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## LEXICO-SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION OF PHRASEOLOGISMS EXPRESSING POSITIVE MORAL VALUES IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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**Annotatsiya.** Mazkur maqolada ingliz tilidagi ijobiy axloqiy fazilatlarini ifodalovchi frazeologik birliklarning leksik-semantik xususiyatlari tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqotda halollik, saxovat, mehnatsevarlik, samimiylik va insonparvarlik kabi axloqiy tushunchalarni ifodalovchi frazeologizmlar semantik guruhlarga ajratilib o'rganilgan. Maqola natijalari frazeologiya, semantika va qiyosiy tilshunoslik yo'nalishlaridagi tadqiqotlar uchun muhim ilmiy manba bo'lib xizmat qiladi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** frazeologizm, leksik-semantik tasnif, axloqiy fazilat, ingliz tili, semantika, ijobiy xarakter, tilshunoslik.

**Аннотация.** В данной статье анализируются лексико-семантические особенности фразеологизмов, выражающих положительные нравственные качества в английском языке. В исследовании фразеологизмы, выражающие такие нравственные понятия, как честность, щедрость, трудолюбие, искренность и гуманизм, были разделены на семантические группы. Результаты статьи служат важным научным источником для исследований в области фразеологии, семантики и сравнительного языкознания.

**Ключевые слова:** фразеологизм, лексико-семантическая классификация, нравственное качество, английский язык, семантика, положительный характер, лингвистика.

**Abstract.** This article analyzes the lexico-semantic features of phraseological units expressing positive moral qualities in the English language. In the study, phraseological units expressing moral concepts such as honesty, generosity, diligence, sincerity, and humanity were studied by dividing them into semantic groups. The results of the article serve as an important scientific source for research in the fields of phraseology, semantics, and comparative linguistics.

**Keywords:** phraseology, lexico-semantic classification, moral virtue, English language, semantics, positive character, linguistics.

**Introduction.** Language is an important means of reflecting the spirituality, culture, and worldview of a people. In particular, phraseological units embody the historical experience, customs, and moral values of the people. Phraseological units in the English language also play an important role in figuratively and expressively expressing a person's positive moral qualities.

Phraseological units constitute the emotional-expressive layer of language and are widely used in assessing human character and moral qualities. This article classifies phraseological units expressing positive moral qualities found in English from a lexico-semantic perspective and analyzes their semantic features. Phraseology is a linguistic unit in which the meaning of the words in its composition is used in a figurative or fixed form and means a whole. Such units increase the effectiveness of speech and provide imagery.

**Literature Review.** Phraseology as an independent branch of linguistics began to be widely studied from the second half of the 20th century. Various scholars have researched the semantic, structural, and linguocultural features of phraseological units[1].

Russian linguist Viktor Vladimirovich Vinogradov interpreted phraseological units as stable combinations of language and semantically divided them into groups of phraseological crossings, phraseological units and phraseological combinations [2]. According to the scientist, the main feature of phraseological units is their semantic integrity and stability. Vinogradov evaluates phraseological units as a “figurative expression of the people’s thinking.” Natalya Nikolaevna Amosova studied phraseological units based on a contextual approach. She emphasizes that context plays an important role in the formation of phraseological units [3]. According to Amosova, idiomatic units differ from simple free combinations in that they are used in speech in a ready-made form.

We collected phraseological units from English phraseological dictionaries, scientific literature, and works of art were used as the research material. Including:

- Oxford Dictionary of English Idioms;
- A.V. Kunin's work "English Phraseology";
- Scientific works of N.N. Amosova on phraseology;
- Modern English fiction and journalistic texts.

Phraseological units expressing positive moral qualities were selected for the analysis.

**Research Methodology.** In the study, to determine the semantic features of phraseological units, descriptive methods were used to explain the linguistic features of the following lexical-semantic and phraseological units, comparative analysis was used to compare the semantic groups of phraseological units, and linguocultural methods were used to reveal the national-cultural characteristics of phraseological units.

**Results and Discussion.** As a result of the study, phraseological units expressing positive moral qualities in English were divided into the following lexico-semantic groups [4]:

Table 1.

