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CULTURALLY SPECIFIC IDIOMS IN BRITISH ENGLISH

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ABSTRACT

Keywords: culturally specific idioms, British English, phraseological units, semantic characteristics, lexical features, grammatical structures, functional analysis, intercultural communication.

The relevance of the study of culturally specific idioms in British English is due to a number of important factors. Idioms are an integral part of any language, reflecting the cultural and social characteristics of a society. In the context of globalisation and increasing intercultural interaction, understanding culturally specific idioms is of particular importance for effective communication and cultural understanding.

Phraseological units, also known as idioms, are the most expressive and colourful part of the lexical structure of a language. Over time, a separate layer of the language has formed - phraseology, consisting of established expressions with a specific meaning. The foundations of phraseology as a linguistic discipline were laid by so many scholars. Modern research in the field of phraseology focuses on the corpus analysis of idioms, their syntactic features and cultural context.

V.H. Collins notes that idioms are an important element of modern English, which, if used skilfully, enriches it. S. Alavi defines idioms as expressions whose meaning cannot be derived from the meaning of their individual parts.

Fraser B. considers idioms as the result of semantic transformation of the literal meaning of a linguistic prototype, which creates a phraseological abstraction. This reinterpretation is a way of reflecting reality in human thinking through the reproduction of the features of objects based on their interconnections.

C. Ren defines an idiom as an established group of words, the meaning of which is clear only as a whole, and not from individual components. Idioms are formed from a set of words or phrases and are a cultural phenomenon that arises from the collective activities and experiences of people influenced by various aspects such as politics, trade, crafts, religion, art, etc.

British English is widely used in international cultural exchange. Therefore, the knowledge of idioms specific to British culture contributes to better interaction between different cultures and helps to avoid misunderstandings in communication.

The aim of this study is to conduct a thorough analysis of British English idioms that are culturally specific in order to ascertain their structure, semantics, and practical use. This study goal entails a thorough method of idiom analysis that integrates linguistic and cultural elements.

In the course of writing the bachelor's thesis, a number of tasks were performed that allowed to achieve the goal of conducting a detailed analysis of culturally specific British English idioms.

The nature of culturally specific idioms is analysed, including their lexical, grammatical and semantic characteristics. A total of 100 culturally specific idioms were selected and classified on the basis of their function in the language, such as metaphorical, symbolic, historical and socio-cultural idioms.

The functional analysis of idioms is analysed, which includes the study of their role in different communicative situations, the impact on the effectiveness of communication and the reflection of social and cultural contexts. It was determined how idioms contribute to the enrichment of language and improve the understanding of intercultural communication.

It was analysed how idioms reflect the cultural and social peculiarities of British society, including historical events, customs, traditions, and everyday life. It is revealed that many idioms have deep roots in British culture and history.

АНОТАЦІЯ

Ключові слова: культурно-специфічні ідіоми, британська англійська, фразеологічні одиниці, семантичні характеристики, лексичні особливості, граматичні структури, функціональний аналіз, міжкультурна комунікація.

Актуальність вивчення культурно специфічних ідіом у британській англійській мові обумовлена низкою важливих факторів. Ідіоми є невід'ємною частиною будь-якої мови, відображаючи культурні та соціальні характеристики суспільства. У контексті глобалізації та зростаючої міжкультурної взаємодії розуміння культурно специфічних ідіом має особливе значення для ефективної комунікації та культурного взаєморозуміння.

Фразеологічні одиниці, також відомі як ідіоми, є найвиразнішою та найяскравішою частиною лексичної структури мови. З часом сформувався окремий шар мови - фразеологія, що складається з усталених виразів із специфічним значенням. Основи фразеології як лінгвістичної дисципліни були закладені багатьма вченими. Сучасні дослідження у сфері фразеології зосереджуються на корпусному аналізі ідіом, їхніх синтаксичних особливостях та культурному контексті.

В.Г. Коллінз у своїй книзі зазначає, що ідіоми є важливим елементом сучасної англійської мови, який, за умови вмілого використання, збагачує її. С. Алаві визначає ідіоми як вирази, значення яких не можна вивести з значення окремих частин.

Фрейзер Б. розглядає ідіоми як результат семантичної трансформації буквального значення мовного прототипу, що створює фразеологічну абстракцію. Це переосмислення є способом відображення реальності в людському мисленні через відтворення особливостей об'єктів на основі їх взаємозв'язків.

С. Рен визначає ідіому як усталену групу слів, значення якої зрозуміле лише в цілому, а не з окремих компонентів. Ідіоми утворюються з набору слів або фраз і є культурним феноменом, що виникає внаслідок колективної

діяльності та досвіду людей, на які впливають різні аспекти, такі як політика, торгівля, ремесла, релігія, мистецтво тощо.

Британська англійська мова широко використовується в міжнародному культурному обміні. Тому знання ідіом, специфічних для британської культури, сприяє кращій взаємодії між різними культурами та допомагає уникати непорозумінь у спілкуванні.

Метою цього дослідження є проведення ретельного аналізу британських англійських ідіом, що є культурно специфічними, з метою визначення їхньої структури, семантики та практичного використання. Ця дослідницька мета передбачає комплексний метод аналізу ідіом, який інтегрує лінгвістичні та культурні елементи.

У ході дослідження було виконано ряд завдань, які дозволили досягти поставленої мети – проведення детального аналізу британських англійських ідіом, що є культурно специфічними.

Проаналізовано природу культурно специфічних ідіом, яка включає їхні лексичні, граматичні та семантичні характеристики. Було відібрано 100 культурно-специфічних ідіом, які були класифіковані на основі їхньої функції в мові, таких як метафоричні, символічні, історичні та соціокультурні ідіоми.

Проаналізовано функціональний аналіз ідіом, що включає вивчення їх ролі у різних комунікативних ситуаціях, вплив на ефективність комунікації та відображення соціальних і культурних контекстів. Визначено, як ідіоми сприяють збагаченню мови та покращенню розуміння міжкультурної комунікації. Було проаналізовано, як ідіоми відображають культурні та соціальні особливості британського суспільства, включаючи історичні події, звичаї, традиції, та повсякденне життя. Виявлено, що багато ідіом мають глибоке коріння в британській культурі та історії.

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INTRODUCTION

Idioms, as an integral part of language systems, occupy a special place in communication and cultural identity. They are an integral part of everyday communication and reflect the richness of cultural heritage, historical connections and social trends.

The relevance of the study of culturally specific idioms in British English is due to a number of important factors. Idioms are an integral part of any language, reflecting the cultural and social characteristics of a society. In the context of globalisation and increasing intercultural interaction, understanding culturally specific idioms is of particular importance for effective communication and cultural understanding.

Phraseological units, also known as idioms, are the most expressive and colourful part of the lexical structure of a language. Over time, a separate layer of the language has formed - phraseology, consisting of established expressions with a specific meaning. Modern research in the field of phraseology focuses on the corpus analysis of idioms, their syntactic features and cultural context.

Phraseology contains vivid examples of the customs, traditions and beliefs of the people, memories of historical events, fragments of folk songs and fairy tales. It contains quotes from great poets alongside everyday expressions and slang witticisms, making phraseology not only the most colourful but also the most democratic area of the lexicon, drawing its resources from the depths of vernacular speech.

V.H. Collins in his *Book of English Idioms* notes: "In modern spoken and written English, idioms are a well-established and important element that, when used skilfully, enrich the language" [13, p. 21]. S. Alavi defines idioms as "...wordy expressions, the meaning of which cannot be derived from the meaning of individual parts by the compositional method" [7, p. 170].

British English is widely used in international cultural exchange. Therefore, the knowledge of idioms specific to British culture contributes to better interaction between different cultures and helps to avoid misunderstandings in communication.

The object of the study is culturally specific idioms in British English.

The subject of the study is the peculiarities of the structure, semantics and usage of culturally specific idioms in British English.

The aim of this study is to conduct a thorough analysis of British English idioms that are culturally specific in order to ascertain their structure, semantics, and practical use. This study goal entails a thorough method of idiom analysis that integrates linguistic and cultural elements.

