ABSTRACT

This work is devoted to the representation of emotionality and expressiveness in English idioms. Idioms are the lifeblood of evolving, changing languages indicating that the society using them is a dynamic one. English, and especially American English, is heavily idiomatic. The most probable reason for that is that as they develop new concepts, they need new expressions for them, but instead of creating a brand new word from the sounds of the language, they use some already existent words and put them together in a new sense. Idioms, or phraseological units represent what can be described as the most picturesque, colourful and expressive part of any language vocabulary. This appears to be true of all known languages.

In the given paper we also try to analyze English proverbs from the point of their emotional and expressive position and significance in the mentality and culture of the English-speaking people. A proverb may be presented as a succinct and pithy saying that is in general use and expresses commonly held ideas and beliefs.

The emotive or expressive function of English idioms has undeniable significance especially in literature. Basically, this function is achieved through the use of stylistic devices and the arrangement of words which is the task of the writer. The problem of understanding and expressing emotions contained in English idioms gets complicated when the speech is performed in the written form, because it lacks such means as intonation, paralinguisms and other nonverbal means essential for the oral speech. In this research we tried to explain the coded aspect of expressiveness in idioms, expand our knowledge of its stylistic possibilities and consequently clear the many-sided understanding of the problem of emotive language.

This research tries to investigate emotiveness or expressiveness of idioms that results from the use of various stylistic means.