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frequently used both in the press and in colloquial speech. See how it is translated by our brothers-in-arms.

Thus, one can see that the nut is not so hard to crack. It is most often enough to 'shrug one's shoulders' and add the words 'in bewilderment' or 'helplessly', or anything that the gesture may mean.

The phrase "ахиллесова пята" (tr.: 'the Achilles' heel') is easier to dial with, for it exists only as an idiom. The phrase means: 'The weak or vulnerable spot in a man's character or a state's (company's, etc.) affairs.' (According to the legend, Achilles, with the exception of one heel, was protected against every weapon his enemies might use.) And 'the Achilles' heel' as a phrase has the definite article and the apostrophe to be observed and not to be 'bruised'

But alas! He had the Achilles' heel, too. Yes, he also had his own weakness... Podsohkin was fond of writing.

The phrase "метать громы и молнии" exists only as an idiom but its happens to be misleading. This phrase does not necessarily mean 'to frighten smb.' as one might wrongly guess. It means 'to be furious at smb.'

One can try and select a synonym (like 'to go off the deep end about smth.')

out of the group of English synonyms but... the Russian context may oppose it, for these English phrases may turn out to be too colloquial to be used, say, in the translation of a newspaper text.

It seems, therefore, that in most of the cases we may safely use the method of translating this Russian phrase, 'literally and metaphorically', for a metaphor itself shows its colouring and intention in a flexible way: it is understood from the context, and the stronger the language of the context is the stronger the metaphor will sound. And the suggested metaphor is 'to hurl thunderbolts at smb. (orsmth.)'

This metaphor seems sufficient but it requires a material object for the action, that is, for 'hurling thunderbolts' at something worth 'hurling thunderbolts' at. In other words, one cannot 'hurl thunderbolts', say, at a 'fact' or an 'idea'. One can always do so at a 'person' as well as at something which is a 'state', 'company', 'newspaper' or the like. And in such cases as when there is no material object for our metaphorical action, one may resort to the idiom 'to blow one's top' and say, for example, 'He blew his top... at the fact that...' or '...when he heard that...', which would mean just 'to be fuming'. The phrase 'to blow one's top' is used in the English press and is not very negative though it is quite expressive.

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SYNTACTICAL-SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF PHRASES WITH PREPOSITION "OF" IN MODERN ENGLISH

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СИНТАКТИЧЕСКО-СЕМАНТИЧЕСКИЙ АНАЛИЗ СОЧЕТАНИЙ С ПРЕДЛОГОМ «OF» В СОВРЕМЕННОМ АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ

***Abstract:** The article deals with the problems of a study of prepositions in English. Main attention is paid to the preposition "of" which is accepted as the preposition of possession. The problem analyzed in the article is very important and actual because even advanced learners of English find prepositions difficult.*

Explaining prepositions can seem complicated, but they are a common part of language and most of us use them naturally without even thinking about it.

Key words: preposition, sentence, location, direction, time, rule, object.

Аннотация: в статье рассматриваются проблемы изучения предлогов на английском языке. Основное внимание уделяется предлогу «of», который принимается как предлог притяжательного падежа. Проблема, проанализированная в статье, очень важна и актуальна, потому что даже опытные изучающие английский язык находят предлоги трудными. Объяснение предлогов может показаться сложным, но они являются общей частью языка, и большинство из нас использует их естественно, даже не задумываясь об этом.

Ключевые слова: предлог, предложение, местоположение, направление, время, правило, объект.

Prepositions are short words (on, in, to) that usually stand in front of nouns (sometimes also in front of gerund verbs). Prepositions are the words that join a noun, pronoun or the noun phrases and make each sentence complete. However, learning preposition is little tricky and hence, students should be conscious while reading a book or other documents and check the usage of the preposition. Moreover, prepositions are used in the sentences to indicate a location, direction, time or sometimes, to introduce an object.

Even advanced learners of English find prepositions difficult, as a 1:1 translation is usually not possible. One preposition in your native language might have several translations depending on the situation. There are hardly any rules as to when to use which preposition. The only way to learn prepositions is looking them up in a dictionary, reading a lot in English (literature) and learning useful phrases off by heart (study tips).

So, a preposition is a word used to link nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence. They act to connect the people, objects, time and locations of a sentence. Prepositions are usually short words, and they are normally placed directly in front of nouns. In some cases, you'll find prepositions in front of gerund verbs.

