

THE EXPLORATION OF THE IDIOMS AND THE MAIN ROLES IN
COMMUNICATION*Karshi State University**Scientific supervisor: Karimova Iroda**Student: Xushmurodova Dilnura**E-mail address: iroda.karimova.1997@mail.ru***Abstract**

Idioms are one of the most key points of effective interaction in any language, particularly in the English language. Although usage of idioms in communication is more complicated than we expected, learning its meaning is vital for us. Idiomatic expressions often cannot be translated with their literal meaning. Because idioms are formed by comparing certain things, such as animals and natural phenomenon. And, in a certain sense, they emerge as expressions applied to a person's character as well as behaviour. Idioms are phrases or expressions in a language that have a meaning of the individual words within them. Essentially, you can't understand an idiom by simply looking up the definitions of its component words, instead, they function as a single unit with a unique, figurative meaning. Idioms are often metaphorical and can be seen as symbolic expressions. They are intriguing because their meaning aren't obvious, yet they add richness and colour to how we communicate. These phrases often use vivid imagery and metaphors that have developed over time, reflecting the history and culture of the English language. To understand deeply their meanings and proper usage of them, this article give a valuable chance for you.

Keywords: Idioms, contextual learning, conversation, pure idioms, binomial idioms, partial Idioms, prepositional idioms, proverb, cliché, euphemism

Аннотация

Идиомы — один из ключевых аспектов эффективного общения на любом языке, особенно в английском. Хотя использование идиом в коммуникации сложнее, чем мы ожидаем, понимание их значения имеет для нас решающее значение. Идиоматические выражения часто невозможно перевести дословно. Идиомы формируются путем сравнения определенных вещей, таких как животные и природные явления. В определенном смысле они появляются как выражения, применяемые к характеру человека, а также к его поведению. Идиомы — это фразы или выражения на языке, которые имеют значение, отличное от значений отдельных слов, входящих в их состав. Фактически, невозможно понять идиому, просто посмотрев определения её компонентов, так как она функционирует как единое целое с уникальным, образным значением. Идиомы часто являются метафорическими и могут рассматриваться как символические выражения. Они интригуют тем, что их значение не является очевидным, но при этом они придают нашему общению выразительность и насыщенность. Эти фразы часто используют яркие образы и метафоры, которые развивались с течением времени, отражая историю и культуру английского языка. Чтобы глубже понять их значение и правильное использование, эта статья предоставляет вам ценную возможность для изучения.

Ключевые слова: Идиомы, контекстное обучение, разговор, чистые идиомы, биномиальные идиомы, частичные идиомы, предлоги в идиомах, пословицы, клише, эвфемизмы.

Introduction

Idioms are figurative expressions with meanings that cannot be understood from the individual words they contain. They are essential for understanding the nuances of language and its culture. They are common in everyday communication and are used to express emotions, abstract ideas, and humour. While they make the language richer and more engaging, they can also be challenging for language learners because their meanings are not literal. Despite the difficulty, mastering idioms is crucial for achieving fluency in a language. They reflect cultural values and social norms, allowing speakers to communicate more naturally and connect with others on a deeper level. To cut it short, idioms are phrases or expressions that have a different meaning than the literal meaning of their individual words. They can convey a figurative meaning, which often use metaphor. Idioms are not meant to be taken literally. Take “break a leg” as an example, its literal meaning is break or hurt someone’s leg, but it refers to wish for someone “good luck” to do their work or intention successfully. So, idioms are a significant part of language learning. They add depth and cultural relevance to communication, even though their non-literal meaning can be difficult for learners. Understanding idioms is key to fluency and cultural connection.

Methods

As we mentioned above, learning idioms can be challenging for humans who are learning second or non-native language. They often don’t make sense when translated literally. However, mastering idioms is essential for effective communication with other English speakers.

Idioms are unique aspect of language that adds colour and personality speech and writing. Using idioms correctly can assist to enhance our interaction skills, to illustrate cultural knowledge and to boost fluency.

When we use idioms in our conversation, we convey deeper meaning and nuances that we could not convey through literal language. Idioms can help us express our emotions and thoughts accurately, making our communication much more effective, compelling and convincing.

Idioms also demonstrate cultural knowledge. Understanding and using idioms shows that you’re familiar with the culture where the language is spoken. English idioms, for example, often reflect aspects of British and American history and values. They’re used in everyday conversations about topics like weather, relationships and business. The example given is “**to pull yourself up by your bootstraps**”, which means to improve your situation through your own efforts. This idiom originated in 19th century in America. When boots had straps used for pulling them on. Knowing this origin helps understand the idiom and its cultural context. It also helps understand how the word “bootstrapping” is used in modern business to describe starting a company without external funding.

Finally, the text concludes by stating that idioms are essential for improving English fluency. While the full text isn’t shown, it implies that using idioms makes our English sound more natural and proficient. In essence, learning idioms is crucial for effective communication in English. They make the language more colourful, demonstrate cultural understanding and ultimately fluency.

To be aware of idioms and its types simultaneously is really crucial. But, initially learning its four different types more important. So, generally speaking there are 4 types of idioms: pure, partial, binomial and prepositional idioms. Some people may consider clichés, proverbs and euphemisms to be types as well, but acquiring the information about four types is more essential.

