

Phraseology

- Phraseological units, or idioms, as they are called by most western scholars, represent what can probably be described as the most picturesque, colourful and expressive part of the language's vocabulary.
 - Phraseology- is a collection of nation's customs, traditions and prejudices, recollections of its past history, scraps of folk songs and fairy- tales.
- Phraseolog

- A variety of odd and grotesque images, figures and personalities one finds in this amazing picture gallery: dark horses, white elephants, bull in chine shops and green-eyed monsters.
- They can characterized by double sense. A certain picture is made, but the actual meaning of the haul unit is different.

How to Distinguish Phraseological Units from Free Word-Groups

- There are two major criteria for distinguishing between phraseological units and free word-groups: semantic and structural.
- *To carry coals to Newcastle* means «to take» something to a place where it is already plentiful and not needed.
- This cargo ship is carrying coal to Liverpool.

Semantic change

- May affect either the whole word-group or only one of its components.
- *To skate on thin ice* (to be on a dangerous situation)
- *To have one's heart in one's boots* (to be deeply depressed)
- *A wolf in a sheep's clothing* (a dangerous enemy who plausibly poses as a friend)

- One of the components preserves its current meaning and the other is used in a transferred meaning: to lose one's temper, to fall in love

Structural criterion

- Structural criterion also brings forth pronounced distinctive features characterizing phraseological units and contrasting them to free word-groups.
- *To give somebody the cold shoulder means to treat somebody coldly, to ignore or cut him.*
- *A warm shoulder or a cold elbow make no sense at all.*

- In the phraseological unit *to carry coals to Newcastle* no additional components can be introduced.
- *The big white elephant* (when using the white elephant in its phraseological sense) or about somebody *having his heart in his brown boots*.

Proverbs

- Proverbs could be best compared with minute fables for, like the latter, they sum up the collective experience of the community.
 - Hell is paved with good intentions
 - Give advice. Don't judge a tree by its bark
 - Give warning. If you sing before breakfast, you will cry before night
 - Admonish. Liars should have good memories
 - Criticize. Everyone calls his own geese swans
- The function of proverb is communicative.

Principles of Classification

- A phraseological unit is a complex phenomenon with a number of important features, which can therefore be approached from different points of view.
- The traditional and oldest principle for classifying phraseological units is based on their original content and might be alluded to as «thematic». On this principle, idioms are classified according to their sources of origin, «source» referring to the particular sphere of human activity, of life, of nature, of natural phenomena, etc.

- The principle of classification is sometimes called «etymological».

To sink or swim- to fail or succeed

In deep water- in trouble

In low water, on the rocks- in strained financial circumstances

To be in the same boat with somebody- to be in situation in which people share the same difficulties and dangers

Semantic principle

- Phraseological combinations are word-groups with a partially changed meaning.

Phraseological units are word-groups with a changed meaning.

Phraseological fusions are word-groups with a completely changed meaning can not be deduced

To be good at something

To have a bite

To come to a sticky end

To be a good hand at something

The structural principle of classifying

- The structural principle of classifying is based on their ability to perform the same syntactical functions as words.

Verbal. to make a song and dance about smth., to get the upper hand, to sit pretty.

Substantive. Dogs life, white lie, tall order.

Adjectival. cool as a cucumber, nervous as a cat, weak as a kitten.

Adverbial. In cold blood, for love or money.

Thank you for attention!