N°19 – Phraseology and Paremiology in English
Deadline for sending in final versions of papers: 1 February 2022
Phraseology and Paremiology in English

Phraseology, and English phraseology in particular, is probably one of the most progressive areas of contemporary linguistics. Within four decades or so it has moved away from the fringes of linguistic interest to which it was long relegated due to the assumed unsystematic nature of its object of study to step into the spotlight together with corpus linguistics (Gray & Biber [2015]). While what Granger and Paquot [2008] called the “traditional approach to phraseology” was mostly concerned with the narrow field of fixed idioms, their collection and description, the advent of the distributional or frequency-based approach based on language corpora and intertwined with corpus linguistics has completely reconceptualized phraseology and further broadened its scope (see Burger et al. [2007]). It has shown that speech is largely composed of prefabricated, more or less fixed multiword expressions (MWEs), variously labelled as collocations, lexical bundles, (continuous and discontinuous) n-grams, formulas, etc. Central among the goals of phraseological research are the extraction, identification and description of MWEs and the analysis of their discourse functions and exploration of phraseological register variation. Whether focusing on selected multiword units or the whole set of these expressions in a corpus, register, type of text, etc., the approaches are either corpus-based or corpus-driven. The discovery of phraseological units of one type or another in every kind of discourse is something linguistic theories have had to come to grips with. Phraseology is the bedrock of Systemic Functional Linguistics (Ding [2018]), but it also stimulated new directions in Cognitive Linguistics (Fillmore et al. [1988]). The recognition that idiomatic expressions
are productive, not (necessarily) fixed structures which permeate ordinary language, is at the core of such cognitive theories as Usage-Based Construction Grammar. The range of contemporary phraseological studies is exemplified by the EUROPHRAS 2017 and 2019 proceedings (Mitkov [2017]; Corpas Pastor & Mitkov [2019]) and more recently by Corpas Pastor & Colson [2020]. In addition to methodological issues of identification and extraction, the papers explore a multitude of other aspects, typologies, patterns and networks, computational representation, cognitive modelling and processing, disambiguation, (semantic and pragmatic) interpretation, to name but a few.

A similar renaissance has been experienced by the subfield of phraseology, paremiology. Transcending the stage of traditional non-linguistic approaches focusing especially on the collection and categorization of proverbs, paremiology has been firmly incorporated into linguistics (Norrick [1981], [1985]). Taking stock of the present-day situation are such works as Mieder [2007] and especially Hrisztova-Gotthardt and Varga [2015]. In fact, paremiology as the study of proverbs as phraseological multiword units is ever more profiting from language corpora and corpus linguistics just as the rest of phraseology (see Steyer [2017]).

The n°19 issue aims for contributions reflecting the current trends in phraseology exploration, addressing exclusively English phraseology and paremiology and leaving aside contrastive aspects and comparisons with other languages. The following broad areas of research are suggested for the papers with no restrictions upon other related topics:

• methods of phraseology extraction and identification,
• representation and modelling of phraseological units,
• interpretation, processing and disambiguation of phraseological units,
• discourse functions of phraseological units,
• phraseological units and register variation.

References

BURGER Harald et al., 2007, “Phraseology: Subject area, terminology and research topics”, in BURGER Harald et al. (eds.), Phraseology: An international handbook of contemporary research, Berlin/New York: Mouton de Gruyter, 10-19.


How to submit

Please clearly indicate the title of the paper and include an abstract of no more than 5,000 characters as well as a list of relevant key-words and references. All abstract and paper submissions will be anonymously peer-reviewed (double-blind peer reviewing) by an international scientific committee composed of specialists in their fields. Papers will be written preferably in English or occasionally in French.

Manuscripts may be rejected, accepted subject to revision, or accepted as such. There is no limit to the number of pages.

Abstracts and articles will be sent via email to lexis@univ-lyon3.fr

Deadlines

• November 7 2020: Call for papers
• June 15 2021: Deadline for sending in abstracts to Lexis
• July-August 2021: Evaluation Committee’s decisions notified to authors
• November 15 2021: Deadline for sending in papers (Guidelines for submitting articles: https://journals.openedition.org/lexis/1000)
• November and December 2021: Proofreading of papers by the Evaluation committee
• January 2022: Authors’ corrections
• February 1 2022: Deadline for sending in final versions of papers

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