# The Sources of English Phraseological Units with Onomastic Component

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**Abstract:** The present article discloses etymology of some English phraseological units with onomastic component, i.e. proper name. There are examples of phraseological units which were formed from different sources including Bible, literature, history, culture, etc.

**Keywords:** phraseological unit, onomastic component, proper name, semantics, structure, etymology.

## Introduction

There are idioms, proverbs, sayings, containing proper names. They originated from people's lifestyle, customs and traditions, prose and poetry, mythology, fairy stories, fables, songs, slang, novels and other sources. It should be stressed, though, that proverbs or phraseological units with proper names (further PUPrN) are used in speech or writing often. Also, some proverbs comprising people's names, names of ethnicities, cities or countries, may be perceived as offensive stereotypes, and should be avoided. All this makes the theme of research actual and important among the problems of modern linguistics. It is not less significant than learning grammar, lexis and pronunciation. By knowing them we can differentiate positive and negative sides of humanity.

The investigation of PUPrN is one of the insufficiently explored fields of the modern linguistic study. Undeniable, that this research involves two branches of linguistics, at first sight phraseology and onomastics at the second. Phraseology connected with the history, literature and linguistics, but primarily with the linguistic disciplines: lexicology, semantics, grammar, phonetics, stylistics, history of language, etymology, text linguistics and general linguistics. PUPrN consist of words, and the word is the main object of the study of lexicology. The data of lexicology make it possible to determine the nature of the components of PUs. The theory of lexical meaning developed in semantics helps to identify the semantic specificity of PUPrN and to distinguish various types of meaning in the sphere of phraseology. The word in phraseology does not always lose its morphological features, morphology helps to determine what is lost and what is preserved. Composition of PUPrN includes the combinations of different structural types, including PUPrN with the structure of phrases and sentences. The data of syntax is very important to identify the grammatical specifics of these word combinations - their grammatical structure and functions. The word in the phraseology is characterized by a certain phonetic form, but in the process of development it can also change.

Besides, it relates to cognitive linguistics, pragma-linguistics, linguoculturology, sociolinguistics. Apart linguistic subjects it concerns as well as non-linguistic ones, namely literature, history, ethnography, mythology, anthropology.

**Results and discussion.** There are Arsentyeva decided to compare grammatical models of both English and Russian PUs. She divided PUs into two main structures i.e. PUs with phrase structure and PUs with sentence structure. Where phraseologies with phrase structure in its turn classified into verbal PUs, substantial PUs, adjectival PUs [1].

The largest class is the class of the verbal PUs, gone after substantive and adjectival phraseologies and PUs with sentence structure. Substantial Pusarephrases functionally correlated with the noun, i.e., the core component of phraseology is a noun. Adjectival PUs are considered functionally correlated with adjectives. The core component in these PUs is an adjective, the dependent component is a noun.

There are PUs with the structure of sentence but their number is small. Characteristic feature for both English is PUs constructed according to the structure of a simple sentence and having components which are related as subject and predicate.

As it mentioned above, PUPrN are referred to the science of onomastics which is relatively new science and appeared in the middle of the last century. Nikonov, Superanskaya, Gardiner, Reformatskiy, Husser, Buhler, Sweet are elaborated in the field of proper names. Superanskaya classified proper names according to the meaning into the followings: anthroponyms, toponyms, zoonyms, phithonyms, chromonyms. Moreover, different scientists differentiated various function of proper names. V.A. Nikonov distinguishes three functions of proper names, namely toponyms: address, descriptive and ideological. But the meaning of these toponyms are unequal, therefore their functions are unbalanced. Belenkaya connects function of nomination in society with perception of names by population. She distinguishes the following functions of toponyms: indicator, indicator +characteristics, indicator +emotional color, indicator +ideological function. In this case, she suggests that non-motivated names have only pointing functions, and motivated mix it with object's characteristics, ideological function and emotional color. But this theory is false, because ideological and emotional connotations are irregular, non-permanent elements and cannot be belonged to functions, though they are essential ingredients of meaning of proper names. Studying anthroponyms, Blanar distinguishes as one of their functions –identification. Moreover, he distinguishes special anthroponymic functions: 1) pointing to kinship. In some cases, anthroponyms allow to distinguish relatives from non-relatives; legalization of man in society. Obviously, the very first function of names connected with their appropriation to each newborn; 3) characteristics which is typical for nicknames; 4) pointing to social state. Anthroponym witnesses about belonging of person to certain class, certain social group.

