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**ABSTRACT**

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**PHRASEOLOGICAL COMPOUNDS WITH  
NUMBERS IN ENGLISH**

Specialty: 5708.01 – Germanic languages

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## INTRODUCTION

The actuality and the usage rate of the research work. In addition to playing a significant role in national language awareness, phraseologisms are rich sources of linguistic and cultural information that capture the distinctive aspects of the people's culture. Phraseologisms are rightfully regarded "mirror of the life of the nation" and play a special role in creating the linguistic landscape of the world. "The meaning of a phraseological unit is closely related to the knowledge, practical experience, and cultural and historical traditions of the people who speak the native language. Phraseological units are aimed at characterizing a person and his activity with their semantics"<sup>1</sup>. Like other layers of the phraseological fund of languages, phraseological units containing numbers are also of special interest. Quantity, which includes numbers, is one of the universal logical categories that reflects the process of human understanding of reality and its properties.

Phraseological units form an important layer of every language. Phraseological units containing numbers can be found in English as well as in all languages of the world. However, not all numbers in the language are used in phraseological units. The use of numbers in phraseology is based on the understanding of the linguistic-semiotic, cognitive-linguocultural meaning they carry in the national culture.

In our modern globalized world, one of the factors that ensure globalization is language, including languages that are hegemonic due to their functionality in the world. One such language is English. The English nation is a nation that has given great geniuses to world literature such as William Shakespeare, Daniel Defoe, Jonathan Swift, George Gordon Byron. The works of these listed authors have been and are being translated into the languages of the progressive nations of the world. Of course, phraseological combinations occupy an important place in the creativity of those great personalities as the nation's national and moral wealth. The translation of phraseological

<sup>1</sup> Dronov V.V. Linguistic picture of the world // Russian language abroad. No. 5, 2007 (204), p. 5-7. c.7.

units is of particular importance. In this sense, any research work on phraseological combinations is actual.

The actuality of the study is related to the features of the use of numbers in fixed word combinations in English. The fact that numbers can be a carrier of symbolic or linguistic information, obtaining such information is an important problem, which allows us to reveal their functionality, frequency of usage, and role in phraseological units.

The study of the quantitative category in phraseology and its scientific-theoretical issues, the structural-semantic analysis of number-containing phraseology in English and their discovery in various fields of discourse is an issue that always remains actual. The study of the internal meaning structure and external structure of phraseological units and the analysis of their development features are currently becoming theoretically and practically relevant. The interest in the study of the phraseological fund of the language in the linguistic plan is clearly increasing every year, which allows "to understand the uniqueness of phraseology as a sign and to determine the participation of phraseology in the conceptualization of the language of the world."<sup>2</sup>

The object and subject of the research. The object of the dissertation work is phraseology and phraseological units in which numbers are used in English. The subject of the research is the systematic summarization of the results of the analysis of phraseological combinations containing numbers in English.

The aim and the tasks of the research. The main goal of the research is to structurally-semantically analyze the phraseological combinations in which quantity and ordinal numbers are used in the English language, to investigate the ways of formation of number-containing phraseological combinations, and to clarify their processing characteristics in the discursive position.

To achieve this goal, the following tasks are expected to be

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<sup>2</sup> Kovshova, M.L. Linguistic and cultural method in phraseology: Codes of culture / M.L. Kovshova. – M.: Book house "LIBROKOM", 2013. p.7.

fulfilled in the research:

- Researching the scientific and theoretical issues of the study of the quantitative category in phraseology;
- Studying the logical and linguistic relationship of the quantitative category;
- Investigation of the symbolism of numbers in the linguistic and cultural context;
- Researching phraseological combinations with numbers from the structural-semantic aspect;
- Conducting discursive analysis of number-containing phraseology in English;
- In-text evaluation of phraseological combinations containing numbers;
- Evaluation of the quantitative component in phraseological combinations
- Determining the frequency of use of phraseological combinations containing numbers

**Research methods and sources.** Linguistic analysis, discursive analysis, and statistical calculation methods were used in the dissertation, such as the semantic analysis method, which involves the study of the cultural values of numbers; the descriptive method, which includes the monitoring and classification of the material; and the selection method from various phraseological, explanatory, and bilingual translation dictionaries based on the presence of the number component in the language unit.

As a resource, various audiovisual materials taken from the Internet and phraseological combinations from a wide range of dictionaries were analyzed. Also, articles published on the Internet and English books, including fiction, were used. William Shakespeare's "Macbeth" (2010), Donna Tartt's "The Secret History" (1992), Jane Austen's "Emma" (2000), and Charles Dickens' "David Copperfield" (1850) are among the fiction books.

**Scientific novelty of the research.** In this dissertation, as the first monographic research on phraseological units containing numbers in English in Azerbaijani German studies, phraseological units using quantity and ordinal numbers are analyzed from a

structural-semantic and linguistic point of view. The ways of formation of phraseological units containing numbers are determined, and phraseological units containing numbers are investigated and involved in research within the discourse. The characterization of number-component phraseology in English, the determination of the evaluation component in such phraseology, and the discovery of the national characteristics of number-containing phraseology in English can be considered among the scientific innovations of the research.

