

ALBANIAN OBSERVATION PHRASEOLOGY WITH THAT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE FORMED BY METAPHORS

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Abstract: In today's communication in schools, workplaces and communities has increased significantly being intermingled and involved with English language. Albanian and English languages have many phraseology units. They are formed by the transformation of the syntagm with two or more denominator units (noun, adjective, verb, adverb, etc). This figurative transformation is realized with comparison, hyperbola, litotes, metaphor, metonymy, etc. Both languages use all these means of communication. Our thesis focuses particularly on the formation of phraseology units with metaphors and aims to analyze how they are formed in four steps of transformation using the structure of:

- a)- free syntagm (phrase), (or free phrase).
- b)- syntagm (phrase) with comparison (with connectors: as, like).
- c)- syntagm (phrase) with metaphor (connector falls).
- d)- formation of phraseology units.

This process is similar in both languages, but there isn't compliance and equality in their formation. By juxtaposing the phrases units in both languages, we aim at shedding some light on the main similarities and differences which seem to bring the languages closer but also create a gap between them, pointing out the common or universal features as well as the originality and the unique character of each language. If we analyze some phrasal units taken out from the dictionary (Phraseology English- Albanian dictionary by I. Stefanllari 1998) we notice that the units of English language are formed differently from the Albanian ones. This can prove the occurrence of linguistic relativism.

Key words: phrase, metaphor phrases, structure, syntagm, similarities and differences, function.

1. INTRODUCTION

Within human communication, the language remains as a whole system, which acts as an intermediary between the people and the social world that they represent with their language and culture. "Language is one of the ways that takes form to the thinking and the integrity of our knowledge ".¹⁾

Through language and its system, through words and categories that they create, the information and its use through the language, lead to the dynamic development for all mankind.

Facing the Albanian language with English language, the phraseology formed in those languages, seen under the light of a comparative analysis, is really an interesting job. On the one hand we have a language like Albanian, proving relatively late, as written (somewhere by the XV century), and on the other hand, a language like English with a rich literary and linguistic tradition, in the very early, and now ubiquitous in all spheres of life.

English speakers are much more numerous and can notice a big impact of this language in Albanian, not only borrowing the words for the fact of technology, which is inevitable, but also of phraseology units.

The phraseology is one of the greatest assets of the language, with special strength and exciting expression. Everyday speaking and artistic literature cannot be imagined without this subject of Albanian language. In the tradition of comparative linguistics in the center of it, stands a comparative description and in our case the comparison of the function of:

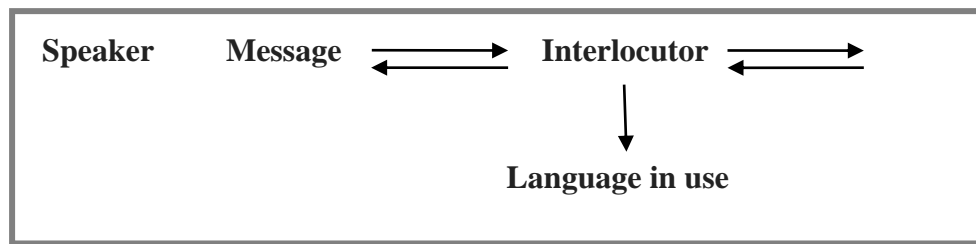
- a)- Free syntagms (free phrases)
- b)- Syntagms with comparison
- c)- Syntagms with metaphor
- d)- Formed by phraseology units

In both languages, Albanian and English, we aim to find out the value, features, and characteristics they have in common as well as differences between them. In this context, a detailed and comparative survey between phraseologies of Albanian language, formed by metaphor, with that of the English language, presenting a research goal and not just theoretical value, but it would be very welcomed in explaining all the situations in practical use, where both languages are put so close, or mixed used in the daily routine and different social, communicative situations.

Saussure - pays particular attention to the rapport language-thought. The thought, without language is like a fog, something vague, undefined. Only the intervention of language makes, the thought is materialized.