To achieve the research objective, **the following tasks** have been set:

- 1) to study the main characteristics of idioms in linguistics;
- 2) to identify a classification of idioms, taking into account their lexical, grammatical and semantic features;
- 3) to identify the main functions of idioms in communication;
- 4) to explore how idioms reflect the social and cultural aspects of British society;
- 5) to study the grammatical structure of idioms, to determine their morphological and syntactic features;
- 6) to analyse the semantic characteristics of idioms, in particular their ambiguity and metaphorical nature;
- 7) to identify and study the most common culturally specific idioms in British English.

The following methods are used in the study of culturally specific idioms in British English to solve the tasks set: linguistic analysis to describe the main characteristics of idioms and their functioning in the language. This method allows to systematise information about idioms, their structural and semantic features. Classification analysis: development of classification schemes for culturally specific idioms, taking into account their lexical, grammatical and semantic characteristics. Identification of the main categories of idioms based on their functions in the language, such as metaphorical, symbolic, historical and socio-cultural idioms. Functional analysis: to study the role of idioms in different communication situations, their impact on communication effectiveness and reflection of social and cultural contexts. The study of idioms' morphological and syntactic structures and how they fit into language

constructs is known as structural and semantic analysis. the study of idiom meaning, polysemy, and metaphorical qualities.

The study material consists of 100 culturally specific idioms from various sources: dictionaries (Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English, A Dictionary of Modern English Usage, Idioms Dictionary) [41,43,46]. As well as online dictionaries (Cambridge Dictionary, English Oxford Dictionaries, Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, English Thesaurus, Merriam Webster Open Dictionary) [42,44,45,47,48].

The scientific novelty of the study offers a new comprehensive analysis of culturally specific idioms in British English, integrating linguistic, cultural and functional perspectives, offering new insights into their cultural relevance for communicative roles. A systematic analysis of 100 idioms reveals their complex structural and semantic features, enhancing both theoretical knowledge and practical understanding for intercultural communication.

The practical significance of this study might be applied in the following ways: first, as a teaching resource for instructors and students of English. Students can learn how to use idioms successfully in everyday communication and gain a better grasp of the structure and operation of the language via the examination of idioms. Better English language acquisition can result from the inclusion of pertinent content in the curriculum. In addition, for cross-cultural dialogue. Understanding culturally specific idioms facilitates better cross-cultural communication. Those engaged in cross-cultural interchange or employed by multinational corporations may find this to be of particular importance. Knowing idioms fosters cooperation and mutual understanding by reducing the possibility of misunderstandings brought on by cultural differences.

The structure of the paper consists of an introduction, 2 chapters, 6 subsections, conclusions, a list of 40 references and 8 supporting materials. The work also includes an appendix consisting of 100 culturally specific idioms of British English. The overall work is presented on 47 pages.

CHAPTER 1. CULTURALLY SPECIFIC IDIOMS IN BRITISH ENGLISH

1.1. Characteristics of the concept "idiom" and its origin

The term “idiom” comes from the ancient Greek word “*ídiōma*”, which means “particularity, peculiarity“. There are two main views on idiomatic units - the so-called “broad approach“ and “narrow approach“ to idioms. According to the latter, idioms are considered to be only such “stable phrases, the semantics of which is not derived from the meanings of its components, but formally integrated by them; arises as a result of the loss of motivational relations” [22, p. 3-26].

In domestic linguistics, for a long time there was a tradition of calling idioms “phraseological fusions”, according to the terminology of the famous linguist Acad. V.V. Vinogradov, who divided phraseological units into phraseological fusions (or idioms), phraseological units and phraseological combinations. According to V.V. Vinogradov, phraseological conjugations are characterized by the unmotivated composition of turns (that is, from the sum of the constituents of such phraseological units it is impossible to learn about the general meaning of the unit) and the absolute semantic unity of the components [1, c. 210-219].

The following subtypes are distinguished among phraseological conjunctions:

Firstly, phraseological fusions, which include so-called “necrotism words” (lexical archaisms, historicisms, and other lexemes that have fallen out of use in speech). For example, the English idiom “*to buy a pig in a poke*” refers to an unprofitable and unsuccessful purchase of something that was not carefully considered. The lexeme “a poke” means “a bag” and is an archaism (modern synonym “sack”), which in modern English is used only in the aforementioned idiomatic unit [2, c. 13].

That is, we see a case where the lexeme continues to live much longer within the idiomatic phrase than in a free phrase or in isolation.

Secondly, Phraseological fusions containing grammatical archaisms, which are a syntactically indivisible whole.

J. Seidl and U. McMordy note, in particular: “The way in which the words are put together is often odd, illogical or even grammatically incorrect” [9, p. 518-521; 38].

Fraser B. interprets idioms as the result of a semantic transformation of the literal meaning of the linguistic prototype of a phraseological unit, which creates a phraseological abstraction. Such reinterpretation is one of the ways of reflecting reality in the human mind, associated with the reproduction of the features of objects on the basis of the relationship between them [18 p. 22-42].

C. Ren defines an idiom as a fixed group of words whose meaning does not follow from its individual components but is only clear as a whole. Idioms are formed from a set of words or phrases and are a cultural phenomenon, the result of collective activity and experience of people, influenced by politics, trade, crafts, religion, art, etc [36, p. 78-82].

The idiom “I am good friends with him” (“we are good friends with him”) is, from the point of view of grammatical structure, incorrect and illogical. The pronoun “I” stands in the singular, but the form “I am a good friend with him” is impossible, although significantly the form: “I am good friend of his” is possible, but it is not an idiomatic unit.

Thirdly, phraseological conjunctions that have become indecipherable both lexically and semantically, for example [25, p. 71-108]:

to be born with the silver spoon in one's mouth;

to go through thick and thin.

The last, phraseological fusions, which represent such a semantic unity that the lexical meanings of the components are completely unimportant for understanding the whole [25, p. 71-108].

Examples of such units in the English language can be:

to bring the house down;

to take it out on someone.

In many ways, similar to the domestic understanding of the phenomenon of an idiomatic unit is Seidle-McMordie's definition, which emphasizes the difference between the semantics of an idiom and the semantics of its constituents: “We can say that an idiom is a number of words which, taken together, mean something different from the individual words of the idiom when they stand alone” [9, p. 518-521].

However, it should be noted that the “broad approach” to the problem of idioms is more popular in British and American linguistics. Western linguists include not only phraseological units of all types, but also paremias - sayings, proverbs, catchphrases, quotations, etc., as part of idioms. Thus, Western scientist in the preface explains the selection of units for this edition as follows: “Every language has phrases or sentences that cannot be translated literally. Many clichés, proverbs, slang phrases, phrasal verbs, and common sayings offer this kind of problem. A phrase or sentence of this type is usually said to be idiomatic. This Dictionary is a collection of the idiomatic phrases and sentences that occur frequently in the English” [19].

William Collins, the compiler of another popular dictionary of idioms in the British version of the English language, notes: "When studying idioms, you always face two major problems. The first is the problem of origin. "As Piersel Smith notes, even experts are unable to explain the meaning of many idiomatic expressions clearly and confidently. Second, there is the problem of the connection between origin and current use. It often becomes necessary, when studying an idiom whose existing meaning is clear and widely used correctly, to admit that the connection between origin and meaning is not known” [13, p.21].

Idioms are an important part of any language because they allow us to express complex ideas and emotions in short and meaningful expressions. They are not only an interesting element of language, but also an important means of communication that helps to express feelings, attitudes and ideas figuratively.

In modern linguistics, idioms are studied as an important part of vocabulary any language. They are explored from various perspectives, including their origins, meanings, and uses. Idioms are also an important part of language analysis and translation, as their symbolic meaning can be difficult to translate into another language. In modern linguistics, the study of idioms is carried out more within the framework of lexicology, which studies the vocabulary of the language and its organization.

