

# *Idiom Structure with Plan Lexicon in German Language*

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**Abstract**— The research study entitled "Idiom Structure with Plan Lexicon in German Language". The purposes of this study is to describe the structure of the German language idioms that use the lexicon of plants. The research uses qualitative research. The data used in this study is the idiom of German dictionary named *Duden Redewendungen* in 2012, while the data are sentences that contain idioms as shown in the Duden dictionary *Redewendungen* in 2012. This research uses qualitative approach and descriptive analysis method, and by collecting data the writer uses 'see and record' procedure. The results of this thesis are: The structure of the German language idioms are phrases consisting of 22 verbs of data, noun of 6 data, the preposition of 4 data; special constructions are of 14 data fixed predicative, 3 phraseology comparative data.

**Keywords**— *idiom, plants, phrase structure*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Language is a system used by humans to communicate. The ability given to humans is not the ability to exercise so that in order to achieve the desired communication, the speaker and interlocutors must share a code or sign. When speakers and speakers share a code or sign, they must also follow the conventions in using a language. In a conventional language system, speakers and speakers are required to be able to express something that can be recognized by each other in the same linguistic community.

One part of language that is the result of conventional and arbitrary culture is idiom. As revealed by Badudu [1] that "idioms are not limited to two or more words that are combined and contain new meanings and do not accentuate each component. Idioms are all forms of specific or special language with certain meanings. Which cannot be explained based on generally accepted rules. The idiom cannot be asked the question: why is the form so? Why does that mean? Why is that word used instead of that word? That is an idiom born of language habits and accepted as a convention or agreement. From the above statement it can be concluded that idioms in a language are arbitrary in addition to being fixed so that they cannot be replaced with other words even though they have the same or similar meaning.

This research aims to classify the use of idiomatic structures used in German idioms. The author sees that in German idioms in addition to the widely used names of animals, and human limbs, it turns out that plant names are often used. The use of plant names in the idiom structure is what makes the writer interested in researching.

The following is an example of an analysis of idioms with plant names in them:

- (1) *Äpfel mit Birnen vergleichen* [2]  
 Apple with pear to compare  
*völlig verschiedene Dinge miteinander vergleichen*  
 'Comparing each other things that are really different'  
 (idiomatic meaning)

In example (1) we can see the use of fruit names, namely apples and pears. In terms of form, the idiom has two nouns. The structure above is a phrase structure because it consists of several words. The above phrase has a verb that is 'compares' which is the essence of the phrase. Phrases that have verbs as the core are categorized as verbs. Thus, the idioms in German are classified as verb phrases, because they have a core in the form of a verb with a terminator in the form of noun phrases so that if the verbs in the phrase are removed the phrase will not be meaningful. The verb phrase has the same distribution as the verb in the sentence.

In linguistics words are grouped according to their form and behavior. Words that have the same form or behavior, or are similar, are included in one group, while other words whose form and behavior are the same or similar to each other, but different from the first group, are included in another group. In other words, words are divided or grouped into certain classes or also called word classes [3]. The word class is used basically as a form of classification that makes it easy to analyze a language.

The larger structure of words is phrases. The basic understanding of a phrase is a construction that can be formed by two or more words, both in an archetype or not [4]. Another characteristic of a phrase is that a phrase is a group of distributed words following one of its constituent elements. A phrase must have at least two forming members [4]. In German there is no maximum number of words forming a phrase.

Notions of phrases are not included in Latin grammatical descriptions, but rather in structure, Dürscheid [5] reveals that:

„Als Phrasen werden Wortgruppen bezeichnet, die syntaktisch eine Einheit bilden. Phrasen haben jeweils einen Kern (auch:Kopf). Nach der Wortart des Kerns wird die ganze Phrasen benannt.“

‘Groups of words are marked as phrases that syntactically form a unity. Each phrase has a core (also: head). Based on the core word class all phrases are named.’

From the statement above it can be seen that words which are side by side with each other can form groups of words or phrases which syntactically have a certain position. From the above statement it is also known that each phrase has a nucleus or in German is called *Kopf* and the type of phrase can be known based on the word class of the core or *Kopf* phrase. Based on the above view, the types of phrases can be seen and classified based on the essence of the phrase itself.

Previous studies of German idioms were discovered, is an idiom analysis that uses animal names, which uses words ‘hands’, ‘colors’, ‘senses’ and comparison idioms that uses the word ‘mouth and tongue’. From the themes which are has been studied and described above, it is necessary to do a related research with the use of plant lexicons in German-language idioms, because the lexicon often appears. The writer considers this research to be done because of the research on idioms that use plant lexicons in German have never been found before.

## II. METHODS

This research uses descriptive analysis method which according to Sutedi [6] is describing a phenomenon that is happening now by using scientific procedures to answer the actual problem. in addition this study uses a qualitative approach, because this study uses research data that is not in the form of numbers, but in the form of words or phrases [7].

