

Linguacultural Approach to the Study of Youth Slang

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Annotation. The purpose of this study is to systematize the linguistic characteristics of this subsystem of the English language, using the linguoculturological approach to the study of the lexical composition of youth slang, to identify structural and functional features that reflect the specifics of the worldview of its speakers and are fully manifested in the language of modern journalism, focused on youth audience.

Keywords: cultural and historical era, social dialects, nature of language units, youth slang, functional features.

The modern cultural and historical era is a mobile system that includes many subcultural formations (professional, territorial, status, etc.), each of which has its own specific vocabulary (slang, jargon, slang). English literary speech at the beginning of the 21st century is actively influenced by social dialects. This trend can also be traced in a significant increase in the use of stylistically reduced elements of speech on the pages of the printed media, including the widespread use of youth slang.

The vocabulary of the English language, in comparison with other language levels, is known to be subject to the greatest changes, which is associated with the social nature of language units. Among the vocabulary, in turn, the most mobile is youth slang, reflecting the age, psychological, status characteristics of the younger generation. Its functional features are clearly seen in the texts of modern media.

Our research interest in the study of this linguistic phenomenon on the material of modern youth newspapers and magazines is also explained by the fact that journalistic texts, on the one hand, reflect the speech practice of the younger generation as a native speaker, and on the other hand, have a strong influence on the formation of an active vocabulary of society. All of the above determines the relevance of this study.

A large number of works are devoted to the study of the language of young people from the point of view of the social differentiation of its speakers (O.E. Androsova, X. Walter, B.N. Golovin, V.I. Karasik, L.P. Krysin, V.M. Mokienko, Y. Shinkorenko and others).

In recent years, interest in the problem of lexicographic description of slang has sharply increased (A.V. Petrov, I.G. Prikhodko, O.V. Tsibizova, etc.), which led to the emergence of a large number of dictionaries, both printed (M.A. Grachev, V. M. Mokienko, V. S. Elistratov, O. P. Ermakova, E. A. Zenskaya, R. I. Rozina, V. M. Mokienko, T. G. Nikitina, etc.) and existing only in electronic form on the global Internet.

However, it should be noted that, despite such a large number of multilateral studies in the field of jargons and youth slang in particular, there are still issues that require further study. To date, among linguists there is no complete unity in the definition of the terms "social dialect", "slang",

"youth slang". An analysis of modern dictionaries and publications in the print media shows that data on lexical content and word-formation models require constant clarification, which is due to the very nature of youth slang. In the 2000s, it acquires the status of one of the most significant sources of replenishment of the vocabulary of the English language. The youth subculture is not "closed", and, accordingly, slang units, understandable to a wide range of people who are not part of this subculture, interact with other subsystems of the language, become commonly used, and over time, some of them enter the literary language. Therefore, the word "turtleneck", which appeared in the early 70s among the youth, denoting a tight-fitting sweater, is now no longer perceived as slang and is commonly used.

In view of the actual anthropological nature of modern linguistics, we see the expediency of referring to youth slang from the point of view of cultural linguistics. The problem of modeling the world through language goes back to the concept of a linguistic personality, which expresses "the idea of the specific use of units of the general language system of a language by an individual" (Karaulov 1987: 13).

When understanding speech behavior "not so much as a part of behavior in general, but as an image of a person, made up of the ways in which he uses the language in relation to the real circumstances of his life" (Vinokur 1993: 16), the use of an integrated approach to the study of youth slang will allow us to recreate the linguistic picture of the modern world. carrier of youth slang, to identify new trends in the youth environment.

And so the study revealed in a comprehensive presentation of modern youth slang, considered from the point of view of its semantic and word-formation parameters; in describing its main lexico-semantic fields and identifying on this basis the basic cultural units that determine the linguistic and speech characteristics of youth slang. Procedures for selecting elements of youth slang in the language system implemented in modern mass media have been developed, the features of its functioning in the mass media language have been identified, and a typology of youth slang units has been presented, taking into account their linguistic and extralinguistic (linguoculturological) characteristics.

Reference

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