A nice way to think about prepositions is as the words that help glue a sentence together. They do this by expressing position and movement, possession, time and how an action is completed. Indeed, several of the most frequently used words in all of English, such as *of*, *to*, *for*, *with*, *on* and *at*, are prepositions. Explaining prepositions can seem complicated, but they are a common part of language and most of us use them naturally without even thinking about it.

In fact, it's interesting to note that prepositions are regarded as a 'closed class' of words in the English language. This means, unlike verbs and nouns, no new words are added to this group over time. In a way, it reflects their role as the functional workhorse of the sentence. They are unassuming and subtle, yet vitally important to the meaning of language.

There are two very important rules to remember when using prepositions. Because they are somewhat vague, learning about prepositions and using them correctly in sentences takes practice. Because 1:1 translation is often impossible when dealing with prepositions, even the most advanced English students have some difficulty at first.

1. The first rule is that to make sentences clear, specific prepositions are needed. For example, the preposition *in* means one thing and the preposition *on* cannot substitute for it in all cases. Some prepositions are interchangeable but not always. The correct preposition means one particular thing and using a different preposition will give the sentence a very different meaning. *I want to see you in the house now, Bill!* means something very different from *I want to see you on the house now, Bill!* *In the house* means Bill should go through the door, walk inside, and stand in the hall or living room. *On the house* means Bill would need to get a ladder and climb to the roof where he would be *on top of* the house.

2. The second rule for using prepositions is that prepositions are generally followed by nouns or pronouns. There was a time in the past when teachers held strictly to this rule, but it made for some clunky sentences. *I am seeking someone I can depend on* ends with the preposition *on*, so people who insisted that sentences shouldn't end with a preposition would be forced to use convoluted and unnatural phrasing. To avoid ending that sentence above with a preposition, you'd have to say, *someone I can depend on is whom I am seeking*.

There are more than 100 prepositions in the English language. In addition, there are endless possibilities for creating *prepositional phrases*, phrases that begin with a preposition and end with a noun or pronoun.

There are three types of prepositions, including time prepositions, place prepositions, and direction prepositions. *Time prepositions* are those such as *before*, *after*, *during*, and *until*; *place prepositions* are those

indicating position, such as *around*, *between*, and *against*; and direction prepositions are those indicative of direction, such as *across*, *up*, and *down*. Each type of preposition is important.

Prepositions of Possession. As we discussed above *Preposition* is a word that connects various elements of a sentence. The Possessive form is used in a sentence in context of things that belong to a person or animal. We can also use it to show a connection between things. Some of the most commonly used prepositions of Possession are *of*, *with* and *to*.

The preposition *of* explains to whom the person or an object belongs to. This preposition of possession is usually used for cities, countries, people, and possessive pronouns.

Usual form: Of + noun/possessive pronoun (mine, yours, his, hers)

There are a few examples on using *Of*:

Of (to indicate relating to, belonging to) — I always dreamed of being famous.

Of (to indicate reference) — This is a picture of my last birthday.

Of (to specify the number or an amount) — A good number of people understand Hindi.

Of is placed in a sentence to show possession of a place like a city, country or people or possessive pronouns like mine, yours, etc.

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DIFFERENCES IN IDIOMS USAGE IN AMERICAN ENGLISH AND BRITISH ENGLISH

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ОТЛИЧИЯ В ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИИ ИДИОМОВ В АМЕРИКАНСКОМ И БРИТАНСКОМ АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

Abstract: *The article deals with the problems of a study of differences between the idioms of American and British English. Studying the background and etymological origins of idioms analyzed in the article is very important and actual because some of them may have gone through radical changes in meaning.*

Key words: *background, etymology, history, social, idiom, expression.*

Аннотация: *В статье рассматриваются проблемы изучения различий между идиомами американского и британского английского языка. Изучение предыстории и этимологического происхождения идиом, проанализированных в статье, очень важно и актуально, поскольку некоторые из них, возможно, претерпели радикальные изменения в значении.*

Ключевые слова: *происхождение, этимология, история, социальный, идиома, выражение.*

The background and etymological origins of most idioms is at best obscure. This is the reason why a study of differences between the idioms of American and British English is somewhat difficult. But it also