**The main provisions for the defense.** The following theses are submitted for defense in the dissertation work:

- Logical and linguistic connections should be taken into account in the study of the quantitative category in phraseology.
- The linguistic and cultural landscape of the symbolism of numbers embodies formal values.
- Phraseologisms containing numbers have expressive importance in the phraseology of world languages.
- The structural-semantic analysis of number-containing phraseology in English is based on the study of phraseological units in which quantity and ordinal numbers are used.
- Phraseologisms with numbers in English are relevant in discourse.
- Thematic analysis of number-containing phraseological units in English is based on their etymology.
- Evaluation of the quantitative component in phraseological combinations includes semanticization.
- Phraseological combinations with numbers in English have the function of text creation.
- The frequency of use of phraseological combinations with numbers in English is different.

**Theoretical and practical significance of research.** The theoretical importance of the research work is that the dissertation summarizes theoretical ideas on phraseological combinations containing numbers in English. Also, the theoretical importance of the dissertation is embodied by the recognition of the different characteristics of numbers in phraseological combinations and their

dominant position in paradigmatic relations. In the study, the evaluation of number-containing phraseology in relation to national values allows us to expand our understanding of the cultural identity of the English people of German origin.

**Approbation and the applying of the work.** The topic of the dissertation was approved at the meeting of the Scientific Council of Nakhchivan State University on January 25, 2019 (protocol No. 6) and was registered at the meeting of the Scientific Council on Philological Problems of the Scientific Research Coordination Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan on September 22, 2020 (protocol No. 3).

The main theses of the work are reflected in 13 scientific articles, conference material, and theses published by the author in journals and collections included in the list of the National Academy of Sciences. The results of the dissertation were discussed and advised for defense in the "English language and translation", "English language and methodology," and "Azerbaijani language and literature" departments of Nakhchivan State University.

The research results were presented at the 1st International Scientific Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences, the 4th International Asian Conference on Modern Sciences, the "The Turkish World between East and West" Conference, the collection of articles of the 27th International Scientific-Practical Conference, and the 4th Republican Scientific Conference of doctoral and master's students on the topic "Unity of Education, Research, and Innovation."

**The name of the organization where the dissertation has been accomplished.** The dissertation was performed at the "English language and translation" department of Nakhchivan State University.

**The volume of the structural sections of the dissertation separately and the total volume with the sign.** The dissertation consists of "Introduction", 3 chapters, "Conclusion," and a list of used literature. The "Introduction" part of the dissertation is 6 pages - 10429 marks, Chapter I 34 pages - 64992 marks, Chapter II 43 - 81014 marks, Chapter III 31 pages - 57497 marks, and "Conclusion"

### THE MAIN CONTENT OF THE WORK

In the "Introduction" part of the dissertation, the relevance of the topic is justified, the level of use is put into perspective. The object and subject of the study, the goals and objectives of the study, the research methods and sources, the scientific novelty of the work, theses defended, the theoretical and practical significance, the approbation and implementation of the work and other issues are explained.

Chapter I of the dissertation called "Scientific-theoretical issues of the study of the quantitative category in phraseology" consists of five paragraphs. The first paragraph entitled "Logical and linguistic relationship of quantitative category" deals with cognitive and linguistic merits of quantitative category. It is noted that quantity is considered a philosophical category and is regarded a quantitative manifestation of all indicators of objective reality. Quantitative category reflects the quantity, order, level of development of an item as one of the existing categories in the language. "The quantitative category is a universal, that is, a logical category and is one of the important steps in understanding reality".

As we know, quantity is one of the abstract categories. It is directly related to the objective world and is considered one of the important factors in understanding the world. In other words, the quantitative category constitutes a specific link of the cognitive process related to the concept of quantity.

Numbers have the ability to reflect not only logical and philosophical features of the concept of quantity (number), but also cultural features. Y.S. Stepanov has shown three interrelated forms of the "numeral" concept manifested in culture: 1) counting, that is, some actions; 2) the word expressing the quantity, i.e., the name of

<sup>3</sup> Kipchak, M.D., Expression of the concept of quantity in language (Historical-typological research) / M.D. Kipchak - Baku: Elm, -2000, p.11.

the quantity; 3) a written sign of quantity<sup>4</sup>. Based on this consideration, it can be determined that the quantitative concept is displayed in civilization in three forms: the calculation, the name of the quantity, and the written sign of the quantity<sup>5</sup>.

In the paragraph called "1.2. The concept of amount and quantity in the meaning structure of numbers", the role of the concept of quantity and quantity in the meaning of numbers is defined, and it is noted that quantitative numerals and quantitative numbers are used to indicate the total number of things that can be counted. Quantitative numbers can be definite (five), indefinite (many), simple (four, nine), complex (two hundred, nine thousand), and composite (one thousand nine hundred and eighty-one).

In linguistics, three main methods were used when expressing the concept of quantity. These are syntactic (nine), lexical (less, more, etc.), and morphological (-s, -s) methods. The role of numbers in the syntactic expression of quantity is important. In this way, they are used as one side in the expression of the quantity<sup>6</sup>.

