



PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN THE ROAD TO PARADISE

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Language is not only a means of communication but also a reflection of the cultural, historical, and intellectual development of a society. One of the most expressive and culturally significant components of language is phraseology. Phraseological units constitute an essential part of the lexical system of any language and represent stable combinations of words that function as a single semantic unit. These units play a crucial role in enriching speech, conveying figurative meaning, and expressing emotional and stylistic nuances in both everyday communication and literary works. The scientific study of phraseological units has long attracted the attention of linguists. Phraseology as a linguistic discipline examines fixed expressions, idioms, proverbs, and other stable word combinations that possess a figurative meaning and a stable structural form. Unlike free word combinations, phraseological units are characterized by semantic integrity and cannot be interpreted solely by analyzing the meanings of their individual components. Their meaning is often metaphorical and culturally conditioned, which makes phraseology an important area of linguistic and cultural research.

In linguistics, the term “phraseological unit” refers to a stable combination of words that functions as a single lexical unit and possesses a figurative meaning. Such expressions are often reproduced in speech as ready-made units rather than being created spontaneously during communication. The semantic unity and structural stability of phraseological units distinguish them from ordinary word combinations.

One of the pioneers in the study of phraseology was the Russian linguist Viktor Vinogradov, who developed a comprehensive classification of phraseological units. According to Vinogradov, phraseological units can be divided into several types based on the degree of semantic cohesion between their components. These include phraseological fusions, phraseological unities, and phraseological combinations. Phraseological fusions represent expressions whose meaning cannot be deduced from the meanings of their individual words, while phraseological unities maintain some degree of semantic connection with their components but still function as stable figurative expressions.

The English linguistic tradition has also made significant contributions to the study of phraseology. Scholars have emphasized the role of idioms and fixed expressions in shaping the expressive potential of language. English idioms often contain metaphorical meanings derived from historical events,



cultural traditions, and everyday experiences. These expressions have become an integral part of the English language and are widely used in both spoken and written communication. Phraseological units possess several distinctive features that differentiate them from free word combinations. One of the most important characteristics is stability, which means that the structure of a phraseological unit remains relatively fixed and cannot be freely altered without affecting its meaning. Another essential feature is semantic unity, which indicates that the meaning of the entire expression cannot be understood by simply interpreting the meanings of its individual words. Additionally, phraseological units often demonstrate figurative imagery, meaning that they convey metaphorical or symbolic meanings rather than literal interpretations. Another important feature of phraseological units is their reproducibility in speech. Unlike ordinary phrases that speakers construct spontaneously, phraseological expressions are stored in the collective memory of a language community and are reproduced as ready-made linguistic units. This characteristic allows phraseological units to function as powerful tools for expressing complex ideas in a concise and memorable way. Phraseological units also play an important role in expressing cultural identity and national worldview. Many idioms reflect the historical experience, traditions, and values of a particular society. For example, phraseological expressions in English literature often contain references to historical events, mythology, and religious concepts, while Uzbek phraseology frequently reflects the moral principles, customs, and social values of Uzbek culture. Thus, the study of phraseology is closely connected with cultural studies and ethnolinguistics. Another essential aspect of phraseological units is their stylistic function in speech. In literary texts, phraseological expressions serve as powerful stylistic devices that enhance emotional expression, create vivid imagery, and contribute to the artistic quality of the text. Writers often use idioms and figurative expressions to portray characters, express philosophical ideas, and convey complex emotional states. The use of phraseological units in literary works enriches the language of the text and makes it more expressive and memorable. In dramatic literature, phraseological units perform particularly important functions. Since dramatic texts rely heavily on dialogue, the speech of characters must be vivid, expressive, and emotionally charged. Phraseological expressions help achieve this effect by adding color and authenticity to the characters' language. They also contribute to the development of dramatic tension and help reveal the psychological state of the characters. The works of outstanding literary figures often demonstrate the richness and expressive power of phraseology. For instance, the dramatic language of William Shakespeare is widely recognized for its creative use of idioms, metaphors, and figurative expressions. Many



phraseological expressions found in his plays have become widely used in the English language. In particular, the tragedy *Hamlet* contains numerous idiomatic expressions that reflect philosophical reflections on human existence, morality, and fate. Similarly, modern Uzbek literature also demonstrates a rich tradition of phraseological expression. The works of Abdulla Oripov illustrate how phraseological units can be used to convey deep philosophical ideas and national cultural values. In his dramatic poem *The Road to Paradise*, the author employs various figurative expressions and symbolic phrases that reflect spiritual themes, moral dilemmas, and the inner world of human beings. Therefore, phraseological units represent a complex linguistic phenomenon that combines lexical, semantic, stylistic, and cultural aspects of language. Their study allows researchers to understand not only the structural characteristics of language but also the cultural and philosophical meanings embedded in literary texts. In conclusion, phraseological units play an essential role in the lexical system of language and serve as powerful expressive tools in literary communication. Their stability, figurative meaning, and cultural significance make them an important object of linguistic research. The analysis of phraseological units in literary works contributes to a deeper understanding of artistic language and provides valuable insights into the relationship between language, culture, and literature. Language is a complex system that reflects the intellectual, cultural, and social development of human society. Within this system, vocabulary plays a central role in conveying ideas, emotions, and cultural meanings. One of the most expressive and culturally significant components of vocabulary is phraseology. Phraseological units represent stable word combinations that carry figurative meanings and function as integral elements of linguistic communication. They enrich speech, enhance stylistic expression, and reflect the cultural identity of a language community. Phraseology as a branch of linguistics studies fixed expressions, idioms, and other stable combinations of words whose meaning is not entirely determined by the meanings of their individual components. Phraseological units are widely used in both spoken and written language, but they play a particularly important role in literary texts where expressive language is essential for conveying artistic meaning. The concept of phraseological units has been widely discussed in linguistic theory. Scholars have emphasized that phraseological expressions differ from free word combinations in several important ways. First, they demonstrate semantic integrity, meaning that the expression as a whole conveys a meaning that cannot always be deduced from the meanings of the individual words. Second, phraseological units are characterized by structural stability, which means their grammatical and lexical composition remains relatively fixed. Third, phraseological expressions are



