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The monograph describes the theoretical and practical aspects of the development of science in Ukraine and the EU countries. There are distinguished the general issues on the literary theory, comparative literary studies, comparative-historical and typological language studies, theory and practice of translation, literature of foreign countries, along with psychology of social work and activity in specific conditions, etc. The publication is designed for scientists, lecturers, postgraduates, students, as well as a wide range of readers.

ENGLISH PHRASAL VERBS: DERIVATION AND SEMANTICS

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Abstract. The paper focuses on the analysis of English phrasal verbs, i.e. complex lexemes that consist of a monolexemic verb and a special component of adverbial and prepositional origin standing in the postposition to the verb and forming with it more or less stable semantic and syntactic combinations. The research considers verbs with the postpositive components 'on' and 'off', defines their common and specific semantic and derivational features. The analysis of derivational processes within the verbs with postpositive components *on* and *off* enables to distinguish two types of derivation typical of them: *word-building derivation* (concerns the units which are formed from basic verbs by means of postpositive components *on* or *off*) and *semantic derivation* (the meanings of the units under consideration are formed from already existing meanings in the direction of metaphorization, restriction, extension or complication of meaning with additional semes). In this case, word derivation is more productive for phrasal verbs with both components – *on* and *off*. The classification of verbs with postpositive components *on* and *off* established in the study includes 8 main semantic types: *physical action, phasal, abstract, psycho-mental, emotional, existential, possessive* and *relational verbs.* Productivity of the basic semantic types of these verbs is different. Hence, for the verbs with the postpositive component *off*, the most common are verbs of physical action while for the verbs with the postpositive component *on* – psycho-mental verbs. In addition to the common meanings, specific meanings have been distinguished within verbs with the postpositive components *on* and *off,* i.e. meanings specific only to verbs with either of the postpositives (typical of solely phrasal verbs with *on* is the meaning of 'to continue', for those with *off* – the meaning

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of 'to finish'). In this case, the verbs with the postpositive component *off* are characterized by a wider variety of semantics. Thus, in the semantic system of the verbs with the component *off* there have been distinguished 25 specific meanings, and in that one of the verbs with the component *on* – 16 specific meanings. This can be mostly due to the different qualitative and quantitative development level of the semantic structure of the postpositive components *on* and *off*. It has been found out also, that between the verbs with the postpositive components *on* and *off* there exist relations of antonymy and synonymy, which, in turn, are caused by such factors as the basic semantic opposition of the postpositive components *on* and *off* in their primary locative meanings and the possibility of desemantization of the postpositive components and their basic verbs during the formation verbs with postpositive components.

1. Introduction

Phrasal verbs represent one of the main features of the English verbal word-formation. They consist of a monolexemic verb and a postpositive component of adverbial and prepositional nature which forms with a verb a relatively stable semantic and syntactic combination owing to the weakening of its adverbial or prepositional function.

Many linguists studied phrasal verbs within a certain scope – in particular, they dwelled on the status of the phrasal verb (PhV), the origin and the nature of the postpositive component (PC), the position of the PC towards the verb and phonetic features of the PhV (Amosova, 1963 [1]; Anichkov, 1961 [2]; Basyrov, 2004 [3]; Berlizon, 1958 [4]; Gurskij, 1975 [6]; Zhluktenko, 1954 [7]), combinability of basic verbs (BV) with postpositives (Kaliushhenko, 1993, 2000 [8; 15]; Klijunajte, 1989 [9]; Stupak, 2011 [10]; Marchand 1967 [17]), cognitive characteristics of PhVs (Trubnikova, 2015 [11]; Talmy, 1991 [19]). However, notwithstanding the above mentioned works, semantics as well as derivational processes within the system of English phrasal verbs have not been analyzed minutely enough. In particular, there appears to be no detailed semantic classification of phrasal verbs as a whole, nor can one observe semantic classifications of phrasal verbs with certain postpositive components. Furthermore, in most studies phrasal verbs are regarded beyond the opposition to their basic verbs.

