English language in the modern world

English is widely spoken in the worl more than French, German, Spanish, Russian and Arabic. It is the most widely used language on the earth. It is used as a mother, second and foreign language.

The English language has a special place in seventy-five countries. Nineteen countries use it as the official language.

English is taught as a foreign language in more than 100 countries, including China, Russia, Germany, Spain, Egypt and Brazil. In most of the countries, it is taught in schools as the main foreign language, displacing other languages.

In the past, the international language was Latin. It became the language of international communication in the whole territory of the Roman Empire, not because the Romans were more numerous than people trapped under their oppression, but because they were more militarily and economically. After the Roman Empire fell into decline, Latin for millennia was the international language in education and culture thanks to the spiritual power of the Roman Catholic Church.

It would be wrong to assume that some "international" language is a model of excellence for uncontested functional properties, clarity, rich literary legacy.

Such opinions are sometimes expressed in relation to the English language.

The structure of the English language is a bit easier than the structure of some other world languages. Throughout the history of its development it is widely borrowed from other languages.

In the XIX century Britain has become a leading industrial and trading nation. During the XIX century British political system has contributed to the spread of English across the globe. And in the XX century this process has accelerated, primarily due to United States' economic power.

In order to facilitate the communication process needed translation. When the heads of state or ambassadors were having international negotiations, there were translators next to them. However, their potential is not unlimited, and the more languages in the country, the less you can rely on these experts in understanding between different national groups. In countries where the population speaks two or three languages, one of the outputs is the study and knowledge of these languages, which is possible because most of the children in these conditions can easily and unconsciously master them. But in countries with a large number of languages, such as in a number of countries in Africa and Southeast Asia, it is almost impossible.

Communication problems are sometimes solved by using one of the languages as a lingua franca, which is a common language of communication. When trade relations established between the communities, they exchanged messages in plain language, known as Pidgin, which consists of the elements cooperating languages. Numerous of Pidgins are still used in our time to operate in the territories that once belonged to the European metropolises, performing the role of lingua franca. For example, the West African pidgin-english is widely used by ethnic groups of the west coast of Africa.

Sometimes as a lingua franca appears one of the local languages. Usually it is the language of the most powerful ethnic group in the area. In such a case, the other group is gradually learning to speak it and to become bilingual.

However, most often used for this purpose language "from outside", for example, English or French, depending on the political, economic or religious influence of any country in the region.

Usually spread area lingua franca is totally dependent on political factors. Many languages are used by only a few ethnic groups in a small region of any one country.

By understanding that in the future the language or languages of lingua franca may be necessary on a global scale, the mankind has realized only in the middle of the XX century. This was facilitated by the creation of a number of influential international organizations - the United Nations (UN, 1945), IDB (1945), UNESCO and UNICEF (1946), WHO (1948) and the IAEA (1957). They

use several business languages. So, the five working languages adopted by the UN: English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese.

Nowadays, there is a radical change in the language situation in the world. Never before so many countries and people did not feel such a need to communicate with each other. In nowadays world English is an international language. In recent decades, English has become an international means of communication, it has acquired the status of "global language».

Function means of communication emphasizes the definition accepted in the domestic Linguistics: English language is a language of international communication. In reality, the term "international English" most often refers only to the British and American English, less to the Canadian and Australian versions, and usually does not spread to other regional varieties.

One of the criteria for the status of an international language is considered to be a large number of functions carried out by them, recognized as a national or official language in the country where it operates in areas such as administration, courts, mass media. howling information educational system. Language performs one or all of the functions above, and if it is not our native population, it is called a second language. In this role the English language serves more than 70 countries.

The main functions of the English language as an international language can be summarized as follows:

- formal diplomatic,
- formal state regulation,
- formal business,
- informational,
- entertainment.

As an international language English is no longer tied to one certain specific culture or nation. This language which has many varieties. The development of the English language in the world today is less and less determined by the people for whom it is their mother tongue.

As the intermediate language in the modern world the English language plays the role of the language of intercultural interaction and enrichment. This is largely due to the fact that for a long time the English language tends to borrow vocabulary. It has the ability to quickly and easily take loans, originating from other languages or through the English of the Caribbean, India, and Spanish-speaking America. In connection with the emergence of a large number of New Englishes in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Caribbean, the United Kingdom and in India, Sri Lanka and the other countries is by language changing under the influence of local languages. This results in the formation of new types of English language and change the forms and structures of the "standard" English. New variants of the English language is a kind of dialect. However, the new language variants exist at the international level and have millions of users.