In linguistics, quantity is the name given to a number used for quantity. Quantitative numbers are also known as counting numbers because they express quantity.

It is possible to express the concept of quantity using 23 words in the Azerbaijani language. These include the numbers *one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty, sixty, seventy, eighty, ninety, hundred, thousand, million, billion, and trillion*. Other numbers are formed by making compounds from those words by different methods, expressing the concepts of least and most quantity: *eleven, fifty-two, one hundred and fifteen, two hundred, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven, two hundred*

<sup>4</sup> Stepanov, Yu. C. Constants: the dictionary of Russian culture / Yu. C. Stepanov. - M.: Academic Project, 2001. c. 487.

<sup>5</sup> Bayramova, A. The system of grammatical categories of the noun in the cross-cultural context: / Doctor of Philology Diss. abstract. / - Baku. -2018. p. 15.

<sup>6</sup> Khalilov, B. Morphology of modern Azerbaijani language: [2 parts] / B. Khalilov. - Part I - Baku: Elm, 2000. p. 247.

and fifty million, five hundred and thirty-one, one thousand ninety-five.

In English, the following words are mainly used to express the concept of quantity: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty, sixty, seventy, eighty, ninety, hundred, thousand, million, billion, and trillion. These numbers are determined and fixed according to special rules, and using those rules, we can express the amount we want.

Since numbers express the concepts of quantity and quantity numbers are widely used when interpreting the concept of quantity using the syntactic method.

In the paragraph "1.3. Linguocultural aspect of the symbolism of Numbers," the symbolic meanings of numbers are defined, and the symbolism they express in English culture is discussed. It is shown that the numbers *one, two, three, four, five, seven, nine, twelve, and forty* reflect the cultural and national characteristics that form part of the ethnic landscape of the world. As we know, not all numbers have a nominal value. In symbolism, these numbers are divided into two groups: productive and unproductive, of which the most productive are mainly the first ten numbers. The more the complexity of the morphological structure of the numbers increases, the more their activity decreases.

The number "zero" is defined as the beginning and end point of all that exists, and it has the designation of infinity.

The number "one" is the first number in a series of complex and varied natural numbers in other cultures, as well as in English culture.

The number "one" gives rise to the number "two", that is, the number that includes positive and negative qualities is considered the antithesis and basis of binary systems<sup>7,8</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> Kerlot, H. E. Dictionary of symbols / H. E. Kerlot. - M.: Self-book, 1994. p.209.

<sup>8</sup> Hopper, V. F. Medieval number symbolism: its sources, meaning and influence. on thought and expression: [Electronic resource] / V. F. Hopper. - New York: Columbia University, 1938. p.4.

The number "three" is one of the most positive numbers not only in symbolism but also in religious thought, mythology, legends, and fairy tales.

As the next stage in the symbolism of numbers, the number "four" was considered mystical and mysterious. The number "four" is based on the symbolic meaning of equality.

In English cultural traditions, the number "five" was an important symbol of the universe, meaning that there are 4 cardinal points and 1 central point. In general, five is a geometric symbol of harmony, balance, order, and perfection.

"Six" is considered the number of creations, and this belief is associated with the creation of the earth by God in 6 days.

In the world view of the English language, the number "seven" is considered a symbol of success and happiness and mainly serves to reflect prosperity and peace in society.

The number "eight", which is the sum of two fours, symbolizes double completeness, infinity, and perfection.

The number "nine" is a sign of stability, courage, and vitality.

The number "ten" is a symbol of harmony, unity, and completeness<sup>9</sup>.

As for the number "eleven", it has a negative symbolic meaning. It is a symbol of balance, conflict, and danger<sup>10</sup>. In Europe, the number eleven is sometimes called the "devil's ten".

In ancient astronomy and astrology, the number "twelve" symbolized space and time; therefore, 12 zodiac signs, 12 moons, 12 Olympian gods, 12 apostles of Jesus Christ, and 12 church dogmas are such symbols<sup>11</sup>.

According to many people, "thirteen" is an unlucky number.

<sup>9</sup> Hopper, V. F. Medieval number symbolism: its sources, meaning and influence. on thought and expression: [Electronic resource] / V. F. Hopper. - New York: Columbia University, 1938. p.10.

<sup>10</sup> Kerlot, H. E. Dictionary of symbols / H. E. Kerlot. - M.: Self-book, 1994. p.211.

<sup>11</sup> Again there: p.210.

There are two reasons for this: the first is related to nature and its astronomical laws, and the second is related to religion.

At the end of the review of materials about the symbolic meanings of numbers in English cultural traditions, focusing on the number "forty", most often found in beliefs and rituals related to birth or death, it can be noted that on the 40th day the child is taken to the church, and for 40 days the spirit of the deceased flies around the house. This idea is a symbol of spiritual purification and testing.

The importance of phraseological combinations with a number component is emphasized in the paragraph entitled "1.4. The position of phraseologisms with a number component in the phraseological landscape of the world". Phraseologisms are language units that contain the experience of the national outlook among the components of the world language landscape in a more vivid and artistic form.