By collecting data, the writer uses the method of ‘listening’. The term listening here is not only related to the use of language verbally, but the use of language in writing [8]. The listening method in this study uses an advanced technique in the form of note taking. The note taking technique is used as a technique in collecting the data and it records some forms that are relevant to this research from the use of written language [8].

The next step is to analyze the data. in this study the writer used the equivalent method to analyze the data. The technique contained in this method are divided into two, basic techniques and advanced techniques [9]. The basic technique is the element sorting technique determinant or PUP. In accordance with the type of determinants to be sorted or separated or divided into various elements, the power of disaggregation is called “referential disability” [9].

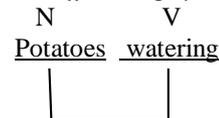
In presenting the results of data analysis, the writer uses the informal method [7]. Using this method, the presentation of data analysis is done by describing the structure of idioms.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### A. Verbal Phrases

VP or verbal phrases are the result of forming two or more words with verbs as their core. In the German idiom that uses the plant lexicon, the type of idiom which has the construction of verbal phrases has the most number. Here are idioms that are verbal phrases:

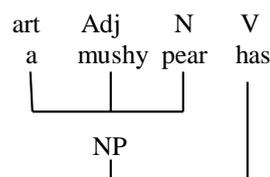
(5) *Kartoffeln abgießen* (Alsleben and Stubenrecht)



Verbal phrases

There are only two idioms which have a construction form with one extension to the left. ‘Watering’ on data 5 is the core of the idiom so that the verbal term *abgießen* ‘watering’ is formed. The verbal phrase *abgießen* ‘watering’ is a phrase built by the noun *Kartoffeln* ‘potato’ + verb infinite *abgießen* ‘watering’. The general characteristic of a verbal phrase in German seen above is that the verb is in the rightmost position and the verb in the verbal phrase is always in the form of an infinite. The verb will turn to finite when the idiom is used in the sentence so verbs must be conjugated

(6) *Eine weiche Birne haben*



Verbal phrases

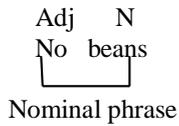
In the data 6 verbal *haben* phrases ‘have’ constructed by extending to the left a nominal phrase nominal *Birne* nominal pears ‘+ verb infinite *haben*’ have. In the data 6 the nominal phrase *Birne* ‘pear’ is built by the expansion of the article ein (-e morpheme flexion) ‘a’ + adjective weich (-e morpheme flexion) ‘soft’ + *Birne* noun ‘pear’. The two phrases above have the general characteristics of a verbal phrase in German which is seen above, namely the verb is in the rightmost position and the verb in the verbal phrase is always in the form of infinite. The verb will turn to finite when the idiom is used in the sentence so verbs must be conjugated.

B. Nominal Phrases

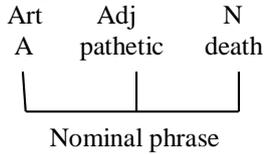
Nominal phrases are phrases formed from two or more words with nouns as the core of the phrase. There are several kinds of nominal phrases, there are which are formed from just one extension and some which are a combination of several phrases with another extension.

- Nominal phrase with left expansion:

(7) *Keine Bohne*



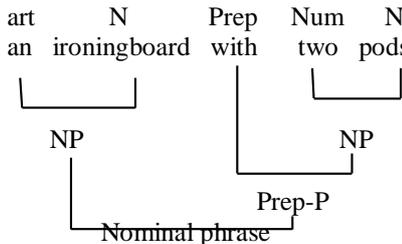
(8) *Ein gewaltsamen Todes*



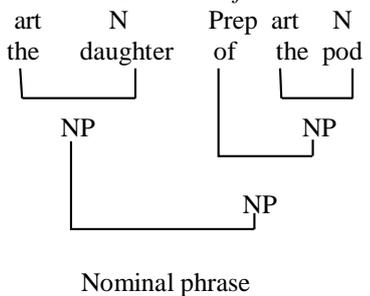
In data 7 which is also a nominal phrase, the *Bohne* nominal phrase 'bean' is constructed by the adjective *keine* 'no' + the *Bohne* noun. The latest data in the form of nominal phrases is data 8. Data 8 is a nominal phrase of '*Todes*' death 'which was built by the *ein* article' a '*gewaltsamen*' adjective 'pathetic' + noun '*Todes*' 'death'. The two data above are nouns with an expansion to the left. In addition to the left the noun can also be expanded right or left and right. In the next analysis we will discuss nominal phrases that extend left and right.

