

PRINCIPAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH

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Resume:

The research investigates historical stages of the origin of American variant of English and deals with the principal differences between two variants of the English language, particularly British and American. The article presents a detailed description of the distinctive features of pronunciation, vocabulary, orthography, and grammar of the two most widely used variants of English with examples on each peculiarity. The authors analyze the reasons of the differences appearance considering historical aspects of the USA development. A particular attention is paid to vocabulary, as it is the most demonstrative aspect of differences in the American and British variants of English. In the research, the authors mention the reasons, causing those differences, particularly change of the word meaning in the language of the USA, introduction of the words in the USA defining some phenomena, concepts, items, etc., which differ from the corresponding words in the English language in England, penetration of borrowings, words of no-English origin, etc. The article substantiates that both American and British English are just two variants of one language though with significant specificities. The research also presents examples of misunderstanding, caused by peculiarities of vocabulary use in the studied varieties of English. Anyway, it is stressed that both variants belong to the integral language body and their differences are actually neutralized by the majority of similarities, which significantly dominate. Nevertheless, someone persists on the principality of the American variant, arguing that it is simple, widely used, and modern. On the contrary, the followers of the British variant of English accuse it as an inaccurate superficiality in the language use. Both ideas deserve to exist and are partially correct. However, the works supply arguments for primary studying the British variant of English as it is rich, elegant and authentic. Having mastered it, afterwards it is possible to learn the bright, changeable, simple, and full of slang variant, i.e. American English, or another exotic variant.

Key words:

grammar; vocabulary; spelling; pronunciation; British English; American English.

Анотація:

Опир Мар'яна, Панчишин Світлана, Добровольська Світлана. Основні відмінності між британським та американським варіантами англійської мови.

У статті розглянуто основні історичні етапи розвитку американського варіанту англійської мови та відмінності між двома варіантами останньої, а саме – британським і американським. Представлено детальний опис визначальних особливостей вимови, лексики, орфографії та граматики двох найпоширеніших варіантів англійської мови з прикладами їх використання. Проаналізовано причини появи відмінностей, з урахуванням історичних аспектів розвитку США. Особливу увагу приділено лексиці, оскільки вона є найбільш показовим аспектом відмінностей між американським і британським варіантами англійської мови. У дослідженні з'ясовано причини, що зумовлюють ці відмінності, зокрема зміна значення слова в мові США, проникнення запозичень, введення в США слів, що позначають деякі явища, поняття, предмети та ін., але мають інше значення ніж в Англії тощо. Обґрунтовано, що американський та англійський варіанти англійської мови – це два варіанти однієї мови, хоча із суттєвими відмінностями. Наведено приклади можливого непорозуміння, спричиненого особливостями використання певних слів у досліджуваних варіантах англійської мови. Підкреслено, що в будь-якому разі обидва варіанти належать до цілісного мовного тіла, а їх відмінності насправді нейтралізуються значною кількістю подібностей, які суттєво домінують. Між тим, дехто наполягає на пануванні американського варіанту, твердючи, що він простий, широко вживаний і сучасний. Натомість прихильники британського варіанту звинувачують перших у неточному та поверховому вживанні мови. Обидві ідеї мають право на існування і частково правильні. Однак у роботі наведено аргументи на користь першочергового вивчення британського варіанту англійської мови як насиченого, елегантного, автентичного. Опанувавши його, згодом можна вивчити яскраву, мінливу, просту й насичену сленгом американську англійську або інший екзотичний варіант.

Ключові слова:

граматика; лексика; орфографія; вимова; британський варіант англійської мови; американський варіант англійської мови.

Аннотация:

Опыр Марьяна, Панчишин Светлана, Добровольская Светлана. Основные различия между британским и американским вариантами английского языка.

