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Курсова робота на тему:

**Вербалізація позитивних і негативних характеристик
особистості у фразеологізмах англійської мови**
**Verbal embodiment of person`s positive and negative features in
English idioms**

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Plan:

1. What are the phraseological units (idioms) and phraseology?
2. Classification of phraseological units of the English language
3. Ways of forming phraseological units by Koonin
4. Verbal embodiment and use of phraseological units in the English language
5. Origin of the phraseological units (idioms)
6. Metaphor as one of the types of PU
7. Verbal embodiment of person`s negative and positive features in English idioms
8. Translation of English idioms into Ukrainian
9. Conclusion
(Approving positive and condemning negative qualities of a person in idioms)

We utilize language as a potent instrument to express our thoughts, feelings, and personalities to other people. The numerous phraseological units we utilize in English show how our personality often influences the language choices we make. The goal of this term paper is to investigate how positive and negative personality traits are expressed in English phraseological units. Phraseological units are fixed expressions with a certain meaning that is not apparent from the literal interpretation of its constituent parts. They are a crucial part of the English language and are frequently employed in regular interactions. A person's behaviour, attitude, and general temperament are features known as positive and negative personality traits. These characteristics, which can be either positive or negative, have a big impact on how people relate to one another. Examining the ways in which positive and negative personality traits are expressed in English phraseological units is the main goal of this term project. This will be accomplished by carefully examining a range of terminological constructions that are frequently employed to denote both positive and negative personality qualities. The main purpose of this term paper is to determine how positive and negative personality characteristics are verbalized in English phraseological units. In order to achieve the set aim, first of all, it is necessary to determine what phraseological units are in general, to examine their general types and features, to understand what role phraseological units play in the English language, and finally, at the end, to determine how positive and negative personality characteristics are highlighted in phraseological units. This term paper's goal is to give a thorough investigation of the ways in which both positive and negative personality traits are expressed in English phraseological units. The study will provide important insights into how these features might be employed effectively in communication as well as shed light on the different linguistic and cultural aspects that contribute to their presentation.

1. What are the phraseological units (idioms) and phraseology?

Phraseological units, also referred to as phraseologisms, are an intrinsic and natural element of cultural and linguistic systems. These consist of a stable combination of words that is unique to a particular language, commonly known as a phraseological or speech turnover. The meaning of a phraseological unit is not dependent on the meanings of the individual words that form the combination. Idioms, or phraseological units, are groups of words that carry a deeper meaning than the literal meanings of each word on its own. These fixed expressions are used as a whole without any modifications or substitutions. A phraseological unit (PU) is a collection of words that cannot be spontaneously formed in speech but instead is replicated as a complete phrase. It is a combination of words that cannot be understood from its constituent lexemes.

Phraseological units, also known as PUs, are groups of words in a language that have a fixed and single meaning. These units are lexico-syntactic in nature and can vary in their degree of frozenness. All PUs share common traits such as polylexicity, repetition, institutionalization, and frozenness to some extent. Essentially, when words are used in PUs, their lexical meaning becomes obsolete, and they are used as a pre-made phrase. The meaning of a PU is the sum of the meanings of the words within it. Examples of PUs include grammatical phraseological units, idioms, proverbs, sayings, collocations, and phraseological schemes. Although these units are referred to differently by various authors, their semantic unity and stability of meaning are the defining characteristics of PUs. It's important to note that idioms, in particular, should not be taken literally as their meaning cannot be determined by looking at the individual meanings of the words they contain. Phraseological units or idioms have specific syntactic structure and such features as stability, expressiveness, didacticism, aphoristic and folk character. All these features significantly distinguish phraseological units (proverbs, sayings, winged phrases, phraseological units of ancient origin, etc.) from other language units.

Phraseological units include expressions like proverbs, idioms, and collocations as well as other fixed phrases. Idioms are a particular category of phraseological unit made up of a group of words whose combined meaning cannot be inferred from their individual literal meanings. For example, the expression "kick the bucket" refers to "to die," even though the words "kick" and "bucket" have nothing to do with this meaning in the literal sense. This term paper will concentrate on idioms.

