Міністерство освіти і науки України

Київський національний лінгвістичний університет

Кафедра англійської філології і філософії мови

Курсова робота

Політичні ідіоми в сучасному англомовному медіадискурсі

Бабенка Антона Миколайовича

студента групи МЛа 08-21

факультету германської філології і перекладу

денної форми здобуття освіти

спеціальності 035.041 Філологія

Науковий керівник:

кандидат філологічних наук, доцент

Кириченко І. С.

Національна шкала   _____

Кількість балів   _____

Оцінка ЄКТС   _____

Київ – 2024

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine

Kyiv National Linguistic University

The Department of English Philology and Philosophy of Language

Course Paper

Political idioms in modern Anglophone media discourse

Anton Babenko

Group MLa08-21

The Faculty of Germanic Philology and Translation

Full-Time Study

Speciality 035.041 Philology

Research Adviser

Assoc. Prof. **Iryna Kyrychenko**

PhD (Linguistics)

Kyiv – 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

There is no language in the world that does not have idioms at all. This communicative vehicle became an integral part of our lives. They reflect all of the peculiarities of any discourse, such as setting, background, and coherence.

The idioms are different in their connotations and forms, depending on the type of discourse. And it is highly important to investigate the idioms' nature along with conducting themselves in a language inside of numerous linguistic environments.

Politics is a major factor in human lives as it determines the development vector for many civilizations. Consequently, it is a widely-discussed topic among adults who are able to use language as a tool for delivering their ideas and thoughts. The idiom is one of the units of the tool, for it is one of the best means that provides explicit understanding of the speaker's attitude and feelings.

It is impossible not to mention the impact of the media in terms of politics. Media is the most influential latter-day mechanism, as it brings all people around the world together in the same stretch of languages titled as "media discourse". Media discourse is a specific type of discourse that considers a language from the point of view of a media product.

Anglophone media discourse is the leading one in the world's informational sphere, as the capacity of the produced texts in English surpasses any other language discourse. And the Anglophone texts embrace copious social, political, economic, and cultural topics all around the globe. The wide usage of idioms in the discourse is justified by their particular ability to produce a certain effect on the readers or listeners.

Within this term paper, there will be developed an investigation of the political idioms in modern media discourse. The peculiarities of the usage of the political idioms in the modern Anglophone media discourse will be addressed. Also, their structure, role, and function in the discourse will be analysed.

The subject of the course work is the analysis of the structural and functional features of political idioms in the modern Anglophone discourse.

The object of the coursework is the structural and functional features of the political idioms in modern Anglophone media discourse.

The aim of the course work is to reveal the types of idioms employed in modern Anglophone media discourse as well as their functional specificity.

In accordance with the paper, the following tasks are set:

- to survey political idioms in media discourse
- to specify features of political idioms in modern Anglophone media discourse
- to determine the best way to analyse an idiom
- to analyse idioms as autonomous language units
- to elicit the main purpose of political idioms in modern Anglophone media discourse

The theoretical value lies in introducing the theoretical basis for further research in the sphere of idiomatic studies.

The practical value lies in applying its results to authentic and correct usage of the idioms in the field of media discourse and everyday life.

The research paper is arranged as follows:

Introduction states the choice of the topic and the major goals of the research.

The first chapter elicits the theoretical concepts used and applied in during the flow of the term paper, displaying the main concepts concerning the political idioms in modern Anglophone media discourse.

The second chapter provides a deep analysis of the idioms in the discourse based on the real examples of the usage of the idioms in the media.

The general conclusions summarise the obtained results for the sake of presenting theoretically and practically valuable insights.

CHAPTER ONE.

THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING IDIOMS
IN PRESENT-DAY ANGLOPHONE MEDIA DISCOURSE

Contemporary linguistics focuses on the problems of idiomatic studies and the formation of idiomatic banks. In addition to this, the scholars pay attention to the peculiarities of idiomatic units in different environments.

The study will mention linguists who worked in the field of idiomatic studies and explained the basis and principles of political idioms functioning in the media environment. Also, it will focus on politics as a source for idiomatic expressions operating in modern Anglophone media discourse.

1.1. Characteristic Features of Modern Anglophone Media Discourse

The concept of discourse is frequently used in modern linguistics, therefore, there are numerous scholars who investigate and refer to the matter.

