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HISTORY, SEMANTICS AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF PHRASAL VERBS

Annotation. This article explores a linguistic description of English phrasal verbs and offers a short look at their historical background, in order to provide the reader with a more complete understanding of the verbs. Analysis of theories of domestic and foreign scholars and comparative analyses of phrasal verbs are made in the article.

This article deals with aspects related to a historical rise of the English phrasal verbs and has in view definitions, semantics and classifications of phrasal verbs.

Keywords: phrasal verb, preposition, adverb, particle, semantics, dictionary, idioms.

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ФРАЗАЛЫҚ ЕТІСТІКТЕРДІҢ ТАРИХЫ, СЕМАНТИКАСЫ ЖӘНЕ КЛАССИФИКАЦИЯСЫ

Аннотация. Бұл мақалада ағылшын фразалық етістіктерінің лингвистикалық сипаттамасы зерттеліп, оқырманға етістіктер туралы толық түсінік беру үшін олардың тарихына қысқаша шолу жасалады. Мақалада отандық және шетелдік ғалымдардың теорияларына талдау және фразалық етістіктерге салыстырмалы талдау жасалды.

Бұл мақала ағылшын тіліндегі фразалық етістіктердің анықтамасы, семантикасы, классификациясы және тарихи қалыптасу мәселелеріне арналған.

Тірек сөздер: фразалық етістік, шылау, үстеу, бөлшек, семантика, сөздік, идиомалар.

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ИСТОРИЯ, СЕМАНТИКА И КЛАССИФИКАЦИЯ ФРАЗОВЫХ ГЛАГОЛОВ

Аннотация. В этой статье исследуется лингвистическое описание английских фразовых глаголов и дается краткий обзор их истории, чтобы дать читателю полное представление о глаголах. В статье проведен анализ теорий отечественных и зарубежных ученых и сравнительный анализ фразовых глаголов.

Данная статья посвящена вопросам определения, семантики, классификации и исторического формирования фразовых глаголов в английском языке.

Ключевые слова: фразовый глагол, предлог, наречие, частица, семантика, словарь, идиомы.

The term phrasal verb is commonly applied to two or three distinct but related constructions in English: a verb and a particle or a preposition co-occur forming a single semantic unit. This semantic unit cannot be understood based upon the meanings of the individual parts in isolation, but rather it can be taken as a whole. In other words, the meaning is non-compositional and thus

unpredictable. Phrasal verbs that include a preposition are known as prepositional verbs and phrasal verbs that include a particle are also known as particle verbs. Additional alternative terms for phrasal verb are <u>compound verb</u>, verb-adverb combination, verb-particle construction, two-part word/verb, and three-part word/verb (depending on the number of particles), and <u>multi-word verb</u>. Phrasal verbs are one of the most difficult moments in the study of the English language. For the first time the term «Phrasal Verbs» or phrasal verbs was used by the English linguist Logan Pearsall Smith and was recorded in the Anglo-Russian dictionary of verb combinations, published in 1986 in the Soviet Union. The value of this choice and its alternatives (including *separable verb* for Germanic languages) is debatable. In origin the concept is based on translation linguistics; as many single-word English and Latinate words are translatable by a phrasal verb complex in English, therefore the logic is that the phrasal verb complex must be a complete semantic unit in itself. One should consider in this regard that the actual term *phrasal verb* suggests that such constructions should form <u>phrases</u>. In most cases however, they clearly do *not* form phrases. Hence the very term *phrasal verb* is misleading and a source of confusion, which has motivated some to reject the term outright. [1, 273-274]

