



COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS AS A METHOD OF PHRASEOLOGY RESEARCH

Tursoatov Adkham Asadovich

Denau Institute of Entrepreneurship and Pedagogy

Denau, Uzbekistan

E-mail: tursoatovatham@gmail.com

Tel.: (+998) 90 645 05 98

Abstract

Phraseology represents one of the most dynamic and culturally significant fields of linguistic research. The study of phraseological units through comparative analysis enables scholars to identify both universal and language-specific features of phraseological systems. In Russian linguistics, comparative analysis has been widely employed to investigate the semantic, structural, and functional characteristics of phraseological units, as well as their national and cultural specificity. The present article examines comparative analysis as a fundamental method of phraseological research and explores its theoretical foundations, methodological principles, and practical applications. Particular attention is paid to the contributions of V.V. Vinogradov, N.M. Shansky, A.V. Kunin, and V.N. Teliya, whose works have significantly influenced the development of comparative phraseology. The research analyzes phraseological units from the perspective of semantic equivalence, imagery, cultural connotations, and translation correspondences. The findings demonstrate that comparative analysis contributes to a deeper understanding of linguistic worldview, intercultural communication, and the mechanisms underlying phraseological meaning. Furthermore, the study confirms that comparative phraseological research serves as an effective tool for revealing similarities and differences between language systems while preserving the unique cultural identity reflected in phraseological expressions. The results highlight the importance of comparative methods in modern phraseological studies and their contribution to the advancement of Russian linguistic scholarship.

Keywords: Phraseology, comparative analysis, phraseological units, Russian linguistics, semantic equivalence, linguistic worldview, intercultural communication, phraseological comparison, cultural specificity, translation studies.



Introduction

Phraseology is one of the most important areas of linguistic research because phraseological units reflect the history, culture, traditions, and worldview of a nation. In Russian linguistics, phraseology has developed into an independent field of study thanks to the works of **V.V. Vinogradov**, **N.M. Shansky**, **A.V. Kunin**, and **V.N. Teliya**, whose research established the theoretical foundations of modern phraseological studies [1].

A significant contribution to the development of Russian phraseology was made by **V.V. Vinogradov**, who proposed a classification of phraseological units into **phraseological fusions, phraseological unities, and phraseological combinations**. His theory demonstrated that phraseological expressions possess semantic integrity and cannot always be understood through the meanings of their individual components [2]. Later, **N.M. Shansky** expanded these ideas and emphasized the role of phraseological units as stable language constructions that enrich communication and convey emotional and stylistic meanings [3].

Comparative analysis has become one of the most effective methods in phraseological research. It allows scholars to compare phraseological units from different languages and identify similarities and differences in their meanings, structures, and cultural associations. According to **A.V. Kunin**, comparative studies help reveal both universal linguistic patterns and national-specific features reflected in phraseological expressions [4]. This approach is particularly important for understanding how different linguistic communities conceptualize reality through figurative language.

The linguocultural perspective developed by **V.N. Teliya** further strengthened the role of comparative analysis in phraseology. She argued that phraseological units preserve cultural knowledge and represent a nation's linguistic worldview [5]. Therefore, the comparison of phraseological systems contributes not only to linguistic research but also to the study of culture and intercultural communication.

The purpose of this article is to examine comparative analysis as a method of phraseological research within the framework of Russian linguistics. Special attention is paid to the theoretical contributions of Russian scholars and to the role of comparative methods in identifying semantic, structural, and cultural characteristics of phraseological units.



Methods

The present study investigates comparative analysis as a methodological approach to phraseological research within the framework of Russian linguistics. The research material consists of Russian phraseological units selected from phraseological dictionaries and scholarly works devoted to Russian phraseology. Particular attention is paid to phraseological expressions analyzed in the studies of **V.V. Vinogradov**, **N.M. Shansky**, **A.V. Kunin**, and **V.N. Teliya** [6]. The corpus includes widely used Russian phraseological units such as «**водить за нос**», «**держать язык за зубами**», «**бить баклуши**», «**спустя рукава**», «**зарубить на носу**», and «**не всё коту масленица**», which represent different semantic and structural types of phraseological expressions.