Summarizing the above, several important conclusions can be drawn. Idioms are an integral part of the vocabulary of any language, reflecting its cultural specificity and

historical features. In domestic linguistics, it is traditionally accepted to consider idioms within the phraseology developed by such famous scientists as V.V. Vynogradov and A.V. Kunin. This approach emphasizes the semantic unity of idioms and their lack of motivation, which makes them particularly interesting for research [14, p. 34-46].

Considerable attention is also paid to the classification of idioms, among which are distinguished phraseological conjugations containing lexical and grammatical archaisms, as well as those that have lost their original semantics. Western linguists, such as J. Seidl and U. McMordy, emphasize the peculiarities of idiomatic expressions, in particular, their difference from constituent components [38]. In British and American linguistics, a "broad approach" is more popular, which also includes sayings, proverbs and other stable expressions [25, p. 71-108].

Through the study of idioms, one can gain an understanding of the peculiarities of the culture of a particular nation, its thinking, views on life and the world.

In modern linguistics, idioms are studied as an important part of the vocabulary of any language. They are explored from different perspectives, including their origin, meaning, and usage. Idioms are also an important part of linguistic analysis and translation, as their symbolic meaning can be difficult to translate into another language. In modern linguistics, the study of idioms is carried out. They are studied more within the framework of lexicology, which studies the vocabulary of a language and its organization [25, p. 71-108]. In particular, idioms are studied in the context of their use and relation to other words in the language.

Idioms play an important role in language, allowing complex ideas and emotions to be expressed in short, clear phrases. They not only enrich the language, but are also an important means of communication, helping to convey nuances of meaning and cultural aspects.

1.2. Classification of idioms in British English

In modern linguistics, there are many methods and ways of classifying English idioms. The following methods of classifying idioms are the most common: by meaning, by emotional saturation, by parts of speech. There is also a distinction between authentic idioms that arose in the process of historical development and borrowed ones. According to the thematic orientation, idioms are divided depending on the profession, the specifics of human activity. There are a large number of idioms related to weather, finance, music, sports, cooking, housekeeping, sewing, agriculture, fishing, hunting and hunting, etc.

According to the classification of phraseological units of the American version of the English language [39], the following semantic groups of phraseological units are distinguished.

Semantic group "speech":

to tell the world;

to talk wet;

to swap lies.

Semantic group "friendship":

to stay until the last dog is hungry

to take a shine to smb. (smth.)

to die dog for smb.

Semantic group "movement":

to show leg

to take the airline

to burn one's road.

Semantic group "will expression":

to beat smb. out of one's track

to have the say.

Semantic group "intention":

to go back on one's track

to hit the ceiling

to get someone's Indian up

to have it in for.

Semantic group "lie, dishonor":

to put up a job on smb

to hang the landlady

to feel smb. on soft corn.

Several classifications of phraseological units are given by British researchers J. Seidl and U. McMordie in the preface to their lexicographical work "English idioms and how to use them", in particular on the origin of the idiomatic unit and on the criterion of complete/incomplete fixedness [38]. So, according to the etymological index, idioms are: biblical and literary (*to kill the fatted calf, to turn the other cheek, the apple of one's eye*); household (*to make a clean sweep of something, to hit the nail on the head*); agricultural (*to go to seed, to put one's hand to the plow, to lead someone up the garden path*); culinary (*to eat humble pie, out of the frying-pan into the fire*); military (*to cross swords with someone, to fight a pitched battle*); seagoing (*when one's ship comes home, to be in the same boat as someone*); of animalistic origin (*to play cat and mouse with someone, to kill two birds with one stone*); with a color component (*to beat someone black and blue, to have green fingers*); with components for marking body parts (*to pull someone's leg, to lose heart*) [38].

J. Seidl and U. McMordy also note that "fixed idioms"; there are also those that are fixed in certain parts, and in others the word combination is free; finally, a third group of idiomatic units is distinguished, which allow only individual changes in their unfixed parts [38].

Depending on the period of origin and history of origin, idioms can be divided into traditional and modern. Traditional idioms are associated with the Bible, myths, the history of Rome, proper names, names of famous historical figures. In the 17th century England and Holland competed with each other for world domination on land and sea. In connection with this, many expressions of a derogatory, negative character with the word "Dutch" appeared in the English language: *Dutch wife, Dutch widow, Dutch concert, Dutch-bottomed* [37].

In the English language, there are a number of idioms related to the Bible, they are called Bibleisms, or biblical idioms: *a mote in smb's eye, the root of the evil, the salt of the Earth*. Idioms originating from ancient mythology (Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome) are mostly international: *the apple of discord, the golden age, the horn of plenty* [37].

Idioms also differ in grammatical structure and composition. Idioms can be classified by certain parts of speech that are part of them, in particular common noun constructions: *a bad of roses, a month of Sundays*; verbs: *to live to tell the tale*; adjectives: *as clever as paint*; even repeated words: *little by little*.

In conclusion, the study of English idioms reveals a rich diversity of classification methods and thematic orientations. From the semantic grouping proposed by S. T. Gries to the etymological index outlined by J. Seidl and U. McMordie, various approaches offer insights into the origins, meanings, and structures of idiomatic expressions [24, p. 3-25].

The classification by meaning, emotional saturation, and parts of speech provides a comprehensive framework for understanding idioms, while the distinction between authentic and borrowed idioms sheds light on their historical development. Additionally, the thematic orientation of idioms reflects the diversity of human activities and professions, with idioms related to weather, finance, music, sports, and more [4, c. 79-81].

Furthermore, the grammatical structure and composition of idioms contribute to their uniqueness and complexity. Whether biblical and literary, household, agricultural, culinary, military, seagoing, or derived from animalistic origins, idioms offer a glimpse into cultural, historical, and mythological narratives.

So, the study of English idioms underscores their significance as linguistic artifacts that encapsulate the intricacies of language and culture. Through various classification methods, researchers continue to unravel the richness and diversity of idiomatic expressions, offering valuable insights into their origins, meanings, and usage [5, c. 40-50].

1.3. The functional features of cultural specific idioms in British English

Language is, first of all, a social phenomenon that exists inseparable from one or another society. Language units reflect the material conditions of life of one or another ethnic group, its moral-ethical and aesthetic principles, customs and traditions, beliefs, etc.

However, this information is reflected differently and unevenly in different language units. This information is most vividly recorded in idioms. Idioms are carriers of not only subject-logical meaning, in their form the characteristic features of the ethno-cultural face of the given people are reflected, “photographed“ [5, c. 40-50]. Due to the cumulative function, the national-cultural specificity manifests itself very clearly in the field of phraseology, it reflects the peculiarity of the everyday life and life of a particular people, it condenses the entire complex of culture and psychology of a given people, its unique way of figurative thinking. This means that idioms form the composition of so-called ethno-cultural markers in the linguistic picture of the world, in particular the English-speaking world.

The linguistic picture of the world is a subjective image of objective reality, since each person reproduces the world in his own unique way. This explains the fact that each national language is a universal philosophical system in which the world, humanity as a whole, “lives“ in its own way. Idiom play a special role in creating a linguistic picture of the world, because they are a “mirror of the nation's life” [6, c. 19].

Culturally specific idioms serve several functional roles in communication and society. First, they convey cultural identity by reflecting the unique history, values and experiences of a culture, enhancing a sense of belonging among its members. Secondly, idioms promote social cohesion by creating a sense of camaraderie and mutual understanding, strengthening group solidarity and establishing distinctions between "insiders" and "outsiders". The third purpose of idioms is to improve communication efficacy. Idioms have the power to concisely express complicated concepts, feelings, and circumstances, which facilitates more complex and multilayered dialogue. The expression of inventiveness and humour serves as the fourth purpose of idioms, which also add wit and make conversation more entertaining. In societies that emphasise

indirect communication and maintain harmony, idioms serve as a beneficial means of discreetly conveying thoughts and feelings, which constitutes the fifth purpose of idioms [5, c. 40-50].