В статье рассматриваются основные исторические этапы развития американского английского и различия между двумя вариантами английского языка – британским и американским. Представлено подробное описание определяющих особенностей произношения, лексики, орфографии и грамматики двух самых распространенных вариантов английского языка с примерами их использования. Проанализированы причины появления различий, с учетом исторических аспектов развития США. Особое внимание уделено лексике, поскольку это наиболее показательный аспект различий американского и британского вариантов английского языка. В исследовании названы причины, вызывающие эти различия, в частности, изменение значения слова в языке США, проникновение заимствований, введение в США слов, определяющих некоторые явления, понятия, предметы и т. д., которые имеют иное значение в Англии. В статье обосновано, что американский и английский варианты английского языка – это два варианта одного языка, хотя и со значительными отличиями. Приведены примеры возможного недоразумения, вызванного особенностями использования определенных слов в исследуемых вариантах английского языка. Подчеркивается, что в любом случае оба варианта принадлежат к единому языковому телу и их различия фактически нейтрализуются большинством сходств, которые существенно доминируют. Тем не менее, кто-то настаивает на превосходстве американского варианта, утверждая, что он прост, современен и широко используется. Напротив, приверженцы британского варианта обвиняют его в неточном и поверхностном использовании языка. Обе идеи заслуживают внимания и частично верны. Однако в работе приведены аргументы в пользу первоочередного изучения британского варианта английского языка как богатого, элегантного, аутентичного. Освоив его, впоследствии можно выучить яркий, изменчивый, простой и наполненный сленгом американский английский или другой экзотический вариант.

Ключевые слова:

грамматика; лексика; орфография; произношение; британский вариант английского языка; американский вариант английского языка.

A language of each country is a part of its culture. Nowadays, English is declared as the language of international communication. It is spoken and written by hundreds millions of people of different nationalities (e.g. only India publishes almost 3000 newspapers in English). It is the language of modern business, science, business correspondence, information technologies and, of course, communication. English is the most studied language in the world, and its impact in the world is so great that it can influence not only vocabulary, but also linguistic content of other languages. Thus, currently more than a billion of people in the world speak or try to learn English. The English-centrism contributes to wide spreading of the English language in the modern world. The wealth of its vocabulary (almost 600 000 words, according to the data of the Oxford dictionary, without consideration of the specific technical vocabulary) and a great share of international notions (almost 200 000 words) are the important reasons for English spreading in the world.

The American variant of English has appeared to be a more successful opponent of British English due to some reasons. One of them is that American English is more clear and correct in terms of speech. It is because settlers, being people from different places of Britain, appeared together in the new and risky conditions and were forced to refuse dialect differences and preserve only such language aspects, which were common for all of them. The interesting fact is that being a modernized variant of English, the language of Americans still preserves obvious features of English of the 16-17th century, which are considered as archaic by modern English population, and those which disappeared in the 18th century. The differences between American and British variants of English were more critical at the beginning of the current century. However, afterwards, due to mass media, primarily television, those differences have become smooth. Almost 70% of English-speakers live of the territory of the USA. Thus, that variant of the language is getting dominating in the process of learning English as a foreign language. In the 20th century, expansion of English was much fueled by America. During that period, the differences between English in the USA and English in Great Britain were discussed both in specific linguistic and popular literature. Until nowadays, discussions on what variant of English should be considered as a "standard" and whether American English can be considered an independent language, separate from British English, are still in progress. All those fact argue the necessity and timeliness of the research.

English and American people speak one language, but use it in a different way. In fact, sometimes they even face misunderstanding, but it is not the reason to state that British and American variants of English are

so much different, that Englishmen do not understand Americans completely. In fact, American English is much more widely spread than its primary source. It is crucially different from the classic British version, whereas not to the extent to be an absolutely new one. However, differences can be found in all aspects: grammar, pronunciation, vocabulary.

Problem setting. The peculiarities of English in the USA provoke interests of numerous linguists. For a long time, most printed English-speaking editions have been focused on the British variant of English. However, considering the intensive development of tourism, professional internship training, exchange of information, periodical editions, literature or products of cinematography, television, advertising, the linguists often face the inconsistencies referring to the common British vocabulary [17, p. 23].

Nowadays, in the field of education, the British variant is mostly studied. Thus, it forces the necessity to compare those two variants of the English language, determining the timeliness of the chosen topic.

Task setting. The aim of the research is to consider the specificity of lexical and grammar peculiarities of the American variant of English, comparing to the British one.

The tasks of the study include: 1) investigation of historical stages of the origin of American variant of English; 2) detection of grammar, phonetic and lexical particularities of the American variant of English.

Principal differences of the American and British variants of the English language make the research object.

The lexical, grammar, phonetic and phonological differences in American and British variants of English make the research subjects.