The word "discourse" itself comes from French, and from the source language, it is translated as "speech." However, in English, the word gets the meaning of "conversation" and "performance."

In modern linguistics, there is a study called "discourse analysis," which defines discourse as a form of language use, public speeches, or more generally spoken language or ways of speaking. It is essential to address influential scholars of the field, so the study will quote some of the researchers who investigated the matter. They are C. N. Candlin and H. G. Widdowson (1989), Teun A. van Dijk (1988), and Iryna Butova (2009).

C. N. Candlin and H. G. Widdowson (1989) refer to the discourse as to "a stretch of language" which, in its turn, combines numerous factors that define the concept of discourse, such as comprehensive grammar, involvement in a topic, and coherence.

At this point, the discourse can be opposed to the text. The text does not contain extra-lingual aspects; on the contrary, the discourse does.

Nowadays, the discourse can be reviewed according to the different aspects. For example, Teun A. van Dijk (1988) gives numerous points like language, communication, interaction, society, culture, etc. Also, the sphere of usage is considered to be really impactful for the discourse.

The concept of media discourse is rather modern and distinguished due to the appearance of a new sphere of usage common for a media environment. The media discourse is believed to be any language product distributed via mass media (Кущ & Сизоненко, 2018). The discourse may be presented in various forms, such as printed and spoken.

S. Maksimov (2006) states that the publicistic style, or the style of mass media, can be subdivided into such communicative aims as informative and persuasive. According to this statement, it can be assumed that the discourse is aimed not only to inform but at the same time to shape the worldview of the targeted audience.

The English language helps to deliver a special point of view across the globe with the help of American and British influence. Thus, we can refer to the concept of "Anglophone" as to a trait of being produced in English.

One of the characteristics of modern Anglophone media discourse is the combination of standardised language and emotional expression (MacGougan, 2012). This turns out to be a very effective vehicle in the mass media.

The idioms, as an emotional tool, are effectively applied in modern Anglophone media discourse to achieve some persuasive goals. Therefore, the usage of some particular idioms in the media discourse can be aimed to define author's attitude in the evaluation of certain events, facts, phenomena or to draw addressee's attention to them (Yuzhchenko, 1988).

However, it is important to keep in mind that every single idiom cannot be used in a discourse. The content, mean of communication, and nature of the text in the media discourse define the choice of idioms.

1.2. Politics as a Source and a Functional Environment for Idiomatic Expressions

Because of globalization, the world has become smaller than ever before. It is a usual thing that people from one part of the world are heavily dependent on people from another one. That makes us united. That makes us closer. That makes us find a so-called "lingua franca".

English is a language that plays the role and contributes to an unprecedented phenomenon as a "global political environment". It is an experience of certain political vehicles, or let's say the texts produced in a discourse.

A branch of linguistics that deals with the interaction between politics and language is "Political linguistics". According to Iryna Butova (2009), this is a relatively new study that appeared as a balance of those two fields. The object of the branch includes dialogues, monologues, articles, political text, etc. So any materials mentioning political matters may be considered to be the object.

The interaction between politics and linguistics aims to arouse interest in the target audience, give ground for the achievement of certain political goals, and share an attitude among people. For this purpose, politicians use various means. One of them of course is the idiom.

The implementation of idioms in the political framework is almost inevitable. Idioms encapsulate complex ideas in concise, colourful, and memorable messages. They enhance the communication in several ways.

One of them is making political concepts easier and more accessible to the general audience. For example, the idiom "political suicide" helps to understand the concept of an unpopular action that is likely to cause significant harm to their reputation, electoral success, or power within their organization (Goddard, 2024).

Also, the idioms help in terms of persuasion. In the art of political persuasion, idioms play a great role in framing arguments for the ideas to reach the targeted audience. For example, the idiom "red herring" is an argument or piece of information that distracts from a different and more important issue (Goddard,

2024). So, to persuade the grassroots that the idea is misleading, a politician can use the idiom.

Modern political idioms are a complex and multi-faced phenomenon. They are one of the best vehicles for political purposes. Thus, they are interesting subjects for linguistic investigations.

1.3 Idioms as a Focus of Linguistic Studies

In modern linguistics, idiomatic studies get a lot of attention. The idioms present interesting challenges to the linguists. The idioms are an important area in linguistics due to their cultural reflection, semantic complexity, and functioning.