Idioms convey moral lessons, traditional wisdom, or cultural narratives, passing on cultural norms and values to younger generations. The seventh function is reflection of cultural practices and the environment; idioms arise from specific cultural practices, local environments, or historical events, enriching understanding of everyday life and the historical context of a culture.

The eighth function is symbolic and metaphorical communication; Idioms enable the use of language that conveys deep meanings and abstract concepts rooted in culture-specific symbols and metaphors. Thus, understanding and using culture-specific idioms greatly improves intercultural communication and provides a deeper understanding of a particular culture's worldview and way of life.

Culturally specific idioms play multifaceted roles in communication and society, ranging from conveying cultural identity and promoting social cohesion to enhancing communication efficacy and fostering creativity and humor. They serve as repositories of traditional wisdom, moral lessons, and cultural narratives, transmitting cultural norms and values across generations.

So, idioms offer insights into cultural practices, environmental influences, and historical events, enriching understanding of everyday life and the historical context of a culture. By facilitating symbolic and metaphorical communication, idioms enable the conveyance of deep meanings and abstract concepts rooted in culture-specific symbols and metaphors.

So, idioms serve as powerful vehicles for the expression of cultural identity, societal values, and collective experiences within language. Rooted in the social fabric of a community, idiomatic expressions encapsulate the essence of a culture, reflecting its unique history, values, and worldview.

Conclusions to chapter 1

The exploration of idioms in modern linguistics unveils a multifaceted landscape enriched by various classification methods and theoretical perspectives. The term "*idiom*", rooted in ancient Greek, encapsulates the notion of uniqueness and peculiarity, reflecting its distinctiveness within language.

Domestic linguistics traditionally views idioms within the broader framework of phraseology, emphasizing their semantic unity and lack of motivation. This approach underscores the idiosyncratic nature of idioms, making them compelling subjects for study.

Classification of idioms reveals diverse categories, from those containing lexical and grammatical archaisms to those devoid of original semantics. Western linguists advocate for a "broad approach," encompassing not only idiomatic expressions but also sayings and proverbs, reflecting the richness of language and culture.

In contemporary linguistics, idioms are examined from various angles, including their origins, meanings, and usage, within the realm of lexicology. They serve as vital components of language analysis and translation, challenging scholars to navigate the intricacies of symbolic meaning across linguistic boundaries.

Idioms play a crucial role in language, facilitating the expression of complex ideas and emotions through concise and impactful phrases. Beyond enriching vocabulary, they serve as potent tools of communication, bridging cultural divides and fostering deeper understanding among speakers.

Summarizing the considered classifications of idioms, it can be noted that in modern linguistics there are many methods and approaches to their classification. Among the most common are classification by meaning, emotional saturation and parts of speech. It is also important to distinguish between authentic idioms that arose during the historical development of the language and borrowed ones.

According to the thematic orientation, idioms can be divided depending on the professional focus and the specifics of human activity. There are a large number of idioms related to weather, finance, music, sports, cooking, farming, sewing, fishing, hunting, etc.

According to the classification of phraseological units of the American version of the English language idioms can be divided into several semantic groups, such as "speech", "friendship", "movement", "will", "intentions", "lies, wickedness".

British researchers J. Seidl and U. McMordie also provide several classifications of phraseological units. They distinguish idioms on etymological grounds, indicating their origin and degree of fixedness. Also, idioms can be divided depending on the period of their emergence into traditional and modern, as well as by grammatical structure and composition [38].

Therefore, the considered classifications of idioms help to understand their variety and diversity in the English language, which is important for the study and study of the language as such

CHAPTER 2. THE CONCEPT OF CULTURALLY SPECIFIC IDIOMS IN BRITISH ENGLISH

2.1. Structural and semantic classification of culturally specific idioms in British English

Culturally specific idioms in British English form a colorful mosaic of linguistic expressions that reflect the rich cultural heritage and societal nuances of the British Isles. Structurally, culturally specific idioms in British English exhibit a diverse range of forms, encompassing noun phrases, verb phrases, prepositional phrases, and imperatives. Each form contributes to the idioms' distinctiveness and effectiveness in conveying nuanced meanings and emotions. For instance, the idiom "*a penny for your thoughts*" employs a noun phrase structure to express the act of asking someone what they are thinking, while "*kick the bucket*" utilizes an imperative structure to convey the idea of dying or passing away [41, 42].

Noun phrase idioms in British English often consist of common nouns combined with determiners, possessive markers, or modifiers to create vivid and evocative expressions [28, p. 194-197]. Examples include "*a bed of roses*," "*a dog's dinner*," and "*the bee's knees*," which employ noun phrases to convey concepts ranging from comfort and chaos to excellence and insignificance [42]. These idioms draw upon familiar imagery and cultural references to resonate with speakers and listeners alike, enhancing their communicative impact.

Verb phrase idioms in British English typically involve verbs combined with objects or adverbial phrases to convey actions, states, or emotions in a concise and memorable manner [20, p. 58-68]. For example, "*flog a dead horse*," "*blow your own trumpet*," and "*take the high road*" use verb phrase structures to express ideas related to perseverance, self-promotion, and ethical conduct [42,43].

Prepositional phrase idioms in British English employ prepositions, along with nouns or pronouns, to convey relationships, states, or conditions in a figurative or metaphorical sense. Examples include "*under the weather*," "*on the pull*," and "*in a pickle*," which use prepositional phrases to express ideas related to health, socializing,

and difficulty, respectively [42]. These idioms rely on prepositional phrases to evoke vivid imagery and convey subtle nuances of meaning, making them essential components of British English expression.

Imperative sentence idioms in British English consist of commands or requests conveyed through concise and direct language [29, p. 89-109]. Examples include "*hold your horses*," "*cut to the chase*," and "*keep your pecker up*," which employ imperative structures to urge action, decisiveness, or resilience [44,45]. By employing imperative sentences, these idioms convey a sense of urgency or importance, prompting listeners to heed the speaker's advice or admonition.

So, the structure of culturally specific idioms in British English is characterized by its diversity, creativity, and effectiveness in conveying complex ideas and emotions. Whether employing noun phrases, verb phrases, prepositional phrases, or imperative sentences, these idiomatic expressions play a crucial role in shaping communication and fostering a sense of cultural identity and belonging among speakers of British English [33, p. 272-284]. Through their unique structures and symbolic meanings, culturally specific idioms in British English enrich the language and offer a window into the cultural heritage and societal norms of the British Isles [27, p. 161-186].

Semantically, culturally specific idioms in British English encompass a wide array of themes, ranging from everyday experiences and emotions to historical events and societal norms. Through metaphorical language and symbolic imagery, these idiomatic expressions capture the essence of British culture, providing a window into the collective consciousness of its speakers. By examining the semantics of culturally specific idioms, we gain a deeper understanding of the values, beliefs, and cultural nuances that shape British English expression [26, p. 123].

One prominent semantic feature of culturally specific idioms in British English is their metaphorical nature, which allows for the expression of abstract concepts and emotions through concrete imagery [17, p. 71-87]. For example, idioms like "*a storm in a teacup*," "*to have a chinwag*," and "*to pull someone's leg*" employ metaphorical language to convey ideas related to insignificance, conversation, and teasing, respectively. Through metaphor, these idioms evoke vivid mental images and evoke

emotional responses, enriching communication and fostering a sense of shared cultural identity among speakers.

Furthermore, culturally specific idioms in British English often draw upon historical events, cultural references, and societal norms to convey meaning and significance. Idioms such as *"to take the biscuit," "to ring the changes,"* and *"to throw a spanner in the works"* reference historical practices, traditions, and experiences that resonate with British speakers [46, 47]. By invoking these cultural references, these idioms tap into shared knowledge and experiences, facilitating communication and reinforcing cultural identity.

Another important aspect of the semantics of culturally specific idioms in British English is their regional variation and cultural specificity. While many idioms are widely understood across the British Isles, others may be more localized or specific to certain regions or communities. For example, idioms like *"bob's your uncle," "to have a butcher's,"* and *"chuffed to bits"* may be more commonly used in certain parts of the UK or among specific social groups [48]. This regional variation adds depth and richness to the semantics of British English idioms, reflecting the diversity of cultural influences and linguistic traditions within the country [40, p. 55-72].

