

## LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL SEMANTIC PECULIARITIES OF METROLOGICAL PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITH COMPONENTS-NAMES OF VOLUME, CAPACITY AND WEIGHT OF FRIABLE BODIES AND LIQUIDS IN ENGLISH, GERMAN, POLISH AND UKRAINIAN LANGUAGES

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**Abstract.** The article is devoted to the description of linguistic and cultural characteristics of semantics of metrological phraseological units (MPU) with components-names of volume, capacity and weight of friable bodies and fluids *sieve / sifter, bushel, pound, pot* on the example of English, German, Polish and Ukrainian languages.

**Keywords:** linguistics, semantics, metronome, volume, weight, friable bodies.

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### Introduction

Measures of volume, capacity and weight arose with the development of money relations due to the need for exchange of agricultural products, the need for measuring their volume, capacity and weight. In these measures there was a great variety, in the reference literature there are more than 40 names of metrological units to indicate the volume, capacity and weight used to measure bulk bodies and liquids. However, according to our data, only six names: bag, barrel, sieve / sieve, cortex, pound, and dzban are marked by phraseologically generating activity.

The usage of English, German, Polish and Ukrainian metrological phraseology with names of volume, capacity and weight of friable bodies and liquids is due to the peculiarities of national and cultural semantics; indicates the fact that native speakers reflect and perceive the image of the world according to their national culture. In the studied metrological phraseology of the four languages there are specific spiritual and material values, traditions, customs and national culture.

### Basic material

MPU with the names of the volume and capacity of bulk products and corn *Engl. sack / bag, Germ. Sack, Pol. worek and Ukr. мішок* and MPU with the name of volume and capacity of corn and fluids *Engl. barrel, Germ. Faß / Fass, Pol. beczka and Ukr. бочка* has already been the subject of our study (Bobkov, 2008), we'll dwell on the description of MPU with components-specific names of volume, capacity and weight of friable bodies and fluids of *Engl. sieve / sifter, Germ. Sieb, Pol. rzeszoto / przetak, Ukr. пеуемо / цумо; Engl. Bushel, Pol. Korzec, Ukr. коpecь; Engl. pound, Germ. Pfund, Pol. funt, Ukr. фунт; Engl. pot, Germ. Krug, Pol. funt, Ukr. дзбан.*

The factual material for the convenience of the description is divided into four groups: MPU with names of the volume and capacity of bulk bodies *Engl. sieve / sifter, Germ. Sieb, Pol. rzeszoto / przetak, Ukr. пеуемо / цумо;* MPU with a name *Engl. bushel, Pol. korzec,*

*Ukr. корець* in English, Polish and Ukrainian languages; MPU with metronome-weight unit *Engl. pound, Germ. Pfund, Pol. funt, Ukr. фунт*; MPU with the name *Engl. pot, Germ. Krug, Pol. dzban, Ukr. дзбан*.

MPU with the metrological names of the volume and capacity of bulk bodies *Engl. sieve / sifter, Germ. Sieb, Pol. rzeszoto / przetak, Ukr. пeшeтo / cумo* make up about 40% of the material in our study. In the national phraseology of four languages the component-name of *Engl. sieve / sifter, Germ. Sieb, Pol. rzeszoto / przetak, Ukr. пeшeтo / cумo* has survived, that is entitled to refer to the household items, a kind of a sieve made of woven bark, wire, sheet or a perforated leather and is used for sifting and cleaning of grain (*Kopaliński, 1997*).

In the four chosen languages, the national phraseology with the name of *Engl. sieve / sifter, Germ. Sieb, Pol. rzeszoto / przetak, Ukr. пeшeтo / cумo* has retained a rethinking, figurative meaning and playful-ironic connotation of figurative representation of the meaning of “capacity that you will never fill with water”: These are MPU *Engl. to carry water in / into a sieve / barrel (Wilkinson, 1993); Germ. Wasser in ein Sieb schöpfen (Komlev, 2000); Pol. (darmo) wodę rzeszotem / korcem mierzyć; Ukr. (даремно) воду пeшeтoм мiрyтu*, which have got a fixed meaning “to perform work that does not make sense; it's a waste of time” with an ironic-humorous semantic shade of “ungrateful work; work that does not bring results; it is useless to make a great effort”. Such components as *Pol. darmo; Ukr. даремно* express the given opinion.

