

AMERICANISMS IN MODERN ENGLISH

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Анотація

В роботі розкрито тему впливу американської англійської мови на сучасну англійську мову. Подано опис терміну «американізм». Також вказано американізми, які загрожують самотності англійської мови.

Ключові слова: американізми, англійська мова, самотність мови.

Abstract

The paper deals with the topic of influence of American English on modern English. The article defines the term "Americanism". Americanisms that threaten the identify of the English language are indicated too.

Keywords: Americanisms, English, language identity.

Introduction

For many years, the United States has been at the forefront of the international arena, dominating the economy, politics, and military forces relative to other countries. As the country moved toward success, American culture began to gradually influence global culture and permeate all walks of life: cuisine, music, literature, film, and language. From this came the beginning of a large number of neologisms and the spread of the English language throughout the world.

This was partly due to the popularity of American movies, music, and TV shows. That is, they became the reason for the emergence of Americanism - words or expressions from the American version of English.

Research results

Americanisms are found in the field of phonetics, spelling, grammar and vocabulary, and it is in the vocabulary that they are most noticeable. [1] Usually it do not have much influence on the basics of the English language - its grammatical structure and vocabulary, but there is not always a chance to translate and understand it correctly. Obviously, there are many more lexical differences. They relate mainly to the field of slang and to those words of normative language that mean purely American or purely British realities in the social, economic, political, technical and artistic spheres. The lexical differences of the American version are very large due to the numerous borrowings from Spanish and Native American languages, which were not present in British English.

Consider the differences between American English and British English, in particular, let's start with the vocabulary.

In British English there are such words as flat, elevator, line, sneakers, subway, closet, gasoline, block, lorry, chemist and many others. In the American version it will sound like apartment, lift, queue, trainers, underground, wardrobe, petrol, quarter, truck, drugstore respectively.

The American version of the English language has pronunciation rules that differ from the pronunciation rules in the British version. [2] American pronunciation is quite common both among the English themselves and among other nations learning English as a foreign language.

The main phonetic features of the American version of the English language are as follows.

1. When pronouncing [r], the language is slightly refracted, ie [r] in the American version is retroflexive.
2. [t] is vocalized between two vowels, one of which is unstressed, such as in "pity", "better", "city".
3. The phoneme [l] is represented only by a "dark" allophone, the "light" version of the phoneme does not appear even before vowels ("film", "look").
4. [sh] is vocalized in such words as "Asia", "version", "excursion", "Persia".

5. [h] often falls out in cases where it is in the unstressed syllable, but is pronounced and there is almost one equal scale and descending tone. This intonation model determines the entire sound structure of the American version. In the British version of the English language, many scales: descending and ascending, stepped and sliding.

American grammar is more simplified than British:

a) instead of the formula Present Perfect use Past Indefinite («They just left» instead «They have just left»; «The President addressed the nation» instead «The President has addressed the nation»).

b) omission of part of the passive infinitive in the construction "Complex Object" (He ordered the money (to be) withdrawn immediately - He demanded to withdraw money from the account immediately).

c) "economy" of words is manifested in the omission of should in additional additions.(They suggested that I (should) do it myself; It is important that they (should) correct this mistake).

In this case, the translator needs to be especially attentive to the context. To understand the meaning of a sentence, because the same sentence can have two meanings. (It is important that we do it regularly - It is important that we do it regularly) [3].

Conclusions

From this it can be concluded that the British and American versions of English have many differences in pronunciation and sound. American pronunciation is quite common among English and other English-speaking nations, as well as among those who use English as a foreign language. This was facilitated by the widespread use of American art and show business, as well as the personal contacts of people who are native speakers of different versions of English.

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