

GRAMMATICAL ANALYSIS OF COMPARATIVE PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN ENGLISH AND THEIR RENDERING IN TRANSLATION

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ANNOTATION: This article examines the grammatical structure of comparative phraseological units in the English language, their semantic features, and the ways they are rendered in translation. The study analyzes the formation patterns of comparative phraseological expressions, their syntactic models, and their functional role in speech. Particular attention is paid to linguistic and cultural difficulties that arise when translating these units from English into Uzbek and Russian. The author substantiates the importance of such translation strategies as equivalence, functional correspondence, and contextual substitution in achieving adequate rendering. The results of the research have theoretical and practical significance for phraseology, translation studies, and comparative linguistics.

Key words: phraseological unit, comparative construction, comparative meaning, grammatical analysis, translation, equivalence, semantics, syntax, linguoculture.

INGLIZ TILIDAGI KOMPARATIV (QIYOSIY) FRAZEOLOGIK BIRLIKLARNING GRAMMATIK TAHLILI VA ULARNING TARJIMADA BERILISHI

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ANNOTATSIYA: Mazkur maqolada ingliz tilidagi komparativ (qiyosiy) frazeologik birliklarning grammatik tuzilishi, ularning semantik xususiyatlari hamda tarjima jarayonida berilish usullari tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqot davomida qiyosiy ma'no ifodalovchi frazeologizmlarning shakllanishi, ularning sintaktik modellari va nutqdagi funksional o'rni ko'rib chiqiladi. Shuningdek, ingliz tilidan o'zbek va rus tillariga tarjima qilish jarayonida uchraydigan lingvistik va madaniy muammolar ochib beriladi. Muallif frazeologik birliklarni adekvat tarjima qilishda ekvivalentlik, moslik va kontekstual almashtirish usullarining ahamiyatini asoslab beradi. Tadqiqot natijalari frazeologiya, tarjimashunoslik va qiyosiy tilshunoslik yo'nalishlarida ilmiy-amaliy ahamiyatga ega.

Kalit so'zlar: frazeologik birlik, komparativ konstruksiya, qiyosiy ma'no, grammatik tahlil, tarjima, ekvivalentlik, semantika, sintaksis, lingvomadaniyat.

**ГРАММАТИЧЕСКИЙ АНАЛИЗ КОМПАРАТИВНЫХ
(СРАВНИТЕЛЬНЫХ) ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ ЕДИНИЦ АНГЛИЙСКОГО
ЯЗЫКА И ИХ ПЕРЕДАЧА В ПЕРЕВОДЕ**

**БОБОХОНОВА МОХИЧЕХРА ФАЗЛИДДИН КИЗИ
СТУДЕНТКА ТЕРМЕЗСКОГО УНИВЕРСИТЕТА ЭКОНОМИКИ И
СЕРВИСА**

НАУЧНЫЙ РУКОВОДИТЕЛЬ: МАРДОНОВА РА'НО КИЛИЧЕВНА

АННОТАЦИЯ: В данной статье рассматриваются грамматическая структура компаративных (сравнительных) фразеологических единиц английского языка, их семантические особенности и способы передачи в процессе перевода. В ходе исследования анализируются модели образования сравнительных фразеологизмов, их синтаксические структуры и функциональная роль в речи. Особое внимание уделяется лингвистическим и культурным трудностям, возникающим при переводе данных единиц с английского языка на узбекский и русский языки. Автор обосновывает значимость таких переводческих приёмов, как эквивалентность, функциональное соответствие и контекстуальная замена. Результаты исследования имеют научно-практическую ценность для фразеологии, переводоведения и сопоставительного языкознания.

Ключевые слова: фразеологическая единица, компаративная конструкция, сравнительное значение, грамматический анализ, перевод, эквивалентность, семантика, синтаксис, лингвокультура.

Introduction

Phraseology represents one of the most expressive and culturally marked layers of any language. Phraseological units not only reflect the lexical richness of a language but also preserve the historical experience, worldview, and national mentality of its speakers. Among the wide variety of phraseological expressions, comparative (simile-based) phraseological units occupy a special place due to their figurative nature and their ability to intensify meaning through comparison. In English, such units often follow specific grammatical patterns and serve as powerful stylistic devices in both spoken and written discourse. Comparative phraseological units typically express resemblance between two objects, phenomena, or qualities, often through fixed grammatical constructions. These expressions may be built with conjunctions such as *as...as*, *like*, or other comparative markers that create vivid imagery and emotional coloring. For example, expressions like *as busy as a bee* or *like a fish out of water* combine grammatical comparison with figurative meaning, forming stable

phraseological structures. Their grammatical organization plays a key role in preserving both meaning and stylistic effect.

