

UDC 811.112.2'37

doi: 10.15330/jpnu.2.2-3.56-62

STRUCTURAL-SEMANTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MODERN GERMAN PHRASEOLOGISMS WITH THE PHRASEOLOGICALLY LINKED FORMATIVE

O.O. PAVLYSHYNETS

Abstract. This article is an attempt to define the classification criteria of phraseological units, which have a phraseologically linked formative in their structure. In this article we come up with the respective classification criteria according to the features of the structure and the semantics of the determined phraseologisms. Within this research phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative are classified according to grammatical, structural-semantic and semantic criteria, in accordance with the national specificity, which is characteristic of these phraseologisms. By combining different classification criteria we attempted to determine the nucleus and the periphery of the phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative.

Keywords: phraseology, phraseologically linked formative, centre, periphery.

1. INTRODUCTION

In our previous research we already defined the basic concept for our research, i.e. that of the unique component from the cognitive perspective, determined the nucleus and the periphery of the class. Taking into account the results of such research, it seems relevant to us to employ the term phraseologically linked formative and use the following definition: a unique component, archisemanticon or phraseologically linked formative is a word, which in a phraseological unit functions as a bearer of a certain specific meaning, in which it is not used outside of this phraseologism, but it can have a different meaning, or several such meanings, it can be used as any part of speech, it can be a professionalism, an archaism, a member of a homonymic pair or a polysemantic word, an onomastic unit, a realia lexeme, a euphemism or an abbreviation, it can have some extent of idiomaticity, depending on the nature of determination and structure, it can belong to a certain type and perform a cumulative, as well as a referential and an expressive function [4, 5, 14, 15].

From this definition it follows that phraseological units with a unique component in their structure can be described and classified in more detail according to their structural features and their semantics.

2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Concerning the features of the structure of phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative, we should pay attention to the part of speech of the phraseologically linked formative, and also analyze the structure of the phraseological unit according to the structural-semantic classification of I. Chernyshova. Thus, we can determine the grammatical and the structural-semantic criteria of classification and taxonomy of the phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative. When studying the characteristics of phraseologisms, we should consider the national-cultural component of the semantics of specifically phraseologically linked formative, in particular of the phraseological unit as a whole, which we already discussed in our previous papers [3, 4, 5, 6, 14, 15], thus determining the criteria of the bearer of nationally specific information and the level of the expression of the national-cultural component of the semantics.

According to the grammatical criterion we can determine substantival, adjectival, adverbial, verbal and interjection phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative, depending on which part of speech represents the phraseologically linked formative. For example:

- **substantival:** *ein Techtelmechtel mit jmdm. haben* – do the rumpy-pumpy; *Man kann bei ihm noch das Taufessen sehen.* – of somebody yawning without covering their mouth with a hand; *Süßholz raspeln* – to brownnose to somebody etc.; we also include phraseological units-numerals to the group of substantival phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative, but in these the phraseologically linked formative-numeral receives a nominative function, and through it a cumulative function, thus, in fact, transferring to the class of nouns: *ne Fünfzehn machen* – to break for a smoke, *kurze Fünfzehn machen* – 1) not to fiddle about, 2) to have a stroke of luck; *zu den oberen Zehntausend gehören* – to belong to the upper crust;

- **adjectival and adverbial:** *jem. für vogelfrei erklären* – to announce somebody defenceless; *unbescholten sein* – to be perfect; *jem. ist unterbelichtet* – somebody stupid (phot.); *sich scheckig lachen* – to roar with laughter; *scheckig reden* – to talk gibberish;

- **verbal:** *eine Sache verbunfeien (verpumpfeien, verfumfiedeln, verbombeisen, verpopeizen)* – to screw up (east Frisian: a merry folk dance); *jem. nicht verknusen können* – not to stand, not to tolerate somebody; *jem. oder etw. vermässeln* – to waste in the meaning to spoil (Rotwelsch);

