

Секція
"СТАТУС ВЕРБАЛЬНИХ ТА НЕВЕРБАЛЬНИХ ЕЛЕМЕНТІВ У
ІНТРАЛІНГВІСТИЧНОМУ ТА ІНТЕРЛІНГВІСТИЧНОМУ ВЕКТОРАХ"

ARTICULATION PECULIARITIES OF THE CANADIAN ENGLISH SPEECH

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Nowadays English is the official language of a lot of countries, Great Britain, the United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand are among them. Moreover, approximately 1,6 billion people all over the world (nearly one-third of the world's population) speak English, although English is the native language for 380 million people. It is difficult to judge the positive and negative points of the globalization of English, but we should accept the fact that the history of mankind has no language that is so wide-spread and popular as English.

Each territorial variant of the English language is not only a spatial projection, but the projection of the social, cultural and historical realities as well. The right evaluation of these factors may show the complexity and originality of the linguistic situation in Canada, where there is a mixture of two different linguistic systems. The confusion of languages is a major factor of linguistic changes in this country. English, being an offspring of Britain, began to acquire other linguistic features while entering a new and unfamiliar context – environmental, cultural, linguistic.

Nowadays the knowledge of English is of primary importance for every person who is eager to reach a success in his or her career. But to be successful in cross-cultural interaction one should also know the differences between different varieties of English. That is why the problems that are considered in this project are urgent ones.

That is why the actuality of the research consists in the detailed description of the main phonological features of the Canadian English language and its similarities and differences with the British English and the variety spoken in the United States of America.

The aim of the research is to specify the characteristic phonological features of Canadian English to examine historical preconditions of the formation of the Canadian English language, to highlight the key articulation peculiarities and their background in different regions of Canada.

Canadian variety of the English language was formed under the influence of several waves of immigration. The most significant were the influence of the Loyalists from the Thirteen Colonies and the influence of the British immigrants. Nevertheless the latest immigrations of political refugees from different countries have left a remarkable trace on the Canadian English language.

The development of Canadian English was happening under the influence of many factors. American and British settlers who lived on the territory of Canada spoke various dialects, that is why the process of formation of a literary language was rather complicated. Although British English influenced the Canadian variety of the English language greatly, due to the geographical proximity of the United States of America American English had more significant impact on Canadian one. Because of such peculiarities of development of the Canadian English language nowadays it contains the features of both Englishes. The use of them varies regionally. Canadian speech in general is much the same as that of the Northern dialect area of the United States, particularly in its use of /æ/ in *dance*, *class*, and the like and in its strong final and preconsonantal /r/. But it also has many Midland American features, many British features, and some features of its own. The peculiar Canadian phenomenon of speech is Canadian Raising.

The immigration of people from different parts of the world, mostly from Great Britain, Ireland and the United States of America became the main reason of differences in pronunciation in particular parts of the country. Newfoundland English for instance is a descendent of the Irish English language. British Columbia is home to a very diverse population. In this region the intonation of Dutch and Mennonite German have influenced local English [1, 261]. The phonological system of many older speakers of Newfoundland English shares a number of features with varieties spoken in Irish-settled communities of the southern Avalon peninsula, as well as parts of Ireland [2, 244-245].

So modern realities of the Canadian English language are the result of the different waves of immigrations to the territory of Canada. But nowadays the process of globalization inevitably begins to influence the way the Canadians speak. And in our opinion the result of such a trend will be that the various and different standard Englishes that exist in Canada will someday be superseded by an accent that is somehow neutral with respect to all of them.

1. Chambers, J.K. 'English: Canadian varieties.' // *Language in Canada*, ed. John Edwards. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998. P. 252-272.
2. Matthews, William. "Sailors' Pronunciation in the Second Half of the Seventeenth Century". – *Anglia*, 1935. – p. 390.