

names are in the languages spoken by other ethnic groups (*“La Scala” – Italian; “Ronin” – Japanese; “Kebab” – Turkish etc.*).

Taken together, these studies show that the language space of the territory of Belarus and Quebec forms a sort of linguistic confrontation between the state languages within these territories and the languages spoken by other ethnic groups including English as the language of our concern.

**Conclusion.** Summing up the results of our research, we may conclude that the bilingual situation in the given countries is developing in circumstances where one language dominates and another one is suppressed. In the case of the francophone province of Quebec the English language is either replaced by the dominant language or simply have to francicize its trademarks.

Taking into account names of catering establishments in Belarus we may conclude that the government doesn't take serious measures in order to uphold bilingualism policies in comparison to Quebec. There all efforts are made to defend the status of French as the primary language in Quebec which is not the case with the Russian and Belarusian languages.

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## THE MAJOR PRINCIPLES OF WORD FORMATION IN AMERICAN STUDENT SLANG

**G. Azarchenko**

VSU named after P.M. Masherov, Vitebsk, Belarus

One of the most “problematic” and insufficiently investigated lexical layers is slang. According to the definition given in Cambridge dictionary, slang is very informal language that is usually spoken rather than written, used especially by particular groups of people [8]. In comparison with other English speaking countries, slang is more widespread in the USA. E. Partridge points out that, unlike Englishmen, Americans are more conducive to slang: it is more common for American educated citizens' speech than British ones' [2]. One of the ways of American English vocabulary enlargement is student slang that exists in the language since the very moment of universities and other educational institutions appearance.

It should be noted that modern American college slang differs from traditional one. It is extremely mobile, however its leading function remains the same – it is emotionally expressive [3].

The aim of the research is to describe American student slang in terms of its system of word formation.

**Material and methods.** Building on “NTC’S dictionary of American slang and colloquial expressions” by R. Spears, “American College Slang: for International Students” by A. Gillett, the materials of SlangSite Online dictionary, we have studied the most common expressions of American college slang. We have identified the major ways of their word formation and compared them with the word formation models of American slang words as a whole. In the article the comparative method, the descriptive method, the continuous sampling method and the method of the analysis and synthesis of information have been carried out.

**Results and their discussion.** To begin with, American student slang is a theoretical term, for almost every USA college has its own distinctive lexicon. However, even within the same university there is a variety of youth subcultures and this fact is also reflected in the language. There are “*joks*” (young people, interested in sports), “*motor heads*” (car enthusiasts), “*intellectuals*”, “*freaks*”, “*populars*” (socially active), “*normals*” (the bulk), the “*nobodies*” (uncommunicative), etc. Observational series show, that college slang reflects issues, being important for students (personality appraisal, descriptions of food, parties, relationships, intoxication, etc.) [3].

We have carried out the comparative analysis of the major word formation principles of American slang words as a whole with American college slang in particular, taking into account K. Tambovtseva’s conception [5]. The researcher identifies the following ways of word formation in the American youth slang vocabulary:

1. Phonological way of word formation (onomatopoeia). Onomatopoeic words can’t express any emotions, but they are very specific imitations of the natural sounds of objects, creatures and situations. The analysis shows such examples of onomatopoeic slang words in the American student slang as: *blah-blah* – a chatter; *buzz* – a call on the telephone; *boo-bird* – a person who boos frequently at games or other public events; *bow-wow* – a dog; *hush-hush* – secret, etc.

2. Semantic way of word formation that changes the semantics of existing words (a stretch of language, the restriction of the word meaning, metonymy and metaphor). Accordingly, *to hit the books* means to start studying hard before exams; *underwater basket weaving* – a college course that is totally useless or very easy; *Barbie doll* – a pretty girl; *black and white* – the police (a black and white police patrol car); *to have a tiger by the tail* – to become associated with something powerful and potentially dangerous, etc.

