

## MODERN YOUTH SLANG: ITS SOURCES AND VARIETIES

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### Abstract

The article discusses the features, sources of replenishment and etymological aspects of youth slang in the modern Russian language. The article provides historical aspects of the appearance of the concept of slang and changes in its meaning are given. The study identifies and describes the main varieties of this phenomenon: youth, professional, computer, criminal slang as well as slang associated with hobbies. Youth slang is classified depending on the social group and includes school, student, network, gaming, hacker, and subcultural slang. Also, the authors draw conclusions about the positive and negative aspects of the influence of slang on the state of the modern Russian literary language.

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The concept of slang appeared in oral English speech in the XVI-XVII centuries, in written sources it first occurs in the XVIII century. Initially, slang was called a dictionary of commoners and marginal personalities. The term slang has become well-known since the fifties of the XIX century and denoted a colloquial, reduced vocabulary.

Approximately in the first half of the XX century, the term acquired its modern meaning. Slang has come to be understood as words and expressions that are new or previously used in other meanings that occur in the speech of persons of certain age, social, professional groups or interest groups.

In the Dictionary of Linguistic Terms by O.S. Akhmanova we find such a definition of the concept of "slang": "Slang – 1. Colloquial version of professional speech. 2. Elements of the colloquial variant of a particular professional or social group, which, penetrating into the literary language or in general into the speech of people who are not directly related to this group of persons, acquire a special emotional and expressive coloring in these languages" [1, p. 157].

In the last few decades, slang has attracted the attention of many researchers. It was studied by I.

R. Galperin [2], D.S. Golovanova [4], V.S. Elistratov [5], M.A. Krongauz [6], A. T. Lipatov [7], M.Y. Rudenko [8], O. G. Tverdokhleba [9], V.A. Khomyakov [10] and others.

Many scientists have written that the emergence of the concept of "slang" in our language is due to the increased interest in English-speaking cultures, the popularity of the English language, especially among young people. Slang is a special language that conveys a thought more deeply, in an original and concise way.

M.A. Krongauz in the work "The Russian language is on the verge of a nervous breakdown" notes: "The appearance of new words or new meanings in old words means that the world around us has changed. Either something new has appeared in it, or something existing has become so important that the language (and in fact we ourselves) creates a name for it. Recently, so many new words have appeared in the Russian language that linguists do not have time to keep track of them and publish dictionaries, and ordinary people often simply do not understand what they are talking about" [6, p. 14].

Depending on the group of people using slang, it is divided into youth, professional, computer, criminal, hobby-related and some others.

This article is devoted to the analysis of modern youth slang, identification of its varieties, sources of replenishment and etymological features.

Currently, there are many definitions of slang. In Russian linguistics, the definition of V.A. Khomyakov is most often used: "Slang is a relatively stable for a certain period, widely used, stylistically marked (reduced) lexical layer (nouns, adjectives and verbs denoting everyday phenomena, objects, processes and signs), a component of expressive vernacular included in the literary language, very heterogeneous in its origins, degree of approximation to the literary standard, possessing pejorative expression" [10, p. 15].

Let's consider the main sources of replenishment of modern youth slang.

1. Information (IT) technologies. Now every youth representative has a variety of computer gadgets, game consoles and other "smart" equipment. New words in this area are constantly appearing ("*мамка*", "*мать*" – motherboard, "*глюк*" – computer problems, "*кодить*" – programming, "*тупить*" – getting lost, confused, etc.).

2. Internet. Online communication is a very important part of the life of the current young generation. In this regard, more and more new words get into his speech ("*мемы*" – funny pictures, "*постить*" – upload photos or texts, "*личка*" – personal messages, "*стримить*" – conduct video broadcasts, etc.) In order to save time and speech efforts, abbreviated *пжл* (пожалуйста, please) are used, *спс* (спасибо, thank you), *ДР* (деньрождения, birthday), *ЗП* (зарплата, salary), *МЧ* (молодойчеловек, young man), *ЧЮ* (чувствуюмора, sense of humor), etc.) and truncated forms of the word (*игнор*, *неадекват*, *неформат*, *корпорат*, etc.).

