

In general, the firefighters and rescuers of the Republic of Belarus have good relations with the rescuers around the world. Moreover, if necessary, our detachments certified under the program of the International Advisory Group on Search and Rescue (INSARAG) go to other countries in order to participate in humanitarian activities.

In addition, the rescue departments of other countries send their detachments certified under this program. When Belarusian rescuers arrive with humanitarian aid or as part of a rescue action in any country where Russian or Belarusian is not used, they must use one common language for all, i.e. actually speak the same language, to understand each other absolutely and to work according to the same methods. This language, of course, is English, as the international language of various areas of business communication.

At the UCP of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Belarus, a foreign language is a special subject, the purpose of which is to prepare and enable us, as future specialists, to work with information in the foreign language, develop international contacts and activities, to use the foreign language in our practical future professional activities in order to improve our skills, exchange experience with foreign experts. In addition, the study and knowledge of the foreign language broadens our outlook, deepens the knowledge and increases the general level of culture of a specialist of the Ministry of Emergency Situations, which is extremely important for a modern professional.

<http://edoc.bseu.by/>

**A. Mikhalkevich**

**А.Ч. Михалкевич**

БрГУ им. А.С. Пушкина (Брест)

*Научный руководитель И. В. Повх*

## **LEGAL VOCABULARY IN J. ARCHER'S SHORT STORY *TRIAL AND ERROR***

### **Юридическая лексика в рассказе Дж. Арчера «Суд и ошибка»**

Jeffery Archer is one of the most popular modern English writers, an author of several plays and over twenty-five books for children and adults. A former politician, he had to wind up his political career as a result of conviction and imprisonment for fabrication and perverting the course of justice [2].

Crime and punishment is one of the central topics in J. Archer's prose, which makes it an abundant source of professional vocabulary for law students. Therefore, the primary objective of our research is to analyse the legal vocabulary presented in J. Archer's short story *Trial and Error* [1] with reference to their application fields.

The structure of the story is quite unusual, which makes it even more captivating. The story actually begins with the climax set in the courtroom, where the accused is waiting for

the jury to return a verdict. This part is filled in with court vocabulary, most of which belongs to the “people in court” semantic field (*jury, foreman of the jury, judge, barrister, clerk of the court*). Besides, the part in question includes lexical units denoting court places (*Crown Court, courtroom, jail, bench, bar*), processes (*trial, retrial, finding (not) guilty, reaching a verdict, charging*) and crimes (*murder*).

Before the foreman of the jury returns their verdict, the temporal plane of the story shifts to the past, offering the reader a retrospective view of the events that preceded the climax. Of interest to us here is a description of a legal workshop the protagonist attended at the start of his career. The issues covered at the workshop included various branches of law: Community Law, Commercial Law and Company Law. Another important scene abundant in professional vocabulary, namely that of company law, takes the reader to a company’s board meeting. Here we come across such words as *board meeting, agenda, shares, share allocation, chairperson, boardroom, proceedings, takeover bid, motion, transactions, accountants* etc.

As the plot unwinds, the reader is introduced to the scene of arrest, which also contains a lot of legal vocabulary including positions of police and legal officers (*policemen, custody officer, Chief Inspector, Sergeant, solicitor*), crimes (*assault, murder*) and places (*cell*), the investigation procedure (*process and submit evidence*), as well as collocations (*give / take a statement, to be remanded in custody, commit to trial, grant bail*) and prepositional phrases related to the topic (*to be under arrest, charge smb. with smth., to be on duty*).

The detailed description of the trial, which follows the scene of arrest, introduces the reader to its participants (*prosecution, defence, the accused, counsel, witness*) and their actions (*plead, question a witness, sum up*) as well as other topical vocabulary (*case, guilty, deliberations*).

Apart from legal vocabulary *per se*, J. Archer’s short story contains several vivid examples of English phraseology with one of the components being a legal term (e.g. *sober as a judge*).

All things considered, we come to the conclusion that J. Archer’s short story *Trial and Error* provides law students with a valuable source of legal vocabulary. The corpus of legal vocabulary presented in the story can be divided by the topic into several sections: court vocabulary, branches of law, company law vocabulary, arrest and investigations procedure, and phraseology.

## References

1. Archer, J. *Trial and Error* / J. Archer // *The collected Short Stories*. — New York : St. Martin’s Press, 2011. — P. 588–668.
2. Jeffrey Archer official website [Electronic resource]. — Mode of access : <https://www.jeffreyarcher.com>. — Date of access : 25. 10. 2022.