Phrasal verbs have been present for much of the history of the English language; they are easily traceable back to early Middle English. [8,773] There are similar constructions in other Germanic languages, such as Dutch (Neeleman & Weerman, 1993), but such constructions are less common in other language families and can therefore be considered typologically unusual. Like the phenomenon of preposition-stranding, phrasal verbs appear to occur only in the Germanic languages. [10, 113] Van Dongen traces the elements of the English phrasal verb back as far as Old English, in which adverbs (i.e., the particles) occurred by default as post-positions, but could also occur in other positions in the sentence. He then follows the verbs to Middle English, where «the adverb is more and more attracted by the verb and takes its place before the noun-object» [11, 325], establishing the existence of phrasal verbs in works such as Malory's *Le Morte d'Arthur* and in the Wycliffe Bible. English phrasal verbs have varied in productivity over the centuries, but the number and usage of phrasal verbs has been increasing since the nineteenth century and especially during the last fifty years. This development has been most notable in American English McArthur [8,775]. McArthur (1992) notes that Samuel Johnson was the first to describe phrasal verbs in 1755, calling them a «composition,» but Walker, a century earlier, considered some particles as words which could be included as «part of the signification of the foregoing verb» (p. 1), illustrating that the verb-particle combination was at times semantically unified.

Many phrasal verbs occur within semantic frames which are typically considered idiomatic. While often, certainly initially, analysed as additional variations in the meaning of the root verb, the combination of the verb and the particle can result in a meaning drastically different from that of the root verb. Machonis (2009) calls these more idiomatic phrasal verbs «frozen verbs,» relegating them to the realm of the lexicon (p. 253). «Compositional» verbs, on the other hand, are seen as a verb plus a particle which adds aspect to the verb, while retaining the core meaning of the original verb (Machonis, 2009, p. 253). For example, Machonis (2009) identifies the aspect added by the particle *up* as completion, intensity, direction, or a combination of those three (p. 264). Machonis argues that because certain phrasal verbs are «frozen» they are different from «compositional» verbs; however, once a phrasal verb is in usage, its compositionality changes and the meaning moves, sometimes quite swiftly, towards the metaphoric, rather than the literal. A compositional verb can eventually become a 'frozen' verb, or it can remain productive. Jackendoff (2010) comments on this: «Some combinations of verb + particle are productive, some are semiproductive, and some are purely idiosyncratic» (p. 228). However, Jackendoff does not elaborate on whether or not productivity in a phrasal verb depends on its being what Machonis (2009) calls «compositional.

The use of phrasal verbs makes it idiomatic; not knowing them, it is very difficult and sometimes impossible to understand what others say and write in newspapers and books, and

therefore the study of this topic is very important. The value of the phrasal verb can strikingly different and usually differs from the meaning of the verb from which it is formed. To date, phrasal verbs occupy an important place in the lexical system of English. Phrasal verbs can determine polynomial as lexical units, consisting of verbs expressing the vital concepts and have a high frequency of use, and adverbs denoting the direction of action (postpositions). Phrasal verbs, as follows from the name itself, refer to the phraseology. Phraseology is a department of linguistics that studies the phrases, but not all, only more or less stable. Another sign of the phrasal verb is idiomaticity. Idiom is considered a combination of two or more words, the meaning of which does not coincide with the meaning of its constituents: give up - stop doing smth. But there are a number of verbs with meaning which can be derived from its constituent components: fall down - fall. Such idiomatic verbs are difficult to determine, because in addition to the basic meaning, the verb can have a number of other interpretations: *fall down* - bow, fail. The term «idiomatic» was first proposed by the Russian linguist Igor E. Anichkov. In 1926, I.E. Anichkov wrote an article in the French «Idiomatique et semantique», in which he proposed and justified a new linguistic science - «idioms», which should explore combinations of words (as opposed to syntax, who studies the combination of word forms). He also proposed a position that any word in the language of each particular stage of its development anyway limited in their use, i.e. it is absolutely free combinations of words in the language does not exist; so that so-called free word combinations should be studied within the framework of idioms, along with any other types of phrases, including the most idiomatic. In his works, I. E. Anichkov also examines the phenomenon of adverbial postpositions, calling them a special discharge of postpositional adverbs (up, out, off, etc.), consisting of units that exhibit the ability to join verbs, clarify and supplement their meaning. Adverbial postpositions, joining the ranks of the word or words that make them resistant semantic, syntactic and phonetic whole and complex units (with postpositions ceased to be independent circumstances). Adverbial postposition is an important part of the phrasal verb. This can be seen in the postposition «down» in the following examples: Write down the rule. / Put down the rule. / Get down the rule. / Take down the rule. [2, 23]

