

Linguopragmatic and Linguoculturological
Characteristics of Phraseological and
Paroemiological Units Related to the Concept
of "Corruption" in English and Uzbek Languages

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ABSTRACT

In this article we conduct a comparative linguistic study of phraseological and paroemiological units associated with the concept of "corruption" in English and Uzbek languages.

Keywords: Corruption, bribe, lexical unit, adjectives, nouns, linguistics, syntactic connection, cultural studies, synonyms.

1. INTRODUCTION

The semantics of the word "corruption" as a noun, which belongs to the category of a noun that is located in a syntagmatic series and enters into semantic-syntactic relations with an adjective, allows us to determine the signs of bribery, that is, its parametric characteristics, such as its size.

These features reveal a specific lexical meaning when the lexical unit "corruption" enters into syntactic connection with subsequent adjectives. Adjectives used with the lexical unit "bribery" in English:

1. **Adjectives indicating the size of the bribe:** small, large, huge, petty, insignificant, significant, substantial, exorbitant.
2. **Adjectives expressing the frequency of bribery:** random, frequent, ubiquitous, endemic, systemic, widespread.

3. **Adjectives describing the methods and techniques of receiving bribes:** underground, behind the scenes, kickback, bribe, extortion.
4. **Adjectives expressing reasons for bribery:** greedy, corrupt, dishonest, unprincipled, unethical, immoral.
5. **Adjectives that describe the consequences of bribery:** illegal, criminal, harmful, destructive, pernicious.
6. **Other adjectives:** bribery, nepotism, embezzlement, misappropriation, money laundering.

It is important to remember that the use of adjectives depends on the context. Here are some examples:

1. The police uncovered a large bribery scandal. (Полиция раскрыла крупное дело о взяточничестве) - "massive," "rampant," or "systemic " здесь можно воспользоваться этих прилагательных.
2. The politician was accused of accepting a small bribe. (Политик обвиняется в получении небольшой взятки) - "Petty," "paltry," or "occasional" эти прилагательные могут быть хорошим выбором.
3. The company was involved in an illegal kickback scheme. (Компания была вовлечена в незаконную схему перевода денег.) - "Under-the-table," "backdoor," or "bribery".Здесь можно использовать эти прилагательные.
4. The judge's behavior was considered unethical and corrupt. (Действия судьи были признаны безнравственными и коррумпированными.) - "Dishonest," "unprincipled," or "immoral" могут быть использованы здесь эти прилагательные.

The identification of the features of the linguistic content of linguistic units that form separate paradigmatic series, grouped into one area based on the general meaning of the concept of "corruption", has both theoretical and practical significance.

As a result of the lexical combination of the word "corruption" with adjectives with different semantic meanings, a person's appearance, his behavior, his ability to cope, his responsibility are presented to us as a point, that is, a physical object where experiences as a result of external influences are concentrated.

One of the indicators of the richness of a language is the presence of synonyms, as well as quasi-synonyms (partial or indefinite synonyms), which allow one and the same concept to be expressed in different ways. Synonyms may differ from other words by additional shades of meaning, emotionality, expressiveness and stylistic aspects.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This article uses the following methods of data collection and analysis: scientific literature, article analysis method, functional approach, generalization of the obtained results.

In our research we used the scientific works and dissertations of the following scientists: S. G. Vorkachev, 'The Concept of "Happiness" in the Russian Language: An Experience of Linguocultural Analysis: Monograph' (2002); Z. D. Popova & I. A. Sternin, 'The Concept of "Concept" and Linguistic Research' (2010); N. M. Kravtsova, 'The Concept of "Human Body": Cognitive Modeling and Transfer (Based on a Comparative Analysis of Old Russian and Old English)' (2008); M. R. Galieva, 'Verbalization of the Concept Word/so'z/slovo in English, Uzbek and Russian Language Maps' (2010); A. A. Abduazizov, 'Introduction to Linguistic Theory' (2015); A. E. Mamatov, 'Modern linguistics. (2019); I. Mirzaev, 'Problems of Linguapoetic Interpretation of a Poetic Text (Based on Modern Uzbek Poetry) (1992); M. Yuldashev, 'Lingvopoetic Study of a Fiction Text' (2009).

3. RESULTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Today, spiritual and educational education in our republic has been elevated to the rank of policy. The fate of development is determined by spiritually mature people who are aware of their rights, rely on their own strengths and capabilities, are able to independently respond to events happening around them, and have a deep knowledge of modern knowledge.

