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### PHRASEOLOGICAL WORDING OF THE CONCEPT OF "YOUTH" IN ENGLISH LITERARY DISCOURSE

Mamatmurodova Sohiba Muhammad kizi

Basic Doctoral Candidate of Termez State University

Sohibamamatmurodova9597@gmail.com

#### Annotation

In this article, the phraseological verbalization of the concept of "Youth" in English literary discourse is analyzed based on cognitive and linguistic approaches. The study investigated the semantic, stylistic and conceptual features of phraseological units related to the concept of youth used in works of fiction of different periods of English literature. As a result of the analysis, it was found that the concept of "Youth" is expressed in English linguistic culture through cognitive signs such as energy, vitality, perspective, inexperience, freedom, romance, and self-awareness. It was also shown that phrasal units such as "young blood", "young at heart", "in the bloom of youth", "young gun", "youth is wasted on the young" represent different semantic layers of the concept. The results of the research are important in the verbalization of concepts in artistic discourse and in illuminating the linguocognitive capabilities of phrasing units.

**Kalit so'zlar:** concept, concept of youth, phrasing unit, artistic discourse, linguistic linguistics, cognitive linguistics, verbalization, English literature.

Conceptual and cognitive linguistics in modern linguistics has emerged as one of the most important areas of the study of human thought and the relationship between language. In these directions, the concept is interpreted as a mental unit



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that is manifested through language and reflects the cultural experience of a particular people. And the literary text is the most active and aesthetically rich expression space of concepts.

The language of literary literature is a form of the common language, subordinated to an aesthetic task, in which language units are used in accordance with the individual style and artistic goals of the author. The writer effectively uses various linguistic tools, including phraseological units, in the process of creating an object, describing reality and expressing a specific idea.

As a result, language units carry not only nominative, but also a burden of cultural and conceptual meaning. English literature occupies an important place in the development and popularization of phraseological units. In particular, the works of William Shakespeare are recognized as one of the sources that enriched the phrasing fund of the English language. Researcher Anita Naciscione believes that one of Shakespeare's main merits is not the creation of new phraseologisms, but the expansion of the stylistic possibilities of existing units. This shows the importance of phrasing units in creating conceptual content in a literary text.

In English linguistic culture, the concept of "Youth" is regarded as one of the most important stages of a person's life. This concept includes semantic characters such as energy, strength, aspiration, romance, inexperience, and prospect. For this reason, in English fiction, the concept of youth is expressed through many metaphorical and phrasing means. Although the linguistic and cognitive nature of concepts and the semantic properties of phraseological units have been studied in the research carried out on the topic, the issue of a comprehensive analysis of the phraseological verbalization of the concept of "youth" in English literary discourse has not been sufficiently covered. Therefore, the purpose of the study is to identify the mechanisms of phraseological



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expression of the concept of "Youth" in works of English fiction and to describe its main cognitive signs.

In the study, cognitive-semantic, linguistic and contextual analysis methods were used. Popular samples of English and world literature were chosen as research material. Including F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Harper Leening *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Oscar Wildening *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, J.D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*, Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations*, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*, Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and Phraseological units related to the concept of youth in other works were analyzed. In the process of analysis, the semantic structure, contextual function and conceptual content of phraseological units were determined and they were divided into semantic groups. The results were explained on the basis of a linguocognitive approach. As a result of the analysis, it was found that the concept of "youth" manifests itself in several key semantic directions in English literary discourse.

**Youth is a source of energy and vitality.** In many works of art, youth is depicted in relation to energy and activity. Young blood The combination represents the youth's energy and desire to innovate. Example: The character of Jay Gatsby is often referred to as young blood. Through this phraseology, the image of the hero as an active, ambitious and confident looking to the future was created. UNDP They were filled with the vitality of youth. In its example, youth is interpreted as a source of vital energy and mobility.



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**Youth is the road to maturity.** In the analyzed works, youth is manifested as a stage of personal development and social formation. In the bloom of adolescence she discovered the beauty of the world around her. In this example, in the bloom of adolescence Phraseology refers to the most prosperous and opportunity-rich period of human life. ALSO: As they reached the dawn of adulthood, they faced the challenges of responsibility and independence. Solid dawn of adulthood metaphorical combination signifies the transition from youth to adulthood.

**Youth – a period of inexperience and mistakes.** In artistic discourse, youth is often portrayed in relation to inexperience. They were young and foolish, unaware of the consequences of their actions. In this context, youth is characterized by the fact that a person does not yet have life experience. Just like that: Despite his success as an adult, he couldn't escape the consequences of his youthful indiscretions. The sentence emphasizes that mistakes made at a young age affect later life.

**Youth as a mental state.** In the analyzed materials, youth is associated not only with biological age, but also with the state of mind. Despite her age, she was still young at heart. here **young at heart** Phraseology refers to a person's inner world and attitude to life.

**Youth is an object of regret and nostalgia.** In some works, youth is depicted as a transient value. Youth is wasted on the young. This expression expresses that one realizes the true value of youth only when one gets older.

It is precisely this conceptual meaning that manifests itself in Khaled Hosseini's work as the hero remembers his youthful mistakes. The results of the study show



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that the concept of "Youth" in English linguistic culture has a multi-layered semantic structure. Phraseological units serve as an important tool in expressing the different aspects of this concept.

The results of the analysis confirm the cognitive and linguistic views put forward by A. Wierzbicka, G. Lakoff, M. Johnson and A. Naciscione. In particular, it has been found that the representation of concepts through metaphorical and phrasing units is based on conceptual models of human thought. In the analyzed works, the concept of youth is manifested on the basis of the following conceptual models:

- Youth is the life force
- Youth – flowering period
- Youth – the beginning of the journey
- youth – inexperience
- youth – mental state
- Youth is a lost value

These models reflect the social and cultural attitudes that exist in English culture toward youth. Especially in units such as "young blood", "young gun", "bloom of youth", "young at heart", "young at heart", there is a negative or critical attitude in units such as "young and foolish" and "youthful indiscretions".

Thus, phrasing units serve not only as objective tools of language, but also as important conceptual and cultural information carriers. As a result of the study, it was revealed that in English artistic discourse the concept of "Youth" is actively verbalized through phraseological units. In the works of fiction analyzed, the concept of youth manifests itself on the basis of semantic components such as energy, perspective, romance, inexperience, spiritual youth, and nostalgia. Phraseological units are an important tool in revealing the linguo-cognitive content of the concept, through which the cultural representations and values of



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the English people towards youth are expressed. The research results can serve as a theoretical basis for further research in the fields of conceptualology, cognitive linguistics, and linguistic studies.

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