With the rapport language-thought, Saussure tends to see the meaning as a content and the language as form. The thought does not exist without the language as well as the language

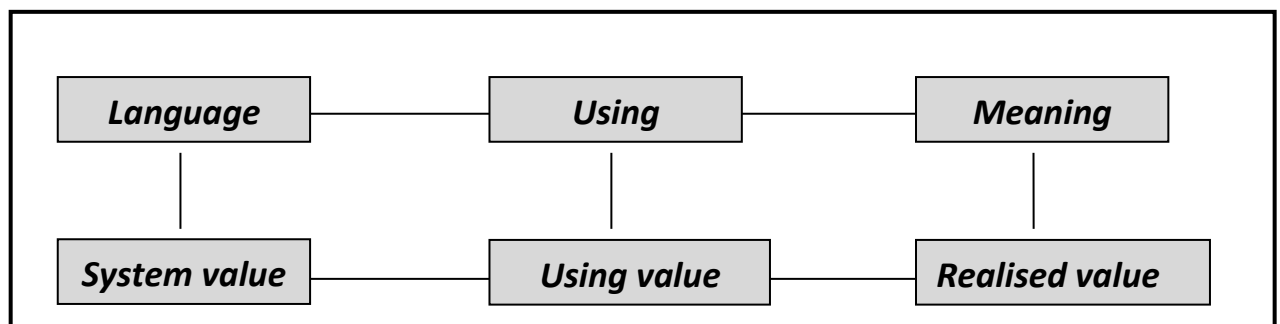
without the thought can not exist. By means of language, the thoughts are delivered from the speaker to the interlocutor, thus is creating a mutual relationship



(fig.1)

Breal sees language as a concept of validity of use and as a promoter of the dynamic of speaking.²⁾ While Saussure, the concept of validity, degrades with the trinomial:

- a) - systematic validity (language as a system)
- b) - the validity of use (the language as a communication tool)
- c) - the validity of performance (the language as conductor of the message)



(Fig.2)

Breal is the same opinion with Wittgenstein: " The meaning of expression depends entirely on how we go on using it ".³⁾ So we claim that man is equipped with language, in which represents its experience and reflects it onto – others. Linguistic system and its function, semantic transformations activate potential utterance as a complicated process, connected with the rules of language, with the semantic background, with the needs of the vivid utterance.⁴⁾ So, it is obvious that the Albanian language is not alone in the use of phraseology, and phraseology units, that we find it in English and other languages as well.

For instance : “like a fish out of the water”--- (embarrassment)

“as a cat’s paw”--- (used as a tool)

“like a bull in china shop”--- (clumsy)

“to fit like a glove”--- (perfect match)

- “to sleep like a log”--- (deep, good sleep)
- “to smoke like a chimney--- (smoke too much)
- “as fit as a fiddle”--- (to be healthy)
- “as hard as steel”--- (very strong)

Even in Italian, and if you take to analyze other languages, we'll be faced with similar phenomena.

For instance:

- “lavorare come un mulo”--- (working like a dog)
- “dormire come un angetto--- (sleep like an angle)
- “dormire come un morto”---(sleep as a dead person)
- “muto come un pesce”---(dumb as a fish)
- “come un cane bastonato”---(like a salvish person)

As well as uses in the Albanian phraseology :

For instance:

- “si yll i bukur”--- (cute and beautiful)
- “si dritë e diellit”--- (very appreciate)
- “si qen i rrahur”--- (a salvish person)
- “si kali në lëmë”--- (comes round)
- “si i rrjedhur nga trutë”---(unconscious)
- “si motor i prishur”--- (without sense)
- “si vaji ne lakra”--- (delivered quickly)
- “sikur i ka ngrënë gomari bukën”---(bored)
- “me turi të varur”--- (upset)
- “shpëtoi në fije të perit”(in danger situation, litote)
- “ me një kembë në varr”---(very sick, metonymy)
- “i'u hodh për fyti”---(react sharply), etc..

Figurative uses of phraseology, can bring the semantic-linguistic developments, colorful figuration : simile, metaphor, hyperbole, litotes, metonymy, synecdoche, etc., find out expressing and marking values of phraseology units.

