



## Phraseological Units and Context

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**Annotation:** Phraseological variants are varieties of phraseological units that are identical to each other in terms of the quality and quantity of meanings, and stylistic and syntactic functions, with a partial difference in lexical composition, word forms or the order of components. The variability of phraseological units in no way contradicts their stability since in each phenomenon there is a contradictory unity of stability and variability. Phraseological variance itself implies the stability of phraseological units since the stability of phraseological units is manifested, in particular, in their variance. A phraseological unit is a stable combination of lexemes with a completely or partially rethought meaning.

**Keywords:** phraseological unit, phraseological context, pragmatic content, pragmatic functioning in speech, semantic context.

Phraseological unit is introduced into speech only in context. The main concepts of the contextual implementation of phraseological units are as follows [3, 84].

1. Contact compatibility is the adjunction of semantically realized phraseological units to certain words or groups of words. These words or groups of words can be the left or right phraseological unit actualized, and sometimes both.
2. Distant compatibility is a position in which a semantically realized phraseological unit and its actualized are separated by a word or a combination of words. A special type of distant compatibility is the position in which the phraseological unit and its actualized are separated by a punctuation mark.
3. Correlation is a contact or distant position in which a semantically realized phraseological unit is updated depending on the message about the situation. Interjection phraseological units are found in this position.
4. Accession – this is the connecting nature of the connection between individual phraseological units and variable sentences, i.e. joining sentences that complement, develop a previously expressed idea, and illuminate it from a new perspective.

Phraseological context is an actualized, isolated on the basis of compatibility, correlation or attachment with respect to the phraseological unit semantically realized in speech. Phraseological context can be of several types.

1. An intraphrasal phraseological context is an actualizing of phraseological units expressed by a word or a group of words as part of a simple or complex sentence.
2. A phrasal phraseological context is an actualizing of phraseological units expressed in a simple or complex sentence.



3. Supraphrasal phraseological context is an actualizing of phraseological units expressed by two or more sentences. Supraphrasal phraseological context is a complex syntactic whole; it consists of sentences combined in semantic and syntactic terms.

The phrasal context often does not provide sufficient information for the speech implementation of phraseological units. In this case, a broader context is needed.

Phraseological units that have a positive or negative appraisal, expressing the emotional and evaluative attitude of the speaker to the subject, influence the creation of a pragmatic orientation of the statement. Under the influence of the context, changes often occur in the structure of phraseological meaning, resulting in an increase in the pragmatic orientation of the text. When a phraseological unit is included in the context, the virtual (paradigmatic, system-linguistic) meaning is replaced by the actual (syntagmatic) one. There are two possible cases of interaction of these values. Firstly, the paradigmatic and syntagmatic meanings may coincide: in this case, the phraseological unit appears in its usual meaning. Secondly, the meaning of a phraseological unit can change under the influence of the contextual environment. This influence often leads to a divergence between paradigmatic and syntagmatic meanings. Thus, the context is able to affect the connotative-pragmatic features of the phraseological unit. This can lead to: a) the loss of the feature of a situational assessment by a phraseological unit (in the context, the situationality of the assessment is removed from the phraseological unit, and it acquires a positive or negative assessment), b) to the transition of the phraseological unit into an oppositely charged field (pejorative phraseological units become ameliorative and vice versa), c) to the intensification of phraseological meaning.

In modern linguistics, phraseological units are considered pragmatically saturated language units, since they not only designate objects and phenomena of reality (a significative-denotative component of meaning) but also express the attitude of the speaker to them (a connotative component of the meaning). Thus, phraseological units are a kind of alloy of objective and subjective information. Objective information can be denoted by the symbol “what to say”, and subjective “how to say” [5, 565]. Indeed, due to the development of the connotative aspect, the meanings of phraseological units are used mainly for expression (“how to say”). From the foregoing, it follows that, due to the complexity of their meaning, phraseological units are predisposed to pragmatic functioning in speech.