Additionally, the semantics of culturally specific idioms in British English are influenced by societal values, attitudes, and norms. Idioms such as *"horses for courses," "up the duff,"* and *"spend a penny"* reflect cultural attitudes towards choice, pregnancy, and social etiquette, respectively [42]. By examining the semantics of these idioms, we gain insights into the cultural values and beliefs that shape British society, as well as the ways in which language reflects and reinforces these values.

In conclusion, the semantics of culturally specific idioms in British English are a rich tapestry of metaphor, cultural references, regional variation, and societal values. Through their nuanced meanings and symbolic imagery, these idiomatic expressions provide a unique lens through which to explore British culture, history, and identity [30]. By unraveling the semantics of these linguistic treasures, we gain a deeper appreciation for the richness and complexity of British English expression, as well as the cultural heritage it embodies [21, p. 57-78].

2.2. The most commonly used culturally specific idioms in British English

Idioms are the colorful threads woven into the fabric of language, reflecting the rich tapestry of culture and history. In British English, these idiomatic expressions are not only linguistic quirks but also cultural signposts, offering insights into the collective mindset and social dynamics of the nation.

"A bit of a dog's breakfast" - This idiom describes something messy or done badly [11, p. 4-7]. For example, "The presentation was a bit of a dog's breakfast, with slides out of order and typos everywhere."

"A different kettle of fish" - When something is completely different or separate, you might say, "Planning a wedding is one thing, but organizing a corporate event is a different kettle of fish altogether."

"A dog's dinner" - If something is a mess or a poor piece of work, you could comment, "The report he submitted was a complete dog's dinner, full of errors and poorly organized."

"A penny for your thoughts" - Asking someone what they are thinking, you might say, "You seem lost in thought. A penny for your thoughts?"

"All mouth and no trousers" - Referring to someone who talks big but doesn't act on it, you could say, "He talks a big game about starting his own business, but so far, he's all mouth and no trousers."

"As right as rain" - Reflecting the British fascination with weather as a conversational staple, this idiom expresses being in good health or condition. For instance, "Despite the minor setback, she bounced back and is now as right as rain."

"Barking up the wrong tree" - Originating from British countryside and hunting traditions, this idiom denotes pursuing a mistaken or misguided line of thought or course of action. For example, "If you think I'm the one who ate your sandwich, you're barking up the wrong tree. I was in a meeting all afternoon."

"Bits and bobs" - Commonly used to refer to small items or tasks, this idiom reflects the British pragmatism and penchant for understatement. For instance, "Can you grab a few bits and bobs from the store? We need milk, bread, and some fruit."

"Blimey" - A quintessential expression of surprise or amazement, this idiom is deeply ingrained in British vernacular and popularized through cultural exports. For example, "Blimey! I can't believe we won the lottery!"

"Blow your own trumpet" - Reflecting British reserve and irony, this idiom encourages self-promotion or boasting. For instance, "He never misses an opportunity to blow his own trumpet, always talking about his accomplishments in the office."

"Bob's your uncle" - Concluding a set of simple instructions or assuring that everything is alright, this idiom reflects British pragmatism and a sense of assurance. For example, "Just add the ingredients, stir well, and Bob's your uncle – you've got yourself a delicious cake."

"Cheap as chips" - Reflecting the British penchant for value and thriftiness, this idiom describes something very inexpensive. For instance, "I found this antique vase at the market for £5 – cheap as chips!"

"Chuffed to bits" - Expressing extreme pleasure or happiness, this idiom showcases the British fondness for understated expressions of emotion. For example, "She was chuffed to bits when she received the promotion at work."

"Cost a bomb" - Describing something very expensive, this idiom reflects British sensibilities regarding cost and value. For instance, "The repairs to the car ended up costing a bomb – I wasn't expecting it to be so pricey."

"Cream crackered" - Reflecting the British tendency for colorful colloquialisms, this idiom describes being extremely tired. For example, "After a long day of hiking, I was absolutely cream crackered."

"Damp squib" - Reflecting a sense of disappointment, this idiom describes something that fails to meet expectations. For instance, "The party was supposed to be exciting, but it turned out to be a bit of a damp squib."

"Dead chuffed" - Expressing extreme pleasure or satisfaction, this idiom is commonly used in British English to convey happiness. For example, "He was dead chuffed when he found out he got the job."

"Donkey's years" - Describing a very long time, this idiom reflects the British penchant for whimsical and colorful language. For instance, "I haven't seen her in donkey's years – we should catch up soon."

"Eager beaver" - Referring to someone who is enthusiastic or eager, this idiom showcases British creativity in language usage. For example, "She's always the first to volunteer – a real eager beaver."

"Fit as a fiddle" - Reflecting a focus on health and well-being, this idiom describes someone who is in good health. For instance, "Despite his age, he's still fit as a fiddle and goes for a run every morning."

"Flog a dead horse": This idiom describes the act of wasting effort on something that has no chance of succeeding. For example, "Trying to convince him to change his mind is like flogging a dead horse – it's pointless."

"Faff around": Reflecting a sense of wasting time or effort on trivial matters, this idiom captures the British tendency for pragmatic efficiency. For instance, "Stop faffing around and let's get this project finished."

"Full of beans": Describing someone who is energetic and lively, this idiom showcases the British fondness for colorful language. For example, "Despite the early start, she was full of beans and ready for the day ahead."

"Gobsmacked": Expressing astonishment or amazement, this idiom is a quintessential part of British English. For instance, "I was absolutely gobsmacked when I heard the news."

"Give it some welly": Describing the act of putting a lot of effort into something, this idiom reflects British perseverance and determination. For example, "If we want to succeed, we'll need to give it some welly and work hard."

The idiom *"horses for courses"* reflects the idea that different people or things are suited to different situations. For example, "Choosing the right candidate for the job is a case of horses for courses."

When everything is going smoothly, one might say that things are *"hunky-dory."* For instance, "After the project was completed, everything was hunky-dory."

If someone finds themselves in a difficult situation, they might say they are "*in a pickle*." An example could be, "I'm in a pickle with this assignment; I don't know how to proceed."

"*It's brass monkeys*" is a colloquial way to describe very cold weather. For instance, "Don't forget your coat; it's brass monkeys outside."

To "*keep your pecker up*" means to stay positive in difficult circumstances. An example could be, "I know things are tough, but try to keep your pecker up."

A "*kip*" is a short sleep. For example, "I need a quick kip before we go out tonight."

A "*knees up*" refers to a lively party or celebration. For instance, "We're having a knees up for her birthday on Saturday."

Feeling "*knackered*" means being extremely tired. For example, "After the marathon, I was absolutely knackered."

To "*leg it*" means to run away quickly. For instance, "When they saw the police, they legged it."

"*Lose the plot*" is used when someone is acting irrationally or has become confused. For example, "He really lost the plot when he found out about the mistake."

To "*make a pig's ear of it*" means to do something badly. For instance, "He tried to fix the sink but made a pig's ear of it."

"*Naff off*" is a less polite way to tell someone to go away. For example, "He kept bothering me, so I told him to naff off."

Feeling "*over the moon*" means being extremely happy. For example, "She was over the moon when she got the job offer."

If someone is "*peckish*," they are slightly hungry. For example, "I'm feeling a bit peckish; let's get a snack."

A "*piece of cake*" refers to something very easy. For instance, "The test was a piece of cake."

"*Pip pip*" is an old-fashioned way of saying goodbye. For example, "I'm off now, pip pip!"

To "*pop your clogs*" means to die. For example, "When he popped his clogs, he left a fortune to his children."

"*Pull a fast one*" means to deceive someone. For example, "He tried to pull a fast one by selling me a broken phone."

To "*pull your socks up*" means to make an effort to improve. For instance, "You need to pull your socks up if you want to pass the exam."

