

D. Evaluation. The groups share the results with the whole class, which is an exciting part of group work.

Like any other good activity group work should not be overused, it must be used as one of the several learning situations: 1) the teacher with the whole class; 2) each student doing the task independently; 3) students working in pairs, etc.

Group work makes it possible for the teacher to devote more time to the students' oral production, which perhaps before had not been a priority of the foreign language classroom. Thanks to group work, less confident students get the chance to put their knowledge of the new language into practice in a non-threatening environment, away from the critical eye and ear of the teacher. Instead of being dependent on the teacher, students get used to helping and learning from each other [1, p. 20].

The obvious advantage of using group work in teaching grammar is that the students do enjoy this interactive approach to learning grammar.

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DEFINITION OF PARAMIES ASPECTS IN ENGLISH

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Rezumat

Dintre genurile folclorice verbale, proverbele sunt cele mai concise, dar nu neaparat cele mai simple ca formă. Proverbele sunt una dintre modalitățile prin care ne exprimăm, care ofera o perspectivă asupra credințelor și adevărilor simple. Ele reflectă diferite aspecte ale vieții umane, care ar putea fi exprimate prin comunicare. Ele exprimă atitudinea noastră față de lume, din trecut

și prezent. Acest articol este dedicat studierii aspectelor (formal, semantic, cultural, literar și pragmatic) limbajului paremiologic prin definirea și caracterizarea lor, la fel și prin ilustrarea acestora prin proverbe în limba engleză.

Almost every good writer will make use of a proverb and saying as they present the concentrated wisdom of the people, and if used appropriately will never lose their freshness and vigor. The literature on the features of proverbs is categorized into five aspects which are formal, semantic, cultural, literary and pragmatic aspects.

Formal aspect

One of the typical features of proverbs is their concise forms. A proverb is said to consist of about seven words [4, p. 87]. There are of course longer proverbs such as *It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God*; however, the shorter the proverbs, the more popular they are likely to be since their short forms make them more memorable and easy to use.

There is a tendency to be economical in using the language, which is also seen in the use of proverbs. The elliptical or reduced forms of proverbs whether long or short are commonly used in everyday communication . Since proverbs are known by native speakers, even the use of reduced forms is sufficient to bring to mind the whole proverb and thus, the reduced forms are as recognizable as the whole proverb. For example, rather than uttering the whole proverb, native speakers simply say — *an apple a day...*, — *an ounce of prevention*||, — *ah well, it never rains does it?*, — *well the early bird* [6, p. 65].

All these examples show that although proverbs are said to be fixed, they actually allow flexibility and manipulation which can be seen in abbreviated forms of proverbs.

Semantic Aspects of Proverbs

As for the semantic properties of proverbs, antonymy and synonymy are the semantic relations that can be seen in proverbs. Proverbs are antonymous when they express contradictory ideas through related images as in *A big fish in a small pond – A small fish in a big pond*, and through different images as in *He who hesitates is lost- Fools rush in* or when a figurative and a literal proverb express opposite ideas as in *Out of sight, out of mind- Absence makes the heart grow fonder*. Antonymous proverbs show that proverbs are not absolute truths and their wisdom is valid only in the contexts they are used in. As well as antonymous proverbs, there are synonymous proverbs. Proverbs are synonymous when they express the same idea through parallel images as in *Strike while the iron is hot- Make hay while the sun shines*, and in different literal terms as in *First impressions are most lasting- You never get a chance to make a first impression* and when the same idea is expressed through a figurative and a literal proverb as in *The leopard cannot change his spots- Once a thief, always a thief* [1, pp. 86-87]. These semantic relations between proverbs make them more realistic since they allow them to better reflect the complexity of life.

Literary Aspects of Proverbs

Byram distinguishes between internal features of proverbs such as metaphors and other figures of speech and external features of proverbs such as rhythm, alliteration etc. and his classification is adopted in this study. On the other hand, [1, pp. 87-88] differentiates between these features as figuration and prosody.

External features

External features are also named by some scholars as poetic features, prosodic devices, stylistic features, poetic devices and rhetorical techniques. These features give proverbs a literary value, make them easy to remember and memorize and help them gain proverbial status. External markers that are common to many proverbs can be listed as follows:

- Repetition in proverbs: repetition of the syntactic pattern as in *Where there's smoke there's fire*, repetition of the subject as in tautological proverbs such as *Enough is enough* and *Boys will be boys*

- Alliteration in proverbs: — the use of the same letter or sound at the beginning of words that are close together as in *Many a little makes a mickle*; *Live and let live*; *Out of debt, out of danger*; etc.

- Assonance: — the effect created when two syllables in words that are close together have the same vowel sound but different consonants and vice versa as in *A rolling stone gathers no moss*.

- Rhyme: — a word that has the same sound or ends with the same sound as another word as in *Man proposes, God disposes*; *No gain without pain*; *Seeing is believing*; *East, west, home is best*.