2. THE LANGUAGE AND METAPHORICAL PHRASEOLOGY

Languages have similarities and differences. Phrases / Syntagms raise up on indicators related to the spiritual world, material, psychological, etc., of the spoken language members. The appropriation of the world, people face with natural phenomena, with objects or issues that are known or are identical or similar to the people belonging to different geographical areas and languages.

eg. Let's show here, things, objects, phenomena, which have particularly features and characteristics, over which is built the semantic and structural meaning of phraseology unit. (scholar J. Thomas, uses the term "vatër semantike").

Mention here the word as: blackberry, sea, river, mountain, rock, mud, moon, sun, etc., which are elements of nature, but with particular features, whether in different countries and different peoples and that build the phraseology related to them. The borrowings are related to the world of art, technology, literature, mythology, etc.

- e. g.**
- " Pandora's box " - from Greek mythology, where inside the box, left only the hope.
 - 'The thread of Arianna' - from Greek mythology, the symbol of the ' thread of life "
 - " The horse of Troy " - from Greek mythology, the symbolism of trickery.
 - " Spectrum of Zeus' - from Greek mythology, with very broad sense.
 - " The Coliseum of Rome " - from the Roman period, with the idea that has seen many things that have happened during a long period.
 - 'Shed tears as crocodile' - expressions that borrowed from Australia, where there are crocodiles. (there aren't living crocodiles in Albania, the phrase comes from Australia).
 - " Hidden as an ostrich " - as a comparison with irony sense, borrowed from the Australian continent.
 - " In the pocket like a kangaroo, " - to the protection of babies, a phrase that comes from the Australian Continent, etc.

Let see also the metaphorical transformations, as a gradual change, step by step passing in a long period of time. Initially, there is firstly, a comparison based on this process:

e.g.

- "iu bë zemra sa një mal"/ "iu bë zemra mal"
- "u bë si bishë e tërbuar"/ "u bë bishë"
- "dallon si dele e zezë"/ "dele e zezë"

Metaphors as a process and the literary trope build figurative meanings, the linguistic trope process, create figurative meanings. Such that the phraseology with a comparison on base, that we can say the metaphor is a missing comparison, with a fallen connector, or an abstract comparison, where is the gray part and function of thought.

The abstractism of metaphor, ahead to concrete situations to extend the communication in function of communication.

Abstraction is closely related to the figurative use of words in speech, and meaningful use of trope (not literally), of a syntagm (phrase, or sentence), as an intermediate marking unit.

According to Prof. Valter Memisha “metaphors first, takes stylistic figure, and then the semantic the unity pales and weak”.⁵⁾This process is different for all languages, in the same way its tools are different. This process can come with linguistic tropes (metaphor, metonymy, synecdoche, formations with simile, hyperbole, analogy, symbolic, etc.).

e.g. *shes domate, ngeli ne baltë, ha dru, var buzët, i laj duart, i jap dorën, të lan e të lyen*, etc., where the phraseology phrase and use is free, the word within a phrase, and then begins the rigid use, (which comes from the frequency of the usage on time, in a relatively long period), which leads to the birth of the figurative phraseological units.

- e.g. -shes perime/shes mend, (be selfish)
 -ngeli ne baltë/e la ne baltë, (without help, without support)
 -vari buzët/i vari buzet,(is upset)
 -laj duart/i laj duart,(rejected)
 -të jep dorën/ të jep doren,(help him/her)
 -ska fytyrë, (dishonist)
 -në grykë të pushkës (under the crosshair, threatened)

The phraseology is the figurative transformation of the syntagm or the phrase with two or more limbs, with marking words, in the context of extremely long time, equal in meaning of a single word, which performs syntax function as a single word. Just in our paper we shall see the phraseology as:

a)- Free syntagm

“i kthehu krahu” (concret meaning)/”i kthehu krahet”(phraseological unit,to ignore someone),

“hene e plote,(concret meaning), hene e plot, (phraseological unit, round face, cute)

b)- Syntagm with comparison (using like ,as, simile)

“i ra si bombe” simile/” i ra bomba”(metaphor,very difficult situation).

