

MNU MAQSUT
NARIKBAYEV
UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 05
AUGUST 2023

KAZZGUU LIBERAL ARTS DIGEST





INFORMATION ABOUT THE JOURNAL

“KLAD” is a student journal first published at M. Narikbayev Kazguu University School of liberal arts. This journal is aimed at enhancing students’ involvement into science and research.

«KLAD” journal admits for publication various types of articles: original research, review articles, short reports or essays, reflections, case studies, methodologies and cases in english; containing the results of fundamental and applied research in the field of philosophy and identity, history of kazakhstan, pedagogy, linguistics and methods of teaching languages, translation, and tourism.

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LEXICAL FEATURES OF NEW-ZEALAND ENGLISH

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The focus of this research is on investigating the New-Zealand English and identifying some lexical features. It will be conducted in order to see to what extent the vocabulary of New Zealanders differ from other English speaking countries and what is the reason of such phenomenon. While studying the subject, history of New Zealand and its development was taken into account for better understanding of the language peculiarities. By the end of the research, it will be clear that New Zealanders have unique vocabulary, that might be difficult to understand for people from other countries. However, it was formed mostly under the influence of Australian English, native people use a lot of Australian slang words in particular.

INTRODUCTION

New Zealand is a progressive country with burgeoning tourism. Every year more and more tourists come to admire the incredible nature, get to know the culture and history of the people more closely. But despite the fact that one of the official languages of the country is English, sometimes there is a language barrier between local people and visitors. This is due to the fact that New Zealand English differs both in pronunciation and in the composition of the vocabulary. This country has been a colony of the United Kingdom for many years, and this could not but affect the lexicology of the language. New-Zealand English developed along with the country and the nation itself, so it has shades of both its historical heritage and modern speech borrowed from American, British and Australian English. Maori are the indigenous people of New Zealand, and their language still has a strong influence on the vocabulary of local people. It is the official language, along with English. This research will prove that mainly Maori is used in relation to rural life and nature. Now the younger generation uses a lot of slang words, the number of which

is increasing every year. In this case, it was the English language of Australia and Britain that played a big role in the development. In this study several categories of words and their features in New-Zealand English will be considered in detail.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The New Zealand version of the English language is a linguistic marker of the identity of New Zealand and its liberation from British colonialism. In addition, the New-Zealand English allows native speakers of various languages to communicate and interact in New Zealand society, introducing into it communication models adopted in their first languages and cultures.

New-Zealand English consists of British English, Australian English, and Maori language. James Cook put the islands on the map in 1769-70, and 20 years later traders from Europe started to settle there, they expanded developments that was already taking place in Australia. However, there was a difference: the historic relations with United Kingdom were stronger in New Zealand and British values were

more essential. It caused a more common conservatism regarding accents. An increasing need to draw attention to the rights of the Maori people had led to the awareness and the usage of Maori words in New-Zealand English. Their native language and the roots of their culture were not cut off from colonial possession due to the strong integrity. When the authorities established Maori as an official language in New Zealand, it became frequently used in radio and television, hence, this language played a big role in the formation of New-Zealand English (Yan & Song, 2019).

There are 3 main aspects in New-Zealand English that the Maori lexicology is concentrated on:

1. Maori socio-cultural life.
2. Local plants and animals vocabulary.
3. Proper nouns.

Changes in Lexical Meaning in New-Zealand English:

1. The meanings of words in New-Zealand English slightly differ from those in British or American English. The reasons are the contrast of human environment, geography and history. Example: Duchesse is a female duke or duke's wife in British English, but in New Zealand it has the meaning of a dresser with a rotatable mirror.
2. Every language experiences some changes when it is transplanted into a new cultural or geographical environment. It often forms brand new features, related to the particular region. The features of lot of words in New-Zealand English are likely to differ from those in British English. Example: Bush is a "shrub" in British English meanwhile in New Zealand it means "forest".
3. Sometimes New-Zealand English and British English have their own ways of expressing the same phenomenon by using different words. It is resulted in the fact, that some words have a special meaning in one

of these languages, but they do not mean anything in another.

Acronyms. Because of the contrastive national conditions, acronyms are unique in New Zealand. Without learning the acronyms frequently used in New-Zealand English, it will be almost impossible to understand local people.