The theoretical analysis of scientific-methodic literature is the principal method of the research.

Analysis of recent researches and publications. The basic sources for writing of the current work include the works of scientists, who studied English in Great Britain and America, particularly their differences, such as H. Antrushina, V. Arakin, O. Afanasieva, A. Babenko, L. Barkhudarov, S. Harahulia, M. Yevdokimov, B. Ilish, T. Komova, N. Kretynin, B. Rohovskaia, B. Khaimovych, E. Khrystenko, A. Shveitser, H. Shleev, D. Shtelinh and others.

In the USA, England and other foreign countries, there are numerous specific monographs, regulatory reference books and lexicographic manuals, devoted to the English language in the USA and some of its aspects. The issue of the study of the variants of English, and the American variant particularly, is investigated in numerous works of both foreign scientists (R. Berndt, A. Markwardt, R. Quirk, D. Crystal, R. McDavid, K. Janicki), and domestic scientists (T. Arbekova, Yu. Zatsnyi, R. Kritsberh, D. Rozental, O. Shveitser, Yu. Zhluktenko).

Speaking about the correlation of two main and historically basic variants of English, i. e. British and American, A. Rivlina says that during a long period, they have obtained more differences, with prevailing centrifugal tendencies due to social-historical reasons. However, in the second half of the 20th century, the processes of globalization and intensification of centripetal tendencies have forced dissolving of the variants boundaries, transfer of the peculiarities of one variant to the other [9, p. 43].

The increasing impact of the American variant of English is observed in the field of learning English as a foreign language. Although in the modern world, the British and American variants are still the main ones in the practice of English teaching. Z. Proshina mentions that in the recent decades, importance of the American variant has increased, particularly in the countries of Europe. In the foreign scientific works, such tendency is argued by the European linguist Marco Modiano, stressing that American pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar are more often recognized in the field of international exams in English [11, p. 13].

Noah Webster is considered a founder of the American variant of the English language. Being disappointed at the English manuals for children, Webster decided to create his own book. Webster considered that Americans should have their American manuals to study English. He started to write a reference book "A Grammatical Institute of the English Language" in three volumes. The edition consisted of spelling (published in 1783), orthography (published in 1784) and reading book (published in 1785). The Dictionary has got great success and has not lost its importance until nowadays. The Noah's goal was to provide a unique American approach to children's study [5, p. 218–230].

However, the main idea of Webster was to change and improve the language. He described his ideas in "Dissertation of the English Language" (1789). He transformed the following words, particularly "theatre" into "theater", "machine" into «masheen», "plough" into "plow" [3, p. 130].

Scope of the research. At the current stage of historic development, English is known as a poly-national language, as it is spoken in several countries and exists in the form of national variants, particularly the American one. The difference of the social-cultural background causes peculiarities in the development of each of the variants. However, the scientists note that the origin of the common communicative system of the language, close and various relations between the regions contribute to approaching of the language forms, their convergence [15, p. 113].

The specificities of the American variant of English can be observed and analyzed in the

following fields, i.e. pronunciation, vocabulary, orthography, and grammar.

The American variant is similar to the English language of settlers, who founded the first English colonies in Virginia and New England in the 17th century. The distinctive features of the American English are partially caused by the saved American relict features in phonetics, grammar and vocabulary of the language, as well as personal innovations. In the 19th-20th century, those distinctive elements became normative, whereas the English language in America got the status of the equal-right variant of English [23, p. 295].

It is known that in England one common dialect base of the literary language secures a much higher degree of unification of its pronunciation norms. Thus, so-called "Southern English" or "Common" pronunciation is widely used among the educated population of the whole country and, contrary to the territorial dialects, does not have a territorial hint. The literary pronunciation of British English is described in details in the scientific and educational-methodic literature [18, p. 116]. Thus, the issue of the standard of American pronunciation is little studied. The well-known fact is that in America there is no a unified language standard, which is based, similar to England, on any local type of pronunciation. The numerous intonation patterns are called by V. Oshchepkova as a distinctive phonetic feature in the British variant of English. Thus, in the American variant of English, there is practically one even scale and falling tone. That intonation model determines the total voice structure of the American variant. On the contrary, in the British variant of English there are many scale and tones. Sometimes, the stress is made not by the sound pronunciation, but by the temporal characteristics, like extension or reduction of the sound, made by foreigners [22, p. 185].

