Phraseological units containing archaic elements in bilingual lexicography

Joanna Szerszunowicz
The University of Białystok

Abstract

Phraseological units are very interesting elements of language from a linguo-cultural perspective. As phraseology has been developing over centuries, it can be assumed that many historical elements, for instance, lexical or syntactic ones, are preserved in various fixed expressions used in contemporary languages. In many cases such constituents reflect the culture of the past, which means that the inclusion of the information regarding them in dictionaries enhances users' linguistic and cultural awareness. The aim of the present paper is to signal the importance of paying special attention to the lexicographic description of phraseological units with archaic constituents in bilingual dictionaries. The problem will be discussed using the example of selected Polish units, such as idioms and proverbs, excerpted from modern phraseological dictionaries, analyzed in the lexicographic perspective. A model of an entry for units containing archaic components will be proposed for a bilingual Polish-English dictionary of fixed expressions.

Keywords: archaism, phraseological unit, idiom, proverb, lexicography

Introduction

Language functions in a state of continuum, in which the phenomena from the past and the present coexist. As to the relics of the past, the broad term *archaism*, derived from the Greek *arkhaïcós* 'ancient' (*The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology* 1993, p. 21), is used to describe various elements of language from previous epochs. Broadly speaking, an archaism is any language element or structure modern language users classify as obsolete. Some archaisms may be known to the majority, while others may be known only to those interested in the language of the past. Irrespective of the degree of their familiarity to today's language users, such lexical items are chronologically marked. Their markedness is felt rather intuitively, which is reflected in labeling words as archaisms in dictionaries: if several dictionaries are compared, there is hardly ever consensus on which words are marked as archaic (McArthur 1996, p. 82).

Bearing in mind the problematic character of classifying lexical items and multiword combinations as archaisms, it should be stressed that it is undeniable that they constitute a group of units which language users are exposed to. As early as in school days, students encounter them in set books written in different periods and in many cases they need to consult a special dictionary to understand them (Holly & Żołtak 2001). Texts written in such registers as religion and law contain a significant number of archaisms (Burkhanov 1998, p. 25). Moreover, archaic units, especially lexical, are used in the process of so-called partial stylization (Kozłowska 2003, p. 111), for instance, in the dialogue of historical novels or films. Many of them are also found in fixed expressions, especially in idioms and proverbs.

The formation of phraseological units is a continuous process (Jawór 2009), with the phrasicon of a natural language, i.e. the collection of fixed expressions, being established over centuries. Therefore, phraseological units may contain lexemes which are never found outside the structure of fixed expressions in a given language, for example, rare fossil words or borrowings (Dobrovol'skij & Piirainen 2005, pp. 25-27). Such phrases, containing unanalysable or unique items, are classified as cranberry collocations (Moon 2003, pp. 78-80).

The aim of the present paper is threefold: to discuss the status of selected groups of archaic constituents of Polish phraseological units currently in use; to signal problems connected with bilingual lexicographic description of such units; and to propose a model of dictionary entry

for such units on the example of Polish-English dictionary of idioms. It should be emphasized that there are very few Polish-English dictionaries of this kind, vastly outnumbered by English-Polish ones. Therefore, focusing on Polish-English lexicographic description of phraseological units is important both in terms of theory and practice.

Archaic constituents of phraseological units

Studies on formulaic language have been done intensively over a few last decades (Pawley 2007). Two branches of linguistics are of particular importance for such analyses: cognitive semantics and corpus linguistics (Colson 2008, pp. 194-199). In fact, it can be observed that "in recent years, phraseology in the broad sense has become a unifying theme for an increasing number of theoretical and practical studies" (Colson 2008, p. 191), which should be reflected in the development of the methodology of phraseological research.

However, it should be admitted that the theoretical background has been criticized for not being strong enough (Čermák 2001). As to terminology, a plethora of names is used to name various phenomena. Even in the case of the basic term, which is the *phraseological unit*, many linguists have proposed their own definitions, which reflects the complex nature of fixed expressions viewed in many perspectives adopted by representatives of various schools. Therefore, the one chosen to be most adequate for the present study will be given and commented on. Gläser's (1998) classifications of phraseologial units will be presented to list the kinds of units which can be called phraseologisms.

One of the salient features of phraseological units is polylexemic structure: to be considered phraseologisms, they are to be composed of at least two constituents. It should be stressed that phraseological units are comprised of various lexical items, among which archaic words can be found. The occurrence of unique constituents and grammatical ill-formedness can be regarded "as a strong proof of historic relics" in language (Fiedler 2007, p. 28). Therefore, such phraseological units are carriers of some cultural information, which deserves to be taken into consideration in the lexicographic perspective.

### *Phraseological units: definition and classification*

It should be admitted that the terminology used in the field of phraseology is problematic: first, there is a variety of terms; second, the same term may be used to name different phenomena (Moon 2003, p. 2ff.). For instance, the term *idiom* can be used in a broad meaning, encompassing all kinds of fixed expressions, and a narrow one, in which idioms are units of figurative character, the meanings of which are not equal to the sums of the meanings of their constituents.

While the term *idiom* is commonly used in English texts of fixed units, in German and Slavonic studies on stable multiword constructions it is the term *phraseological unit* which serves as an umbrella term to name all kinds of fixed phrases. On analysing various approaches, it can be concluded that a phraseological unit is "a lexicalized polylexemic linguistic unit characterized, in principle, by semantic and syntactic stability, and to a great extent by idiomacy; the unit can be either a word-like or sentence-like expression" (Fiedler 2007, p. 28). This definition will be adopted for the needs of the present study and will be used in order to select material for the discussion.

