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Youth slang and ways of its formation

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Abstract

Youth slang is a social phenomenon widespread in speech of modern people. This article discusses the study of youth slang origin and its popularity among young people, as well as evidence of the rooting of youth slang in everyday life.

Keywords: slang, linguistic environment, etymology, jargon, subculture, lexicon, phonetic mimicry, society.

The language of young people is one of the integral parts of the process of language development. Young people play an important role in modification of speech, due to them our vocabulary is replenished and becomes more foreign.

Since slang serves as a modifier, the study of this material is interesting, we can even say necessary, because this kind of manner of conversation is presented not only in social groups of young people, but also on pages of Newspapers and magazines. Therefore, this problem should be comprehensively studied not only by philologists, but also psychologists, together with sociologists, students and the wise experienced adult generation.

Like all students, we attend special courses and various electives, i.e. we operate in a favorable linguistic environment. But at the same time, we use youth slang in the circle of friends and family. Perhaps we even know slang better than our native Russian language. Is it true? Maybe we should stop using newfangled words? Does slang give our language a "clean breath of air"?

Currently, there are numerous disputes among linguists about the etymology of the word "slang". Many scientists argue that the word "slang" has a complex etymology. The Russian linguist Galperin writes that slang is the same as jargon or a set of jargon constituting a layer of colloquial vocabulary that reflects a rough-familiar or humorous attitude to the subject of speech [1]. The meaning of the word "slang" can be found in various dictionaries. The "large modern explanatory dictionary of the Russian language" gives the following definition "slang - a set of words and expressions used by representatives of certain groups, professions that make up the layer of colloquial vocabulary that does not meet the norms of the literary language" [2]. Based on a variety of definitions, slang can be characterized from completely different angles.

In Russian linguistics, there is such a thing as "jargon". According to Knyazev's dictionary, "jargon" is a kind of speech used mainly in oral communication by a separate relatively stable social group uniting people on the basis of their profession, position in society, interests or age [3]. There is a question: "what is the difference between slang and jargon?". As a rule, jargon is a language system that requires special knowledge from a person. Interestingly, in the world there were several "secret languages" - jargons. Here are the most interesting examples:

1) Hobo. This secret language appeared in America in the early XX century. This language originated from the fact that most Americans during the great depression were bad to vagrants. Hobo-signs left by vagrants on buildings warned their brethren about danger. This language was graphic because most people did not possess literacy.

2) Parlache. This youth slang language originated in Colombia in the 1980s. With the help of this language drug dealers encrypted their illegal actions. Basically, Parlache included borrowed words endowed with new semantics. For example, the word "oficina" (office) began to mean "drug mafia" [4].

The jargon could be understood only by "dedicated". This is the main difference between jargon and slang. Slang is a language system that consists of words understandable to a wide range of people and the second difference is that slang is most often intended for the social lower classes, and jargon – for the upper classes, i.e. slang is focused on the younger generation and on socially close people (friends, relatives), and jargon – on the contrary, is focused on the adult generation and socially strangers (for example, colleagues).

The dual social position of young people (between adults and children) leads to the formation of subcultures, where equal young people gather by age, status, social status, occupation, etc. Here young people have the opportunity on the one hand to self-realization and, on the other hand, to create their own language. Youth slang is used among the representatives of subcultures, and young people not belonging to subcultures.

Russian youth slang is a linguistic phenomenon, the existence of which is limited not only by certain age, but also by social, temporal and space framework. It also changes from generation to generation.

Youth slang is a lexicon on the phonetic and grammatical basis of the national language and is characterized by colloquial and sometimes rudely familiar color.

Most often, slang can be heard from the lips of young people. The functions of youth slang are different: someone wants to stand out from the crowd, someone on the contrary, not to be understood by outsiders, and others seek to keep up with fashion trends.

In Russia youth slang has appeared relatively recently. It has become an interesting phenomenon for Russian boys and girls. Zaykovskaya [Path position of the lexical structure of contemporary youth jargon, *ran, in-t Rus.yaz.*, 1993, p. 20] describes several stages of youth slang development in the USSR and modern Russia:

1) The stage of forgetfulness of classic Russian language and the introduction of the revolutionary vocabulary of the criminal genre (the period of the First world war).

2) The phase of homelessness and fatherlessness associated with the Second world war. The youth slang was caused by the lack of proper education – homelessness (the fathers of the majority of population of our country didn't return from the war).

3) Stage of the 50s. The emergence of fashionistas. It is from this stage, as Zaykovskaya mentions, the positive impact of slang on the younger generation starts. At this stage there were such words as: "Dude" (the person entering a narrow circle of persons), "hut" (apartment), "to style" (to dance, imitating foreign dances), etc. [5]

4) The Stage of the 60s-70s. Hippie rule. As we know, hippies fought for nature and peace in the world, but few people know that their buzzwords are still in use among young people.

5) Stage of perestroika and collapse of the USSR. During this period, all moral and ethical foundations collapsed. Language began to degrade. At this time, were popular words such as "tusovka" (party), "Putana" (woman of easy virtue), "greens" (drugs) etc.

6) Stage, which lasts from the beginning of the 2000s to the present day. The most widely known words of our time: "sidekick" (friend), "dvizhuha" (event), "ava" (a photo of a person or a picture exhibited in a social network), etc. [7].

The ways and means of forming youth slang are varied, but they all boil down to adapting the word to reality and making it suitable for use among young people. Let's name some of the ways of slang formation: 1) tracing paper (full borrowing); 2) half-calque (borrowing basis); 3) translation; 4) phonetic mimicry.

The development of youth speech is extensive. Youth slang primarily shows the level of development of society at the present time. Naturally, now it is filled with words that do not meet the standards of the Russian language.

Slang was and will be present in life of young people. The question of the pros or cons of slang will always remain controversial, because it can neither be banned nor eliminated. If slang completely changes human everyday speech - it's bad, but now it's hard to imagine teenagers and

young people without their signature "phrases". However, slang does not always have a negative impact on our lives that it can revive our speech and make it a little more creative and original.

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