In this semantic model the national and cultural metrological names-realities of the former way of life were used in each language: *Engl. sieve, barrel, Germ. Sieb, Pol. rzeszoto, korzec*. The *Ukr. пeшeтoм воду мiрyтu – втpатuтu чac* is distinguished by the Specific semantics. In these MPU, the names of cookware are varied (*Engl. sieve, barrel; Pol. korzec* served for measurement and transportation of grain, flour, porridge; *Pol. rzeszoto* is used to sift grain and flour).

The historical source of the described MPU is the famous Plato's comedy (*Komlev, 2000*). In the organization of these MPU the metrological names of old units of volume and capacity of friable bodies and fluids *Engl. Sieve, Germ. Sieb, Pol. sito / rzeszoto / korzec, Ukr. пeшeтo* are being used. The usage of a metronome *sieve* (a realm that was once used to sift grain and varied from the *sieve* with less wider mesh openings) and the inadequate form of the verb (*Engl. to carry, Germ. schöpfen, Pol. mierzyć / czerpać, Ukr. мiрyтu / нaбuрaтu*) in a redefined meaning “to repeat the same action monotonously” affects the enhancement of the value of this PU and gives the wider emotion to the statement. The Ukrainian native speakers often use a reduced version of the MPU - *мiрyтu воду*.

Synonymically correlated with the described are MPU *Engl. pour into a sieve; Ukr. лuтu воду в пeшeтo / cумo; нocитu воду пeшeтoм / cумoм* “wasting time on something” come together with a redefined, figurative value and humorous-ironic connotation: *Бoгyнa лoвuтu, щo воду пeшeтoм нocитu (Palamarchuk, 1993)*. MPU *Engl. to carry water in/ into a sieve/ barrel; pour into a sieve; Germ. Wasser in ein Sieb schöpfen; Pol. lać wodę w sito/ do sita; lać wodę do naczynia bez dna; lać wodę do dziurawego naczynia* also contain one more meaning – “waste of money; investing into a business that will not make a profit” – and are used with an ironic connotation.

In modern Polish media, innovative variants of this MPU are used – *wozić/ nosić wodę do Wisły; nosić wodę do Dunaju*. They are more often used in the headings of articles for the negative characteristics of the financial situation, mainly: to emphasize the financial subsidies to bankrupt enterprises.

In the organization of the MPU *Pol. wodę czerpać przetakiem* a metronome old unit of volume and capacity *przetak* is used (a sieve denotes a utensil with wide openings of a grid, it is not suitable for digging water) and an undeclared form of the verb *czerpać* in the redefined meaning “often monotonously repeating the same action”.

In the Ukrainian language the MPU *ситом черпати воду; черпати/ таскати воду решетою* is also used with identical semantics “making efforts will not bring a positive result; the chosen methods will not bring the expected result”. The feature of using the Ukrainian MPU *черпати у діржавій кадуб*, which is used with synonymous meaning, is that the metronome *кадуб* is preserved in its component composition reflecting the national-cultural specifics of the use of this PU. Metrological unite *кадуб* was widely used in agriculture and everyday life and denoted a barrel, carved from one piece of wood, without a bottom and a tire (*Yaremenko, 1999*).

In the German language there is a synonymous MPU *Wasser ins Meer tragen* (carry water to the sea) that has a meaning “a lesson that has no result; futile, senseless work”. In English, German and Ukrainian languages there are synonymous MPU, which are used with the opposite connotation: in the British English – *you can not carry water in a sieve; you can not draw water with a sieve*; in the American version – *you can not measure water with a sieve*; German – *Ein Sieb hält kein Wasser* (water is not carried with a sieve); Ukrainian – *ситом моря не черпають; решетою воду не носять*. These MPU contains additional information on the practical usage of metronome *Engl. sieve, Germ. Sieb, Ukr. cymo* and stresses the pragmatism of knowledge that is known to native speakers.

