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*Zapukhliak Iryna
Vinnytsia*

CULTURAL COMPONENT OF ENGLISH IDIOMS

The connection between a language and a culture has been studied by many researches. The speaker's choice of lexical units and grammar forms is determined by his/her educational level, emotional state, social status of his/her addressee and cultural norms of the society. Idioms are always stylistically marked and have some connotative meaning.

English idioms can be divided into proper English ones and borrowed ones that are copies of foreign idioms, or derived from common sources (for example the Bible). The object of our study is the proper English idioms that reflect the unique mentality of native speakers.

Idioms were studied from different perspectives, because their internal structure and functioning of language distinguish them from ordinary words and free phrases. The usage of idioms may add expressiveness to any statements. Such scholars as A. Kargin, (Каргин, 2007) Т. Markelova (Маркелова, 2005) О. Мороз (Мороз, 2010) and others paid much attention to the research of their features. However, in our opinion, the question of the cultural connotations of English idioms has not been studied thoroughly enough. Connotative meaning of language units is one of the urgent problems of modern linguistics.

The relationship between language and culture was observed in the works by W. Humboldt. However, in our study, we support statements of V. Telia, who noted that "if the idiom has cultural and national specificity, it must have the means to implement them in their organization and symbolic way to point these at peculiarities. The image (which may include culturally marked realia serves as a tool of manifestation of the cultural and national specific features in the idioms, and the way of denotation to these specific features is the interpretation of this image in the cultural and national sign

space of the linguistic community. Such interpretation is the content of national and cultural connotation. "(Теля, 1996).

Idiom with cultural connotations are various. A person requires background knowledge of social life and certain cultural realities to understand them. We can use such word combination as *wooden spoon* as an example. This is a shameful nickname that is given to one who takes the last place in a race. According A. Kunin, this expression comes from the custom of giving a wooden spoon to the student who got the poorest mark at the examination in mathematics at Cambridge (Кунін, 2006).

As idioms remain their internal form in most cases, they convey archaisms and historicisms in the modern language. We can also meet the display of the past realities in their structure. For example *divinity calf* means religious books or books of spiritual content. The calf leather of dark brown color was used for the covers of religious books in the Middle Ages. The similar example is the expression *ball and chain*, which means a burden, something that does not let act freely. The idiom comes from the chain with an iron core that was fixed to the convict to hinder his escape.

However, current realities are also present in phraseology. For example, nicknames *white collar* and *blue-collar worker*. The blue collars are unskilled workers engaged in physical labor and are directly involved in the production of goods. White-collar employees are mostly clerks the secretaries, involved only in mental work.

The peculiarities of the culture are also displayed in the expressions that reflect people's daily lives. As long as the British Isles are rich in water, English idioms reflected water, fish and fishing. For example, the expression *to be in the same boat with smb*. This idiom means to be in the same position with someone, usually not too favorable. However, the expression *to row in the same boat with smb*. has no negative connotation. Perhaps it is because the joint work unites people, gives them the sense of brotherhood.

Fish is also present in idioms. The phrase *to have bigger fish to fry* — to have more important or urgent work — shows the importance and respect to fish. This is also reflected in other expressions: *all is fish that comes to his net* and *the best fish are near the bottom*. Moreover, there are other functions of the word "fish". This concept is used as a standard in comparisons — *dumb as a fish* and *drink like a fish*. We can see that totally different associations with one word are embodied in the idioms.

There is a significant number of idioms related to water. *To keep one's head above water* and its antonym *to be in low water* demonstrate that British people associate water with welfare. However, *deep water* and *still waters have deep bottoms* reflect the attitude to water as a threat and danger. Water is also considered to be a symbol of instability and variability: *unstable as water*, *a lot of water has flown under the bridge since*

Geographic peculiarities are also reflected in English idioms. The hills appear in the phrases that reflect the distance *over the hills and far away* and presence everywhere *up hill and down dale*. Furthermore, the hills are also considered to be a symbol of constancy and ancientness — *as old as the hills*.

The usage of the noun *spur* in idioms attracted our attention. *On the spur of the moment* means quick, without hesitation, *to put spurs to smb* used as a synonym for the word *to rebuke* and *to win one's spur* — to excel, to put oneself in a favorable light. The latter phrase comes from the habit of awarding warriors who distinguished themselves and deserved to be the knights with golden spurs. (Кунін, 2006).

Britain has always been known for its cultural achievements. The theater is of great importance in the British culture. This fact explains the existence of idioms which have theatrical component. Expression *to set the stage for smth* illustrates the result of the work of certain person who prepared the environment for some specific actions. The person who acted badly may be called *the villain of the piece* — that is how the main negative character in the play is called. It is worth mentioning the phrase *to take smth in good part*, which means to treat the situation in a calm and enthusiastic manner. A fortunate, significant role in the play, and generally profitable way of doing things is called *a fat part*. The idiom *an oyster part* denotes a role in the play where the actor has only one cue..

Thus, English idioms represent unique features of the culture and people. These peculiarities are manifested in various phrases, reflecting everyday life, everyday activities, geographical and historical features, and specific perception of the world.

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*Іванілова Вікторія
Вінниця*

ФОРМУВАННЯ ІГРОВОГО СЛЕНГУ В УКРАЇНОМОВНОМУ ПРОСТОРІ

Комп'ютерні ігри вже не одне десятиліття є частиною культурної спадщини різних країн. Деякі з них можна без сумнівів називати витворами мистецтва, бо вони не тільки технічно складні та захоплюючі, але й красиві з візуальної точки зору. В кожній із них знаходить своє відображення як мова оригіналу, так і переклад. Особливий інтерес представляють для лінгвістів ігри з можливістю грати через мережу інтернет, бо вони об'єднують величезну кількість гравців з різних куточків світу, створюючи поле міжкультурної та міжмовної комунікації. Предметом цього дослідження є письмові та усні тексти, які відображають спілкування між геймерами в україномовному просторі. Об'єктом