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Actualization of categorical situation of causation of emotional modification (Based on idioms)

Abstract

This article discusses a categorical emotional situation, particularly, the situation of causation of emotional modification which in speech is manifested by emotive causatives. 90 phraseological units (PhU) containing the semes of cause and emotiveness and 216 PhU potentially capable to express the cause of emotional modification (interjectional PhU) were selected for the study. Semantic analysis was performed using the contexts found in Russian National Corpus and Google Books Ngram Viewer. As a result of data processing and systematization, we developed a classification of PhU and interjectional PhU verbalizing the examined categorial situation. It was discovered that the units with the semes of emotiveness and causation include (i) verbs in which these semes are presented syncretically; (ii) functional structures where the verb contains the causative seme, and the emotivity seme is in the nominal part of the construction; (iii) PhU whose meaning enables them to perform the functions of an emotive causative. Such PhUs were subject to desemantization and pragmaticalization and, consequently, were transformed into interjectional phraseological units whose function is to actualize emotions. Performing this function, they become polysemic, like most interjections. This expands their pragmatic potential since they are used as a language manipulation means manifesting a number of emotions.

Keywords: emotive causative, categorial emotional situation, emotional modification causation situation, semantic potential, phraseological units, interjectional phraseological units

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