

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN SLANG IN XXI CENTURY

ОТЛИЧИТЕЛЬНЫЕ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ МОЛОДЕЖНОГО АНГЛИЙСКОГО И РУССКОГО СЛЕНГА В XXI ВЕКЕ

Nowadays, it is rather obvious that the youth use a special manner of speech. Lots of linguists studying this topic call it “slang”. The present paper defines slang, analyzes the slang history in the UK and Russia, notes the ways of slang development.

The **objective** of this work is to distinguish English and Russian slang of the youth.

1. Definition of the slang

Slang is a very informal, sometimes offensive language that is used especially by people belonging to a particular group, such as young people [4].

2. Main stages of slang development in Great Britain and Russia

Slang emerged in Great Britain earlier than in Russia. The greatest breakthrough in the development of English slang was given by the long process of new lands colonization [3]. In 1920s, there was a “quiet period” in the UK, while in Russia there were the Great October Revolution and the Russian Civil War, which radically changed the structure of society [1]. Between 1950s and 1990s, different subcultures began to appear on the streets of Great Britain and Russia [2]. It is rather obvious that computer technology and foreign languages influence the youth slang nowadays [6].

3. The factors affecting the slang usage in Great Britain and Russia

Modern culture. Fans often imitate the speech of celebrities and other well-known characters from movies, cartoons and video games [5]. **Foreign languages.** The main part of the youth Russian slang is borrowed from the English language [1]. On the other hand, the youth English slang is majorly affected by Romano-Germanic languages and Latin [3]. **Computer development.** Computer technology began to develop rapidly at the end of the twentieth century, and computers are widespread today [6]. **Educational institutions.** Pupils and students are a big part of the youth. They use slang while discussing educational topics [2].

Conclusion

All in all, we can say that the youth of Great Britain and Russia use slang for communication with each other in a more comfortable way. In addition, some common and different aspects of slang development in Great Britain and Russia can be spotted: the subcultures emerging in the 1970s and computer technology development starting in the 1990s are the main common reasons of slang development; the historical events in Great Britain and Russia caused the differences in the slang development of these countries. Moreover, the main factors making young people use slang expressions are modern culture, foreign languages, computer technologies, educational institutions. We can assume that the process of forming new slang words and expressions is irreversible and it will develop at a rapid pace.

References

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