One of the main goals of idiomatic studies is the investigation of the linguistic peculiarities of idioms that have unique ways of expression. The national character strongly influences them, and because of that, there is a problem with the translation of a great part of idioms.

The idiomatic studies started their development at the beginning of the twentieth century. At first, it was not a separate branch of linguistics; however, in the middle of the twentieth century, as a result of scholarly influence, linguists started differentiating idiomatic studies as an independent field in the science.

The appearance of idiomatic studies is closely intertwined with works by Charles Bally, a French scholar. However, such scholars as Bulakhovsky (1955) and Vinogradov (1977) contributed to the main concepts and goals of the study.

Despite numerous works on the matter, there still are some problems with the classification of idioms, the criteria of their distinction, and their interrelation with other parts of speech. Besides of that, there is no unified definition of the concept of the idiom. The magnitude of the problems is provoked by the traditional understanding and functions of idioms.

In human speech, the speech units have various functions. The traditional ones are nominative-communicative, emotional, epistemological, and expressive.

The scholars classify idioms according to their structure. They can be nominal, as an illustration "*chapter and verse*", verbal, such as "*to cast an eye over*",

adjectival, like "*safe and sound*", adverbial, for example, "*once in a blue moon*", and sentence idioms as "*It's raining cats and dogs*" (Abeillé, 1995).

The idioms correlate with those, but, also, according to Bally (1961), their meaning cannot be separated from their composing parts, so words. In his works, the scholar pointed out that the idioms, being divided, lose their initial meaning.

However, it is as hard to define the idiom as it is hard to define the word. The scholars suppose that this is caused by an inability to constitute similar features in all idioms. Nevertheless, idiom studies are extremely interesting to investigate for they have structural, functional, and semantic peculiarities.

1.4. The Notion of Idioms and its Definition

In modern linguistics, there is a great amount of interpretation of the concept of idioms, but none of these is satisfactory or widely used. This happens due to several reasons. The most important one is the complexity of applying unified criteria to all idioms at the same time.

Usually, an idiom is stable in terms of composition and structure, full and indivisible word expression or sentence that has a specific meaning (Alefirenko, 1987). Also, the meaning of idiomatic parts may be partially or fully reconsidered.

Mokienko (1980) states that the idiom is a relatively stable iterative combination of lexemes that have full meaning. Skrypnyk (1973) views idioms as an iterative stable in terms of composition and structure word combination with a full meaning. According to the definitions, the study can point out major characteristics.

Usually, idioms contain a few components that do not retain the initial meaning. For example, each component of "*cats and dogs*" loses its meaning because the full meaning of the idiom is thought to be leftover "stray" bills on minor subjects saved for days when the House or Senate have light floor schedules (Goddard, 2024).

Also, the idioms are remarked for their stable grammatical forms. The stability cannot be changed, as it will lead to the loss of the full meaning. But if we change

at least one form, the idiom will lose its meaning completely. The "*Gang of Eight*" refers to a group of eight elected officials who are responsible for reviewing and receiving sensitive intelligence information (Goddard, 2024). But if we change it to "*gang of eighth*" the meaning will be lost.

One of the traits is a stable order of words. For instance, "*kitchen cabinet*" refers to a president's informal, trusted circle of advisers, distinct from the official, formally appointed members of his actual cabinet (Goddard, 2024). But if we reorder the words as "*cabinet kitchen*," the word combination will not make any sense.

The differentiation of main idiomatic traits allows viewing them as separate independent language units. As it is hard to imagine a language without idioms, the idiomatic studies are universally relevant.

Conclusion to the Chapter One

1. Political idioms are widely used in modern Anglophone media discourse for the sake of achieving numerous communicative and pragmatic goals. Thus, the use of political idioms in media discourse can aim to state the author's attitude toward evaluating certain events.

2. Also, it can persuade the audience to share the author's point of view. The choice of idioms is heavily influenced by the content and nature of the media discourse, the aim of their usage, and the vehicle of informational distribution.

3. Idioms are autonomous language units due to their constant characteristics, which include stability of the composition, changed meanings of individual components, stable grammatical forms, and word order. Idiom research is relevant to all languages as idioms are essential to language and communication.

