

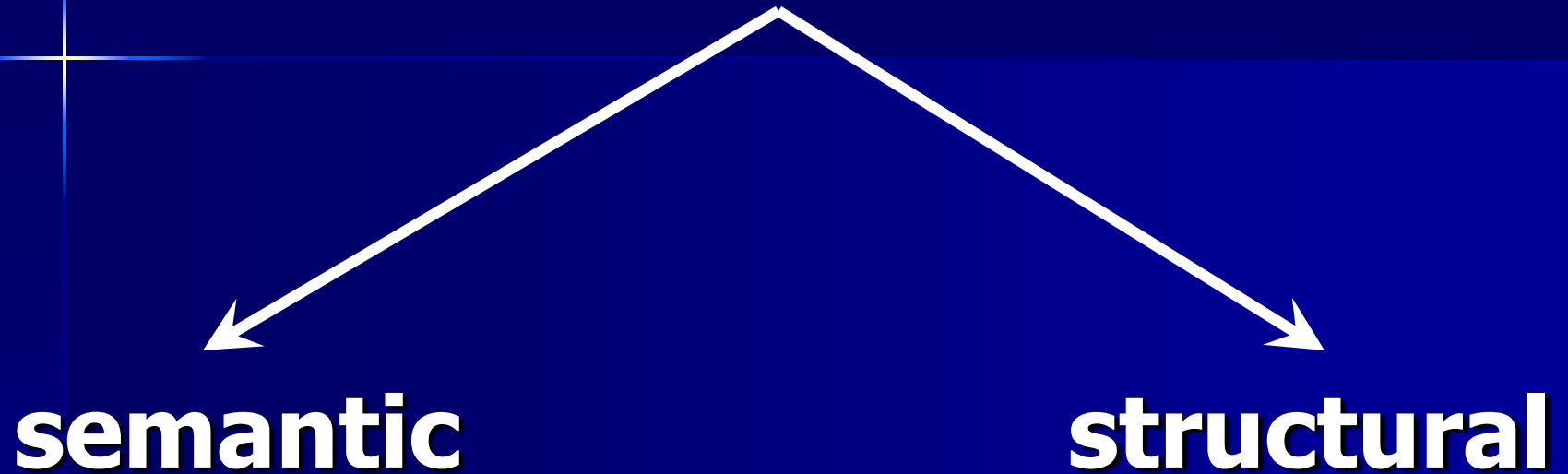
ENGLISH PHRASEOLOGY

1. Phraseology as a part of lexicology. Basic terms and problems.
2. Ways of forming phraseological units.
3. Classifications of phraseological units
 - a) semantic (by V.V. Vinogradov)
 - b) structural-semantic (by A.I. Smirnitsky)

Phraseology

is a part of lexicology dealing with word-combinations characterized by stable structure and completely or partially transferred meaning.

Major criteria

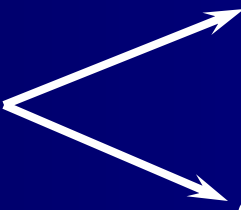


According to semantic criterion

Phraseological units are word-groups conveying a single concept.

Phraseological units with completely transferred meaning are called *idioms*.

a) to stick to one's promise

b) dark horse  *a horse of dark colour*
a person about whom very little is known

According to structural criterion

Phraseological units are structurally invariable word-groups.

Structural invariability is expressed by:

- restrictions in substitution (*dark horse – black horse or dark cow*)
- restrictions in inserting any additional elements (*tall dark horse*)
- restrictions in grammatical invariability (*to find fault (not faults) with smb.*)

**A.V. Koonin pointed out 2 ways
to form phraseological units**



primary



secondary

Primary ways (1)

transferring
the meaning of terminological
word-groups
launching pad; to link up

transferring the meaning
of free word-groups
granny farm; Trojan horse

alliteration
*a sad sack; culture vulture;
fudge and nudge*

expressiveness
*My aunt!
Hear! Hear!*

distorting a word group
odds and ends
from *odd ends*

Primary ways (2)

using archaisms
in brown study;
tit for tat

using a sentence in
a different sphere of life
that cock won't fight

using unreal images
to have butterflies
in the stomach;
to have green fingers

using expressions
of writers or politicians
corridors of power (Snow);
the winds of change
(McMillan)

Secondary ways

conversion

a vote with one's feet

from *to vote with one's feet*

changing the grammar form

to make hay while the sun shines from *Make hay while the sun shines*

analogy

Care killed the cat from *Curiosity killed the cat*

contrast

cold surgery ↔ *acute surgery*
thin cat — *fat cat*

shortening of proverbs or sayings

to make a sow's ear from *You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear*

borrowing phraseological units from other languages

time flies (from Latin *tempus fugit*); *corps d'elite* (French)

**SEMANTIC
CLASSIFICATION**
(by V.V. Vinogradov)

according to the
degree of motivation
of their meaning
there are 3 groups
of PU

fusions

*on Shank's mare;
at sixes and sevens*

unities

*to play the first fiddle;
old salt*

combinations

*cash and carry;
in a big way*

STRUCTURAL-SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION (by A.I. Smirnitsky)

combines the structural and the semantic principles. There are 2 groups of PU



one-top

(one-summit) units



two-top

(two-summit) units

One-top units

```
graph TD; A[One-top units] --> B[units of the type <<to give up>> (verb + postposition type)]; A --> C[units of the type <<to be tired>>]; A --> D[prepositional-nominal units];
```

units of the type

«to give up»

(verb + postposition
type)

to back up;
to drop out

units of the type

«to be tired»

to be interested in;
to be surprised at

prepositional-nominal units

on the doorstep;

in time

Two-top units

```
graph TD; A[Two-top units] --> B[attributive-nominal units]; A --> C[verb-nominal units]; A --> D[phraseological repetitions];
```

attributive-nominal
units

high road;
first night

verb-nominal units
to read between

the lines;
to fall in love

phraseological repetitions

now or never;
cakes and ale

Phraseological units can have more than two tops
(multi-top units) *to take a back seat;*
at one's own sweet will