The primary research method employed in this study is the **comparative analysis method**. This method makes it possible to compare phraseological units according to their semantic meaning, figurative imagery, structural characteristics, and cultural content. The comparative approach is used to identify similarities and differences among Russian phraseological units belonging to various semantic groups and phraseological categories [7].

The study also applies the **descriptive method**, which is used to characterize the linguistic properties of phraseological expressions and to explain their functions in communication. Through descriptive analysis, the stability, reproducibility, and semantic integrity of phraseological units are examined in accordance with the theoretical principles established by **V.V. Vinogradov** and **N.M. Shansky** [8].

In addition, **semantic analysis** is employed to investigate the relationship between the literal and figurative meanings of phraseological units. Special attention is given to the mechanisms through which phraseological expressions acquire metaphorical meanings and convey evaluative or emotional nuances. Furthermore, elements of the **linguocultural approach** developed by **V.N. Teliya** are utilized to identify cultural information embedded in phraseological units and to determine their role in reflecting the Russian linguistic worldview [9].

The research procedure involved selecting representative phraseological units, classifying them according to established phraseological theories, and comparing their semantic, structural, and cultural features. This methodological combination provides a comprehensive basis for evaluating the effectiveness of comparative



analysis in modern phraseological research and for revealing the distinctive characteristics of Russian phraseology.

Results

The application of comparative analysis to Russian phraseological units revealed significant patterns in their semantic structure, figurative imagery, and cultural content. The analysis demonstrated that phraseological expressions belonging to different semantic groups share a number of common features, including stability, reproducibility, and semantic integrity, while at the same time exhibiting distinctive linguistic and cultural characteristics.

One of the major findings concerns the semantic classification of phraseological units. The examined expressions can be grouped according to their communicative functions and meanings. For example, the phraseological units **«водить за нос»**, **«обвести вокруг пальца»**, and **«втирать очки»** belong to the semantic field of deception and manipulation. Despite differences in lexical composition, all three expressions convey the idea of misleading another person. Comparative analysis revealed that these units share a common semantic core while differing in their figurative representations.

A second group includes phraseological units associated with human behavior and attitudes toward work. Expressions such as **«бить баклуши»**, **«спустя рукава»**, and **«сидеть сложа руки»** characterize laziness, inactivity, or an irresponsible attitude toward duties. The comparison of these units showed that Russian phraseology possesses a rich variety of figurative means for describing negative behavioral traits. Although the expressions differ structurally, they perform similar evaluative functions in communication.

The study also identified phraseological units connected with memory, knowledge, and speech behavior. For instance, **«зарубить на носу»** expresses the idea of remembering something firmly, whereas **«держат язык за зубами»** refers to the ability to keep information secret. These expressions demonstrate a close relationship between figurative imagery and communicative purpose. Their meanings cannot be derived from the literal meanings of the individual words, which confirms the semantic integrity characteristic of phraseological units.

Particular attention was devoted to phraseological units containing national-cultural elements. The expression **«не всё коту масленица»** reflects traditional Russian



cultural practices and historical realities associated with the celebration of Maslenitsa. Similarly, expressions such as «семь пятниц на неделе» and «как в воду глядел» preserve cultural concepts that have developed over centuries of linguistic and social experience. Comparative analysis showed that such phraseological units carry not only linguistic but also cultural information, supporting the linguocultural theory proposed by **V.N. Teliya**.

The findings further confirmed the relevance of the phraseological classification developed by **V.V. Vinogradov**. Expressions such as «бить баклуши» and «зарубить на носу» function as phraseological unities because their figurative meanings remain partially connected to the meanings of their components. In contrast, highly idiomatic expressions display a stronger degree of semantic fusion and require interpretation as complete lexical units.

