consisted of 12 questions. All in all, 140 people from Belarus and abroad took part in our research.

The analysis of the survey depicted that most interviewees are bilingual and speak at least two languages. The most frequent language combination is the Russian or Belarussian Language and the English language.

It can be concluded that people learn at least one foreign language due to understanding the importance of learning foreign languages in a global world. Multilingualism can not only attract more tourists to Brest and improve its economy as a result but also make a positive contribution to all spheres of human life.

We would like to note that the modern world is full of diverse cultures and languages. Being monolingual is being at a cultural risk, facing barriers of misunderstanding among representatives of various cultures. If we want to understand representatives of other cultures better, must plunge into their cultures and core values. That, in turns, will help us to reflect on our own culture.

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## ADAPTING THE LANGUAGE TO COPE: INTERNET SLANG

### Адаптирование языка к условиям жизни: сетевой сленг

The objective of the item is to analyze the slang units of the English language, consider examples of Internet slang, and identify the main reasons for the appearance of Internet slang.

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, slang is 'language of a low or vulgar type' and 'the special vocabulary or phraseology of a particular calling or profession' [1]. It clearly reflects the attitude towards the slang.

According to British lexicographer Eric Partidge, there are several reasons for that [2, p. 453]. Firstly, it may be used by anyone regardless of age just for the fun of

the thing, for ease of social intercourse. Secondly, people simply want to be different and picturesque, to escape from cliches. Thirdly, to enrich the language, to reduce the excessive seriousness of conversation or a piece of writing. Nowadays it is certainly to be brief and concise, which is actuated by the modern pace of life.

Urgent need for brevity appeared in the early days of telecommunication the cost of a telegram depended on the number of words it contained. The advent of new technology plays an obvious and at the same time a significant role in working out new varieties of slang. Just as newspaper language was influenced by the size and shape of the page, so electronically mediated communications have been influenced by the available visual space into functional areas of gadget's screen. Brevity of expression is a must-have considering the competitiveness and constant rush of today's world, which is one more fact, responsible for the emergence of abbreviated conventions and styles.

The smaller the screen, the more people are forced to adapt, and the more they will use their linguistic ingenuity to cope. It took less than five years for the distinctive language of early texting to emerge, which was brought about by technology spreading language changes effectively. It has become an integral part of communication especially among youngsters, who were quick to pick up on and evolve the text-messaging style.

Rising value of consonants, as opposed to vowels, can be reckoned by the analysis of such items as THX ('thanks'), MSG ('message'), and XLNT ('excellent'). The use of letters, numerals, or other symbols to stand for whole syllables or words is common: 84 ('before'), CU1Br ('see you later'). Predictable word-sequences can be reduced to a series of initial letters, as with F Y used above ('for you'), SWDYT ('so what do you think'), and CWOT ('complete waste of time'). And several new forms have emerged, such as c% ('cool') and the use of emoticons and emojis [2, p. 454].

Taking into account the future of communication, including such spheres as media, technology, human resources, labour market, etc., it can be stated that huge innovations in communication production, transmission, and reception will be unavoidable. It will be seen how much of this information can be successfully adapted to suit individual technologies. We are to expect a whole new range of varieties and further constraints on language to emerge.

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