It is necessary to cease the process of differentiation of the phonetics of English in England and America. The peculiarities of American pronunciation include the following:

- *a* before *f, ft, ss, sk, sp, st, th, n* (+consonant) is pronounced as [æ] in American English, e.g. class [klæs] [klɑ:s] dance [dæns] [dɑ:ns] path [pæθ] [pɑ:θ] ask [æsk] [ɑ:sk] [16, p. 149]. In some cases, one can hear the glide between [ɑ:] and [æ], whereas [æ] is the typical variant of pronunciation. The exception from the rule is the word *father* ['fa:ðə] with the preserved English pronunciation.

- Sound [r] is heard in all positions: a) before the consonants: American English *art* [art] [ɑ:t] *turn* [tɜrn] [tə:n]; b) in the suffixes -er, -or: American English *doctor* ['dɒktər] ['dɒktə] *tractor* ['træktər] ['træktə]; c) at the end of a word in word combinations -ere, -re: American English *sever* [si'viər] [si'viə] *here* [hiər] [hiə]. The pronunciation

of *r* in the above-presented cases is particular for the language in the central and eastern States [19, p. 368].

- The vowel [o] is often heard as [a]: American English *not* [nat][not] *top* [tap] [top]. The sound [a] is articulatory close to [ɑ:], but shorter than [ɑ:] and more open than [ʌ].

- In some words *ei* [ai] is pronounced as [i:]: *either* ['i:ðər] instead of ['aiðə], *neither* ['ni:ðər] instead of ['naiðə], etc.

- The combination *ee* in the words like *been* is pronounced as [i]: *been* [bin] instead of [bi:n].

- The sound [ju:] after consonants is pronounced by many Americans as [u:]: thus, the words *student* [ˈstju:dent], *new* [nju:], *duty* [ˈdju:ti] are pronounced by Americans as [ˈstu:dent], [nu:], [ˈdu:ti].

- The dropping of unstressed vowels before *r* is a rare case. The typical pronunciation sounds like: *necessary* [ˈnesisəri] whereas English [ˈnesisri].

- The language melody is less heard than in the variant of the standard English pronunciation. Thus, fluent speech sounds monotonous. The common tempo of speech is a little slower than in English.

- One can often hear the nasal articulation of vowels (so called “twang”).

- British people and Americans make stress in a different way while pronouncing one-syllable or two-syllable words. For instance, *ballet* [ˈbæleɪ] (British emphasis) – [bæˈleɪ] (American emphasis); *debries* [ˈdebri:] (British emphasis) – [dəˈbri:] (American emphasis). The same difference in pronunciation can be heard in the following words: *chalet*, *garage*, *gourmet*, *parquet*, *pate* [7, p. 174].

In the words with several syllables, like *secretary*, Americans make more stress of the ending than British people do. Thus, the word gets an extra stress: *secretary* [ˈsekrətəri] (British emphasis) – [ˈsekrəˈteri] (American emphasis); *territory* [ˈterətəri] (British emphasis) – [ˈterəˈto:ri] (American emphasis).

- Some words have deviations in pronunciation without any regularity: American English *alphabet* [ˈælfəbet], [ˈælfəbit]; *figure* [ˈfɪgjə], [ˈfɪgə]; *clerk* [klɜ:k], [klə:k]; *nephew* [ˈnefju] [ˈnevju] and others. The peculiarities of some dialects and modes of speech in pronunciation are more significant. However, the language of educated people, actors, language of radio, cinematography, and television is characterized by much weaker dissimilarities from the standard English pronunciation and does not have the above-mentioned peculiarities [15, p. 343–344].

Those are only some of the differences. American English was established under the impact of pronunciation of the migrants of different countries. People, who migrated to America, were ready to take risks, they were brave and full of energy. Most of them learned English already after arrival to the

territory of American continent and thus, tried to master it as soon as possible. Thus, they neglected many rules of pronunciation of the classical English [8, p. 84].

The phrase intonation is also simplified: in the British variant of English, it has numerous characteristics (falling, rising, graded, etc.), whereas in American variant of English, it is maximum simple: the intonation pattern is even with a falling tone [2, p. 56–57].

