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English as a World Language

Nowadays English is considered to be an international language. It is used as a national, public and official literary language in many countries. English is widely spoken in the world, more than French, German, Spanish, Russian and Arabic, used as means of international communication.

Today, knowledge of English nowadays is necessary for many people. It is an official language in nineteen countries, for example, South Africa, Ireland and many others. English is the second official language in the former British and American colonies, particularly in Canada (along with French). English is taught as a foreign language in more than 100 countries including China, Russia, Germany, Spain, Egypt and Brazil. In most countries, it is taught in schools as a foreign language.

The structure of the English language is rather simple in comparison with that of some other world languages. Throughout the history of its development, it is constantly replenished by borrowings from other languages as a result of trade, political, economic and social contacts.

In the last few years, English has acquired the status of a «global language» as it is used in different spheres of human activity all over the world. English is the main language of international communication in such areas as science, technology, business. It is the language of literature, education, contemporary music, international tourism. English is the main language in diplomacy, it is one of the official languages of the United Nations, UNESCO, the official and working language of many international meetings of organizations such as NATO. It is the only working language of the European Free Trade Association EFTA [1, 2].

Today, the world language situation is radically changing. A lot of people travel around the world and communicate with each other; the professional of an interpreter is becoming very popular; and there is a need for a broader development of bilingualism. As an international language, English is no longer tied to a particular culture or nation. The development of the English language in the world is less and less determined by the people for whom it is a native language.

In the modern world, the English language acts as an instrument for intercultural communication. This is due to the fact that for a long time the English language tends to borrow words from other languages. In connection with a large number of New Englishes appeared in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Caribbean, within the UK (Ireland, Scotland, Wales), as well as in India, Sri Lanka and other countries the process of nativization intensified. Under nativization we mean the process of language change under the influence of local languages [3]. This is accompanied by the formation of new variants of the English language and change the forms and structures of the so-called «standard» English. Sometimes new variants of the English language are considered to be some kinds of dialects. However, unlike dialects that exist at the regional level and have thousands of users, the new language variants exist at the international level and have millions of users.

Литература

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