

Романова М.А., Королева К.И.

*Научный руководитель: старший преподаватель А.Р. Лебедев
Муромский институт (филиал) федерального государственного образовательного
учреждения высшего образования «Владимирский государственный университет
имени Александра Григорьевича и Николая Григорьевича Столетовых»
602264, г. Муром, Владимирская обл., ул. Орловская, 23
E-mail: marina-romanova-95@mail.ru*

Linguistic Features of Lyrics of Songs by English-Speaking Indie Rock Bands

Many believe that modern songs have a bad influence on our perception of language norms because their lyrics often include slang, violation of grammatical norms and even profanities. Previously it was believed that only in such a musical genre as rap the wrong language prevails. But recently there has been a tendency to deviate from linguistic norms in lyrics of songs of other musical genres, including indie rock.

Lyrics of songs of the American group R. E. M. and the British group The Smiths, which were formed in the 1980's and gave rise to indie-rock, were taken for analysis. Also, lyrics of songs of modern music artists were analyzed: the American band Imagine Dragons (founded in 2008) and the British band Arctic Monkeys (founded in 2002).

The following features were detected:

1) eye dialect:

- I don't wanna (=want to) hang out now. (R.E.M. "All the Right Friends");
- Coulda (=could have) shaped heartaches. (Arctic Monkeys "R U mine?");
- Cos (=because) I always do. (Arctic Monkeys "Do I wanna know?");
- Crawl'n' back to you. (Arctic Monkeys "Do I wanna know?")

2) contraction, shortening:

- I'ma (=I am going to) say all the words inside my head. (Imagine Dragons "Believer");
- Dreaming 'bout (=about) being a big star. (Imagine Dragons "Thunder");

3) skipping personal pronouns at the beginning of sentences:

- Beat on me. (R.E.M. "All the Right Friends");
- Had to lose my way. (Imagine Dragons "Roots");
- Been wondering if your heart's still open. (Arctic Monkeys "Do I wanna know?")

4) omitting the predicate or its part:

- Silence screaming over your words. (Imagine Dragons "Start over");
- Everybody hoping they could be the one. (Imagine Dragons "Whatever it takes")

5) incorrect use of tenses:

- Now I'm smiling from the stage while you were clapping in the nose bleeds. (Imagine Dragons "Thunder");

- You took me to the restaurant where we first met. (R.E.M. "The Outsiders")

From the analysis, it can be concluded that despite the fact that indie rock is a special genre of music which "generally presents more complex reflections about the world and thus usually contains poetically more challenging expressions of meaning" [1] the tendency of its change is noticeable. Performers use more colloquial forms and simpler lexical constructions, so we can say that nowadays indie rock is not an isolated genre of music as before and is becoming closer to the masses.

Литература

1. Words and Music. Ed. V. Kennedy, M. Gadpaille. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013. - pp. 78-79.