3. Foreign-language borrowings (usually Anglicisms). English is the most popular language in the world. In recent decades, more and more attention has been paid to its study, and it begins in early childhood. For example, "*агриться*" – to get angry, "*хайп*" – to attract attention, "*левел*" – level.

There are other, less productive sources of replenishment of youth slang: argo (words from criminal jargon – *лох*, *кича*, *лейка*, *кинуть*); music (*понса*, *трек*, *рэпчик*, *музло*); online games ("*санныорт*" – support, "*пушить*" – attack).

Sometimes these groups overlap and combine with each other: barbarisms from the English language and word-forming hybrids from Russian words and Anglicisms are in all these groups of sources.

Words of English origin are firmly entrenched in the speech of modern Russian youth. Russian words are used as barbarisms, that is, they are transmitted in Russian letters ("transliterated"), and when they are modified, they can be likened to Russian words, that is, they are inclined and conjugated as Russian lexemes (*хайп, хейтер, чилить, изи, го, свайп, бодишейминг, бодипозитив, краудфандинг, бинджвотчинг, фуди, юзать, стримить, абьюзер*etc.) [3, p. 120].

The classification of varieties of youth slang is also associated with the above-mentioned groups of sources. Conventionally, it can be classified according to the social groups in which it is used. Based on this, the following varieties can be distinguished: school, student, network, gaming, hacker, subcultural.

Let's take a closer look at the linguistic features of each of the above-mentioned types of youth slang. School slang most often consists of words related to school education and hobbies: *училка, учиха*(teacher), *памперс, первак, перваш*(first grader), *румка, аквариум*(class), *ДЗ* (homework), *контра* (computer game Counter-Strike), etc. At the same time, English words in slang there are more and more schoolchildren with age as they are mastered. Student slang is made up mostly of words common to students of all profiles (*абитура, студень, стипуха, курсач, препод*) and groups of words related to the profile of education, the branch of science (for students-"techies" – *матан, полутех, цоколь*; for philologists – *СРЯ, ДРЯ, ССЯ, заруба, античка, АСП*; for future teachers – *лохонед, классрук, педулице, ЦПХ*). The slang of social networks mainly consists of Anglicisms or word-formation transformations of words of a literary language with the meaning of leisure, entertainment, free pastime. The vocabulary here is quite limited from a conceptual point of view and is specific in semantics. It is quite rarely associated with abstract concepts, with study or work, with cultural values (*вписка, пати, приложуха, геймить, чилить*). Gamers' slang is specific depending on the specific games they are fond of, their terminology and rules (*бродилка, стратегия, танчики, контра*). The slang of hackers or programmers differs in that many words from it fall into the national language and become well-known and used (*винда, мать, кодить, прога, драйвера*). Subcultural slang is common in youth informal groups, associations of interests (bikers, punks, diggers, cosplay lovers). These are specific words of certain thematic groups related to the essence and basic concepts of this group.

In the light of all the above, it is necessary to focus on the question of the influence of slang on the development of the modern Russian language, the preservation of its integrity and traditions.

This influence cannot be evaluated unambiguously positively or negatively.

Slang makes speech more concise and vivid, it is possible to convey thoughts and emotions most fully and freely. This style of communication allows the speaker to express his thoughts quickly and at the same time in an original way. D.S. Golovanov writes: "Relaxed youth slang tends to get away from the boring world of adults, parents, teachers, explaining that they are "not in the topic." A modern schoolboy cannot be imagined without slang. Its main advantages are expressiveness and brevity. Thus, slang is an integral part of speech" [4, p. 1].

At the same time, many researchers believe that slang destroys the norms of language, reduces the level of general and speech culture. It is often said that due to the influence of slang, young people write with errors not only in social networks, but also in real life, vocabulary decreases, the ability to express thoughts clearly is lost, the skill of correct construction of speech structures is lost.

In conclusion, we note that modern cultural society requires richness, expressiveness, the ability to convey deep thoughts and emotional experiences from language. These requirements are fully met by the literary language, which has always developed together with society. For successful interaction with society, it is necessary to know first of all the literary language, and not only slang or other non-literary

forms of the national language.

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