	Number of PU	
	English	German
PU expressing numbness and stammering	11	11
PU expressing physiological manifestations of the body	22	23
PU expressing loss of reason	12	11
PU expressing fear in metaphorical or metonymic phrases	10	15

The analysis shows that the majority of PUs in both languages is associated with physiological manifestations of fear since fear is the basic feeling both in humans and animals. The body reacts violently to any interference in the sense of security resulting in the quickening of heartbeat, numbness or muscles weakness. All the given examples prove the similarity of the figurative basis for the PUs expressing fear, consternation and horror in both languages. Henceforth, the physiological manifestations of fear are equally peculiar to these nationalities (BILYALOVA, BAZAROVA & GILYAZEVA, 2018).

2. PU expressing anger and rage.

Irritation and annoyance usually precede anger and fury. Irritation is a state of nervous excitement arising as a reaction to the

discrepancy between the desired and the actual lay of things. Anger is a stronger feeling, i.e. a feeling of intense indignation, a state of extreme irritation or discontent with someone or something (usually rapidly manifested). Anger usually manifests itself in different ways: it is open, when a person is capable of decisive and thoughtless deeds, or imperceptibly, when a person takes away his impulses of anger and keeps it inside for a long time. But unlike rage, a person is able to control himself if necessary. A person completely loses control when anger turns into a rage (GILYAZEVA & BAZAROVA, 1991).

In English, the microfield irritation includes PUs: to ruffle smb's feathers; a thorn in smb's flesh; to become like a bear with a sore head etc. In German this field is represented by *jmdm. ein Dorn im Auge sein*; *[auf jmdn.] geladen sein* (the image of a loaded firearm which can shoot any time); *ins Fettnäpfchen treten* – step on the pot with bacon, touch smb. (earlier in the peasant houses there was a pot of fat for boots near the stove. So those who came into the house could rub it into wet boots. The one who accidentally stepped into this pot and left stains on the floorboard annoyed mistress) (MASLOVA, 2001).

As you can see, PUs of the two languages do not necessarily coincide in internal form and meaning. It often depends on the culturological characteristics: thus, the PU *ins Fettnäpfchen treten* is typical only of the German language, since such a feature of everyday life as a pot with shoe fat is present in Germany and is alien to the UK. The presence of the following PU in the German language can tell a lot

about the customs and life of the inhabitants of Germany. It stresses the role of PUs in the language, reflecting the cultural characteristics of the people. Anger is reflected in to make one's hackles rise; fret and fume; to blow a gasket; to blow a fuse; to fly off the hand; jmdm. sträubt sich das Gefieder; einen Rochus auf jmdn. haben (the word rochus in modern Hebrew means anger); jmdm. ist eine Laus über die Leber gelaufen/gekrochen (earlier the liver was considered a place of emotional experiences, emotions), etc. (PALM, 1995).

In English the strongest feeling in this category is expressed by such PUs as: to go ballistic; to go berserk; to rouse smb's bile; (as) savage as a meat ax(e), etc. In German fury is reflected in jmdm. kocht das Blut in den Adern; jmdm. läuft die Galle über/jmdm. kommt die Galle hoch; jmdm. geht der Hut hoch; auf achtzig kommen/sein/jmdm. auf achtzig bringen (the maximum speed on the road in Germany used to be no more than 80 km/h) etc. The majority of the PUs of the two languages expressing fury coincide in meaning but differ in their internal forms. So, in English, we cannot come across PU with the component hat (English hat). In addition, the English language has no PU the figurative basis of which is related to the speed of the car. It is worthy to note that the English to go berserk corresponds to the German verb berserkern (rave), the use of which is sufficient for the transfer of the state of rage, whereas in the English language it calls for certain PUs. The physical reaction of a person in a state of anger can be divided into several subgroups:

a) Move upwards (towards the roof, ceiling): to hit the ceiling; to go up in the air; [schnell/leicht] in die Luft gehen; in die Höhe gehen;

b) Active gestures with hands or feet: to stamp one's feet; to saw the air; в НЯ mit den Händen/mit Händen und Füßen reden (it is interesting that there are two PUs in the given subgroup: the 1st one transmits footsteps of the legs, the 2nd - hand gestures, whereas in German one PU communicates the gesticulation of both hands and feet);

c) Movement in the direction from, from something, through something: to go out of temper; to blow one's top; to get one's shirt out; aus dem Anzug gehen/springen; aus der Haut fahren; aus dem Häuschen geraten/sein;

d) Movements compared with the phenomena of nature: to breathe fire over smb.; bei jmdm. ist gleich Feuer unterm Dach/jmd. hat gleich Feuer unterm Dach.

e) Movements comparable to the habits of animals: в АЯ to get up on one's hind legs; sich auf die Hinterbeine setzen/stellen; jmdm. schwillt der Kamm (TELIA, 1996).

