Seminar 08

**TRANSLATING IDIOMS**

**I What is phraseology? Translate the following idioms into Russian/Belarusian.**

1. out of the blue
2. to turn (put, to set) back the clock
3. a hard nut to crack
4. to bite the hand that feeds one
5. a fly in the ointment
6. by fair means or foul
7. an apple of discord
8. to rob Peter to pay Paul
9. Queen Anne is dead!
10. slip of the pen (tongue)
11. to make both (two) ends meet
12. double Dutch
13. to talk shop
14. Peeping Tom
15. pan face
16. loaded question
17. the man in the moon
18. chip of the old block
19. storm in a teacup
20. dot the i's and cross the t's

**II Fill in the gaps and then translate the following sentences.**

1. She is feeling \_\_\_\_\_ because her boyfriend didn't call her yesterday.

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

2. How many little \_\_\_\_\_ lies do we tell every day?

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

3. Her father and mother saw \_\_\_\_\_ when they found out that their daughter was dating that guy.

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

4. Lena and Nick will be \_\_\_\_\_ with envy when they see my new car!

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

5. That expensive gift turned out to be a \_\_\_\_\_ elephant. We didn't have any use for it, and we couldn't sell it either.

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

6. I tried to talk him out of it. Actually, I talked to him till I was \_\_\_\_\_ in the face, but he didn't change his mind.

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

7. They have to sell their property because their business has been in the \_\_\_\_\_ for six years. (Correct)(Incorrect)

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

8. Her flower garden is fantastic. She loves gardening and has a \_\_\_\_\_ thumb.

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

9. The idea came to him right out of the\_\_\_\_\_ when he was making coffee in the kitchen.

a)blue b)green c)red d)white

10. There was so much bureaucratic\_\_\_\_\_ tape that we did not get the required papers in time. a)blue b)green c)red d)white

11. Tom and Anna never quarrel. They see \_\_\_\_\_ on everything.

a)eye to eye b)face to face c)head to head d)nose to nose

12. It will be difficult for him to save \_\_\_\_\_ after such a terrible blunder.

a)body b)face c)hair d)head

13. Mike put his best \_\_\_\_\_ forward during his first meeting with Ella's parents.

a)arm b)foot c)hand d)leg

14. A bunch of teenagers got out of \_\_\_\_\_ and smashed several windows.

a)arm b)arms c)hand d)hands

15. He had to fight them because he had his \_\_\_\_\_ to the wall.

a)back b)body c)chest d)neck

16. She has a sweet \_\_\_\_\_. She eats a lot of sweets every day.

a) heart b)mouth c)tongue d)tooth

17. This is a difficult puzzle. I racked my \_\_\_\_\_for two hours, but I couldn't solve it.

a)brain b)head c)mind d)skull

**III Proverbs often give birth to idioms. After spotting idioms try to restore the proverbs they were derived from. Translate the following sentences into Russian.**

1. He seized with avidity upon the subject, which had for him all the charm of *forbidden fruit*.
2. I wouldn't be surprised if he understood Hedda better than anybody does. I think they're *birds of a feather*.
3. Politicians look on the cliché as *a friend in need*.
4. Come on, you know where's *the proof of the pudding*!
5. My uncle was a rich man – in other words, he *paid the piper*!
6. His father was a happy-go-lucky man, you might call him *Jack of all trades*.

**VI Try to translate the following sentences into Russian (mind national idioms).**

1. I just want to get the hell out of this black hole of Calcutta.
2. You can't stay an Uncle Tom when your people are fighting for their rights.
3. It looks like we have got another John Doe in this case.
4. Our Austin is a bit of a Jekyll and Hyde, and Dorina is afraid of him.
5. And there were three young couples in camp, also a Darby and Joan.

**V Translate the following sentences into Russian (mind idioms and collocations).**

1. Стивен ушел по-английски два года назад и с тех пор никто его не видел и не слышал от него весточки. 2. Актер не должен желать удачи перед выступлением, он должен сказать: «Ни пуха, ни пера». 3. Единственной ложкой дегтя является перемещение из/в Барбадос, так как никогда не знаешь, в какое время отправляется рейс. 4. Сейчас я растягиваю последние копейки, которые есть в кошельке, чтобы как-то сводить концы с концами. 5. Мадонна привыкла купаться в роскоши. 6. Поговаривают, что Бейонсе в интересном положении. 7. Кеша (Ke$ha) была круглолицей, когда была маленькой, вообще, она очевидно была гадким утенком.

8. *Грышка.* Бачыце, бацька, як нядобра, што вы зводзіцеся з суседзямі. Добра, я асмелюся падысці, толькі каб вы пагадзіліся з Ціхонам ды каб паслалі ад мяне сватоў к яго дачцэ Марысі.

*Ліпскі.* Д’ябал яго бяры! Няхай толькі ўладзіцца дзела, а я не адкажуся. Ідзі, прасі!

*Грышка з аднаго, а Пратасавіцкі з другога боку баязліва падыходзяць да стала, пры каторым Кручкоў, нібыта ўглыблены ў чытанне папераў, ды кладуць мяшок з грашыма; Грышка, моцна кашлянуўшы, кланяецца нізка станавому ды гаворыць*

*Грышка*. Найяснейшая карона! Мы – адвеку пінская шляхта і ты шляхціц. Не глумі ж, не пэцкай у балоце шляхецкай, братняе табе, крыві! Скасуй строгі твой дэкрэт, на сорам нашай ваколіцы пісаны, – паміры майго бацьку з Ціхонам, ствары мае і Марысі шчасце, а мы ўсе, цэлаю ваколіцай, век за цябе будзем Бога прасіць і век табе дзякаваць!

*Пісулькін*. І я вас прашу, ваша благародзіе, – пусць подадут міровую і канцы в воду.

*Кручкоў (да Пісулькіна, але моцна).* Харашо! Для вас это здзелаю, прыму грэх і ответ на себя... Ціхон Пратасавіцкі і Цюхай-Ліпскі! Падыдзіце сюды бліжэй. (Тыя падыходзяць, за ім і Грышка і Марыся.) Абніміцеся і пацалуйцеся на згоду, – ну, што ж? (Марыся свайго бацьку, а Грышка свайго патхаюцъ, каторыя потым абнімаюцца і цалуюцца з сабою.) Ціхон! На згоду каб быў крупнік\*.

*Ціхон*. Гатовы, найяснейшая карона! Схадзіце, жонка і Марыся, ды прынясіце, – хрэн вам у вочы. (*Куліна і Марыся ідуць у хату*.)

*\* Крупнікам завецца пітво, прыгатаванае на агні з гарэлкі і патакі з рознымі прыправамі.*