

References

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**ENGLISH PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS
WITH NAMES OF THE COLOURS
IN A COGNITIVE AND PRAGMATIC ASPECT**

**АНГЛИЙСКИЕ ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЗМЫ
С КОЛОРОНИМАМИ В КОГНИТИВНОМ
И ПРАГМАТИЧЕСКОМ АСПЕКТЕ**

Phraseologisms reflect the national specificity of the language, its identity. The Linguistic Encyclopedic Dictionary says: “Phraseologism is the general name for semantically related combinations of words and sentences, which, unlike syntactic structures similar in form, are not produced in accordance with the general patterns of choice and combination of words when organizing a statement, but are reproduced in speech in a fixed ratio of semantic structure and a certain lexical and grammatical composition.” [1].

Based on the studied factual material, it can be seen that the universal colour spectrum reveals both universal and specific symbolism in the cultural and national space of the British.

Let's consider the most typical symbolism reflected in English phraseology. So, the black colour, denoted by the black component, as a rule, indicates a negative state, grief, gloom. For example, *black beast* — '*an object of hatred, disgust*'; *the black dog is on one's black* — '*mourn, be discouraged*'; *look black* — '*look gloomy*'.

Black colour may have a positive connotation. For example, *the new black* — '*very popular, fashionable*'.

White colour, denoted by the colour component "white", is traditionally associated with a positively expressive context. For example, *white as snow* — '*white as snow*'; *white man* — '*decent, honest man*'; *lily-white* — '*white and fluffy*'.

The colour "blue" has a positive connotation. Colour is associated with sky, peace, freedom, independence. So, for example, *blue water* — '*open sea*'; *the blue-eyed boy* — '*pet*'; *a bit of blue sky* — '*ray of hope*'; *bluebird of happiness* — '*bird of happiness*'.

The red colour, which is expressed by the red colour component, expresses such negative values as anger, difficulties. For example, *to be in the red* — '*to be in debt*'; *go into the red* — '*bring deficit*'; '*make unprofitable*'; *care a red cent* — '*do not put a penny*'.

The green colour, denoted by the colour component "green", is associated with youth, vitality. The following phraseological units can serve as an example: *keep the bones green* — '*keep good health*'; *to be a greenhorn* — '*milk on the lips is not dry*'.

The colour component "yellow" carries only a negative value, symbolizing danger, indecision, and ingratitude: *yellow-bellied* — '*fearful, cautious*'; *yellow Jack* — '*yellow fever*'.

Thus, phraseological units reflect the national specificity of the language; give the speech a unique identity, special expressiveness, accuracy, imagery.

Reference

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