- Nominal phrases with left and right expansion:

(9) *ein Plättbrett mit zwei Erbsen*



(10) *die Prinzessin auf der Erbse*



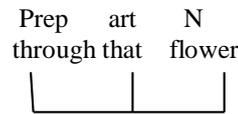
There are only two nominal phrases extended to the right in German idioms that use plant lexicons. Data 9 is the nominal phrase *Plättbrett* 'ironing board' built by an *ein* article 'a' to the left + noun *Plättbrett* 'ironing board' +

preposition *mit* 'to the right + and nominal phrase *zwei Erbsen* 'two pods'. Data 10 is also a nominal phrase that is extended to the left and right. Data 10 is the nominal phrase *Prinzessin* 'daughter' built by the *die* article 'that' + *Prinzessin* noun 'daughter' + the prepositional phrase *auf der Erbse* 'from the pod'. In the data of 10 *auf der Erbse*'s prepositional phrases, there is a dative case, because the *auf der Erbse* preposition is a form of a genitive case (the owner), so *die Erbse* should turn into *der Erbse*.

C. Prepositional Phrases

Prepositional phrases are phrases formed by two or more words with prepositions as the core of the phrase. In this form of construction, there is a type of idiom that has the form of a prepositional phrase formed by an extension to the right. In this type of phrase there is only an idiom that has this simple construction form, namely data 11. Data 11 is a *durch* prepositional phrase that was constructed with an extension to the right by the nominal phrase *die Blume*. The phrase *die Blume* is in the accusative case because there is a *durch* preposition that has a prepositional + accusative character.

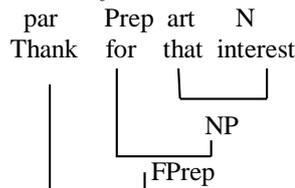
(11) *durch die blume*



Prepositional Phrases

D. Particle Phrases

(12) *Danke für die Blumen*



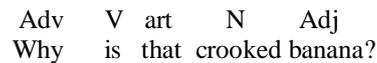
Particle Phrases

Data 12 is particle phrase data. Particle phrases are phrases with *Kopf* or the nucleus of a particle. In the data of 12 particle phrases and to 'thank you' built with the expansion to the right by the particles and to 'thank you' + prepositional phrase *für die Blumen* 'for the flower'. The prepositional phrase *für die Blumen* is in the accusative case, because this prepositional phrase begins with the preposition *für* which has the character *für* + accusative.

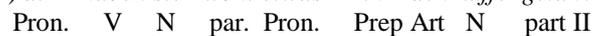
E. Special Construction of Idioms with Plant Lexicons

- Fixed Predictive Construction

(13) *Warum ist die Banane krumm?*



(14) *dir haben sie wohl etwas in den kaffe getan?*



You have them too something in the coffee do?

Data 13 and data 14 are different data from all other data. This data is an idiom data which takes interrogative sentence construction. In the data 13 the S-aspect formed by the verb *ist* 'is' + substantive nominative *Banane* 'banana' + the *krumm* adjective 'crooked' with the L-aspect in the data 13 being the verb *ist* 'is'. The K-aspect of the 13 data is the Präsens tempus which is seen from the use of the verb *ist* 'is' and takes the form of an interrogative sentence construction. More complex things are seen in data 14 where this data has S-aspects, namely substantive dative 'you' + verb *haben* 'has' + substantive nominative *sie* 'they' + prepositions in 'in' + substantive accusative *Kaffee* 'coffee' + partizip II gets 'done' (past). In this data the L-aspect that is owned is *haben getan* 'has done' and the K-aspect that is owned is different from other data, that is the perfekt tempus, that is the tempus used for times that have passed by taking interrogative sentence construction.

#### F. Comparative Phraseology

(15) *An jemandem hängen wie eine Klette*  
 Prep pron V Con art N  
 on someone hangs like a burdock

(16) *Zusammenhängen wie die Kletten*  
 V Con art N  
 Interdependent like that burdock

For idioms with comparative form they are two example data data were found. In 15 and 16 data, the comparative or comparative form of construction can be seen, which is to the left of the word *wie* 'like' there is a verbal verb or phrase, on the 15-day data 'hang' and on data 16 *Zusammenhängen* is 'interdependent', and on the right is filled with nominal phrases, which in data 15 and 16 are occupied by *Kopf* or the core of the same phrase, namely *Klette* 'Burdock'. Both of these comparative phrologies have the same form, ein verb durch *wie* + substantive 'a verb with 'wie' 'like'+ substantive'.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Phrasiologically there are two types of constructions with Kopf "core" certain class and special construction. On the first construction it is found three construction types, namely phrase construction with Kopf verbs, and the latter is proportional phrase construction, that is phrase construction with Kopf preposition. From those three constructions mentioned above, only verbal phrase construction frequently found. It is noted that there are twenty idioms having verbal phrase construction with extension to the left.

The rest of other idiom has special form. Special form is divided into three parts, namely permanent predicative construction, comparative phraseology, and compound word

phraseology. The form recognized are there sixteen idioms using permanent predicative construction and there are three deploying comparative phraseology construction. This research is considered important because it can clarify the form of idiom structure in German and also can compare the form of idioms in other languages. The use of more verb phrases in the form of idioms also indicates that they act more. This research can also show the relationship between language use and language structure syntactically.

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