

### Summary

The work discusses the phenomenon of phraseological modifications in press texts. The aim of the paper is to answer the question whether modifications are a common phenomenon in German and Polish press texts, as well as to determine the frequency with which they occur in the two analyzed corpora and the types that they encompass based on the gathered material. It also presents various functions performed by the examined modifications in the selected texts.

The theoretical part comprises i. a. an outline of the development of phraseology as an independent linguistic discipline, a description of distinguishing features of phraseological units, as well as typologies of phraseological units by Fleischer (1982) and Burger (2003). When discussing the phenomenon of modifications, it is essential to differentiate between modifications, variations and phraseological errors. The point of departure for a classification of modifications, which constitutes the empirical part of the paper, were typologies of phraseological units by Burger et al. (1982), Wotjak (1992) and Elspaß (1998). It should be emphasized that the established classification also covers other types of modifications that crystallized on the basis of the collected material. The object of the analysis was the corpus consisting of 329 modifications (169 German and 160 Polish) obtained from the articles in weekly news magazines *Der Spiegel* and *Polityka*, published within the space of 15 months; from January 2013 to March 2014.

All the gathered examples of phraseological modifications were divided into two classes: intraphraseological modifications (requiring changes in the composition of phraseological units) and extraphraseological modifications (demonstrating no changes in the composition of components). As far as the number of examples belonging to both groups is concerned, the majority of examples are intraphraseological modifications (116 German and 91 Polish examples), whereas extraphraseological modifications account for less than 40 examples (21 and 16 respectively). Within the two groups of modifications a number of further types of modifications was presented and discussed.

Mixed modifications, which constitute a significant group of modified units (altogether 77 cases), were listed and analyzed separately. It is worth mentioning that in spite of the fact that the Polish modifications were not so numerous as the German ones, they make out as many as

45 cases of mixed modifications. This implies that Polish authors tend to prefer more complex language games.

The last chapter of the work focuses on functions performed by the modifications which were divided into pragmatic and text-constructive functions. To the first type of functions belong i. a. showing author's critical attitude towards a discussed issue, creating irony/ humour or influencing the reader. The second group of functions includes thematic text construction and creating coherence which are both divided into further functions and discussed on the basis of the collected material.

A significant amount of the gathered modifications is based on the titles of films, books and songs. The majority of the modifications created in this way are used in articles headlines which shed light on the current tendencies concerning formulating headlines in the press. This phenomenon emphasizes the importance of intertextual relations between texts and other types of works, e. g. music or cinematography.

A contrastive nature of the study sheds light on both similarities and differences between phraseological modifications in the two analyzed corpora. The most frequent modifications are substitution and reduction. Bigger divergences are revealed by less common modifications, which in many cases can be explained by the specificity of the analyzed languages. The differences in the use of mixed modifications highlight the latest trends in press texts in both cultures.

10.11.2016  
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