"*Pukka*" means excellent or of good quality. For example, "This restaurant is really pukka; the food is amazing."

"*Put a sock in it*" means to tell someone to be quiet. For example, "I'm trying to concentrate; put a sock in it!"

To "*put the cat among the pigeons*" means to cause trouble or controversy. For instance, "His remark about budget cuts really put the cat among the pigeons."

To "*put the mockers on*" means to spoil something. For example, "The rain put the mockers on our picnic plans."

To "*rain on someone's parade*" means to spoil someone's plans. For instance, "I hate to rain on your parade, but we can't go hiking because of the storm."

"*Round the bend*" means crazy. For example, "The stress of the job is driving him round the bend."

A "*red herring*" is something that distracts from the main issue. For instance, "The clue was just a red herring to mislead the detectives."

"*Ringing the changes*" means making significant alterations. For example, "The new CEO is ringing the changes in the company."

To "*rob Peter to pay Paul*" means to take money from one area to pay another. For example, "He had to rob Peter to pay Paul to cover his debts."

Finally, "*well chuffed*" means very pleased. For example, "He was well chuffed with his new bike."

These idiomatic expressions, deeply embedded in British English, serve as linguistic markers of cultural identity and shared experiences. Whether expressing emotions, describing situations, or conveying attitudes, these idioms enrich communication and foster a sense of connection among speakers of British English.

2.3. The role of culturally specific idioms in the structure of British English

Idioms unique to a particular culture are integral to the structure and character of British English. They not only improve the language but also shed light on the historical and cultural backgrounds from which they originate [23]. British idioms enable speakers to communicate difficult ideas clearly and colourfully because they are lively, frequently hilarious, and endowed with meanings beyond their literal readings [3, c. 196].

Idioms play a vital role in shaping British English by serving as important windows into common experiences and cultural identities. Phrases such as "*a different kettle of fish*" reflect the British cultural background of a passion for fishing and nature, but they can suggest a wholly different circumstance. Likewise, "*cheap as chips*" conjures up the British obsession with fish and chips, a common dish that has grown a cultural icon [8].

Idioms also serve to enhance communication by adding nuance and depth to conversations. When someone says "*a penny for your thoughts*," they are asking for another's opinion or what they are thinking about, in a way that feels more intimate and engaging than a straightforward question. "*Bits and bobs*" is another example, referring to various small items or tasks, illustrating the British tendency to use charming, non-specific terms for everyday things [34, p. 491-538].

Idioms can also improve social ties between speakers. Understanding common idioms such as "*Bob's your uncle*" promotes a sense of community and understanding between people. This colloquial expression with roots in British history has a casual, comforting tone that can enhance the intimacy and intimate sense of conversations [9, p. 518-521].

Idioms also contribute to the British English language's richness and expressiveness. Phrases like "*fit as a fiddle*" and "*over the moon*" give the language additional depth and emotional impact.

These idioms make interactions more engaging and accessible because they frequently build vivid mental images or elicit familiar emotions [12].

Many idioms also offer historical context by capturing the events and social mores of their respective eras. The expression "*kick the bucket*," which refers to dying, has a history that is open to several interpretations, but it always provides an insight into earlier language usage [10, p. 94-101].

Idioms can be challenging for non-native speakers to learn, yet doing so greatly improves one's language and cultural proficiency. Acquiring knowledge of terms such as "*barking up the wrong tree*" and "*all mouth and no trousers*" can prove to be a worthwhile endeavour, offering profound understanding of British wit and principles [31].

Idioms' dynamic quality guarantees that British English will always be a live, changing language. Idioms fluctuate with society; some become obsolete while others flourish. For example, compared to many older idioms, "*bog-standard*," which denotes something simple or ordinary, is very new, demonstrating how language changes to fit modern situations [31].

Idiomatic expressions have also been greatly influenced and sustained by literature and the media. The idiomatic landscape is still influenced by classic works by writers like Shakespeare, who is credited with coining many words that are still in use today, as well as contemporary British films and television shows [16, p. 18-48]. The language is kept lively and current by the constant literary and media influence [32, p. 5-11].

In summary, idioms that are unique to a certain culture are an essential part of the structure of British English. They give non-native speakers opportunity to learn, preserve the language's expressiveness and vitality, enhance communication, fortify social links, and encapsulate cultural identity [35]. Idioms lend a distinct charm and personality to British English, whether they be expressed through phrases like "*take the biscuit*" or "*chuffed to bits*".

Conclusions to chapter 2

The structural aspects of culturally specific idioms in British English, highlighting their diverse forms including noun phrases, verb phrases, prepositional phrases, and imperative sentences. Each form contributes to the idioms' distinctiveness and effectiveness in conveying nuanced meanings and emotions. Examples illustrate how these idiomatic expressions draw upon familiar imagery and cultural references to resonate with speakers and listeners, enhancing communication and expression. Overall, the structure of culturally specific idioms in British English reflects the richness and complexity of the language, offering insights into cultural heritage and societal norms.

The semantics of culturally specific idioms in British English, highlighting their metaphorical nature, cultural references, regional variation, and reflection of societal values. These idiomatic expressions capture the essence of British culture, drawing upon historical events, societal norms, and shared experiences to convey meaning and significance. Through metaphor and symbolic imagery, they evoke vivid mental images and emotional responses, enriching communication and fostering a sense of cultural identity among speakers. Regional variation adds depth to the semantics, reflecting the diversity of cultural influences within the UK. Overall, the semantics of British English idioms offer valuable insights into the cultural heritage and linguistic traditions of the British Isles.

So, culturally specific idioms in British English, showcasing their colorful and diverse nature. From describing messy situations to expressing extreme happiness, these idioms offer insights into British culture, humor, and values. Reflecting various aspects of life, attitudes, and behaviors, they serve as linguistic markers of cultural identity, fostering connection and understanding among speakers of British English. Overall, these idiomatic expressions enrich communication and embody the unique spirit of British culture and history.

Idioms that are unique to a particular culture are an essential part of what makes British English unique and enriching. They also shed light on historical and cultural settings. They make it possible to communicate complicated concepts in a vibrant and

understandable way while expressing shared identities and experiences. Phrases like *"a penny for your thoughts"* and *"bits and bobs"* give talks depth, while idioms like *"a different kettle of fish"* and *"cheap as chips"* highlight British cultural quirks. In addition, these idioms improve language expressiveness, foster social relationships, and provide historical context. Gaining proficiency in idioms like *"barking up the wrong tree"* might be difficult for non-native speakers, but it improves language and cultural awareness. Idioms' dynamic quality guarantees that British English, impacted by media and literature, continues to be vibrant and changing. So, idioms contribute significantly to the British English language's variety, vibrancy, and distinct appeal.

CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we have described the concept term “idiom” derives from the Greek word "ídiōma," meaning “particularity, peculiarity.” There are two primary perspectives on idioms: the "broad approach" and the "narrow approach." The narrow approach defines idioms as stable phrases whose meanings are not deducible from their components. In domestic linguistics, idioms have traditionally been termed “phraseological fusions” based on V.V. Vinogradov’s classification, which highlights their unmotivated composition and semantic unity. Phraseological fusions are further divided into subtypes. The first subtype includes lexical archaisms, historicisms, and other outdated lexemes that survive within idioms. The second subtype involves grammatical archaisms, which are syntactically indivisible and often appear odd or grammatically incorrect.

Idioms are interpreted as the result of a semantic transformation of the literal meanings of their linguistic prototypes, creating phraseological abstractions. This reinterpretation reflects reality in the human mind by reproducing the characteristics of objects based on their relationships.

Western linguists often adopt a broader approach, including sayings, proverbs, catchphrases, and quotations as idioms. Lexicographers emphasize the idiomatic nature of phrases that cannot be translated literally. This broader perspective encompasses various forms of stable expressions beyond traditional phraseological units.

