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PHRASEOLOGICAL EXPRESSION AS MEANS OF PROFESSIONAL INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN GLOBAL DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

We often use a lot of phraseological expressions in our everyday life but we don't think about their origin and initial meaning. Everything has got its historical and linguistic explanations. Such kinds of expressions are linked with either significant event, facts of the remote past or the meaning of the word which is not used nowadays.

Phraseological expressions can help much in the course of studies. They help to expand students' vocabulary, to improve grammar and to increase the students' knowledge of the culture.

The following are some examples of phraseological expressions that can be successfully used in teaching English.

Come to handle (Дойти до ручки)

In ancient Russia kalatch (small white loaf) was baked like a padlock which had a round hoop (handle). People bought it and ate just right in the street holding this round hoop in their hands. They didn't eat it because of personal hygiene. Round hoop was given to beggars or thrown to dogs. There was a version according to which if a person ate round hoop they said he or she came to handle. Nowadays this expression means go down, lose one's appearance.

Final chinese warning (Последнее китайское предупреждение)

In 1950 – 1960 American aeroplanes very often violated the air space of China with the aim of reconnaissance. Chinese government fixed each of these violations and sent «warning» to the USA using diplomatic channels. There were no any real actions in spite of the fact that there were hundreds of such «warnings». This kind of policy became the reason why the expression appeared. Final chinese warning means threats without any actions or consequences.

Big noise/ pot (Большая шишка)

The most experienced and the strongest barge-hauler who was the first in a strap they called big noise/ pot. Now it is used to denote a very important person.

It came off (Дело выгорело)

In former times if a legal case disappeared it was impossible to bring an accusation against a person. Cases very often were burnt down either because of the fire in wooden buildings of courts or intentional arsons. That's why accused persons said: «Cases were burnt down». Nowadays this expression is used when we take into account successful completion of a big project.

He is incessantly changing his mind (Семь пятниц на неделе)

Friday was a day-off and as a result it was a market day in former times. on Friday when they got goods it was promised to pay money next market day. Since then when a person doesn't keep his or her promise they say: «He is incessantly changing his mind».

That's where the trouble lies. (Где собака зарыта)

Some german linguists think that this expression appeared thanks to seekers of hidden treasures who because of the fear of superstition before devil guarding

hidden treasures didn't mention real goal of their searches. They began to tell about «black dog» having in mind devil and treasure. Thus according to this version the expression «that's where the trouble lies» meant «that's where the treasure lies».

Hide one's light under a bushel. to waste one's talent. (Зарывать свой талант в землю)

Originally talent was the biggest weight and monetary-accounting unit in Ancient Greece, Babylon and other areas of Asia Min. The Evangelic parable told about a person who received money and buried it. He feared to invest money in business. This parable gave the origin for the expression «to waste one's talent». In modern Russian language this expression has got figurative nuance because of the new meaning of the word «talent» and is used when a person doesn't care about the development of his or her abilities.

Why beginners are called «kettles» (Почему новичков называют «чайниками»)

«A kettle» is an inexperienced user, a person who can't use personal computer purposefully in the extent he needs. This term came from mountaineering. Experienced climbers use this term for beginners who reached the top of the mountain for the first time. As a rule, they first of all don't set up the camp but pose to take photos in the following manner. One hand is placed on hips and the other one is put on the ice-breaker or skiing stick. Such posture reminds a kettle very much.

Perishing/beastly cold (Собачий холод)

In winter the following scene can be seen. A person enters the house, he is very frozen and says: «It is perishing/beastly cold outside». But the explanation is simple. Our ancestors used dogs as thermometers. If a dog rolles about the snow, it means the weather is pleasant and the frost will not be so strong. And if it on the contrary can't be in the street and shows you it wants to enter the house, it means the cold is severe. People said: «If the dog can't suffer such weather, the man can't suffer it at all». This is the origin of the expression. It means the cold is harsh. By the way, there is one more expression concerning chilly weather. It says «A good landlord doesn't allow his dog leave the house in such weather».

The examples of above-mentioned phraseological expressions that appeared in different centuries and reflected various spheres of person's life and activity testify to the fact that they keep their actuality and continue to be an integral part of modern languages. They play the role of a special «sauce» or »flavouring» that allow to do everyday speech clear, short, expressive and profound [1; 2; 3].

In conclusion it is necessary to underline the idea that culturally specific lexical units and phraseological expressions are associated with mastering professional vocabulary for successful communication in the global educational environment. Nowadays it is obvious the better aware of the multidimensionality of differences between cultures the speaker is, the better his professional activities are. Cultural characteristics in all aspects of the language contribute to a better understanding of target cultures and hence-to more successful and efficient communication.

Reference list

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