



MEANS OF EXPRESSING NEGATIVE EVALUATION IN ENGLISH PAREMIA

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Abstract: *The article analyses means of expressing negative estimation in English paremias. Models of direct negation are revealed with the help of morphological and lexical means. The role of negative vocabulary is considered essential in the article.*

Key words: *negative estimation, paremia, comparative unit, connotation, figurativeness.*

In modern linguistics, a lot of research is carried out in line with anthropocentrism, according to which all linguistic categorization of objects and phenomena surrounding reality is focused on the person. The problem of cognition of a person, his system of values, customs and traditions comes to the fore.

In the process of cognition of the world, a person simultaneously reflects the phenomena of reality, their signs and qualities, and their attitude to this reality, while the attitude of a person to certain phenomena is often due to extralinguistic, culturological and historical factors. The category of evaluation is universal in linguistics and is expressed at different levels of the language.

Evaluation as a value aspect of meaning can be expressed in language in different ways. According to the concept of E.M. Wolf, an assessment can be limited to elements smaller than a word, but it can characterize both a group of words and a whole statement. Evaluation is classified according to different criteria, but almost always binary - it can be defined as positive and negative general and particular, rational and emotional, external and internal, absolute and comparative.

Evaluation in the language is associated with the concept of a norm, which applies to positive evaluations. A positive assessment implies compliance with the norm, and a negative assessment implies a deviation from the norm, or a non-compliance of a particular phenomenon or process with all the requirements of the norm.

This article discusses the means of expressing a negative assessment in English paremiological units. Paremias, as part of the phraseological fund of the language, are stable units that have an indirect allegorical meaning and are characterized by figurativeness. These are rhythmically organized sentences that are instructive and summarize the socio-historical experience of the people. The most important feature of proverbs is their evaluative nature, which is realized with the help of a certain image. The main purpose of the image, which is formed spontaneously in the mind of a person, regardless of his will, is to generalize the accumulated experience associated with an individual object or class of objects. Along with non-materiality, intuitiveness, syntheticity and emotionality, evaluativeness is a property of the image.

Evaluation is expressed most of all in proverbs, which are comparative and negative constructions. Like evaluation, denial is a product of human consciousness, arising as a certain reaction of a person to the world. Negation is also associated with ideas about the norm.



In English paremiology with axiological semantics, various models of negation are presented. An assessment in general, and a negative assessment in particular, can be realized through a specific word that carries an evaluative meaning, as well as with the help of affixes and grammatical indicators of negation, which change the neutral meaning of the word to a negative-evaluative one. One of the most frequent groups of proverbs with negation are units with the negation **no**: *"Of idleness comes no goodness"*. *"Sorrow will pay no debt"*.

The particle **not** in the negative form of the predicate denies part of the content of the evaluative statement, for example: *"The tongue is not steel but cuts"*. *"Health is not valued till sickness comes"*.

The negation expressed by the particle **not** in combination with the auxiliary verb **do**, in many proverbs can be combined with the imperative mood, for example: *"Husband, don't believe what you see but what I tell you"*. *"Don't bite of more than you can chew"*.

The pronoun **nothing** and the adverb **never** are also direct negation markers: *"Nothing dries so fast as a woman's tears"*. *"Good looks buy nothing in the market"*. *"He who is born a fool is never cured"*.

At the morphological level, negation is expressed using suffixes and prefixes with the corresponding meaning. The most common suffix is **-less**: *"He who listens to the words of a woman will be accounted worthless"*. *"A beggar's purse is bottomless"*.

The prefix **un-** also expresses the meaning of negation in proverbs: *"An unfortunate man would be drowned in a tea cup"*. *"Play, women and wine undo a man laughing"*.

Negation in the paremiological fund of the English language is accompanied by various modal shades: prohibition, wishes, undesirability, impossibility, etc., which are superimposed on the value of the assessment, fixing the norms of social behavior in the cultural and ethical code of the nation, for example: *"Keep no more cats that will not catch mice"*. *"He that is afraid of wounds must not come near a battle"*.

In proverbs that combine comparative and negation, different degrees of comparison are presented: a) positive degree, which is expressed by the model: *"the devil is not so black as he is painted"*; b) comparative degree, for example: *"honesty is better than ill-gotten wealth"*; *"better two losses than one sorrow"*; c) superlative degree, for example: *"the highest branch is not the safest roost"*.

Similar semantics have proverbs in which there is a component **"too much" - "too little"**. These units describe the impossibility of an extreme degree of manifestation of a particular quality or state: *"Don't have too many irons in the fire"*.

The assessment is also realized with the help of linguistic units, since it is in the word that the values of society are fixed. Evaluation can be expressed by any part of speech, however, first of all, linguists single out adjectives, namely, the synonymous series **"good / bad"**, as well as evaluative adjectives.

Lexical units expressing a negative assessment directly are the adjective **"bad"** and its comparative and superlative forms, the adjective **"ill"**, the noun **"fool"**: *"Bad eyes never see any good"*. *"A wicked woman and an evil, is three half pence worse than the devil"*. *"There is no art can make a fool wise"*. *"Sorrow and ill weather come unspent for"*.

It should be pointed out that a negative assessment is expressed by the use of the adjective **good/better**, emphasizing the negative characteristic of something in comparison with other objects and phenomena: *"Good looks buy nothing in the market"*. *"Sorrow is good for nothing but sin"*. *"Better suffer a great evil than do a little one"*. *"A fool is better than an obstinate man"*. *"Honesty is better than ill-gotten wealth"*.



Speaking about the means of expressing a negative assessment, the figurative means of nomination is vocabulary with a pejorative meaning. E.A. Chernyavskaya defines pejoration as a decline in a broad sense, including stylistic, general value and personological scales. At the same time, each lexeme with a pejorative meaning acts in a synonymic connection with neutral vocabulary.

In the given examples, a negative assessment is realized with the help of comparison of paremia with comparative semantics. The negative attitude is expressed, in addition to negation markers, with the help of lexical units with a negative connotation: *sorrow, sin, suffer, evil, fool, obstinate, ill-gotten, wicked*.

Thus, a negative assessment in English proverbs can be expressed directly, using models of negation with *no, not, nothing, never*, as well as using morphological means - the suffix *-less* and the prefix *un-*. An important role is played by the negative connotation contained in the lexical unit itself: *sorrow, sin, suffer, evil*.

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