CHAPTER TWO

ANALYSIS OF POLITICAL IDIOMS IN MODERN ANGLOPHONE
DISCOURSE

Modern Anglophone media discourse is full of idioms that help with informative and persuasive goals. Media discourse became one of the most used functional environments for political idioms. As English became a lingua franca in the modern world, we can analyse the functional and semantic specificity of political idioms in the discourse.

Further, the study will provide thorough etymological, semantic, and functional analyses of some political idioms in modern Anglophone media discourse.

2.1 Criteria for the Selection of the Research Material

An analysis of any research material requires particular preparation, as the scholar can confront certain challenges if she or he does not consider the base for the research.

The material has to fit in the concept of the idiom. Therefore, a potential material for the discussion corresponds to those three points mentioned in the first chapter. The requirements are a meaning that is available only in the word group, grammatical stability, and a fixed word order.

The next step is to define whether we can consider the material modern. Determining whether it is modern involves analyzing the frequency of usage in a language and latter-day world and the period of time when the material was produced.

If these requirements are fulfilled, the material moves forward to the stage when the scholar decides whether it corresponds to the media discourse concept. The notion of media discourse implies a coherent text that heavily depends on extralingual aspects (Medvedev, 1982).

Even though the media discourse is relatively new, it has a bunch of distinctive features. So we can consider the material if it corresponds to being produced by a

media resource, being of a type of text used in the discourse, and by that, we mean either colloquial, or written, or complex; along with this, the material has to deliver sociocultural ideas for the sake of solving some social problems and sharing information (O'Keeffe, 2006).

And at the last stage, the scholar decides whether the material is applicable to the concept of political language or language that strongly depends on the political and historical setting of the people who speak the language.

Thus, going through these criteria, the material will be selected for deeper analysis.

2.2. Political Idioms in Contemporary Media Discourse

Modern American and British media as many others nowadays are obliged to post political news and overview of events, as every single human life depends on political decisions made. There are a lot of Anglophone media known worldwide. They are *the Telegraph*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *BBC*, and *The Guardian*, *etc*.

In order to point out a few idiomatic expressions, the study shall carefully and thoroughly review the materials taken from the media resources. And picking up material from the official websites helps to fulfil the criteria about being produced by a media resource. The articles should be closely connected to politics to meet the last criteria about being applicable to political and historical settings. Also, it is necessary to check whether the articles correspond to the criteria of being modern.

The first article to be refered to was posted by BBC on the 26th of February, 2020. The date agrees with the criteria of being modern. The title is "Democratic debate: Rivals intensify attacks on Bernie Sanders" and it contains such political concepts as "democratic" and "debate" which are inherit for the political nature of the article. Also, the article contains a stable word construction that can be considered to be an idiom.

The President Biden says: "*Where we come from, that's called Tommy-come-lately*," (Zurcher, 2020) and "*Tommy come lately*" is an idiom due to several reasons.

The colocation is grammatically stable and the word order or forms cannot be changed, as the specific meaning, that does not correspond to the initial meaning of the words, will be lost in such case. This proves that the word combination is an idiom and can be used for further analysis.

The next article to be referred to was posted by Irish Examiner on the 20th of March, 2019. The date corresponds to the criteria of being modern. The title "*Taoiseach says it's time to cut the British government some slack*" shows that the article is about political matters and contains the concept of "government" that is specific for the political nature.

Also, the article incorporates a stable word phrase "*to cut somebody some slack*" which can be considered as an idiom. The initial meaning of the words is lost due to the formation of a new meaning which is only possible in the case of the specific word order and grammatical forms.

Such criteria can also be applied to the "*fifth column*" in the article "Nigel Farage: British Muslim 'fifth column' fuels fear of immigration" and to "*Vote-A-Rama*" from the video report "Senate 'Vote-A-Rama' Underway."

And the last article to be quoted was posted by Voice of America on the sixteenth of November, 2022. The article was posted not long ago, thus the resource is modern. The title "Experts See Gridlock, Dysfunction Likely in Incoming Congress" shows that the article is closely related to politics, as it contains concepts of political matter, for example, "congress."

In the article, there was used a stable word combination "*lame duck*." The initial word meaning is lost due to the formation of a new meaning of a politician or a government that does not have much real power because their term in office will end soon and their successor has already been elected. The word order and grammar forms cannot be changed, as it will provoke disruption of the meaning.

