

THE IMPACT OF CULTURE ON VOCABULARY AND PHRASEOLOGY

Ikromova Maftuna Elmurod qizi

Sadriddinova Nigora Dilshod qizi

Uzbekistan State World Languages University

English Philology Faculty

Email: Mapuenglish1996@gmail.com

nigorasadriddinova7@icloud.com

Scientific advisor: **Umaraliyev Fazliddin**

Abstract. Culture plays a fundamental role in shaping language, particularly in the development of vocabulary and phraseology. This study explores how cultural contexts influence lexical choices, idiomatic expressions, and meaning construction in different languages. Vocabulary is not merely a collection of words but a reflection of cultural values, beliefs, and social practices. Similarly, phraseology—including idioms, collocations, and fixed expressions—embodies culturally specific knowledge that often cannot be directly translated. The findings highlight that understanding cultural background is essential for achieving communicative competence and avoiding misinterpretation in cross-cultural communication. The study emphasizes the importance of integrating cultural awareness into language learning to enhance both linguistic and pragmatic competence.

Keywords: culture, vocabulary, phraseology, idioms, linguistic relativity, intercultural communication.

Annotatsiya. Madaniyat tilning shakllanishida, xususan, lugʻat tarkibi va frazeologiyaning rivojlanishida tub ahamiyatga ega. Ushbu tadqiqotda madaniy kontekstning turli tillardagi leksik tanlov, idiomatik iboralar va maʼno qurilishiga taʼsiri oʻrganiladi. Lugʻat boyligi shunchaki soʻzlar jamlanmasi emas, balki madaniy qadriyatlar, eʼtiqodlar va ijtimoiy amaliyotlarning inʼikosidir. Shuningdek, frazeologiya — jumladan, idiomalar, kollokatsiyalar va turgʻun birikmalar — oʻzida toʻgʻridan-toʻgʻri tarjima qilib boʻlmaydigan oʻziga xos madaniy bilimlarni mujassam etadi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni koʻrsatadiki, madaniy asoslarni tushunish kommunikativ kompetensiyaga erishish va madaniyatlararo muloqotda notoʻgʻri talqinlarning oldini olish uchun muhimdir. Tadqiqotda lingvistik va pragmatik kompetensiyani oshirish uchun til oʻrganish jarayoniga madaniy xabardorlikni integratsiya qilish zarurligi taʼkidlanadi.

Kalit soʻzlar: madaniyat, lugʻat tarkibi, frazeologiya, idiomalar, lingvistik nisbiylik, madaniyatlararo muloqot.

Аннотация. Культура играет основополагающую роль в формировании языка, в частности, в развитии словарного состава и фразеологии. В данном исследовании рассматривается влияние культурного контекста на лексический выбор, идиоматические выражения и конструирование смыслов в разных языках. Словарный запас — это не просто набор слов, а отражение культурных ценностей, убеждений и социальных практик. Подобным образом фразеология, включая идиомы, коллокации и устойчивые выражения, воплощает в себе культурно-специфические знания, которые зачастую не поддаются прямому переводу. Результаты исследования подчеркивают, что понимание культурного фона

необходимо для достижения коммуникативной компетенции и предотвращения неверного истолкования в межкультурной коммуникации. В работе акцентируется внимание на важности интеграции культурной осведомленности в процесс изучения языка для повышения как лингвистической, так и прагматической компетенции.

Ключевые слова: культура, лексика, фразеология, идиомы, лингвистическая относительность, межкультурная коммуникация.

Language and culture are deeply interconnected, and one cannot be fully understood without the other. Vocabulary and phraseology, in particular, are strongly influenced by cultural contexts, as they reflect the experiences, traditions, and values of a speech community (Kramsch, 1998; Sapir, 1921). Words often carry meanings that go beyond their literal definitions, embedding cultural connotations and associations.

The concept of linguistic relativity suggests that language both reflects and shapes cultural perception (Whorf, 1956). For example, different cultures may have multiple words for concepts that are significant in their daily lives, such as snow in Arctic cultures or rice in Asian societies. This demonstrates how vocabulary evolves in response to environmental and cultural needs (Wierzbicka, 1997). Phraseology, including idioms and fixed expressions, is even more culturally bound. Idioms such as “break the ice” or “spill the beans” cannot be understood literally and require cultural knowledge for proper interpretation (Fernando, 1996). These expressions often originate from historical events, traditions, or shared experiences within a culture.

Vocabulary development is closely tied to cultural practices and social realities. Each language reflects what is important to its speakers, resulting in lexical gaps or unique words that may not exist in other languages (Aitchison, 2012). For instance, the Uzbek language contains culturally specific terms related to hospitality and family relations that do not have exact equivalents in English.

Moreover, cultural values influence the emotional and connotative meanings of words. A word that is neutral in one culture may carry positive or negative associations in another (Crystal, 2003). This highlights the importance of understanding context when learning new vocabulary. Globalization and intercultural contact have also contributed to lexical borrowing, where languages adopt foreign words along with cultural concepts (Holmes, 2013). However, borrowed words may undergo semantic shifts depending on the receiving culture.