Thus, phrasal verbs can be regarded as derivative lexical units formed from corresponding basic verbs (BV) with the help of postpositive components (PC)/postpositives. In this connection one of the most important aspects of studying English phrasal verbs is to consider their derivational peculiarities, in particular, to identify and analyze types of semantic correlation between phrasal verbs and their basic verbs (Vorobyova, 2015, 2017 [20; 5]).

Based on the comparative analysis of some particular phrasal verbs, namely phrasal verbs with postpositive components *on* and *off* (PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*), that is lexemes like *to turn on*, *to turn off*, the present article is aimed at distinguishing typical semantic and derivational peculiarities of English phrasal verbs. The choice of phrasal verbs with these very postpositives as an object of this study can be accounted for by the fact that these verbal complexes are remarkable in their original semantic opposition, well-developed semantic structure, high productivity and wide use in speech.

2. Derivational and semantic peculiarities of English phrasal verbs

The comparative study of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* which run to 1112 units (404 PhV-*on* and 708 PhV-*off*), taken from definition dictionaries of the English language [14; 18], dictionaries of phrasal verbs [13; 16] as well as British National Corpus [12] was performed to single out common and distinctive semantic and derivational features in the system of the above mentioned verbal derivatives, typical semantic parallels between them.

2.1. Derivation within PhV-on and PhV-off. The analysis of derivational processes within PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* enables to distinguish isomorphic as well as allomorphic features in their systems.

2.1.1 Derivational isomorphism of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* is manifested through:

1) the formation of these verbal derivatives by means of *word-building derivation* (PhV-*on/off* are formed from basic verbs (BV) by means of PC-*on/off*) and *semantic derivation* (the meanings of PhV-*on/off* are developed from the meanings of PhV-*on/off* which already exist in the direction of their metaphorization, narrowing, widening or modification by additional semes) and

2) the presence of 3 following types of system-defined relations between PhV-*on/off* and their basic verbs: *the relations of derivation* (the meanings of PhV-*on/off* are either explicitly or implicitly motivated by the meanings of their basic verbs); *the relations of idiomatic character* (the meanings of

PhV-*on/off* are not motivated by the meanings of their basic verbs and can be, therefore, regarded as set expressions with figurative meanings); *the relations of equivalence* (the meanings of the basic verbs and PhV-*on/off* are identical, PC-*on/off* are completely deprived of their lexical meanings and perform the function of the intensifying particle, modifying the meaning of the basic verb). The most productive for both PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* appear to be the relations of derivation that can be accounted for by the original derivative nature of these lexical units.

2.1.2 Allomorphism within the derivational systems of the phrasal verbs under study can be proved by: 1) the fact that different word-forming models appear to be productive for PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* and 2) more productive in quantitative as well as qualitative relations semantic derivation within PhV-*off*. While speaking about the productivity of word-forming models for PhV-*on* and PhV-*off,* it is necessary to mention that the most productive, typical of PhV-*off* exclusively, is the model "BV of movement + PC-*off* with the meaning of 'away from (the place)' → PhV-*off* with the meaning of 'to leave a place in the way expressed by the BV'" while for PhV-*on* the most typical is the model "BV of movement / social activity of a person + PC-*on* with the meaning of 'continuation of the action'→ PhV-*on* with the meaning of 'the continuation of the action, expressed by the BV'"). As for the higher productivity of semantic derivation within PhV-*off,* it should be noted that the possibility of semantic derivation within PhV-*on* is confined only to metaphorization and narrowing of the already existing meanings of PhV-*on* while PhV-*off* can develop their meanings not only in the direction of their metaphorization and narrowing, but also widening or modification by additional semes.

The next tables give a general vision of derivational processes which occur within PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*

2.2. Semantics of PhV-on and PhV-off. The principal semantic characteristic in common for PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* is the functioning of these verbal combinations within 8 common semantic types and coming from this the presence of 8 typical meanings of PhV-*on*/*off*, which, on their turn, are represented by common meanings of semantic subtypes, groups and subgroups.