As we may see both idioms and politics are deeply incorporated into media discourse. These are only a few examples and definitely in the endless information flow we can find even more political idioms.

2.2.1. The Origin of Idioms Employed in Modern Anglophone Media Discourse

The origin of any vocabulary unit is highly important for understanding the implication the phrase contains. And that is especially valuable in the case of idioms.

For example, to understand the implication of "*Tommy-come-lately*" we should pay attention to the context of the idiom. It was said during the presidential debate by Joe Biden to Tom Steyer. The personal name mentioned in the idiom is Tom Streyer and it gives implied meaning to the original idiom "*Johnny-come-lately.*"

The initial idiom originated in the United States as early as the 1890s. However, it first appeared in "The Adventures of Harry Franco" by Charles F. Briggs. It gained popularity due to the US Navy, where it was used for new seamen (J. F. Donnermeyer, 2024).

However, some of the idioms have odd origins and we cannot say for sure when the idioms were first mentioned. For instance, "*to cut someone some slack*" occurs in some dictionaries, but the origin is still hard to track.

Some mention that the idiom is closely related to the US Navy, defining that as "Slack reduced discipline; see Cut (Me) Some Slack." (Jack Sweetman, 1993). And some state in their slang works that it is "to favour with; to give" (J. E. Lighter, 1980).

One more idiom that is also thought to be connected to the US Navy is "*a lame duck.*" The history of this idiom dates back to 1761. Back then it marked "any disabled person or thing; especially Stock Exchange slang for "defaulter." (D. Harper, 2024)

In naval it was usually used for "an old, slow ship" (D. Harper, 2024). The modern sense of "a public official in the final period of office, after the election of a successor" is dated back to 1863.

"*The Fifth Column,*" however, has a military origin, unlike, the previous two. Emilio Mola Vidal, a Nationalist officer under Franco during the Spanish Civil War, is credited with coining the phrase.

Mola Vidal said that he had a "*fifth column*" of sympathizers operating from within the city to back him while he advanced on Madrid with four columns of his own army.

The phrase gained popularity rapidly and has since been used to describe people or organizations who secretly attempt to bring down a country or organization from inside.

The idea of a "enemy within" is closely connected to the concept of a fifth column, and the phrase is frequently employed in relation to subversion, espionage, and military or political sabotage.

Some of the idioms from the political field are heavily rooted in it, so the origin of them is considered to be political only. For example, "*Vote-a-Rama*" was first mentioned in 1955 and meant "an event held with the aim of registering many people to vote" (Oxford English Dictionary, 2023).

Nowadays, "*Vote-a-Rama*" means "a session of voting following the allotted time for official debate of a budget resolution, in which any remaining amendments to the resolution are proposed and voted on in rapid succession." The idiom itself is composed of two words "vote" and "-arama," but usually, "-orama." "-orama" stands for "words to denote an event, production, situation, etc., that amounts to or is suggestive of a prolonged or extravagant display or exhibition of a specified kind" (Merriam-Webster, 2024) and is a short version of the word "panorama."

Etymology is an interesting study that develops a historical perspective of L2 and can make learning new vocabulary units meaningful.

2.2.2 Semantic Analysis of Idioms Under Consideration

Semantic analysis is one of the crucial studies in linguistics, as it explores how words, phrases, sentences, and entire texts convey meaning. It is highly important to pay attention to the semantic analysis of idioms, as their meaning and usage provoke the interest of many linguists.

The research material may be analysed according to such factors as the grammatical category, named entity recognition, semantic parsing, relationship

extraction within the text, event extraction, semantic role labelling, and thematic analysis.

"*Tommy-come-lately*", from the article "Democratic debate: Rivals intensify attacks on Bernie Sanders", is an idiom that is a compound word that consists of the proper noun "Tommy", the verb "come", and the adverb "lately". It functions as a noun phrase in the sentence.

As for the named entity recognition, the idiom refers to a real person Tom Steyer. And is used metaphorically to describe the man who acted late.

The phrase "*that's called Tommy-come-lately*" (Zurcher, 2020) can be parsed as a metaphorical description of someone who enters a situation belatedly.

In the initial idiom, instead of Tommy, they use Johnny. However, Joe Biden used this personal name not by mistake, as he wanted to confront his opponent Tom Steyer.

In the text, the idiom interacts with Biden's quote and is not mentioned further.