Sometimes, such differences can cause funny situations. Here is a dialogue between two people, where one is American and says “*Oh, no! I got a flat!*”. His friend from Great Britain does not understand the tragedy in his voice, because he understands the phrase as “*Oh, no! I got an apartment!*” However, the American means that his tire is damaged, because *flat* = *flattire*, i. e. a damaged wheel [12, p. 326].

An Englishman will be shocked because of the road sign “*Do not step on the pavement*”, he meets in America, because in Great Britain *pavement* means a *raised paved or asphalted path for pedestrians at the side of a road*, where in the USA, the word has a contrary meaning, i.e. *the hard surface of a road*.

Speaking about the distance, in Britain they use the words *farther* and *further*, when they want to say that something is placed at the distance from another item. Those two words are equally used. However, in America, they use only the word *farther* [7, p. 185].

(BrE) *London is further / farther than Glasgow.*

(AmE) *New York is far the rthan Texas.*

It is worth noting about the differences in naming storey in the British and American variants. In particular, in Great Britain, the 1st storey, 2nd storey, 3rd storey are called “ground”, “first”, and “second” respectively, whereas in the USA, they are called “first”, “second”, and “third” respectively.

Abbreviation is another peculiarity of British English. Abbreviations are usually written without a full stop, whereas in American English, they put a full stop, e.g. *Mister* = *Mr* (BrE) = *Mr.* (AmE); *Doctor* = *Dr* (BrE) = *Dr.* (AmE); *Limited* = *Ltd* (BrE) = *Ltd.* (AmE); *Kilogram* = *Kg* (BrE) = *Kg.* (AmE).

The use of pronouns is also worth concern, as there are some differences in that aspect. If the pronouns *all* and *all of* are followed by demonstrative pronouns or adverb (*the*, *this*, *my*, and others) with a noun, in British English, they use both *all* and *all of*, but in American English, they use only *all of* in that case. The same is true for the pronouns *both* and *both of* [4, p. 156–158]. Here are some examples:

She has eaten all (of) the cake. (BrE)

She has eaten all of the cake. (AmE)

All (of) my friends like riding. (BrE)

All of my friends like riding. (AmE)

Both (of) my parents like riding. (BrE)

Both of my parents like riding. (AmE)

In the work, the authors also consider the differences in the use of prepositions in the American and British variants of English.

Different from / than (*AmE*)

Different from / to (*BrE*)

Check something (out) (*AmE*)

Check something (*BrE*)

Do something over / again (*AmE*)

Do something again (*BrE*)

Live on X street (*AmE*)

Live in X street (*BrE*)

On a team (*AmE*)

In a tem (*BrE*)

Monday through / to Friday (*AmE*)

Monday to Friday (*BrE*)

In American English, the preposition *on* is often omitted before the days of the week, e.g. I am seeing her Sunday morning. (*AmE*)

There is also a difference in the expression *at the weekend* in British English, but *on the weekend* – in American English, e.g. What did you do at the weekend? (*BrE*) – What did you do on the weekend? (*AmE*).

In American English, the preposition *in* can be used instead of the preposition *for*, when it stands for a period of time until the present moment (in British English, they use the preposition *for* in that case), e.g. I haven't seen her in years. (*AmE*) [10, p. 98–99].

It is also necessary to pay attention to vocabulary, as it is the most demonstrative aspect of differences in the American and British variants of English. Those differences are caused by the following reasons, particularly:

1. The words of English have changed their meaning in the language of the USA.

2. In the USA they have introduced the words to define some phenomena, concepts, items, etc., which differ from the corresponding words in the English language in England.

3. The English language of America was penetrated by borrowings, i.e. the words of non-English origin, principally from the Indian and Spanish languages [15, p. 347].