- **interjection:** *uff sagen* – to say something negative, unpleasant; *Sage nicht uff, sage Allah!*

The tendencies that become apparent when classifying phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative according to the grammatical criterion may be outlined in the following way: most phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative are substantival phraseological units, since it is more characteristic for adjectives, adverbs and verbs to collocate outside of phraseological units, which stipulates their insignificant number among the class of phraseologically linked formatives. An insignificant number of interjection phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative can be explained by the specific status of the interjection as a part of speech and a less common fixation of specific associations with the interjection, as the expressive function of the interjection dominates the cumulative function, as well as by the frequency and occurrence of their independent use in everyday speech. This accounts for a low frequency of cases when interjections proper are a member of a phraseological unit.

According to the structurally semantic criterion we can determine phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative incorporated in phraseological unities, phraseological combinations and collocations. The phraseologically linked formative occurs as a member of phraseological unities, phraseological combinations and collocations in unequal numbers and with certain peculiarities [4, 6].

Phraseological unities contain the unique component rather often but less commonly than phraseological combinations. For example, *das Hasenpanier ergreifen* – to tail off, *jmdm. die Eselbrücke bauen* – to prompt somebody. Such phraseological unities with the phraseologically linked formative in their structure comprise 33% of the total number of investigated phraseological units. Commonly phraseological unities contain a phraseologically linked formative expressed by archaic realia lexemes

or etymologically occasional units which are notionally expressed through the semantic transformation of all the components of the idiom.

In case of classifying phraseological comparisons to the group of phraseological combinations, this group is most numerous (phraseological combinations comprise 51.8% of phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative). The unique component can be represented by an archaism or a historicism, a professionalism, a borrowing, an onim, an etymological occasionalism, a realia lexeme, etc. Due to the reinterpretation of this archisemantic component, the phraseological combination receives its idiomatic meaning. For example, *den Drehwurm bekommen* – somebody feeling dizzy, somebody feeling nauseous; *in der Schwebe sein* – to hang sick in the air; *es wird jmdm. ganz blümerant* – somebody feeling sick, frech wie **Oskar** – a smart ass.

Collocations compared with phraseological unities and phraseological combinations containing a phraseologically linked formative in their structure are the least numerous group (15.2%). And specific differences are characteristic of different types:

- in the structure of proverbs the phraseologically linked formative is rather uncommon: they comprise only 6.6% of collocations with archisemanticon and are rarely registered in lexicographic sources; the unique component is expressed by an archaism or an etymological occasionalism and causes a figurative effect and a phonostylistic effect of assonance and rhyme: *Alter ist ein schweres Malter.* – When bees are old, they yield no honey. *Ein reines Gewissen ist ein gutes Ruheknissen.* – A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder.

- as a component of interjection and modal expressions the phraseologically linked formative is quite common (31.9%), and it is mostly represented by euphemisms or etymological occasionalisms (often in children's speech) and anthroponyms (usually names of saints) or theonyms, which stipulates the peculiar stylistic colouring and expressiveness of these collocations: *Es ist zum Beineausreißen!* – It won't do! *Mein Gott, Frau Beckman (surprise)!* *O du, heiliger Bimbam!* – Oh, God!

- a significant group of collocations is made up of fixed expressions from the language of ancient literature, mythology, the Bible, literature and journalism (61.5%), in which the phraseologically linked formative is usually represented by different types of onims (anthroponyms, theonyms, toponyms and ethnonyms) and adds a peculiar tone, symbolism and figurativeness to these phraseological units: *den Ariadnefaden finden* – find Ariadne's thread; *seinen Tag von Damaskus erleben* – to be reborn, to become a new person; *etwas ist faul im Staate Dänemark* – something is rotten in the state of Denmark.