The heterogeneity of the semantic structure of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*, which is manifested through the presence of specific semantic types and meanings in their systems, is the main distinguishing semantic feature of these verbal complexes.

Table 1

Types of Derivation within PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*

№	Type of Derivation	The number of PhV-*on*	The number of PhV-*off*
1.	**Word-forming Derivation** (certain changes in the semantics of BVs at the formation of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*	395 (97,8%)	610 (86,2%)
2.	**Semantic Derivation** (certain changes within already existing meanings of PhV-*on/off* at the formation of their new meanings)	9 (2,2%)	98 (13,8%)
	Total	**404 (100%)**	**708 (100%)**

Table 2

Means of Word-forming Derivation within PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*

№	Means of Word-forming Derivation	PhV-*on*		PhV-*off*	
		Example	Number	Example	Number
1.	**The Presence of Word-forming Derivation** (partial or full change of the meanings of the BVs at the formation of PhV-*on/off* from them)		*384 (97,2%)*		*534 (87,5%)*
1.1.	**The Presence of Semantic Connection** (the possibility to derive the meanings of PhV-*on/off* from the meanings of their BVs)		**277 (70,1%)**		**414 (67,8%)**
1.1.1.	**Explicit motivation** (full reproduction of the meanings of BVs in the PhV-*on/off*'s semantics)	*to ride on* 'to continue *riding* ← *to ride* 'to travel along, controlling and sitting on (a horse or other animal, a bicycle, or a motorcycle)'	**70 (17,7%)**	*to hack off* 'to remove by *hacking* ← *to hack* 'to cut with a knife or smth. sharp, in a rough and careless way)'	**169 (27,7%)**

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Continuation of Table 2

1.1.2.	**Implicit motivation**		**207 (52,4%)**		**245 (40,1%)**
1.1.2.1.	the possibility to re-interpret the meanings of PhV-*on/off* and their BVs	*to bank on* 'to rely on smb./smth. (to have confidence in)' ← *to bank* 'to keep money (in a bank)' (if one keeps money in a bank, they rely on this service (i.e. have confidence in it))	171 (43,3%)	*to pack off* 'to send smb. to a place, usu. without asking them if they want to go ← *to pack* 'to put (things, esp. one's belong-ings) into cases, boxes, etc., usu. for taking somewhere'	181 (29,6%)
1.1.2.2.	the presence of a common seme or semes in the semantics of PhV-*on/off* and their BVs	*to hop on* 'to throw smth. (i.e. to cause smth. *to move*, usu. forward)' ← *to hop* 'to jump (= *to move* oneself into the air by the force of one's legs)'	36 (9,1%)	*to skip off* 'to leave (i.e. *to move* away from) a place suddenly, esp. when you should not' ← *to skip* 'to *move* in a light dancing way	64 (10,5%)
1.2.	**The Absence of Semantic Connection** (no possibility to derive the meanings of PhV-*on/off* from the meanings of their BVs	*to round on* 'to criticize, usu. sharply' ← *to round* 'to make smth. round' (the mean-ing of PhV-*on* and its BV are not sematically related)	**107 (27,1%)**	*to blow off* 'to cancel (an event)' ← *to blow* 'to send out a strong current of air' (the meaning of PhV-*on* and its BV are not sematically related)	**120 (19,7%)**
2.	**The Absence of Word-forming Derivation** (the meanings of PhV-*on/off* and their BVs are identical)	*to cheer on* 'to express approval or support, to encourage' ← *to cheer* 'to express approval or sup-port, to encourage'	*11 (2,8 %)*	*to auction off* 'to sell smth. at an auction' ← *to auction* 'to sell smth. at an auction'	*76 (12,5%)*
	Total		**395 (100%)**		**610 (100%)**