Another category of phraseological unit is a collocation, which is a group of words that are frequently used together because they sound natural to a language's native speakers. As opposed to "do a decision" or "take a decision," we say "make a decision." Another category of phraseological units are proverbs, which are brief sayings that convey a truth or moral lesson. An illustration might be "A penny saved is a penny earned."

The study of phraseological units, or stable word combinations, is known as phraseology. The word is derived from the Greek words *logos* and *phrase*. Phraseology is the study of distinct set phrases that, like words, denote a wide range of things and events. They already exist in the language as whole units. The Swiss scientist Sh. Balli coined the term "phraseology," defining it as the "study of connective combinations." Additionally, phraseology is defined as the study of phraseological units' structural features. (5)

The essential features of PU are:

- 1) lack of motivation;
- 2) stability of the lexical components.

Here are some examples of phraseological units (idioms):

A dark horse is actually not a horse but a person about whom no one knows anything definite.

A bull in a china shop: the idiom describes a clumsy person.

A white elephant – it is a waste of money because it is completely useless.

The green-eyed monster is jealousy, the image being drawn from Othello.

To let the cat out of the bag: to let some secret become known.

To bark up the wrong tree (Am) means ‘to follow a false scent; to look for somebody or something in a wrong place; to expect from somebody what he is unlikely to do’.

2. Classification of phraseological units of the English language

Phraseological units can be classified into several categories based on their structure and function. Here are the common classifications of PU:

1. Idioms - fixed expressions with a figurative meaning that cannot be understood from the literal meaning of the words. Example: "It's raining cats and dogs." This coursework is devoted to idioms, so the focus will be on them.
2. Proverbs - short sayings that convey a general truth or wisdom. Example: "Practice makes perfect."
3. Collocations - words that are commonly used together and have become established as a unit. Example: "strong coffee."
4. Phrasal verbs - verbs followed by one or more particles that together have a different meaning than the verb alone. Example: "take off" meaning "to leave quickly."
5. Binomials - pairs of words that are often used together and have become established as a unit. Example: "bread and butter."
6. Similes - comparisons that use "like" or "as" to compare two things. Example: "as busy as a bee."
7. Metaphors - comparisons that do not use "like" or "as" but instead describe one thing in terms of another. Example: "life is a journey."

Also, PU can be classified according to its structure. According to its structure phraseological units are classified into:

A. Substantive phraseological units

Substantive phraseological units are those that have a functional connection to a word. In other words, a noun is the essential part of substantive phraseological entities. For example: A drop in the bucket (drop in the bucket) - means very small and unimportant amount; Box and Cox - means two people who occupy the same post or location in an alternating arrangement (alternating); battle-ax, etc.

B. Verb phrases

Phraseologisms or phraseological units that are functionally linked to a verb ought to be categorized as verbal. In other words, the verb is the main part of these phraseological components. For example: to play it cool (behave calmly, coolly); to talk big (boast); to break a bubble (expose the true face); to be in the pot (drunk); to make mountains of molehills (much ado about nothing), etc.

C. Adjective phraseological units

Adjective should be considered phraseological units, which are functionally linked to adjectives and whose main element is the adjective.

D. Phraseological units with sentence structure

In the English language there are phraseological units that are structurally related to the sentence. Typical are those phraseological units built according to the structure of a simple sentence and having components that are related as subject and predicate. For example: he has no guts (he is a worthless person, he is worthless); you said it (I totally agree with you); you're telling me (you're telling me! I don't know!); It never rains but pours (Trouble does not come alone); wipe it off (stop laughing, enough jokes); never say die (don't hang your nose); sink or swim (everything is at stake, there is no choice), etc. English aphorisms and proverbs belong to this subgroup of phraseological units. Their number is great.

3. Ways of forming phraseological units by A. V. Koonin (2, 3)

Who is A. V. Kunin and why is he mentioned in this course work? A.V. Koonin refers to Arcady V. Koonin, a Russian-American theoretical biologist and senior investigator at the National Library of Medicine's National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) in Bethesda, Maryland, USA. Kunin was also a doctor of philological sciences who studied phraseological units, precisely for this reason, the next step will be to consider his classification of phraseological units.