With an irony, the Ukrainian MPU are also used *укр. дурня вчити, що решетою воду носити; жартувати над дурнем, що черпати воду решетою*. And the Ukrainian saying *голова – решето; голова як решето* is used when talking about a forgetful person.

Another semantics is implemented by synonymous MPU: *Engl. water in a sieve; Ukr. вода у сити; Germ. wie Wasser in einem Sieb; Ukr. як в решети воду* “is not true; very little; not at all”. Generalized meaning and specification of the statement is expressed in the Ukrainian PU *стільки правди, як у решети воду*.

German MPU *da sieh mal einer an!* is well known to Ukrainians: this MPU is *чудеса в решети* meaning “something wonderful, unusual; fictional”. These MPU have an ancient origin. The etymological roots of these MPU date back to the XVI-XVIII centuries when a special method of divination using a sieve has spread in Russia. In the XVI-XVIII centuries in the market squares of Moscow one could see people who poured multicolored lentils, beans, peas or almonds into a sieve and practiced witchcraft. Breaking the sieve, they predicted the future with the placement of grains, creating incredible and fantastic stories, predicting a happy marriage, unexpected wealth or extraordinary events, adventures and miracles. Such charlatan predictions with a mockery were called *чудеса в решети* (miracles in a grid). The generalized semantics “very wonderful, fictional history” was fixed by the Ukr. *диво, як сито, – а чудо, як решето*.

With the name *sito* in the Polish language, the proverb *jeden doi kozła, a drugi sito podstawia* is recorded, which transmits the meaning of “useless, purposeless work that does not give benefit”. The origin of the proverb is explained by V. Kopalinsky (*Kopaliński, 1997*), it is derived from a well-known legend, which refers to two philosophers who have been discussing different topics for a long time. The proverb *Pol. jeden doi barana, drugi sito podstawia* was also used as a satire for people who do not know how to do the household job.

In the Ukrainian language MPU is often used *проїтти/ переїтти (вже) крізь сито і решето*, which means “to undergo all kinds of tests, to gain a lot of positive experience”.

Similar to previous is MPU Ukr. *проїти/ переїти крізь/ через густе сито* “to hold a thorough selection”. In German there is MPU with the similar meaning *mit allen Wassern gewaschen sein*.

The MPU Germ. *durch das Sieben* “indistinct, fuzzy, unobstructed contours” is synonymic with Ukr. *як/ мов/ ніби крізь/ через (густе) сито*. If such components as *сіяти, сіятися* are present in the immediate closeness to the Ukrainian MPU it then indicates the meaning “thick, continuous rain; mist”: *Дощ не вгавав, а по-вчорашньому сів, як крізь сито* (Palamarchuk, 1993).

In the metrological phraseology of the three languages, the synonymous MPU are used: Germ. *zerrissen wie ein Sieb*; Pol. *podziurawiony jak rzeszoto*; Ukr. (дірваний) *як решето* “full of holes”. In the Polish, lexical unit *przetak* is used, with the meaning “hollow”, when it comes to a person who does not know how to keep a secret. With the name *przetak* component in the Polish folklore phraseology there is a MPU *wziąć na przetak / przepuścić przez przetak* “to condemn someone; criticize, analyze, evaluate someone” (Kopaliński, 1997).

According to the linguistic and cultural description of the semantics of metrological phraseology with metronomes Engl. *sieve*, Germ. *Sieb*, Pol. *rzeszoto/ przetak*, Ukr. *пешето/ сито* was revealed that these MPU generally retain semantics, which correlates with the peculiarity of the use of this realm in the household economy, as well as with a figurative rethinking and peculiarities of the form of this realm.

