

## Phraseological Innovations in the Coronavirus Pandemic (Based on Uzbek, Russian and English Languages)

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### ABSTRACT

*The study of phraseological innovations in the context of the coronavirus pandemic is a relevant and timely work reflecting the changes in the language caused by global crises. The coronavirus pandemic has not only changed everyday life, but also had a significant impact on the lexical composition of the language, which is clearly demonstrated by the phraseological units that appeared or modified during this period. The main objective of this research is to analyze changes in the phraseological units of the language caused by the global pandemic, as well as to identify new phraseological units that have emerged in response to unique social and medical realities. As an example, the views of different scientists on this concept are given. The objectives of the current study include investigating the impact of the pandemic on the semantics of existing phraseological units, analyzing phraseological innovations in medical terminology, studying the cultural aspects of these changes, as well as identifying the linguistic features of new phraseological units and prospects for their further study in the context of language dynamics. The following linguistic and interdisciplinary research methods were used to achieve the goal and fulfill the tasks set in this research work: the method of linguistic description; method of oppositions; methods of communicative linguistics, in particular, the transformational method; semantic method.*

**Keywords:** Phrase, phraseology, phraseological units, pandemic, coronavirus, coronavirus pandemic, semantics, scientific text, discourse, scientific discourse.

## INTRODUCTION

As it is acknowledged, phraseological units are an integral part of our speech, helping to express certain thoughts and feelings. During the coronavirus pandemic, changes began to be felt in the use of these units in our speech, as this period changed not only our daily lives and our attitude to the world around us, but also our way of communicating with others.

At the time when the whole world was facing a global problem in the form of the coronavirus pandemic, language, as a socio-cultural phenomenon, had inevitably undergone changes. As a result, phraseology, as a branch of linguistics, has not remained aloof from these changes and has begun to actively adapt to the new reality. Therefore, in this research, we will consider phraseological units in the era of coronavirus, in particular, phraseological expressions from the perspective of the pandemic, online communication and phraseology, the features of the process of globalization and intercultural communication. In other words, we will investigate the specifics of phraseological innovations in the coronavirus pandemic.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

One of the most active processes of language development is the renewal of the lexical layer of the language through new terms and expressions that reflect the changing realities and realities of the world. The problems of neologisms, including neologisms in the area of phraseology, addressed by many prominent Russian scholars (Vinogradov 1977; Shcherba 1974; Zhukov 1996; Shansky 1972; Vinogradov 2001; Teliya 1977; Mokienko 1989). The study of the semantics, origin, structure and use of neologisms not only shows the general dynamics of language development and its main trends, but also allows us to see the direction of new changes in the life of modern society and understand the nature of these changes and the characteristics of the socio-cultural situation. Regarding the importance of such studies, many years ago, Academician L. V. Shcherba (1974: 245) emphasized that “every cultured people should monitor changes in the vocabulary of their language.”

In Russian linguistics, many scientific articles, studies, and even a new dictionary have been published devoted to phraseological innovations during the coronavirus pandemic, in particular, scientific articles and studies by E. N. Gekkina (2021), H. Walter & V. M. Mokienko (2021), N. V. Basko (2022), L. Danylenko (2022), V. I. Karasik (2020), E. Yu. Voyakina (2021), E. I. Golovanova & S. I. Madzhaeva (2020), M. A. Krongauz (2020), O. E. Chernova, Osipova, Pozdnyakova (2021). In addition, in 2021, the Scientific Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg published the dictionary “Словарь русского языка коронавирусной эпохи” (Walter, Gromenko & Mokienko 2021). This dictionary includes 3,500 words and stable combinations that have newly appeared or become relevant in the Russian language in 2020-2021.

#### METHODOLOGY

In order to achieve the goal set in this research work and fulfill the set of tasks, based on the phraseological innovations in the coronavirus pandemic in phraseology, in particular, in contemporary linguistics, a multi-faceted interdisciplinary approach was used to study and describe these units, and the following linguistic and interdisciplinary research methods were used: linguistic description method (terminology in the description and analysis of phraseological innovations as an object of phraseology); the method of oppositions (phraseological innovations); methods of communicative linguistics, in particular, the transformational method (in the analysis of semantic changes of phraseological innovations depending on the situation); semantic method (in determining the meaning of phraseological units).

