

## **Idioms and Phrases That Denote Concepts of “Dance and Music” In English Linguo-Culture**

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### **Abstract**

This article deals with one of the most popular matters in modern linguistics; that is related to concepts in linguo-culture in the English language. As we know, concepts help participants of communication to make a sense of what is being meant to say. They help us to define a general linguistic view of a language. Special idioms and phrases that are used to denote concepts “dance and music” in the English language are analyzed to distinguish the main features of conceptual linguo-cultural issues.

**Keywords:** cultural phenomenon, cultural forms, concept sphere of language, to be encoded, mental images, linguistic signs.

As one of the leading directions of modern linguistics linguoculturology began to develop in the last quarter of the 20th century. Researchers say that the term "linguoculturology" appeared in connection with the research conducted by the Moscow Phraseological School under the leadership of V.N. Telia. When talking about the formation of linguoculturology, almost all researchers say that the roots of this theory go back to W. Von Humboldt. It is noted in those literatures that the opinions of linguists such as A.A. Potebnya, L. Weisgerber, H. Glantz, H. Holtz, W. D. Whitney, D. U. Powell, F. Boas, E. Sepir, B. L. Whorf, G. Brutyan, A. Vejbitskaya, and D.Hymes played an important role to develop this sector [1]. Linguoculturology has become one of the leading directions in world linguistics by the beginning of the 21st century. As noted in many studies, linguoculturology is a science that studies language as a cultural phenomenon, and its subject is language and culture which is in mutual relationship. For example, V. N. Telia writes about it: "Linguoculturology is a science that studies the individual and cultural factor as a whole." According to G. G. Slisshkin, "Linguoculturology is focused on the human factor, more precisely, on the cultural factor of a person. The fact that the center of linguoculturology consists of the phenomenon of culture indicates that the science of man is a phenomenon belonging to the anthropological paradigm". Although there is a consensus regarding the views on the object of study of linguoculturology, there are still some controversial views [2]. For example, according to V. N. Telia, linguo-culturology studies only the synchronic relationship between language and culture. Linguoculturology is one of the new directions of linguistics, and it is a science that studies culture, customs, and traditions that are formed on the basis of the collision of language and culture which are simultaneously reflected in the language of all nations. By studying linguoculturology we can also learn formation of language (mind) with the help of national values, traditions and cultural forms; to put it in a mold of a certain society; we can also learn how to develop independent thinking skills. It is clear from this that through the language studied

in the science of linguoculturology, it is possible to find out not only the features of the existing language, but also the cultural life, customs and values of the people who communicated in this language in the past and now. So, at this point, it should be noted that linguistics (linguoculturology) cooperates with such disciplines as culturology, history, psychology, and ethnography in a more in-depth study of nations. We can mainly take examples of folklore as a research object of linguoculturology. That's why, idioms, proverbs, adages, sayings and metaphors are a priceless treasure that preserves national values and traditions, as well as complete information about that nation for centuries. The great Russian linguist Larin defined idioms as follows: "Idioms always express the worldview of the people, the priority ideas of a certain period, the construction of society. It is clearly expressed as the morning light is seen through the rays of the sun."

The meaning of "concept" is explored in cognitive science, metaphysics, and philosophy of mind. The term "concept" is traced back to Aristotle's "The classical theory of concepts" definition of terms. Today, the term "concept" is widely used in various fields of linguistics [3]. It has entered into the notional system of cognitive, semantic, and cultural linguistics. The study of the concept in modern linguistics is of the paramount importance. However, any attempt to comprehend the nature of the concept is associated with a number of the most diverse points of view. The intensive research of it in the field of cognitive linguistics has demonstrated a great disparity in the understanding of the term "concept". Discrepancies cause ambiguity and terminological confusion. In the most general form, the concept, according to Yu.S. Stepanov, can be imagined, on the one hand, as "a clot of culture in a person's mind: that in the form of which culture enters the mental world of a person, and, on the other hand, a concept is that through which a person himself enters culture, and in some cases and affects it. The study of the concept sphere of language (the term was proposed by D.S. Likhachev) allows you to identify the features of the mental world of a particular ethnic group, to see, metaphorically speaking, the specifics of the flight path human thought, therefore, to know the culture of the people in different stages of its development. It is believed that the best access to the description and definition of the nature of the concept is provided by the language. However, some scholars believe that as the simplest concepts, one should consider concepts represented by a single word, and as more complex ones, those that presented in phrases and sentences [4]. However, there is no doubt that the most important concepts are encoded in the language. Concepts - mental images behind linguistic signs, signified by linguistic signs, have recently become the subject of active attention of linguists. The concept of the concept, which came from cognitive science, turned out to be important and necessary for the study of the language and formed part of basis of cognitive linguistics. The semantic space of a particular language is made up of concepts, and the semantic space can be used to judge the knowledge structures in their specific national language refraction [5].