In our opinion, phraseological units with a number component do not indicate an exact number. The number loses its semantic core by becoming a component of a phraseological combination; a specific quantitative number loses its precise quantitative semantics. Thus, in phraseological combinations, quantity is manifested in the sense of an indefinite quantity of an action or feature or its complete absence.

The number in the phraseological unit can keep its meaning in the semantic meaning of the phraseological unit, that is, it can realize its quantitative meaning (ten to one—it against one); or it can lose the numerical component and express the qualitative component of the meaning of the phraseological unit (to be in two minds—to doubt).

With numeral compounds, people can become familiar with simile, hyperbole, euphemism, and communication situations with rhetorical significance. For example, in English, the number "one" is usually translated as "a bit, a little, small". One false move may lose the whole game. Here, as an analogy, it is noted that a small mistake can lead to a big mistake.

Exaggerated meanings can also be expressed in combinations where numbers are used. At this time, the author expresses his feelings even more prominently. Here, to express the abundance of

the quantity, combinations such as *twenty and twenty, thousand thanks* are used. In another example, let's pay attention to the hyperbole that expresses the minority: *His chance of getting into the university is one out of a hundred*. Here, the expression "one out of a hundred" means that the opportunity is very small.

According to research, phraseological units containing numbers are doubly specific because they combine the way of defining the number system of a certain language with the characteristics of the relevant culture, forming special word combinations that gradually move away from "free phrases"<sup>12</sup>. We would like to note that we also fully agree with this opinion.

Final considerations are presented and summarized in the paragraph "1.5. Final conclusions on the first chapter".

Chapter II called "Structural-semantic analysis of number-containing phraseology in English", is summarized in four paragraphs. The paragraph called "2.1. Phraseological combinations in which quantity numbers are used" consists of two semi-paragraphs. Here we talk about the quantity numbers used in English and how they are used in sentences.

Idioms have a special place in the field of phraseology. The meaning of idioms used as a group of phraseological units does not always mean the sum of their constituent parts. In fact, idioms cannot be accurately translated as a whole. In the literal translation, the content of the phraseology is left out of the adequate meaning.

Semantic modification of English numbers in terms of phraseological combinations shows itself in their interchange (nine winks - forty winks), implementation of various quantitative changes (two heads are better than one; four eyes see more than two), antithesis, and stylistic means of hyperbole (thousand pardons; one to thousand)<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>12</sup> Jespersen, Otto. *The Philosophy of Grammar* / O. Jespersen. - Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Original edition: -1992. p.18.

<sup>13</sup> Sivachko, S. A. *Paradigmatic and syntagmatic aspects of the English numerals // Philological Treatises*, vol 1, no 2, -2010. p.149.

In English, numbers like *two*, *four*, *five*, *six*, *eight*, *fifty*, *hundred*, and *thousand* are widely used to form the concept of "human" in phraseological units. For example: between two stools, one goes to the ground; a cat has nine lives; a stitch in time saves nine; four eyes see more than two; first catch your hare. Thus, numbers have a sacred meaning in the world's thinking, apart from ordinal and collective numerals<sup>14</sup>.

In the paragraph "2.1.1. Phraseological combinations in which simple numbers are used in English", it is noted that, compared to other parts of speech, cases of using numbers in phraseology are a minority. Here, it is necessary to emphasize ordinal numerals. While the use of ordinal numbers in phraseologisms is rare, there are many cases of using quantity numbers. Simple quantitative numbers such as one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, hundred, thousand, and a million are used in English phraseology. The most commonly used numbers in English phraseology are one and two. Let's pay attention to other points:

"Zero in ten" means to pay close attention to something or to aim at something. Could you please have the camera zero in on this tree? The soldiers zeroed in on the enemy bunker. Zero tolerance: not tolerate, intolerance.

The semantics of number *one* determines the axiological specificity in that phraseologisms containing this component can predict a positive or negative evaluation of the signified instance. In English, most of the phraseological units containing the number *one* can be used to mean the same, as in the expression "one and the same". In addition, phraseological units consisting of *one* can be used to describe personal qualities. For example, "all rolled into one" means "all together, i.e., characteristics that are combined in one person or thing".

<sup>14</sup> Uraksin. Z. G. Comparative studying and etymologiation of phraseological units in Turkic languages: Problems of the etymology of Turkic languages / Z.G. Uraksin. -Alma-Ata. -1990. p. 385.

Based on the analyzed combinations, we would like to note that the number *two* can usually be used in the sense of two opposite actions, situations, or two effects of an action or situation. For example, "Be in (or of) two minds". This expression is used when experiencing indecision and conflicting emotions.

Although the number *three* does not have a special meaning in English phraseology, it has more positive associations, such as a combination that expresses the concepts of "three close partners" or "inseparable friends".

Nevertheless, the number *four* is not often used in phraseological units in English; it is characteristic of the meaning of four aspects, or direction (for example, to the four winds). Based on several analyzed examples, it can be determined that all three combinations "to the four winds", "be scattered to the four winds", and "the four (or far) corners of the world (or earth)" have the same meaning, and each of them conveys meaning in all four directions.