MPU with a name Engl. *bushel*, Pol. *korzec*, Ukr. *корець* in English, Polish, and Ukrainian languages cover about 40% of the material. Metrological name Engl. *bushel*, Pol. *korzec*, Ukr. *корець* is presented in the phraseology of the three languages. This is the name of the dish, which served as a measure of the grain of baking products, flour and porridge. Y. Shymansky notes that more than 250 kinds of this type of unit were established in Poland (Szymański, 1972). The size of the bushel was not generally accepted due to regional differences, and therefore the use of the bushel varied, 34-43.7 liters (Komlev, 2000).

In Ukraine, the name *корець* was distributed in the form of a round vessel with a handle. It was used not only for measuring and preserving friable agricultural substances, but also for pouring water, milk, wine, as well as for harvesting grain and flour (Doroszewski, 1959). The Ukrainian *корець* had phonetic variants of *коряк, кірець* and lexical doublet *совок*, which was used without restrictions (Tkach, 2003).

In three languages, English, Polish and Ukrainian, a semantic model was recorded “to carefully hide something, to hide it; to keep secret, to prevent disclosure of information”, presented in the metrological MPU of three languages: Engl. *to hide one's light under a bushel*; Pol. *schować/ chować/ ukryć/ kryć/ trzymać coś pod korcem/ korzec*, Ukr. *ховати/ сховати під корець/ під корцем*. Their first example is the Latin phrase *Tempus omnia revelat* “everything will become obvious”. Vladyslav Kopalinsky gives a biblical legend about the origin of this statement (Kopaliński, 1997).

Ian Godyn in his work "Od Adama i Ewy zaczynać. Mały słownik biblizmów języka polskiego" notes, that the basis of Polish MPU *chować / brać coś pod korzec / pod korcem; trzymać / kłaść coś pod korcem* was laid down in the Bible, which had its impact on a significant number of MPU, and clarifies their semantics “to conceal something, to try to conceal it; to keep secret”: Nie może się miasto zakryć na górze osadzone ani zapalają świece i kładą jej pod korzec, ale na świeczniku, aby świeciła wszystkim (Heidegger, 2004). They are characterized by the variability of the undifferentiated form of verbal components (*chować / brać / trzymać / kłaść*) and forms of accusative and ablative cases (*pod korzec / pod*

korcem). Innovative is the MPU *ukrywać coś pod pieżyną*, in which the change of imagery emphasizes the negative attitude of the speaker to the situation.

Introduction of the pronoun *your* to the component of the English MPU *to hide your light under a bushel* specifies the person to whom this situation applies. As part of Engl. *to hide one's light under a bushel* the English language tradition has kept the name of the national metrological unit *bushel*, which is a modern unit of capacity and volume of friable bodies and liquids in countries with the English measurement system, with an average capacity of 35-45 kg (Komlev, 2000).

The source of a large number of metrological MPU is not only the Bible, but also the material and spiritual life of the people. So, giving a negative characteristics to two or more people who have very similar or similar negative traits of character, only the Polish phraseology has retained the MPU *w korcu maku się dobrać, znaleźć; dobrać się (jak) w korcu maku: jeden złodziej, drugi pijaka – dobrali się w korcu maku* (Doroszewski, 1959).. Depending on the context, these MPU can be used with a positive characteristic of people who fit each other and form a coherent pair or are similar: *To dziewczyna silna, a on jakby dla niej stworzony. W korcu maku się dobrali* (Doroszewski, 1959).

In Polish language, MPU with a component-name *korzec* is written down, which reflects the agricultural human activity, and more specifically – agriculture. These MPU are regional and give a negative characteristic to Polish agricultural soils. So, widely used Polish MPU *korzec wysiał, kopę zebrał, kopa korzec daje* – is used in a negative statement about lean soils in some areas of Poland, containing a shade of grievance.

The usage of names contrasting of the metrological unit of volume and capacity *korzec* and the names of the countable unit *kopa*, as well as the names of different volumes and capacities *korzec – ćwirć* enhances the emotionality of the expression: *daleko słyną Opoczeńskie kraje: korzec sieje, kopę zbiera, korzec kopę daje; daleko słyną Opoczeńskie kraje: któż wie, czy z korca wysianego zbiorę ćwirć; Opoczyńskie kraje: korzec wysiej, kopę sprzątniesz, kopa korzec daje*. In this statement, variations of names of the territory with non-fertile soils are allowed: *Olkuskie kraje; przy Skudzawach*. MPU implements the meaning “the result obtained does not justify financial expenses and labor invested”.

