

SOME ROOTS OF LINGUISTIC VARIABILITY IN BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH

Through linguistic concepts, people tend to systematize their ideas about the surrounding world in their minds. So, individual differences in the way of living, everyday and social life of different societies lead to the formation of concepts and the creation of words, reflecting the originality and specificity of each linguistic community [1].

At the same time, the nationally specific features of a particular linguistic community are determined by prioritization. This is because some elements are most characteristic of a particular linguistic community. Still, in several cases, some concepts and categories are more important and have higher priority for the representatives of another culture. For example, in the British conceptual picture of the world, such concepts as tradition, monarchy, hierarchy, restraint, etc., come to the fore. Americans, in turn, value enthusiasm, democracy, confidence, money, time), etc.

A collection of keywords, i.e., priority, for a particular linguistic community, emphasizes the specific features of one's way of thinking and draws attention to the peculiarities of national culture.

However, language as a means of communication is associated with thinking and the society that once generated and has been using it. Any linguistic community exists only with the constant interaction of language and culture. As the custodian of the people's cultural values, the language forms the personality according to commonly accepted norms and traditions.

Like any culture with long and rich history, the British feature a sense of a strong link with their country's past. As a result, they demonstrate a commitment to tradition. This kind of conservatism invariably manifests itself in behavior.

Likewise, the British are known for their common sense, realism, and tolerance [3]. They avoid expressing strong emotions or feelings, preferring neutral vocabulary. The main thing for them is to remain courteous and impartial. This is the origin of such a feature of British speech behavior as vague phrases, subtle linguistic nuances, and slips in the prevention of conflict or direct response.

The British do not tend to show strong emotions in speech or use straightforward phrases that can hurt the feelings of an interlocutor. This quality, referred to in the works of various linguists as "suppression," is traditionally opposed to the American one - "exaggeration."

The new conditions of existence radically changed the British colonists' life values and attitudes. They contributed to forming a unique national culture - American, which embodied the features of the most diverse peoples. The constant struggle with nature and the indigenous population of North America has led to the creation and cultivation of the idea of a strong personality, intelligent, pragmatic, courageous, hardworking, persistent, confident in oneself and one's future (namely, in the expected material well-being). It is all about the doctrine of American individualism.

All these features of the American character and type of thinking find expression in American speech and explain its differences from the British.

So, the speech is more mobile and emotional, with a preference for straightforward expression thoughts, exaggeration, and hyperbole as means of influence.

Due to their openness and freedom from tradition, the Americans significantly expanded their vocabulary through borrowings and neologisms

[2]. Widely used methods of word formation include conversion, word composition, and abbreviation. In spelling, Americans prefer simplified forms.

Thus, using the example of the British and American variants of the English language, one can trace how the change in social-and-geographical conditions affects the conceptual and linguistic picture of the world of the speakers of the same language, contributing to the formation of a new ethnic group. Knowledge of the specific features of the British and American types of speech behavior, reflecting the peculiarities of the worldview and national culture, will help overcome the difficulties that arise in intercultural communication situations.

References

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