

## PRAGMATIC FUNCTIONS AND SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITH GASTRONOMIC COMPONENTS IN MODERN ENGLISH

*PhD student at UzSWLU*

**Ulug'bek Malikov**

**Abstract:** *This article analyzes English phraseological units with gastronomic components from a semantic and pragmatic perspective. The study aims to identify the main semantic groups of food-based idioms and explain how their figurative meanings develop from culinary images. The research is based on the phraseological theory of A. V. Kunin and other scholars using qualitative semantic analysis. The results show that gastronomic phraseological units in English are associated with meanings such as ease, livelihood, secrecy, regret, and evaluation. The study concludes that food-based idioms are an expressive and productive part of English phraseology and perform important stylistic and evaluative functions.*

**Keywords:** *phraseology, English phraseological units, gastronomic components, semantics, idioms, pragmatic functions*

### INTRODUCTION

Phraseological units in any language are more than just linguistic constructions; they reflect a culture's values, standards, and worldview. Food-related phraseological units in modern English provide a distinctive perspective through which to examine cultural attitudes about food, social roles, and the human condition. These phraseologisms are not only effective communicative tools, but they also represent pragmatic functions that shape discourse and meaning. The study of gastronomic phraseologisms, or food-related phrases and idioms, is critical for understanding the relationship between language, culture, and society attitudes toward food.

The primary objective of this study is to investigate the pragmatic roles of phraseologisms with gastronomical components in English, including a semantic analysis of their role in communication. We can better understand the complex meanings and applications of these idiomatic terms by applying various theoretical frameworks, such as Kunin's Course of Phraseology of Modern English (1996).

### METHODS

This study is based on a qualitative analysis of gastronomy phraseologisms in English, with an emphasis on their semantic and pragmatic purposes. The primary data for this analysis came from a number of English phraseological dictionaries and modern lexicographic sources, including the British National Corpus (BNC). The gastronomical phraseological units were chosen based on their frequency of use and cultural significance.

The analysis involves the use of Kunin's phraseological identification method (Kunin, 1996), which enables a thorough investigation of the structural integrity and semantic modifications of phraseological units. Pragmatic functions were classified according to their function in communication in addition to semantic analysis. The pragmatic roles of stylistic, cumulative, evaluative, directional, and text-building were recognized. These functions were evaluated quantitatively to understand their distribution in discourse.

### **Results**

The study of English food-related phraseologisms highlighted a number of important patterns that are consistent with cultural beliefs about social interaction and eating. These phrases are effective tools for social influence, emotional expression, and style emphasis in addition to having clear meanings. Stylistic function Stylistic use is one of the main purposes of gastronomic phraseologisms. Based on Kunin (1996), the stylistic function of linguistic units enhances the expressiveness of speech by assisting in the creation of a specific tone or atmosphere in communication. In addition to conveying literal meanings, culinary idioms like "bring home the bacon" and "eat humble pie" often create up vivid descriptions that enhance the story.

For example, the phrase "bring home the bacon" refers to making a living while also implying achievement and family responsibilities. The expression "eat humble pie," on the other hand, adds a layer of emotional depth to the communication by implying the necessity of compassion, frequently in the face of failure or shame. Function of Evaluation Gastronomic phraseological units frequently reflect society views or judgments and have an evaluative purpose. This is especially clear in phrases like "bitter pill to swallow" (an unpleasant or challenging situation) or "apple of one's eye" (a liked or adored person). These idioms are widely used to convey subjective assessments of individuals or circumstances.

The evaluative role can also be evident in the use of phrases such as "too many cooks spoil the broth," which express a judgment about the implications of overcomplicating a situation. Such expressions not only serve as metaphors, but they also promote societal norms on teamwork, leadership, and harmony. Directive Function While relatively rare, some food-related phraseological units provide a directive function, encouraging behavior or recommending activities. One example is the expression "have your cake and eat it too," which implies that one cannot have it both ways or enjoy conflicting outcomes at the same time. This idiom serves as a subtle guideline, encouraging people to make reasonable decisions and avoid unreasonable expectations.

Another typical expression is "cry over spilled milk," which relates to sadness over something permanent and so ineffective to regret. The image combines loss with

despair. The milk has been wasted, and no emotional reaction can save it. The word has both evaluative and prescriptive implications: it rejects excessive sorrow while promoting emotional regulation.

### **Discussion**

The findings of the pragmatic and semantic study highlight the complex function of phraseological units with gastronomic components in English. These expressions convey deeper cultural values, interpersonal connections, and individual feelings in addition to food-related ideas. Phraseologisms related to food, such as "the breadwinner" or "food for thought," also function as identity identifiers. They show how food serves as a symbol for social and physical existence. Evaluative and stylistic roles of such phrases enable speakers to express emotions, moral judgments, and social standards in addition to factual information.

Kunin (1996) argues that phraseological units in English have evolved not just as language tools, but also as means for transmitting complex notions about culture and society. The analysis of these phraseological units tells a lot about the cultural significance of food in influencing language. The metaphorical usage of food in terms like "spilling the beans" (revealing a secret) or "chewing the fat" (having informal conversation) demonstrates how deeply food metaphors are integrated in the social and cultural framework of English-speaking countries. The findings also show that such phraseological units are not static. They change with time, and new forms emerge to reflect shifting social dynamics and cultural transformations. This dynamic aspect is evidence of language's vibrant nature and potential to change with the times.

### **Conclusion**

Gastronomic phraseological units in English are effective instruments for communicating cultural, emotional, and evaluative connotations. They highlight not just the significance of food in supporting physical life, but also in establishing social identity and communication. The pragmatic roles of these expressions—stylistic, evaluative, directive, and textual construction - demonstrate the various ways in which language reflects societal norms and values. Evaluating these phraseological units through the perspective of different scholars' theories, this study demonstrates the importance of food-related metaphors in English.

### **REFERENCES:**

Fedulenkova, T. N. (2019). Pragmatic functions of modern English phraseology. *Research Result. Theoretical and Applied Linguistics*, 5(2), 74–83. <https://doi.org/10.18413/2313-8912-2019-5-2-0-8>

Kunin, A. V. (1996). *Курс фразеологии современного английского языка* (2-е изд.). Высшая школа.

Mamatov, A. E. (2000). Ўзбек тили фразеологизмларининг шаклланиши масалалари. *Филол. фанл. докт..... дисс. автореф./АЭ Маматов.–Тошкент.*

Teliya, V. N. (1996). *Русская фразеология: семантический, прагматический и лингвокультурологический аспекты.* Языки русской культуры.