Observations of the nature and birds are reflected in the Polish MPU *Wieśniacy mówią: wróble rodzą się korcami, a mierzą miarką na wiosnę*. Poles use this statement when they talk about the number of birds in different seasons. There are a lot of birds in summer and autumn, but little less in the spring (in winter many birds die).

Somewhat different is the semantics of another Polish MPU *chłopa korcem nie mierzą/ nie mierz chłopca na korce* “a man of great height”, used to characterize and assess a person by external characteristics, by ones height. It also has a connotative sign – height is not the main criteria for assessing a person.

In Ukrainian MPU *знати/ пізнати/ узнати чому/ почім корець лиха* the former names of Ukrainian units for the designation of friable bodies are given, which vary: *корець/ пуд/ ківш/ фунт*. MPU *Ukr. знати/ пізнати/ узнати чому/ почім корець/ пуд/ ківш/ фунт лиха* is characterized by the variability of verbal components. It is used in the meaning of “having a great life experience; experience of having a lot of troubles”.

The meaning of “disobedient man will be punished” is implemented in a multi-structured MPU: *Pol. kto z korca się wychyli, to go strychulcem w łeb; nie radziłbym ci głowy podnosić nad korzec, żebyś nie wziął, strychem; kto z korca się wychyli / kto wyjrzy z korca, to go strychulcem w łeb*. At the heart of its figurative rethinking lies its lack of a single metric system, the existence of phrases, which constituted a larger/greater measure of grain.

Since ancient times, the Slavs have been engaged in agriculture, cultivating land and cultivating grain, therefore pragmatic knowledge of the speakers regarding the use of metrological units to denote the volume and capacity of corn (*korzec*) and square (*sznur, staję*) are the basis of the Polish proverb *rolę korcem mierz, nie sznurem i nie stajęm*. The name of the metrological component of the volume and capacity *korzec* and the old large units of measurement of the surface *sznur, staja* are contrasted in the proverb and figuratively form the meaning of “the result of labor is measured not by the cost of cultivating the soil, but by the amount of collected grain”.

The Polish MPU *niepoczciwości to by nawet korcem nie zmierzyć* conveys the conviction by the speakers of dishonesty as a negative personal characteristic. The emotional part of the statement is influenced by the use of the name of the metrological unit of inaccurate capacity and the weight of corn *korzec*. With a negative connotation in Polish colloquial phraseology *diabłów korcami odmierzać* is used, meaning “curse”, is motivated by the absurdity of the action and gives a negative characteristic of the person.

Speaking about the distant family, the Poles use the old saying *ledwo by korcem maku powinowactwo dorachował*. In Ukrainian phraseology the expression *через пень колода; родич через десяте коліно* has a different imaginative basis that emphasizes the national-cultural specifics of these expressions. In Ukraine, the metrological name *корець* was used in the old times mostly as a fee for a miller for a mild grains (Yaremenko, 1999). For instance: *Моє діло мірошницьке – підкрутити та й сіяти, а коряки беру!* (Nomys, 1993) is used with the meaning “a tricky job”.

The described linguocultural peculiarities of semantics of MPU prove that the metrological names that was common in the past used to denote the size of the grain of friable bodies *Engl. bushel, Pol. korzec, Ukr. корець* found its expression in the phraseology of the three studied languages, which is explained by the widespread use of this metronome in ancient times in the exchange of agricultural products in England, Poland and Ukraine. In the component context of the German metrological MPU of this name, the designation of such a unit of volume and capacity as *корець*, was not revealed, probably because the realm denoting this metrological unit was not widely used in Germany. Linguistic and cultural semantics with the names *Engl. bushel, Pol. korzec, Ukr. корець* is mainly associated with the method of using this metronome with associative factors and with the inherited knowledge of the etymology of the PU.

