

SUMMARY

**THE CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF FIXED PHRASES IN GERMAN AND POLISH BUSINESS LANGUAGE.**

The subject matter of this doctoral dissertation is the contrastive analysis of German and Polish idioms and idiomatic expressions in modern business language. The presence of the language phenomena raises a great deal of interest among the linguists. The study aims to illustrate the diversity of phraseological units as well as their functions in specialised language. The approach adopted in the dissertation is the structural approach, showing semantics of idiomatic expressions and their formal structure.

A significant part of the thesis is a detailed study of the examples provided from *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *Handelsblatt*, *Wirtschaftswoche*, *Gazeta Wyborcza*, *Dziennik Gazeta Prawna* and *Rzeczpospolita* newspaper. Considerable time is spent on scrutinizing the work of particular authors who focus on the structure and meaning of certain collocations and idiomatic expressions employed in business language (Fleischer, Burger, Duhme).

The dissertation attempts at responding to some rudimentary questions. Firstly, what sorts of phraseological expressions are most frequent in business language. Secondly, what interlingual relations might be found in German and Polish specialised language. Finally, to what extent do modern dictionaries reflect the condition of business language.

The analysis of the collected corpus linguistics reveals the mutual relations between the general and specialised language. Because of the fact that some elements of idiomatic expressions in business language are simultaneously the components of the general language, it becomes elusive to define the specialized character of the expressions.

The argumentation provided in the thesis is supposed to seek evidence to the claim that it is the given context that determines idiomatic character of respective expressions. Deep analysis of various phraseological units allows to notice comparison of idiomaticity. This method of defining semantic structure of a particular idiom or idiomatic expression enables to determine the scope of equivalence. Moreover, it facilitates classification of the unit under the general or business language. Whilst in general language idioms and idiomatic expressions have metaphorical meaning, in business language they need to be categorised as partly idiomatic because of the fact that at least one of their components is of specialised character and may be understood literally. The findings apply to both German and Polish business language.

Semantic analysis carried out in the dissertation supports crucial statement that not only are

metaphors the elements of literature but also they comprise a substantial part of specialised language. However, their function is different. Metaphors used in newspapers are lexicalized, what enables readers to receive specialised expressions and structures in more understandable, expressive and aesthetic form.

The materials collected for the purpose of this thesis might be implemented in further contrastive analysis of fixed expressions and idioms in German and Polish business language. From the didactic point of view, the findings point out to the importance of teaching differentiated phraseology in context and may be utilised as a useful teaching aid during German and other foreign language classes.