ENGLISH BORROWINGS ARE ALL AROUND US

АНГЛИЦИЗМЫ ВОКРУГ НАС

Foreign words in any language are common things. In the process of studying English I often pay attention to the abundance of English words in the Russian language. Why are there so many of them? It happens because language is a living organism, which changes and develops together with the development of the civilization. And any novelty in the world makes people look for a new word in their language. And in most cases that word later gets a global acceptance as a universal name of a certain thing.

Thus the object of my research is English borrowings in the Russian language. The subject is the spread of these borrowings among population. The aim is to find out the reasons for borrowings; to identify the positive and negative impact of them on our language.

The main reason of emergence of English borrowings in Russian is the leading role of the UK and the USA in the world economy, politics and culture. Therefore English has already become the major language for international communication.

All borrowings can be divided into three groups.

1) Words borrowed from English because of the lack of equivalents in the Russian language. First of all they are:
   a) Words related to the IT and social networks – Internet, traffic, browser, smartphone, display, notebook, screenshot, site, login, user, hacker, gamer, click.
   b) Names of household appliances and food items – microwave oven, toaster, blender/hot-dog, cheeseburger, cocktail, pancake, chips, jam.
   c) Sporting terms, the names of kinds of sports – bowling, diving, fitness.
   d) Business terms: leasing, sponsor, manager, speaker, marketing, PR.

2) Words that have synonyms in Russian language. Music, Cinema, Mass-media we have – playlist, hit, poster, make-up, talk-show, security.

3) Words which imitates the way of life of American and British youth. The words of everyday life – go, party, poker face, battle, respect, boy-friend.

The advantages and drawbacks of borrowings in modern speech.

Advantages: Usage of foreign words and expressive terms diversifies and beautifies our language, makes it more expressive and interesting.

Drawbacks:
   1) Our speech can "drown" in a huge number of borrowings and lose its roots and essence.
2) Excessive usage of slang leads to a loss of interest to the native language and culture.

In conclusion I’d like to say that the fast-paced process of borrowing of English words in many cases is natural and can be justified: in some spheres of our life borrowings are just necessary. It should be remembered that not borrowings themselves can be unwelcomed, but their inaccurate and incorrect usage.

References


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HOW WE CAN EXPAND CONVERSATIONS

ПУТИ РАСШИРЕНИЯ РАЗГОВОРА

To continue conversation interculturally is not always easy, as we do not know each other well or might not know enough about our countries. I really like to talk with people from various cultural backgrounds but sometimes I am puzzled how to continue communication especially with people who I meet for the first time.