The semantic features of phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative are determined primarily by the cumulative function of phraseological units. The cumulative function of phraseologisms which emerged as a result of various intralingual processes of the language development and were determined by social factors of the life of people, defines their ability to fix, preserve, transfer and thus reproduce the socially significant information and experience, and, as a result, various knowledge from history, geography, economy, culture and everyday life of the people, which comprises the national-cultural component of the semantics of phraseological units. The diverse and rich subject matter of German phraseologisms with the national-cultural component of the semantics provides a full picture of the nationally specific characteristics of life and worldview of the German people, and can manifest on different levels of the semantic structure of idioms.

The national peculiarities of phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative can be analyzed by the proper **semantics of a certain component**, since according to the definition provided above, it can be expressed by lexemes which have some national character to a bigger or lesser extent. As a bearer of the nationally specific and culturally significant information, the phraseologically linked formative can be expressed by:

- **historisms and archaisms:** *etwas auf dem Kerbholz haben* – to have one's finger in the pie; *etwas ist kein Erbhof* – something which is not obligatory; *jmdm. die Daumenschrauben ansetzen* – to nail somebody down, to take somebody by the throat; *ins Hintertreffen kommen* – to come out at the short end; *jmdm. ins Hintertreffen bringen* – to edge somebody out; *keine Handhabe finden* – to find no excuse;

– **realia lexemes** (among which we find nominations of monetary units, measurements, area, volume units, chronyms, names of festivals, folk games, and national dishes): *kein Deut wert sein* – not to be worth a penny; *mit jmdm Scheffel Salz verzehren* (gegessen haben) – eat a peck of salt with somebody; **Anno-Leipzig-einundleipzig** – year 1913; *das geht wie das Brezelbacken* – business goes like clockwork; *zu Pfingsten auf dem Eis* – never; **Elbentritschen fangen** – do nonsense, make a laughing stock of oneself; *wie ein Hefe-Kloß aufgehen* – grow like a weed; *So ein Heck-Meck!* – Whoa! (expression of satisfaction); *Was versteht doch der Bauer in einem Gurkensalat!* – He does not have a clue!

– **onomastic units: anthroponyms** (may have or lack prototypes):

a) historic people: *rangehen wie Blücher* – be determined; *aber sicher, sagte Blücher* – no doubt; *kalt wie Blücher* – very determined, cool;

b) names of people, famous for their character traits / deeds: *Ich bin doch kein Dr. Eisenbart!* – I'm not a magician!; *etw. nach Johann Ballhorn verbessern* – to deteriorate something with the intention to improve;

c) names of saints: *heiliger Florian!* – Good heavens!; *Heiliger Florian, schütz unser Haus, zünde andere an!* – in case of fire in the thunderstorm; *nach dem Floriansprinzip handeln, eine St. Florianspolitik betreiben* – to conduct a very cautious policy;

d) literary characters: *Anton, steck den Degen ein!* – Don't rattle the sabre, Anton! (Kalisz farce); *Daran erkenn' ich meine Pappenheimer* – I recognize my faithful people! (Schiller, «Death of Wallenstein»); *Bei mir Götz von Berlichingen!* – That's it, enough! Enough! No more! (citation from Goethe); *Hackelberg kommt wohl angezogen* – hullabaloo; *Hackelberg fatscht* – speaking when horses' hoofs are heard in the fen (a character from a legend of Wild hunting, from the name of the forestry close to Halberstadt near Magdeburg);