We should have some practical part of the work to analyze and to support theoretical basis of the work. Here are a number of idioms and phrases that help us to define concepts "dance and music". Some idioms and phrases below are commonly used in the dance music world. These catchy sayings can add flavor to your conversations about dance and music. However, these idioms and phrases show how lexical units of English represent conceptual state of "dance and music" concepts in general.

a) "Drop the bass": Refers to the climactic point in a dance music track where the bassline kicks in. b) "Feel the beat": A phrase encouraging someone to move or dance to the rhythm of the music. c) "Lose yourself to dance": Encourages letting go of inhibitions and immersing oneself in the dance and music. d) "Pump up the volume": A phrase used to encourage making the music louder. e) "Raise the roof": A phrase expressing the act of having an extremely good time, often while dancing. f) "Spin a set": Refers to a DJ performing a selection of mixed tracks. These phrases are not just fun to say, but they also add color to the language of dance and music. g) All singing, all dancing. If you want to say that something or someone has everything, every feature, or can do everything, you may say it or they are all singing all dancing. "This university has it all. It's all singing, all dancing." "When I get my kitchen re-fitted, I want it to be all

singing, all dancing.” h) Dance cheek to cheek. People who dance cheek to cheek are doing a passionate or romantic dance. Although their cheeks (the fleshy part on the side of your face) may not be actually touching, they will be very close together. “It was so romantic to see them dancing cheek to cheek at their 50th anniversary party.” i) Give it a whirl. It’s always a great idea to try something new. Perhaps you’ve never tried ice skating or rock climbing. If this is the case, a friend may encourage you to give it a whirl – meaning to try it out” “I know you’ve never done it before but just give it a whirl.” j) Dancing on air. This is a positive dance idiom; dancing on air describes a state of extreme happiness. “Ever since the offer was accepted on the house they have been dancing on air.” This is used in a similar way to walking on cloud nine. k) It takes two to tango. Some idioms about dancing do relate directly to dance styles, and this is one of them. Tango is a romantic, passionate dance performed by a couple. It can’t be danced alone. This Latin American lexicon has been emerged into English culture seeming to define special peculiar features of English dancing and music concept. When we say ‘it takes two to tango’, we’re suggesting that both or all involved in a situation or argument are equally responsible for it. l) Drag your heels. If you drag your heels it means you are moving very slowly or procrastinating on a task you need to do. If someone else is in a rush, they may accuse you of dragging your heels. “We are running so late, please don’t drag your heels.” m) Foot loose and fancy free. This is another one of the happy, positive dance idioms for situations when you don’t have a worry in the world. To be foot loose and fancy free means you don’t have attachments and can do as you please. It’s normally said in reference to the lack of a romantic relationship, but not always. “I can’t wait to be foot loose and fancy free when I take a year’s sabbatical.” “Natasha was feeling foot loose and fancy free after her divorce was finalized.” n) Have two left feet. Not all dance idioms are about graceful, coordinated dancing. If someone says you have two left feet, it means you are not a very good dancer. “When I started dancing I had two left feet, but I have improved a lot.” “No way am I dancing with Leon at the party; he has two left feet!” o) Keep someone on their toes. This idiom about dancing alludes to the fact that ballerinas like to dance on their toes. If someone keeps you on your toes, they make you stay alert because you never quite know what they are going to do next. You must be ready to react at a moment’s notice. “Our new baby is really keeping us on our toes.” p) Get your groove on. When we talk about a ‘groove’ in the context of dance, we mean your own personal movement in time with the music. The expression get your groove on means to really enjoy yourself while dancing (or attempting to dance, at least!). “Have a great night and just get your groove on.” We can also talk about getting in the groove and in this case it’s more about the rhythm of your life; having a good pace and style and things being just right. “I’m just getting in the groove with my new job, and I love it!” q) Lead someone on a merry dance. To lead someone on a merry dance isn’t a nice thing to do. It means you have not treated them well for a long period of time, perhaps through misleading them or tricking them. “I really trusted them but they led me on a merry dance.” “Sounds like Danny has been leading John on a merry dance all this time.” r) Out of step. When performing as a group, all dancers should be stepping to the same beat. When you are out of step you aren’t following or conforming with what others are doing. This may sometimes be a good thing but more often than not it is a bad thing. “Our manager is a bit old-fashioned. He’s really out of step with the needs of his team.”