Slangs. The richness of the language is reflected in its diversity of expressions. Most of the time, the slang in New-Zealand English clearly reflect the country's geographical and humanistic nature.

METHODOLOGY

As mentioned earlier, Australian and British English had a huge impact on the development of the New-Zealand English, so in order to compare these languages and identify lexical features of New-Zealand English, various videos of native New Zealanders were chosen for analysis on YouTube. This online global platform is where users all around the world publish their videos, hence, it is a great possibility to learn some unique vocabulary and pronunciation features of New-Zealand English as well. As a result of analysis of videos on YouTube, a lot of peculiarities were identified in such categories of words as acronyms, slang words and expressions of everyday use. The platform was chosen to analyze the oral part of the language. During the research I used Qualitative Research Method and implemented it to compare language features.

Over fifty videos of native New Zealanders and other English-speaking people were watched and analyzed, which allowed to clearly see the differences and similarities in vocabulary. In order to learn the meanings of some unknown words, New Zealanders used in their videos, I chose these dictionaries: The New Zealand Oxford Dictionary and Te Aka Māori-English, English-Māori Dictionary. Content Analysis was helpful to notice how American, British,

Australian English and Māori languages had their own influence on the development of New-Zealand English.

FINDINGS

According to the analysis of the contents, mentioned before, 23 slang words (Appendix A) were identified. New Zealanders often use such words as “beaut”, “stoked”, “chook”, “jandals”, “chur”, “mate”, “bugger”, “munted”. “Beaut” is a shortened version of the word “beautiful”, therefore, is used to describe something nice and cool. For example “What a beaut weather!”. “Stoked” is a slang expression for happiness, while “bugger” is basically a curse word for when something goes wrong. There are two options of using the word “mate”, depending on intonation of the speaker. It can be a reference to a friend or to an enemy. This slang word is also popular in British and American English. “Chur” means “thank you” in New-Zealand English. It can also mean “yes” and is often used with the word “bro”, which is also slang. “Chook” came from Australian English and has two meanings: “chicken” and kind of endearment. Due to the climate in New Zealand, local people love wearing flip-flops, but they call them “jandals”. This is a combination of the words “Japanese” and “sandals”, since businessman Morris Yock, the manufacturer of this footwear, was inspired by the Japanese flip-flops. “Munted” means “destroyed” and “broken”, when addressed to an object. The results of the research has shown that people in New Zealand include a lot of Māori words and phrases in their everyday life.¹⁸ of basic phrases (Appendix B) were recognized: “Kiwi”, “Kia Ora”, “Ka Pai”, “Haere Ra”, “Sweet as”. “Kiwi” is not only a native bird, that is how New Zealanders call themselves as well. During The First World War images of the bird Kiwi were used to represent New Zealand, and soldiers were called “Kiwis”, since then this word attributes to all local people. New Zealanders use the phrase “Kia Ora” to great someone. “Ka Pai” came from Māori language and it means “good job”. “Haere Ra” is also a widespread phrase,

translated as “goodbye”. New Zealanders have very laid-back attitude, and the phrase “Sweet as” means a lot of things, like “thank you”, “that’s cool”, “you’re welcome” and so on. Maori terms are usually related to natural wildlife, such as flora and fauna of New Zealand and some of them were found in analyzed content: “pōhutukawa”, “kererū”, “ngaio”. Pōhutukawa is a tree species from the genus *Metrosideros*, also known as New Zealand Christmas tree. In Maori mythology its red flowers symbolize the blood of a young warrior who died trying to avenge the death of his father, it has an important significance for Kiwis. Kererū is a species of pigeon that forms a crucial part of their cultural identity. In one Maori legend, the hero and deceiver Maui turned into kereru when he descended into the underworld in order to find his parents. There is a suburb in New Zealand near Wellington, called “Ngaio”, but it is also a mousehole tree. Many young people have abbreviations and acronyms in their vocabulary, which are also a part of slang words. They are an important part of lexicology of New-Zealand English. During the analysis 9 abbreviations, acronyms and contracted words (Appendix C) were found: “Poms”, “cuzzies”, “AK”, “NZ”, “ta”, “Jafa”, “rej”. The word “Pom” came from Australian English, as a reference to its past as a colony of United Kingdom. It is an acronym for “Prisoner of Mother England”, so New Zealanders call British people “Poms”. “Cuzzies” is a contracted version of “cousins”. A woman, whose video was used for the research, said “The povo cuzzies of the Poms”, which means “The poor cousins of the British people”. “AK” and “NZ” are abbreviations for “Auckland” and “New Zealand”. They are frequently used not only in everyday life, but in formal situations as well. Some slang words for expressing gratitude were already mentioned before, but there is one more, which is contraction of the phrase “thanks” - it is “ta”. Kiwis share this word with BE and it can also mean “goodbye”, depending on the situation. “Jafa” is acronym used to describe Aucklanders, it stands for “Just Another Fantastic Aucklander”. Sometimes