“si mali me bore”,(metaphor, sth. full)

c)- Syntagm with metaphor,

...iu be zemra mal,(satisfied)/ vras mendjen,(thinking) /u be derr, (bored) /”ia hodhi larg e larg”, (said everything carefully) /i vune hekurat,(arrested) /u be helm,(was upset) etc. which have on their constructed base a simile with a fallen connector, or an analogy, or abstraction.

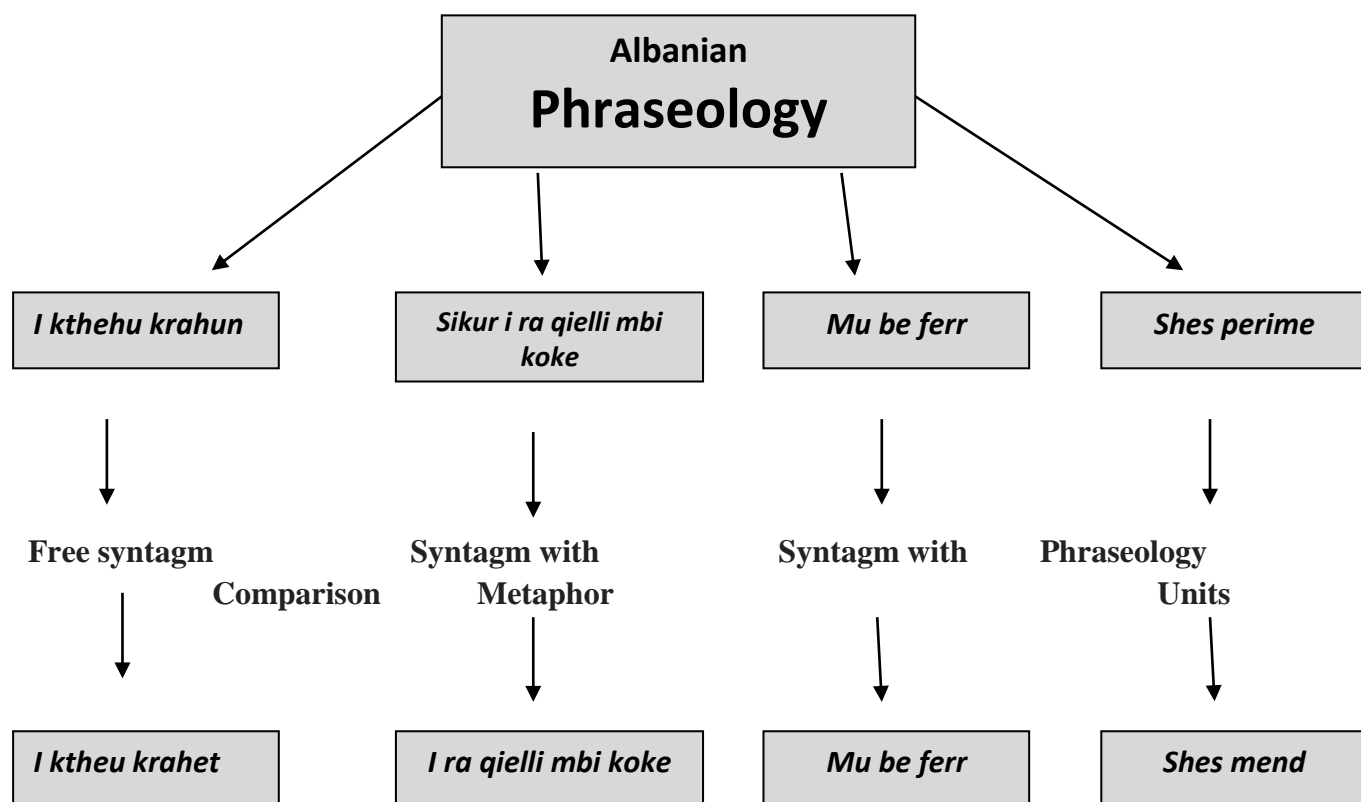
d)-A form with phraseology unit.

...“shes perime”----“shes mend”(be selfish)---metaphor.

...luaj me letra”---“luaj me leke”8a lot of money)---metaphor

...”i jap dicka”---“i jap doren”(help him/her)---metaphor

....”hap deren”---“hap letrat”(tell the truth)---metaphor



(Fig. 3)

Let us see now phraseology/syntagm related to phenomena of nature, and many similarities between Albanian-English language, as well as other languages.