The number *five* is associated with a part of the body, namely the hand, creating a somatic phraseology. For example, give me five is used when we want to hit someone's hand with our hand to show that we are very pleased<sup>15</sup>. The number *five* has a negative connotation in some expressions. For example, "a bunch of fives" phraseological unit means the opposite. This phrase means "first" or "five brothers".

The number *six* has mostly negative associations in phraseology. The following can be attributed to these expressions with a negative meaning: "at sixes and sevens", "hit (or knock someone for six" and "six feet under". These phraseological combinations mean to be in a state of confusion or disorder; to affect someone too seriously, in other words, completely overwhelm someone; dead or buried relatively<sup>16</sup>.

Although the number *seven* is one of the least common in

<sup>15</sup> Ibtihal Mahdi Al-Tameemi. Problems of Translating Idioms of Number: European Academic Research, - Vol. IV, Issue -4 / July - 2016. p.4.

<sup>16</sup> Farlex International. Idioms and Slang Dictionary: © -2017. p.637.



phraseology, it is considered the most symbolic. Due to its origin, this number is associated with a magical object; for example, seven-league boots means to move like flying.

The number *eight* is not often found in phraseological combinations. Therefore, it is difficult to determine the combinations in which they are used according to a special group of meanings. The phraseological combination "one over the eight" means to be completely drunk.

From a semantic point of view, the number *nine* has no certain usage pattern. In some cases, it can refer to time, as in the following example: In the combination "Nine to Five", the number *nine* is 9 o'clock and the number *five* is 5 o'clock, and the combination itself as a whole is used to mean typical working hours (9 to 5).

The number *ten* is primarily used to count something. This number in the phraseological unit "count to ten" is used when we mean to hold our breath and count to ten in order not to react angrily to something.

**"2.1.2. Phraseological combinations in which complex and compound numbers are used in English"** shows that complex and compound numbers within phraseological units in English are found in fewer examples, and they indicate imprecise quantities within phraseological units. The concept of number arose from the counting of separate objects in the practical activities of people.

The following are some examples of phraseologisms in which compound and compositional numbers are used:

The phraseological combination "a million and one" means as much as the world, a herd. The phrase "twenty-four seven" is used in the sense of day and night, all day, all the time. This combination is a shortened form of twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

The combination "\$64,000 dollar question" means a ten-point question, that is, a question that is very important and difficult to answer, a tricky question <sup>17</sup>.

<sup>17</sup> Valiyeva, N. Azerbaijani-English-Russian phraseological dictionary: [in 2 volumes] / N. Valiyeva. - c.1. - Baku, Azernashr, - 2010, p. 429.

The phraseological combination "ninety-nine out of a hundred" means ninety-nine percent <sup>18</sup>.

"Eighty-six" can be used in the following forms:

1. To exclude or expel someone from an enterprise without serving them.
2. To cancel or stop anything
3. To miss anything

The idiom "Eight-hundred-pound gorilla" is used in the sense of "a person or organization that is considered dominant, hegemonic, extremely powerful, aggressive, scary, or an obvious or major problem that people are too afraid to talk about." "Catch-22" phraseologism means a desperate situation or stuck between two things, i.e., in a situation where the desired result is impossible or difficult to solve due to paradoxical conditions.

Phraseological combinations containing complex numbers very rarely call up conventional scenes in the minds of the speakers, so the meaning of the analyzed expressions is motivated not only by cognitive mechanisms such as metaphor, metonymy, and conventional knowledge but also by cognitive linguistics, which considers them as one of the mechanisms involved in the interpretation of idioms. It is explained by folk etymology.

In the paragraph **"2.2. Phraseological combinations in which ordinal numbers are used in English"**, the role of ordinal numbers in the phraseological combinations is determined, and the expressions consisting of them are explained in the sentences. It is emphasized here that a number is a special grammatical category whose lexical meaning is related to any number or quantity. As a part of phraseological combinations, the number is interpreted as a symbol that realizes the main deictic function, that is, a sign of quantity, and at the same time a secondary sign function.

Let's look through several examples of the use of ordinal numbers depending on the meaning in phraseological combinations

<sup>18</sup> Valiyeva, N. Azerbaijani-English-Russian phraseological dictionary: [in 2 volumes] / N. Valiyeva. - c. 2. - Baku: - Azernashr, - 2010, p. 951.

and their translations into Azerbaijani.