The study of the grammatical structure of comparative phraseological units is important because their form is closely connected with their semantic integrity. Any change in their grammatical composition may lead to partial or complete loss of figurative meaning. Therefore, analyzing their morphological and syntactic features helps to understand how these units function in speech and why they are resistant to structural modification. From the perspective of translation studies, comparative phraseological units present a significant challenge. Their figurative meaning, cultural specificity, and fixed grammatical form often make literal translation impossible. Translators must choose between full equivalents, partial equivalents, descriptive translation, or contextual substitution. In many cases, the grammatical structure of the original unit cannot be preserved in the target language, which requires compensation through other linguistic means. This makes the analysis of their grammatical organization especially relevant for developing effective translation strategies. Furthermore, comparative phraseological units reflect cultural stereotypes, traditional imagery, and nationally specific associations. When transferred into another language, these cultural elements may not always have direct parallels. As a result, translators must consider not only grammatical and semantic aspects but also cultural connotations to ensure adequate interpretation. This highlights the interdisciplinary character of the research, which lies at the intersection of phraseology, grammar, and translation theory. The relevance of this study is обусловлена the growing interest in phraseological research, contrastive linguistics, and intercultural communication. In modern linguistics, increasing attention is paid to how fixed expressions function in discourse and how they can be effectively translated without losing their imagery and stylistic value. Comparative phraseological units, due to their structural stability and expressive potential, offer valuable material for such investigation. The aim of this research is to analyze the grammatical structure of comparative phraseological units in English and to identify the main ways of rendering them in translation. To achieve this aim, the study examines their structural models, syntactic patterns, and functional characteristics, as well as translation techniques used to convey their meaning in other languages.

The findings of this research can contribute to the development of theoretical issues in phraseology and grammar, as well as provide practical recommendations for translators, teachers, and students dealing with phraseological material in foreign language learning and translation practice.

Materials and methods

The research material for this study consists of comparative phraseological units selected from authoritative English phraseological dictionaries, explanatory dictionaries, and literary texts. Special attention was paid to stable expressions containing explicit or implicit comparative structures, such as patterns with *as...as*, *like*, *than*, and other markers of comparison. In total, a representative corpus of comparative phraseological units was compiled to ensure a comprehensive grammatical and translational analysis. The selection of material was based on several criteria. First, the expressions had to demonstrate stability and reproducibility in speech, which are key features of phraseological units. Second, the units needed to contain a comparative component either structurally or semantically. Third, the examples were chosen from different functional styles, including fiction, journalistic texts, and everyday spoken language, in order to observe their usage in various communicative contexts.

The methodological framework of the research combines several linguistic approaches. The **descriptive method** was used to identify and classify comparative phraseological units according to their structural and grammatical features. This allowed the researcher to determine the most frequent syntactic models and morphological characteristics of such expressions. The **structural-grammatical analysis** played a central role in the study. Each phraseological unit was examined in terms of its grammatical composition, including the types of lexical components, the presence of comparative conjunctions, and the fixed or variable elements within the structure. Particular attention was given to how grammatical patterns contribute to the preservation of figurative meaning. The **semantic analysis** was applied to reveal the relationship between the literal and figurative meanings of the units. This method helped to identify how comparison functions as a mechanism of imagery and how semantic shifts occur within stable expressions. The interaction between grammar and meaning was considered one of the key aspects of the research. In addition, a **comparative (contrastive) method** was used to analyze the translation of English comparative phraseological units into Uzbek and Russian. This approach made it possible to determine similarities and differences in grammatical structure, figurative imagery, and semantic scope between the source and target languages. The analysis focused on the degree of equivalence and the transformations applied during translation. To examine translation strategies, the **translation analysis method** was employed. The study identified the main techniques used to render comparative phraseological units, including full phraseological equivalents, partial equivalents, descriptive translation, grammatical transformation, and contextual substitution. Each

example was analyzed in terms of how successfully the original grammatical structure and figurative meaning were preserved.

Elements of **contextual analysis** were also applied, since the meaning and stylistic effect of phraseological units often depend on their position in a sentence or broader discourse. This helped to determine how grammatical structure interacts with communicative function in real usage. Thus, the combination of descriptive, structural-grammatical, semantic, comparative, and translation analysis methods ensured a comprehensive investigation of the grammatical features of comparative phraseological units and the ways they are rendered in translation.

Results

The analysis of the collected material showed that comparative phraseological units in English demonstrate a high degree of structural stability and grammatical fixedness. Most of them are built on clearly defined syntactic patterns that are rarely altered without damaging their figurative meaning. The study revealed that the grammatical structure of these units plays a decisive role in preserving their semantic integrity and stylistic expressiveness. One of the most productive structural models identified in the research is the “**as + adjective + as + noun**” pattern. This model is widely used to express qualities through vivid comparison and is characterized by its rigid grammatical form. Any omission or substitution of components usually leads to the loss of phraseological status. Units of this type are frequently translated by using equivalent comparative constructions in the target language, although full structural correspondence is not always possible. Another common pattern is the “**like + noun**” construction, which often functions as an adverbial modifier in a sentence. These units are more flexible syntactically but remain stable semantically. In translation, they tend to be rendered either by a phraseological equivalent or by a descriptive expression when no direct analogue exists.