The phraseology with metaphor related to nature's elements:

- M'u bë zemra mal./Happy as a lark.
- Midis dy zjarreve/Between the devil and the deep blue sea.
- Kerkon hënë/ Ask for the moon/.
- Fjala gdhen gurin./Written in stone.
- Njëherë në hënë/sene./Once in a blue moon.
- Një pikë në oqean/A drop in the ocean.
- Ia solli era(the rumors,)./ Get wind off.
- Turbullon ujërat./Muddy the waters.
- Shkoi si vetëtime./Like greased lightning.
- Ne fije të perit./Skate on thin ice.

The phraseology with metaphor related to the parts of body:

- Më rreh (më troket) zemra./One's heart is in one's mouth.
- Ngul kembë ne tënden./ Stick to your own guns.
- Ngul kembë si mushka./Stubborn as a mule.

- Me bie ndër mend./Come to mind.
- I kthehu krahët./ Cold shoulders.
- I ra pushim zemre./ Die of a broken heart.
- Vrapon me të katra./Fleet of foot.
- Ballë për ballë./Eyeball to eyeball.
- Paguajnë te tjerët./Foot the bill.
- Gjej/ndjek me nuhatje./Follow one's nose.
- Ta ka ngrënë macja gjuhën?/ Cat got your tongue?
- E ka gjuhen brisk./Sharp tongue.

The phraseology with metaphor or simile related to the animals and poultry:

- Ha si kalë./Eat like a horse.
- Ha si mizë./Eat like a bird.
- Skile e vjetër./Dirty dog.
- C'farë belaje?!/Fine kettle of fish.
- Te hedhësh një sy./Bird's eye view.
- Shpërtheu mizë dheu./Si fara e krisjes./The birds and the bees.
- Ujku –ujku/ka ra ujku./Cry wolf.
- Sillet ftohtë./Cold fish.
- Gënjeshtër me bisht./Fish story/Fish tale.
- Derdh lote korkodili/Shed crocodile tears.

Phraseology according four categories:

... Free Syntagm in both languages:

- Del nga shinat./Set up of line.
- Qendron me kembë në tokë./Stand on your own two feet.
- I laj duart./Wash your hands off something.
- Kape zogun(kape shansin)./Make hay while the sun shines.
- I vë zjarrin(I fut xixat)./Play havoc.
- M'i kanë lidhur duart./Have one's hand tied.

...Syntagme with metaphor in both languages:

- Bëj veshin e shurdhër./Turn deaf ear.
- Flet goja para mendjes./Speak off the cuff.
- Mban erë (dicka)./Smell a rat.
- Per një kacidhe./For a song.
- Bën nje djallë e gjysëm./Cost an arm and a leg.
- Ne fije tëë perit/Walk a tightrope.
- Zbut gjakrat/Sugar the pill.

...Syntagm with comparison in both languages:

- Ngul kembë si mushka./Stubborn as a mule.
- Nuhat si qen./Smell like a dog.
- Si femijë I lumtur./Like a kid with a new toy.
- Si peshku pa ujë./Like a fish out of water.
- Papritur e pa kujtuar./Like a bolt from the blue.
- E lehtë si pupël./Light as air.
- Si nata me ditën./Different as night and day.
- S'pipëtinte gjë./Still as death.

...Formed phraseological units in both languages:

- Shes perime. (concrete meaning)/Shes mend.(be selfish,phraseology, metaphor) / Sell mind.
- Laj duart(concrete meaning), Laj duart (be given up, phraseology, metaphor) / Wash your hands off (sth.).
- Të jap dorën.(concrete meaning)/Të jap dorën.(help, phraseology, metaphor)/Give a hand.
- Luaj me lek.(concrete meaning)./Luaj me lek,(phraseology, metaphor)./To have money to burn.
- Vij rotull.(concrete meaning)./ Vij rotull.(at the same point again, metaphor)./Run and round in circles.
- Shtnrëgo rripin (concrete meaning)./Shtnrëgo rripin.(spend money carefully ,metaphor)/Tighten your belt.
- Del nga shinat.(concrete meaning)./Del nga shinat.(isn't in a proper way, metaphor)./Step out of line.

