

**PECULIARITIES OF ENGLISH PROVERBS WITH COMPONENTS 'FRIEND'
AND 'FRIENDSHIP'**

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Every country has proverbs. According to Cambridge dictionary, proverb is a short sentence, usually known by many people, stating something commonly experienced or giving advice.

In different cultures proverbs have a lot in common. However, they can be not identical because they developed under different economic, social and historical conditions. They reflect the culture of a particular country, its history and heritage.

Proverbs contain deep sense which represents people's way of thinking and perception of the world.

English proverbs differ in meaning and cover all aspects of the life of English people: life, death, health, money, work, family, happiness, friendship and so on.

The aim of this research is to identify the specific features of English proverbs with components 'friend' and 'friendship'. The object of our study is 45 proverbs selected from different sources [1; 2; 4].

From the semantic point of view English proverbs with components 'friend' and 'friendship' emphasize the importance of friendship:

Friendless is poor. – Без друга на сердце вьюга.

Better lose a jest than a friend. – Лучше приберечь остроуму, чем потерять друга.

The friend is the man who knows all about you, and still likes you. – Друг – это человек, который всё о тебе знает, и все равно тебя любит.

Many selected proverbs disapprove of false friendship:

False friends are worse than open enemies. – Лукавых людей не имей за друзей.

Sudden friendship, sure repentance. – Быстро подружился, быстро разочаровался.

No friendship is strong that owes its rise to a pot. – Есть брага да пирожки – так есть и дружки.

As we have already said, proverbs are sentences. From the point of view of their structure, sentences are divided into complex, compound and simple ones. Our analysis has shown that from 45 selected proverbs 23 have the structure of a simple sentence:

The friendship of the great is fraternity with lions.

A friend to all is a friend to none.

Friends are thieves of time.

Short debts make long friends.—

All the other proverbs have the structure either of a compound sentence or of a complex sentence:

A man is known by the company he keeps.

All are not friends that speak us fair.

A friend is never known till a man has need.

When a friend asks there is no tomorrow.

Prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them.

The analysis has shown that from the point of view of the purpose of utterance only 5 proverbs are imperative sentences:

Lend your money and lose your friend. // Be slow in choosing a friend, but slower in changing him. // Make new friends but keep the old, for one is silver and the other is gold. // Before you make a friend, eat a bushel/a peck of salt with him. // Better lose a jest than a friend.

40 proverbs are declarative sentences, among which there are 6 negative sentences:

There is no better looking-glass than an old friend.

All are not friends that speak us fair.

No longer pipe, no longer dance.

All the others are affirmative sentences:

A faithful friend is a medicine of life.

He is a good friend who speaks well of us behind our back.

The friend is the man who knows all about you, and still likes you.

Scientists studying proverbs speak about different expressive means. Expressive means of a language are linguistic forms and properties that have the potential to make the utterance emphatic or expressive. Expressive means can be found on all the levels: phonetic, graphical, morphological, lexical or syntactical [3, p.351]. As a result of our research, we have found the following expressive means in the proverbs with components 'friend' and 'friendship':

1. repetition: *Old tunes are sweetest, old friends are surest. // Old friends and old wine are best. // No longer pipe, no longer dance. // The friend is the man who knows all about you, and still likes you.*

2. antonymous contrast (the opposing items are real antonyms in the lexical system): *Prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them. // False friends are worse than open enemies. // Short reckonings make long friends. // A friend to all is a friend to none. // Short debts make long friends.*

3. non-antonymous contrast (the opposing items are not antonyms in the lexical system): *Old tunes are sweetest, old friends are surest.*

4. rhyme: *A hedge between keep friends green. // Make new friends but keep the old, for one is silver and the other is gold.*

In some proverbs there are more than one expressive means. For example sometimes rhyme and repetition are combined: *A friend in need is a friend indeed.* Repetition, contrast and rhyme are found in the following proverb: *In time of prosperity, friends will be plenty; in time of adversity not one in twenty.*

As for the translation of the selected proverbs into Russian, they have only partial equivalents. Some English proverbs are synonymous and they correspond to one Russian proverb, for example: *A friend in court is better than a penny in purse. // They are rich who have true friends. // Happy is he whose friends were born before him. – Не имей сто рублей, а имей сто друзей.*

The Russian proverb *Друг познается в беде* has 5 synonymous English equivalents: *Friends are made in wine and proved in tears. // Prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them. // In time of prosperity, friends will be plenty; in time of adversity not one in twenty. // Before you make a friend, eat a bushel/a peck of salt with him. // A friend is never known till needed.*

Our analysis has shown that English proverbs with components 'friend' and 'friendship' possess some peculiarities in their structure and meaning and have only partial equivalents in the Russian language.

References

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