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IN THE CONTEXT
OF THE INTERACTION OF
LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

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AMERICAN VS UKRAINIAN STUDENTS’ SLANG

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Slang has received much attention from linguists and language teachers all over the world. There are undoubtedly problems involved in its uncertain, scattered nature and the difficulty of establishing it as a linguistic category. There is the fact that it is of little productive value for non-native speakers or for natives using in formal settings. Nevertheless, and however it is defined, slang is a language phenomenon which engages the attention of students, and one which, it could be said, shouts for our attention, gets into the life of the university and school students. We hear it when we observe the communication of the students in the informal surrounding and as the results we lecturers try to solve and analyze that mysterious language. [1, p. 5-17]

I have been researching slang in my articles for nearly 5 years now and I must admit that linguists who have compiled authentic slang dictionaries have done a tremendous work.

The study of slang has received considerable attention from scholars in the USA. At the same time, specialists in the UK have also examined related features of young people’s communications, group solidarity. It was done in that way so students didn’t realize that the linguists were after the slang expressions and therefore tried to preserve the usual surrounding. [2]

In this short survey I would like to demonstrate the slang of the university students in the comparison with the Ukrainian one. My research was not that
authentic as the foreign one because I have simply asked my students at university to provide me with some new slang expressions except vulgarisms.

**Comparative table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Ukrainian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Intoxication by drink or drugs</td>
<td>hammered, langered, bladdered, rat-arsed</td>
<td>Свиня, синяк, алкай, алконают, нарік, торчок, накидається, напаяний</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Terms of approbation</td>
<td>don, dope, det, safe, wick, fit, top, mint</td>
<td>Чіна, красава, горнячок</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Insults and terms denoting misfits</td>
<td>flid, minger, moose, smurf, swamp-donkey</td>
<td>Неадекват, додик</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Terms of disapproval/disappointment</td>
<td>cheesy, grievous, pussy, rank</td>
<td>«конечна», пісец</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Greetings, farewells and exclamations</td>
<td>easy, seen, yo, laters</td>
<td>Здарова, ку, добрий вечір, хайшкі, бонжур</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Social or ethnic categorisations</td>
<td>Bud-bud, bachelorette, arm-candy, catalogue man</td>
<td>Хвостік, каблук, тряпка, баклажан</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Relaxation</td>
<td>chillin', vegging (out), hanging, gazing</td>
<td>Чілить, на тусу</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Money</td>
<td>trust, squids, lookah, brassic. moolah</td>
<td>Бабки, капуста, леська, сковорода, лаве, рекси, бабосіки, бачі, чірік, полтос</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Negative or unsettling states</td>
<td>gutted, weirding, married alive</td>
<td>Прикурил, кислий</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Anger or excited states</td>
<td>fanny-fit, (chuck a) hissy, throw a bennie</td>
<td>Чьо такий нарізаний, багриться, чаморний, чьо ты стартуєш</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Food</td>
<td>scran, cane, Chicken McButtock</td>
<td>Хавчик, жярчака</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This survey may be called artificial because of the way how the slang lexemes were collected. Despite this problem, students collaborated with me and in the process of authentic interaction such material was gathered. The important thing must be mentioned about the Ukrainian slang that it contains
some Russian expressions which are called ‘surzhyk’. It is not only the slang issue; it is the pest that infects the Ukrainian language though it is a completely another discussion.

References:


LEXICAL-SEMANTIC FEATURES OF IRISH BORROWINGS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE OF IRELAND

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Linguistic and cultural contact between native Anglo-Saxon and Celtic cultures is notable for its duration and intensity. The interaction resulted in transformations at all levels of both language systems, whereby the English language acquired unique features that were influenced by the Irish language.

As a result of Britain’s long colonization policy, English functions as the language of politics, culture, religion and economy despite the status of Irish as a state language. The contact between the two linguo-cultural systems was not homogeneous. We distinguish four periods during which the system of the English language in Ireland was transforming in order to correspond with the needs of the language speakers. Borrowings used for describing geographical elements, household items, food and drinks, domestic animals were introduced into English for the purpose of assimilation of English-speaking population to new environment. Thus, not only words or expressions were borrowed, but also concepts, which are necessary for the perception of the surrounding reality [3]. The semantic aspect of borrowed units is characterized by the preservation of their semantic structure, which