



THE SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF PHYTONYMS IN CHARACTERIZING
PEOPLE’S TRAITS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Annotation. *The article investigates the semantic peculiarities of phytonyms—plant-related lexemes with figurative meaning—in English and Uzbek, with particular attention to their role in describing human characteristics. The analysis is grounded in semantic, stylistic, and comparative-typological methods, focusing on idioms, phraseological units, and fictional discourse. The study reveals that floral components serve as culturally and linguistically significant tools in the characterization of human traits, encompassing both positive and negative features. While English and Uzbek share universal tendencies in mapping human qualities to plants, their divergences emerge from cultural-historical backgrounds and ecological environments. The findings contribute to cross-linguistic semantics and translation studies by highlighting how figurative language functions as a reflection of both universal human cognition and cultural specificity.*

Keywords: *phytonyms, figurative meaning, comparative linguistics, English language, Uzbek language, semantics, idioms, phraseological units*

Language is not only a communicative tool but also a repository of cultural and symbolic meanings. One of the most striking examples of symbolic language is the use of phytonyms—lexical units derived from the plant world—to describe human qualities. Plants have historically been associated with vitality, morality, and aesthetics, and these associations are encoded in languages worldwide (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980). In both English and Uzbek, phytonyms are employed to convey figurative meanings in oral communication, idiomatic expressions, and fiction. They allow speakers to characterize people in terms of beauty (rose / gul), foolishness (nut / qovoq), vitality (green / yashil), and social status (rolling stone / qimirlagan qir o‘shar). The comparison of these semantic units across languages is especially significant, as it uncovers both universal patterns of metaphorical thought and language-specific cultural expressions (Buranov, 1990).

Now in the modern world English is considered the international language of communication, because of this in every country learn this language. Our country is no exception and English is very popular among foreign language learners. When learning English, we often encounter expressions that at first sight clearly understand the translation of words in the composition, but in the context of very difficult to understand the meaning. Such expression in English is called idioms. Idioms, conceived as fixed multi-word expressions that conceptually encode non-compositional meaning, are linguistic units that raise a number of questions relevant in the study of language and mind (e.g., whether they are stored in the lexicon or in memory, whether they have internal or external syntax similar to other expressions of the language, whether their conventional use is parallel to their non -





compositional meaning, whether they are processed in similar ways to regular compositional expressions of the language, etc.). Idioms show some similarities and differences with other sorts of formulaic expressions, the main types of idioms that have been characterized in the linguistic literature, and the dimensions on which idiomaticity lies. Syntactically, idioms manifest a set of syntactic properties, as well as a number of constraints that account for their internal and external structure. Semantically, idioms present an interesting behavior with respect to a set of semantic properties that account for their meaning (i.e., conventionality, compositionality, and transparency, as well as spectrality, preferentiality, thematic roles, etc.). The study of idioms has been approached from lexicographic and computational, as well as from psycholinguistic and neurolinguistic perspectives.

English idioms in the language are expressions that individually have separate meanings and when translated they do not coincide with the word for word translation. Idioms are an essential component of each language, and reflect the history and culture of this country, the development of the language. Every language in the world has its idioms or phraseological units of the world, and in English vocabulary they are in large numbers. If you want to enjoy reading English texts in original, you need to learn English idioms because they are widely used in English. Also, knowledge of idioms shows the level of the English language as an idiom decorates it, making it beautiful and graceful. An idiom is a set expression unique to that language. The sense of idioms is not determined by the meaning of words taken separately. Difficulties in translating and understanding idioms are often due to the fact that it is impossible to translate an idiom and the meaning is lost.⁷³

Within the Uzbek dialect, the meaning of figures of speech is changing as a concept of phraseology. On the think about of phraseological units there are a few logical works of the Uzbek dialect, deciding their place and meaning within the Uzbek language and they are the most logical sources of Uzbek diction.

There are a lot of idioms in the language, which are often used and because of this there is a need to divide them into separate groups, and this makes it possible to study the idiomatic structure of the language as a whole and effectively. Certainly, these groups are divided into groups on the expression of one subject, for example: about animals, about food, about clothes, about the weather, about the flora. In cases of learning English, the student wants to increase his vocabulary, also use this method which is divided into a group of words from one topic. In practice, this method is effective and it becomes much easier to remember words. Choosing for the subject of study idioms with a component of flora, it should be noted a fairly high interest in the study of flora, because it has an important role in human life. Idioms with a floral component count very much making up most of the dictionary and are widely used in the English language. Besides that, the importance of idioms with flora names has cultural specificity that must be taken into account in the

⁷³ Кунин А. В. Курс фразеологии современного английского языка. – М.: Высшая школа, 1996. – 381с.





translation process. English idioms with a flora component reflect the centuries-old observation of the person behind the world of flora, convey the attitude of the people towards the environment and become the cultural Foundation of the English language.

Amid the examination there was found that a parcel of expressions have the names of vegetation, in spite of the fact that our regular substances related with the world of greenery. Idioms with a flower component make up a huge portion of the lexicon and have a high use. In expansion, the semantics of this bunch of expressions includes a cultural specificity that must be taken into consideration within the interpretation prepare. Expressions with flower component reflect the centuries-old human observations of the world of flora, convey people's attitude to this area of reality.

The importance of the plant world for human, the fact that human has long pursued the analogy between themselves and the plants, finds consistent expression in the language.⁷⁴ The choice of properties of a certain flora as a prototype of rethinking is due to two reasons: on the one hand, the peculiarities of human thinking, which leads to the formation of similar images in different cultures; on the other hand, this choice may depend on the cultural and historical development of the country, its geographical location and political structure. That is why it is particularly important to establish universal and unique features in floral symbols, what can explain the mechanisms of formation of the idiom fund of a language.

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⁷⁴ Кунин А. В. Курс фразеологии современного английского языка. – М.: Высшая школа, 1996. – 381с.