By the definition of A.V. Kunin, phraseological units (PU) are “stable combinations of lexemes with a completely or partially rethought meaning”. A.V. Koonin categorized phraseological units **according to how they are formed**. Phraseological units are divided by A.V. Koonin into 3 groups:

- 1) **Phraseological units** proper or idioms, which are completely or partially non-motivated (idiomatic) “to kick the bucket, red tape, to kill two birds with one stone”, “more dead than alive”; proverbs: “birds of a feather flock together”, sayings: “all one's geese are swans”;
- 2) **Idiophraseomatic units** have both literal and figurative meanings. Literal meanings are usually found in terminology or professionalisms (“chain reaction”:
1) physical term — chain reaction; 2) a word combination with a metaphoric meaning — a series of successive events).
- 3) **Phraseomatic units** have either literal meanings or phraseomatically bound meanings (e.g. cliches: again and again, to win a victory, safe and sound; at the best, at the most, to pay attention (the verb "to pay" has a phraseomatically bound meaning. (1)

A.V. Koonin outlined the **basic** and **secondary** ways phraseological units are formed. Primary (**basic**) ways of forming phraseological units are those when a unit is formed on the basis of a free wordgroup:

- a) Most productive in Modern English is the formation of phraseological units by means of transferring the meaning of terminological word-groups, for example,

in cosmic technique we can point out the following phrases: «launching pad» in its terminological meaning is a place, thing, situation, etc. serving as the starting point or providing the impetus for something else; in its transferred meaning – an effective starting point for a career, enterprise, or campaign.

b) A large group of phraseological units was formed from free word groups by transforming their meaning, for example: “**Granny farm**” - a retirement home, “**Trojan horse**” - a person or thing that joins and deceives a group or organization in order to attack it from the inside.

c) Phraseological units can be formed by means of alliteration (is the conspicuous repetition of initial consonant sounds of nearby words in a phrase, often used as a literary device). For example: “**a sad sack**” - boring and never likely to be successful; “**culture vulture**” - someone who is very interested in music, art, theatre, etc.;

d) They may be formed through the means of expressiveness; it is particularly a defining quality for creating interjections, for example: "My aunt!", “Hear, hear!” etc;

e) They can be formed by means of distorting a word group, for example: “**Odds and ends**” was formed from “**odd ends**”;

f) They can be formed by using archaisms, for example. «in brown study» means «in gloomy meditation» where both components preserve their archaic meanings;

g) They can be formed by using a sentence in a different sphere of life, for example: «That cock won't fight» can be used as a free word-group when it is used in sports (cock fighting), it becomes a phraseological unit when it is used in everyday life, because it is used metaphorically.

h) They can be formed when we use some unreal image, for example: “**to have butterflies in the stomach**” - to be anxious, to have a nervous feeling; “**to have green fingers**” - to be good at gardening and making plants grow well etc.

i) They can be formed by using expressions of writers or politicians in everyday

life, for example: **“corridors of power”** (Snow), **“American dream”** (Alby) **“locust years”** (Churchil), **“the winds of change”** (M. Millan).

Secondary ways of forming phraseological units are those when a phraseological unit is formed on the basis of another phraseological unit; they are: a) Conversion, for example: **"to vote with one's feet"** was converted into «vote with one's feet»; grammar form, for example. **"Make hay while the sun shines”** is transferred into a verbal phrase - **“to make hay while the sun shines”**;
c) Analogy, for example: **“Curiosity killed the cat”** was transferred into **“Care killed the cat”**;
d) Contrast, for example: **“cold surgery”** - «a planned before operation» was formed by contrasting it with **“acute surgery”**, **“thin cat”** - **“a poor person”** was formed by contrasting it with **“fat cat”**;
e) Shortening of proverbs or sayings for example: from the proverb **“You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear”** by means of clipping the middle of it the phraseological unit **“to make a pig's ear of something”** was formed with the meaning something that has been badly or clumsily done.
f) Borrowing phraseological units from other languages, either as translation loans, for example: **“living space”** (German), **“to take the bull by the horns”** (Latin) or by means of phonetic borrowings «**meche blanche**» (French), «**corpse d'elite**» (French), «**sotto voice**» (Italian) etc. (2, 3)

4. Verbal embodiment and use of phraseological units in the English language

In order to consider how positive and negative personality characteristics are verbalized in English phraseological units, first of all, it is necessary to understand what the word “verbalization” means. In simple words, verbalization is speaking. Verbalization is the act of saying something out loud.