s) My dance card is full. Some idioms about dancing date back many years, and you may not hear this one often. To say my dance card is full is to simply say that you are busy and unable to make an appointment or date. This is normally used in relation to romantic dates. “I would love to see you but next Monday my dance card is full. How about Tuesday?” t) Make a song and dance about it. Many dance idioms can be used in both the positive and negative forms, but this expression would normally be used in a negative sentence structure (like in the examples below). We can say this when something happens that is bad, but not really significant, so there is no point making a big fuss over it. You don’t need to make a song and dance about it. “Ok, ok, ok. I fell over. It was funny, but let’s not make a song and dance about it.” “There’s no need to make a song and dance about every good grade you get.” u) Step out of line. In some traditional dances, dancers perform in unity in a line. In this case, to step out of line would be seen as inappropriate

or disrespectful. This dancing idiom can be used to describe rude, disrespectful or disobedient behavior. “It’s best you just do as they say and don’t step out of line.” “Anyone who steps out of line on this matter will be disciplined.” v) Slow dance. Although this dance saying seems simple enough, it’s not actually referring to just dancing slowly. A slow dance means a romantic dance in which you hold your partner close and sway in time to the music, sometimes turning slowly. “I was so embarrassed that he asked me for a slow dance!” w) Strut your stuff. Strutting is a confident, bold way of walking. When you’re told to strut your stuff, it isn’t necessarily an instruction about how to walk or dance; it’s more about behaving in a confident, proud way in order to impress others. “I am loving your new outfit. You should strut your stuff tonight at the office party.” x) To dance the night away. When you go out for the night and are having a great time, you may feel you want to keep dancing all night. And this is what dance the night away means. “I am having so much fun I might just dance the night away.” y) To step on someone’s toes. If your intention is to help someone but you end up interfering or upsetting them, we could say you are stepping on their toes. “I wish my mother-in-law would stop stepping on my toes as I’m decorating our house.” “I’m happy to help but I don’t want to step on your toes.” z) To sweep someone off their feet. Here’s another one of the romantic dance idioms. To sweep someone off their feet is to do something to charm or impress that person to make them fall in love with you quickly. “We meet 50 years ago and he swept me off my feet.” “What can I do to sweep Julia off her feet?” aa) Toe-tapper. To describe music as upbeat or enjoyable you may say it is a good toe-tapper. This suggests you were enjoying it so much that you started moving your toes or foot up and down in time with the music. “I got all excited listening to their new song. It was quite the top-tapper [6].”

There are some proverbs that help us to describe concepts “dance and music” in English linguo-culture: 1) Be patient with your drum, the night is long. - African proverb 2) The noisiest drum has nothing in it but air. - English Proverb 3) Even without drumbeats, banana leaves dance. - African proverb

Concepts are unparsed entities only at the beginning of their appearance, but then, being part of the system, they fall under the influence of other concepts and change themselves. Take, for example, such a sign as 'red', which, on the one hand side, is interpreted as a sign of color, and, on the other hand, is crushed by indicating its intensity (cf. scarlet, purple, crimson, dark red, etc.) and enriched with other characteristics. Concepts, that arise in the minds of men are not based only on the meanings of words taken from dictionaries, but on the basis of individual, national, cultural and historical experience, the wider the borders of the concept, the greater the opportunity for the emergence of the emotional aura of the word, which is reflected in all aspects of the concept. There is no doubt possibility of interpreting different concepts in different ways indicates that both the number of concepts and the scope of the content of many concepts are constantly changing. The concept of a concept is also widely used in describing the semantics of a language, because the meanings of linguistic expressions are equated with the concepts or conceptual structures expressed in them: such way of looking at things is considered the hallmark of the cognitive approach generally.

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