reproduced in speech as ready-made units rather than being constructed spontaneously by speakers. One of the most influential linguists who contributed to the development of phraseological theory was Viktor Vinogradov. His classification of phraseological units remains one of the most widely accepted models in linguistic studies. According to Vinogradov, phraseological units can be divided into three main types depending on the degree of semantic cohesion between their components. The first type is phraseological fusions, which are expressions whose meanings are completely non-motivated and cannot be understood by analyzing the meanings of their individual elements. In such cases, the original meanings of the words have been lost, and the phrase functions as a single semantic unit. Examples in English include idioms such as “kick the bucket,” meaning “to die,” where the literal meaning of the words has no direct connection with the figurative interpretation. The second type is phraseological unities, where the figurative meaning of the expression can still be partly associated with the meanings of its components. These expressions often contain metaphorical imagery that helps convey the overall meaning. For example, the English expression “to burn bridges” metaphorically describes a situation in which a person destroys the possibility of returning to a previous relationship or situation. The third type is phraseological combinations, in which one component of the expression retains its literal meaning while the other acquires a figurative or context-dependent meaning. These expressions are relatively flexible compared to phraseological fusions and unities but still function as stable linguistic units. The English linguistic tradition has also produced important research on phraseology. Scholars studying English idioms emphasize the cultural and historical origins of many phraseological expressions. Idioms often arise from everyday life, professional activities, folklore, mythology, and historical events. Over time, these expressions become conventionalized and are incorporated into the vocabulary of the language. Phraseological units are characterized by several key linguistic features that distinguish them from ordinary lexical combinations. One of these features is semantic integrity. This means that the meaning of a phraseological unit cannot be interpreted by analyzing its individual components separately. Instead, the entire expression must be understood as a single semantic entity. Another important characteristic is stability. Phraseological units usually maintain a fixed structure, and their components cannot be easily replaced by synonyms without altering the meaning of the expression. For example, the idiom “break the ice” cannot be modified into “destroy the ice” or “crack the ice” while preserving the same figurative meaning. A further feature of phraseological units is reproducibility. These expressions are stored in the memory of speakers as ready-made language units and are reproduced in



speech without being constructed anew each time they are used. This property distinguishes phraseological expressions from freely formed word combinations. Phraseological units also possess expressive and stylistic functions. They contribute to the emotional coloring of speech and help speakers express attitudes, evaluations, and emotional states. In literary works, phraseological expressions enhance imagery and contribute to the artistic style of the text. Another important aspect of phraseological units is their connection with cultural and historical context. Many idiomatic expressions originate from historical events, religious traditions, folklore, or everyday practices. As a result, phraseological units often reflect the cultural experience and worldview of a particular society. For example, English phraseology frequently includes expressions derived from biblical references, mythology, and medieval history. At the same time, Uzbek phraseological expressions often reflect the moral values, social customs, and spiritual traditions of Uzbek culture. Therefore, the study of phraseological units is closely connected with cultural linguistics and ethnolinguistics. In literary language, phraseological units perform several important functions. First, they help create vivid imagery and emotional expressiveness. Writers use phraseological expressions to intensify the artistic effect of their works and make the language more engaging for readers. Second, phraseological units contribute to the characterization of literary figures. The use of certain idiomatic expressions can reveal the social background, emotional state, or intellectual level of a character. In dramatic works, phraseological units play an especially important role because dialogue forms the central element of dramatic composition. Through dialogue, characters express their thoughts, emotions, and attitudes. The use of idiomatic expressions makes this dialogue more natural, expressive, and memorable.

The dramatic language of William Shakespeare represents one of the most remarkable examples of the creative use of phraseology in world literature. Shakespeare's plays contain numerous idiomatic expressions, metaphors, and figurative phrases that have enriched the English language and become widely used in everyday speech. In his famous tragedy *Hamlet*, phraseological expressions are used to convey philosophical reflections on life, death, morality, and human destiny. Similarly, the works of Abdulla Oripov demonstrate the expressive richness of Uzbek phraseology. His dramatic poem *The Road to Paradise* is characterized by deep philosophical ideas, spiritual symbolism, and the extensive use of figurative expressions that reflect the cultural and moral values of Uzbek society. The comparison of phraseological units in the works of these two authors provides valuable insights into the similarities and differences between English and Uzbek phraseological traditions. While Shakespeare's phraseology often reflects Renaissance philosophical thought



and Western cultural traditions, Oripov's phraseological language embodies national traditions, Islamic spiritual values, and the moral worldview of Uzbek culture. Therefore, phraseological units represent a multifaceted linguistic phenomenon that combines lexical, semantic, stylistic, and cultural aspects of language. Their study contributes not only to the understanding of linguistic structure but also to the exploration of cultural identity and artistic expression in literature. In conclusion, phraseological units play a fundamental role in shaping the expressive power of language. Their semantic richness, structural stability, and cultural significance make them essential elements of both everyday communication and literary creativity. The analysis of phraseological units in literary works allows researchers to reveal deeper layers of meaning and better understand the artistic language used by writers.