e) the most common names: *Hans* (Johannes), *Grete* (Gretchen), *Otto*, *Peter*, *Michel*, *Minna*, *Fritz* (Friedrich), *Heini* (Heinrich, Hinz), *Konrad* (Kunz), *Emil*, *Emma*, *Barthel*: for example, **Hans Taps** – a clumsy person, a blimp; **Hans Liederlich** – an unreliable person; **Hans Guck-in-die-Luft** – an absent minded person, an airhead; **Hans Ohnesorge** – a lighthead, frivolous person; **Hans Immerdurst** – a drunkard; **Hans Hasenfuß** – a coward; **Hans Hucklebein** – a poor wretch; **Hans Namiddag** (Hamburg) – a person who constantly puts off some things; **Hans Allerlei** – a person who sells trinkets; *ich will Hans heißen* (wenn das anders ist) – call me a fool (if I am mistaken); *er ist Hans Dampf (Hansdampf) in allen Gassen* – he has to be everywhere; *jeder Hans findet seine Grete* – for each his own; *was Hänschen sich gewohnt, läßt Hans nimmer* (was Hänschen lernt, kann Hans) – what Johnny knows, John also knows; *was Hänschen nicht lernt, lernt Hans nimmermehr* – what Johnny didn't learn, John won't learn either; *Gruß an Onkel Otto* – of people from the crowd waving hands in the camera as a greeting; *sich bekehren wie Hintermeiers Kuh* – not to become better; **Grete und Bete** – talebearers, gossips; *Das ist mir Gottlieb Schulze.* – I cannot care less; often: phenomena of negative connotation, a high degree of generalization: **dumme Liese** – fool of a woman.

– **toponyms**: *aussehen wie ein Junge von Meissen* – to look stupid; *groß wie Heidelberger Faß sein* – to be huge; *der Gang nach Kanossa* – a path of humiliation and penance; *nach Kanossa gehen*; *den Gang nach Kanossa antreten* – to repent; *in der großen Seestadt Leipzig* – jocular of Leipzig; *mein Leipzig lob ich mir!* – I love my Leipzig! **Berlin bleibt doch Berlin!** – Berlin is always Berlin! *Ich habe so Heimweh nach'm Kurfürstendamm.* – I really want to go to Berlin!; *der Geist von Potsdam* – of materialistic spirit; *zwei Dinge liegen so weit von einander wie Frankfurt und Sachsenhausen* – very close; *sich fühlen wie ein Ritter auf dem Bodensee* – to be in a precarious position; *wenn die Donau eintrocknet* – never, once in a blue moon; **Geh zum Blocksberg!** *Dass du auf dem Blocksberg wärest!* – Go to hell! *jmdn. auf den Blocksberg wünschen* – to tell somebody to get lost; *von Altenhausen sein* – to be ancient; *Er ist nicht von Gebenshausen (Gebensdorf, Gebersdorf, Gebening, Gabsheim)* – he is a miser; *(nicht) von / aus Dummsdorf sein* – to be (not) so stupid; *nach Bettingen, Bettlach, Federnhausen gehen* – to retire to bed;

– **ethnonyms**: *hausen wie die Hunnen* – to make a mess; **preußisch** *mit einander sein* – to be at enmity; **böhmisch** (**chinesisch**, **spanisch**) *vorkommen* – to seem weird and incomprehensible to somebody; *Die*

Schweden kommen! – alert of danger; jmdm. den *Schweden* wünschen – to curse somebody; die *schwedischen* Gardinen – jail; hinter *schwedischen* Gardinen sitzen – to be in jail; jmdn. hinter *schwedische* Gardinen bringen – to send somebody to jail; sich (auf) *englisch* / *französisch* / *polnisch* empfehlen (drücken) = (auf) *holländisch* abfahren – to take French leave; jmdn. grüßen wie ein *Spanier* einen *Franzosen* – to give a cold greeting; ein blinder *Hesse* – he does not see well; drauflos wie ein blinder *Hesse*! – Go for it! Without fear!

– **euphemisms:** *Ei der Daus!* *Was der Daus!* – Damn it! *Pfui Deibel!* *Auf Deibel komm raus!* *Weiß der Deiwel!* *der Deibel* / *der Deiwel* / *der Deixel* hol ihn! – Damn it! die *Ehrenrose* vorweisen – to prove one's innocence; zur *Engelmacherin* gehen (müssen) – to have an abortion; mit jmdm ein *Fisternölchen* haben – to do the rumpy-pumpy with somebody;

– **folk-etymological borrowings and etymological occasionalisms:** *Galimathias* reden – to talk nonsense; *Fisimatenten* machen (to fool around); ohne viel (lange) *Fisimatenten* – not to delay; Mach doch keine *Deielendames* (*Te Deum laudatum*) – Don't make a fuss! *Donnerstagskind* sein – to be lucky; Sie kumt um das *Giritzenmoos* = Sie sind auf das *Giritzenmoos* = ins *Giritzenmoos* fahren – to pass away [5, 14].

