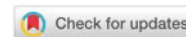


ENHANCING ACCULTURATION VIA PHRASEOLOGY

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Abstract: The article deals with the topic of the common European heritage in the English phraseology. When speaking about the European heritage, we speak about culture, history, traditions, ceremonies shared in the European continent. Subject to analysis in phraseology are quotations of well-known persons, books, works, myths and traditions of international origin that we share in Europe. Acculturation of people is related with the concept of native culture of each person. To know the culture of the homeland is inevitable for understanding the culture of other nations. Moreover, the article deals with connections between culture and the language because they influence each other. After analysing proverbs and sayings of the Slovak and English language, it can be postulated that in most cases their target language for the Slovak as well as the English was Latin language. The existence of cross-linguistic absolute equivalents can result from the fact that idioms or in general, phraseologisms, including paremiological units, come from the same source and are cross-linguistically or even internationally shared, usually as translation loans or calques, which is also a case of some English and Slovak phraseologisms. Absolute equivalents are based on the identical imagery, symbolisms, and literally or almost literally corresponding lexical components of their basic forms.

Keywords: acculturation, phraseology, phraseme

Field: Social Sciences, and Humanities

1. INTRODUCTION

Culture penetrates into all social dimensions and through the language, that is the part of the culture, profiles communication. (Pondelíková, 2020, p.56)

Hofstede (1991) defines culture as the collective programming of the mind distinguishing the members of one group or category of people from others.

Everybody encounters with the culture, mother tongue is an inevitable part of the culture. When acquired the second language in a foreign country, experience of acculturation is present. Culture shock is natural and is connected with various feelings and emotions, e.g. frustration, indecision, etc.

Attitudes develop early in childhood and are the results of parent's and peer's attitudes and contacts with other people. Second language learners benefit from positive attitudes and negative attitudes may lead to decreased motivation and failure. Negative attitudes usually emerge from either false stereotyping or from undue ethnocentrism.

Social distance describes the cognitive and affective proximity of two cultures. When two nations share the border, usually we see similarity in the concept of the cultures because it is natural that they influence each other. Americans and Canadians are similar. Americans and the Japanese are dissimilar. When describing other nationalities, we use stereotypes, e.g. the Scots are mean, the Slovaks are hospitable, the British are conservative.

Matejka, Miština (2022) analysed issues related to the profession of teacher as well as relationships between learners of a second language and cultural concept. Ďurčo, P.et al. (2015) described and examined proverbs and their variants in German language as the part of the cultural heritage of each nation.

Effective strategy for acculturation represents to see similarities, i.e. common culture, history, tradition, etc. The existence of cross-linguistic absolute equivalents can result from the fact that idioms or phraseologisms, including proverbs, come from the same source and are cross-linguistically or even internationally shared, usually as translation loans or calques, which is also a case of some English and Slovak phraseologisms. (Böhmerová, 2018, p.17). Common sources are the Bible, Ancient Greek and Roman mythology, Aesop's fables, Arabian nights, native English tradition and extra-linguistic reality, quotations of famous writers, politicians, philosophers, sayings, etc. All nations share the wealth of social and human experience hidden in the European phraseology.

Idiomatization is a process of lexicalization of the free expressions combined with reevaluation of their meaning. It means that idioms are the end result of the gradual process in which word groups

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become fixed combinations by a long usage and acquire a new sense, i.e. the fully or partially undergo figurative extension. (Kvetko 2015). There are many analyses in the perception of colours in a particular nation. Perception and further interpretation of colours varies from nation to nation, is investigated e.g. by Mazurova who determined that "the meaning of idioms is greatly influenced by either symbolic or historical colour associations" (2010, p.1). Bauer (In: Schlücker et al., ed., 2019, p. 45) states multi-word expressions can be defined as lexical items which consist of more than one 'word' and have some kind of unitary semantic or pragmatic function.

2. RESEARCH, METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS

The research was done by the analysis based on the number of idioms containing colours in general. Perception of colour can be analysed within phraseology, e.g. in the specific type of the phraseologisms, i.e. idiomatic comparisons or similes. In the case of idiomatic comparisons containing the colour element, the limited range of colours can be identified, i.e. black, white and red colour in the Slovak similes. The idiomatic comparisons have the structure adjective + ako/as + noun. Results from the previous study (Hudcovičová 2021) confirmed the fact that the idiomatic equivalents belong predominantly to the category of absolute equivalents in the English language. The idiomatic comparisons are fixed in the structure and analogy of symbols is significant, i.e. *čierny ako uhoľ*, black as coal; *biely ako sneh*, white as snow; *červený ako repa/cvikla*, red as beet/beetroot, etc.