To shed more light on the expressions which are classified as belonging to phraseology, Gläser's (1998) classification of phraseological units will be presented. The following classes of units are distinguished (Gläser 1998, p. 128):
• Centre: nominations (partly covering terminology),

• Transition area: reductions of propositions (stereotyped comparisons, irreversible binominals, proverbial sayings, fragments of proverbs),
• Periphery: propositions (proverbs, quotations and winged words, commonplaces, routine formulae, slogans, commandments, maxims).
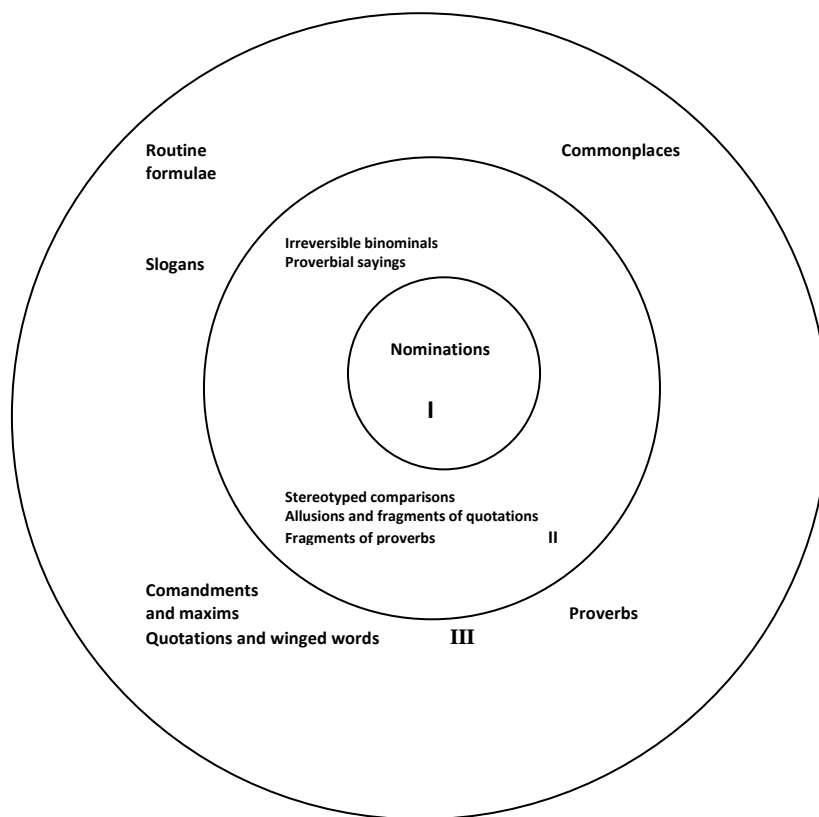
Figure 1. A simplified version of Gläser's division (1998, p. 128)

It is worth stressing that this classification reflects the gradation of phraseological character. The nominations are considered prototypical units, followed by their reductions, and, finally, by various kinds of propositions. This approach reflects how different units can be classified as phraseological phenomena, which can be included in special dictionaries of fixed expressions.

Polish-English Dictionaries of Phraseological Units

As already mentioned, although the number of English-Polish dictionaries has been increasing steadily over the last twenty years, not many Polish-English dictionaries of phraseological units have been compiled so far. Actually, only three such lexicographic works are available. If compared, they show differences in volume and contents.

Two of them, *Polsko-angielski słownik frazeologiczny. Polish-English Phraseological Dictionary* (Kakietek 1993) and *Idiomy polsko-angielskie. Polish-English Idioms* (Wolfram-Romanowska, Kaszubski & Parker 1999), are collections of Polish units whose English equivalents have identical or very similar components and structure. The former contains about 600 idioms, a section with 72 similes (*as* adjective *as* noun), and 64 proverbs, while in the latter about 1,200 entries of idiomatic expressions are included. The third one, *Słownik frazeologiczny polsko-angielski. Polish-English Phraseological Dictionary* (Jaworska 1999), comprises about 3,000 entries, which contain approximately 15,000 expressions: idioms, proverbs and collocations.

All of them include phraseological units which contain archaic constituents of lexical character. However, none of them provides explanations of the relics of the past retained in the fixed expressions collected in the lexicographic works analyzed. In general, the dictionaries discussed do not provide additional information about the unit, such as, for instance, the explanations of the origins of the unit.

Their microstructure is rather simple, as in one of the dictionaries it is composed of the head word, units containing it and their English equivalents (Jaworska 1999). Another work has a microstructure which includes the following elements: the Polish unit, the explanation of its meaning in Polish, the English equivalent (optionally a label), a Polish example and a corresponding sentence in English; Polish similes and proverbs are only followed by English equivalents (Kakietek 1993). The entries in the dictionary *Idiomy polsko--angielskie. Polish-English Idioms* contain the Polish unit (optionally a label), the explanation of the meaning and an example, then the same elements given for the English equivalent (Wolfram-Romanowska, Kaszubski & Parker 1999).

Therefore, there is a need for developing the lexicographic description of Polish-English dictionaries of phraseological units, so that they would provide sufficient linguo-cultural information, enabling the user to interpret and use the expressions collected in the bilingual works at issue.

Areas of presence of the archaic constituents of phraseological units

The archaic elements can appear at various levels, for instance, in phonetics, lexis or grammar. As to phonetic archaisms, they are elements pronounced in a way characteristic of old pronunciation. In the contemporary Polish language they constitute a significantly smaller group than other kinds of archaisms. They can be found in proverbs, for example, in the unit *Przyszła kryska na Matyska*, where the constituent *kryska* reflects the old pronunciation, in which a constricted vowel, written as ė, pronounced as a sound between [e] and [i], is written as y (cf. Długosz-Kurczabowa, Dubisz 1998, pp. 126-128). Narrow vowels were continuants of long ones, the constricted vowel ė present in the Polish language till the seventeenth century. Their pronunciation is retained in some Polish dialects as well as in several proverbs for the sake of rhyme and rhythm.

Another group of archaisms is observed in lexis. The archaic elements belonging to it can be subdivided into historisms (units referring to objects etc. which do not exist any longer), lexical archaisms (words which vanished although the objects etc. they name still exist), and paleosemantisms (words which are used in the contemporary language in a different meaning than in the past). This group is well represented in Polish phraseology and will be discussed in detail in the next subsection.

From the point of view of grammar, one can distinguish derivational, inflectional and syntactic archaisms. The first kind, i.e. derivational ones, occurs when the word is formed by means of old formants. For instance, the word *tanecznica* 'female dancer', found in the proverb *złej tanecznicy zawadza/wadzi [i] rąbek przy/u spódnicy* (Müldner-Nieckowski 2003, p. 799), meaning 'a bad workman always blames his tools', was built by means of the old suffix *-ica*. It is not productive and the word *tanecznica* is not used out of the proverb.