The nationally cultural component of the semantics may be expressed at different levels of the semantic structure of phraseological units. Consequently phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative can also be characterized according to the level of the semantic structure, at which the nationally cultural component of semantics is expressed:

– at the level of the component lexeme (if the unique component is expressed by an onim or a realia lexeme): *frei nach Knigge* – according to all courtesy norms; aus *Schilda* kommen – to be eccentric; *Wer Heller nicht ehrt, ist Talers nicht wert.* – Take care of the pennies, and the pounds will take care of themselves; *fluchen wie ein Bierkutscher* – to swear like a trooper;

– at the level of the genetic prototype (in case phraseologisms contain historisms, archaisms, realia lexemes or onomastic units): *bei jmdm. ins Fettnäpfchen treten* – to poison relations with somebody; *für jmdn. ins Fettnäpfchen treten* – to get into a scrape; *von einem Fettnäpfchen ins andere treten* – out of the frying pan into the fire; ein *Haberfeldtreiben* veranstalten – to lynch;

– at the level of the phraseological significatum or through phraseologically connected associations and hints (this is characteristic primarily of phraseological units with euphemisms, folk-etymological borrowings and etymological occasionalisms): *Frankfurter Würstchen* – a resident of Frankfurt; *jmd. ist im Spreewasser getauft* – somebody is a true Berliner; *Berliner Weiße* – light Berlin beer;

or at two, less commonly three levels simultaneously, thus actualizing a universal, identical for both countries, nationally typical or nationally specific semantics, characteristic of these phraseologisms. Phraseologisms expressing nationally specific information often contain onomastic vocabulary, realia lexemes, archaisms and historisms, euphemisms etc., which are nationally specific elements and are divided into absolute and relative (with full, partial and phonic peculiarity) and have a communicative significance [3].

3. CONCLUSIONS

If we combine the above described criteria, this will enable us to define the nucleus and the periphery of phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative. On the basis of the conducted research, using the continuous sampling method, linguistic-cultural commentary and quantitative analysis, we consider it reasonable to use the following hypothesis in our further research: The nucleus of the group of phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative will be composed of substantival phraseological units, primarily phraseological combinations along with phraseological comparisons, in which the phraseologically linked formative will be expressed by an archaism or a historism, an onomastic unit (an anthroponym, a toponym or an ethnonym) or a realia lexeme in the capacity of the members of a homonymic pair, a borrowing (including folk-etymological) or a euphemism, representing the nationally cultural component of the semantics at several levels of the semantic structure simultaneously, namely: at the level of a separate component lexeme and at the level of the genetic prototype, and also through specific associations and concepts. The phraseological

units that do not meet this characteristic belong to the periphery of the group of phraseological units with the phraseologically linked formative.

Our further research will be dedicated to the conduct of the corpus analysis of the defined phraseological units with the purpose of verifying the hypothesis, defining it more precisely and complementing it.