Why do people use idioms and phraseological units in speech and why do they like it so much? Well, first of all, it is difficult to imagine the English language without the existence of idioms and phraseological units. In speech, phraseological units are used for different purposes: to give the expression imagery, emotionality, expressiveness; creating a shade of irony, joke, mockery, sarcasm, etc. Let's look at these reasons in more detail. There are various reasons why people utilize phraseologisms:

1. One of the reasons of using phraseologisms is cultural significance. The use of phraseologisms can convey a sense of tradition or heritage because they are frequently strongly ingrained in a particular society. For instance, the English idiom "it's raining cats and dogs" has cultural importance in Western nations.
2. Another reason for using idioms is emphasis. Idioms are frequently employed to highlight a point or idea. The speaker can communicate a message more effectively than with a simple statement by using a well-known phrase or expression.
3. Idioms can also be used to convey irony or humour. A hilarious or sarcastic effect can be produced by the speaker by using an unexpected word or expression.
4. One more reason for using phraseological units is Efficiency. Using idioms rather to a lengthier or more complex expression may be more effective. Saying "I'm swamped" instead of "I'm extremely busy," for instance, communicates the same meaning in fewer words.

Having clarified as many as 4 reasons for the use of idioms in everyday speech, you can understand why they are so popular and for what purpose they are used. But here are some more advantages of using phraseological units in speech. Idioms enrich people`s speaking and upgrade their vocabulary, and native speakers very fond of using them. Phraseological units are an important part of

language learning, as they help learners to understand the nuances of a language and to use it in a natural and authentic way.

Here are some more phraseological units, which are used to talk about personality traits:

- 1) **Pain in the neck** – this phraseologism denotes the negative qualities of a person. People often use it to say, that someone is very irritating and annoying.
- 2) **Life and soul of the party** - this phraseologism denotes person`s positive features. It means that someone is energetic, and good fun during social occasions.
- 3) **Early bird** – denotes person`s positive features. In other words, this is an early riser, someone who gets up, goes to work, etc. before the regular time.
- 4) **Slave driver** – denotes person`s negative features. People say so about someone who makes other people work really hard.
- 5) **Lamebrain** – means a foolish person, a slow thinker Very informal phraseologism. Denotes negative person`s quality.

5. Origin of idioms and phraseological units

Let's think about where idioms originally come from once we have determined why individuals enjoy using them in speech so much. Phraseological structures or idioms play a vital role in every language. Idioms are often used by native English speakers in both speech and writing. Idioms are frequently used in English speech and writing. Idioms can enhance language by adding colour, humour, and nuance while also aiding in the concise and evocative communication of complex ideas. Their unusual structure attracts a lot of current scientists. Fixed phrases are ingrained in the culture, and it is important for people to understand their structure and semantics because doing so will make it much easier for them to comprehend the mindset of native speakers. It's crucial to keep in mind that idioms are frequently challenging to understand since they are so

strongly tied to people's mentalities. To accurately interpret this or that phraseology, it is important to consider the people's mentalities. The translator should be mindful of the cultural and traditional distinctions between the two languages when translating fixed phrases.

Idioms and other phraseological components come from a variety of places, but the primary one is a living, widely spoken language that is still used by the populace today. Phraseological units, also known as idioms or phrases, have existed for a very long time and are found in almost all languages. Regarding the origins of phraseological units, numerous academics have put up a wide variety of intricate theories.

According to one concept, phraseological units date back to a time when oral communication predominated written communication. In oral communication, speakers have to be able to concisely and with a little vocabulary explain complex ideas. So they combined words and phrases in novel ways to create new terms. Then, by word of mouth, these idioms were passed down through the generations.