Phraseology is one of the most culturally rich aspects of language. Idioms, proverbs, and collocations often reflect historical events, religious beliefs, and cultural norms (Gläser, 1998). For example, English idioms related to sports or maritime life reveal aspects of British history, while Uzbek proverbs often emphasize respect, family values, and community. The interpretation of phraseological units requires not only linguistic knowledge but also cultural competence. Without this understanding, learners may misinterpret meanings or use expressions inappropriately (Moon, 1998). For instance, direct translation of idioms between languages often leads to confusion or loss of meaning. Additionally, phraseology plays a crucial role in pragmatics—the study of language use in context. Cultural norms determine when and how certain expressions are used, influencing politeness, formality, and social interaction (Thomas, 1995).

Despite its importance, the cultural dimension of vocabulary and phraseology presents challenges for language learners. One major difficulty is the lack of direct equivalence between languages, which can lead to misunderstanding or miscommunication

(Nida, 2001). Learners may rely on literal translation, resulting in unnatural or incorrect expressions.

Another challenge is the dynamic nature of culture. As societies evolve, new words and expressions emerge while others become obsolete. Keeping up with these changes requires continuous exposure to authentic language use (Crystal, 2003). Furthermore, cultural differences in communication styles can affect the interpretation of phraseology. What is considered polite or appropriate in one culture may be perceived differently in another, leading to pragmatic errors (Thomas, 1995).

To address these challenges, language teaching should incorporate cultural elements alongside vocabulary and phraseology instruction. Teachers should provide contextualized examples and encourage learners to explore the cultural background of words and expressions (Kramsch, 1998).

Authentic materials such as films, literature, and conversations can help learners understand how language is used in real-life contexts. Additionally, comparative analysis between native and target languages can enhance intercultural awareness and reduce misunderstandings. Developing intercultural communicative competence is essential for effective language use. Learners should be encouraged to go beyond memorization and engage with the cultural meanings embedded in language (Byram, 1997).

Culture has a profound impact on vocabulary and phraseology, shaping not only the words we use but also how we interpret and communicate meaning. Vocabulary reflects cultural priorities and experiences, while phraseology embodies shared knowledge and traditions. Understanding this relationship is crucial for achieving linguistic and communicative competence. Language learners must develop cultural awareness to use vocabulary and phraseological expressions accurately and appropriately. Ultimately, integrating cultural knowledge into language education enhances both comprehension and communication, enabling learners to navigate diverse linguistic and cultural environments effectively.

REFERENCE

1. Abulkasimovna, E. Z. (2021). The Problem of the Norms of Phraseological Units Erdanova Zebiniso Abulkasimovna. *Mental Enlightenment Scientific-Methodological Journal*, 74-81.
2. Abulkasimovna, E. Z. (2021). Activity of Professional Terms in Linguistics. *European journal of innovation in nonformal education*, 1(2), 8-9.
3. Ashirkulovna, M. F. (2021). Linguocultural Classification of English and Uzbek Culinaryonyms in Proverbs. *Berlin Studies Transnational Journal of Science and Humanities*, 1(1.6 Philological sciences).
4. Ashirkulovna, M. F. (2023). Linguacultural characteristics of English and Uzbek phraseological units with cooking utensils. *British View*, 8(4).
5. Ashirkulovna, M. F. (2021). Linguocultural Classification of English and Uzbek Culinaryonyms in Proverbs. *Berlin Studies Transnational Journal of Science and Humanities*, 1(1.6 Philological sciences).
6. Aitchison, J. (2012). *Words in the Mind: An Introduction to the Mental Lexicon*.
7. Byram, M. (1997). *Teaching and Assessing Intercultural Communicative Competence*.
8. Crystal, D. (2003). *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*.
9. Fernando, C. (1996). *Idioms and Idiomaticity*.
10. Erdanova, Z. A. (2021). Comparing Uzbek proverbs and English proverbs in literary. *TJE-Tematics journal of Social Sciences ISSN*, 2277-3010.

11. Gläser, R. (1998). The Stylistic Potential of Phraseological Units.
12. Holmes, J. (2013). An Introduction to Sociolinguistics.
13. Kramsch, C. (1998). Language and Culture.
14. Moon, R. (1998). Fixed Expressions and Idioms in English.
15. Nida, E. (2001). Language and Culture: Contexts in Translating.
16. Sapir, E. (1921). Language: An Introduction to the Study of Speech.
17. Thomas, J. (1995). Meaning in Interaction: An Introduction to Pragmatics.
18. Whorf, B. L. (1956). Language, Thought, and Reality.
19. Wierzbicka, A. (1997). Understanding Cultures through Their Key Words.
20. Маматкулова, Ф. А. (2019). О свойствах кулинаронимов. NovaInfo. Ru, (108), 22-24.
21. Эрданова, З. А. (2021). Замонавий лингвистикада инсон ва унинг фаолияти акс этилиши. Международный журнал искусство слова, 4(5).