In modern linguistics, idioms are studied for their importance in expressing complex ideas and emotions concisely. They reflect cultural specificity and historical features, making them intriguing subjects for research. Idioms are analyzed from different angles, including origin, meaning, and usage. Their symbolic meanings pose challenges for translation, highlighting their significance in linguistic analysis and cross-cultural communication.

Idioms enrich language by conveying nuanced meanings and cultural aspects. They are essential communication tools, reflecting the collective mindset and social dynamics of a language community. Understanding idioms provides insight into a

nation's culture, thinking, and worldview. So, idioms are integral to language, offering both linguistic richness and cultural depth.

English idioms are classified in several ways, including by meaning, emotional saturation, parts of speech, and origin. They can be authentic, having developed historically, or borrowed from other cultures.

Grammatically, idioms can include noun constructions (e.g., "a bed of roses"), verbs (e.g., "to live to tell the tale"), adjectives (e.g., "as clever as paint"), and repeated words (e.g., "little by little"). Traditional idioms often originate from the Bible, mythology, and historical contexts, while modern idioms reflect contemporary culture and events.

Culturally specific idioms convey material conditions, moral principles, customs, and traditions. They serve multiple functions, including conveying cultural identity, promoting social cohesion, enhancing communication efficiency, and expressing creativity and humor. They also discreetly convey thoughts and feelings, transmit moral lessons and cultural narratives, and provide insights into cultural practices, environments, and historical events.

To summarise, idioms are significant linguistic artifacts that encapsulate cultural identity, societal values, and collective experiences. Through various classification methods, idioms are studied for their origins, meanings, and uses, offering deep insights into a culture's worldview and enriching language and communication.

Culturally specific idioms in British English form a vibrant tapestry of expressions that mirror the rich cultural heritage and societal subtleties of the British Isles. These idioms manifest in various structural forms, including noun phrases, verb phrases, prepositional phrases, and imperatives, each contributing to their unique ability to convey nuanced meanings and emotions. For instance, the idiom "a penny for your thoughts" uses a noun phrase to ask someone about their thoughts, while "kick the bucket" uses an imperative structure to denote dying.

Noun phrase idioms often combine common nouns with determiners or modifiers to create vivid expressions. Examples include "a bed of roses," "a dog's

dinner," and "the bee's knees," each using familiar imagery and cultural references to resonate with speakers and listeners, enhancing their communicative impact.

Verb phrase idioms typically involve verbs combined with objects or adverbial phrases to convey actions, states, or emotions concisely and memorably. Phrases like "flog a dead horse," "blow your own trumpet," and "take the high road" express ideas related to perseverance, self-promotion, and ethical conduct, respectively.

Prepositional phrase idioms use prepositions along with nouns or pronouns to convey relationships, states, or conditions figuratively. Examples include "under the weather," "on the pull," and "in a pickle," which describe health, socializing, and difficulty, respectively. These idioms evoke vivid imagery and subtle nuances, making them essential components of British English.

Imperative idioms consist of commands or requests conveyed through direct language. Examples include "hold your horses," "cut to the chase," and "keep your pecker up," which urge action, decisiveness, or resilience. These idioms convey a sense of urgency or importance, prompting listeners to heed the speaker's advice.

Culturally specific idioms in British English also encompass a wide array of themes, ranging from everyday experiences and emotions to historical events and societal norms. Metaphorical language and symbolic imagery allow these idioms to express abstract concepts and emotions vividly. For instance, "a storm in a teacup," "to have a chinwag," and "to pull someone's leg" use metaphorical language to convey insignificance, conversation, and teasing, respectively.

Historical events, cultural references, and societal norms often influence these idioms, making them rich in cultural significance. Idioms like "to take the biscuit," "to ring the changes," and "to throw a spanner in the works" reference historical practices and traditions, facilitating communication and reinforcing cultural identity.

Regional variation adds depth to these idioms, reflecting the diversity of cultural influences within the UK. Idioms like "bob's your uncle," "to have a butcher's," and "chuffed to bits" may be more common in certain regions or social groups, showcasing the richness of British English.

Moreover, idioms reflect societal values and attitudes. Phrases such as "horses for courses," "up the duff," and "spend a penny" highlight cultural attitudes towards choice, pregnancy, and social etiquette. Examining these idioms reveals insights into British society's values and beliefs.

In conclusion, culturally specific idioms in British English are rich with metaphor, cultural references, regional variations, and societal values. They enrich the language by providing a unique lens through which to explore British culture, history, and identity. By understanding these idioms, we gain a deeper appreciation for the complexity and richness of British English, as well as the cultural heritage it embodies.

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SUMMARY

Актуальність дослідження культурно-специфічних ідіом британської англійської зумовлена рядом важливих факторів. Ідіоми є невід'ємною частиною будь-якої мови, відображаючи культурні та соціальні особливості суспільства. У контексті глобалізації та посилення міжкультурної взаємодії розуміння культурних специфічних ідіом має особливе значення для ефективного спілкування та культурного розуміння.

Ідіоми є найбільш виразною та яскравою частиною лексичного складу мови. З часом у мові сформувався окремий пласт – фразеологізми, що складаються з усталених виразів із певним значенням. Основи фразеології як лінгвістичної дисципліни були закладені багатьма вченими. Сучасні дослідження в галузі фразеології зосереджені на аналізі корпусу ідіом, їх синтаксичних особливостей і культурного контексту.

Об'єктом дослідження є культурно специфічні ідіоми британської англійської мови.

Предметом дослідження є особливості структури, семантики та вживання культурно-специфічних ідіом в британській англійській мові.

Метою цього дослідження є проведення ретельного аналізу ідіом британської англійської мови, які є культурно специфічними, щоб з'ясувати їх структуру, семантику та практичне використання. Ця мета дослідження передбачає ретельний метод аналізу ідіом, який об'єднує лінгвістичні та культурні елементи.

Структура роботи складається зі вступу, 2 розділів, 6 підрозділів, висновків, списку 40 літератури та 8 додаткових пунктів. Робота також містить додаток, що складається зі 100 культурно специфічних ідіом британської англійської мови. Загальний обсяг роботи викладено на 47 сторінок

У сучасній лінгвістиці ідіоми вивчаються через їх важливість у вираженні складних ідей та емоцій коротко. Вони відображають культурну специфіку та історичні особливості, роблячи їх цікавими предметами досліджень. Ідіоми аналізуються з різних точок зору, включаючи походження, значення та

використання. Їх символічні значення створюють виклики для перекладу, підкреслюючи їх важливість у лінгвістичному аналізі та міжкультурному спілкуванні.

Класифікація для англійської ідіоми визначає семантичні групи, такі як "speech" (наприклад, "to tell the world"), "friendship" (наприклад, "to stay until the last dog is hungry"), "movement" (наприклад, "to show leg"), and others. Британські дослідники J. Seidl та U. McMordie подальш класифікують ідіоми за походженням, такими як biblical (наприклад, "to kill the fatted calf"), household (наприклад, "to hit the nail on the head"), agricultural, culinary, military, and seagoing, among others. Вони також зазначають фіксованість ідіом, де деякі є повністю фіксованими, а інші дозволяють зміну.

Грамаічно, ідіоми можуть включати іменні конструкції (наприклад, "a bed of roses"), дієслова (наприклад, "to live to tell the tale"), прикметники (наприклад, "as clever as paint"), і повторювані слова (наприклад, "little by little"). Традиційні ідіоми часто походять з Біблії, міфології та історичних контекстів, тоді як сучасні ідіоми відображають сучасну культуру та події.

Культурно специфічні ідіоми передають матеріальні умови, моральні принципи, звичаї та традиції. Вони виконують кілька функцій, включаючи передачу культурної ідентичності, сприяння соціальній єдності, підвищення ефективності комунікації, вираження творчості та гумору. Вони також непомітно передають думки та почуття, передають моральні уроки та культурні наративи, та надають уявлення про культурні практики, середовища та історичні події.

Іменникові ідіоми часто поєднують загальні іменники з визначниками або модифікаторами, щоб створити яскраві вирази. Приклади включають "a bed of roses," "a dog's dinner," та "the bee's knees," кожен з яких використовує знайомі образи та культурні посилання, щоб резонувати з мовцями та слухачами, підвищуючи їх комунікативний вплив.

