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TYPOLOGY OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS

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Annotation. In this article the role of phraseological units and their importances are analyzed. Phraseological units (PUs) are combinations of words that are often fixed in form and meaning. They can range from multi-word expressions to single phrases that convey specific meanings not easily inferred from their individual components. Studying phraseological units is essential for understanding language patterns, cultural expressions, and cognitive processes. They play a critical role in both written and spoken discourse, influencing stylistic choices and communication effectiveness.

Key words: phrases, effectiveness, expression, literal interpretation, context, idiomatic expression

The semantic classification of phraseological units are:

- Idioms: Expressions with meanings that differ from the literal interpretation.
- o Example: "Spill the beans" (to reveal a secret).
- Collocations: Words that commonly occur together.
- oExample: "Strong coffee" (not powerful coffee).
- Proverbs: Traditional sayings that offer wisdom or advice.
- o Example: "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."
- Similes and Metaphors: Comparisons that enhance meaning.
- o Example: "Time is a thief" (metaphor).

Understanding the syntactic structure of phraseological units is essential for analyzing their function in language. This structure not only reflects the rules of grammar but also reveals how meaning is constructed and conveyed in various contexts. Verbs combined with prepositions or adverbs that create a new meaning. Example: "Look up" (to search for information). Noun Phrases: Fixed expressions functioning as nouns. Example: "The Great Wall" (specific landmark). Adjective Phrases: Combinations that describe nouns. Example: "High-pitched voice."

The functional use of phraseological units (PUs) refers to their roles in communication and how they contribute to meaning, coherence, and effectiveness in language. Here are key aspects of their functional use:

- Discourse Markers: PUs that help structure conversation or text.
- oExample: "You know," "Well," "To be honest."
- Set Phrases: Expressions that are conventional in specific contexts.
- o Example: "Good morning," "Thank you."

The study of phraseological units across different languages reveals how culture shapes language. For instance, idiomatic expressions often reflect cultural practices or



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beliefs. Some idioms have no direct translation in other languages due to cultural specificity. Example: "Kick the bucket" (English) vs. "Bite the dust" (often similar meaning but different expressions).

Understanding PUs aids in teaching idiomatic expressions and collocations, making language learning more effective. For example in translation studies: Knowledge of phraseological units is crucial for accurate translations, as literal translations may lead to misunderstandings. Natural Language Processing (NLP): PUs are important in developing algorithms for language understanding and generation.

Challenges in Phraseological Studies

- Ambiguity: Some PUs can have multiple meanings depending on context.
- Dynamic Nature: Language evolves, leading to the creation of new PUs and the obsolescence of others.

Phraseological units serve several key functions in language:

- Expressing Complex Ideas: PUs can convey nuanced meanings or complex ideas succinctly.
 - o Example: "Break the ice" (to initiate conversation in a social setting).
 - Cultural Reflection: PUs often reflect cultural values, beliefs, and norms.
- oExample: "The grass is always greener on the other side" reflects a common human tendency to idealize what we don't have.
- Creating Cohesion and Coherence: In discourse, PUs can help connect ideas and maintain flow.

oExample: Using phrases like "In other words" or "To put it another way" enhances clarity in communication.

PUs enrich spoken and written language, making it more engaging and relatable. Common phrases, idioms, and collocations are used in casual conversations to express familiarity and social bonds. Example: "Hit the nail on the head" (to describe accuracy in understanding). In academic contexts, PUs can provide precision and authority. They often appear in literature reviews, discussions, and conclusions to summarize findings or frame arguments. Example: "It goes without saying" can preface universally accepted statements.

PUs are prevalent in professional communication, enhancing clarity and professionalism. They can facilitate negotiations, presentations, and reports. Example: "At the end of the day" is often used to summarize discussions. Authors use PUs to create vivid imagery and convey themes. They can add depth to character dialogue, reflecting cultural or regional backgrounds. Example: "Caught between a rock and a hard place" might depict a character's dilemma.

Learning PUs helps language learners sound more natural and fluent. Understanding idiomatic expressions provides insights into cultural contexts, improving comprehension. PUs often appear in exams and assessments, making their understanding crucial for success. The meaning of a PU can change based on context,



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leading to potential misunderstandings. Example: "Burning the midnight oil" literally refers to studying late but can imply working hard in various contexts. Some PUs may not be universally understood, posing challenges in translation and communication across different cultures. Example: A British idiom may not resonate with American audiences, and vice versa.

Accurate translation of PUs is vital to preserve meaning and cultural nuances. Translators must decide between literal translations and equivalent expressions in the target language.

oExample: The French idiom "C'est la vie" translates to "That's life," capturing a similar sentiment.

Linguists often conduct studies on phraseological units to understand their structure, usage, and evolution over time. Research may focus on how PUs are processed cognitively, their role in language change, or their effectiveness in communication.

Examples of Common Phraseological Units

- Idioms: "A blessing in disguise" (something that seems bad but turns out well). Idioms play a significant role within the broader category of phraseological units (PUs), contributing to language richness and expressiveness. Here's a detailed look at the role of idioms in phraseological units. Idioms are fixed expressions whose meanings cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of their individual components. They often convey culturally specific ideas and emotions.
 - Collocations: "Take a break" (not do a break).
 - Proverbs: "You can't judge a book by its cover" (appearance can be misleading). Conclusion.

Phraseological units are integral to effective communication, enriching language with meaning and cultural significance. Their study provides valuable insights into language use, cognitive processing, and cultural interactions, making them a critical area of focus in linguistics and language education. The typology of phraseological units is a rich field that offers insights into language structure, usage, and cultural nuances. It highlights the interplay between language and society, making it a vital area of research in linguistics.

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