

Ivana Vidović-Bolt
Životinjski svijet u hrvatskoj i poljskoj frazeologiji I
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Faunal phraseology, which tends to be the second richest after somatic units, has been discussed in a number of papers and books over recent decades. The contrastive aspect has been a focal issue of numerous research studies in which various languages, both European and non-European, have been analyzed. However, Croatian phraseological units containing animal terms have not been compared with the Polish ones so far. Therefore, the book titled *Životinjski svijet u hrvatskoj i poljskoj frazeologiji I* by Ivana Vidović-Bolt is of great importance for cross-linguistic research on zoomorphic phraseology.

The author discusses Croatian and Polish phraseological units with faunal constituents, i.e. animal names and their derivatives. As already mentioned, zoomorphic phraseology of natural language is very rich, therefore, the material has been limited to expressions with the names of farm animals and pets. In the introduction the author presents the material, excerpted on the basis of the inclusion of the animal term or its derivative in the fixed expression. Hypernyms, such as Croatian names *životinja* and *stoka* or Polish words *zwierzę* and *bydło*, are not taken into account, so that the units containing them are not in the corpus compiled for the needs of the analysis (p. 11). The Croatian corpus is composed of 323 units, whereas the Polish one consists of 318, which means that in total as many as 640 phraseological units have been excerpted for the analysis from various Croatian and Polish lexicographic sources.

The book has a clear layout, as it is composed of two parts: theoretical, containing a discussion of the results of a multiaspectual cross-linguistic analysis of the Croatian and Polish faunal phraseological units collected

for the needs of the research study at issue, and a lexicographic one, comprising two dictionaries of faunal phraseological units, i.e. a dictionary of Croatian expressions with the names of animals and a dictionary of Polish zoomorphic phrases of fixed character.

The theoretical part is composed of nine chapters, the first of which, *Teorijska promišljanja frazeologije*, contains the definitions of the terms used in the work and the outline of the development of phraseology as a discipline in Croatia and Poland. Chapter Two titled *Posebnosti zoonimskih frazema u svjetlu hrvatsko-poljskih kontrastivih istraživanja* contains remarks on faunal phraseology in Croatian-Polish research. Since animals play an important role in culture, special attention is paid to the cultural aspect of animal idioms.

The structural analysis of phraseological units with faunal constituents are discussed in Chapter Three *Strukturna analiza hrvatskih i poljskih zoonimskih frazema*, in which the first subchapter focuses on the structural research in the Croatian tradition, while the other one is devoted to the studies in the Polish tradition, both covering various aspects of the research in question. The focal issue of Chapter Four titled *Paradigmatičnost hrvatskih i poljskih zoonimskih frazema* is the paradigmatic character of faunal units.

Syntactic aspects are discussed in Chapter Five *Sintaktička analiza hrvatskih i poljskih zoonimskih frazema*. It is composed of five subchapters dealing with the following kinds of expressions: nominal units, verbal items, adjectival phrases, prepositional ones and phrasemes.

The variability of animal idioms is the focal issue of Chapter Six titled *Varijantnost hrvatskih i poljskih zoonimskih frazema*. The theoretical outline of the problem of variability and the presentations of Croatian and Polish phraseologists' approaches to the issue is followed by a subchapter which contains the discussion of different kinds of animal idioms. The author writes on the following types of variants: phonetic, syntactic, lexical, lexical-qualitative and combinatory.

Chapter Seven titled *Semantička analiza hrvatskih i poljskih zoonimskih frazema* contains the results of the semantic analysis of the excerpted material. The author discusses the origins of faunal phraseologisms, drawing attention to national, biblical and antique units functioning in the two languages compared (p. 43). Moreover, special attention is paid to the motivation of Croatian and Polish fixed expressions with animal terms, which can be of concrete, associative or absurd character (pp. 47–48).

Symbolic value of animal terms and the expressions containing them is also discussed, with two subchapters, i.e. one devoted to symbolism of mammals and the other on symbolic value of birds.

Chapter Eight, *Konceptna analiza hrvatskih i poljskih zoonimskih frazema*, is devoted to the conceptual analysis: the author divides the phrases according to categories, established as a result of the analysis of the excerpted material (p. 87). Among the categories the vast majority are the ones which refer to human beings, such as: age, personal features, intellectual properties, psychical state and emotions, physical condition, habits, human status, interpersonal relations, movement, the number of people. The zoomorphic units not referring to human beings are also singled out in a separate group. The section of each category is composed of a number of notions, for instance, the units referring to age are composed of two: *Mladost* and *Zrela dob* (p. 88). As to the notions, in the chapter each is followed by the units expressing or describing it (e.g. *Mladost: magareće godine, lata cieleće, cielećy wiek*) and brief linguo-cultural commentary on the expressions.

The last chapter titled *Ekvivalentnost hrvatskih i poljskih zoonimskih frazema* is devoted to cross-linguistic equivalence of faunal phraseological units. The author distinguishes two main groups of equivalents: full equivalents and partial equivalents, which are further subdivided into five categories (equivalents with lexical differences, equivalents with morphological differences, equivalents with morphological and syntactic, equivalents with lexical and syntactic differences, equivalents with syntactic differences). The theoretical part of the book is ended with conclusions.

The second part of the book contains two dictionaries of faunal phraseological units, i.e. a dictionary of Croatian expressions and a dictionary of Polish idioms. The former one contains 321 phraseological units, while the latter is composed of a similar number of items, mainly 319. It should be added that this part is preceded by introductory comments on lexicographic description of phraseological units with faunal constituents. As to the macrostructure of the dictionaries, either of them is arranged according to the key word, which is a name of an animal or the form derived from it. The microstructure encompasses the source language unit followed by the explanation of the meaning or meanings of the unit in the target language.

The book reviewed contains a multiaspectual analysis of faunal phraseological units used in Croatian and Polish. Thanks to the limitation of

the material – which as mentioned before is very rich – the author conducted a detailed research study on the fixed expressions in the languages chosen. The analysis was carried on different planes, which resulted in a complex comparison of the units excerpted from lexicographic sources. It should be emphasized that the dictionaries are of great important for Croatian and Polish lexicography. Many of the idioms are not included in bilingual works of general character. Providing that the entries are elaborated on, with stylistic labels and examples, the dictionaries may be of use to learners of Croatian and Polish as foreign languages.

It is worth stressing that Croatian and Polish zoonymic units have not been discussed in a contrastive perspective before. The book reviewed is the first work fully devoted to fixed expressions containing the names of farm animals and pets. Therefore, the book is a model for other complex analyses in which other languages could be compared. Moreover, similar studies on phraseological units containing other faunal terms, for example, wild animal names, could be modeled on the analysis proposed by the author.

The book systematizes the knowledge of Croatian and Polish faunal phraseology, both in terms of theoretical studies and practical analysis. The approach adopted by the author is interesting, clearly discussed with many illustrative examples. Furthermore, the combination of theoretical analysis and lexicographic work is a good solution in terms of the application of the book, since – apart from linguistics – it can be used in foreign language teaching and translation studies. The work by Ivana Vidović Bolt will be of great benefit not only to phraseologists, but also to lexicographers and translators of Croatian and Polish.

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