Another view claims that mythology and folklore are the source of phraseological units. Stories and legends that have been passed down through the generations are the source of many idiomatic idioms. For instance, the phrase "**to bury the hatchet**" refers to a Native American tradition in which a hatchet was buried to signify the conclusion of a conflict. A huge number of idioms, jokes, various sayings are closely related to the past of the people, its folklore and national heritage. For example, "**All roads lead to Rome**" - there are many different paths or methods to achieve the same goal. It suggests that no matter what route one takes, the ultimate destination or outcome will be the same. The phrase originates from the ancient Roman Empire, where Rome was the centre of the road network that connected the empire's vast territories. The Roman roads were renowned for their durability and efficiency, and they were built to connect

all major cities and military outposts to the capital city, Rome. In Ukrainian and English there are also idioms of ancient origin: the sword of Damocles, the Augean stables, Golden Fleece, Achilles' heel, Olympian calm, Gardens of Babylon. Trade and commerce are other sources of many idioms and phrasal verbs. A "buck" marker or token was used to designate the dealer in the game of poker, for instance, giving rise to the phrase "to pass the buck." The buck was handed over to the following player when the dealer changed. The phrase "to pass the buck" evolved over time to refer to assigning blame or accountability to another person.

6. Metaphor as one of the types of PU

Metaphors are figurative language devices that compare two opposite objects in a way that emphasizes their similarities. By connecting them to more physical, everyday objects, they aid readers or listeners in understanding difficult or abstract ideas. Metaphors are used in a variety of genres, including poetry, literature, and daily language. In contrast to straightforward language, they can be used to transmit emotions, thoughts, or experiences in a way that is more vivid, interesting, and memorable. Metaphors can be used to vividly express the qualities of a person, both negative and positive. For example, the metaphor "**a sly old fox**" is used to say that a person is very smart, wise and clever. Metaphors are a crucial component of language and communication because they enable us to comprehend and relate to complicated concepts in novel and engaging ways.

Metaphors can be created in different ways, such as using the words "like" or "as" to create a direct comparison, for example "**He runs like a cheetah**" - means that someone is very fast runner, or by using one thing to stand in for another "**She's a shining star**" - means that a person has bright and memorable personality.

Although they have their limitations, metaphors can be effective communication tools. They frequently lead to misunderstandings and erroneous

interpretations since they rely on associations and similarities. If a metaphor is used carelessly, various people may have different associations with it, which can cause misunderstanding or even insult. For example, the metaphor "**A true blue friend**" can be misinterpreted, people may think that it means a blue person, when in fact, this metaphor means someone who is loyal, trustworthy, and always there for you.

There are some metaphors about human qualities that are conveyed by comparing people and animals:

"He's a real bull in a china shop" - This metaphor compares someone who is clumsy or lacks finesse to a large, powerful animal that is not well-suited for delicate tasks.

"She's a snake in the grass" - This metaphor compares someone who is deceitful or untrustworthy to a snake hiding in the grass, waiting to strike.

"He's a shark" - This metaphor compares someone who is aggressive and ruthless in business or other pursuits to a predatory fish that is known for its hunting abilities.

"She's a bird of prey" - This metaphor compares someone who is fierce and determined to a bird that hunts and kills other animals for food.

"He's a lone wolf." - This metaphor compares someone who prefers to work or act independently to a solitary wolf that hunts and lives on its own.

"She's a mother hen" - This metaphor compares someone who is nurturing and protective to a hen that cares for and watches over her chicks.

"He's a chicken" - This metaphor compares someone who is cowardly or easily frightened to a bird that is known for its timidity.

Both, metaphors and idioms are phraseological units, and while both metaphors and idioms use language in non-literal ways, a metaphor is a comparison between

two things, while an idiom is a group of words whose meaning cannot be inferred from the literal meanings of its individual words.

Here are some examples of common metaphors about human qualities:

“Heart of gold” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is kind, generous and compassionate.

“Steel will” - This metaphor usually describes someone's unyielding resolve and persistence in the face of difficulties or hardship. While the word "will" connotes determination, intention, and purpose, the word "steel" in this metaphor emphasizes the ideas of strength, hardness, and durability.

“Warmth of sunshine” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is friendly, welcoming and makes others feel comfortable.

“Cold as ice” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is unemotional, distant, and unapproachable.

“Lion's courage” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is brave, fearless and has a strong sense of duty.

“Sharp as a tack” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is intelligent, quick-witted and clever.

“Light as a feather” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is carefree, unburdened, and easygoing.

“Thick-skinned” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is not easily offended or affected by criticism.

“A heart in pieces” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is emotionally shattered or heartbroken.

“Raging storm” - This metaphor is used to describe someone who is very angry or upset, and whose emotions are like a violent, turbulent storm.