As for the event extraction, the idiom is mentioned during the presidential debate. This can serve as a setting for the idiom.

As for semantic labelling, the idiom serves as a description applied to Steyer's actions and behaviour.

The text focuses on the political debate and Biden's criticism of Steyer. The idiom "*Tommy-come-lately*" (Zurcher, 2020) reinforces the theme of Tom's late involvement and highlights Joe's doubt about Streyer's motives.

"*Cut the British government some slack*", from the article "Taoiseach says it's time to cut the British government some slack" (McConnell, 2019), is an idiom consisting of the verb "cut", the noun phrase "British government" functioning as an object, and the noun phrase "some slack" functioning as an object.

"*The British Government*" (McConnell, 2019) is identified as a proper noun, referring to the government of the United Kingdom.

The phrase "*to cut the British Government some slack*" (McConnell, 2019) can be parsed as suggesting that the British Government should be given leniency or a break from strict expectations

The idiom "*to cut some slack*" (McConnell, 2019) is a common phrase that means "to give someone a break or to allow someone some flexibility." In this context, it is being applied to the British Government.

As for the relationship extraction, the phrase establishes a relationship between the British Government and the situation surrounding Brexit.

As for the events, the text mentions Taoiseach Leo Varadkar's statements on Brexit and his perspective on the need for flexibility. This is an event within the broader context of Brexit negotiations.

The semantic labelling in the text is about Taoiseach's desire to make the British government more cautious of their actions.

The text focuses on the Brexit situation and the Taoiseach's stance on giving the British Government more flexibility. The idiom reinforces the theme of allowing more time or patience to help the British Government avoid a difficult situation.

"*Lame duck*", from the article "Experts See Gridlock, Dysfunction Likely in Incoming Congress" (Garver, 2022), is an idiom that is a noun phrase of the adjective "lame" and the noun "duck". In the text is an adverbial modifier of time, stating that the process will be in action for the period the former officials were in charge.

As for the named entity recognition, the idiom refers to the former officials who were in charge till the elections were held.

The phrase "*from the lame duck to the next election*" (Garver, 2022) can be semantically parsed to understand the timeline being referenced in the sentence. It suggests a period of time that starts with the lame duck session and ends with the next election.

The phrase "*from the lame duck to the next election*" (Garver, 2022) establishes a temporal relationship between the period of time labelled "*lame duck*" and the next election.

The text does not define specific events within the context of the idiom, but it implies ongoing political events during the period from the "*lame duck*" session to the next election.

In the sentence, "*The budget and appropriations process*" (Garver, 2022) serves as the agent performing the action, "*will be bloody*" during the period from the "*lame duck*" to the next election.

The overall theme of the text is political dysfunction and gridlock. The idiom "*lame duck*" reinforces the theme by indicating a transition period marked by a lack of productivity, heightened tension, and potential conflicts.

"*The Fifth Column*" is also heavily incorporated into political media discourse, as in the article "*Nigel Farage: British Muslim 'fifth column' fuels fear of immigration*" it functions as a vehicle for attracting readers' attention to the problem of immigration in the UK.

The idiom consists of an ordinal numeral and a noun. In the text, it functions as an object. As for the timeline, this article refers to a period of time when Muslim minorities were considered to provoke problems with immigration.

"*Vote-A-Rama*" is an idiom that functions in the political field from its very beginning, as, for instance, in the video report "*Senate 'Vote-A-Rama' Underway*" by "CBS Miami." It functions as a mediator for the explanation the sequence of votes held in the Senate.

The idiom consists of two nouns "vote" and "-arama" or "panorama." In the report, the idiom is used as an object. As for the period of time, it refers to the voting process in the Senate during Barack Obama's presidency. The idioms are used as the description of the sequence of votes.

The analysis serves as a review of the peculiar meanings and relationship between the idioms and the texts. Throughout the examination of the idioms in the contexts of the texts, the layers of meaning that contributed to the overall interpretation of the content were identified.

2.2.3. Functional Specificity of Political Idioms in Anglophone Media Context

As the result of the analysis of the political idioms in modern Anglophone media discourse, it was found out that idioms are effective universal language units

that can deliver emotional colouring and the personal attitude of a speaker. Idioms function as a method to sophisticate the language.

The usage of idioms also serves a pragmatic goal. They provide an imaginary nature and convey a clear understanding of the speakers' intentions. Also, idioms help with evaluating events.

