

# HOW COVID-19 QURANTINE CAN MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO STUDY ENGLISH

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**Abstract:**

*Previous epidemics are discussed from a linguistic and historical points of view. Useful tips are given on how to stay mentally and physically fit in our time and how to keep interested in learning English.*

**Keywords:** COVID-19 etymology, linguistics, epidemics, pandemic, plague, coronavirus-related slang words, neologisms, mental and physical health.

**Анотація:**

*Попередні епідемії проаналізовано з лінгвістичної та історичної точок зору. Наведено корисні поради щодо того, як підтримувати психічну та фізичну форму у наш час та як не втратити цікавість до вивчення англійської мови.*

**Ключові слова:** етимологія COVID-19, лінгвістика, епідемії, пандемія, чума, коронавірус, неологізми, психічне та фізичне здоров'я.

In my paper I will try not only to investigate the origin of the name COVID-19 and the corresponding coronavirus terms, but also to dive into the history to find out what epidemics were before, why they had the corresponding names in English. In addition, my goal is to introduce neologisms, i.e. new words and slang, which are caused by the emergence of a new virus. Undoubtedly, the English language, like any used language, like a living organism, is constantly evolving and replenished with new words, phrases, meets the challenges of society. Let's see how a simple study of such a topic can be useful not only in terms of language learning, but also in expanding horizons.

The way we live now, work and study, spend our leisure time, everything has changed significantly since 2020. The events of 2019-2020, in particular the emergence and spread of COVID-19 have led to dramatic changes around the world. To begin with, I propose to consider the etymology, i.e. the origin of the name. Since the virus was first detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019 and belongs to a large family of viruses that include SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19 and is derived from the Latin 'corona' and Greek 'κορώνη korōnē' (crown or wreath) because it has spines on its surface, and therefore has received an appropriate name.

On March 11, 2020, WHO declared COVID-19 a pandemic. It is worth investigating whether there were global pandemics before, how they were called, and their scale.[1] The Bubonic Plague first appeared in Europe in the 14th century. It took lives from 30% to 60% of Europe's population. The Slavic name of the disease is 'чума'. The special increase in lymph nodes (buboes) — the size of a lump is a distinctive feature of human plague. I want to draw your attention to the fact that in English it is called Bubonic Plague. But the word 'Plague' was used in the Old Testament to mean 'punishment' or 10 calamities that befell the Egyptians, when Pharaoh did not want to release the Israelis from slavery at the request of Moses.

It is interesting to learn that the modern terms 'quarantine' and 'isolation' are also associated with the Bubonic plague, which spread to Europe from Italy, where ships arrived from Asia and brought in addition to goods infected rats and fleas. Therefore, in order to limit the spread of the disease, the ships and their crews had to stay at sea for 40 days, i.e. in quarantine from the Italian 'quaranta giorni'. And if the infected were found, they, like all sick, had to be isolated on a separate island 'isola'.

It is worth remembering another epidemic, 'Spanish flu', which contracted 500 million people, or a third of the world's population in 1918-1920. So, what distinguishes an epidemic from a pandemic? Pandemic or epidemic: what's the difference? Let's understand what a pandemic is and how the coronavirus earned this

'honorable' status. An epidemic is the rapid spread of a disease to a large number of people in a given region in a short period of time. According to the WHO, a pandemic is an epidemic that spreads across international borders and, for the most part, affects large numbers of people. This term is used only for new infectious diseases.

New measures are recommended by the WHO to prevent the spread of the virus: social distancing, hand washing, disinfecting and mandatory face masks to reduce the spread of the disease. As you can see, many words in the Ukrainian language are now borrowed from English.

Do you know what the word of the year 2020 is? Collins Dictionary announced 'Lockdown' for its rapid growth in use during the pandemic: 250,000 against 4,000 in 2019.[2]

I would like to introduce some English neologisms and, coronavirus-related slang words as well as provide some advice on balancing the work/study, that for most of us is Teleworking or is based on using distance learning platforms — Zooming, and personal life — Work Life Balance.

Firstly, don't immerse into watching depressing news that covers rising morbidity or the economic downturn at night (No Doomscrolling!)

Secondly, even during the lockdown, have a good time: put on a scrub or mask on your face, take a bath, that is, turn Staycation into Coronacation or feel like a bartender and prepare an alcoholic cocktail Quarantini for a family or friends at the weekend (provided you are 18).

Thirdly, take care of your mood and fitness. Especially when you often experience skin irritation from the mask — Maskne or afraid of becoming a 'coach potato'. Undoubtedly, Biophilia — love for nature and all living things, will help you cope with all the troubles, because when we find ourselves in nature, we calm down and are filled with positive emotions, especially, when you get exercises to be 'fit as a fiddle'.

So, in conclusion, despite all the coronavirus challenges, I wish you to stay healthy, successful, inquisitive, proactive, creative and not be afraid to acquire new knowledge and share it with others.

Finally, I would also like to wish you to follow the pilots of international airlines not only in terms of high flights and salaries, but also in their attitude to learning English. Of course, many of you have the appropriate certificates, which confirm knowledge of English at the B2 level. Imagine, they have to pass the TOEFL international exam every two years to confirm their qualifications. So, I strongly recommend you to combine the pleasant with the useful: 'Education + Entertainment = Edutainment!'

Take care! Don't forget to greet people safely: 'Elbow bump!'

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