2.2.1 PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* share 8 following semantic types: *physical, mental-psychological, abstract, emotive, possessive, phasal, relative and existential* PhV-*on*/*off*. The degree of productivity within these principal semantic types of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* varies. The most productive in the semantic system of PhV-*on* are mental-psychological verbs, e.g. *to dwell on* 'to think about something for too long, especially about something that is unpleasant' (the verb of mental activity); *to carry on* 'to behave in a silly or excited way' (the verb of psychological activity, namely the verb of behaviour). In the system of PhV-*off*, however, these are the verbs of physical action, e.g. *to run off* 'to leave somewhere by running, usually to avoid being caught' (the verb of movement, namely moving away); *to rub off* 'to remove something from a surface by rubbing it' (locative verb with the additional meaning of physical impact).

Phrasal verbs under consideration differ in two semantic types, which are the verbs of *sense perception;* such as, *to happen on* 'to catch sight of something or somebody, usually unexpectedly' exclusively for PhV-*on* and *physiological* verbs; such as, *to nod off* 'to fall asleep when you do not intend to' solely for PhV-*off*.

2.2.2 Common typical meanings of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* naturally coincide with the above mentioned common semantic types and stand for 8 following meanings: *physical action, mental-psychological action, abstract action, emotive action, possession, phase of the action, relativeness* and *existence*. In their turn, they are expressed through common meanings of the following subtypes, groups and subgroups: *physical action* → movement (movement proper, causation of movement) and location (causation of location); *mental-psychological action* → speaking, mental activity and behaviour; *abstract action* → change of the quality (change of the quality proper, causation of change of the quality), abstract usage and successful accomplishment of the action; *emotive action* (causation of feeling); *possession* (causation of possession, the beginning of possession); *phase of the action* (the beginning of the action); *relativity* (interpersonal relations, correlation); *existence* (creation).

The table below illustrates quite well the above mentioned thesis.

As it can be seen from the examples in Table 1, even though PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* have typical meanings in common, these meanings are usual-

Table 3

Common Typical Meanings of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*

№	Typical meaning	PhV-*on*		PhV-*off*	
		Example	**Number**	**Example**	**Number**
1.	physical action		54 (19,5%)		216 (54,7%)
1.1.	movement		26 (9,4%)		166 (42%)
1.1.1.	movement proper	*to pass on*	14 (5,1%)	*to speed off*	116 29,3%)
1.1.2.	causation of move-ment	*to move (smb.) on*	12 (4,3%)	*to push (smb.) off*	50 (12,7%)
1.2.	location (causation of location)	*to throw (smth.) on*	28 (10,1%)	*to throw (smth.) off*	50 (12,7%)
2.	**mental-psychological action**		90 (32,5%)		**42 (10,6%)**
2.1.	speaking	*to hammer on*	43 (15,5%)	*to reel off*	21 (5,3%)
2.2.	mental activity	*to cotton on (smth.)*	32 (11,6%)	*to brush (smth.)off*	13 (3,3%)
2.3.	behaviour	*to gam on*	15 (5,4 %)	*to take off*	8 (2%)
3.	abstract action		31 (11,2%)		**28 (7,1%)**
3.1.	change of the quality		14 (5,1%)		15 (3,8%)
3.1.1.	change of the quality proper	*to get on*	10 (3,6%)	*to taper off '*	7 (1,8%)
3.1.2.	causation of change of the quality	*to put on*	4 (1,5%)	*to wipe off '*	8 (2%)
3.2.	abstract usage	*to poll on (smth.)*	12 (4,3%)	*to live off (smth.)*	8 (2%)
3.3.	successful accom-plishment of the action	*to take on*	5 (1,8%)	*to take off*	5 (1,3%)
4.	**emotive action** (causation of feeling)	*to bring (smb.) on*	**37 (13,3%)**	*to tick (smb.) off*	**16 (4,1%)**
5.	**possession**		11 (4%)		**34 (8,6%)**
5.1.	causation of posses-sion	*to hand (smth.) on*	7 (2,5%)	*to buy smb. off*	17 (4,3%)