MPU with the metronome-weight unit *Engl. pound, Germ. Pfund, Pol. funt, Ukr. фунт* in our study is about 5% of the material. Metrological names of *Engl. pound, Germ. Pfund, Pol. funt, Ukr. фунт* refer to one of the oldest measures of weight that has long been out of use and has a Latin origin. This measure of weight is very different in many countries of the world (400-453.6 g.) (Bilodid, 1989). Interestingly enough is the fact that the metronome *pound* is the name of the English unit of weight, which is 453.6 g, the monetary unit of Australia and New Zealand (Bilodid, 1989).

In our work there are only two MPU, presented by a variant-synonymous range of English and German MPU, built on the opposition of the names of larger and smaller units of weight: *Engl. a hundred pounds of sorrow will not pay one ounce of debt; in a thousand pounds of law there's not an ounce of love; mischief comes by the pound and goes away by the ounce; an ounce of mirth is worth a pound of sorrow; an ounce of mother-wit is worth a pound of clergy; Germ. Böses kommt geritten, geht aber weg mit Schritten; Ukr. лихо приходить скоком, а відходить кроком; Germ. Böses lässt sich leicht verrichten, aber nicht leicht wieder schlichten*. They are used in the meaning “one need to be responsible for

a bad behaviour". The Ukrainian MPU *легко біду накликати, а важко їй зарадити* is synonymous to them. Visualisation of the metrological MPU of this variant-synonymous series is based on the opposition of the names of two metrological units of unequal weight (*Engl. pound, ounce; Ukr. скок, крок; пуд, золотник*) that rises the emotional side of this saying.

In the Ukrainian language the MPU *лихо приходить фунтами/ корцями, а відходить золотниками* has been recorded which has more general semantics "trouble, misery comes unexpectedly and always not in time; human health is lost quickly, but returns slowly". This MPU preserves the names of former metrological units: weights (*фунт, корець*), a small monetary unit of high quality (*золотник*).

Metrological phraseology with the name *Engl. pot, Germ. Krug, Pol. dzban, Ukr. дзбан* is presented in four languages, it is about 15% of our factual material. A linguistic and cultural characteristic of the semantics of these MPU is their usage whilst negative assessment of the external appearance of a person, mainly for the ironic characteristics of human growth. A small people's height was rarely laughed at straight in order not to offend a person. The speakers of the three studied languages, Germans, Poles and Ukrainians, are used the MPU that positively characterize people who have a small height: *Germ. kein, aber fein* (little but beautiful/nice); *rein aber oho!: kaum drei Kase hoch* (literally means: only three peaces of cheese); *Ukr. від горшка два/ три вершка; такий малий, накрив би його решето* "a child or a person of a small height". In the component context of these MPU the national specifics of the perception of the speakers of each of the four languages is preserved. These MPU are semantic equivalents, have the same emotional color and contain an ironic connotation. However, only the image of the Ukrainian MPU refers to associative ties with the size of the names of the three metronomes: two metronomes of volume and capacity (*горщик і решето*) and one metronome of a small measure of the length (*вершок – 4.4 см*), which was used in Ukraine before implementation of a single metric measurement system. For example: *Тобі вже одинадцять років, а ти від горшка – два (три) вершка (Bilodid, 1989)*.

The moral and ethical connotation in its meaning has the MPU *Germ. Eine Hand voll Achtung ist besser als eine Metze Geld; Ukr. жменя/ оберемок поваги краця, аніж дзбан грошей* and *Germ. Es ist noch kein Meister vom Himmel gefallen (Es wird keiner als Meister geboren. Es fällt kein Meister von Himmel); Ukr. не святі горшки ліплять, а прості люди; не святі горшки ліплять (а такі ж люди, як і ми, гришні)* and is used in the meaning "only a person with a strong will can learn to do any work".