Phraseology is closely connected with the history, culture, traditions and literature of the people speaking the given language. This connection is most clearly traced in those PUs, which include proper names. The value of onomastic phraseology is important because it usually reflects not only the national identity of the particular word of this or that nation, but also through colorful names informs about the peculiar customs, ways of thinking, history and mythology of the latter. In works on PUPNs, it is exactly underlined their national specifics. Actually, personal proper name, being a cultural dominant, functioning in phraseology as a national cultural component, helps to reveal the peculiarities, characteristic features of a particular nation, of one or another type of language personality [2].

Phraseologies have different origins, namely religious, mythological, literary. There is a quantity of phrases originated from the Bible and referred to biblical heroes, events. Indeed, the Bible had a major influence on world culture in general and the cultures of many countries in particular. This is the greatest book in the history of mankind, which absorbed popular wisdom, involved the moral ground of people life. This book is not just a phenomenon of culture, it is the foundation of the spiritual existence of the world. The Bible which is the book of all books where people are able to find solutions to such problems: life and death, human destiny and soul,

good and evil. Although, it consists of many books that have various genres, created in different times by variety of people, but in essence the Bible is a single book, a significant, eternal companion in the culture of many nations of the whole world for more than two thousand years. It teaches people how to live, what you can do, and what you cannot do; what should be, what is negative in our characters. For many centuries, the Bible has inspired artists, writers and people, to use its themes, ideas, images, subjects in their works. Moreover, there is a great number of phraseologies which reflects biblical stories, characters, events; e.g. **A broken heart, Manna from Heaven**.

Certainly, other religions also had great influence on their followers and on the whole world, for instance, Islam the youngest religion in the world. Here can be highlighted that there are countless proverbs came from this doctrine. For example, "**actions speak louder than words**" or "**days are like countries**".

Another no less popular world religion is Buddhism. It can be found numerous of proverbs and sayings that reflect wisdom, justice, instruction, judgment, bravery in this religious belief. For example, "**like father, like son" which means children often take after their parents.**

From given examples, it can be seen that proverbs from different religions are not used by a certain nation, but these truths are relevant for all times and people.

Nowadays in English there are many phraseological expressions, the main function of which is to strengthen the aesthetic aspect of the language. Many phrases occurred in relation with customs, realities, historical facts, but most of the English phraseological foundation somehow arose due to artistic and literary works [3].

The works of the famous British classicist W. Shakespeare are one of the most important literary sources on the number of phraseological units that have enriched the English language. Studying the phrases of Shakespeare, you can penetrate into the history and folklore, life and culture of that time, because Shakespeare's plays are saturated with word combinations borrowed from the language of his time, from everyday speech. These phrases attract attention, they entered the main structure of the language and became its inseparable part. Phrases of Shakespeare are widely used in the literature as well as in the English spoken language.

According to the number of phraseological units that have enriched the English language, Shakespeare's phrases rank the second place after the Bible. According to the latest data, the number of them is 152. Many phrases used only one time, their form is fixed: **the observed of all observers-** the center of attention(Hamlet); **to the manner born-** inborn (Hamlet); **the seamy side-** underside of something (Othello).

Many Shakespeare's phrases are so widespread that E.Patrige included 62 of them in his Cliché dictionary. Among them are "**a fool's paradise, gild refined gold", "midsummer madness**" and others.

Besides, many other writers have enriched English phraseology. Among them, first of all, should be named Jeffrey Chaucer, John Milton, Jonathan Swift, Alexander Pop, Charles Dickens and Walter Scott.