3. Morphological way is one of the most common ways of American college slang word formation. It includes the following types:

a) composition which is performed by joining two or more bases into a compound word: e.g. *bromance* (brother and romance); *froyo* – frozen yogurt; *whatdycallem* – what do you call them; *fantabulous* – great;

b) metathesis (the rearranging of sounds or syllables). It's observed in such variations as: «back slang» (*reeb* – beer, *nam* – man, *nird* – drink), «centre slang» (*geke* – geek, *Ilkem* – milk), «rhyming slang» (*tin plate* – mate, *cat-soup* – ketchup), etc. However, such expressions are not widely represented in American college slang, unlike the ones, preserving the rhyme within a word: *hoity-toity* – pretentiously self-important; *classy-chassy*; *fancy-schmancy*;

c) affixation, i.e. the formation of new words by attaching a certain affix to the stem: the attaching of prefixes, that is though untypical of American student slang (e.g. *to pregame* – to get together to drink before going to a sports game; *overdose*), suffixes (*airish* – chilly), affixoids (-aholic, -omatic, -orama, etc.): *shopaholic*, *workaholic*, *foodaholic*, *jogomatik*, *geekorama*, etc. It should be noted that suffixation is a common way of American student slang word formation. Furthermore, the suffixes of literary American English are generally used, but their set is more limited here. The most common ones are: -ed (*blissed* – in a state of emotional bliss; *campused* – restricted to the campus), -ie (*sweetie*; *alkie* – alcohol; *aggie college* – agricultural college; *baddie*; *bunkie* – roommate), -er (*all-nighter* – an event that lasts all night; *baby-kisser* – politician; *blinkers* – eyes; *a slacker* – one who does not work hard), etc. According to E. Rubanova's opinion, some suffixes of foreign growth are used, one of the most widespread of them is the suffix -o (e.g. *weirdo* – a loser; *crisco*, *chubbo* – a fat person). There are also suffixes that do not change the meaning of the word they are attached to (“splinters”) [3]: e.g. *buckage* – money, *bookage*, *workage*, *rainage*, *understandage*, etc;

d) abbreviations that are used to save time and space in spoken and written language. They are formed from the first letters of the words of a phrase. The examples are the following: *BNOC* (“big name on campus”) – a student that is the chair of a society or involved in student politics; *AFAIK* – as far as I know; *NARP* (“non-athletic regular person”) – someone who is not involved in any sport, specifically inside campus life; *GPA killer* – a very difficult course that is likely to give a student a poor grade and thereby lower their GPA); *Ames* – “an American Studies class”; *PoliSci* – political science; *biochem* – a Biological Chemistry class –, etc. Two more types of abbreviation, typical of American college slang are apocope – the truncation of the final part of a lexical unit (*bro* – brother, *app* – application, *fam* – family, *to dis* – to treat someone with disrespect, *champ* – a champion, etc.) and aphaeresis – the truncation of the initial part of a lexeme (*'bout*, *'cause*,

*burb* – a suburb, *za* – pizza, etc.). It should be noted that American students are used to writing SMS on the Internet, often replacing full words or their parts with digits: *4 ever* – forever, *2* – to, etc. Besides, so-called “blends” may be easily found in American college slang [6]: *huney* – huge and puny; *fugly* – fat and ugly, etc.

**Conclusion.** It has been revealed, that one of the most common ways of word formation in American student slang is a morphological one, in particular, composition, suffixation (such suffixes as: *-er*, *-ed*, *-ie*, *-age*, etc.) and abbreviations (including apocope and blends). Our study has shown that student slang is a productive lexical layer of American English and it certainly requires further investigation.

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## ONLINE TRANSLATORS AS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF WORKING WITH ENGLISH TEXTS

**V. Borodinchik**

Orsha college VSU named after P.M. Masherov, Orsha, Belarus

The English language has become an essential part of our life. More and more people are learning English. This process means translating from one language into another one. For this purpose we usually use a bilingual dictionary. But modern generation has a growing tendency to use online translators. They are convenient as if you have access to the Internet translation takes little time. Moreover, online-translators give a chance to translate not only separate words but the whole passages from books,