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# SPECIFIC SEMANTIC-FUNCTIONAL PROPERTIES OF ANTONYM PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS

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**Abstract:** Maqolada ingliz tilida antomim frazeologik birliklarning o'ziga xos semantik-funksional xususiyatlari tahlil qilinadi.

**Key words:** phraseological units, colloquial phraseology, phraseological antonyms, functional styles, antonymic slots, antonymous relationship

The article examines semantic – functional relations of antonym phraseological units in English

In phraseology, antonyms are considered as one of the research aspects of the study of the meaning relationship of internal systemic relations of linguistic units in the linguistic phenomenon and the plan of synchronicity.

The analysis of phraseological antonyms reveals the structural meaning and stylistic features of a certain phraseological unit. The study of antonymy and phraseologies helps to understand a number of phenomena, such as the presence of phraseological unit variability and synonym relations.

The antonym is one of the types of meaningful communication, which occurs as a result of the fact that one or another word or combination of words opposes the dependent aspect of the meaning [1;154]. For example, colloquial phraseology - work one's fingers to the bone (do not work, sit without work) - twiddle one's thumbs, if they are opposed, they express one thing, the attitude of a person to labour, only in the first case – this is full workmanship, in the second case it expresses the state of complete non-working:

- 1. "Doesn't he drink every penny he got or steal, and leave me to support the brat in my arms, which, Heaven be deserved, is non o'mine, but of the strumpet as consorted with him afore he persuaded me to have him? Don't it work my fingers to the bones for lazy spalpeen? Don't I ... "(J. Greenwood, The True History of a Little Ragamuffin, ch. XX, p. 74).
- 2. I've got to be busy. I can't sit down and twiddle my thumbs (F.Norris, The Pit, ch. VII, p.506).
- In phraseological antonyms there will be differentiators that determine the resistance of phraseologies to semantic dependence. The antonym differentiator is the official expression of the signs of the difference in meaning of these phraseological antonyms. Signs of difference in meaning are allocated as a result of an analysis of the examination of certain meanings of phraseologies by means of context according to several lexical sources. They differ depending on the following signs [1; 154-158]:
- 1) two antonyms, the meaning of which is completely understandable. Antonyms with word combinations that explain the meaning of phraseologies in a word or composition: *an ill hour-in a good hour; a hard nut to crack-child's play*;
- 2) two word combinations, confirmation in one case denial in the other: keep off the grass-poke one's nose into smb's affairs; as clear as mud as clear as a day.
- 3) two word combinations that are against each other semantically dependent phraseology or a synonym for a possible antonym of a word and a word combination can be phraseology, another can be a free word combination or an independent word: *to one's teeth* (frankly, to someone's face)-*behind one's back* (from behind); *call a spade* (simple and understandable colloquial) *beat about the bush* (speak not clearly).

Such distinguishing signs of meaning will be the antonymic differential of one or another of these phraseological antonyms, and we can safely assume them as a series of phraseological antonyms.

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The antonymy of phraseological units differs from lexical antonymy and has its own characteristics. In particular, it is possible to designate intermediate phraseological units between both sides of the sign (positive-negative), when expressing situations in which the sign can be shown in degrees.

- A.B. Kunin distinguished the following semantic types of phraseological antonyms in English [1;158-159]:
- 1) The "start-finish" type of phraseological units: *put smth on foot* (start something); *get the ball rolling*-(take the first step) *ring down the curtain*-finish something, put a point;

Between these two meanings, the presence of the meaning of *keep the ball rolling* (continue something) is an indication that the meaning is being rendered in degrees.

- 2) Antonym pairs of the type "action and end of action": *loosen one's purse strings* (act generously) *tighten one's purse strings* (act stupidly).
- 3) Units that represent such meanings as "good-bad", "right-wrong", "conscientiously-unscrupulously",: come to the right shop (go the right way)-come to the wrong shop (go the wrong way); earn an honest penny (earn with his own efforts) live by one's wits (smooth out the work from someone else's account); fair play (fair play, work) foul play (dishonest play, work);
- 4) "Big-small" type of phraseological units: units representing quantity: as plenty as blackberries (abundant)- as scarce as hen's teeth;

Units representing distance: at close quarters, cheek by jowl, at one's elbow, under one's nose (near)- a far cry from (far, far away); as heavy as lead - as light as flight;

Units representing Abstract characters: *child's play* (light, momentous work) - *Herculean task* (hard, hard work);

5) We can meet a variety of antonyms, antonyms that denote rich - poor, beautiful-ugly, expressive as well as indicative of the mood of a person, indicating emotional-intellectual characteristics.

For example, rough as bags (rough, blatant) - good cheer (humorist); an eager beaver (brisk, diligent) - tame cat (slow).

Phraseological antonyms may or may not correspond to the lexical composition of the language. [6;website] in both cases, antonyms that can be freely applied to their composition may have been involved: *fair play – foul play*; *with a heavy heart – with a light heart, as gentle as a lamb – as hard as nails* and so on.

Phraseological antonyms can be inherent in one style or different styles, just like phraseological synonyms [2; 20]. Phraseological antonyms, characteristic of one style, do not differ from each other by their expressive-emotional properties, for example, if we observe only the antonym of phraseologies specific to the colloquial style: *good name* (high reputation)-bad name (reputation-ignored); in commission (able to work) – out of commission (unable to work); antonym of neural phraseological units: bring up to date (modernize) - go out of date;

It differs from each other in that it can be used in different functional styles if there are phraseological antonyms that are characteristic of different styles [19; 20-21]. For example, with a general unit of *loose heart* (despair), characteristic of the conversational style, the unit of *keep one's chin up* (not to be discouraged) enters into an antonymous relationship. Or *come up in the world* with a unit of literature, *kick the basket* (go to the next (better) world) colloquial phraseology, *bad egg* (dirty, low man) colloquial phraseology with the phrase *good nature* (white soul) can enter into an antonymous relationship.

Phraseological antonyms are part of the antonymic slots, rows and groups [3;165].

The composition of the antonymous slots includes units that have both the antonym components and the common components: be quick in the uptake (to quickly understand something, to guess)- be slow in the uptake (not to quickly understand, not to understand); come to the right shop - come to the wrong shop (to go the wrong way); with a bad grace (compliment) - with a good grace (kind).

The composition of the antonym series includes only those units that have antonym components: as drunk as a lord (drunk) - sober as a judge (sober); to smb.'s face (frankly, in the face) – behind smb's back (behind)

In phraseological antonyms, since a certain number of expressions forms, these antonym rows differ from each other by the following differential characters, respectively [1; 156]:

1) The structure of the antonymic series pieces;

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- 2) Internal relations between the pieces of the antonymic series;
- 3) The number of pieces of an antonymic series;

In the place of the conclusion, it can be noted that the study of the phenomena of antonyms serves as the basis for a broader understanding of English phraseologies and a broader explanation of their semantic stylistic relations. Antonymic and synonymic relations are characteristic for phraseological units. It is thanks to this relationship of meaning that we can form the spiritual paradigms of phraseological units, as well as their semantic interpretation, expressing their stylistic peculiarities.

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