#### RESULTS

E. N. Gekkina (2021: 322-331) emphasizes the following point regarding new expressions that have appeared during the coronavirus pandemic:

One of the changes we have observed in our language is the emergence of new phraseological expressions related to the pandemic period. For example, *вирусная усталость* – *virus fatigue* has become a widely used expression to express fatigue and weakness resulting from prolonged exposure to the pandemic. In addition, expressions such as “*коронавирусный бум* – *coronavirus boom*” have also appeared, describing the increased interest in certain topics or events related to the pandemic”.

O. E. Chernova (2021: 140-153) has classified all phraseological units that have appeared during the coronavirus pandemic into three thematic groups. These are:

1. **Distance learning and work group:** *удаленная / дистанционная работа, временная удаленная работа, дистанционный работник, виртуальный офис, дистанционное обучение, удаленный / дистанционный режим работы / обучения, электронное обучение, электронная ведомость, электронный дневник и электронный журнал;* (the group of remote work and education: remote / distance work, temporary remote work, remote worker, virtual office, distance learning, remote / distance mode of work / learning, electronic learning, electronic sheet, electronic diary and electronic journal);
2. **Coronavirus prevention measures:** *социальная дистанция, режим самоизоляции, индекс самоизоляции, режим повышенной готовности, масочно-перчаточный режим, пропускной режим, ограничительные меры, бесконтактная доставка, бесконтактный термометр;* (social distancing, self-isolation regime, self-isolation index, high alert regime, mask and glove regime, access control, restrictive measures, contactless delivery, contactless thermometer);
3. **The specific characteristics of the new disease and its treatment group:** *выйти на плато, бессимптомный носитель, компьютерная томография (КТ), инфузионная терапия, искусственная вентиляция легких (ИВЛ), вакцина от коронавируса, гигиена рук,*

*эпидемиологическая ситуация, красная зона* (reaching a plateau, asymptomatic carrier, computed tomography (CT), infusion therapy, artificial ventilation (ALV), coronavirus vaccine, hand hygiene, epidemiological situation, red zone) (Chernova, Osipova & Pozdnyakova 2021).

According to L. Danylenko (2022),

metaphors and allegories play an important role in the language of the pandemic, helping people understand and explain complex events. For example, the metaphor of “war with the virus” has been actively used in various contexts, from politics to medicine. We can see that allegories such as “*Черная лебедь*” – “*Black Swan*” or “*новая нормальность*” – “*new normality*” help to describe and understand the changes taking place in society.

Russian linguist V. I. Karasik (2020) in his article ‘Epidemic in the Mirror of Media Discourse: Facts, Assessments, Positions’ conducted a comprehensive and in-depth analysis of the linguistic changes that have occurred in the Russian language during the coronavirus epidemic (COVID-19). This article is devoted to the study of the reflection of the global epidemic in media discourse. In particular, the scientist divided information about the coronavirus on social networks into several groups and analyzed these groups in detail.

In our opinion, based on the above classifications, it is appropriate to divide all the phraseological innovations used in the coronavirus pandemic into the following thematic groups. These are:

1. *Secondary naming group on the topic of coronavirus infection (COVID-19)*

**Uzbek:** *tojli virus, XXI asr vabosi, uxan vabosi, kovidni yuqtirish, qizil hudud, yashil hudud, zum-majlis, saturatsiyani o'lchash, IVLga ulash, birinchi to'lqin, ikkinchi to'lqin, profilaktik vaksina, kovid bo'lmoq, masofaviy ta'lim, xemis platformasi, uyda qolish, uyda ishlash, karantinga yopilmoq, ijtimoiy masofa; (corona virus, 21st century cholera, Wuhan*

cholera, covid infection, red zone, green zone, zoom meeting, measure saturation, get ventilator, first wave, second wave, preventive vaccine, covid, distance education, chemical platform, stay at home, stay at home work, quarantine, social distancing;)

