

PHILOLOGY

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Semantic features and phraseological potential of somatisms in expressions, describing kinesics in modern English

It is considered functional and semantic features of somatic lexemes used in expressions, describing nonverbal means of communication (gestures) in modern English. The relevance of the research lies in the study of the possibilities of somatisms for reflecting different types of gestures (general communicative, deictic, etiquette), accompanying speech and contributing to the effectiveness of communicative acts. The relevance is also seen in the study of phraseological potential of somatisms as parts of expressions, describing gestures. The paper considers the reasons and mechanisms of transformation of expressions, describing nonverbal means of communication, into phraseological units, analyzes metaphorical productivity of somatisms, identifies somatic lexemes, used in expressions, describing gestures, which have the greatest phraseological potential. On the examples of factual material we reveal the ability of somatisms as parts of expressions, describing gestures, and phraseological units, formed on their basis, to serve as expressive means of a language.

Key words: somatism, kinesics, gesture, semantics, lexeme, phraseological unit.

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