In Polish, inflectional archaisms, constituting the second subgroup, are observed in the forms of declensions and conjugations of given constituents of various phraseological units. For

example, old forms are found in such units as *mówiąc innymi słowy* ('in other words') and *za pan brat* 'to be on friendly terms with somebody' (Müldner-Nieckowski 2003, pp. 85, 716).

The last one, syntactic archaisms, is composed of old syntactic constructions retained in the language. Many of them are found in Polish phraseology, for example, the one composed of a verb with adverbials of cause and effect, such as *przymierać głodem* 'to be dying of hunger; to be starving' (Müldner-Nieckowski 2003, p. 244), or a verb with adverbials of manner expressed by the instrumental of comparison, as in the unit *być komuś solą w oku* 'to disturb somebody' (Skorupka 1999, vol. 2, p. 164).

The areas of the presence of archaic elements in various phraseological units are presented in Figure 2. The figure also shows the kinds of archaic components of fixed expressions.

The areas of the presence of archaic constituents of phraseological units			
		PHONETICS	LEXIS	SYNTAX
Kinds of Archaisms	Sound pronunciation	Historism	Derivational archaism
		Lexical archaism	Inflectional archaism
		Paleosemantism	Syntactical archaism

Figure 2. The areas of the presence of archaic constituents of phraseological units and their kinds

It can be concluded that analyzing the phraseology of a natural language with a view to determining the presence of archaic elements is very important for ethnolinguistic studies, especially the description of the linguistic picture of the world reflected in fixed expressions. Such analyses will have both theoretical importance and practical implementations, one of which will be the improvement of the lexicographic description of phraseological units containing archaisms.

Archaic lexis in phraseological units

Phraseology constitutes a reservoir of old forms, among which archaic components are worth analyzing, especially those found in lexis (Kosek & Zawilska 2012, p. 260). First, they form an important group in terms of quantity – according to Borejszo (1985), in Polish phraseology the number of archaic units of lexical character amounts to 140; secondly, the units at issue vary in quality, as there are different kinds of archaic lexical elements. As already mentioned, the most important are the three following types: historisms, archaic lexical units, and paleosemantisms.

The first group, historisms, is composed of names of realia, which are present in language, referring to objects etc. which do not exist any longer. In the Polish language an example of historism is the word *łut*, which is the name of an old unit of measurement. More precisely, it is the unit of 1/30 or 1/32 of a pound, used in many European countries from the Middle Ages till the end of the nineteenth century. The word is a constituent of the phraseological unit *łut szczęścia* (*Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 227), meaning 'a little of luck', with the English equivalent *a stroke of luck*.

The archaism at issue is also found in proverbs, in which it appears in combination with two other names of measurement, also historisms, i.e. *funt* 'pound'and *cetnar* 'centner'. In the first proverb, *Lepszy łut szczęścia niż funt rozumu* 'better to have a little luck than a lot of intelligence', the name *funt* expresses the meaning 'about 300-500 gram', while in the second one, *Lepszy łut*

szczęścia niż cetnar rozumu, the historism *cetnar* means 'about 50 kilograms' (*Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 528).

It should be stressed that historisms are not only units of measurement; they come from various fields. For instance, some of them describe the names of social classes (*szlachcic* 'nobleman' – *Szlachcic na zagrodzie równy wojewodzie* 'all people of noble birth have equal rights'; *Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 531), various objects (*trzos* 'pouch, purse' – *mieć pełny trzos* 'to have a full purse', *Nie wsadzaj nosa do cudzego trzosa* 'Mind your own business'), clothes (*sukmana* 'russet coat' – *Bliższa koszula ciału niż sukmana* 'Blood is thicker than water'; *Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 42), old legal regulations and practices (*wet* 'money for the judge after the process' – *wet za wet* 'tit for tat'; Müldner-Nieckowski 2003, p. 352), to name but a few.

Another group is composed of archaic lexical units, which are words no longer used, even though the object etc. they refer to still exists. In fact, the meanings of some of them are unknown to Poles living nowadays. For instance, the meaning of the lexical unit *licho* is not known to the native language users of Polish. They are familiar only with fixed expressions containing the word, such as *Licho nie śpi* (Müldner-Nieckowski 2003, p. 352) meaning 'You should always be careful, as you do not know what can happen' and *Pal (kogoś / coś) licho* (Müldner-Nieckowski 2003, p. 353) - 'Ignore this person'. Actually, the word *licho* is an old lexical unit meaning 'devil'.

It is worth adding that the meanings of other archaic lexical units are known to the majority of language users, but they tend to belong to passive vocabulary. An example of a Polish word from this group is the verb *nawarzyć* meaning 'to cook', which is the component of the following idioms: *nawarzyć (sobie, komuś) piwa* (*Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 273) meaning 'to create problems for oneself/somebody', *pić, wypić piwo, które się nawarzyło, które ktoś nawarzył* (*Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 273) – 'to have problems as a result of one's own or sb's behaviour'. The root *war* 'boiling water', archaic as it may be, is still used in some texts and has a separate entry in dictionaries (e.g. *Uniwersalny słownik języka polskiego* 2003, vol. 4, p. 347).

The third group of archaisms consists of paleosemantic constituents (cf. Jawór 2009), which are words used in the contemporary language in different meanings from the ones the items had in the past. To illustrate this phenomenon the Polish word *gąbka* will be discussed. It is the diminutive form of the word *gęba* (*vulgar* 'mouth'), so it can be explained as 'a small mouth'. In the contemporary Polish language *gąbka* means 'sponge'. The lexical element in question is a constituent of the saying *Pieczone gołąbki nie lecą (nie wlecą) same do gąbki* (*Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 123) meaning 'Nothing can be gained without our effort', the English parallel equivalent is *There is no such thing as a free lunch* (*Wielki słownik polsko-angielski Oxford–PWN. Polish-English Dictionary* 2004, p. 272).

As can be seen, lexis is the source of many archaisms which are constituents of various phraseological units. A brief summary of the above discussion on their kinds is presented in Figure 3.