1. Pure idioms

This is typical idiom that its meaning cannot be understood from the individual words. They are often metaphorical and unpredictable. Examples:

- Kick the bucket – to die
- Spill the beans – to reveal a secret

- Break the ice – to start a conversation in a tense situation

2. Partial Idioms

These idioms have a fixed part and a variable part, meaning one word in the phrase can change depending on the context. Examples:

- To be in deep __ - to be in deep trouble, thought
- The __ is out of the bag – the secret/ truth is out of the bag

3. Prepositional Idioms

These are idioms that include a fixed preposition, where changing the preposition would make the phrase in correct or unnatural. Examples:

- On the fence – undecided
- In hot water – in trouble
- Under the weather – feeling sick
- Out of the blue – unexpectedly

4. Binomial idioms

These idioms consist of two words joined by “and” or “or” . The order of the words is usually fixed. Examples:

- Safe and sound – completely safe
- Black and white – clear and simple
- Now or never – a crucial moment to act

Each type of idiom has it's own function in language, making expressions more colourful and engaging. When it comes to proverb, cliché, euphemism and idioms , differences between them is undoubtedly main part of learning idioms.

Idioms vs. Cliché

A cliché is a phrase or expression that has been used so often that it has lost its originality and impact. While a cliché can be an idiom, not all idioms are clichés. Clichés become predictable and overused, making them less meaningful. For example, after a breakup, people might say, “There are plenty of fish in the sea,” but this phrase is used so frequently that it no longer feels comforting or meaningful.

Idioms

vs.

Proverb

A proverb is similar to an idiom because its meaning is not obvious from the individual words. However, proverbs differ because they provide advice or a moral lesson. For instance, the phrase “Don’t cry over spilled milk” means that one should not stress over things that have already happened and cannot be changed. This phrase does not literally mean someone is crying over milk. In short, a proverb can be an idiom, but not all idioms are proverbs.

Idioms vs. Euphemism

A euphemism is a type of idiom that is used to talk about sensitive or uncomfortable topics in a more polite or indirect way. People commonly use euphemisms without realizing it, especially when discussing topics like death, money, or personal matters. For example, instead of saying “he died,” someone might say “he kicked the bucket.” This phrase serves as both an idiom and a euphemism.

Result and Discussion

When it comes to idioms, we must be aware of their meanings in the context or a sentence. Therefore, let’s try to understand its meanings with help of table in below

Idioms	Meaning	Example
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Cold feet	Becoming nervous	When the turn became Anna to speak about issues in the government, she was getting cold feet.
Snowed under	To be busy	My father seems to have been snowed under for the last few weeks
Kill two birds with a stone	Achieve two results by doing one thing	I decided to jog to the grocery store – this way. I can kill two birds with a stone by getting some exercise and buying groceries at the same time
Walk on eggshells	To be very careful with your actions and words	Ever since my boss got angry at the team last week, we've all been walking on eggshells around him
Make two ends meet	To have just enough money for all your needs	Lucy and John are finding it really difficult to make two ends
Pretty penny	Expensive	The dress which she wants to buy is pretty penny
Break a leg	Used instead of good luck	You're performing in the school play tonight? Break a leg! I know you'll do great!
Call it a day	To stop doing something	We've been working on this project for hours, I think we should call it a day and finish the test tomorrow.

Clouds on the horizon	Problems/trouble	The company has been doing well so far, but with the economy slowing down, there are clouds on the horizon for the business
Blue in the face	To be exhausted due to strain or anger	Anna looked blue in the face after the marathon
Cup of tea	Something that a person likes or enjoys	I love action movies but horror films just aren't my cup of tea
Apple of my eye	Someone who is very precious or beloved	My daughter is the apple of my eye I would do anything to make her happy
It boils down to	The most important thing is	It boils down to money, Can we afford to invest in space exploration. I don't think so.
Run -of-the-mill	Ordinary, nothing special	It' s a run-of-the-mill restaurant
Nothing to write home about	Nothing special	The hotel is OK, but nothing to write home about.

Conclusion

In conclusion, idioms play a crucial role in language by adding depth, creativity, and cultural significance to communication. They are not just linguistic expressions but also reflections of history, traditions, and societal values. By using idioms, speakers can convey complex ideas in a concise and engaging manner, making conversations more vivid and expressive. Additionally, idioms enhance fluency in both spoken and written language, allowing individuals to sound more natural and native-like. Moreover, idioms serve different functions depending on the context. They can be used humorously, metaphorically, or even to soften sensitive topics, as seen in euphemisms. While some idioms become overused and turn into clichés, others remain powerful tools for storytelling and persuasion. Idioms also bridge cultural gaps, offering insights into different ways of thinking and interpreting the world.

For learners of a new language, mastering idioms can be challenging, but it is essential for full comprehension and effective communication. Understanding idioms helps in navigating real-life

conversations, literature, and media. Ultimately, idioms enrich language by making it more colorful, dynamic, and meaningful. Whether in casual speech or formal writing, they remain an indispensable part of human expression, reinforcing the beauty and diversity of language.

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