Overall, the results demonstrate that comparative analysis is an effective tool for identifying semantic relationships, structural similarities, and cultural peculiarities within Russian phraseology. The study confirms that Russian phraseological units represent a complex system in which linguistic form, figurative meaning, and cultural experience interact closely. These findings highlight the importance of comparative methods for understanding the internal organization of phraseological systems and their role in reflecting the Russian linguistic worldview.

Discussion

The results of the study confirm that comparative analysis remains one of the most effective methods in phraseological research. The examined Russian phraseological units demonstrated that similarities and differences among phraseological expressions can be identified not only at the semantic level but also through their structural organization and cultural content. This finding supports the theoretical principles established by **V.V. Vinogradov**, who emphasized the semantic integrity and stability of phraseological units [10].

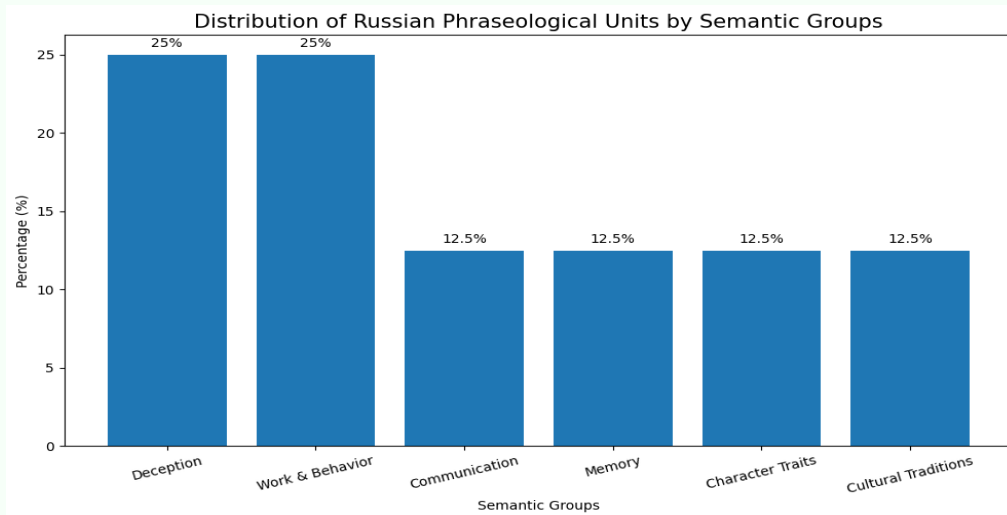
Classification of Russian Phraseological Units According to Semantic Groups			
Phraseological Unit	Semantic Group	Main Meaning	Cultural Component
«ВОДИТЬ ЗА НОС»	Deception	To mislead someone	Low
«ОБВЕСТИ ВОКРУГ ПАЛЬЦА»	Deception	To trick someone	Low
«БИТЬ БАКЛУШИ»	Work and behavior	To be idle	Medium
«СПУСТЯ РУКАВА»	Work and behavior	To do something carelessly	Medium
«ДЕРЖАТЬ ЯЗЫК ЗА ЗУБАМИ»	Communication	To keep a secret	Low
«ЗАРУБИТЬ НА НОСУ»	Memory	To remember firmly	Medium
«СЕМЬ ПЯТНИЦ НА НЕДЕЛЕ»	Character traits	To be inconsistent	High
«НЕ ВСЁ КОТУ МАСЛЕНИЦА»	Cultural traditions	Good times do not last forever	High

The analysis revealed that phraseological units belonging to the same semantic field often share common communicative functions despite differences in lexical composition and figurative imagery. For example, the expressions «ВОДИТЬ ЗА НОС», «ОБВЕСТИ ВОКРУГ ПАЛЬЦА», and «ВТИРАТЬ ОЧКИ» all convey the concept of deception. This observation confirms that phraseological meaning is determined primarily by semantic unity rather than by the individual meanings of lexical components. Such findings correspond to the views of N.M. Shansky, who regarded phraseological units as stable language constructions functioning as complete semantic entities [11].

