

Ivan Franko National University in Lviv



ology

*Hryhoriy Kochur Department of translation
studies and contrastive linguistics*

Nadiya Andreichuk, professor

nadiyaan@gmail.com

Lecture 12



Stylistic Differentiation of English and Ukrainian Vocabulary

*Contrast is the occurrence
of different elements
to create interest*



- *Words glisten.*
- *Words irradiate exquisite splendour.*
- *Words carry magic and keep us spell-bound...*
- *Words are like glamorous bricks that constitute the fabric of any language...*
- *Words are like roses that make the environment fragrant...*

● *N.Chand*

Plan



- ***1. Stylistically neutral words***
- ***2. Literary-bookish words***
- ***3. Colloquial words***

Stylistic differentiation of words



- 1. Stylistically neutral layer.
- 2. Stylistically marked layer.

Stylistically neutral layer



- consists of words mostly of native origin
- comprises fully assimilated borrowings
- such words are devoid of any emotive colouring and are used in their denotative meaning, e.g. *table, street, sky, go, speak, long, easy, never, often, etc.*

Stylistically neutral words



- are not fixed to style. They can be used and dominate in texts of any style.
- can name concrete objects, phenomena, abstract notions, features of objects, action
- In groups of synonyms neutral words fulfil the function of the synonymic dominant.
- **Neutral words constitute the basis of both English and Ukrainian languages vocabulary.**

Stylistically marked layer



- **Literary-bookish words (“learned” words):**
- belong to the formal style, to the formal category of communication.
- are more stable due to the traditions of the written type of speech
- are used in descriptive passages of fiction, scientific texts, radio and television announcements, official talks and documents, business correspondence, etc.

Literary-bookish words



- mark the text as belonging to this or that style of written speech, but when used in colloquial speech or in informal situations, they may create a comical effect
- are mostly of foreign origin and have polymorphemic structure, e.g. *solitude, fascination, cordial, paternal, divergent, commence, assist, comprise, endeavor, exclude, heterogeneous, miscellaneous, hereby, thereby, herewith, wherein, etc.*

Literary-bookish words



- are not stylistically homogeneous:
- Besides **general-literary** (bookish) words, e.g. *harmony*, *calamity*, *alacrity*, etc., we may single out various specific subgroups, namely:
 - 1) **terms or scientific words** such as, e.g. *renaissance*, *genocide*, *teletype*, etc.;
 - 2) **poetic words and archaisms** such as, e.g. *whilome* - ‘formerly’, *aught* - ‘anything’, *ere* - ‘before’, *albeit* - ‘although’, *fare* - ‘walk’, *tarry* - ‘remain’, *nay* - ‘no’; etc.;

Literary-bookish words



- 3) **barbarisms and foreign words**, such as, e.g., *bon mot* - ‘a clever or witty saying’, *apropos* [ˌaprəˈpəʊ, ˈaprəpəʊ] – ‘with reference to; concerning’, *faux pas* [fəʊ ˈpa:] – ‘an embarrassing or tactless act or remark in a social situation’, etc.;
- 4) **neologisms** such as, e.g. *teledish* - ‘a dish-shaped aerial for receiving satellite television transmissions’, *roam-a-phone* – ‘a portable telephone’ (now – *mobile phone*), *graviphoton* – ‘a hypothetical particle’, etc.

Terms



- words or nominal groups which convey specialized concepts used in science, technology, art, etc., e.g. *gerontology*, *phoneme*, *radar*, *kneejoint*, *common denominator*, *periodic table*, *still life*, *choreography*, etc.
- VIDEO

barbarisms



- The word *barbarism* was originally used by the Greeks for foreign terms used in their language.
- etymologically rooted in *barbaros* - the babbling outsider unable to speak Greek

barbarisms



- Are of foreign origin and not entirely assimilated into the English language. They bear the appearance of a borrowing and are felt as something alien to the native tongue.
- Most of them have corresponding English synonyms; e.g. *chic* [ʃi:k] – ‘stylish’; *bon mot* [bɒn 'mɒʊ] – ‘a clever witty saying’; *en passant* [ɒn pæ'sɑ:nt; French ɑ̃ pasɑ̃] – ‘in passing’; *ad infinitum* - ‘to infinity’ and many other words and phrases.
- It is very important for purely stylistic purposes to distinguish between barbarisms and foreign words proper.