In English, German, and Ukrainian languages synonymous are MPU that express the negative characteristics of two or more people, whose behavior causes disapproval: *Engl. such a cup, such a cruse; Germ. den Topf am Kochen zu halten; Ukr. яка чашка, такий і глечик; Engl. such pot, such pot-lid; Ukr. який горщик, така і кришка*. A more pragmatic approach is to define this concept in the statement – *укр. яке їхало, таке й здибало* where the name of the metrological component does not take part in its formation. MPU *Eng. to keep the pot boiling; to keep the pot on the boil* means "a little earnings; to earn a living; to make ends meet" are variational. In the Polish metrological phraseology, this metronome was not found.

MPU *Germ. Da ist die schwarze Katze dazwischengekommen; Ukr. злека розбили/ побили; злек/ горщик розбиту* "to break friendship; lose good relationship; quarrel" (*Bilodid, 1989*). Linguistic and cultural semantics of the given MPU *Da ist die schwarze*

*Katze dazwischengekommen* is built on the image of a black cat as a demonic being, which interferes into the business and spoils its result – *schwarze Katze dazwischengekommen*.

The pottery craft was reflected in the existence of the MPU *Germ. Der Krug geht so lange zu Wasser (zum Brunnen), bis er bricht; Pol. dopóty dzban wodę nosi, dopuki się ucho nie urwie; Ukr. доми дзбан по воду ходить, доки не розіб'ється* – a sign of damage and defect – these are signs of mostly ceramic or glassware, which in ancient times was used on the farm.

Linguocultural features of the semantics of metrological MPU with a metronome name in four languages *Engl. pot, Germ. Krug, Pol. dzban, Ukr. дзбан* focus mainly on denoting the negative characteristics of people whose behaviour causes condemnation, as well as the denial of friendly relations. These MPU give a negative characteristic of the human's behavior and realize the following values, which their linguistic tradition established focusing on associative ties.

To conclude, linguistic and cultural peculiarities of the semantics of metrological MPU with components-specific names of metrological units are being analyzed to express the volume, capacity and weight in the English, German, Polish and Ukrainian languages: with components-specific names of volume and capacity of bulk bodies *Engl. sack/ bag, Germ. Sack, Pol. worek, Ukr. мішок*; with a component name of volume and capacity of the corn and fluids measure *Engl. barrel, Germ. Faß/ Fass, Pol. beczka, Ukr. бочка*; with specific names of the volume and capacity of friable bodies *Engl. sieve, Germ. Sieb, Pol. rzeszoto/ przetak, Ukr. пeшeтo/ cутo*; *Engl. bushel, Pol. korzec, Ukr. коpecь* in English and Ukrainian languages; with metronome-type name *горщик/ глечик* in the Ukrainian language and the metronome-type name *Engl. pound, Germ. Pfund (Ukr. фунт)*.

## Conclusions

In the described metrological phraseology of the four languages the moral and ethical values are reflected, as well as the way the native speakers perceive the world and its existence in it through the prism of ancient metrical systems. Each nation has its own culture; therefore, metrological MPU with metronome serves as the key to understanding different aspects of the culture of the four languages.

The study of linguistic and cultural semantics of metrological phraseology with component-specific names expressing volume, capacity and weight in the English, German, Polish and Ukrainian languages allows to determine and clarify the estimated functions of the PU in the cultures of the studied languages. Metrological phraseology of English, German, Polish and Ukrainian languages as an integral part of national culture is a set of national-cultural codes, which is endowed not only with information but also with national-cultural specifics. The figurative characteristic of data of metrological PU is closely related to the metric systems of England, Germany, Poland, Ukraine, which affects the peculiarities of their linguocultural semantics.

Metrological phraseology with components-specific names of metrological units expressing volume, capacity and weight is an important means of emotionally-expressive speech, because it gives a special note to the meaning of what is said. The peculiarities of the linguistic and cultural semantics of the metrological MPU of the four languages lie in the realization of such meanings that, on associative bonds, they establish a linguistic tradition behind them.



An analysis of the linguistic and cultural characteristics of the semantics of metrological MPU with the components of the specific names of metrological units of volume, capacity and weight in the English, German, Polish and Ukrainian languages extends the understanding of the surrounding reality, perceives the richness of figurative linguistic means, the emotional and mental life of the four nations.

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