Here are some examples of the vocabulary differences, which can provoke misunderstandings. For instance, in the USA, “subway” means “underground”, whereas in the Great Britain, it is “underground walkway”, etc. The differences in the variants of English are also caused by changes in the meaning of English words. The examples are the following: *AmE*. “sick” means “not healthy”, whereas *BrE*. “sick” means “weak”, *AmE*. “mad” – “angry”, *BrE*. “mad” – “crazy”, *AmE*. “clever” – “kind”, *BrE*. “clever” – “smart”, etc. The vocabulary of English in the USA also includes words (e.g. fall, sick), which have been substituted by the other words (like autumn, ill). In other cases (mad, clever, just), in American English, they use only one of the

meanings of the words, which is not common in England or out-of-date. The number of such words is not large [15, p. 348]. There are also differences, caused by the use of different words for defining the same items, concepts, etc. The words of such type include: *AmE*. “mail”, but *BrE*. “letters”, *AmE*. “apartment” – *BrE*. “flat”, *AmE*. “elevator” – *BrE*. “lift”, *AmE*. “automobile” – *BrE*. “motor-car”, *AmE*. “biscuit” – *BrE*. “tea-cake” and many others. The differences can be found both in everyday life and in the field of technique, production, etc. The researcher H. Mencken presents a list of 122 words of everyday use, 51 words in the field of sport and entertainment, etc. In American English, most of the words of the above-mentioned groups have the root of the English words (rubber, sidewalk, truck) or borrow the words of foreign origin (radio, elevator, generator, etc.) [15, p. 349].

The differences in orthography are also worth considering. Some insignificant changes in American spelling confirm the attempt to simplify the writing of some word combinations to make it more similar to pronunciation. Here are some examples of such changes in American orthography:

- **or** instead of **our** in the words like: honor, color, humor, labor, neighbor, favor, flavor (*AmE*) – honour, colour, humour, labour, neighbour, favour, flavor (*BrE*);
- **er** instead of **re** in the words like: center, theater, liter, meter (*AmE*) – centre, theatre, litre, metre (*BrE*);
- simplification of double consonants: traveler, wagon, councilor, fagot, jewelry, program, modeling (*AmE*) – traveller, waggon, councillor, faggot, jewellery, programme, modelling (*BrE*);
- letter **e** instead of **i** in American English: gasoline, inclose (*AmE*) – gasolene, enclose (*BrE*);
- letter **y** instead of **i** in American English: tire, siphon (*AmE*) – tyre, syphon (*BrE*);
- letter **c** instead of **s** in American English: defense, pretense, offense (*AmE*) – defence, pretence, offence (*BrE*);
- letter **i** instead of **y** in American English: gayety, dryly (*AmE*) – gaiety, drily (*BrE*);
- substitution of **-ise** by **-ize**: organise, realise, recognise (*AmE*) – organize, realize, recognize (*BrE*);
- writing of **-g** instead of **-gue** in the words like: catalog, dialog (*AmE*) – catalogue, dialogue (*BrE*);
- substitution of **-yse** by **-yze**: analyze, paralyze (*AmE*) – analyse, paralyse (*BrE*);
- simplified spelling: thru, tho, plow (*AmE*) – through, though, plough (*BrE*); check (*AmE*) – cheque (*BrE*); ax, story (*AmE*) – axe, storey (*BrE*); aluminum (*AmE*) – aluminium

(BrE); pajamas (AmE) – pyjamas (BrE) [20, p. 13].

There are also other, less significant peculiarities, which are not of common use. It is necessary to mention that the attempts to simplify the spelling are mainly supported by Americans, not British people. However, both countries have made not much to implement efficient simplification of the differences between spelling and pronunciation [15, p. 345–346].

To correlate the American and British variants of English, it is necessary to identify the character of difference between those variants in the field of grammar. Although, those differences are not numerous, they should be studied more careful [6, p. 153], particularly:

– Considering the recent events, or using the words “already”, “just”, and “yet”, the British variant of English requires Present perfect. In the American variant of English, they mostly use Past Indefinite, whereas both variants are considered as correct ones, e.g. “I’ve just arrived home.” – “I jus tarrived home.” “I’ve already eaten.” – “I already ate.” In other cases, traditional differences between Present Perfect and Past Indefinite is followed in both variants of English [14, p. 85].

– The auxiliary word *shall* (*I shall*) has almost disappeared in American English.

– The form *be going* for Future Simple (*I’m going to see a doctor*, instead of *I will see a doctor*) is almost twice more popular in American than in British English.

– In some cases, some irregular words get the regular forms in American English, e.g. *spelt* – *spelled*.

– In other cases, American English often preserves the irregular form of the verb, which is considered as a dialect or archaic one in Great Britain (e.g. *get* – *gotten*, *sneak* – *snuck*, *dive* – *dove*).