Дієслівні ідіоми зазвичай включають дієслова, поєднані з об'єктами або прислівниковими фразами, щоб коротко та пам'ятно передати дії, стани чи емоції. Фрази, такі як "flog a dead horse," "blow your own trumpet," та "take the high

road" виражають ідеї, пов'язані з наполегливістю, саморекламою та етичним поведінням відповідно.

Прийменникові ідіоми включають прийменники разом з іменниками або займенниками, щоб образно передати відносини, стани чи умови. Приклади включають "under the weather," "on the pull," та "in a pickle," які описують здоров'я, соціалізацію та труднощі відповідно. Ці ідіоми викликають яскраві образи та тонкі нюанси, роблячи їх важливими складовими британської англійської мови.

Імперативні ідіоми складаються з команд або прохань, переданих через пряме мовлення. Приклади включають "hold your horses," "cut to the chase," та "keep your resker up," які закликають до дії, рішучості або стійкості. Ці ідіоми передають почуття терміновості або важливості, спонукаючи слухачів звернути увагу на пораду мовця.

Культурно специфічні ідіоми в британській англійській також охоплюють широкий спектр тем, починаючи від повсякденного досвіду та емоцій і до історичних подій та суспільних норм. Метафорична мова та символічні образи дозволяють цим ідіомам яскраво виражати абстрактні поняття та емоції. Наприклад, "a storm in a teacup," "to have a chinwag," та "to pull someone's leg" використовують метафоричну мову для передачі незначущості, розмови та жартів відповідно.

Історичні події, культурні посилання та суспільні норми часто впливають на ці ідіоми, роблячи їх багатими на культурне значення. Ідіоми, такі як "to take the biscuit," "to ring the changes," та "to throw a spanner in the works" посиляються на історичні практики та традиції, полегшуючи комунікацію та зміцнюючи культурну ідентичність.

Отже, ідіоми є значними лінгвістичними артефактами, які уособлюють культурну ідентичність, суспільні цінності та колективні досвіди. Шляхом застосування різних методів класифікації, ідіоми вивчаються з точки зору їх походження, значень та використання, що пропонує глибоке уявлення про світогляд культури та збагачує мову та комунікацію.

APPENDIX

Glossary

Idioms	Meaning
<i>a bit of a dog's breakfast</i>	something messy or done badly
<i>a different kettle of fish</i>	something completely different or separate
<i>a dog's dinner</i>	a mess or a poor piece of work
<i>a penny for your thoughts</i>	asking someone what they are thinking
<i>all mouth and no trousers</i>	someone who talks big but doesn't act on it
<i>as right as rain</i>	in good health or condition
<i>barking up the wrong tree</i>	pursuing a mistaken or misguided line of thought or course of action
<i>bits and bobs</i>	small items or tasks
<i>blimey</i>	an expression of surprise
<i>blow your own trumpet</i>	to boast about your achievements
<i>bob's your uncle</i>	everything is all right or done, often used to conclude a set of simple instructions
<i>bog-standard</i>	completely ordinary, with no special features
<i>bodge job</i>	a clumsy or temporary repair
<i>cheeky</i>	disrespectful in an endearing or amusing way
<i>cheap as chips</i>	very inexpensive
<i>chuffed to bits</i>	extremely pleased or happy
<i>cost a bomb</i>	very expensive
<i>cream crackered</i>	extremely tired
<i>damp squib</i>	something that fails to meet expectations
<i>dead chuffed</i>	very pleased
<i>donkey's years</i>	a very long time
<i>eager beaver</i>	someone who is very enthusiastic
<i>fit as a fiddle</i>	in good health
<i>flog a dead horse</i>	to waste effort on something that has no chance of succeeding
<i>faff around</i>	to waste time or effort on trivial things
<i>full of beans</i>	energetic and lively
<i>gobsmacked</i>	astonished or amazed
<i>give it some welly</i>	put a lot of effort into something
<i>give up the ghost</i>	to stop working or to die
<i>gone pear-shaped</i>	to go wrong or fail

<i>gone to pot</i>	to deteriorate or go wrong
<i>gutted</i>	extremely disappointed
<i>have a butcher's</i>	to have a look at something
<i>have a chinwag</i>	to have a chat
<i>have a gander</i>	take a look
<i>have a kip</i>	take a nap or short sleep
<i>horses for courses</i>	different people or things are suited to different situations
<i>hunky-dory</i>	fine or satisfactory
<i>in a pickle</i>	in a difficult situation
<i>it's brass monkeys</i>	extremely cold weather
<i>jammy</i>	lucky
<i>keep your pecker up</i>	stay cheerful
<i>kick the bucket</i>	to die
<i>kip</i>	a nap or sleep
<i>knees up</i>	a lively party or celebration
<i>knackered</i>	extremely tired
<i>leg it</i>	to run away
<i>lose the plot</i>	to go mad or act irrationally
<i>make a pig's ear of it</i>	to do something badly
<i>naff off</i>	go away
<i>not my cup of tea</i>	not to one's liking or preference
<i>off your trolley</i>	crazy
<i>on a sticky wicket</i>	in a difficult or precarious situation
<i>on the pull</i>	looking for a romantic partner or trying to attract someone
<i>on your bike</i>	go away
<i>over the moon</i>	extremely happy
<i>peckish</i>	slightly hungry
<i>piece of cake</i>	something very easy
<i>pip pip</i>	a jovial greeting or goodbye
<i>pop your clogs</i>	to die
<i>pull a fast one</i>	to deceive or trick someone
<i>pull your socks up</i>	to make an effort to improve performance or behavior
<i>pukka</i>	genuine or first-class
<i>put a sock in it</i>	tell someone to be quiet
<i>put the cat among the pigeons</i>	to cause trouble or controversy
<i>put the mockers on</i>	to put an end to something
<i>quid</i>	a pound sterling

<i>rain on someone's parade</i>	to spoil someone's plans or dampen their enthusiasm
<i>round the bend</i>	crazy
<i>red herring</i>	something that misleads or distracts from the main issue
<i>ringing the changes</i>	varying the way something is done to make it more interesting
<i>rob peter to pay paul</i>	to take money from one part of a budget to pay for something else, often leaving the first short
<i>rough and ready</i>	simple and prepared quickly, but effective enough
<i>rubbish</i>	nonsense or something worthless
<i>rub someone up the wrong way</i>	to irritate or annoy someone
<i>run of the mill</i>	ordinary and not special or exciting in any way
<i>scrummy</i>	delicious
<i>shirty</i>	bad-tempered or annoyed
<i>sling your hook</i>	go away
<i>skive off</i>	to avoid work
<i>spitting feathers</i>	very angry
<i>spend a penny</i>	to go to the toilet (from when public toilets used to charge a penny for use)
<i>take it on the chin</i>	to accept criticism or defeat bravely
<i>take the biscuit</i>	to be the most remarkable or foolish of its kind
<i>take the high road</i>	to act in an ethical or moral way
<i>taking the mickey</i>	teasing or making fun of someone
<i>the bee's knees</i>	something or someone outstanding or excellent
<i>the dog's bollocks</i>	something excellent or outstanding
<i>throw a spanner in the works</i>	to cause problems or disruptions in a plan or process
<i>throw a wobbly</i>	to become very upset or angry
<i>throw in the towel</i>	to give up or admit defeat
<i>tickety-boo</i>	everything is fine or in good order
<i>under the weather</i>	feeling ill or unwell
<i>up the duff</i>	pregnant
<i>up the spout</i>	ruined or not working
<i>waffle on</i>	to talk or write at length in a vague or trivial manner
<i>warts and all</i>	including all faults and imperfections

<i>wind your neck in</i>	calm down or stop interfering
<i>wind-up</i>	to find yourself in an unexpected and usually unpleasant situation, especially as a result of what you do
<i>well chuffed</i>	pleased or happy