REFERENCES

- [1] Maltseva D. *Country Studies through Phraseologisms*. Moscow, 1990. (in Russian)
- [2] Havryś V.I., Prorochenko O.T. *German-Ukrainian Phraseological Dictionary*. Soviet School, Kyiv, 1981. (in Ukrainian)
- [3] Pavlyshynets O.O. Expression of nationally cultural component of the semantics of archisemanticized phraseological units in Modern German. *New Philology. Collection of research papers*, **29** (2008), 114-119. (in Ukrainian)
- [4] Pavlyshynets O.O. Archisemanticon in the structure of phraseological units. Traditional approach and cognitive linguistics approach. *Journal of Chernivtsi University: collection of research papers (Field of Germanic Philology)*, (2010). (in Ukrainian)
- [5] Pavlyshynets O.O. Criteria of separating the unique component and distinguishing its new classes. In: Foreign communication: achievements and perspectives. Scientific conference abstracts of the Second international academic conference. Ternopil, April 24-25, 2008, Terno-Graph Ltd, Ternopil, 2008, 33-36. (in Ukrainian)
- [6] Pavlyshynets O.O. Unique component in the structure of phraseological units in Modern German. Structural-semantic typology. In: XVII International academic conference "Language and Culture" in honour of prof. Serhiy Burago, Kyiv, 2009, 151-155. (in Ukrainian).
- [7] Dobrovol'skij D. *Cognitive Aspects of Idiomatic Semantics: Studies on the Thesaurus of German Idioms*. Narr, Tübingen, 1995. (in German)
- [8] Dobrovol'skij D. *Idioms in the Mental Lexicon: Aims and Methods of the Cognitively Based Research of Phraseology*. Francke, Trier, 1997. (in German)
- [9] Dobrovol'skij D. Piirainen E. Phraseologically Bound Formatives: auf dem Präsentierteller oder auf dem Abstellgleis? *Zeitschrift für Germanistik. Neue Folge*, **1** (94) (1994), 65ff. (in German)
- [10] Fleischer W. *Phraseology of the Modern German*. Leipzig, 1982. (in German)
- [11] Fleischer W. German Phraseologisms with the unique component. Structure and Function. In: Greciano G. (Ed.) *Europhras 88*. Strasbourg, 1989, 117ff. (in German)
- [12] Földes Cs. Proper Names in German Phraseological Expressions. Etymological and Semantic-Stylistic Analysis. *Muttersprache*, **95** (3-4) (1984/85), 174-180. (in German)
- [13] Földes Cs. Onymic Phraseologisms as an Object of the Linguistic Comparison. In: Greciano G. (Ed.) *Europhras 88*. Strasbourg, 1989, 127ff. (in German)
- [14] Pawlyschynetz O. Classes of phraseologically bound formatives in the modern German. In: Young Germanic studies of Ukraine between tradition and innovation: Proceedings of XXI International scientific-practical conference of the Association of Ukrainian Germanic scholars, October 31 - November 1, 2014, PAIS, Lviv, 2014, 48-51. (in German)
- [15] Pawlyschynetz O. Unique Components, Archisemantics or Phraseologically Bound Formatives. On the problem of the definition. In: International Virtual Academic Conference "Exploring Linguistics, Literature, and Intercultural Communication (ELLIC 2013)", Ivano-Frankivsk, 2013, 94-98. (in German)
- [16] Röhrich L. *The Big Lexicon of the Proverbial Sayings in 5 Vol.* Peter Lang Verlag, Mannheim / Wien / Zürich / New York, 1990. (in German)

Address: O.O. Pavlyshynets, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, 57, Shevchenko Str., Ivano-Frankivsk, 76000, Ukraine.

E-mail: olena_pawlyshynets@ukr.net.

Received: 03.03.2015; **revised:** 17.05.2015.

Павлишинець О.О. Структурно-семантичні характеристики сучасних німецьких фразеологізмів із фразеологічно пов'язаним формативом. *Журнал Прикарпатського університету імені Василя Стефаника*, 2 (2-3) (2015), 56–62.

У статті здійснено спробу визначити критерії класифікації фразеологічних одиниць, які містять у структурі фразеологічно пов'язаний форматив. Відповідні класифікаційні критерії включають структурні і семантичні особливості визначених фразеологізмів. У дослідженні фразеологічні одиниці із фразеологічно пов'язаним формативом класифікуються за граматичними, структурно-семантичними та семантичними ознаками, у відповідності з характерною для них національною специфікою. Поєднання різних критеріїв надає можливість визначити ядро та периферію фразеологічних одиниць із фразеологічно пов'язаним формативом.

Ключові слова: фразеологія, фразеологічно пов'язаний форматив, центр, периферія.