Archaic constituents of phraseological units		
Kind of archaism	Definition	Example
HISTORISM	Names of realia (not existing any longer)	*Łut* szczęścia
ARCHAIC LEXICAL CONSTITUENT	Words no longer used (the object etc. exists)	*Licho* nie śpi
PALEOSEMANTISM	Words used with different meanings (from the ones they had in the past)	Pieczone gołąbki nie wlecą same do *gąbki*

Figure 3. The kinds of archaic constituents of phraseological units

It is worth mentioning that archaisms which are found in the lexicon of a given language can also be divided into fossilized (Fiedler 2007, p. 28) or isolated constituents, i.e. lexical elements which appear only as components of phraseological units. In the Polish language the word *omacek* functions only within the phraseological unit and is not used on its own (*Uniwersalny słownik języka polskiego* 2003, vol. 2, p. 1253). The phrase *po omacku* (*Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, pp. 324-325), meaning 'not being able to see anything', 'intuitively', is a frequently used expression, in which the word appears in the instrumental case. The nominative, *omacek*, is not used in the contemporary Polish language.

Similarly, the nominative case of the word *lik* (an old word meaning 'a lot'; *Uniwersalny słownik języka polskiego* 2003, vol. 2, p. 440) is not used, while the dative *liku* is: it is a constituent of the expression *bez liku*. Such words are very difficult. In some cases it is virtually impossible for native Polish language users to reconstruct them in the nominative case without consulting a dictionary which includes the form at issue.

In the lexicon there are also non-isolated archaic constituents, i.e. words can be used out of phraseological contexts. For instance, the Polish lexical item *sztubak* is a constituent of the simile *zaczerwienić się jak sztubak* (*Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami* 2005, p. 534), which means 'to turn red in a way typical of young people', and can be used in a loose combination of words. It should be emphasized that the word *sztubak* is used much more often as an element of comparisons based on the stereotype of a young man than on its own, which is reflected by the findings from *Narodowy Korpus Języka Polskiego* (The National Corpus of the Polish Language), in which only 9 out of 54 occurrences are examples of the word *sztubak* used out of phraseological context.

Archaic constituents of phraseological units		
Kind of archaism	Definition	Example
ISOLATED (FOSSILIZED)	Can only be used as a constituent of a phraseological unit	Po *omacku*
NON- -ISOLATED	Cannot be used out of the phraseological context	Zaczerwienić się jak *sztubak*

Figure 4. The division of archaic constituents based on the degree of their fossilization

It is worth adding that the degree of the ability of a given archaism to be used on its own, as a lexical item, not as an element of a fixed expression, is gradable and varies depending on the unit.

To sum up, it can be concluded that archaic lexis is well present in Polish phraseology. It is possible to give examples of the presence of historisms, lexical archaisms and paleosemantisms in

fixed expressions used in the contemporary Polish language. The elements retained in the old form in various phraseological units, especially in idioms and in proverbs, constitute a group which encompasses different kinds of lexical items from the past. It should be emphasized that all of them are of interest in a linguo-cultural perspective.

A proposal for a lexicographic description of phraseological units with archaic constituents (based on the example of Polish-English)

The lexicographic description of phraseological units is a challenging task because of their linguo-cultural specificity. As already mentioned, phraseological units may contain various components, and in the case of some units it is the core constituents that influence the entry to a great extent. Many elements can play an important role, for instance, zoomorphisms – because of their symbolic value (Pamies-Bertrán 2011); proper names – due to theirf cultural character (Szerszunowicz 2008); and archaisms – thanks to their chronological markedness (Jawór 2009). Such components are of great importance in a cross-linguistic and cross-cultural perspective.

Therefore, it is worth considering how to present such constituents to the user of a bilingual dictionary to show their character and potential in the most adequate way. In order to do so, the structure of a model of an entry for a bilingual dictionary will be discussed with a special focus on the treatment of archaic constituents. The discussion will be followed by case studies of selected phraseological units containing archaic elements.

Components of lexicographic description of phraseological units with archaic constituents in bilingual dictionaries

Due to the specific character of archaic components of phraseological units, it is worth providing more information regarding them in lexicographic works. Such an approach will enhance the dictionary user's linguo-cultural awareness. In the case of bilingual dictionaries the inclusion of the explanations of archaic elements is of particular importance, since such units may not have appeared in the process of teaching Polish as a foreign language even at the advanced level. Moreover, presenting their linguistic specificity and cultural background facilitates the development of the user's phraseological competence.

Therefore, it can be assumed that the inclusion of additional information on archaic constituents of phraseological units is worth considering while deciding on the microstructure of a bilingual dictionary of fixed expressions. Although such information is given in many monolingual dictionaries (though it should be admitted that relatively few of them do it on a regular basis), bilingual works tend to exclude it from entries, as is the case with Polish-English dictionaries of phraseological units.

As to linguistic features, the description may contain linguistic explanations of the archaic constituent, which will provide an insight into the phenomena present in a particular phraseological unit. For instance, fossilized constituents, historical relics, which appear in a case other than the nominative, can be given in the first case with additional information regarding their old usage.

The approach adopted emphasizes the need for the inclusion of cultural information (Sanmarco Bade 2006, Rodgers 2006, Szerszunowicz 2011). Some constituents of phraseological

units are carriers not only of meaning, but also of cultural contents, the inclusion of which is beneficial for prospective dictionary users who are learners of Polish. Such phraseographic description improves their command of language, expands the knowledge of culture and raises linguo-cultural awareness.

In bilingual dictionaries an adequate description of archaic constituents is important for many reasons, including those of a practical nature: some archaisms are included in monolingual – in some cases even bilingual – lexicographic works, in separate entries, some appear only as constituents of phraseological units and are explained in the entry of the phrase, while others are treated as elements of fixed expressions which do not need any further comments (cf. Kosek & Zawilska 2012).

