

COMPARATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF BRITISH, AMERICAN, CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN ENGLISH

English, like most other languages in the world, has many different dialects. This is due to the fact that a large number of native speakers during the periods of English colonization left their homes and began to communicate in a foreign land with representatives of other languages and language groups. As a result, their English changed and became very different from British English. This is how numerous dialects appeared, including American English, Canadian English and others.

At the present stage of the development of the English language, one cannot but take into account the fact that schoolchildren come into contact with American, Canadian and other variants of English almost every day, watch American films, listen to American music, and read labels on American-made products and goods. The global computer network “Internet”, as well as correspondence with American peers, contributes to the language practice. Of course, there are differences between the version of the language that we encounter in practice and the one that we learn at school. Therefore, we must be competent in distinguishing between variants of the English language.

The aim of the study is to identify the main differences between British, American, Canadian and Australian English.

The object of the research is American, British, Canadian and Australian English.

The subject of our research is the phonetic, lexical and grammatical features of American, British, Canadian and Australian English.

Taking into account the peculiarities of territorial settlement, as well as factors of a political, economic, socio-cultural nature, almost all scientists and researchers in Canada are of the opinion that in terms of phonetics, vocabulary and spelling, the Canadian version of the English language occupies an intermediate position between the British (“Oxford”) and American. [1] But mostly the type of pronunciation that is called General American prevails. The territory of distribution of Canadian English is declared “an area in which there is no clear differentiation, where the features of the variants mixed”.

Differences between Canadian, American, Australian and British English include differences in phonetics, vocabulary, grammar and spelling.

Vocabulary. In terms of vocabulary, Canadian English is much closer to American than to British, although the uniqueness of Canadian English lies in the fact that Canadians use some words from British and some from American. For example, look at the different variations of words in each of these four versions of the English language: [2,] [3]

Русский	Canadian	American	British	Australian
Квартира	apartment	apartment	flat	unit
Банкомат	Bank machine	ATM	Cash dispenser	ATM
Автостоянка	parkade	parking lot	car park	parking lot
Туалет	washroom	restroom	Lavatory or loo	loo
Тротуар	sidewalk	sidewalk	pavement	footpath
Автозаправочная станция	gas station	gas station	petrol station	servo
Печенье	cookie	cookie	biscuit	bickie
Первый этаж	main floor	first floor	ground floor	ground floor
Первый класс школы	grade one	first grade	first form	first grade
Конфета	candy	candy	sweet	lolly
Футбол	soccer	soccer	football	footy
Лифт	elevator	elevator	lift	lift

Canadian English has a whole lexical array that is exclusively Canadian "production". Examples: "*fog-eater*" indicates a rainbow that is in a diffusing haze; "*Steel man*" meaning a man building a railroad; "*Salt fishing*" means fishing when it is salted on board the boat.

Writing words. A number of features of Canadian English are associated with the spelling of individual words. In the whole English-speaking world, in principle, there is a single system of spelling and punctuation with two particular subsystems. One of them reveals an orientation towards the British spelling (which is used in all English-speaking countries except the USA) with the use of specific forms for a small number of words: favor, center, leveled etc. [5] Another subsystem is American: favor, center, leveled etc.

Canada mainly uses the British sub-system, with the only difference that some publishers follow the rules of the American sub-system, while others mix American and British spellings. [3], [4], [5]

Canadian	American	British	Australian
colour, centre, traveller, cheque, grey, globalization	color, center, traveler, check, gray, globalization	colour, centre, traveller, cheque, grey, globalisation	colour, centre, traveller, cheque, grey, globalisation
tire, airplane, organize, curb	tire, airplane, organize, curb	tyre, aeroplane, organise, kerb	tyre, aeroplane, organise, kerb

The spelling of many English words is virtually the same in terms of spelling from their Australian counterparts, which is not the case for American English.

We found out that everyone knows that American English is perhaps the most widely spoken language in the world today. It is the main language of communication in the Americas, Central America and Canada. American English has become the language of the largest transnational business. It is used by 80% of people in the world. And despite the fact that there is a lot of controversy about which language is "correct": British or American, both of them certainly have a right to exist.

After analyzing all of the above, we can conclude that American English, British English, Canadian English and Australian English are just variants of the same English language. There are more similarities than differences between them, especially where educated people speak or the language of science is used. The reason for most of the contradictions is the peculiarities of the historical and cultural development of countries, as well as the influence of the media and advertising.

REFERENCES

1. Murphy R. English Grammar in Use. Cambridge University press, 1994.
2. Longman. Dictionary of Contemporary English. Pearson Education Limited, 2003.
3. <https://preply.com/blog/2014/12/09/grammaticheskie-razlichiya-amerikanskogo-i-britanskogo-anglijskogo/>
4. <https://www.translationdirectory.com/article1051.htm>
5. <https://insiderguides.com.au/essential-aussie-slang-international-students/>