

The formation of the English national literary language and its relationships with social territorial dialects

Бордзань Д.А.

The formation of the national English language, or Standard English, is considered to date from the period between the 15th and 17th centuries. We must mention at least two of the external factors that led to this development: the unification of the country and the progress of culture. Other historical events, such as the increased foreign contacts, produced a more specific kind of influence on the language: they affected the word stock.

National language — a system of multiple forms of existence of language: literary language (oral and written forms), folk spoken varieties of language and dialects.

Literary language is a developed form of a national language, with norms fixed in writing to varying extents; the language of all manifestations of culture that are expressed in words.

The literary language is always the result of collective creative activity. The notion that the norms of a literary language are “fixed” is somewhat relative (despite all the importance and stability of the norm, it changes in time). It is not possible to imagine a national culture that is rich and developed without a rich and developed literary language.

The national literary language formed in the process of becoming a nation on the basis of various regional dialects. The formation of English literary language was occurring on the basis of the London dialect.

In the process of formation of the national language significantly changing the ratio between the literary language and dialects. The national literary language is an evolving form, which occupies a leading position, gradually displacing the dialects that dominate in the early stages of language development, particularly in the area of oral communication. The formation of new dialect features is terminated, and under the influence of the literary language smooths the sharpest differences in dialect. At the same time, expanding the scope of literary language, its functions are complicated.

According to Wilde, on the territory of the dialect, including London, there were two distinct dialect types: 1. the urban dialect (city type, coinciding with the dialect of Essex) 2. Central (the dialect of Middlesex) [Wyld 1937, 93, 143]

Over time the London dialect is losing some of its most pronounced traits of South and approaches the dialect of Middlesex. Thus, we can state going during the second half of the thirteenth and the first half of the fourteenth century, the displacement of southern dialect features of the language of London and their replacement in East Central.

Unification as a necessary trait of the national literary language of the era eventually passed on the basis of the dialect of the city of London.

Until the mid-thirteenth century in the London dialect was observed the predominance of the southern dialect forms are gradually replacing in the second half of the thirteenth century and especially in the fourteenth century with elements of Eastern-Central.

In the history of the London dialect perception forms, genetically belonging to the southern dialect as "old" , and those who are actively going from East-Central dialect as "new" due to a change in the position of the London dialect among the other regional dialects of England. Since that time, when the London dialect becomes predominant use in the business, the state and literary practice throughout England (except in areas of Scotland) , the equality is broken dialects and the language of London and its environs is interpreted as the source of the General rule in relation to all other dialects.

This creates inequality between the London dialect and other dialects of England. Different sides of the language - sound, grammatical and lexical behave differently in the process of reorientation of the dialect of the language of London.

Thus, we have to admit that the water displaced in the process of reorientation of the dialect of the language of the South London elements was preserved through literary tradition in certain genres, despite the fact that the norms of the literary language in the fourteenth century were not exactly fixed.

It can be concluded that the formation of the national literary language may offset its dialectal base, caused by different historical events. However, such reorientation of dialect differently affects different aspects of language - phonetics, grammar and vocabulary.

In England 1370-1570 years linguistic differences were in the local relation by lines of contrasting language of the urban population to speakers of local dialects. By the fifteenth century London was the only center strengthening of linguistic norms.

Bibliography

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