The stated examples point out some difference between the PUs of the two languages. So, the PU to get one's shirt out and aus dem Anzug gehen/springen are the same in value but differ in components,

i.e. the English PU contains the shirt component, whereas in German we come across PU containing the component suit (Anzug). Moreover, we never come across PU with the component house in English. Table 2 shows the number of PUs in both languages of the subgroup according to the identified semantic models:

Table 2. Quantitative characteristics of the PUs of the subgroup Anger

Semantic models of PUs expressing irritation, anger and rage	Number of PU	
	English	German
PUs expressing a person's physical and speech response	35	37
PUs expressing anger in metaphorical or metonymic phrases	23	26

The analysis shows that in most cases the PUs of both languages in this subgroup transmits a physical or verbal reaction of a person in a state of irritation, anger or fury. This is due to the active nature of anger and rage. In both languages, this is the most numerous subgroup. PUs related to this group transmit different shades of anger: from irritation and vexation to blind rage and loss of control over oneself.

3. PUs expressing sadness, melancholy and heartsore.

Very often the emotions of this group are accompanied by pain in the heart. So some PUs contain the component heart, Herz: to be sick at heart; to break smb.'s heart; to eat one's heart out; jmdm. ist/wird das Herz schwer; jmdm. das Herz brechen/zerreißen; jmdm. das Herz schwer machen; jmdm./jmdn. ins Herz schneiden etc. The

other part of the PUs describe the inner state of a person while their internal form is associated with physical actions directed at the person and his soul: to laugh on the wrong side of one's mouth (face); to be the death of smb.; to go through the wringer; jmdm. auf den Magen schlagen; sich die Haare raufen; jmdm. einen Stich geben/versetzen.

The majority of PUs in this group are metaphorical: the black dog is on one's back (have the black dog on one's back)); to cry over the spilt milk; to be on tenterhooks; jmdm. [schwer/wie Blei] im Magen liegen; jmdm. auf den Schlips treten (Schlips is understood as mantle floor which in North-German sounds like Slip) etc. A sad person possesses evident signs of this condition: a drooping head, a gloomy expression, an extinguished look. In this regard, the internal form of some PUs of a given subgroup convey these characteristics: to hang (down) one's head; to pull a long face; die Ohren hängen lassen; den Kopf sinken (hängen) lassen; den Schwanz hängen lassen; ein langes Gesicht/lange Gesichter machen; wie ein Häufchen elend.

The recent examples of PUs expressing external signs of sadness prove that their number in German is prevalent of English since the British try not to give reign to their emotions and feelings: stiff upper lip (a symbol of endurance and perseverance, the ability not to stand up to difficulties). People often try to hide their grief. In this regard, part of the PUs express this behavior: in English to put a brave face on smth/ put a brave face on a sorry business; to groan inwardly; to put up a bold front/to put a bold face on smth.; to make the best of a bad job; in German die Ohren steif halten; gute Miene zum bösen

Spiel machen. Here we can witness the opposite situation: in English, the number of PUs denoting a person's desire to hide anguish or grief is higher than in German. Thus the Englishmen try not to indicate the manifestation of adverse emotions but focus desire to keep emotions to themselves. Table 3 shows the number of PUs in both languages of this subgroup according to the identified semantic models:

Table 3. Quantitative characteristics of the PUs of the Sadness subgroup

Semantic models of PUs expressing sadness and melancholy	Number of PUs	
	English	German
PU's expressing heart pain	14	16
PU's expressing the impact on the inner world of man	11	11
PU's expressing sadness in metaphorical or metonymic phrases	16	19
PU's expressing external signs of sadness	10	13
PU's expressing the desire of a person not to show gloomy mood	12	10

As we can see from the table, most of the PUs is metaphorical or metonymic phrases. Only once the amount of PUs in English is greater than the amount of PUs of the same semantic model in German: in an effort not to display one's emotions.

4. SUMMARY

Expressing emotions and feelings in the language, particularly with the help of the FE, is an important object of research in the field

of linguistics. Unfortunately, the results of these studies still do not provide us a detailed description and classification of EPU. The reason lies in the fact that the field of psychology we could rely on is still not complete since sometimes it is impossible to distinguish between this or that feeling - they are so complex and elusive. The paper investigates into English and German PUs expressing adverse emotions and feelings of a person, their semantic and comparative analysis.

We give a classification of semantic models for adverse emotions expression in the phraseology of the English and German languages and reveal features of the EPUs appearance in the language. Semantic analysis shows that the internal form of the majority of English and German EPUs is associated with the physiological response of a person to a particular emotion. A lot of EPUs are determined by the nature of the physiological functions of the body manifesting externally (redness, blanching, trembling, etc.).

5. CONCLUSIONS

Similarities of qualitative and quantitative research data are explained by the presence of common component composition and the values of the EPUs of the two languages, which form the general trends of the semantic transformations in these languages. The similarity is also explained by the universal semantic mechanisms of phrase formation on the one hand, and adherence to one cultural and

historical area on the other hand (belonging to one Western European culture, linguistic contact due to geographical proximity, similar living conditions, individual coincidences in climate, similar physiological processes, the same objects, phenomena of reality, signs and symbols. PUs built on physiological sensations, gestures, facial expressions are generally similar in two languages due to a weak share of human control, the universal character of sensations, the universal tendency to phraseolizing metaphorical phrases that call these sensations.

National-cultural characteristics have a direct explanation in the differences even in closely related languages. They are due to intra- and extra-linguistic factors: a different number of lexical-semantic variants of expressing adverse emotions with the help of the EPU, the historical, social and economic development of countries, their way of life, national culture.

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