

Concepts “War” and “Peace” In English Linguo-Culture and Units Denoting Them

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Abstract

This article deals with one of the most popular concepts in modern English linguo-culture; that is a concept “war and peace”. As we know a concept is a linguo-philosophical unit that was introduced thanks to an anthropocentric approach in linguistics. Lexical units that denote concepts “war and peace” in linguo-culture in the English language are analyzed in this article. Specific theoretical and practical characteristic features of these terms are thoroughly discussed in the article.

Keywords: cultural phenomenon, transmit culture, extralinguistic content, conceptual structure, national mentality, cultural background.

Currently, the advancement of intercultural communication necessitates a continuous research and enhancement of diverse people's mutual understanding. This is owing to the fact that new linguistic avenues emerge for investigating the characteristics of a specific language as well as considering the relationship between a language and other areas of people's life. However, disputes still exist in modern society, and some of them are caused by cultural or language disparities. Linguoculturology is a crucial part in avoiding potential disputes. Linguoculturology is a new branch of science, that deals with manifestations of the culture of different nations, which became fixed and are reflected in the language. Linguoculturology first appeared in the 70th of the XX century as an independent field of linguistics on a base of the triad by Emil Benveniste: language, culture, and human personality. The aim was to activate the facts about language and culture of the country of studying language with the help of philological methods of teaching that were developed by V.V. Vorobev, V.A. Maslova, V.N. Telia, A.T. Khrolenko, and others who are notable names in this field. Each of these scholars provided their own perspective of Linguoculturology. The most complete in modern domestic linguistics the theoretical and methodological foundations of Linguoculturology are set forth in Vorobev's work *Linguoculturology: Theory and Methods*. According to Vorobev, Linguoculturology is considered as the theoretical basis of linguistic culture; It is defined as “a complex scientific discipline of the synthesizing type that studies the interrelation and interaction of culture and language in its functioning and reflects this process as an integral structure of units in the unity of their linguistic and extralinguistic (cultural) content through systematic methods and with an orientation to modern priorities and cultural Establishment (a system of norms and universal values). The problem of correlation, interconnection, mutual influence of language and culture, a cultural phenomenon in the language, has a general scientific value in linguistics and, in fact, is interdisciplinary. Therefore Linguoculturology plays important role in modern research [1].

Linguoculturology is a humanitarian discipline that studies material and spiritual culture embodied in a living national language and manifested in linguistic processes. It allows you to establish and explain how one of the fundamental functions of language is carried out – to be an instrument for the creation, development, storage, and transmission of culture. Its goal is to study the ways in which language embodies in its units, stores and translates culture. According to Y.A. Belchikov, one of the topical problems of modern Linguoculturology is connected with the search for mechanisms of interaction between language and culture, because “language and culture have a common humanistic basis”. The aim of Linguoculturology is to study the methods which the language embodies in its units, to keep and to transmit culture [2]. Linguoculturology studies the national forms of being of society reproduced in the system of language communication and based on the cultural values of a specific historical community. The most important task of Linguoculturology and its characteristic distinguishing feature is the systematic representation of the culture of the people in its language. Linguoculturology explores the linguistic picture of the world, gives a systematic description of the facts of language and culture in their interaction and interrelation. A.T Khrolenko explains this “The subject is the fundamental issues related to the transforming side of the connection between language and culture: changes in the language and its units, conditioned by the dynamics of culture, as well as changes in the structure and changes in the functioning of culture, predetermined by the language realization of cultural meanings” [3]

When we analyze the place of a concept in linguistics, we first focus on the word concept. Is it possible to use the terms "concept", which is a product of logical activity, and "concept", which are widely used in cognitive linguistics.

A concept is a mental structure that is a quantum or generalization of knowledge of different content and form. Concepts form the basis of the various categories that form in the human mind, and serve as a starting point for them. It is often noted as a general feature of the concept that it does not have a clear view in terms of internal structure, but this idea is not very realistic [4]. After all, the image of the object that forms the basis of the concept is clear enough, and the secondary parts are ambiguous, but they interact around a single basis (nuclear basis). Therefore, it is important to recognize that the conceptual structure is systemic. Its structural features are manifested in the fact that it is structurally complex and perceived as a whole mental structure [9].

Concept is clear enough, and the secondary parts are ambiguous, but they interact around a single basis (nuclear basis). Therefore, it is important to recognize that the conceptual structure is systemic. Its structural features are manifested in the fact that it is structurally complex and perceived as a whole mental structure [5]. Culture is based on the principle of value. Each concept emphasizes a complex mental harmony, in addition to the spiritual structure, the relation of man to the object he represents, and includes universal or general, national-cultural, social, linguistic, personal-individual components. Analyzing the different views on the concept, the scholars came to a clear conclusion: a concept is not an abstract type of name, but a basic perspective on the knowledge and skills accumulated by the people over the centuries [10]. The term "concept" is both new and old in linguistics. Nowadays, the concept of concept is very important in linguistics. In traditional linguistics in the 1970s, the term concept was seen as a problem that required extraordinary in-depth interpretation [8]. The full use of the concept is associated with the translation of the works of British scientists Cheyfe, R. Jakobson, G. Lakoff, R. Langacker in the 80s. It is in these texts that the terms conceptualization and conceptual essence are often used. Many scholars also differ on the lexical meaning of the concept. There are those who see it as a logical category, a concept of practical philosophy, a basic unit of national mentality. The dictionary of cognitive terms defines the term "concept" as follows: A concept is a concept that serves to reflect the mental and psychic resources of our thinking in human knowledge and skills. The term "concept" in modern linguistics is used to describe the image of a lexical unit in thought. is used. In everyday scientific work, the term concept is often used as a synonym for concept [6]. "Concept" is derived from the Latin word "conceptus", which means "concept". A concept is a collection of concepts. Any set of ideas expressed or expressed

