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**ЛИНГВИСТИЧЕСКИЕ ОСОБЕННОСТИ
АНГЛОГОВОРЯЩИХ И РУССКОГОВОРЯЩИХ
ПОЛЬЗОВАТЕЛЕЙ МИКРОБЛОГА «ТВИТТЕР»**

Данная работа посвящена изучению особенностей коммуникативного процесса в виртуальном пространстве. Предмет – общие и специфические закономерности речевого поведения. Задачи: описать, проанализировать и охарактеризовать особенности коммуникации. Методы исследования: структурный анализ, сопоставление, обобщение, наблюдение. Новизна - одно из первых исследований, посвященных сопоставительному изучению речевого поведения англо- и русскоязычных пользователей микроблога Твиттер.

Ключевые слова: Интернет блог, микроблог, Интернет жанр, Интернет-коммуникация, язык.

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**LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN
SPEAKING USERS OF MICROBLOG "TWITTER"**

This article examines the characteristics of the communication process in the virtual space. Subject - general and specific

regularities of verbal behavior. Tasks: to describe, to analyze and to characterize the features of communication. Methods: structural analysis, comparison, generalization, observation. Newness - one of the first studies on the comparative study of verbal behavior English and Russian users of microblog Twitter.

Key words: Internet blog, microblog, Internet genre, Internet communication, language

Introduction

Nowadays information plays a big role in people's lives. The process of informatization affects more and more areas of social existence. An important demonstration of this process was the emergence of the global Internet that caused the transfer of a large part of communication, business and personal data to a virtual environment. Internet communication is an integral part of modern life.

Theoretical background

Among the researchers of virtual communication, there is no common opinion on the classification of computer communication genres, as well as speech genre signs of virtual communication.

Internet blog as an Internet communication genre has become widespread recently. Y.A. Bardashevich in his work "Genre features of an Internet blog" says that a blog is a particular monologue discourse of a virtual communicant. It consists of chronologically arranged texts often focusing on the statement of a personal opinion on both personal and social events (Bardashevich, 2011). A microblog is a kind of an online blog.

Let us consider the meaning of microblogging. N.A. Ahrenova in the article "Linguistics and Literature. Linguistic features of microblogging" defines a microblog as a form of blogging that enables users to write short notes arranged in a reverse chronological order, and to publish them; each message can be viewed and commented on by a registered user in a chat mode. These messages can be transmitted in various ways, including

text messages, instant messages, e-mail (Ahrenova, 2011: 119).

Online Dictionaries give a similar definition of microblogging: microblogging and microblog is a kind of blogging (blog) that lets users publish short text updates. Bloggers can usually use a number of service for the updates including instant messaging and e-mail (<http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/M/microblog.html>).

The following microblogging types are:

- American microblog – Twitter, Jaiku, Tumblr, Pownce;
- Chinese microblog – Sina Weibo;
- Norwegian microblog – Folkstr;

Popular social Networks Facebook, MySpace, ВКонтакте also have a microblog function – the so-called “Status update” and “Status” (ВКонтакте). In Yandex blogs, the microblog function is called “Change your mind”.

Let us consider the functions of an Internet microblog and take microblog Twitter as an example. E.I. Goroshko in her article "Tweeting" genre 2.0 Twitter or what's new in the virtual genres" identifies the following features of Internet-microblogs:

- function of establishing new social contacts and communication;
- consolidating function (creating virtual groups and communities);
- presentation function (promotion of self-image, as well as other personal web resources (blog, personal blog, home page, etc);
- socialization function (communicating with other users of the resource, as well as creating social networks and virtual communities);
- information function (receiving information and tracking certain actions of users ("being aware" of what is going on in their lives, as well as sharing their own news, thoughts, ideas);
- economic function ("earning" a specific capital in the tweet-blog, conducting marketing and PR-campaigns using Twitter);

- political function (active use of the service during election campaigns, as well as conducting a virtual policy).
- entertaining function;
- psychotherapeutic function (the process of record keeping helps to "express emotions", "calm the nerves") (Goroshko 2011 : 11).

Using Twitter as an example, let us consider the structure of communication in Internet microblogs. The basic unit of communication in Twitter is a message, it is also called a tweet. The length of a tweet is limited to 140 characters, regardless of what one uses – a computer or a mobile phone. The messaging process includes the following steps: 1) a blogger leaves a message; 2) the message is read by other users (followers) of the resource; 3) the message is commented by followers; 4) The author of the message responds to comments. In other words, microblog communication is characterized by a step mode.

Noting that a message may contain no more than 140 characters, N.A. Ahrenova states that communication consists of simple, elliptical (mostly exclamatory) sentences. This makes communication dynamic and gives a sense of a real conversation (Ahrenova, 2011: 119).

Practical research

In this article we will try to compare the specificity of English and Russian blogs. We used the following criteria for our comparison:

- phonetic and graphic tools;
- morphological tools;
- syntactic tools.

Let us examine the English Twitter microblog using the above mentioned criteria.

I. Phonetic and graphic tools.

The phonetic and graphic level involves graphic recording of pronunciation and intonation features, as well as the use of graphic symbols used to transmit emotions. Let us consider the

following cases:

a) Multiple spelling and punctuation.