- Parallelism as in *Easy come, easy go*; *A penny saved is a penny earned*; *Where there's a will, there's a way*.

- Ellipsis as in *Out of sight, out of mind* (verbs are omitted), *Sooner begun, sooner done* (subjects are omitted), *Once bitten, twice shy* (subjects are omitted) [4, pp. 94-96].

Internal features

Internal features are composed of types of imagery or figures of speech that can be identified in proverbs. Many proverbs make use of metaphors, to a great extent proverbs encode concrete manifestations of more abstract themes to which they bear a resemblance relation. One of the important features of proverbs is their generalizability and many proverbs achieve this through their metaphorical nature as they are used to explain abstract entities or situations in terms of concrete ones, which makes proverbs applicable to a wide range of situations. As these sayings which were ones used literally gained proverbial status, they came to be used non-literally standing for various situations [2, p. 73]. To illustrate, the proverb *A stitch in time saves nine* was once used literally in the case of a busy housewife who had learnt to look after her family's

clothes but it survived as a proverb as it started to be applied metaphorically to various situations. In most of the cases, it has got nothing to do with mending clothes but is used to warn that you should take an immediate action when something goes wrong.

As can be seen, metaphors in proverbs make them representative of many situations. This is emphasized in Meider's study [4, p. 43] who asserts that it is the relation of representativeness rather than of resemblance that is dominant in metaphorical proverbs. Furthermore, in his study, he tries to bring an explanation to the fact that even though the aim of using proverbs is to convey a message in a more quick, easy and effective way, metaphorical proverbs contain meaning in an implicit and indirect way

Due to the figurativeness of proverbs, they are widely used in literary texts as well as in everyday communication.

Cultural Aspects

The metaphorical nature of proverbs makes the proverbs culturally loaded since metaphors are structures that are —culturally specific mental representations of aspects of the world and —metaphor is not merely a part of language, but reflects a fundamental part of the way people think, reason, and imagine[5, p.98]. However, in order to understand how proverbs have become the part of a culture and what causes the differences and the similarities in the proverbs across cultures, it is significant to understand the origin or the sources of proverbs. While some proverbs have their origin in a specific wise man, others have their origin in —the collective wisdom of the people [5, p. 102]. For instance, proverbs that explain everyday experience might have emerged without a single person such as *Make hay while the sun shines* which might have been expressed by many farmers and eventually, has found its memorable form. In contrast to this, the proverb *The wish is father to the thought* was first expressed by a single person who was Julius Caesar. Concerning this, another explanation made by Mieder [4, p. 88] is

that proverbs have their origin with a single individual but are improved by the society over time.

To sum up, proverbs as the cultural heritage of native speakers are significant — to preserve the culture and — to facilitate the perception and understanding of the world for the new generation. Therefore, the relation between proverb and culture is very strong and cannot be disregarded as Francis Bacon states that — the genius, wit and spirit of a nation are discovered in its proverbs.

Pragmatic Aspects of Proverbs

The literary and cultural aspects of proverbs make them pragmatically important. It is due to these aspects that proverbs are multi-functional and the functions of the proverbs fulfil the needs of everyday communication. As a rule, they are used for some practical, pragmatical purposes in various circumstances of everyday communication.

The indirect nature of proverbs is one of the factors that make them useful and practical expressions in everyday communication. In comprehending the intended meanings and messages underlying the use of proverbs, the hearer makes two inferences. First, the hearer needs to decide whether the literal meaning and the direct act is appropriate for the context. If it is not appropriate, the hearer needs to recognize that something more is meant and figure out the indirect message. With respect to this, it is indicated that proverbs constitute indirect speech acts since they have secondary meanings and messages to be decoded by the hearer. For instance, by using figurative proverbs, one employs an indirect speech act as listeners are expected to apply the — proverbial scenario to the present situation and infer appropriate conclusions and messages. To illustrate, instead of reprimanding a child for being impatient about something he wants, the parent can simply say *A watched pot never boils* and likewise, instead of scolding someone directly for not conforming to the important cultural customs, one can indirectly

comment by employing the proverb *When in Rome, do as the Romans do* [3, pp. 44-46].

As well as the role of proverbs in indirect and humorous communication, proverbs also play an important role in text organization. As part of figurative language, they can be used to begin or end a text or to change topic. Interlocutors often use proverbs to summarize and evaluate what they have been discussing and to indicate their desire to end the conversation. Their generality, acceptance as the common truths and values, fixedness and their distinctive feature of explaining abstract themes in terms of concrete situations allow proverbs to serve such functions. Through such functions, proverbs make —conversational segments appear coherent and personally meaningful

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THE EFFECT OF CONTEXT-BASED VIDEO INSTRUCTION ON LEARNING AND MOTIVATION IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASS

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Rezumat

Prezentul articol abordează rolul folosirii videourilor în cadrul unei lecții de limbă străină, ce contribuie esențial la sporirea motivației în procesul de învățare al unei limbi. Importanța folosirii