The presented idioms majorly function as objects or subjects in the fragments, however, there are possible other variations of their usage. Also, they are either word combinations or compound nouns.

Consequently, media discourse featuring political idioms aims to share information and manipulate people's attitudes. It plays an important ideological role in persuading grassroots.

Sometimes, like in "Tommy-come-lately", idioms need further contextualising for greater effect and deeper attitudinal meaning. Also, idioms should fit political, cultural, and historical settings; otherwise, the intended effect will be disrupted.

Conclusion to the Chapter Two

1. In conclusion, the structural and functional understanding of political idioms in Anglophone media discourse can be traced with the help of a thorough analysis. Some crucial features to consider in the analysis are the fixed structure of idioms, the cultural context, tone or attitude meaning, and grammatical and syntactic peculiarities.

2. Idioms are multifunctional language units that depend on various factors. They are highly flexible and accommodate the language context, which allows them to enhance the speaker's speech.

3. With the help of analysis, the etymology and morphology of the political idioms become clearer and the scholars are able to trace the usage pattern. It is highly important to have such knowledge for qualitative investigation of the idiomatic field.

GENERAL CONCLUSION

Idioms are considered to be one of the most controversial means of communication, however, they are available in every world language. They reflect all the characteristic features of human interaction or so-called discourse.

Idioms have great potential to provide unique imagery due to their flexibility and specific meaning that can be traced through the context. Media discourse is a great environment for idioms and political specificity allows people to share their narratives on the Internet and other media vehicles

The usage of political idioms in modern Anglophone discourse grands expressiveness that persuades the general audience and contributes to better understanding and memorising. The analysis provided in the work asserts that the idioms are meaningful media for conveying particular meanings and ideas.

The study has revealed that various political figures of the modern Anglophone media discourse in such news media as Voice of America, BBC, and Irish Examiner use idioms as a persuading tool. The idioms do not occur randomly in data to express alternative ways of rendering reality. They rather serve as structures that have important evaluative roles along with being personal and situational in their usage.

Idioms became integral parts of modern media discourse, especially in the political context. This means that scholars should not avoid idioms in their investigation, as the idioms convey critically important meanings in the discourse flow.

Modern Anglophone media discourse is a unique environment for political idioms, as it has various peculiarities and requires them to satisfy some communicative goals. In the work, it was illustrated how the idioms function in the discourse.

RÉSUMÉ

Курсова робота є науковим дослідженням, що репрезентує ідею глибокого аналізу ідіом, який включає в себе приклади політичних ідіом в сучасному англомовному медіадискурсі на основі фундаментальних робіт впливових науковців, які досягнули успіхів у сфері ідіоматичних досліджень.

З огляду на те, що життя сучасної людини тісно пов'язане з політичною та медіа сферами, їх дослідження має потенціал для розкриття функціонування політичних ідіом в медіадискурсі. Крім того, аналіз випадків використання ідіом пропонує глибоке розуміння їх доцільності в сучасному світі, що забезпечує новизну даного дослідження.

Актуальність цього дослідження не викликає сумніву, оскільки сучасні політичний і медіа аспекти тісно переплетені та мають великий вплив зі зростом глобалізації. Сучасна людина щодня може спостерігати продукт бездоганної взаємодії політики та медіа, а англійська мова та ідіоми є невід'ємними інструментами для досягнення основної мети продукту.

В дослідженні, описані концептуальні структури для розуміння ідіом в сучасному англомовному дискурсі і аналіз політичних ідіом в середовищі сучасного англомовного медіадискурсу. Поняття і спостереження в роботі можуть бути застосовані в подальших дослідженнях цієї сфери.

Головною метою цієї роботи є дослідження функціональних особливостей політичних ідіом в сучасному англомовному медіа середовищі на основі ретельного аналізу автентичних прикладів їх використання.

Робота складається з двох розділів. У першому розділі окреслено теоретичне підґрунтя до вивчення поняття "політична ідіома" в сучасному англомовному медіадискурсі. У другому розділі проведений детальний аналіз функціонування політичних ідіом у медіа дискурсі. Загальні висновки підсумовують результати дослідження та окреслюють перспективи для подальшого вивчення розглянутого питання.

