

London's Blue Plaques are the oldest of their kind in the world. Plaques add interest to the local built environment, and help local residents and visitors to understand the history and character of the city. Behind every plaque is a story. From the creative output of international composers to the campaigns for women's rights.

These great people have distinguished themselves in the world of politics, business, science, literature, art, music, theatre and film. Commemorative plaques form a link between these outstanding earlier residents and the buildings of London. They instruct and entertain, they bring the past into the present, and they perpetuate their memory, making buildings their own biographers, and are a source of local pride. Plaques also mark buildings of significant historical or architectural note, informing us of their history or contribution to the built environment, they can help protect buildings. We tried to step in England history and we think that it is only the beginning.

The previous activities can help us stimulate our interest in creating such plaques in our town. We think that it is a great way to inspire children to pick up information about famous people in Zhabinka. Bringing children to the treasures of Belarusian history is an important element in the formation of a patriotic citizen, a person who feels his belonging to his native culture, his native city, his country.

We also made the quiz "How well do we know Londoners with blue plaques?" to find out how well you know famous former residents of London.

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Учащ. М. Т. Коган

Науч. рук. О.А. Захарова, учитель английского языка
(ГУО «Гимназия № 3 г. Витебска имени А.С. Пушкина»)

THE STUDY OF SLANG AS PART OF SPOKEN ENGLISH ON THE BASIS OF A SITCOM "FRIENDS"

Key words: slang units, movies, idiom, classification of slang, main purposes, sources of information and learning, expression of feelings, slang formation, the notion of slang, spoken English.

The relevance of the chosen topic is that young British and American people use lots of words that you usually cannot find in most dictionaries. These extremely informal words and expressions are known as 'slang'. It is not possible to make a complete list of modern slang: by the time the list had finished, it would have been out of date! New words come and go like fashion.

Problematic: not knowing the spoken language is considered to be a gap and omission in learning a certain language, which leads to limitation in their vocabulary, and, consequently, to the inability to understand native speakers who use slang in their speech.

The main purpose of the research is to find some optimal ways of studying all aspects related to the phenomenon of ‘slang’ using the evolution of the English language, as well as modern technologies (multimedia, music, modern literature), to investigate the ways of slang formation, to find out the effect of slang on the language of movies, its main purposes and functions.

The object: spoken English in the form of slang, its forms and analogues. **The subject:** methods of using slang, translating it, forming it, using it, perceiving and interpreting it.

Research Methods: studying and systematizing the theoretical material on the topic; defining the notion slang; tracing the origin and sources of slang; singling out the classification of slang, its forms and characteristics; analyzing the use of slang; describing the results of the investigation.

The structure of this course paper is as follows. Part 1 reviews general information about the definition of the word ‘slang’ from different points of views in science, the formation and sources of slang words, the history of the origin of slang, classification of slang. Part 2 shows that English has evolved a lot. The main influence on the language has Internet slang. We explain and introduce some life hacks how to learn slang. The final part summarizes the results of our study and spells all the information out in details.

The theoretical basis of the study was based on the works of both Russian and foreign authors. In our research we relied on the works of the following authors: T.M. Belyaeva, E.M. Beregovskaya, I.R. Galperin, A.D. Schweitzer, Flexner S.B.. The practical value of the work lies in the possibility of using research results in the practice of learning English with the help of sitcoms and films full of slang terms.

What is slang?

Slang is an informal part of speech that creates the effect of novelty, unusualness, difference from generally recognized samples, reflects a certain mood of the speaker, and gives the statement specificity, liveliness, expressiveness, brevity, imagery.

How is slang created?

Over the past couple of decades, many slang words have come from three specific sources: popular music, politics, and the Internet.

Classification of slang

a) Internet slang, movie slang;

Internet slang (Internet language, Internet Short-hand, leet, netspeak or chatspeak) is a type of slang that Internet users have popularized, and in many cases, have coined. (Hey,Joey. Hey, buddy! – Hello, Joey. Hello, my friend. So, how'd it go? – How did it go? / How was it?)

b) Slang of army, police (Stripey – Sergeant, Green/Bleeds green – a keen soldier);

Military slang is an array of colloquial terminology used commonly by military personnel, including slang which is unique to or originates with the armed forces.

c) Money slang (big ben – ten pounds (J10) the sum, and a ten-pound note – cockney rhyming slang; boodle – money);

So, slang is seen as a conscious, deliberate use of elements of the literary standard in colloquial speech for purely stylistic purposes: to create the effect of novelty, unusualness, difference from generally recognized samples; to reflect a certain mood of the speaker; to give the statement specificity, liveliness, expressiveness, brevity, imagery.

Practical significance of slang. The use of slang units in movies.

While studying the practical significance of slang the following sources have been analyzed – American movies (a sitcom “Friends”). The analysis of this source has been aimed at displaying the most typical examples and situations where slang can be revealed and how it can be applied. This source contains a lot of slang expressions, which are very hard to understand if someone does not know slang at all.

The dialogues of “Friends” are full of modern expressions, phrasal verbs, idioms, proverbs; numerals which greatly help us learn modern English. Watching at least one episode we noted plenty of these units. To encourage those students who are really into learning the English language and try to broaden their horizons we offered students of a high school to translate a dialogue, full of slang phrases, without using dictionaries and a translator focusing only on the context of this dialogue and their knowledge and then made a conclusion. We also created an educational vocabulary game «A Slang Country» which aims at introducing English learners with new slang words and teaching them following the main rules.

After studying and analyzing the students' translations the meaning of the rest of the words did not differ much from initial meaning; very often the words were translated synonymously with those that were the main translation. We conducted a survey interviewing 52 children aged 15 till 17 about what they know about slang. In their opinion, slang is a group of words, the so-called ‘style’ of communication in modern society, a kind of ‘language’ that is used by various groups of people, mostly by teenagers,

singers, actors in movies. This ‘language’ replaces a usual boring word with more interesting and emotionally colored words or combinations. Teenagers use it on Twitter, Instagram for greeting, for immediate expression of their feelings and emotions.

In our opinion, the study of slang is gaining relevance in the context of expanding international contacts; helps better understand the national-specific features of the mentality of English-speaking people. Knowledge of slang introduces students to the natural language environment, contributes to the development of their communicative competence. Ignorance of slang leads to various kinds of curiosities and speech errors, communicative “failures”, the prevention of which must be given special attention.

We achieved the aim of this paper and are able to explain the phenomenon of ‘slang’ using the evolution of the English language, investigated the ways of slang formation, found out the effect of slang on the language of movies and its main purposes and functions. We also focused on modern movie that constantly uses slang as a reflection of development of the English language and state that learning slang vocabulary in the series “Friends” helped us establish its active functioning in the speech of heroes. We noted the coloring of English slang, with lots of phrasal verbs, informal contractions, slang expressions which make the language livelier and interesting; helps express our thoughts more colorfully and accurately.

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