Тема: ТОПОНИМЫ И ЛИНГВОСТРАНОВЕДЕНИЕ США


Author: Yekaterina I. Abdullayeva, 5th year student, Institute of Translatology and Multilanguage Studies.

Supervisor of the project: O.A. Leonovich, Professor of the Chair of Theory and Practice of Translation and Interpretation.

ABSTRACT

This graduation paper deals with an impressive array of USA geographical names. First, it tries to approach aspects of American culture from an anthropological perspective. Is there an «American culture»? The United States is a nation of immigrants from everywhere in the world. The outstanding feature of an «American culture» would be its diversity, not a useful concept for capturing the national essence, but inevitable in this case. In this paper we explore some aspects of America’s cultural diversity from the point of the contribution made by geographical names.

Place Names can provide valuable insight into a variety of fascinating aspects of geography, history, languages, cultures, and customs of a particular region. United States, with its extensive overlay of place names with connections to the British Isles, differs markedly in place-name characteristics from other similar regions. The purpose of the given paper is to study and practice the educational significance of American place names in order to get the better understanding of American culture. Our frame of reference is organized around the central theme: various geographical names of the USA seen from a cultural perspective.

Different geographical names reflect different culture. Geographical names are the carrier and container of culture. Naming habits are a miniature of the national culture. Its characteristics and the development have close relation with people’s religious belief, America’s historical events, and so on. It is like an encyclopedia, which faithfully records social history and the life style of this western nation.