about an object is also a concept. The concept has become widespread in linguistics over the last decade [7]. The interpretation of the concept in cognitive linguistics, linguo-culturology, as well as literary studies differs.

The main target of this article is to focus on some lexical units including idioms and phrases that represent some cultural points of English linguo-culture. There are a number of lexical units including mainly idioms and phrases in English vocabulary store that denote a concept “war and peace” in linguo-culture of the English language. Some lexical units can only be related to historical, cultural background of the English nation. That is why below we are pointing out origins of these terms in order to be definite in their relationship with culture.

- a) To fight tooth and nail. Meaning: To battle with all one’s strength and determination. Origin: This phrase dates back to the 1500s when people literally used their teeth and nails as weapons during close combat.
- b) To bite the bullet. Meaning: To face a difficult or unpleasant situation with courage and resolve. Origin: In the days before anesthesia, injured soldiers would bite on a bullet to endure the pain during surgery. Nowadays, the phrase is used to describe accepting a tough situation and moving forward.
- c) In the trenches. Meaning: Actively engaged in a difficult task or dealing with a challenging situation. Origin: This phrase comes from World War I, where soldiers fought from trenches dug in the ground. It conveys the idea of being immersed in a difficult task or situation.
- d) To go over the top. Meaning: To take extreme or excessive action.
- e) Origin: This idiom also comes from World War I. “Going over the top” meant leaving the safety of the trenches and charging into enemy territory, often resulting in heavy casualties.
- f) At loggerheads. Meaning: To be in strong disagreement or dispute. Origin: Loggerheads were iron tools with long handles used to heat liquids in ship galleys. Sailors would sometimes use them as weapons during fights, leading to the phrase being used to describe conflicts.
- g) To bury the hatchet. Meaning: To make peace with someone or to end a conflict. Origin: This expression comes from the Native American custom of burying a hatchet or tomahawk when peace was declared between tribes.
- h) To extend an olive branch. Meaning: To offer peace or reconciliation. Origin: In ancient Greece, the olive branch symbolized peace and victory. Offering an olive branch was a gesture of goodwill and the desire for peace.
- i) To give someone a piece of your mind. Meaning: To express one’s anger or dissatisfaction with someone. Origin: Although this phrase may sound confrontational, it actually originates from a peaceful Quaker practice. In the 1600s, giving someone “a piece of your mind” meant sharing your thoughts and feelings calmly, hoping to resolve a conflict.
- j) To make one’s peace with. Meaning: To accept a situation and come to terms with it. Origin: This phrase has religious roots, with the idea of making peace with God or oneself after a difficult or challenging period.
- k) A meeting of the minds. Meaning: An agreement or mutual understanding between people. Origin: This expression is derived from the Latin term “consensus ad idem,” meaning “agreement to the same thing.” It emphasizes the importance of understanding and harmony in resolving disputes.
- l) To wage war on something. Meaning: To actively combat a problem or issue. Example: The government is waging war on drug trafficking to protect its citizens.
- m) To call a truce. Meaning: To agree to stop fighting or arguing for a period of time. Example: After hours of arguing, the siblings called a truce and decided to find a compromise.

- n) To hold out an olive branch. Meaning: To make a gesture of peace or reconciliation. Example: Sarah held out an olive branch by apologizing and inviting her friend to dinner.
- o) To keep the peace. Meaning: To maintain harmony or avoid conflict. Example: The mediator was brought in to keep the peace during the heated negotiations.
- p) To give peace a chance. Meaning: To explore peaceful alternatives before resorting to conflict. Example: The protesters urged world leaders to give peace a chance and reconsider their aggressive policies [11].

These idioms and phrases are related to various historical events that England faced in its historical periods. Some of them are connected to cultural, social traditions, customs, rituals of the nation. That proves how the vocabulary content is based on culture and history of the nation. These phrases are woven into our conversations, movies, and literature, enriching our communication and cultural experiences. As you can see, idiomatic expressions related to war and peace have permeated our language and conversations, offering us a richer and more nuanced way of expressing ourselves. By understanding the origins and meanings of these phrases, you'll be better equipped to use them effectively in your own communication.

Moreover, learning idioms from various languages and cultures can help you appreciate the similarities and differences in the ways people express themselves. This can lead to a deeper understanding of human nature and our shared experiences, making you a more empathetic and skilled communicator.

Unfortunately, humanity has always faced with a number of conflicts that resulted in various battles, wars. After a lot of victims, people started appreciating peace. These social situations influenced the vocabulary of the language as well. It has been filled with war and peace idioms that assist people in understanding a general concept war and peace in general.

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