

THE SIGNIFICANCE AND ROLE OF COLORONYMS IN PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Actuality of theme. Human life is impossible without communication. Every day we exchange news and useful information, share our thoughts and impressions, discuss current topics, so language and speech are very significant things for the society. Communication is not just a set of words, but also a competent construction of sentences, selection of correct vocabulary, adherence to a specific style of speech and many other factors. It is important to remember that a speech that contains not only simple facts, but also interjections and constructions, phrases, quotes and aphorisms sounds much more interesting and convincing.

The second half of the XX century was marked by the intensive development of phraseology as a science, thanks to which it stood out as an independent linguistic discipline. Different scholars (in particular: V. Vinogradov, Charles Balli, V. Mokienko, O. Kunin, O. Shakhmatov, L. Skrypnyk, etc.) have a significant interest in the issue of coloronyms in the phraseological fund of the English language. However, despite numerous studies, many issues of this problem remain understudied.

The research aim is the analysis of phraseological units of the English language with color components and identification of the influence of color and word symbolism on a person.

The results and discussion. At the heart of psycholinguistic research, language is considered as a phenomenon of human mental activity. It is language that helps us to describe everything that happens around us. The most vivid and emotional lexical units are phraseological units – phrases that are semantically indivisible and are reproduced in the finished form, as well as have emotionally expressive color and figurative meaning. Phraseological units may contain various components such as: onomastic (Achilles` heel), toponymic (Go to Halifax), somatic (a dab hand), zoonymic (rains cats and dogs). The most common and most commonly used are phraseological units, which include the element-coloronym. Coloronym (from Latin color – color, Greek onima – name) – lexeme, denotative meaning of which is the name of color [2].

Color has attracted the attention of scientists in various scientific fields and today it is the subject of many linguistic studies. It's no secret that color has a significant impact on human psychology and each color affects the individual in different ways. It is obvious that the color scheme in different languages is represented by peculiar lexical units and, in turn, coloronyms participate in different ways of word and phrase formation [3]. That is why the color picture of the world of each language is formed by a special "lexical palette".

Color perception of the world is reflected in the lexical and in particular phraseological system of language. The ability of certain colors to serve as a symbol of a certain phenomenon is related to the peculiarities of the interaction between color and human cognitive and emotional processes. Accordingly, the relationship between color names and their meanings are reflected in the minds of native speakers.

According to the results of research presented in the work "Coloronyms in the structure of phraseology in English" the largest number are phraseological units with the coloronym black (24.71%). In second place are phraseological units with the component blue (16.86%). Next in descending order are the colors white (15.01%), red (14.31%), green (9.47%), yellow (6.47%), rosy / pink (3.24%), gray (2.78%), brown (2.54%), purple (0.69%), orange (0.23%). Among the phraseological units there are those that include two or more coloronyms. They account for 3.69% of the analyzed phrases [1].

In most idioms, it is the coloronym that carries a significant frequency of the phraseological unit and affects its meaning. To prove this point, we present two identical idioms that differ only in color: to see through blue glasses (to see through something gloomy) and to see through rose-colored spectacles (not to notice flaws, shortcomings, to idealize something, someone). Pink is associated with happiness and something pleasant, and blue often symbolizes something sad and depressing, so the meaning of these phraseological units will be antonymous.

To get to know more about the linguistic relationship of color symbolism and words we created a questioning, in which students and professors of Zhytomyr Polytechnic State University and other respondents (201 persons) took part. Relying on the results of our research we made a conclusion that in most cases black color has negative meaning (in (someone's) black books; blackmail someone), white is associated with something pure (white man; white hat), yellow often symbolizes fear (yellow-bellied), a green is for envy (look through green glasses) or young and unexperienced person (greenhorn). Red color often reminds of fury (see red), but sometimes it may mean debts (be in the red) or resist everyday life, denoting something festive and bright (red-letter day). Grey is a color of uncertainty (grey area), and silver is associated with something simple (be given something on a silver plate/platter). Gold color usually stands for wealth (golden handshake). The idioms containing few coloronyms have a great number of different meanings (black and white (put something down) in black and white). Summing up all the information, we reached a conclusion: a favourite color of most asked people is green, but they still wear mostly dark clothes and consider black to be the most popular, so it is important to add a little color in grey weekdays and sometimes still leave pink glasses and not be afraid to be white crow.

Conclusion. Phraseological units with coloronyms are of interest for research both in the field of traditional phraseology and in linguoculturology. They are national-specific units of language that accumulate the cultural potential of the people and reflect in their semantics the long process of cultural development of the people, that is why their components capture and transmit from generation to generation cultural attitudes and stereotypes, standards and archetypes [1]. Color perception of the world is reflected in the lexical and in particular phraseological system of language. The ability of certain colors to serve as a symbol of a certain phenomenon is related to the peculiarities of the interaction between color and human cognitive and emotional processes.

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