These metaphors can help us to understand complex human qualities and emotions in a more tangible and relatable way. They can also make our language more colourful, expressive and engaging.

7. Verbal embodiment of person`s positive and negative features in English idioms

Earlier, in this work, it was noted that idioms can be used jokingly to tease someone or, on the contrary, to condemn or criticize someone. This indicates that there are phraseological units with the verbalization of positive personality characteristics, and phraseological units with the verbalization of negative personality characteristics. Let's consider idioms denoting positive personality traits. For example:

A **social butterfly** is an outgoing individual who enjoys mingling with others. A "social butterfly" frequently flits around a room engaging in conversations with numerous individuals, much like a butterfly that quickly moves from flower to bloom.

"**A heart of gold**" - means a person who is exceptionally compassionate, giving, and selfless. The analogy implies that this person's heart is as priceless and valuable as gold. It suggests that this person is driven by a genuine desire to help others and have a positive impact on the world rather than by self-serving goals. The expression "a heart of gold" is frequently used to describe someone's behaviour or character and is frequently connected to acts of generosity, compassion, and altruism. You might claim that someone has a heart of gold if they make a sizable financial donation to a worthy cause.

"**A ray of sunshine**" - used to describe someone who brings joy and happiness into other people's lives.

"A diamond in the rough" - This metaphor is frequently used to describe something or someone who is very talented but has not yet been polished or honed. The analogy originates from the realm of diamonds, where an uncut, raw stone called a rough diamond has the potential to be cut, polished, and refined into a stunning, shining diamond. In a metaphorical sense, the comparison suggests that something about a person or thing that is not immediately obvious is yet worthwhile or admirable. The expression is frequently used to inspire individuals to see the potential in others or the hidden value in a circumstance.

"A breath of fresh air" - This metaphor is frequently used to describe someone who offers a sense of rebirth or rejuvenation to a situation and who is new, original, or refreshing. The actual feeling of taking a deep breath of fresh air, which can be energizing and rejuvenating, especially after being in a stuffy or dirty environment, serves as the basis for the phrase's metaphorical connotation.

"A shining star" - used to describe someone who is talented, successful, and stands out in their field.

"A pillar of strength" - This metaphor is used to describe someone who offers constant comfort and steadiness under trying circumstances. The metaphor suggests that the individual is a strong and dependable source of support for others by likening them to a sturdy and unyielding pillar. The metaphor suggests that the subject is dependable, trustworthy, and strong enough to handle life's demands and difficulties. Others perceive them as a source of solace and security, and being around them can make them feel more rooted and secure.

"A champion of justice" - used to describe someone who is fair, honest, and fights for what is right.

"A fountain of wisdom" - used to describe someone who is knowledgeable, wise, and always ready to share their expertise.

"**A force to be reckoned with**" - used to describe someone who is powerful, determined, and unstoppable.

"**A good egg**" - someone who is kind-hearted and trustworthy.

"**A real trouper**" - someone who is dependable and resilient.

Here are some examples of idioms that verbalize negative personality characteristics, and their explanation:

A person who makes remarks and complaints about a situation while doing nothing to assist resolve it is known as an **armchair critic**. Imagine someone complaining about something while seated in a large, luxurious armchair without getting up and acting on it.

A **busybody** is someone who is excessively interested in other people's business and affairs, often meddling or interfering in them without being asked. They are usually nosy and intrusive, and can be quite annoying to others, as they tend to pry into matters that are not their concern. A busybody may also gossip or spread rumors about others, which can be hurtful and damaging to those involved.

A **cheapskate** is someone who dislikes spending a lot of money and spends little even when more money is required. It is someone who is extremely reluctant to spend money or who is unwilling to spend money unless absolutely necessary. Cheapskates may be overly frugal, to the point of being stingy or miserly, and may avoid spending money even when it would be in their best interest or when it would benefit others.

A **couch potato** is used to describe a person who spends a lot of time sitting or lying down on a couch, often watching TV or engaging in other sedentary activities. Couch potatoes are typically considered to be lazy and inactive and may be criticized for not being physically active or productive. The term "couch

potato" is often used in a light-hearted way, but it can also be used to criticize someone who is seen as not taking care of their physical and mental health.