Taking the above signalled aspects into consideration, the entry should be composed of the following elements: the unit and its variants, meaning, labels, examples, cross-linguistic equivalents, additional information (which is a very important part in the model, where the archaic constituent is presented), synonyms, pictures / photos. The general layout of the entry model proposed is presented in Figure 5.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">P o l i s h   p h r a s e o l o g i c a l   u n i t</td></tr>
<tr><td>VARIANTS
MEANING
LABELS
EXAMPLES
ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
 Cf. SYNONYMS</td><td>Photo/Picture
(optional)</td></tr>
</table>
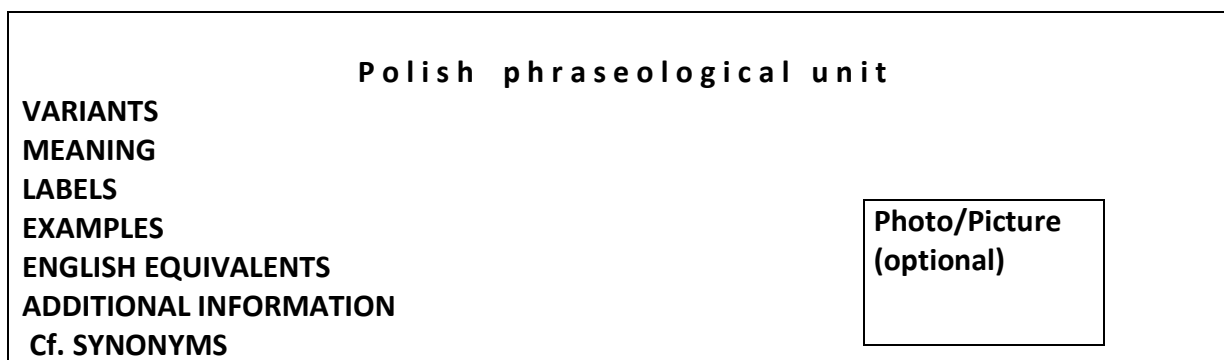
Figure 5. The model of a bilingual lexicographic description of phraseological units with archaic constituents

As to the entry, the head unit is followed by its variants. The meaning of the unit should be provided irrespective of the existence of cross-linguistic equivalents. The analysis of selected bilingual dictionaries conducted by Lubensky and McShane (2007, p. 923) shows that the majority do not provide definitions of the target language units. If a comprehensive definition is given, it enables the dictionary user to search for a proper equivalent of the unit in a particular context.

It is worth stressing that the cross-linguistic equivalents of phraseological units are never identical to the units they correspond to. Even in the case of full equivalents, i.e. when the target language has identical components and structures to the source language units (cf. Piirainen 2012), some – in many cases subtle – differences are bound to occur. Therefore, such units are rather quasi-equivalents and the parameters which are not the same for the target language unit and its counterpart should be signaled in the lexicographic work.

Labels are very important elements of the entry, but it should be stressed that the analysis conducted of various dictionaries shows they are often used inconsistently in various lexicographic works (cf. Miller 2011). In unidirectional dictionaries intended primarily for target language speakers, usage labels are given most frequently on the source language side (Lubensky & McShane 2007, p. 921), as they function as the means of an indirect defining of a given unit.

Moreover, they can signal cross-cultural differences in the case of quasi-equivalents. The most common ones are *informal, rare, frequent*. The last of the labels listed is very important, since the presence of the archaic element may mislead the user into classifying the unit as obsolete, which in the case of some units is not true. Irrespective of having an archaic constituent, a given phraseological unit may belong to the phrases which are often used.

Selected examples of the use of a phraseological unit can also serve as elements of indirect defining. The best examples "will suggest the typical situations in which they would be used, though such examples are not always easy to find" (Rodger 2002, p. 439). Therefore, as long as they have a strong "implication of utterance" (Firth 1957, p. 226), they can be authentic, semi-authentic (adapted) or invented.

Another element of the lexicographic description is additional information regarding the unit. The origins of the phraseme can be presented. As to the archaic constituent, it should be explained: its meaning and etymology can be presented through various linguistic phenomena of the past, which are related to the archaic components. Moreover, markedness of the component should be given and restrictions in the use of the element in the contemporary language ought to be provided. Optionally, the section can also include cross-referencing to general dictionaries or other lexicographic works, if the archaic constituent is registered there.

Cultural background is also very important, especially in the case of archaic units belonging to culturemes (cf. Oksaar 1988, Poyatos 1976), for which cultural connotations should be provided (cf. Dobrovol'skij & Piirainen 2005, p. 245). Adopting a broader cultural perspective allows for the inclusions of extralinguistic information shedding light on the constituent.

To sum up it can be concluded that in order to provide an insight into the linguo-cultural specificity of the phraseological unit containing an archaism, the entry should be of hybrid character: it has to comprise the typical lexicographic components of an entry and it should also contain selected elements of encyclopedic knowledge (cf. Fiedler 2012).

Examples of Polish-English entries of units with archaic constituents

The model proposed will be exemplified with Polish-English descriptions of selected phraseological units with archaic constituents. The units chosen for the illustration of the implementation of the model contain various archaic elements: names of realia, lexical archaisms and paleosemantisms. Special attention will be paid to units with fossilized constituents. Therefore, they show how units with various archaic components can be presented in a bilingual lexicographic work.

Lexicographic description of phraseological units with names based on realia

The names based on realia are both single-word names and word combinations. From the ethnolinguistic perspective, in the case of the words belonging to this group, "the cultural component forms a cultural seme – that is, forms part of the lexical meaning" (Teliya, Bragina, Oparina & Sandomirskaja 2001, p. 58). It is possible to distinguish two groups of the items at issue: the words nominating material realia and the words naming social and historical realia (Teliya, Bragina, Oparina & Sandomirskaja 2001, p. 58).

It should be emphasized that the names of realia of the past are constituents of many Polish phraseological units. Such lexical items refer to the objects etc. which even native language

users tend to be unfamiliar with. What is really important is the fact that in a cross-linguistic perspective such units may belong to referential lacunae, i.e. gaps (cf. Dagut 1981). An interlingual lacuna occurs when a given unit names an object which does not exist in the target culture (Szerszunowicz 2013, pp. 168-170), so the names express the meaning which the target language users do not know.

Therefore, the explanation regarding them is worth including in the entry. In fact, apart from providing an explanation of a particular word, the inclusion of visual material is advisable, especially in the case of material realia. Various kinds of material can be used, for instance, pictures, drawings, photos. Supplementing the description with a pictorial presentation facilitates the understanding and memorizing of a given word. Moreover, the inclusion of illustrations accompanying the entry increases the attractiveness of the dictionary for the user.