Continuation of Table 3

5.2.	the beginning of possession	to queer on (smb.)	4 (1,5%)	to cream off (smth.)	17 (4,3%)
6.	**phase of the action** (the beginning of the action)	to come on	**26 (9,4%)**	to kick off	**18 (4,5%)**
7.	**relativity**		25 (9%)		16 (4,1%)
7.1.	interpersonal relations	to call on (smb.)	18 (6,5%)	to help (smb.) off	9 (2,3%)
7.2.	correlation	to ride on (smb./sth.)	7 (2,5%)	to trade off	7 (1,8%)
8.	**existence** (creation)	to lay(smth.) on	**3 (1,1%)**	to let (smth.) off(smb./sth.)	**25 (6,3%)**
	Total		277 (100%)		395 (100%)

ly modified by some additional semes which vary for PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* within one and the same typical meaning. Thus, the principal difference in the semantics of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* of movement lies in the fact that PhV-*off* of this kind are most likely to express 'leaving a place (quite often in a way implied by the basic verb)' while such PhV-*on* mostly denote 'moving forward'. This phenomenon can be primarily explained by full implementation of spatial semantics inherent to postpositive components *on* and *off*. Besides, the basic seme of movement within the subtype "movement proper" is modified by a bigger number of extra semes denoting the manner of this movement in the system of PhV-*off* (here refer such semes as 'away (from a place)', 'leaving smb. behind', 'slowly', 'backwards', 'from inside into outside') compared with PhV-*on* (only two semes can be suggested: 'fast' and 'following somebody'). Verbs of the second subtype implying causation of movement share more common features than the verbs denoting movement proper. In particular, they both can express "enforcement to leave a place". Locative PhV-*on* and PhV-*off*, for which isomorphic is the meaning of causation of location, demonstrate opposition as for the locative component of the meaning of the verbs ('onto the surface' – 'off, away from the surface').

Dwelling on the abstract meanings of phrasal verbs in question, it should be mentioned that such figurative PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* demon-

strate clearer isomorphism in comparison with PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* of direct "physical" semantics and differ only within particular definitions (see examples in Table 1). This can be accounted for by the process of desemantization of the postpositives, which together with basic verbs that lose their direct nominative meanings, form more stable (quite often *idiomatic*) in terms of semantics lexical units. The most notable thing in this respect is the possibility to single out mostly partial synonymy, especially within PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* denoting abstract usage, successful accomplishment of the action, causation of possession, the beginning of possession and phase of the action (the beginning of the action). At the same time other PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* of "abstract" semantics may also reveal allomorphic features. Here we can speak about certain connotations in the semantic structure of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* implying change of the quality proper and causation of change of the quality as well as emotive PhVs. On the whole, opposite to PhV-*on* which in most cases express the intensification of the quality and positive emotions, PhV-*off* indicate the lessening of the quality and negative emotions respectively (see examples in Table 1).

Detailed semantic classification of PhV-*on* and PhV-*off* enables to claim, that PhV-*off* can be characterized by more versatile semantics. Thus, the system of PhV-*off* contain 22 specific meanings, the most productive of which are "separation / causation of separation", "finishing / termination of the action", "destruction"), e.g. *to drop off* 'to get separated from something by dropping', *to fence off* 'to separate with a fence', *to clock off* 'to finish work (especially at a stated time)', *to break off* 'to stop doing something, especially suddenly', *to blast off* 'to destroy with an explosion'. At the same time, PhV-*on* have only 16 specific meanings among which the most distinct are "physical impact", "continuation of the action", "location proper"), e.g. *to round on* 'to suddenly attack somebody physically when they do not expect it', *to press on* 'to continue doing something steadily and persistently', *to linger on* 'to stay somewhere for a long time, or longer than expected'. The reason for this is that postpositive components *on* and *off* are endowed with peculiar semantic features, namely, different qualitative and quantitative level of their semantic structure development (PC-*off* has a wider semantic structure than PC-*on*).