“JAFA” is pronounced with double F, because of its sentimental significance for native people: “JAFFA” is a cinema candy filled with chocolate. “Rej” is abbreviation of the word “reject”. Most of the vocabulary of New-Zealand English was taken from British English, since the connection with American English was not as strong as with British and Australian. However, there are plenty of words and phrases derived from American English, that are called americanisms. For example, in contrast to British people, New Zealanders say “truck” instead of “lorry”, “hardware store” instead of “ironmonger” and “stove”, but not “cooker”.

Another lexical feature that was noticed during the research is that the words “less” and “amount of” can be used with countable nouns, which is considered to be a grammatical error in the USA and the UK. All these features and rules will be explained in the Discussion part of the research.

DISCUSSION

The results of the research demonstrated that New-Zealand English basically consists of British and Australian English, but Maori is frequently used in relation to the nature and urban life. These expressions are not popular among young generation. There are also words, that are unique for New-Zealand English because of their influence on the development of the nation. People say a lot of slang and contracted words in everyday oral speech. Like almost in every country in the world, the speech of Kiwis differs in each region of New Zealand, but usually the differences are in the pronunciation. Similarity between the vocabulary of British and NZ people is caused by the fact that New Zealand was colonized by the United Kingdom for almost 70 years. That explains why locals use the word “Poms” in relation to British people. Australia is the closest English speaking country to New Zealand, therefore a lot of expressions and slang words in particular were borrowed from Australian English. In addition to Maori, which is one of the official languages in New

Zealand, there is one more term – Pakeha. It was formed due to the arrival of Europeans to New Zealand in order to distinguish them from native Maori people. Nowadays of this language is in danger of extinction, because Maori was forbidden in schools during The Second World War and number of people who spoke it as mother language has been decreasing rapidly since then. The place names in New Zealand are derived either from Maori or from Europe. For example, Dunedin is a city in New Zealand, but also an alternative name for Edinburgh, a capital of Scotland. Even the name “New Zealand” has European roots. It was given by the Dutch cartographers after the region in Netherlands, called Zeeland.

New-Zealand English is still developing and more new words and expressions are entering the vocabulary of Kiwis. Most of them are americanisms, because the USA has a strong influence on the world in general. It is clear that all the slang words and neologisms, that we use in everyday communication, are derived from American English and this trend seems to continue.

CONCLUSION

To summarize, according to the theoretical and practical parts of the study, it was revealed that New-Zealand English was developing with the country itself. Historically, it was under the impact of native people, called Maori and other English speaking countries, like United Kingdom, The United States of America and Australia. Overall, the vocabulary analyzed during the study was categorized into: slang words, unique for New-Zealand English phrases of everyday usage, abbreviations and acronyms, contracted words and Maori terms. This has shown that each group of words was borrowed from a particular language or developed due to specific historical and cultural events. Local people use different vocabulary, depending on the region of the country. But in general, the lexicology of New-Zealand English is unique and very interesting to investigate. Although young

people do not speak Maori language as their first language nowadays, because of its decline in popularity, they use some phrases and expressions in informal speech, usually in order to greet someone or express their gratitude. The differences between the New Zealand dialect and the English language are not so great. They are mainly associated with some household items, as well as representatives of flora and fauna typical of New Zealand, and not found in other English-speaking countries. In addition, there are a number of dialect words and phrases in New-Zealand English. Basically, these are words of an unofficial register, most often found in everyday speech. The slang words in New-Zealand English are very difficult to understand for most non-New Zealanders, so it is crucial to study them separately. It should be mentioned that lexicology of New-Zealand English never stopped expanding.

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