Ключові слова: політична ідіома, сучасний англомовний медіадискурс, аналіз, дослідження

LIST OF REFERENCE MATERIALS

1. Алефіренко, М. Ф. (1987). Теоретичні питання фразеології. Харків : Вища школа

2. Бутова, І. (2009). Політичний дискурс як об"єкт лінгвістичних досліджень. Вісник Львівського університету ім. Івана Франка. Серія іноземні мови, (Вип. 16), 232–238.

3. Булаховський, Л. А. (1955). Нариси з загального мовознавства. К. : Радянська школа, 244 с.

4. Виноградов, В. В. (1977). Лексикология и лексикография : Избраные труды. Наука, 312 с.

5. Макгауген, Т. В. (2012). Прецедентні імена в сучасному американському медіадискурсі: лінгвокогнітивний і функціональний аспекти [Дис. канд. філол. наук, Херсонський Державний Університет].

6. Максімов, С. Є. (2006). Практичний курс перекладу (англійська та українська мови). Теорія та практика перекладацького аналізу тексту для студентів факультету перекладачів та факультету заочного та вечірнього навчання: Навчальний посібник – К.: Левіт, с.75

7. Медведєв, Ф. П. (1982). Українська фразеологія : Чому ми так розмовляємо? Харків : Вища школа, 232 с.

8. Мокиенко, В. М. (1980). Славянская фразеология. М. : Высшая школа, 205 с.

9. Скрипник, Л. Г. (1973) Фразеологія української мови. К.: Наукова думка, 280 с.

10. Сизоненко, А., & Рущ, Е. (2020). Загальна Характеристика та Жанрова Варіативність Англомовного Публіцистичного Дискурсу. Humanities Science Current Issues, 2(31), 235–239. https://doi.org/10.24919/2308-4863.2/31.213976

11. Южченко, В. Д. (1988). Народження та життя фразеологізму. К. : Рад. школа, 144 с

12. Abeillé, A. (1995). The flexibility of French idioms: A representation with Lexical Tree Adjoining Grammar. In Martin Everaert, Eric-Jan van der Linden, André Schenk & Ron Schreuder (eds.), Idioms. structural and psychological perspectives, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Hillsdale, 15-42 c.

13. Bally, Ch. (1909). Traité de stylistique française, Librairie C. Klincksieck, 394 c.

14. Cook, G. (1989). Discourse (Language Teaching: A Scheme for Teacher Education). Oxford University Press.

15. Donnermeyer, J. F. (2024). "Johnny Come Lately" – An Essay on Latter-Day Myths about Rural Crime and Justice Studies. International Journal of Rural Criminology, 8(2), 243–259. https://doi.org/10.18061/ijrc.v8i2.9786

16. O'KEEFFE, A. (2006). Investigating Media Discourse. Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203015704

17. Lighter, J. E. (1980). Historical Dictionary of American Slang. Oxford University Press.

18. Political Dictionary - An essential guide to the language of power. (n.d.). In Political Dictionary. https://politicaldictionary.com/

19. Ross, M. (1993). Brief points: An almanac for parents and friends of U.S. Naval Academy midshipmen. Naval Institute Press.

20. van Dijk, T. (2007). Discourse Studies. SAGE Publications Ltd. https://doi.org/10.4135/9781446261415

LIST OF ILLUSTATION MATERIALS

1. CBS Miami. (2017, 28 липня). Senate 'Vote-A-Rama' Underway [Відео]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6sxlToMAw6E

2. Garver, R. (2022, 17 листопада). Experts See Gridlock, Dysfunction Likely in Incoming Congress. Voice of America. https://www.voanews.com/a/experts-see-gridlock-dysfunction-likely-in-incoming-congress/6838134.html

3. Mason, R. (2015, 12 березня). Nigel Farage: British Muslim 'fifth column' fuels fear of immigration. The Guardian. https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/mar/12/nigel-farage-british-muslim-fifth-column-fuels-immigration-fear-ukip

4. McConnell, D. (2019, 20 березня). Taoiseach says it's time to 'cut the British government some slack'. Irish Examiner. https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-30912236.html

5. Zurcher, B. A. (2020, 26 лютого). Democratic debate: Rivals intensify attacks on Bernie Sanders. BBC Home - Breaking News, World News, US News, Sports, Business, Innovation, Climate, Culture, Travel, Video & Audio. https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51638341