Another examples of phraseologisms with absolute equivalence can be found in the Bible, i.e. an eye for an eye, *oko za oko*; alpha and omega, *alfa a omega*; Good Samaritan, *dobry Samaritan*, do not throw pearls to swine, *nehádzte perly sviniam*, etc.

Proverbs of the Latin origin can be found in English as well as the Slovak language. The first source was the book by Litovkina (2000) *A proverb a day keeps boredom away*. Sayings of the Latin origin and the English counterparts were selected. Then the English sayings and proverbs were checked thanks to (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015). The Slovak counterparts of sayings and proverbs were taken from *Prekladový anglicko-slovenský frazeologický slovník* (2014), (*Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník*, 2021).

Tab.1 Latin, English and Slovak proverbs and sayings

Latin	English	Slovak
In vino veritas.(Litovkina, 2000)	There is truth in wine. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Vo víne je pravda. (Prekladový anglicko-slovenský frazeologický slovník, 2014)
Manus manum lavat.(Litovkina, 2000)	One hand washes the other. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Ruka ruku myje. (Prekladový anglicko-slovenský frazeologický slovník, 2014)
Errare humanum est. (Litovkina, 2000)	To err is human. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Mýliť sa je ľudské. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Mille vie ducunt hominem per secula Romam. (Litovkina, 2000)	All roads lead to Rome. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Všetky cesty vedú do Ríma. (Prekladový anglicko-slovenský frazeologický slovník, 2014)
Vox populi, vox Dei. (Litovkina, 2000)	The voice of the people, the voice of God. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Hlas ľudu, hlas Boží. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Tempus fugit. (Litovkina, 2000)	Time flies. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Čas letí. (Prekladový anglicko-slovenský frazeologický slovník, 2014)
Tempus dolorem lenit. (Litovkina, 2000)	Time is a great healer. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Čas je najlepší lekár. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Quod non videt oculus, cor non dolet. (Litovkina, 2000)	What the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve for. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Čo oko nevidí, to srdce nebolí. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Dum anima est, spes esse dicitur. (Litovkina, 2000)	Where there's life, there's hope. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Kde je život, je nádej. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Non omne quod nitet, aurum est. (Litovkina, 2000)	All that glitters is not gold. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Nie je všetko zlato, čo sa blyští. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Piscis primum a capite foetet. (Litovkina, 2000)	Fish begins to stink at the head. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Ryba smrdí od hlavy. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Audentes fortuna iuvat. (Litovkina, 2000)	Fortune favors the brave. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Odvážnym šťastie praje. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Amor est caecus. (Litovkina, 2000)	Love is blind. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Láska je slepá. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
De mortuis nil nisi bonum. (Litovkina, 2000)	Speak well of the dead. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	O mŕtvych len dobre. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Exceptio firmat regulam. (Litovkina, 2000)	The exception proves the rule. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Výnimka potvrdzuje pravidlo. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)
Potius sero quam numquam. (Litovkina, 2000)	Better late than never. (The Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs, 2015)	Lepšie neskôr ako nikdy. (Prekladový slovensko-anglický frazeologický slovník, 2021)

3. CONCLUSIONS

Analysed Latin, English and Slovak proverbs and sayings in the table 1 represents absolute equivalents. Absolute equivalents are based on the identical imagery, symbolisms, and literally or almost literally corresponding lexical components of their basic forms. Therefore, they are easily understandable to Slovaks or English native speakers. If we analyse other languages, e.g. Italian, Spanish, French or other Slavic languages, even here, absolute equivalents in proverbs and sayings are expected. Latin language was in the past lingua franca in Europe. It was the language of educated people, the language used for writing books, the language of universities and academic lectures. That is the reason why Latin spread

in Europe. The common European heritage helps us to remove social distance because of common proverbs and sayings in phraseology. Nationalities in Europe influenced by the Latin language and culture share similar, identical or very similar phraseologisms that help to build bridges between countries.

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