

ENGLISH INTERNET SLANG AND TEENAGE SLANG: HOW THEY ARE INTERCONNECTED

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Network slang is the jargon we use when communicating over computer networks, chiefly through the Internet [1, p.22]. Web jargon became popular with the development of social networks and gaming platforms. Some people use slang for fun and some even in real life. Facebook, Instagram and other social networks have not only entered our lives, but they have also changed our habits, daily routine and, of course, language.

Web slang and its trends are constantly changing. According to research, the main reason for using network jargon is to facilitate communication and typing. This saves time and increases reading speed.

For this reason, the world has received a huge number of abbreviations that replace common phrases. The second very significant factor in communication on the Internet is the abundance of terms borrowed or derived from English words and expressions [1, p.21].

TL;DR - «too long; didn't read», то есть «не прочитал, слишком длинно».

ASAP - от англ. As soon as possible, «быстро, настолько, насколько это возможно», «как можно быстрее».

ИМНО или ИМХО - от англ. In my humble opinion, «по моему скромному мнению».

LOL - аббревиатура выражения «laughing out loud», что буквально переводится как «смеяться во все горло». В русском языке есть аналог «ржу не могу».

OMG - аббревиатура выражения «Oh, my God!». Означает высшую степень удивления и восхищения.

FYI - от англ. For your information, «к вашему сведению»[3].

How does social media slang affect the Russian language?

If Lev Tolstoy were alive, he would be an excellent blogger. Many of his diary entries are accompanied by the characteristic ЕБЖ which means если буду жив (if I'm alive). Of course, we have long ago left Lev Nikolaevich behind. The frantic pace of life and the stormy communication in social networks and messengers force us to shorten the commonly used concepts in correspondence: пожалуйста, - пжлст, спасибо - спс, как мне кажется - кмк, конечно – кнч.

Are these contractions killing our speaking and writing literacy?

It is almost impossible to do without abbreviations in messengers. For a person with a large vocabulary, there is nothing wrong with them. If necessary, he will be able to write a worthy text and correctly present it. It's like two different styles, two genres. And it's not bad at all to possess both. Shakespeare also wrote dramas and comedies. Today's correspondence in WhatsApp and Viber often looks like a comedy, but it doesn't affect the purity of speech. This is just one of the facets of our rich language.

Some linguists even believe that correspondence in social networks and messengers develops the epistolary genre, teaches people to express their thoughts. Moreover, they do their best to express ideas as competently as possible, otherwise they will be laughed at, as this is a public platform.

Essentially, what is a blog? This is an essay, a vivid statement of thoughts, the conclusion of the author. And the abbreviations in the message, experts say, are harmless if they are understandable to those to whom this text is addressed. Meanwhile, even a few years ago, experts said that this network literacy would kill the great and mighty. It will not kill, as practice shows. The language itself knows what to accept and what to leave as unnecessary over time.

How do adults react to youth slang?

Teenage slang annoys some parents and teachers, frightens others, making it difficult to understand what the children are talking about. In an effort to communicate with the children in the same language, some parents ask them to use "normal" speech, others themselves master the youth jargon. Some adults are comfortable with slang. And even if they themselves do not communicate in it, they perfectly understand the meaning of buzzwords and react to them adequately.

What we call "youth slang" originates in age groups ranging from 12 to 25 years, reflecting the mood and hobbies of these groups, philologists clarify. That is why it is changing rapidly, like everyone else at this age. Some words are forgotten, new ones are invented. Teenage slang at least partially originates from personal communication in schools, colleges, camps, etc.

Practical psychologists believe that it is useful for parents to understand youth slang for educational purposes. The vocabulary of a teenager is an unmistakable indicator of what is on his mind, what he lives through and enjoys.

Many parents worry that their children's tongue is clogged, but this is not a problem. Language is a reflection of the communication environment, so children shouldn't be kept in a vacuum for the sake of its purity. In addition, most of the words quickly become outdated and disappear. The only thing that can be advised to parents who stand up for the purity of speech is to monitor their own vocabulary. Many adults do not even notice how many modern verbal neoplasms they are using in their own speech. And the child takes over from them.

The active vocabulary of a teenager depends on what he is currently busy with and passionate about, it shows his attitude to the world around him and his priorities. Belonging to a certain environment can be determined by the style of the child's correspondence in social networks. The use of certain Internet jargon is a kind of fashion, showing that the one who uses it belongs to a certain circle.

Youth slang is like a foreign language. And knowing it does not mean forgetting your own. For example, I switch to slang when communicating in my company, and at home I speak a normal language with my parents.

In terms of the number of borrowings, slang is really similar to a foreign language. Knowing the origin of a particular new word, it is easy to understand what it means. Runet, for example, borrowing vocabulary from networks, processes and russifies most of it with the help of word formation elements of the native language. For example, «агриться» — от angry (сердитый — англ.) или «яблофон» вместо «айфон». At one time, when the public was actively discussing the GLONASS satellite, the verb «глонассить» came into vogue («глонассить» means «заметать следы»). Now it has practically disappeared from speech, but the borrowing «лайфхак» ("life hack" (уловка, маленькая хитрость), which appeared at about the same time, has taken root and to this day it is with us. Such English words such as "light" «лайтовый» (легкий) и "trash" (nonsense, unpleasant confusion) «трэш» (ерунда, неприятная неразбериха) are still in use.

Where did all come from?

At the dawn of the Internet, only IT people, whose vocabulary came from English for technical reasons, communicated on the Web [1, p.19]. They operated on terms, reducing them to save time and space. They needed to share information, but strove for brevity. It was they who gave birth to the "bird" network language, known today to every Internet user. And the young people from among the emigrants, having started to communicate with each other on the Web, supplemented the vocabulary of programmers with colloquial words. It is clear that the Russian language of an emigrant is not ideal in itself: something has been forgotten or replaced by foreign borrowings. To simplify spelling, Russian-speaking citizens abroad added Russian prefixes and suffixes to English words - «шеймить» (стыдить- shame), «гамать» (играть- gamble, game), «полукай» (посмотри-look) and so on. Having splashed out on the Web, all of it became network newspeak. According to experts, slang has its own benefits, and neither children nor adults can do without some verbal borrowings or neoplasms.

Any slang is a way to distinguish insiders from outsiders [4]. For example, English borrowings are supported by hipsters who gravitate towards the Western lifestyle. They track the novelties of English-language slang and "domesticate" them with the help of Russian prefixes and suffixes. Other subcultures invent new formations based on Russian words or bring borrowings from other languages.

You can get rid of slang only in complete isolation from society. Sooner or later children outgrow teenage slang, but it will certainly be replaced by professional slang or related to a certain social group. And the main thing that grown-ups can do is to encourage children to read books and make sure that slang communication with peers does not interfere with the development of a competent native speech.

Conclusion:

Declare your home "Pure Speech Territory".

Live by the motto: "I come home - no jargon".

Encourage children to read.

Remember:

Each new day brings a new short-lived jargon.

Each classic read brings a great many beautiful and timeless words.

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