To sum up, it can be concluded that a proper description of the phenomena named by the word or the expression together with a well-chosen illustration is bound to enhance the users' knowledge of the target culture, thus contributing to their linguo-cultural competence.

D o b r y ż a r t t y n f a w a r t
VARIANTS: Dobry żart talara wart, Dobry żart dukata wart
MEANING: used with reference to a good joke, witty comment etc.
informal
EXAMPLES: Wtem błysnęły mu oczy, rozpaliły się w nich figlarne ogniki: strzeliła mu do głowy myśl. Wciąż bezradnie trzymał biszkopt w prawej dłoni, gdy nagle lewą rękę wyciągnął ku mnie, chwycił za koszulę na piersi i błyskawicznym ruchem wsadził mi do kieszeni biszkopt. Potem, porwany gwałtowną uciechą, że mu się taki kawał udał, że dobry żart tynfa wart, jął wesoło pohukiwać: ho, ho, ho! (...) [Fiedler, Nowa przygoda: Gwinea, NKJP]
EQUIVALENTS: ≈ it's good for a laugh
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: *tynf / tymf* – a small Polish coin, of silver and copper, used in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The name derived from the surname Tynf – Antoni Tynf was the mint tenant during that period.

Figure 6. An example of the entry of a unit with a name based on realia: *Dobry żart tynfa wart*

It is worth emphasizing that the inclusion of the additional information enriches the knowledge of the language user. Providing the explanations about all three names, i.e. *talar*, *dukat* and *tynf*, gives the user both linguistic information (schema and the name of the coin as an element which undergoes substitution, which is important from the point of view of creative modifications) and expands the user's knowledge of the monetary system in Poland in previous centuries.

To conclude, it is worth stressing that the names of realia, especially idioethnic ones, constitute a group of units which are culture-bound. A proper lexicographic description should reflect their character and provide information, in many cases not only verbal, but also visual, to ensure that the user will have a good command of the unit described and will be able to identify the archaism in other contexts thanks to the explanations of the archaic constituent.

Lexicographic description of phraseological units with lexical archaisms

Another kind of archaism which is found in phraseology is the lexical archaism, which are words no longer used, even though the object etc. they refer to still exists. These lexical items come from various fields.

Such constituents are worth discussing, as they have great stylistic potential which is exploited by languages users to meet their communication needs. Therefore, in bilingual lexicography it is advisable to provide explanations of the meaning of the constituent as well as to include comments on how the element could be used in modern language.

---

z a c z e r w i e n i ć   s i ę   j a k   s z t u b a k

VARIANTS: *speszyć się, zachować się itp. jak sztubak*
rare
MEANING: to turn red in one's face (used about young boys or men)
EXAMPLES: "Oh, głupi myślałeś, że złapiesz papugę!" – odezwał się za nim czyjś głos. Tomek zaczerwienił się jak sztubak złapany na niemądrej psocie. [Szklarski, Tomek w krainie kangurów, NKJP]
EQUIVALENTS: ≈ to blush like a schoolboy, to blush to the roots of one's hair
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The word *sztubak* (from German *Stube* 'room', Polish *sztuba* 'school') was used with reference to a schoolboy attending the junior high school or secondary school. The unit was motivated by the stereotype of a young person encompassing such features as shyness, being inexperienced etc., which can be used by language users to create other similes.
Cf. zaczerwienić się jak burak, zaczerwienić się jak piwonia, zaczerwienić się jak rak, zaczerwienić się jak pensjonarka

---

Figure 7. An example of the entry of a unit with a lexical archaism: *zaczerwienić się jak sztubak*

On reading the additional information the dictionary user can learn that the archaic word is a borrowing from the German language. The inclusion of the information on the stereotype is of great importance, as it allows the dictionary user to decode other uses of a given word as well as to use it in their own texts.

Lexicographic description of phraseological units with paleosemantisms

Semantic archaisms, also called paleosemantisms, are words used in the contemporary language in a different meaning than they had in the past. Due to the lexicalization of the combination of words which constitute the phraseological unit, the phrase functions as a whole, which means that native language users may not pay attention to the difference in the meaning retained in the unit and the one the word has in the contemporary language. However, it should be stressed that some native users of Polish find such phrases puzzling and ask professionals for an explanation, sending questions to special centers or taking part in phone-in programs.

Therefore, it can be assumed that from a bilingual perspective the archaism is also worth explaining, so that the learner of Polish as a foreign language is given the possibility of enriching their vocabulary and expanding their general linguo-cultural knowledge. Although the word is used in a different meaning in the modern Polish language, the awareness of the fact that it had another sense in earlier periods may be useful for interpreting various texts in which it appears.

<div style="border:1px solid black; padding:10px;">

t r ą c i ć   m y s z k ą

MEANING: to be old-fashioned

informal

EXAMPLES: Niedługo pęknie trzydziestka, a on chciałby tak do końca nie brać odpowiedzialności, pełnej odpowiedzialności za życie. Wciąż uciekać od konsekwencji, z całym moralnym bajzlem, lawirowaniem między robieniem szmalu, dzieci, kariery a cichym wyznawaniem jakichś zasad. Jakich? Właśnie cichych zasad, bo niedobrze, niezręcznie mieć głośne zasady – to trąci myszką i fanatyzmem.

EQUIVALENTS: ≈ to be out of date, to be old hat

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The word *myszka*, in the modern Polish – 'a little mouse', used to mean 'the smell of old wine'. The verb *trącić* used to mean 'give away a faint smell'.

</div>

Figure 8. An example of the entry of a unit with a paleosemantism: *trącić myszką*

By explaining the components, both of which are paloesemantisms, the entry provides information on the creation of the unit at issue. Moreover, it is worth adding that thanks to discussing semantic archaisms, which are components of phraseological units, the dictionary user can make some general observation about lexis, seeing that words can change meanings in some cases significantly over time and phraseology is the reservoir of units in which the old meaning is retained.

Lexicographic description of phraseological units with archaic isolated constituents

Fossilized constituents of phraseological units require special treatment in bilingual lexicographic works due to their nature. The special status of the words at issue needs to be highlighted in the entry, so that the language user is aware of the usage restrictions. Learning about the limitations of a given word will help the person avoid making mistakes which might occur as a result of treating the lexical item an a non-fossilized one.