Phraseological units expressing honesty and truthfulness:

Phraseological Unit	Lexical-Semantic Meaning	Example from Literature / Context	Equivalent or Synonymous Expression
<b>as honest as the day is long</b>	Very honest and truthful	<i>He was as honest as the day is long and never deceived anyone.</i>	truthful; sincere; completely honest
<b>a man of his word</b>	A person who always keeps promises	<i>My father was a man of his word and everyone trusted him.</i>	reliable person; trustworthy man
<b>straight from the heart</b> [5].	Said sincerely and honestly	<i>Her speech came straight from the heart.</i>	sincerely; genuinely

In this group, the components *honest*, *word*, and *heart* symbolically represent moral purity, reliability, and sincerity. The phrase *a man of his word* emphasizes the importance of keeping promises in English culture, while *heart* in *straight from the heart* metaphorically expresses genuine emotions and honesty.

Table 2.

Phraseological units expressing kindness and humanity

Phraseological unit	Lexical-semantic meaning	Example from literature / context	Equivalent or synonymous expression
heart of gold	Extremely kind and generous	<i>Although poor, she had a heart of gold.</i>	kind-hearted; warm-hearted
lend a helping hand	To help someone	<i>Neighbors lent a helping hand after the accident.</i>	assist; support
kind to a fault	Excessively kind	<i>He was kind to a fault and trusted everyone.</i>	overly kind; too generous

The components *heart*, *gold*, and *hand* carry strong symbolic meanings in these phraseological units. *Heart* represents kindness and compassion, *gold* symbolizes moral value and purity, and *hand* reflects assistance and cooperation. These components create vivid imagery connected with humanity and generosity.

Table 3.

Phraseological units expressing diligence and determination

Phraseological unit	Lexical-semantic meaning	Example from literature / context	Equivalent or synonymous expression
go the extra mile	To make more effort than expected	<i>The nurse always went the extra mile for her patients.</i>	make extra effort; do more than required
stick to one's guns	To remain firm in one's beliefs	<i>Despite criticism, she stuck to her guns.</i>	remain firm; defend one's position
hard-working as a bee	Very industrious and hardworking	<i>My mother is as hard-working as a bee.</i>	industrious; diligent

This group contains metaphorical components associated with effort and persistence. The word *mile* in *go the extra mile* symbolizes additional effort beyond normal expectations. *Guns* in *stick to one's guns* metaphorically expresses firmness and determination, while *bee* symbolizes industriousness because bees are traditionally associated with constant hard work.

Table 4.

Phraseological units expressing generosity and nobility

Phraseological Unit	Lexical-Semantic Meaning	Example from Literature / Context	Equivalent or Synonymous Expression
big-hearted	Generous and noble	<i>The big-hearted woman donated food to the poor.</i>	generous; noble-hearted
open-handed	Willing to give generously	<i>The king was open-handed with his people.</i>	generous; charitable
give the shirt off one's back	To give everything to help someone	<i>He would give the shirt off his back for a friend.</i>	selfless; extremely generous

The components *heart*, *hand*, and *shirt* reflect different aspects of generosity and selflessness. *Heart* symbolizes emotional kindness and nobility, *hand* indicates openness and willingness to share, while *shirt off one's back* creates a hyperbolic image of sacrificing even personal belongings for others. These expressions demonstrate the cultural appreciation of generosity and altruism in English-speaking society. Analysis shows that

phraseological units expressing positive moral qualities in the English language possess a high level of imagery and emotional expressiveness. They not only perform a communicative function but also reflect the cultural values of the people. The presence of components such as "heart," "hand," and "gold" in phraseological units often serves to symbolically express a person's inner world and moral qualities [7]. The research results demonstrated that the semantic field of phraseological units is broad and demonstrates the organic connection between language and culture [8]. It was also determined that it is necessary to take into account national and cultural differences in the translation of these units. Because some phraseological units may not have an alternative variant in other languages.

**Conclusion.** In conclusion, phraseological units expressing positive moral qualities in the English language constitute a rich and impressive layer of the language. Their lexico-semantic classification allows for a deeper study of the semantic features of phraseological units.

The results of the study showed that these phraseological units are an important means of expressing human qualities such as honesty, kindness, generosity, and diligence. In addition, they are of great importance as a linguocultural unit that reflects the national and cultural values of the English people.

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