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## **Nomination of Blood as the Constituents of the Phraseological Units**

В статье рассматриваются понятия фразеологизмов и идиом. Авторы фокусируются на номинации крови в качестве составной части фразеологических единиц, а также частоте употребления таких идиом в английских и американских газетах.

**Ключевые слова:** фразеологическая единица, идиома, кровь, соматизм, частота использования слова, лексикология

This article deals with the notion of phraseological units and idioms. The authors focus on the nomination of blood as the constituents of the phraseological units and the word frequency of such idioms in English and American newspapers.

**Key words:** phraseological unit, idiom, blood, somatic vocabulary, word frequency, lexicology

The relevance of this research lies in the fact that English is among the world's most commonly used languages, after Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. Nowadays there are definitely above 1.5 billion English speakers throughout the world. Phraseological units come to be a very numerous part of English, according to the Oxford Dictionary of English Idioms, there are over 15,000 idiomatic expressions in the English language, which are used both in formal and informal communication. The idioms are the important part of language and culture, but interpreting an actual meaning of the phraseological units, especially without an idiomatic dictionary poses difficulties in non-native English speakers.

The aim of our research is to study and classify the phraseological units with the nomination of blood.

The research implied the following methods: literature review, description, contextual method, continuous sampling method.

Phraseology is a branch of lexicology, which studies word-groups and expressions in a language, which are semantically and often syntactically restricted [2]. Although in Russian linguistics there is no unanimous definition and categorization of the phraseological units, English and American linguists tend to use the term "idiom". Among the first foreign linguists who studied the concept of idioms

was famous British essayist and critic Logan Pearsall Smith with his work “Words And Idioms, Studies In The English Language” [4].

An idiom is a word of Latin origin, which definition suggests “special property”. According to Oxford Dictionary, an idiom is considered as “a group of words established by usage as having a meaning not deducible from those of the individual words (e.g. over the moon, see the light)” [3]. The following distinguishing feature of these phraseological units can be denoted:

- 1) the stability of their lexical components;
- 2) inability to be freely made up in speech, thus they also can be attributed to the set phrases;
- 3) a figurative meaning, thus it can be comprehended only through common use and is unique;
- 4) the literal definition of the idiom never corresponds to its figurative usage;
- 5) modification of the tone; expressiveness.

It should be mentioned, “Commonly researchers state emotiveness and expressiveness to be synonymic” [1]. Thus, phraseological units reflect the emotional component of the discourse, especially the somatic ones that are considered to be the oldest layer of the lexical composition in any language. According to the Oxford dictionary, somatic refers to something “relating to the body, especially as distinct from the mind” [3]. Accordingly, somatic vocabulary denotes the elements of the parts of the human body and its inner processes and substances. Being set expressions, somatic phraseological units represent the world through the somatic code as one of forms of collective cultural memory.

In this paper, we focus on the nomination of blood as the constituents of the phraseological units and the word frequency in English and American newspapers.

28 papers (11 The New York Times papers, 3 – Los Angeles Times, 3 – Reuters (international multimedia news), 1 – Time, 1 – The Boston Globe, 4 – The Guardian, 1 – The Times, 2 – The Daily Telegraph, 2 – The Irish Times) were viewed and 20 idioms with the component “blood” were selected. We classified these idioms according to the following model:

- 1) Substantive idioms (adjective+noun) – 6 idioms. This type of idioms most often defines a person, subject, or phenomenon and can also be represented as attributive idioms

Examples: «new blood» (2), «young blood» (1), «fresh blood» (1) – new members admitted to a group, especially as an invigorating force; «blue blood» (1) – a person of noble birth; «bad blood» (2) – anger or a bad relationship due to past problems with someone.

2) Binomials are represented by the two words separated by a conjunction that almost always appear in the same order. 3 idioms were found

Examples: «flesh and blood» (3) – 1) used to emphasize that a person is a physical, living being with human emotions or frailties, often in contrast to something abstract, spiritual, or mechanical; 2) a near relative or one's close family.

3) Three-word idioms – 2

Example: «blood, sweat, and tears» (2) – great personal effort; extremely hard work.

4) Verbal idioms (verb+object/preposition) – 4

Example: «smell blood» (2) – to sense an opponent's weakness or vulnerability; «draw blood» (1) – to make a wound that bleeds; taste blood (1) – achieve an early success that stimulates further efforts.

5) Compound, which are considered to be set phrases – 9 idioms

Example: be after/out (someone's) blood (1) – to seek revenge on another person; «make blood run cold» (1) – to make our feel very frightened; make (someone's) blood boil (1) – to make someone very angry; «get blood from a stone» (1) – to do something very difficult; «blood on the carpet» (1) used to refer in an exaggerated way to a serious disagreement or its aftermath; too rich for (someone's) blood (1) – to be too expensive for someone's budget; «first blood» (3) – the first point or advantage gained in a contest;

6) Comparative idioms – 1

Example: «blood is thicker than water» (1) – familial bonds will always be stronger than bonds of friendship or love.

7) Idioms that begin with prepositions – 2 idioms

Example: «in cold blood» (1) – without feeling or mercy; ruthlessly; in (one's) blood (1) – innate, as of a skill or quality, part of one's essential nature;

The results of our research show that the use of phraseological units with the «blood» component in English newspapers is not very common. It is worth noting that the analysis have shown the American newspapers to have more idioms with the component “blood” (especially “The New York Times” – 10 idioms) as compared with British ones. It also has to be noted that the amount of phraseological units in the titles of the articles was the same as that of in the text.

In reference to word frequency, compound type of idioms appears to be the most numerous one; the prevalent idioms are “first blood” (compound) and «flesh and blood» (binominal)

Conclusion: The research contributes to the current understanding of idioms. A characteristic feature of idioms is a stylistic colouring, and their use helps to distance from the usual neutral style. Phraseological units, including

idioms, are extremely important components of linguistics and their classification helps us to study them more precisely. Somatic phraseological units represent a large part of English phraseology and is the reflection of the culture and mentality. Studying of linguistic peculiarities, especially phraseology contributes to our understanding of the collective view of the world in general and recognise the emotional component of the discourse in particular. Turning to the linguistic peculiarities of the newspapers, the usage of the idioms attract readers' attention to information modifying the tone and adding expressiveness.

### *Литература*

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УДК 811.111 + 811.161.1

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## **Research articles on cardiology: lexical semantics, synonymy and equivalency in translation**

В статье рассматриваются профессиональные медицинские контексты функционирования профессиональных лексических единиц, отобранных из научных статей по кардиологии и образовательных источников. Рассматривается аспект перевода изучаемых единиц с английского языка на русский. Лексическая семантика, синонимия и эквивалентность при переводе представлены в работе в соответствии с тематическим параметром.

**Ключевые слова:** лексические единицы, терминология, медицина, кардиология, семантика, синонимы, английский язык, русский язык