*Seventh water on a jelly* - "yeddi arxa dönəm"; *the eighth wonder of the world* - "dünyanın səkkizinci möcüzəsi, təəccüblü və ya heyretəmiz bir şey"; *the ninth wave* - "təhlükəli və sarsılmaz bir qüvvə"; *of the first magnitude* - "birinci dərəcəli vacib olan bir şey və ya əla bir şey"; *of the first water* - "xalis, və ya əsil"; *at first blush / at first sight / at first glance* - "dərhəl və ilk baxışdan"; *at the eleventh hour* - "son anda"; *a diamond of the first water* - "layiqli keyfiyyətləri olan adam və ya əla bir şey"; *fire the first shot* - "hücumu başlamaq və ilk həlledici addım atmaq"; *the fourth estate* - "mətbuat, qəzetçilər və jurnalistlərə işarət edən dördüncü zümərə"; *get to first base* - "ilk mərhələni keçmək, uğur əldə etmək, hər hansı işdə ilk addımlarını atmaq"; *have a second string to one's bow* - "ehtiyatla saxlanılan vəsait, bir şeyə çatmaq üçün ikinci yol, əlavə gəlir mənbəyi"; *in the seventh heaven* ifadəsi - "xoşbəxtlikdən göyün yeddinci qatında".

The study shows that in English, ordinal numbers are used in phraseological units, although they are unproductive. It can be concluded that first and second ordinal numbers are used more often in phraseological combinations<sup>19</sup>.

"2.3. Final Conclusions on the Second Chapter" presented the final considerations and summarized them.

Chapter III is entitled "Discursive analysis of number-containing phraseology in English" and consists of five paragraphs. In the first paragraph entitled "3.1. Thematic analysis of number-containing phraseological combinations", the meaning of groups of phraseologisms are examined from a discursive point of view. It should be noted here that phraseological combinations related to people in English make up the majority of common phraseological units.

Thematic analysis is based on their content as an ancient and traditional principle of classification of phraseological units. The thematic approach has its own advantages, such as having real

<sup>19</sup> Phraseological combinations with ordinal numbers in English // - Bukhara: Scientific-theoretical journal. Bukhara State University Scientific information, - 2023, № 1, - p. 123-126.

features, but it does not take into account the linguistic features of phraseological units. "Since this classification reveals the origin of phraseological units, it is also called etymological classification"<sup>20</sup>.

In her book "Phraseology of Turkish Languages", Kaiba Mahmudova groups phraseological units into seven sections from a thematic point of view: 1) Somatic phraseological units; 2) Zoophraseologisms; 3) Phytophraseologisms; 4) Phraseologisms with a religious-mythological character; 5) Phraseologisms related to meteorology and astronomy; 6) Phraseologisms related to tradition; 7) Phraseologisms that express the meanings of curse and applause<sup>21</sup>.

During the thematic study of phraseological combinations containing numbers, their semantic qualities are clarified, their internal connections are revealed, and the sources of their formation are revealed. Based on this position, the following thematic categories can be considered appropriate:

1. Phraseological units with numerical content characterizing human behavior and actions; 2. Phonological units with number components related to animal names; 4. Phraseological units with number components related to military activity; 5. Phraseological units with numerical components related to the field of art; 6. Phraseological units with numerical components showing religious and mythical features; 7. Phraseological units with numerical components characterizing the mental abilities of a person; 8. Phraseological units with numerical components showing the emotional state of a person; 9. Phraseological units with numerical components related to seafaring and words used by sailors; 10. Phraseological units consisting of plant names; 11. Phraseological units related to astronomy and meteorology.

It is necessary to pay attention either to their meaning within

<sup>20</sup> Thematic analysis of numerical phraseological units in English // The XXII International Scientific Symposium "Turkic World Between East and West" -Kars/ Turkey -Andijan/ Uzbekistan: - 2022, -p. 69-72.

<sup>21</sup> Mahmudova, G. Phraseology of Turkish languages: [in 2 volumes] / G. Mahmudova. -Baku: Nurlan, - c. 2 -2009. p. 18.

the text or to the meaning expressed by the combination itself as a whole when analyzing number-containing phraseology in English.

Paragraph "3.2. Evaluation of the quantitative component in phraseological combinations", discusses various types of quantitative indicators and links them to the composition of phraseological combinations. Quantitative lexemes are not only widespread in phraseological units but also have different characteristics depending on the context in which they are used.

In English, phraseological units with zero quantity are a relatively minority compared to others. Examples of the following compositions are: "no", "none", "not", "without" and "nothing". For example, "There is no rose without a thorn".

Number-noun construction is especially suitable for phraseologisms with quantitative content. In these phraseological units, natural numbers are mostly used, followed by numbers such as tens, hundreds, and thousands. The frequency of use of numbers 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and others prevails in the phraseologisms in the texts related to oral folk creativity.

In the paragraph "3.3. Determining the in-text evaluation of number-containing phraseological combinations," it is emphasized that number-containing phraseology is widespread both in oral speech and in fiction. Referring to the examples of fiction, phraseologisms with number components used in Shakespeare's "Macbeth", Donna Tartt's "The Secret History", Jane Austen's "Emma", and Charles Dickens' "David Copperfield" were discovered and analyzed.

V. Shakespeare, one of the English writers, in his works benefited from the number-containing phraseological units typical of the national language and also created number-containing figurative expressions and phraseological combinations that took a firm place in the English literary language. These phraseologisms, which are common in English, are known as Shakespeareisms. An example of them is the phraseology "at one fell swoop" used by the writer in "Macbeth".