- «party time!!!!!! Woohooooo» (@henrylau89);
- «wasted all the money.....great.....» (@Lucifer1702).

b) Transference of emotions using emoticons - combinations of different keyboard symbols represent different kinds of a person's emotional state:

- *hehehe :)*» (@OfficialHeebum);
- «@OfficialHeebum O_o XDDDDDDDD» (@Lucifer1702).

c) The use of interjections by which bloggers express their positive, negative, skeptical, and other emotions.

- «@officialbada owwhh it'ss 01.40AM KST hereeee><» (@OfficialKoma);
- «aaah~ I missed you Sen *kiss and hug*» (@Lucifer1702).

II. Morphological tools.

Since Twitter is a predominantly written genre, no significant differences in the use of parts of speech, case, gender, number and articles have been found on Twitter.

- «Thank you for showing your support! I'm not exhausted anymore!» (@siwon407);
- «Good friends make life so damn amazing...» (@iansomerhalder).

III. Syntactic tools.

The basic unit at the syntactic level is a sentence. There are complete and incomplete sentences in the messages:

- «@officialsen101 I even don't know how to help you, I should say only one thing: don't be sad» (@Lucifer1702);
- «reading book and take rest. just chillin» (@siwon407).

Onwards, let us examine the Russian Twitter microblog.

I. Phonetic and graphic tools.

a) Multiple spelling and punctuation.

- «скукотееень.....» (@Lucifer1702), (Bored);

- @Vel VA Вааааааааалюнчик привет!!!!!!! Как дела???? (@Lucifer1702), (Valya, hi. How are you?).

б) Transference of emotions using emoticons.

- «Унылый вечер с уроками =_» (@Lucifer1702), (A dull evening with homework);

- «@Vel VA ух ты е-мое XD» (@Lucifer1702), (Russian lacuna, that can be translated as “Wow”).

в) The use of interjections.

- «ааах...хочу поехать в Корею!» (@Lucifer1702), (Ah, I want to go to Korea);

- «о господи как это шикарно спустя 3 недели танцевать!!!!!!!» (@Lucifer1702), (Oh my God, it is so great to dance after 3 weeks).

II. Morphological tools.

As the English and Russian Twitter is mainly a written genre, significant differences in the use of parts of speech, case, gender, number have not been found.

- «@_Red_Wolf Тоже красиво..обожаю ночной питер!! Я была там 2 раза, незабываемые впечатления!!!! столько фоток сделала!» (@Lucifer1702), (Also beautiful. I adore night Saint Petersburg. I've been there twice, unforgettable impressions);

- «@_Red_Wolf я в частном доме живу и поэтому такие виды, у меня из окна - восход, с балкона – закат» (@Lucifer1702), (I live in a private house, so one can see a sunrise from the window of my bedroom and see a sunset from the balcony).

III. Syntactic tools.

One can see complete and incomplete sentences in Russian messages.

- «Вау, второе место в рейтинге! Да мы безумно круты! Чего все депрессируют?!» (@SweetSweetNori), (Wow, second place in the rating. We are madly cool. Why is everybody upset?);

-); «@Lucifer1702 В первые увидела клип что ли?) хах даа моя первая песня К-поп))» (@_Red_Wolf_), (Did you see the music video for the first time? Hah yeah, my first K-pop song).

Let us identify the common features characteristic of the Russian and English Twitter.

1. The tendency to transfer the written form of communication to the oral one (Malyuga, 2014);
2. The tendency to increase the speed of writing. Cases of truncation, all sorts of abbreviation, borrowing and syntactically uncomplicated sentences are proof of this fact;
3. The presence of a huge number of punctuation marks and emoticons, denoting different emotional states of a person;
4. Syntax of the language is ignored.

Nevertheless, the following significant differences in the language of the English and Russian messages on Twitter have been identified:

1. The tendency of English-speaking users to use abbreviations;
2. The tendency of Russian-speaking users to use jargon and slang units.

Conclusion

Thus, having identified the common and different features characteristic of Russian and English Twitter, we can say that the stylistic means of the language form in microblogging are nearly identical, except some differences.

Thus, we have compared the English and Russian stylistic means of the language form of the English and Russian microblog "Twitter" using the above-mentioned criteria. Therefore, we have analyzed the tweets of English and Russian bloggers. According to the analysis of bloggers' messages, we conclude that both English speaking and Russian-speaking representatives are equally inclined to use expressive speech. The emotional component of both representatives, demonstrating

itself in spoken communication in the form of exclamations, interjections, etc., is identical. In addition, microblog representatives of both groups are equally inclined to ignore syntax, avoiding complex syntactic constructions. At the same time, we have found out that English-speaking users are more prone to use abbreviations, and Russian-speaking users are more inclined to use jargon and slang units.

Thus, now there is an active development of the virtual space of microblog "Twitter". Therefore, further studies are needed that can track trends in the development of the language of interpersonal communication in the Russian-speaking and English-speaking segment of the Internet and research the ability of language to go beyond an Internet network and affect everyday verbal communication of Russian speakers.

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