

## **DIALECTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

English is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. It is the native language for 380 million people, and about 1.5 billion more speak English as a foreign language. As a result, there are a lot of variants of English and its dialects.

Many scholars have paid attention to the study of dialects, namely L. G. Verba and Y. P. Kostiuchenko. In their works they covered the issues of peculiarities of English dialects in different periods. Various aspects of the territorial variation of the English language in Great Britain have been studied by such linguists as M. M. Makovsky, D. A. Shakhbagova, O. I. Luzhanitsa, A. Ellis, R. Quirk, R. Makdevid, P. Tragill, D. Crystal, A. Schweitzer, and others.

The purpose of the article is to identify the characteristic features of the British English and its dialects, to show their main linguistic differences.

Dialect is a local variety of a national language spoken by a part of the nation that is united by a territorial community. Local dialects have their own grammatical structure which is close to the national language, the basic vocabulary, and some phonetic features [1, p. 7].

The language of the United Kingdom is very diverse and varied. The modern literary English language consists of the dialects of the territories that are now part of the United Kingdom. The dialects of English are systematized on the basis of a regional criterion according to the geographical zones of the south and the north, which can be divided into specific sub-zones.

Modern linguists distinguish 11 main dialects and about 180 accents of the English language. So, the main English dialects include:

1. Posh English
2. Welsh English
3. Scottish English
4. Liverpool English
5. Cockney English
6. Irish English
7. American English
8. Southern US English
9. NY English
10. Australian English
11. Canadian English [2].

In this article we want to focus on the term ‘territorial dialect’ which is a type of the language characterized by relative unity of the system (phonetic, grammatical, lexical) and is used as a means of direct communication in a team located in a certain limited territory. A characteristic feature of a territorial dialect is its relative structural closeness. This type of the national language is a means of people’s communication who are united by a common territory, material and spiritual culture, historical and cultural traditions [3, p. 74].

For decades, the Cockney dialect was despised and considered a stylistic feature of the working and lower classes. The Cockney dialect is characterized by a special

pronunciation, irregular speech, and rhyming slang. There are about 150 phrases that can be instantly recognized by any of the users of rhyming slang. The most commonly used terms in rhyming slang are: 'apples and pears' – stairs, 'baked bean' – Queen, 'bread and honey' – money, 'plates of meat' – feet, 'skin and blister' – sister, 'tomfoolery' – jewellery [4].

The Scottish dialect (Scottish English). According to A. Aitken: 'Scottish English is a bipolar linguistic continuum, with Broad Scots at the one end and Scottish Standard English at the other one. Broad Scots is typically, but not always, spoken by working-class people, while Scottish Standard English is typically spoken by educated middle-class people' [5].

The Liverpool dialect is difficult to understand not only for foreigners but also for native English speakers. It is characterized by rough nasal tones and fast ascending and descending tones. The dialect also has its own vocabulary and grammar. Some examples of Liverpool dialect words: 'bevvy' – alcoholic drink, bezzy – best friend, crimbo – Christmas, scran – food, made up – happy.

The aristocratic dialect (Posh English, also known as 'RP' (received pronunciation) and 'the Queen's English') is a characteristic of the upper classes and is considered a prestigious variant of pronunciation. It is characterized by clarity and purity, all sounds are pronounced clearly and slowly. This dialect is widely used in the media and educational institutions, but it is not widely used by ordinary British people in everyday life. In the early 21st century, the American philologist Peter Tragill conducted a study in which he found that only 3-5% of the population of the British population use the aristocratic dialect in everyday life [7, p. 65].

Canadian English combines elements of both British and American English, as well as some unique Canadian features. A popular expression in Canada is 'Eh!' – a universal exclamation that is considered a universal exclamation that is considered to be a symbol of Canada. 'Eh!' replaces such words as 'what?', 'hey', 'hi', 'nice' for Canadian 'well done'. 'Eh!' can also be used at the end of questions like 'isn't it?' [6].

Australian English is a set of varieties of English spoken in Australia. Australian English is rich in abbreviations, such as 'bikkie' for 'biscuit' and 'truckie' for 'truckdriver' [7, p. 66].

Thus, a territorial dialect is a type of language used in a geographically limited linguistic area and differs from the standard variant by the presence of certain phonological, lexical and grammatical features. Modern English is the result of a long historical development. All changes in its sound, grammatical and lexical composition occurred due to the internal laws of its development and external influences caused by the history of the English people. But the modern state of the language is not final, because humanity does not stand still. The language will develop simultaneously with the development of mankind.

## REFERENCES

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