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IMAGES OF VARIOUS KINDS OF WEAPONS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

***Abstract:** The article is devoted to the study of ideas associated with various types of weapons that arise in the minds of members of the anglo-american military subculture. The article discusses phraseological idioms that reflect the national cultural experience of the people and contain fragments of the everyday way of life of society.*

***Keywords:** phraseology, firearms, gunpowder, gun, trigger, bullet, artillery.*

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ОБРАЗЫ РАЗЛИЧНЫХ ВИДОВ ОРУЖИЯ В АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ

Аннотация: Статья посвящена изучению представлений, связанных с различными видами оружия, возникающих в сознании членов англо-американской военной субкультуры. В статье рассматриваются фразеологические обороты, которые отражают национально-культурный опыт народа и содержат фрагменты повседневного уклада общества.

Ключевые слова: фразеологизм, огнестрельное оружие, порох, пушка, курок, пуля, артиллерийское орудие.

Phraseologism is a unit of a separate linguistic science – phraseology. Like any independent science, phraseology has its own history of development and theoretical concepts that are revealed in the fundamental works of such scientists as N.F. Alefirenko, S. Balli, V.V. Vinogradov, V.P. Zhukov A.V. Kunin, B.A. Larin, V.M. Mokienko, A.G. Nazaryan, V.N. Telia, N.M. Shansky and others.

The main objective of this work is to study the ideas associated with various types of weapons that arise in the minds of members of the Anglo-American military subculture.

Military weapons have a long history, and therefore the mention of weapons is found in a variety of phraseological turns that reflect the combined national and cultural experience of the people and contain fragments of the everyday way of life of society. It is quite obvious that the main background knowledge that reveals the technical characteristics of weapons can be attributed to the damaging force and its components – size, firing range, operational techniques, as well as the nature of production, the scope of use in military affairs.

The invention of gunpowder ushered in the era of firearms in Europe. The powder component serves as the basis for a number of phraseological units in the English language, which reflects the process of the invention of the explosive mixture and the conditions for its use. One of the requirements for the safety of firearms is to keep the powder dry, which served as the basis for the emergence of a sustainable turnover of «keep one's powder dry». Phraseologism is a part of the English proverb «put your trust in God, and keep your powder dry», which is translated into Russian as «hope in God, but don't be bad». The meaning of the proverb goes back to the time of the civil war in the UK. The author of the lines is the leader of the Great English Bourgeois Revolution, commander Oliver Cromwell, who uttered the above words in his instruction to the troops before the battle in 1642. In modern life, a stable expression means «to be on the alert».

The phraseological unit «to waste powder and shot» gives an idea of the wasted gunpowder and cartridge, which is considered unacceptable in the conditions of warfare and has the meaning of «wasting time». The image of the expedient use of ammunition on the battlefield formed the basis of the proverb «not worth powder and shot» – «the game is not worth the candle».

At the end of the XVII - beginning of the XVIII centuries artillery was introduced into the armies of Europe. The cannon component is part of the phrase «to cannon against somebody», which appeals in the mind to the image of a gun as a powerful artillery weapon designed to strike at enemy targets and has the meaning of «collide with someone».

The greatest number of phraseological units that evoke ideas about firearms have the «gun» component as a reference word. The figurative basis of a number of phraseological units is the knowledge of the high rate of fire of artillery weapons: «to jump (to beat) the gun» - «to prematurely start; get ahead of events»; «to cut the gun» - «lose gas, slow down»; «to give her the gun» - «to drive with might and main, give a full stroke».

The phraseological units, which include the «gun» component, are based on the idea of firearms as a powerful and indispensable means of destroying the enemy on the

battlefield: «great guns!» - «these are on!, like this!»; «to go great guns» - «to achieve success; to be on the crest of success, to be on a horse».

The image of a weapon as a symbol of confrontation is contained in the phrase «to stick to one's guns», in which the idea of the inadmissibility of abandoning artillery pieces in combat is embodied in the rethought meaning of a stable turnover «not to lose ground, hold steady».

An integral element of a handgun, actuating its trigger mechanism, is the trigger. The «trigger» component, which is part of a number of English phraseological units, contains a meaning associated with the speed of fire and the high speed of projectiles from the gun's barrel: «a finger on the trigger» - «readiness for immediate military action»; «easy on the trigger» - «quick-tempered, easily excitable»; «quick on the trigger» - «impulsive, quick-response».

The basis for the emergence of a large number of phraseological units was the names of ammunition and explosive devices. The reference word for a number of stable turns is the noun «bomb»: «to throw a bomb» - «cause a sensation / commotion»; «to cost a bomb» - «cost a lot of money»; «bombshell effect» - «the impression of an exploding bomb»; «bombshell sackings» – «sudden layoffs»; «to drop a bombshell» - «to bring out a sensation, make a commotion».

Another type of the striking element of small arms – «the bullet» - is a component of a number of phraseological units reflecting the specifics of the worldview of the representatives of the Anglo-American ethnic group. The steady expression «to stop a bullet», meaning «to get a bullet wound, to be killed», refers to colloquial phraseological units, has a hint of rudeness characteristic of the speech of military personnel in difficult conditions of warfare.

The image of the bullet is enclosed in the internal form of the phraseology «to bite (on) the bullet». Sustained turnover means “bite the bullet, hold on, endure pain, grief” and is etymologically rooted in the times when, due to the lack of anesthesia, patients undergoing surgical intervention bit their teeth with a bullet to cope with unbearable pain.

Also, «bullet» was used in the figurative basis of the proverb «every bullet has its billet», meaning «you will not escape fate; the bullet will find the guilty person», lies the idea that each bullet eventually ends up in some kind of object.

So, it should be noted that the analysis of the images of phraseological units of the English language reveals a wide range of representations associated with various types of firearms. The symbolic meaning of stable revolutions having a component that names a certain type of weapon arises because of rethinking the functional features, attributes and properties of the weapon and is used by the representative of the ethnic group in the process of understanding the phenomena of surrounding reality. Representations arising in the consciousness of a native speaker when using phraseological units in speech include images of various types of weapons as symbols of the beginning and cessation of hostilities, violence, the struggle for moral ideals, justice and justice.

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