One of the important functions of number-containing phraseological units in the process of text creation is their

representation of a semantic category. In the structural-grammatical classification of phraseological units, two divisions are widespread. According to this division, the first group includes phraseological units in the form of a word combination ("the first days of winter"-böyük çille<sup>22</sup>), and the second group includes phraseological units in the form of a sentence ("you are one in a million"-səndən yoxdur<sup>23</sup>).

Julia Holmqvist, in her article "A textual analysis of the use and effect of idioms in Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*", notes that 596 idiomatic expressions are used in that novel<sup>24</sup>. Those combinations are *in two shakes*, *a sixth sense*, *four eyes*, *three sheets to the wind*, *one or two*, *on one hand*, *second hand*, *second glance*, etc. These expressions make the novel more attractive and emotional for the reader.

When analyzing the novel "Emma" by the English writer Jane Austen, several paragraphs where number-containing phraseology are used attract attention. Both quantity and ordinal numbers are used in this phraseology. It should be noted that serial numbers, especially the first and second, are used in the novel.

Research shows that phraseology has several different roles in a text. They can be used for contexts related to both characters and other situations, such as describing a setting. In any work, one can find more phraseologisms belonging to the first category. This can be explained by the fact that most of the plot in the work focuses on the characters, and only sometimes the focus shifts to scenes related to

<sup>22</sup> Valiyeva, N. Azerbaijani-English-Russian phraseological dictionary: [in 2 volumes] / N. Valiyeva. - c.1. -Baku, Azernashr, - 2010, p. 416.

<sup>23</sup> Valiyeva, N. Azerbaijani-English-Russian phraseological dictionary: [in 2 volumes] / N. Valiyeva. - c. 2. - Baku: - Azernashr, - 2010, p. 574.

<sup>24</sup> Holmqvist, Julia. Idiomatic Expressions in Fiction: A Textual Analysis of the Use and Effects of Idioms in Donna Tartt's Novel *The Secret History* // Fristående kurs, -2014. s.8.

other areas <sup>25</sup>.

According to the analyses carried out in the paragraph "3.4. Frequency of use of phraseological combinations containing numbers", it is proved that numbers are among the main units and components that have different meanings and structures and actively participate in the creation of phraseological combinations.

The discursive approach to number-containing phraseological units increases the importance of investigating this problem from a linguistic perspective. Although a number of discursive-cognitive-oriented studies in the English language are intended to investigate phraseological units with number components, these phraseological compounds and their discursive indicators have not been fully determined.

The research shows that some phraseological combinations in English can contain two different numbers at the same time. In this case, the order of the numbers is different. Those numbers in the combinations can be either different (five will get you ten) or the same (put two and two together).

On the basis of the two-volume "Azerbaijani-English-Russian Phraseological Dictionary" compiled by Nigar Valiyeva, it is possible to talk about the levels of use of numbers in phraseological combinations. Phraseologisms consisting of different numbers are reflected here with examples. According to that dictionary, the following frequency of use of phraseological combinations based on numbers in English has been determined:

Phraseological combinations in which cardinal numbers are used

Numbers	Frequency of use	With percentage
One	30 times	26 %
Two	4 times	36 %
Three	3 times	2 %

<sup>25</sup> Holmqvist, Julia. Idiomatic Expressions in Fiction: A Textual Analysis of the Use and Effects of Idioms in Donna Tartt's Novel *The Secret History* // *Frisiändekurs*, -2014. s.17.

Four	2 times	1 %
Five	3 times	2 %
Six	5 times	4 %
Seven	9 times	8 %
Nine	4 times	3 %
Ten	3 times	2 %
Sixteen	once	0.8 %
Nineteen	once	0.8 %
Thirty	once	0.8 %
Fifty	2 times	1 %
Hundred	2 times	1 %
Thousand	3 times	2 %
Thousand and one	once	0.8 %
Sixty four thousand	once	0.8 %
Million	once	0.8 %

Phraseological combinations in which ordinal numbers are used

Numbers	Frequency of use	With percentage
First	41 times	66 %
Second	15 times	24 %
Third	3 times	5 %
Fifth	2 times	3 %
Seventh	once	1 %
Forty-second	once	1 %

From the research, it can be concluded that cardinal number *two* and ordinal number *first* are the most commonly used in phraseological combinations. Number one also has enough functionality. In total, 176 phraseological units were found. 113 of them are phraseological combinations using quantity numbers, and 63 are phraseological combinations using ordinal numbers. In 17 phraseological units, two different numbers were used at the same time.

In the paragraph entitled "3.5. Conclusions of the Third Chapter", the final considerations are made and summarized.

In the "Conclusion" part of the dissertation, the conclusions of the research are summarized as follows:

1. The connection of the components of the quantitative category with the cognitive process is of particular importance because it is not accidental that its important elements are recognized as size and number. This is another clear proof of the characterization of the quantitative category as a logical category.

2. Quantity (numbers) as a universal category plays a very important role in the culture of every nation; therefore, numbers in English reflect not only mythological universal concepts but also completely different meanings and features of the concept of number and quantity, which is completely explained with the realization of them in different meanings in the linguistic and phraseological landscape of the world.