A **know-it-all person** is a person who acts as though they have superior knowledge on a wide range of subjects, and who is often dismissive of other people's opinions or knowledge. Know-it-all may be perceived as arrogant, annoying or overbearing because they have a tendency to dominate conversations, interrupt others and insist on being right, even when they are not.

Someone who is **set in their ways** is resistant to change, and who prefers to maintain their habits, opinions, or beliefs, even when faced with new or different circumstances. Someone who is "set in their ways" is inflexible and may have a hard time adapting to new situations or ideas. They may be stubborn or unwilling to consider alternative viewpoints, even if they are presented with evidence that contradicts their own beliefs.

A person who is a "**stickler for [something]**" is someone who is very strict or meticulous about a particular thing or rule, and who insists on following it precisely. The phrase implies that the person has high standards and is not willing to compromise or deviate from what they consider to be correct or proper. For example, a "stickler for grammar" is someone who is very particular about correct language usage and will often correct others' mistakes.

"To have a chip on one's shoulder" - to be easily offended or to have a grudge against someone.

"To have a short fuse" - to be easily angered or irritable.

"To have a mean streak" - to be consistently cruel or malicious.

"To be two-faced" - to say one thing but do another, to be insincere or deceitful.

"To be a snake in the grass" - to be deceitful or treacherous.

"To be a backstabber" - to betray someone's trust or confidence.

"To be a troublemaker" - to cause problems or create conflict intentionally.

"To be a control freak" - to have an excessive need for control over people or situations.

"To be a stick-in-the-mud" - to be inflexible or resistant to change.

"A wolf at the door" - someone who is threatening and aggressive.

"A thorn in one's side" - someone who causes constant irritation or trouble.

"A snake oil salesman" - someone who sells fraudulent products or services.

"A fly in the ointment" - someone who ruins an otherwise good situation.

"A loose cannon" - someone who is unpredictable and uncontrollable.

"A bad apple" - someone who has a negative influence on others.

8. Translation of English idioms into Ukrainian

Idioms are phrases that convey a non-literal or figurative meaning that may not be immediately apparent from the words used. Translating English idioms into Ukrainian can be challenging because idioms are deeply rooted in culture and language, and often reflect a culture's history, values, and beliefs. This makes it difficult to find equivalent expressions that convey the same meaning and cultural significance. Since idioms may not have direct translations in other languages, translating them can be a difficult task for translators. Differences in the grammar, vocabulary, and syntax of Ukrainian, which is a Slavic language, can make it particularly challenging to translate English idioms into Ukrainian. Idiomatic expressions must also be translated while taking into account the various linguistic and cultural subtleties of Ukrainian. For example, an idiom **"to be on the ball"** cannot be translated literally, because then it will lose its meaning. The idiom "to be on the ball" conveys a positive quality of a person, it means that someone is clever and teaches quickly (укр. здібний), for example: "The girl is

on the ball, she plays piano very good”. The idiom “**to be closefisted**” conveys a negative quality of a person and means that someone is greedy. For example: “Laura is so closefisted, she won’t even buy snacks for the Christmas party.” Another idiom is: “**To go the extra mile**”. It might be translated into Ukrainian as “to do more than necessary” (робити більше ніж потрібно), however this translation could not catch the same idiomatic sense or have the same impact. The idiom “**to wear one's heart on one's sleeve**” conveys a positive quality of a person and refers to being completely honest and upfront about one's feelings. The literal translation of “to have an open heart” in Ukrainian is “мати відкрите серце,” but this translation may not convey the same colloquial connotation or be as popular. Another idiom with the similar meaning is “**To have a heart of gold**”. This idiom means to be kind and generous. In Ukrainian, it could be translated as “мати золоте серце” (literally, “to have a golden heart”), which is a direct translation but may not be as widely used. One more idiom which denotes person’s quality is “**to be a tough nut to crack**”. This idiom means to be difficult to understand or deal with. In Ukrainian, it could be translated as “бути важким горішком щоб зламати” (literally, “to be a hard nut to crack”), which is a direct translation but may not have the same impact or be as widely used. “**To keep one's nose to the grindstone**”. This idiom means to work very hard and diligently. Literal translation of this idiom is “тримати носа біля жорна”, but with such a translation, the entire meaning of the idiom is lost. It could be translated into Ukrainian as “вкласти всю свою душу в роботу” (literally, “to put all your soul into work”), but this translation may not capture the same idiomatic meaning or be as widely used.