According to the American linguist Dwight Bollinger, until recently, the English language did not have a lot of resources to create new words based on existing ones. However, phrasal verbs consolidated its position in the verbal lexicon of modern English. Becoming a phenomenon of conversational level, they are important for the communicative act and open up unlimited possibilities telling expression virtually of all concepts. The number of phrasal verbs is growing every day, and with it rising frequency of their use. Often used in colloquial speech, phrasal verbs have already moved into the language of the media, business and economics, and even replaced some combination of simple verbs synonyms. According to Jane Povey, author of «speak correctly in English,» phrasal verbs are syntactic and semantic unit. According to D. Povey phrasal verb can be replaced with «simple» verb. It characterizes the phrasal verb as semantic unity: come by - obtain, call up - telephone. However, many phrasal verbs are equivalent only with the words: *break down - stop functioning*. Some theorists tend to consider the second component up, to, on, through, after, of as prepositions, others as adverbs, others call them postfix, fourth as particles. [4, 12]

Today English continues to develop these two parallel paths. Therefore, hundreds of English phrasal verbs have French, Latin or Greek synonyms, which have the same meaning, but more «scientific» sounding. Here are just some of these synonyms: **blow up** - explode; **find out** - ascertain; **give up** - surrender; **go against** – oppose; **hand in-** submit; **leave out** - omit; **look forward to -** anticipate; **look up to -** admire, respect; **make up-** fabricate; **point out-** indicate; **pull out-** extract; **put off** - postpone; **put out** - extinguish; **put together** - assemble, compose; **speed up -** accelerate; **stand up for** - defend. Phrasal verbs can be found in the English text of any style and genre, but still the main area of use is the spoken language. In official business and scientific style the words of French, Latin or Greek origin are often used. This is not a strict rule, but a steady trend, and it has a long history. Phrasal verbs appeared in English in a natural way; however,

an event occurred that caused the language to develop. This event was the Norman conquest of England, which happened in 1066. After William the Conqueror invaded the country and seized power in the higher strata of society French began to dominate and English has been superseded became the language of the common people. This situation persists for a century and a half, until in 1204 England freed from French rule.

During this time, the French became the language of educated people, and writers borrowed new words to fill impoverished vocabulary of English from this language. In addition, many scientists have owned Latin and Greek, so they turned to these languages, drawing on the terms of these new fields of knowledge. English has become replete with foreign words, which, along with the traditional, expressing the nuances of the same concepts. For example, the word foretell (predict) can be expressed in Latin or Greek word predict prophesy. As a result - while native phrasal verbs naturally evolved in popular speech, loanwords expand scientific and literary language. A phrasal verb in Present-Day English is a verb that takes a complementary particle, in other words, an adverb resembling a preposition, necessary to complete a sentence. A common example is the verb «to fix up»: «He fixed up the car.» The word «up» here is a particle, not a preposition, because «up» can move: «He fixed the car up.» This movement of the particle «up» quickly distinguishes it from the preposition «up». Because the forms of the particle and the preposition are themselves identical, it is easy to confuse phrasal verbs with a very similar-looking type of verb: the prepositional verb. A prepositional verb takes a complementary prepositional phrase. Movement verbs are readily identifiable examples. For example, the verb «to go» is intransitive, and without the benefit of context, it cannot operate in a complete sentence only accompanied by a subject. One cannot say, «I went,» and expect to satisfy a listener without including a prepositional phrase of place, such as «I went to the store.» Prepositional verbs are immediately distinguishable from phrasal verbs in terms of movement, as prepositions cannot move after their objects. It is not possible to say, «I went the store to,» and so «went» is a prepositional verb. [5, 3]

The number of combinations of verbs with adverbs and prepositions accumulated over the centuries. Their meanings were sometimes changed beyond recognition. To illustrate the development of meanings, consider the following nuances that adverb «out» has acquired over the centuries. In the 9th century, it was only the literal meaning - «outward movement», for example, to walk out (leave) and to ride out (leave). Around the 14th century meaning «to take away the sound», for example, cry out (shout) and call out (to call, to appeal) and in the 15th century to «cease to exist» - die out (extinct) and burn out (burn, burn) appeared. By the 16th century to «spread evenly», for example, pass out (give), and parcel out (send) appeared. By the 19th century to «release the contents», for example, clean out (clean) and rinse out (rinse) was added. In addition, in modern colloquial English verb pass out means «shut down, losing consciousness.»

