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# On the Status of the Linguistic Unit of the Phrase

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**ANNOTATION:** This article is devoted to one of the topics - the status of the phrase as a linguistic unit, which is the reason for discussion by groups of scientists for many years, the scientific and theoretical opinions of linguists are analyzed, proving that words, as components of a phrase, either lose their lexical status, or participate in the formation of phrases maintaining the quality of the components, and examples are given. In the phraseological stock of each language, various expressions are formed from a semantic point of view, the views of representatives of the new direction are given.

**KEYWORDS:** phrasema, phraseological feature, systemic lexical denotative, metaphorical meaning, phrasal component, phraseological fusion, "emptiness".

A number of linguists emphasize the need for independent study of the phraseological structure, as well as the existing systems of languages.

At this point, the question naturally arises, what is the status of the phrasema, which is a unit of a separate subdivision? To what extent do the components of a phrase participate in the formation of phraseological meaning while retaining or losing their lexical meaning? To put it more precisely, to what extent do lexical units (independent or auxiliary words) that participate as a component in the structure of phrases with their lexical-denotative, metaphorical-figurative meanings (if any) participate in the formation of new phraseological meaning in language?

The answers to the questions serve as a solid basis for determining the scope and boundaries of the phraseological units. By the way, there are three approaches to solving this problem in modern linguistics.

According to the representatives of the first direction (Avaliani Yu. Yu., Akhmanova OS, Molotkov AI, etc.) the words involved as a component of the phrase lose their lexical status, they take the status of a morpheme, not as a word, they lose their grammatical categories. They break away from the lexical meanings of the names of their subjects and retain only their phonetic forms. Thus, the word as a component of the phrase is disconnected from the denotation, that is, from the independent reality to which it is called. [1.- p. 62]

Contrary to the views of the proponents of the first direction, the second group of scientists (AV Kunin, II Chernysheva, VL Arkhangelsky, RN Popov, etc.) argues as follows. The word-components involved in the formation of phrases retain all their qualities and can be considered as a complete word. They cannot turn phrases into non-word units as a result of "special use." Of course, there is no doubt that there is a basis for the views of the supporters of both directions. In this case, they prove their arguments and ideas on the basis of various phrases. There are a number of phrases in the phraseological fund of the language, the components of which are already moving away from their nominative meanings and appear as a "muffled sound". Such lexical units "react" with other components of the phrase, if possible, to participate in the formation of a new phraseological meaning in the language. For example, the connection between the words "carry coals to Newcastle" and the phraseological meaning "to do something redundant, unnecessary" is not clear today without a specific etymological analysis. [2.95-p]. A new meaning is emerging in the language. Or it is difficult to determine how the words "sobaky" and "s'el" in the Russian phrase "On v etim dele sobakus'el" (literally, "he ate a dog in this work") have an effect on the formation of phraseological meaning (He is a master of any work). What is the lexical-semantic function of the words "melon" and "unload" in the phrase "qovuntushirmoq" (literally: unload the melon, figurative meaning: spoil the work) as a component of the phrase? In what lexical sense do they contribute to the formation of phraseological meaning? Is it possible to confess ?!

However, it should be noted that the number of phrases with this feature is not large in languages. There are a number of phraseological expressions in which the words involved in their formation - the concrete or figurative meanings of the components - are sometimes implicit and sometimes explicit. As a component of the phrase, they retained their plans of meaning and form. Such cases are grounds for acknowledging the views of the supporters of the

second direction. For example, in Uzbek, English and Russian, the metaphorical meaning of the lexical component is preserved in comparative expressions: in Uzbek –*tulkidayayyor, qordayoppoq*; in English -sly as a fox, white as snow; or in Russian - хитрый как лиса, белый как снег. We see this in the parallel existence of lexical and phraseological meanings in a number of paremeological units.

For example, in Uzbek: *yerxaydasang, kuzxayda, kuzxaydamasang, yuzxayda* (literally, if you plow the land, plow the autumn, if you do not plow the autumn, plow the face); *qo`ychivonko`pbo`lsa, qo`yharomo`lar* (literally, if there are too many shepherd, the sheep will be die of filth).

In English: An apple keeps the doctor away; cross the stream where it is shallowest.

In Russian: *дымабезогнянебывает* (literally, without fire there is no smoke); *молниябьет в большиедеревья, амаленькиеостаются* (literally, lightning strikes large trees, but small ones remain).

The examples show that in the phraseological background of each language there are different expressions according to their semantic formation, in some expressions the component has lost its word status, while in other expressions it has retained its meaning.

This situation was the main criterion for the formation of the views of the third group. In fairness, the classification of phraseology presented by the first founder of the science of phraseology, academician VV Vinogradov, was based on the division of Russian phraseology into three groups, the diversity of the phraseological fund. [3. p 141]

According to this classification, the first of the three proposed types is called *фразеологическисраращения* (phraseological confusion), and this type is "phraseologisms in which the components of a phrase lose their lexical meaning, individual characteristics."

The second type is called *фразеологическисединства* (phraseological units), in which the components of a unit participate in the structure of phraseology, while retaining a certain amount of their lexical meaning.

The third type is *фразеологическоесочетание* (phraseological combination), which does not change significantly in the semantics of its components.

Admittedly, the simple classification of complex linguistic units with such diverse semantic-syntactic-stylistic features makes it difficult to reveal their essence, especially the mechanism of "phraseologization". By classifying language elements in this way, we divide them into groups and sort them by certain parameters. However, it is necessary to use other methods to unravel the mechanism of creation of the object.

In our opinion, such a new direction was put forward by Professor M.E Umarkhodjaev in 1981 in the conclusions of his doctoral dissertation, defended at the Institute of Linguistics of the former Union Academy of Sciences. According to the scholar, "Whether the phrase component is a word or not, that is, if the component of the phrase has its main nominative or figurative meaning, does the phrase retain this meaning, or is the process of «semantic devastation» (devastation- was used first by M.E. Umarhojaev). Such a scientific approach is important not only for the theory of phraseology, but also for the practice of lexicography, phraseography. [4. 72-b]

Moreover, it is not a question of a semantic shift of the phrase, but of the "devastation" (loss of meaning) of the components that make it up as a nominative unit. Because a phrase as a whole has a figurative meaning, it also has a certain design. If the parts of a phraseology lose their nominative functions, they will not have a new meaning if they lose their original meaning without any design. Of course, it should be noted that the degree of "devastation" of the components varies in different phraseologies.

The idea of "devastation" in the meaning of words in phrases, put forward by Professor M.E.Umarkhodjaev, requires a reconsideration of ambiguous concepts in words. "The main feature that distinguishes polysemy from semantic devastation" - writes Professor M.E.Umarkhodjaev [5.27-28p].

"The polysemous word has designata and differ from each other in more or less relevant semantic features that are expressed in different meanings of the corresponding word. In the case of semantic emptying of a word, it is difficult to talk about the relevance of the relevant semantic features of the designatum" [5. 27-28p].

Indeed, the semantic "devastation" of words in phrases can be a useful tool in determining the nominative meaning of a word and its status in a phrase, as well as the relative position of these units.

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