– In the standard language, there are some deviations in the use of some grammar forms: the verb *to get*: BrE.*get* – *got* – *got*, whereas AmE.*get* – *got* – *gotten*. There are also forms *boughten* instead of *bought*; *crep*, *crope* *crept*, etc.

– Use of Present Conjunctive also differs, i.e. BrE. *I suggest that he may (should) go*, whereas AmE. *I suggest that he go*.

– The use of Conditional Mood has the following form, particularly BrE. *If I wer eyou*, whereas AmE. *If I wa syou* [1, p. 106].

In the USA, the spoken language is characterized by more significant differences from the grammar norms of the standard English. The most distinctive peculiarity is in the system of verb inflection, i.e. the auxiliary verb *to have* in the forms of Perfect is often omitted, e.g. *I seen him* instead of *I have seen*; *He given* instead of *He has given* etc [15, p. 13].

– The form of Past and Past Participle of irregular verbs are often made by means of the suffix – *ed*, –*d*,

for example: *knowed* instead of *knew*; *growed* instead of *grew*.

– Some regular verbs make the form of Part Participle according to the type of irregular ones, e.g. *clomb* instead of *climbed*.

– Auxiliary verbs are often omitted in the interrogative form, e.g. *You going to merry him?* (*Are you going...?*) *Where you going?* (*Where are you...?*).

– They often use double negation, e.g. *You don't care for nobody but yourself. I can't see nothing*.

– They often use the phrase (*to*) *have got*, e.g. *I haven't got any money in my purse. I haven't got any memory*. (The phrase (*to*) *have gotten* has the meaning (*to*) *have received, acquired*) [21, p. 47].

– In American English, there is a typical combination of the verb *go* with the Infinitive without *to*, which prevails in the spoken language. In the similar cases, Englishmen use the construction like *go and do something*.

– Another interesting peculiarity of the American variant of English is omitting of article in some kinds of combinations. Thus, in the language of English people, the article is omitted in such combinations as *all* as *all day* and *all night*, whereas Americans regularly omit the article in such word combinations as *all morning*, *all week*, *all summer* [24, p. 175].

– In some nominative combinations with prepositions, Americans often omit the article in the cases, when its use is a norm in England. In one of his articles, the Englishman Horuill presents a set of examples, borrowed from the works of American professors in history.

– In the American variant, they do not use the article in the combinations like *beat table*, *send into hospital*. The differences in the word order are also marked concerning proper named, particularly BrE. *the river Thames* and AmE. *The Mississippi River* [6, p. 137–138].

Conclusions and prospects of the future search. Characterizing the peculiarities in the American variant of English in the field of vocabulary, pronunciation, spelling and grammar, the authors of the research can conclude that both variants belong to the integral language body and are actually neutralized by the majority of similarities, which significantly dominate.

Actually, there are some differences between the American and British variants of English. Someone persists on the principality of the American variant, arguing that it is simple, widely used, and modern. On the contrary, the followers of the British variant of English accuse it as an inaccurate superficiality in the language use. Both ideas deserve to exist and are partially correct.

However, it is logically to study the British variant of English. The reasons are:

- First, the British variant is classic and universally recognized variant of English.

- Second, the British variant of English is richer and more various than the American one.
- Third, studying British English, one can get maximum understanding of the language grammar.
- Fourth, one can master the beautiful correct language.

In addition, the main reason for the variant of English is that having mastered the variant, which is rich, elegant, authentic, i.e. British one, afterwards, it is possible to learn the bright, changeable, simple,

and full of slang variant, i.e. American English, or another exotic variant.

Consolidating everything mentioned above, the conclusion is that the process of Americanization of British English, being a complex phenomenon, is considered by linguists in different aspects. In their aggregate, those aspects of the study of Americanization of British English make an integral research space, related with comprehension of the USA impact on the linguistic situation not only in Great Britain, but also in the whole world.

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doi: 10.33842/22195203/2021/25/91/98

Received at the editorial office 06. 11. 2020.

Accepted for publishing 16. 12. 2020.

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doi: 10.33842/22195203/2021/25/91/98

Матеріал надійшов до редакції 06. 11. 2020 р.

Прийнято до друку 16. 12. 2020 р.