Syntagm (Phrase)	Albanian Example	English Example	Meaning
<i>Free sintagm/ phrase</i>	<i>Ska rrugë tjetër</i>	<i>Beggars can't be choosers</i>	<i>You should not reject an offer if it's the only possibility you have. You have no choice.</i>
<i>Syntagm with comparison</i>	<i>Ngul kembë si mushka</i>	<i>As stubborn as a mule</i>	<i>Persistent or determined to do something or on something you are saying.</i>
<i>Syntagm with metaphor</i>	<i>Mu bë ferr</i>	<i>Get in someone's hair</i>	<i>You are annoying them so much that they can't get on with what they are doing.</i>
<i>Phraseology unit</i>	<i>Luaj me lekë</i>	<i>To have money to</i>	<i>Have so much money</i>

		<i>burn</i>	<i>that can spend it on anything they want.</i>
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(Fig.4)

As you can see, the Albanian Language uses so much syntagms with metaphor. It is a language that is expressed so much by the phraseology. Notes that metaphors, coming to their right form have come a very long way, until their final process, final shape. By the phrase, and then in the form of comparison, reduce the comparative particle, they came into their rigid dimension, being perfect, so gradually step by step, as the professor Memisha says : "metaphor and semantic abstraction, take new dimensions, language reveals its options and intellectualized, regardless of the source of phraseologic units, come directly from the popular fountain".⁶⁾

And we can say that the English Language uses so many idioms and as a result that's why we say it is an idiomatic language. During this work, I found most of corresponding metaphorical Albanian phrases as English idioms. For all we said above, we can prove the language relativism between Albanian and English language.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

Many units mixed with metaphors, similes, hyperboles, synecdoche, metonymies etc., mean quantitative relations, understanding them not word by word, but figuratively.

We encounter them in every language, they demonstrate that the similarities and differences constitute the languages relativism realized in meaning and in time, in utterance and thought, in form and content, like a precious treasure in spoken languages of the humanity.

Many uses of the word in different meanings, in different figurative ways, in different interpretations according to different viewpoints and contexts, in the "host-sentence", where it is part of meaning, creating a colorful-context relationship between "the part and the whole". The word, phrase/syntagm, as well as the spoken and written language take the dynamics of their reflections in the respective dictionaries. It indicates the lexicon, semantics, and word formations, syntactic and morphological values and explains their functions and daily uses as a cultural and linguistic heritage for all nations.

In a given context, people endowed with language, rich in linguistic tools, in a given context, represents their experience and ideas to others.

The universal message of language, (its ability to communicate), the different traditional values, semantics, social and cultural issues, motives and variety of figure of speech and their uses, concrete and artistic lexicon, embodies the great power of the spoken word as a communication system for the humanity.

- Phrases with metaphor give the communication by the symbolization.
- Phrases with metaphor go through the concept of thought, not by words.

- Phrases with metaphor make parallelism and comparison.
- According to different contexts, metaphor makes different interpretations.
- It is the grey part that the readers need to guess through the abstraction of the subject.
- The grey part of metaphors extends the communication.
- Metaphor transforms the abstraction to the concreteness.
- Metaphors are not just language , they are deeply engrained patterns of association in thought.
- Metaphor is not just a matter of language and thought, but also of communication.

Endnotes:

- 1) F. de Saussure, Course de linguistique Generale, Payot, 1969, f.23. Semantic and linguistic meanings as the validity of the language in use.
- 2) Breal, M. Essai de semantique: science des significations, Hachette, Paris, 1897
- 3) L. Wittgenstein, Recherches philosophiques, perkth, E. Rigal, Paris, Gallimard, 2004
- 4) Thomai, J. Teksti dhe Gjuha, f. 87.
- 5) Valter Memisha, ‘‘Studime për fjalën shqipe’’, përmbledhje artikujsh, Tiranë 2011.
- 6) Valter Memisha, ‘‘Studime për fjalën shqipe’’, përmbledhje artikujsh, Tiranë 2011

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