World linguistics is rapidly developing within the framework of the anthropocentric scientific paradigm. On this basis,

scientific research on the problems of language, national consciousness, thinking, and the interpenetration of various cultures is acquiring priority significance. One of the leading directions in this regard is the conceptual sphere, that is, the phenomenon of national mentality, small linguistic units, which include a set of ideas of peoples and individual social groups about the surrounding world. In a broad cultural context, the understanding of a concept as an “environment for the practical use of language and its units” implies the interconnection of linguistic and encyclopedic knowledge.

In our country, in recent years, the volume of dissertations on the comparative study of unrelated languages has increased. As the role of English as a language of international communication in the world community increases, the introduction of English words into the Uzbek language has also increased significantly. This phenomenon, occurring in the Uzbek language, causes heated debates and discussions among linguistic researchers. This indicates the need to conduct research on this topic. The relevance of this work is due to the insufficient development of the theory of studying concepts and the lack of systematization of the procedure for their consideration, the need to identify aspects of the manifestation of concepts in language, the lack of a comparative analysis of concepts in different languages.

In our study, the following linguistic aspects were highlighted in the scientific works of the above-mentioned scientists: 1) the lexical and semantic properties of the concepts of “bribery” and “bribery” in different systemic languages were clarified; 2) the expression of the concept of “bribe” in modern English and Uzbek languages is studied using various conceptual symbols; 3) Using the example of literary texts, the linguocultural features of the expression of the concepts of “bribe” and “corruption” in English and Uzbek are analyzed.

To determine the range of synonyms used to explain the concept of “bribe” in English, we used the dictionaries of synonyms by V. H. Collins, I. A. Potapov and D. Devlin (2019).

For example; in English these are sentences “dishonesty” – нечестность, “graft” – взятка, “embezzlement” – освоить,

“misconduct” – противоправный акт, “malfeasance” – use of official duty if:

1. **If he abuses his official duties:** “venality” – взяточничество, “depravity” – моральное разложение, “perversion” – зло, “iniquity” – нечестность, “sinfulness” – such phrases include synonyms such as “sinfulness.”
2. **Synonyms related to money:** “bribery” – взяточничество, “extortion” – вымогательство, “profiteering” – спекуляция, “racket” – мошенничество, “graft” – взятка, “pilfering” – воровство, “embezzlement” – освоить.
3. **Synonyms related to career:** “abuse of power” – злоупотреблять своим положением, “misconduct” – действовать незаконно, “malfeasance” – должностное преступление, “nepotism” – nepotism, знакомство, “cronyism” – кумовство.
4. **Synonyms related to morality:** “dishonesty,” “venality,” “depravity,” “perversion,” “iniquity,” “sinfulness.”
5. **Synonyms related to legislation:** “crime” – преступление, “illegality” – незаконность, “criminal activity” – незаконная деятельность, “racket” – ложь, “scam” – вымогательство.
6. **Rarely encountered synonyms:** “peculation” – ограбление, “prevarication” – ложь, “chicanery” – крючкотворство, “deception” – обман, “duplicity” – лицемерие, “collusion” – сговор, “subversion” – зло.
7. **Compound synonyms:** “Being on the take” – брать взятку, “playing fast and loose with the rules” – неповиновение закону, “greasing palms” – давать взятку, “pulling strings” – быть знакомым с, “bending the rules” – нарушать закон

Our article also analyzes the linguopragmatic, linguocultural, phraseological and paremiological aspects of the lexeme “corruption.”

Linguopragmatics: studies language in its pragmatic aspect, that is, as a means of communication and interaction between people.

Linguocultural studies the relationship between language and culture. Phraseology studies the phraseological structure of language. Paremiology studies proverbs and sayings. A concept is a mental category that reflects a person's ideas about the world.

Linguopragmatic features of the term "corruption" in English:

