

PHRASEOLOGY ON MILITARY TOPICS IN ENGLISH AND UKRAINIAN

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Abstract. The article explores military phraseology in English and Ukrainian, focusing on how historical and cultural contexts have shaped these expressions. The study examines examples of idiomatic phrases related to military topics and their influence on modern language. A comparison is made in the usage of these expressions in both languages, highlighting differences in context, metaphorical colouring, and functionality. It is found that Ukrainian phraseology maintains a stronger connection with real military actions, while English language expressions are often used metaphorically in broader contexts. The study emphasizes the importance of phraseology as a component of cultural heritage and its influence on the perception of historical events.

Keywords: phraseology, military expressions, English language, Ukrainian language, comparative analysis, metaphor, culture, history, independence, idioms.

Introduction

Phraseology is an essential component of any language, serving as a linguistic mirror that reflects the history, culture, and worldview of its speakers. Among various topics of phraseological studies, military-related expressions hold a unique position due to their profound connection with historical events and social challenges. Wars and armed conflicts, as transformative periods in human history, have left an indelible mark on the development of languages, giving rise to vivid and often metaphorical idiomatic expressions. These expressions often transcend their original military contexts, taking on broader meanings in everyday language and shaping the

way people perceive and describe various aspects of life.

This article focuses on the military-related phraseology in two languages -English and Ukrainian - highlighting how different historical and cultural conditions have influenced the formation and usage of these expressions. By examining specific examples of military idioms in both languages, we will explore how language reflects the socio-political realities of the time and the military experiences of the people. In particular, we will look at how the historical struggles for independence in Ukraine and the impact of the world wars in English-speaking countries have shaped these linguistic elements.

Through this comparative analysis, the study aims to shed light on the broader linguistic and cultural implications of military phraseology in both languages, exploring not only the meanings behind individual expressions but also how they reveal the values, ideologies, and collective memory of the societies in which they have evolved.

Problem Statement

The study of military phraseology is an important aspect of linguistic research, as it reflects the deep connection between language, historical events, social processes, and cultural characteristics of society. Military conflicts, often pivotal moments in the history of nations, leave their mark on language by forming vivid expressions and idioms that are transferred from the military sphere into everyday life. However, while military phraseology shares a common origin in both languages, its function and meaning in Ukrainian and English may differ significantly due to historical, cultural and social contexts.

The question arises: why do certain phrases in some languages retain their original military meaning, while in others they become metaphorical and are used to describe situations unrelated to war? How do the cultural and social realities of different nations affect the evolution of military phraseology in each language? This study aims to uncover the cultural and linguistic nuances behind these changes and their impact on the linguistic and social perception of events related to war and conflict.

Military phraseology in Ukrainian

The Ukrainian language, like many other languages, has been heavily influenced by numerous wars and the struggle for independence. This historical context is reflected in the language, in particular in phraseology. Many of these expressions are directly related to military operations, military tactics or heroism in the struggle for freedom.

Examples of Ukrainian phraseology:

- *To go on the attack* is to act decisively or actively to start solving a difficult task. This expression comes from a military tactic when troops go on the offensive, attacking the enemy. In a figurative sense, it is used to describe active and decisive actions.

- *Hold the line* - to defend one's position or not to give up in the face of difficulties. This expression symbolises perseverance and resistance.

- *To take up positions* is to prepare for action or be ready to solve an important task. Military positions are important in strategy and tactics.

- *Not enough powder* - indicates a person who lacks determination or experience in difficult situations.

Ukrainian phraseology is often figurative and conveys a sense of struggle and indomitability. This reflects the historical reality of Ukraine, which has fought for independence for centuries and faced numerous military conflicts.

Military phraseology in English

English also has many military-related phrases, many of which date back to world wars or even medieval armed conflicts. Military expressions are often used metaphorically and have come into widespread use in peacetime.

Examples of English phraseology:

- *To bite the bullet* - to accept a difficult situation or make a painful decision. Historically, this expression comes from the practice of soldiers biting the bullet during operations without anaesthesia to endure the pain. Today, it means making difficult decisions.

- *To drop a bombshell* is to make an unexpected and startling

announcement. This is a metaphorical use of the idea of a bomb going off to describe shocking information.

- ***To hold the fort*** is to temporarily assume responsibility or perform a difficult task in someone else's absence.

- ***To go AWOL (Absent Without Leave)*** - to leave your place or job without permission. Initially, this expression referred to military personnel who left their post or deserted.

The English language contains many phrases that have gone beyond the military sphere and are used in everyday life to describe determination, surprise or difficulty.

Comparison of phraseology in English and Ukrainian

Both English and Ukrainian have a large body of military-related phraseology. However, there are certain differences in their use and formation.

1. ***Historical context.*** Ukrainian phraseology often reflects the long struggle for independence and is more directly related to actual combat and resistance. English phraseology, on the other hand, has largely become a metaphorical expression that goes beyond the military sphere and is used to describe any situation in life.

2. ***Imagery.*** In both languages, many expressions are figurative, but English phraseology uses metaphors and allegories more often. For example, expressions like 'drop a bombshell' are typical examples of metaphorical language that conveys not so much the specific military actions as the effect of them in everyday communication.

3. ***Functionality.*** In the Ukrainian language, military phraseology mostly retains its original meaning and is used in contexts related to decisive action or defence of positions. In English, such expressions have acquired a broader meaning and are often used to describe any serious life situation that goes beyond military topics.

Conclusions.

Military-related phraseology in English and Ukrainian is an important

reflection of historical experience and national culture. War has left its mark on these languages, creating vivid and imaginative expressions used in both literal and figurative meanings. Although in both languages these phrases were formed under the influence of military events, their usage in modern languages differs. Ukrainian topical phraseology focuses more on specific military actions, while the English one tends to metaphorise and extend such expressions to broader contexts.

Phraseology remains an important element of cultural heritage helping to understand how society perceives wars and conflicts and how they affect people's daily lives.

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