**Russian:** *коронавирусная пневмония, красная зона, измерять сатурацию, подключить на ИВЛ, вторая волна, очаг заражения, профилактическая вакцина, режим повышенной готовности, масочный режим, удаленный режим, дистанционное обучение, вирус с короной, чума XXI века, уханьская зараза, уханьская чума, нулевой пациент, первичный пациент, подцепить (поймать, словить) корону (заразиться, заболеть коронавирусной инфекцией);* (coronavirus pneumonia, red zone, measure saturation, connect to ventilator, second wave, outbreak, preventive vaccine, high alert mode, mask mode, remote mode, distance learning, corona virus, plague of the 21st century, Wuhan epidemic, Wuhan plague, patient zero, primary patient, catch (catch, say) corona (get infected, get sick with coronavirus infection);

**English:** socialdistance, social distancing, stay at home, flatten the curve, quarantine and isolation, essential workers, pandemic fatigue, contact tracing, zoom fatigue, new normal, mask up, COVIDiot, remote learning/work, vaccine rollout, herd immunity red zone, patient zero, online party, self-isolation, testing and tracing, to disarm, lockdown, epidemic disease, frontline heroes, virtual meetings/events, travel restrictions, frequent handwashing, antibodies do.

2. *A group of administrative actions to combat the pandemic and regulate the daily life of society*

**Uzbek:** *yashil hudud, sariq hudud, qizil hudud, ijtimoiy masofa, masofaviy ta'lim, zum-majlis, niqob rejimi; (green zone, yellow zone, red zone, social distance, distance education, zoom meeting, mask regime;)*

**Russian:** *красная зона, желтая зона, зеленая зона, вертолетные деньги, социальная дистанция, сидеть (отсиживаться) в бункере;*

**English:** Social distance, social distancing, stay at home, flatten the curve, quarantine and isolation, contact tracing, zoom fatigue, new normal, mask up, remote learning/work, herd immunity red zone, yellow zone, green zone.

#### DISCUSSION

Based on the above analysis, it can be said that during the coronavirus pandemic, phraseological units began to reflect changes in our worldview, values, and our relationship with the outside world. They have become not only a means of expressing thoughts and feelings, but also a reflection of our experience and perception of the current situation. In addition, this period has led to the emergence of new phraseological units that reflect the realities and problems that humanity may face. For example, today in our Uzbek everyday speech, such expressions *uyda qolish*, *karantinda o'tirish*, *masofadan ishlash*, *masofaviy ta'lim*, *masofaviy muloqot*, *ijtimoiy masofa*, *masofani saqlash*, *xemis platformasi* (as stay at home, quarantine, remote work, distance learning, distance communication, social distance, distance learning, chemical platform) and others have become widely used. These new phraseological units have begun to reflect not only changes in people's behavior, but also their emotional state in conditions of uncertainty and fear. From this point of view, it is important to study and analyze changes in the use of phraseological units during the pandemic in order to better understand our speech and culture.

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, crisis situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic have had a significant impact on linguistic expressions and phraseology, giving rise to the emergence of new phraseological units, terms, metaphors and allegories. During the pandemic, online communication has become an integral part of our daily lives. This has led to various changes in language practice and the use of phraseological units. For example, new expressions related to remote work, distance learning and virtual meetings

have appeared. Such changes during the globalization crisis have also had an impact on phraseology, introducing new intercultural aspects and enriching linguistic resources. This impact, in turn, has contributed to the development of phraseology and the enrichment of linguistic heritage. Despite such difficulties, phraseological units continue to develop and adapt to changing conditions. It is important to continue studying and analyzing phraseological innovations to better understand language changes during the coronavirus pandemic and their impact on communication and culture.

Needless to say, we should summarize the results of the study and highlight the key points that were considered during the analysis of phraseological units that emerged in the context of the global pandemic. The coronavirus pandemic that has engulfed the entire world has not only changed people's daily lives, but also had a significant impact on language, in particular phraseology. In the course of our study, we considered how the new realities associated with the pandemic contributed to the emergence of innovative phraseological units, as well as how existing phraseological units have undergone changes in their semantics.

Thus, the conducted study of phraseological innovations in the context of the coronavirus pandemic allows us to conclude that language is a living and dynamic phenomenon capable of quickly adapting to new conditions. The pandemic has become a catalyst for changes in the language, leading to the emergence of new phraseological units and a change in the semantics of existing ones. These changes not only reflect current realities, but also shape public consciousness, creating new cultural contexts. Hence, it is essential to continue studying these processes in order to better understand how language can serve as a tool not only for communication, but also for social adaptation in the context of global challenges.

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