Many writers and politicians managed to enrich English with one or two phrases that have become widespread. They are court physician J. Arbetnoth, poets John Gray, William Cooper, Thomas Morton, Lord Chesterfield, George Gordon Byron, William Wordsworth, Thomas Campbell writer Daniel Defoe, Tobias Smollett, Robert Lewis Stevenson, Rudyard Kipling and others.

Studying phraseology help us to know about history of the country. Because phraseology closely connected with politics, economics, social life of the country.

Some English phraseologism came from mythology and legends. Greek and Roman civilization had a great effect on English history, culture, literature, lifestyle, and certainly, on

the advancement of phraseology [4]. The following word combinations came from antic mythology:

**The apple of discord- the cause of blights**

**Pandora's box- the emergence of unexpected blights, problems**

**Thegoldenage- the peak of social progress**

**Achilles'sheel- the weak in a man's circumstances or character**

Many phrases originated from the poems of Homer "Iliad" and "Odysseus", for instance, **Homeric laughter** expression represents the image of Holy's laughter by Homer, **the Trojan Horse- latent hazard.**

There are some phrases came from fables of Aesop and other Ancient Greek fables and fairies, such as **to blow hot and cold-to be ambivalent**(according to the one of fables, the voyager Aesop blew at the same time on his fingers to heat up them and on bisque to chill it), **the lion's share-** respectful part**.**

Some phrases originated from the books of ancient Roman philosophers. For instance, **a snake in the grass-**hidden hostile (Virgil), **anger is a short madness** (Horatio).

Phraseological combinations which came into English from the antique writing works of Greek and Roman poets and posers contribute exceptional colorfulness and emotiveness, and this confirms their abundance not only in British, but also in other cultures.

 French fiction made a significant contribution to the phraseological foundation of modern English.

The phraseological phrases of the French writers were translated into English and still enjoy wide popularity in England. In this respect, it is necessary to distinguish such writers as: Francois Rabelais, Jean Baptiste Moliere, Jerome d' Angers, Lafontaine and others.

Phraseological units, borrowed from French fiction, are translations and presented in English, because original form of these phraseological units do not used in modern English speech, **appetite comes with eating-** expression first occurs in the work "On the Causes" (1515) of Jerome d' Angers, Bishop of Le Mans;

**Buridan's ass-** about a person hesitant to make a choice between two equivalent objects, equivalent solutions. The French philosopher Buridan (VI century) is credited with the story of a donkey which died of hunger, as he did not dare to make a choice between two bunches of hay.

It is considered that there are a few number of wing phrases borrowed from French fictional literature in English, but, in spite of this, they are frequently used by the British writers for enhancing imagery and they are widespread in contemporary English language, such as, "*You tried to use me as a cat's paw to pull chestnuts out of the fire for Stanley Rider"* (U.Sinclair).

Phraseological borrowings from German and Danish literature are few. Only a few German writers have added phraseological combinations to the treasury of English phraseology. There are examples of these phraseological units: "**speech is silver, silence is golden**"; the proverb first used by the German writer Thomas Carlyle in his writings "Sartor Resartus".

**"The emperor has no clothes"** expression is derived from the tale of the Danish writer Andersen "New dress of the King".

There are few phrases came from Spanish fictional literature. In this respect it should be highlighted the book of Cervantes "Don Quixote" "**the knight of the Rueful Countenance" –** the people and vendors wandering the city, "**tilt at windmills**"- to waste time and energy to solve non-existent problem.

Moreover, there are number of phraseological units borrowed from Dutch, Danish, Russian, Italian, Chinese, Arabic. Here is an example from "The thousand and one nights" **rub the lamp**-easy to realize someone desire.

**Conclusion.** Thus, English phraseological units have a long history and numerous origins. They are emotiveness, colorful, expressiveness and can be used in everyday life, in written language. Furthermore, phraseology reflects history, lifestyle, culture, traditions of the nation.

Human factor plays a huge role in creating of idiom because the most phraseological units associate with an individual, with different fields of his practice. The addressee's factor is the most significant component of discourse. In addition, man aims to impart human traits to facilities of the inanimate everyday life, containing inanimate ones.

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