English phrasal verbs have special semantic and structural features which make their translation into other languages a difficult task. Kazakh has no equivalent of phrasal verbs. But it is important to understand how they work when translating them into Kazakh; the two (or sometimes three) components of the phrasal verb cannot be translated separately. Therefore, in order to bring a comparative analysis of the level of perception of students should compare this linguistic phenomenon with idioms: to *break up-быт шытын//күл-паршасын шығару, to break through-жаңалықтар ашу, to blow down-ұшырып түсіру, жғету, to blow in (into)-ұшып кіру, кенет келу.*

Turning to the semantics of the phrasal verbs, this article contains some description and discussion of the semantics involved in both the verbs and the particles. Many of the root verbs for phrasal verbs are monosyllabic, and are frequently verbs of motion, affect, giving, being, or doing. One root verb can be used with more than one particle, forming many phrasal verbs (e.g., *get up, get out, get off, get on*). While the type of verb root which phrasal verbs are drawn from is typically limited to a few semantic classes, the phrasal verbs themselves are not nearly so limited. Dixon (1992) writes that «the resulting phrasal verbs are distributed over a wider range of types; some of them have quite abstract and have special meanings, for which there is no monomorphemic synonym. [6, 275]

A few examples listed below show that there are a number of common phrasal verbs whose parent verbs are Germanic in origin. Examples (6), (7), and (8), however, show that parent verbs for phrasal verbs are not limited to Germanic roots. The etymologies shown come from Pearsall. [7]

(1) bring about, bring along, bring back (Germanic root, Old English *bringan*)
(2) draw back, draw out (Germanic root, Old English *dragan*)
(3) break off (Germanic root, Old English *brecan*)
(4) go out, go up (Germanic root, Old English *gan*)
(5) take on, take out, take in (Germanic root, Old English *tacan*, from Old Norse *taka*)
(6) point out, point to (non-Germanic root, Old French *pointer*)
(7) carry on (non-Germanic root, Anglo-Norman French and Old North French *carier*, from Latin *carrus*)
(8) attend to (non-Germanic root, Old French *atendre* from Latin *attendere*)

The particles which form phrasal verbs are homophonous with the English class of prepositions (although not all English prepositions double as particles). Usually the particles are based on prepositions of location and direction [8]. According to the Corpus of Contemporary American English, as of September 2012, the ten most frequently used particles were *up, out, back, down, on, in, off, over, around,* and *about*, with *up* having 838372 occurrences in the corpus, and *about* having 64392 occurrences (Davies, 2008). The corpus lists a total of 97 English particles, while Machonis (2009), citing Fraser (1976), states that there are a total of fifteen particles in English. These drastically different numbers, fifteen versus ninety-seven, occur partly because Davies (2008) does not limit his definition of 'particle' to those which only occur with phrasal verbs, and partly because Fraser (1976) was working with a smaller set of data than Davies (2008). In addition to this, phrasal verbs are currently very productive constructions, particularly in American English, as stated earlier, and there were simply more phrasal verbs in use in 2008 than there would have been in 1976. [9,17] Summarizing, we can say that phrasal verbs are an integral part of the vocabulary of the English language. The use of these verbs is usually focused on the spoken language. The use of phrasal verbs helps to avoid regular expressions and help to make the language more «alive». Obviously, the popularity of phrasal verbs connected with their ease of use. For example, the phrasal verb «to put up» is the set of meanings: lift, build, erect, put the (play), display, exhibit, offer (prayer), offer for sale, to raise (prices), invest (money), packing, organize, etc. Thus, using the minimum number of basic elements, the speaker can express a large number of concepts.

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