1. **Uncertainty:** Main meaning: "Dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power, typically involving bribery." (Нечестное или мошенническое поведение лиц, облеченных властью, обычно включающее взятничество.)
2. **Other meaning:** "Moral decay or decline." (Моральный упадок или деградация), "Putrefaction or decay of matter." (Распадение или разложение материи.), "Degeneration or perversion of something." (Что-то сломалось.)
3. **Synonyms (in formal style):** Bribery, graft, embezzlement, misconduct, nepotism, patronage, racket, scandal, venality. (неофициальный стиль), backhanders, bungs, graft, grease, kickbacks, payoffs, perk, pork, tampering.
4. **Euphemisms (in formal style):** Ethical lapse, irregularities, misconduct, questionable practices, unfortunate occurrences. (неофициальный стиль), bending the rules, cutting corners, featherbedding, greasing palms, playing fast and loose, pulling strings, sliding doors, sweeteners.
5. **Phraseologisms:** "Greasesomeone'spalm" (Подкупить кого-либо), "Buttersomeoneup" (Проявлять доброту к кому-либо), "Oil someone's palm" (Взятка), "Palm-greasing" (Взятничество), "Slip someone a few bucks" (Подкупитького-либо) "Corruption" is a word with negative emotional connotations. It is often used to express anger, frustration, or condemnation of corrupt people or systems.
6. **Use in speech:** "Corruption" – This word is used in a variety of contexts, from news articles to everyday speech. It can be used as both a noun and a verb.
7. **Examples of use:**

1. "The government was accused of widespread corruption."
(Правительство обвинялось в широкомасштабной коррупции.)
2. "The company was caught bribing officials to get a contract."
(Компания попала на подкупе должностных лиц с целью получения контракта.)
3. "Corruption is a major problem in many countries." (Коррупция является серьезной проблемой во многих странах.)
4. "The politician was corrupt to the core." (Политик был коррумпирован до мозга костей).
5. "Corruption can erode public trust in institutions." (Коррупция может подорвать доверие общества к институтам.)

Functions

In both languages, paremiolective units (PU) and phraseological units (PU) perform the following functions:

- **Nominative:** the concept of "bribe" is called.
- **Communicative:** serves to provide information about a given thing.
- **Expressive:** expresses a reaction to bribery.
- **Appellative:** Can be used to influence the recipient.
- **Pragmatic meanings:** in both languages, PE and FE can have the following pragmatic meanings:
- **Evaluation:** negative evaluation of bribery.
- **Warning:** warning about bribery.
- **Irony:** used to express sarcasm towards the bribe-taker.
- **Humor:** used to create a comic effect.

The concept of "corruption" in English is used in the following meanings:

1. *Linguistic and cultural meanings*

In Anglo-American culture:

- corruption is often associated with politicians, businessmen and other people in power.
- it is considered a moral crime that undermines democracy and justice.
- The fight against corruption is an important political task.

- In other cultures:
- corruption may be more tolerant.
- it can be seen as an inevitable part of life or a way to solve its problems.

2. *Linguistic and cultural features*

- "corruption" is a word used in all English-speaking countries.
- however, there are regional differences in the use of synonyms, euphemisms and phraseological units related to corruption. For example:
 - While the word "bribery" is more commonly used in England, the word "graft" is more common in the United States.
 - In Australia, you might hear the expression "backhanders" and in Canada, "bungles".

3. *Influence of historical events*

"Corruption" is a word that has been around for centuries. Its meaning and usage have changed over time due to historical events. For example:

- After the Watergate scandal in the 1970s, the word "corruption" began to be used more often in relation to politicians.
- Globalization has led to increased awareness of corruption in other countries.

4. *Comparative analysis*

Comparison with other languages:

The meaning and usage of the word "Corruption" may differ from its equivalents in other languages. For example:

- In Russian, the word "corruption" has a broader meaning than the English word "corruption".
- In Chinese, there are several words used to describe different aspects of corruption.

Comparison with other industries:

- "Corruption" is a word used not only in politics and business, but also in other areas of life, such as sports, education, and athletics.
- "Corruption" is a word with multi-layered linguistic and cultural properties. Its meaning and usage vary depending on the context, culture, and historical period.

4. CONCLUSION

In the course of our research, linguo-pragmatic and linguo-cultural characteristics of proverbs and aphorisms in English and Uzbek were also identified. Having studied the information provided, we came to the following conclusion.

1. **Functions:** In both languages, proverbial units and phraseological units perform similar functions (nominative, communicative, expressive, appellative).
2. **Pragmatic meanings:** In both languages, proverbial units and phraseological units can be used to negatively evaluate bribery, warn against it, and also to use sarcasm or humor.
3. **Components:** In both compared languages, zoomorphic, anthropomorphic, somatic and artifactual components are found in proverbial units and phraseological units.
4. **Images:** In both compared languages, images of a bribe giver, a bribe taker and a bribe recipient are created.
5. **Differences:**
 - **Frequency of use:** Metaphors are more common in English, while proverbs are more common in Uzbek.
 - **Cultural features:** In English – images from the business sphere, in Uzbek – images from everyday life.

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