The research also identified comparative phraseological units with **implicit comparison**, where the comparative meaning is embedded in the lexical composition rather than expressed through explicit grammatical markers. Such units pose greater difficulty in translation because their figurative basis may be culture-specific and not easily recognizable in the target language. From the translation perspective, the results show that **full phraseological equivalence** is relatively rare and mostly occurs when both languages share similar imagery. More frequently, translators apply **partial equivalence**, **descriptive translation**, or **grammatical transformation**. In many cases, the original comparative structure is replaced with a non-comparative one in order to preserve meaning and stylistic effect. The findings confirm that grammatical structure, semantic imagery, and cultural background function as an interconnected

system. Successful translation depends on the translator's ability to balance these components rather than reproduce the grammatical form mechanically.

STRUCTURAL TYPES OF COMPARATIVE PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS AND THEIR TRANSLATION

№	English Phraseological Unit	Structural Model	Grammatical Features	Type of Meaning	Translation Strategy
1	<i>as busy as a bee</i>	as + Adj + as + N	Fixed comparative construction	Intensification of quality	Phraseological equivalent
2	<i>as cold as ice</i>	as + Adj + as + N	Stable adjective comparison	Emotional/physical state	Full or partial equivalent
3	<i>like a fish out of water</i>	like + N phrase	Simile functioning as adverbial	Feeling of discomfort	Descriptive translation / equivalent
4	<i>sleep like a log</i>	Verb + like + N	Comparative adverbial modifier	Degree of action	Phraseological analogue
5	<i>as light as a feather</i>	as + Adj + as + N	Fixed simile construction	Physical characteristic	Equivalent comparison
6	<i>run like the wind</i>	Verb + like + N	Comparative adverbial phrase	Speed/intensity	Contextual substitution
7	<i>as stubborn as a mule</i>	as + Adj + as + N	Stable qualitative comparison	Character trait	Phraseological equivalent
8	<i>eat like a horse</i>	Verb + like + N	Comparative adverbial	Excessiveness	Descriptive or analogue translation

Discussion

The results of the study confirm that comparative phraseological units in English represent a structurally and semantically cohesive group of fixed expressions in which grammar and imagery function as an inseparable whole. Their stability is not accidental but обусловлена the tight connection between grammatical form and figurative meaning. The comparative markers (*as...as*, *like*, etc.) do not simply perform a

syntactic role; they act as core elements that trigger metaphorical interpretation. The analysis shows that most comparative phraseological units follow a limited number of productive structural models. These models ensure recognizability and reproducibility in speech, which are essential features of phraseology. At the same time, even slight grammatical variation may lead to stylistic weakening or the complete loss of idiomatic meaning. This proves that grammatical structure in phraseological units is not merely a formal shell but a meaningful component of the unit's integrity. From a semantic point of view, comparison serves as a mechanism of intensification and imagery. By linking a quality or action to a culturally familiar image (such as animals, natural phenomena, or everyday objects), the language creates expressive and memorable units. However, these images are often culturally marked, which explains why direct translation is not always possible. The discussion of translation examples demonstrates that equivalence is achieved not through literal reproduction but through functional and semantic correspondence.

The translation analysis highlights that the choice of strategy depends on several factors: the presence or absence of a phraseological analogue in the target language, the stylistic register of the text, and the communicative purpose of the utterance. When a full equivalent exists, translators tend to preserve both imagery and grammatical comparison. In other cases, they resort to descriptive translation, grammatical transformation, or contextual substitution, prioritizing meaning and stylistic effect over structural similarity. Thus, the discussion confirms that comparative phraseological units require an integrated approach combining grammatical, semantic, and cultural analysis. Ignoring any of these aspects may lead to inadequate interpretation or loss of expressiveness in translation.

Conclusion

The conducted research has demonstrated that comparative phraseological units in English are characterized by structural stability, grammatical fixedness, and high expressive potential. Their grammatical organization is closely connected with their figurative meaning, which makes structural analysis an essential step in understanding their nature and functioning. The study identified the most productive grammatical models of comparative phraseological units and showed that these patterns play a key role in maintaining semantic integrity. The findings also revealed that comparison functions as a powerful stylistic device that intensifies meaning and creates vivid imagery based on culturally significant associations. From the translation perspective, the research confirmed that rendering comparative phraseological units requires flexible and context-sensitive strategies. Full phraseological equivalence is relatively rare, while partial equivalence, descriptive translation, and grammatical transformation

are more common. Successful translation depends on achieving functional and semantic adequacy rather than preserving the original grammatical structure. In general, the results of the study contribute to the development of phraseology, grammar, and translation studies by demonstrating the interdependence of structure, meaning, and culture in comparative phraseological units. The materials and conclusions of this research can be used in linguistic studies, translation practice, and the teaching of English as a foreign language, particularly in the areas related to idiomatic and figurative language.

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