

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN PROGRAMMING

In today's world, multilingualism is becoming more and more important. In addition to opening up employment opportunities, being able to speak a foreign language helps to make a real connection with people and to know more about diverse cultures, places and lifestyles.

Nevertheless, the results of the poll conducted by some fellow students of mine reveal the fact that this postulate is still not that obvious for a number of students [2]. Let me try to explain why I personally think that you just have to know English to simplify your life and work.

First of all, all programming languages are based on the English language, so speaking the language will be of great help in terms of studying any new technology. Moreover, not all professional books are translated from English into Russian. And even if you're lucky to come across a Russian translation of some valuable books, due to the rapid technological development they are most likely to be outdated. This will result in lagging behind the technology.

Then, the largest IT companies, such as *Microsoft, Google, Apple* etc., are based in the USA. With the English language proficiency it would be easier for you to build up a career in one of them, as you'll be a valuable specialist on the world's labour market.

Also, there's no doubt that any programmer faces with some challenges while coding. Definitely, the first addressee they turn to, in search for a sound advice, is the world wide web. No need to say how beneficial English is in this search as it is currently the language of the internet. An estimated number of 565 million people use the internet every day and about 52% of the world's most visited websites are displayed in English [1]. Therefore, learning this

language gives access to over half the content of the internet, which might not be available otherwise.

I am really surprised that some people really think that knowing English language will not give them any advantage in IT sphere. Actually, you do not really need a proficiency level to understand professional literature or some foreign speakers. Intermediate or upper-intermediate would be quite enough. But a much bigger problem is that you need to know professional vocabulary. Fortunately, due to the development of technology it is quite easy to improve your English skills, you can use a great number of mobile apps and e-dictionaries to learn professional English. Though traditional paper books shouldn't be forgotten. It is a good idea to study such books as *English for Information Technology (Pearson Longman)* or *Basic English for Computing (Oxford)*. For deeper learning you can use such books as *Infotech English for Computer Users* or *Oxford English for Computing*.

I can't but mention that learning a foreign language enhances your cognitive and analytical abilities. Learning a new language can be difficult and it involves a lot of mental exercises. Research from a 2019 Swiss Study [3] shows that learning a new language changes the brain structures, impacting the parts of the brain responsible for memory, conscious thought and it can make you more creative. In the long term, bilingualism can keep the brain strong and healthy into old age and supports concentration and memory skills. On an individual level, it improves personality and increases sense of self-worth.

In simple words, learning a foreign language not only broadens the horizon, provides numerous benefits to a person, but also makes the brain stronger and more versatile, which is very important for representatives of any professional sphere, and of course, IT sphere.

References

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