Another important aspect identified in the study is the close connection between phraseology and culture. Phraseological units such as «НЕ ВСЁ КОТУ МАСЛЕНИЦА» and «СЕМЬ ПЯТНИЦ НА НЕДЕЛЕ» contain cultural references that reflect historical traditions, social practices, and collective experiences of Russian society. These results support the linguocultural theory developed by V.N. Teliya, according to which phraseological expressions preserve cultural knowledge and contribute to the formation of a linguistic worldview [12].

The findings also demonstrate the practical value of comparative analysis for phraseological classification. By comparing phraseological units according to their meanings, imagery, and functions, researchers can distinguish different levels of semantic equivalence and identify culturally marked expressions. This methodological approach contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of phraseological systems and facilitates further studies in intercultural communication, translation, and cognitive linguistics.

Therefore, the discussion confirms that comparative analysis serves not only as a descriptive tool but also as a means of revealing deeper semantic and cultural relationships within Russian phraseology. The method enables scholars to examine phraseological units as complex linguistic phenomena that reflect both universal patterns of human cognition and unique national-cultural characteristics.



Conclusion

The present study examined comparative analysis as one of the principal methods of phraseological research within the framework of Russian linguistics. The findings demonstrated that comparative analysis provides an effective approach to investigating the semantic, structural, and cultural characteristics of phraseological units. Through the comparison of Russian phraseological expressions, it became possible to identify common semantic patterns, differences in figurative representation, and culturally specific elements embedded in phraseological meanings.

The study confirmed the significance of the theoretical contributions made by **V.V. Vinogradov**, **N.M. Shansky**, **A.V. Kunin**, and **V.N. Teliya**. Their research established the methodological foundations for the classification and interpretation of phraseological units and continues to influence contemporary phraseological studies. The analysis showed that Russian phraseological units are characterized by semantic integrity, stability, and reproducibility, which distinguish them from free word combinations.

Particular attention was given to the cultural dimension of phraseology. The examined expressions demonstrated that phraseological units preserve historical experience, social values, and cultural traditions of the Russian-speaking community.



Consequently, phraseology serves not only as a linguistic phenomenon but also as a reflection of national identity and collective cultural memory.

The results further indicate that comparative analysis contributes to a deeper understanding of the internal organization of phraseological systems and facilitates the identification of semantic relationships among phraseological units. Moreover, this method proves valuable for linguistic classification, intercultural communication, translation studies, and linguocultural research.

In conclusion, comparative analysis remains a productive and reliable method of phraseological investigation. Its application allows researchers to reveal both universal linguistic tendencies and unique national-cultural features of phraseological units, thereby expanding our understanding of language, culture, and human cognition.

References

1. Vinogradov, V.V. (1977). *Selected Works on Russian Phraseology*. Moscow: Nauka.
2. Vinogradov, V.V. (1947). "On the Main Types of Phraseological Units in the Russian Language." *Questions of Linguistics*, 3, 21–28.
3. Shansky, N.M. (1985). *Phraseology of the Modern Russian Language*. Moscow: Prosveshchenie.
4. Kunin, A.V. (1996). *Course of Modern Phraseology*. Moscow: Vysshaya Shkola.
5. Teliya, V.N. (1996). *Russian Phraseology: Semantic, Pragmatic and Linguocultural Aspects*. Moscow: Languages of Russian Culture.
6. Mokienko, V.M. (2005). *Slavic Phraseology*. Moscow: Academia.
7. Fedulenkova, T.N. (2014). *Comparative Studies in Phraseology and Linguocultural Research*. *Philological Sciences*, 4, 45–52.
8. Zhukov, V.P. (2006). *Dictionary of Russian Phraseological Units*. Moscow: Astrel.
9. Alefirenko, N.F. (2009). *Modern Problems of Linguistic Science*. Moscow: Flinta.
10. Dobrovolsky, D.O. (2011). *Cognitive and Cultural Aspects of Phraseology*. *Russian Linguistic Bulletin*, 2, 17–25.