The inclusion of additional information is optional, but it should be emphasized that it will be beneficial for the prospective language user. For example, in the case of nouns the inclusion of the nominative form (if the word is used in any other case in the unit) is recommended. Moreover, the entry may contain the explanation of the meaning, which will develop the dictionary user's linguistic knowledge. Apart from the linguistic information, in some cases the cultural aspect can also be presented.

<div style="border:1px solid black; padding:10px;">

b e z   l i k u

MEANING: 'many', 'much'

frequent

EXAMPLES: Cóż dopiero, gdy zaczęła oprowadzać panią Barbarę po kurnikach, gdzie stało bez liku kojców z nasadzonymi na jaja kurami, indyczkami, kaczkami, perlicami – jeśli to była wiosna, lub gdy ją zawiodła do spiżarni. [Dąbrowska, Noce i dnie, NKJP]

EQUIVALENTS: countless, innumerable

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The old word *lik* meant 'number' or 'amount'. In the modern Polish language used only as a constituent of the phraseological units *bez liku*.

Cf. jak mrówek

</div>

Figure 9. An example of the entry of an isolated constituent: *bez liku*

Thanks to the inclusion of additional information in the entry, the language user will be shown which phraseological units retain some words no longer used, which 'survive' only in idioms or

proverbs. The comments on the restrictions on use of the constituent will enable the user to avoid the mistake of using the unit out of the phraseological context. The knowledge of the meaning develops the general competence and, as a consequence, it facilitates reading texts from previous epochs, when the constituent of the phraseological unit at issue was not fossilized.

Conclusion

Archaic constituents are important components of phraseological units, as they are relics of the past retained in the contemporary language. They have their own characteristics, which make them unique lexical items. They appear as elements of various fixed expressions and thanks to their properties the phraseological units containing them are very interesting in a linguo-cultural perspective: many of them are special in terms of stylistic markedness, some of them are carriers not only of meaning, but also connotations.

Because of the above mentioned-reasons, such phraseological units require adequate lexicographic description, both in mono- and bilingual dictionaries. Placing the user in a cross-linguistic and cross-cultural perspective is connected with explaining the facts which the native speaker is well aware of. Therefore, archaic elements of phraseological units have to be signaled in bilingual lexicographic works.

Including the information regarding archaic constituents broadens the linguo-cultural knowledge of the dictionary user. Providing it contributes to the development of linguistic awareness and general competence. The inclusion of some extralinguistic elements is bound to develop the dictionary user's intercultural competence. This is of great importance, since advanced learners aiming at having a very good command of a given language need to know the target culture very well.

It can be concluded that hybridity is one of the very important notions to be taken into consideration in the process of designing a dictionary of phraseological units, especially a bilingual one. The prospective user, an advanced learner of a given foreign language, is a person who needs not only linguistic, but also cultural knowledge. Therefore, the dictionary will contain traditional components and other elements typical of an encyclopedia of culture or a lexicon. This is very important in the case of the units containing archaisms, the relics of the past in the modern language.

Acknowledgements

Bibliography
Dictionaries and Corpora

Bańko, M 2004, *Słownik porównań* [The dictionary of similes], Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa.
Burkhanov, I 1998, *Lexicogrpahy. A Dictionary of Basic Terms*, Wydawnictwo Wyższej Szkoły Pedagogicznej, Rzeszów.

Holly, K & Żółtak, A 2001, *Słownik wyrazów zapomnianych czyli słownictwo naszych lektur* [The dictionary of forgotten words – the vocabulary of our set books], Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa.

Jaworska, T 1999, *Słownik frazeologiczny polsko-angielski. Polish-English Phraseological Dictionary*, Wydawnictwa Naukowo-Techniczne, Warszawa.

Kakietek, P. 1993, *Polsko-angielski słownik frazeologiczny. Polish-English Phraseological Dictionary*, Wydawnictwo ENERGEIA, Warszawa.

Müldner-Nieckowski, P 2003, *Wielki słownik frazeologiczny języka polskiego* [Great phraseological dictionary of the Polish language], Świat Książki, Warszawa.

Narodowy Korpus Języka Polskiego [National Corpus of the Polish Language], viewed 21 June 2013, <http://nkjp.pl>.

Skorupka, S 1999, *Słownik frazeologiczny języka polskiego* [Phraseological dictionary of the Polish language], 9th edn, vol. 1-2, Wiedza Powszechna, Warszawa.

The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology 1993, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Uniwersalny słownik języka polskiego [Universal dictionary of the Polish language] 2003, vol. 1-4, S Dubisz (ed.), Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa.

Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami [PWN great phraseological dictionary with proverbs] 2005, rev. A Kłosińska, E Sobol & A Stankiewicz, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa.

Wielki słownik polsko-angielski Oxford–PWN. Polish-English Dictionary 2004, J Linde-Usiekniewicz (ed.), Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa.

Wolfram-Romanowska, D, Kaszubski, P & Parker, M 1999, *Idiomy polsko-angielskie. Polish-English Idioms*, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa.

References

Borejszo, M 1985, 'O archaizmach leksykalnych i semantycznych w stałych związkach wyrazowych współczesnej polszczyzny (na materiale Słownika języka polskiego Mieczysława Szymczaka)' [On lexical and semantic archaisms in fixed expressions of the modern Polish language (on the example of the dictionary of the Polish Langauge by Mirosław Szymczak)], *Poradnik Językowy*, no. 6, pp. 341-349.

Colson, J-P 2008, 'Cross-linguistic phraseological studies', in S Granger & F Meunier (eds), *Phraseology. An Interdisciplinary Perspective*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam, pp. 191-206.

Čermák, F 2001, 'Substance of idioms: Perennial problems, lack of data or theory?', *International Journal of Lexicography*, vol. 14, no. 1, pp. 1-20.

Dagut, M 1981, 'Semantic „Voids" as a Problem in the Translation Process', *Poetics Today*, vol. 2, no. 4, pp. 61-71.

Długosz-Kurczabowa, K & Dubisz, S 1998, *Gramatyka historyczna języka polskiego* [A historical grammar of the Polish Language], Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, Warszawa.

