

Тема: ОСОБЕННОСТИ АМЕРИКАНСКОГО ВОЕННОГО ЖАРГОНА

Subject matter: Peculiarities of American Military Jargon.

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ABSTRACT

Slang is an area of lexis in a permanent state of flux consisting of vivid and colorful words and phrases that characterize various social and professional groups, especially when these terms are used for in-group communication. Slang provides and reinforces social identity but it is also used in society at large to achieve an air of informality and relaxation. Because of its nature and the multiplicity of its aims, slang is a meeting point for people working in different fields, lexicologists, sociolinguists, psychologists, and even for the lay public. Of all social groups, the military people are the most prone to the use and renovation of slang and unconventional language. In our modern and cultivated societies, military people constitute one large subgroup, which develops a special kind of vocabulary.

It is easy to understand that some social groups are more prone than others to creating and using slang. Overall, American military people are believed to be much fonder than are the British of using informal and unconventional language. Military slang is an array of colloquial terminology used commonly by US military personnel, including slang, which is unique to or originates with the armed forces. It often takes the form of abbreviations/acronyms or derivations of the NATO Phonetic Alphabet, or otherwise incorporates aspects of formal military concepts and terms. Military slang is often used to reinforce or reflect (usually friendly and humorous) interservice rivalries.

Outside the specific military jargon of US military personnel, which is easy to trace and minimal in comparison, and the slang notoriously associated to the physical conditions of their life, the expressive language found in it is very similar in its linguistic devices and motives to the one spoken by their non-military sphere, for both groups share the same system of beliefs and are involved in similar communicational practices.