It is in the speech that each phraseological unit is filled with individual semantic content. Therefore, to study the functioning of phraseological units, it is especially important to analyze the context in which it “lives.” In modern linguistics, questions of the functioning of phraseological units in various types of texts are also relevant. V.N. Yartseva defines the context as “a fragment of the text, including the unit chosen for analysis, necessary and sufficient to determine the meaning of this unit, which is consistent with the general meaning of the text”. In other words, context is a piece of text minus the unit being defined [6, 240]. The maximum context limit is usually considered to be a paragraph. If the context does not provide sufficient information necessary to understand phraseological units, then it is necessary to go beyond the paragraph into the text.

For the functioning of phraseological units, both linguistic information that contributes to the disclosure of the meaning of phraseological units and non-linguistic information (background knowledge about the situation, the conditions of the communicative act, and national and cultural specifics) are important. Thus, it is necessary to take into account the pragmatic and socio-cultural contexts [1, 28]. The socio-cultural context is part of the picture of the world of the people-native speakers. The study of phraseological units in the context of culture makes it possible to identify



national specifics in the meaning of phraseological units, the attitude of the people to the phenomena of the surrounding reality.

Analysis of the pragmatic content of the text involves taking into account the entire complex of communication conditions. This whole complex is called a communicative-pragmatic situation, which includes:

- participants in communication (who - to whom) and the relationship between them;
- the situation and place of the communicative act (where, when);
- the subject and purpose of communication (what, why) – the core of the study.

Being expressive linguistic means, phraseological units are often used in communication to influence the addressee. Phraseological units make it possible to express the attitude of the subject to the world semantically and materially economically, since nominative and pragmatic functions are combined in one phraseological unit, and the condition for successful communication is an appeal to the emotional perception of the message.

The phraseological unit has a positive or negative appraisal, and expresses an emotive-evaluative attitude to the subject, its quality, action, and state, which plays an important role in creating a pragmatic orientation of the statement. When phraseological units are included in the context, the virtual (paradigmatic, system-linguistic) meaning is replaced by the actual (syntagmatic) one. At the same time, the paradigmatic and syntagmatic meanings may coincide, that is, the phraseological unit acts in the usual meaning. Under the influence of the context, a change in the structure of the meaning of phraseological units is often observed, which usually leads to a discrepancy between paradigmatic and syntagmatic meanings. Thus, the contextual environment affects the connotative-pragmatic features of phraseological units. This leads either to the loss of phraseological units of the sign of a situational assessment (in the context, the situational nature of the assessment is removed from the phraseological units, and the phraseological unit acquires a positive or negative assessment), or to the transition of phraseological units into an oppositely charged field (pejorative phraseological units pass into the category of ameliorative ones and vice versa), or to an intensification of the meaning phraseological units [1, 30].

The contextual environment can cause the non-situational phraseological units of positive or negative seems to disappear from the structure of the meaning. Under the influence of the context, phraseological units can also strengthen or weaken the semes of the positivity/negativity of the meaning. In addition, under the influence of the context in the meaning of phraseological units, new additional semantic shades may also arise.

It should be noted that additional emotional semes (emo-semes) that are layered on the main (usual) are situationally conditioned, occasionally, because the mental states and emotional reactions of the speech subject themselves are situational.

Thus, when the object of evaluation is the author of the statement himself, the pragmatic function is the desire to acquaint the addressee with his inner world, to achieve empathy, and understanding, and to create emotional and intellectual contact with the addressee. When the subject of speech characterizes a certain third person with the help of phraseological units, his goal is to evoke a reaction in the addressee similar to his own, to convince him, to inspire him with his impressions, and opinions about this third person.

From the foregoing, we can conclude that phraseological units, used in context, become one of the effective means for conveying the communicative intention of the speaker, for implementing the



pragmatic predetermined text. The study of phraseological units outside the environment does not give an idea of the nature of their functioning, or the additional meaning that they can acquire.

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