Dobrovol'skij, D 2011. 'Cross-linguistic equivalence of idioms: does it really exist?', in A Pamies & D Dobrovol'skij (eds), *Linguo-Cultural Competence and Phraseological Motivation*, Schneider Verlag, Baltmannsweiler, pp. 7-24.

Dobrovol'skij, D & Piirainen, E 2005, *Figurative Language: Cross-Cultural and Cross-Linguistic Perspectives*, Elsevier, Amsterdam.

Fiedler, S 2007, *English Phraseology. A Coursebook*, Narr Verlag, Tübingen.

Fiedler, S 2012, *Englische Redewendungen und Sprichwörter in Praxis*, Engeldorfer Verlag, Leipzig.

Firth, JR 1957, 'General Linguistics and Descriptive Grammar', in *Papers in Linguistics 1934-1952*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 216-228

Gläser, R 1998, 'The Stylistic Potential of Phraseological Units in the Light of Genre Analysis', in A P. Cowie (ed.), *Phraseology. Theory, Analysis, and Applications*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 125-143.

Jawór, A 2009, 'Paleosemantyzmy w związkach frazeologicznych' [Paleosemantisms in phraseological units], *Poradnik Językowy*, no. 4, pp. 65-74.

Kosek, I & Zawilska, K 2012, 'Osobliwości leksykalne w składzie związków frazeologicznych (na wybranych przykładach)' [Lexical peculiarities in phraseological units (on selected examples)], *Język Polski*, vol. XCII, pp. 260-268.

Kozłowska, W 2003, 'Stylizacja. Intertekstualność', in E Bańkowska & A. Mikołajczuk (eds), *Praktyczna stylistyka nie tylko dla polonistów* [Practical stylistics not only for Polish philologists], Książka i Wiedza, Warszawa, pp. 108-118.

Lubensky, S & McShane, M 2007, 'Bilingual phraseological dictionary', in H Burger, D Dobrovol'skij, P Kühn & NR Norrick (eds), *Phraseologie. Phraseology. Ein internationales Handbuch zeitgenössischer Forschung. An International Handbook of Contemporary Research*, vol. 2, Walter de Gruyter, Berlin-New York, pp. 919-928.

McArthur, T (ed.) 1996, *The Oxford Companion to the English Language*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Miller, J 2011, '*It's not cricket:* Lack of consistency and accuracy in labels applied to phrasemes in five English dictionary for advanced learners', in K Akasu & S Uchida (eds), *ASIALEX 2011 Proceedings. LEXICOGRAPHY: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives*, The Asian Association for Lexicography, Tokyo, pp. 358-367.

Moon, R 2003, *Fixed Expressions and Idioms in English. A Corpus-Based Approach*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Oksaar, E 1988, *Kulturemtheorie. Ein Beitrag zur Sprachverwendungsforschung*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen.

Pamies-Bertrán, A 2011, 'Zoo-Symbolism and Metaphorical Competence', in J Szerszunowicz, B Nowowiejski, K Yagi & T Kanzaki (eds), *Intercontinental Dialogue on Phraseology*, Vol. 1: *Research on Phraseology in Europe and Asia: Focal Issues of Phraseological Studies*, University of Bialystok Publishing House, Białystok, pp. 291-314.

Pawley, A 2007, 'Developments in the study of formulaic language since 1970: A personal view', in P Skandera (ed.), *Phraseology and Culture in English*, Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin, pp. 3-45.

Poyatos, F 1976, *Man beyond Words: Theory and Methodology of Nonverbal Communication*, New York State English Council, New York.

Piirainen, E 2012, *Widespread Idioms in Europe and Beyond: Toward a Lexicon of Common Figurative Units*, Peter Lang Publishing, Vienna.

Rodger, L 2006, 'Beyond Butterscotch. The Place of Cultural Knowledge in the Bilingual Dictionary', in E Corino, C Marello & C Onesti (eds), *Proceedings XII EURALEX International Congress, September 6th-9th, 2006. Atti del XIII Congresso Internazionale di Lessicografia, Torino, Italia, 6-9 Septtembre, 2006*, Edizioni dell'Orso, Alessandria, pp. 567-573.

Rodger, L 2002, 'Is a Bilingual Dictionary Possible?', in A Braasch, C Povlsen (eds), *Proceedings of the Tenth EURALEX International Congress, EURALEX 2002, Copenhagen, Denmark August 13-17, 2002*, vol. 1, Center Sprogteknologi, Denmark, pp. 435-440.

Sanmarco Bande, MT 2006, 'Las palabras culturales en el diccionario bilingüe', in E Corino, C Marello & C Onesti (eds), *Proceedings XII EURALEX International Congress, September 6th-9th, 2006. Atti del XIII Congresso Internazionale di Lessicografia, Torino, Italia, 6-9 Septtembre, 2006*, Edizioni dell'Orso, Alessandria, pp. 617-622.

Szerszunowicz, J 2008, 'On the Presentation of Onomastic Idioms in Bilingual English-Polish Dictionaries of Idioms', in E Bernal & J DeCesaris (eds), *Proceedings of the XIII Euralex Congress*, CD-ROM, Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, pp. 909-914.

Szerszunowicz, J 2011, 'The cultural component in bilingual dictionaries of phraseological units', in K Akasu & S Uchida (eds), *ASIALEX2011 Proceedings. LEXICOGRAPHY: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives. Papers submitted to the Seventh ASIALEX Biennial International Conference Kyoto Terrsa, Kyoto, Japan, August 22-24, 2011*, The Asian Association for Lexicography, Tokyo, pp. 628-637.

Szerszunowicz, J 2013, 'On Lacunae in Contrastive Phraseology', in M Fabčič, S Fiedler & J Szerszunowicz (eds), *Phraseologie in interlingualen und interkulturellen Kontakt. Phraseology in Interlingual and Intercultural Contact*, Univerza v Mariboru, Bielsko-Biała, pp. 161-175.

Teliya, V, Bragina, N, Oparina, E & Sandomirskaja, I 2001, 'Phraseology as a Language of Culture: Its Role in the Representation of a Collective Memory', in A P. Cowie (ed.), *Phraseology. Theory, Analysis, and Applications*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 55-75.