3. Since they represent both quantity and quantity, numerals are a widely used way of syntactically expressing the concept of quantity in English. The study found that the main task of numbers is to express quantity, and it is in this aspect that they are meaningfully grouped.

4. The study of number-containing phraseological units in English allows us to analyze once again the steady connection between the English language and English culture from a linguistic and linguistic point of view. As a cultural phenomenon, numbers define the relationship between conceptual quantitative properties and the English language and English ethnic culture. From this point of view, numbers are carriers of linguistic information, and the acquisition of that information allows to reveal the role of phraseological units in the language.

5. The phraseological means of the English language determine the phraseological world view of the language, which can be considered a part of the English language world view. In the lexical system of the English language, number-containing phraseological units are considered doubly important because they characterize the number system of this language with the qualities of the appropriate

culture and form special word combinations—phraseologisms, different from "free phrases".

6. Phraseological combinations with a number component in English express both internal and external qualities of a person. Within phraseological combinations, the numbers one and two are productive, and the numbers seven and eight are unproductive.

7. The structural-semantic analysis of phraseological units containing numbers in English shows that, firstly, simple cardinal numbers and then ordinal numbers are dominant within phraseologisms. Compared to ordinal numbers, complex and compound numbers are a minority in phraseological units.

8. The discursive study of the material shows that most phraseological combinations with a number component in English express different types of evaluation, such as the nature of the action, the qualities of a person, and his behavior. Thematic analysis leads to the conclusion that this method of analysis does not refer to the linguistic features of phraseologisms but to the general meaning expressed by them within the combination. At this time, their semantic qualities are revealed.

9. Based on the analyzed material, the quantitative category, which is considered one of the important elements in understanding the universe, attracts attention both as a logical category and as a grammatical category that effectively affects the language system. The research shows that in English phraseological units containing numbers, either a definite quantity, an indefinite quantity, or a zero quantity is expressed. Phraseologisms with a quantitative component are mainly formed in the number+noun model.

10. Phraseological units with numerical components in English appear in the general lexicon and express a special meaning realized in the content of the text or in the speech process. One of the main functions of number-containing phraseology in the process of text creation, which requires great attention in the study of text linguistics, is their representation of a semantic category.

11. The frequency of use of number-containing phraseological units in English confirms that it is mainly related to the semantics they express. For this reason, the frequency of the use of numbers in

phraseology cannot be the same. In English, the cardinal numbers *one, two, three, four, five, six, and nine*, and the ordinal numbers *first and second* are used more frequently in phraseological combinations containing numbers.

**The main content and scientific provisions of the research have been reflected in the following works of the author:**

1. The concept of amount and quantity in the semantic structure of numbers // Materials of the 1st International Scientific Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences, –Baku: – 2020, –p.159-161. DOI:10.36719/2020/BEK/01/159-161.
2. Phraseological combinations in which ordinal numbers are used in English // International Asian Conference on Contemporary Sciences IV, – Baku: Azerbaijan Khazar University, – 2020, – p. 341-342.
3. Linguocultural aspect of number symbolism // – Baku: Linguistic Studies, Institute of Linguistics named after Nasimi of ANAS, – 2021, № 2, – p. 94-97.
4. Evaluation of the quantitative component in phraseological combinations // Collection of articles of the XXVII International Scientific and Practical Conference, –Penza: ICNS SCIENCE and Education, –2021, –p. 118-121.
5. The place of phraseological units with numerical components in the phraseological picture of the world // – Nakhchivan: Scientific works of Nakhchivan State University, – 2021, №1 (110), – p. 73-77.
6. Logical and linguistic relationship of quantitative category // Teaching Azerbaijani language and literature, –Baku: –2022, № 1/271, –p. 27-35.
7. Thematic analysis of numerical phraseological units in English // The XXII International Scientific Symposium “Turkic World Between East and West” –Kars/ Turkey – Andijan/ Uzbekistan: – 2022, –p. 69-72.
8. Phraseological combinations in which simple quantity numbers are used in English // Materials of the 4th Republican Scientific Conference of Doctoral and Master's Students on "Unity of Education, Research and Innovation",

Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan Teachers' Institute, –2022, –p.707-711.

9. Frequency of use of numerical phraseological compounds in English // –Nakhchivan: Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Nakhchivan branch, Institute of Arts, Language and Literature, Searches, –2022, – s. 72-77.
10. Evaluating the in-text evaluation of number-containing phraseological units in English // - Nakhchivan: Scientific Works of Nakhchivan University, –2022, № 3 (27), –p.73-77.
11. Phraseological units with cardinal numeral component in English language // – Nizhnevartovsk, Russia: Bulletin of Science and Practice, –2022, Volume 7, Issue 4, –p. 521-529.
12. Phraseological combinations with ordinal numbers in English // –Bukhara: Scientific-theoretical journal. Bukhara State University Scientific information, –2023, № 1, –p. 123-126.
13. Phraseological units in which complex and compound numbers are used in English // – Turkiye: Academic Journal of History and Thought, – 2023, 10(4), – p.1089-1093.

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