Idiomatic translations require careful word selection to convey the intended meaning accurately to the target audience. It takes an in-depth understanding of both languages and cultures, as well as a creative approach, to translate English idioms into Ukrainian that capture the same metaphorical meaning.

In conclusion, I would like to summarize all of the above, and once again take a look at some of the idioms. So, what are the idioms? They are a form of metaphorical language. The meaning of an idiom cannot be inferred from the words alone. That is as a result of the fact that they have a meaning that is distinct from the literal meanings of the words themselves. In conclusion, phraseological units and idioms are an important aspect of language that play a crucial role in effective communication. They are fixed expressions that have become established in a language and are used to convey a particular meaning or idea in a concise and expressive way. Phraseological units can be classified into several categories, such as idioms, proverbs, collocations, phrasal verbs, binomials, similes, and metaphors, based on their structure and function. Each category has its own unique features and uses in communication. By understanding the different types of phraseological units and how they are used, speakers can communicate more effectively and add colour and emotion to everyday language. Overall, phraseological units are an essential part of spoken and written language and provide a rich and diverse tapestry of expression in every language. Idioms are frequently highly contextual and can have many meanings depending on the context in which they are used, it is crucial to keep in mind. To divulge a secret, for instance, the expression "let the cat out of the bag" might be used in a light-hearted, humorous way among friends or in a more serious, accusing way in a professional situation.

Phraseological units are commonly used in spoken language to express ideas in a concise and expressive manner. They can add color, humor, emotion, or emphasis to everyday communication and help to make language more vivid and memorable. Phraseological units are deeply embedded in a language's culture and history and can provide a sense of community and identity for speakers and listeners. In summary, phraseological units are essential to effective communication and play a vital role in spoken language.

In English, idioms can convey both positive and negative personality traits. They are commonly used to describe complex ideas in a clear and memorable way in literature, everyday speech, and other forms of communication. Positive idioms are frequently used to describe individuals who possess admirable qualities, such as honesty, friendliness, and dependability. These idioms can be used to compliment someone's character or behavior and can create a favorable impression of the person being described. Here are some examples of idioms that convey positive personality characteristics.

Heart of gold - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who is kind, generous, and compassionate.

Good as gold - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who is reliable, trustworthy, and honest.

A breath of fresh air - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who is refreshing, new, and innovative.

A ray of sunshine - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who is cheerful, optimistic, and positive.

A diamond in the rough - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who has great potential but needs some polishing.

On the other side, negative idioms are used to characterize persons who exhibit unpleasant attributes like dishonesty, conceit, or cruelty. These idioms can be used to criticize someone's actions or character and can give the subject a bad impression. Here are some examples of negative personality characteristics:

Black sheep - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who is a disgrace to their family or group due to their bad behavior.

Snake in the grass - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who is deceitful, dishonest, and untrustworthy.

Dark cloud - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who is pessimistic, negative, and brings bad luck.

Wolf in sheep's clothing - This phraseological unit is used to describe someone who appears innocent or harmless but is actually dangerous or deceitful.

Skeletons in the closet - This phraseological unit is used to describe hidden secrets or embarrassing things that someone would rather keep hidden.

Overall, English phraseological units can be a powerful tool to describe positive and negative personality characteristics in a concise and expressive way. These units can add colour and emotion to everyday communication and make language more vivid and engaging. Idioms occasionally have ambiguous meanings that might vary depending on the situation. As an illustration, the expression "a wolf in sheep's clothing" can refer to someone who is purposefully misleading others or to someone who unintentionally misleads others based on look or conduct.

Idioms that represent both good and bad traits of a person's character are a significant part of the English language and are used to express complicated ideas in a clear and memorable way. They can be used to convey either favourable or unfavourable perceptions of persons and are useful communication tools in a variety of settings. Idioms are frequently culturally distinctive and can have many meanings or implications depending on the situation and the speaker's background. Idioms can also be employed in a variety of ways, depending on the context and the speaker's meaning. To properly appreciate the meaning and consequences of an idiom, it is crucial to comprehend the cultural and linguistic context in which it is employed.

List of literature:

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