barbarisms



- **Barbarisms** are words which have already become facts of the English language. They are, as it were, part and parcel of the English word-stock, though they remain on the outskirts of the literary vocabulary.
- **Foreign words**, though used for certain stylistic purposes, do not belong to the English vocabulary. They are not registered by English dictionaries, except in a kind of addenda which gives the meanings of the foreign words most frequently used in literary English. Barbarisms are generally given in the body of the dictionary.

barbarisms



- In printed works foreign words and phrases, are generally italicized to indicate their alien nature or their stylistic value Barbarisms, on the contrary, are not made conspicuous in the text unless they bear a special load of stylistic information.

barbarisms



- There are foreign words in the English vocabulary which fulfil a terminological function. Therefore, though they still retain their foreign appearance, they should not be regarded as barbarisms.
- such words as *solo*, *tenor*, *concerto*, *blitzkrieg* (the blitz), *luftwaffe* and the like should also be distinguished from barbarisms. They are different not only in their functions but in their nature as well. They are terms.
- Terminological borrowings have no synonyms; barbarisms, on the contrary, may have almost exact synonyms.

barbarisms



- Such words as *ukase*, *udarnik*, *soviet*, *kolkhoz* and the like denote certain concepts which reflect an objective reality not familiar to English-speaking communities. There are no names for them in English and so they have to be explained. New concepts of this type are generally given the names they have in the language of the people whose reality they reflect.

barbarisms



- Some foreign words and phrases which were once used in literary English to express a concept non-existent in English reality, have entered the class of barbarisms and many of them have gradually lost their foreign peculiarities, become more or less naturalized and have merged with the native English stock of words: *conscious*, *retrograde* (directed or moving backwards), *spurious* (false or fake) and *strenuous* (requiring or using great effort or exertion) are words in Ben Jonson's play which were made fun of in the author's time as unnecessary borrowings from the French.

barbarisms



- With the passing of time they have become common English literary words. They no longer raise objections on the part of English purists. The same can be said of the words *scientific*, *methodical*, *penetrate*, *function*, *figurative*, *obscure*, and many others, which were once barbarisms, but which are now lawful members of the common literary word-stock of the language.

archaism



- is the deliberate use of an older form that has fallen out of current use.
- are most frequently encountered in poetry, law and ritual writing and speech.
- Their deliberate use can be subdivided into:
- 1) literary archaisms, which seeks to evoke the style of older speech and writing;
- 2) lexical archaisms, the use of words no longer in common use.
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archaism



- Archaisms are kept alive by ritual and literary uses and by the study of older literature. Should they remain recognised, they can be revived, as the word *anent* was in this past century.
- **anent** - regarding; concerning: "*This question remains a vital consideration anent the debate over the possibility of limiting nuclear war to military objectives*" (*New York Times*).

archaism

- In English one indicator of a deliberately archaic style is the use of the second person singular pronoun *thou* and its related case and verb forms.
- Ironically, the word *thou* fell out of English speech because it was thought abruptly colloquial, like French *tu*. *Thou* is now seen in current English usage only in literature that deliberately seeks to evoke an older style, though there are also some still-read works that use *thou*, especially religious texts
- The word *ye* and its related forms also are indicative of archaism, however in spoken English it might be hard to tell the difference, especially if the speaker has an accent that seems strange to the listener.

neologisms



- newly coined lexical units or existing lexical units that acquire a new sense.
- Neologism is any word which is formed according to the productive structural patterns or borrowed from another language and felt by the speakers as something new.
- Examples: *tape-recorder, supermarket, V-day (Victory day)*. The research of cosmic space by the Soviet people gave birth to new words: *Sputnik, spaceship, space rocket* that used to be new.

neologisms



- may be divided into:

- 1) **Root words:** Ex: *jeep* – a small light motor vehicle, *zebra* – street crossing place etc;

- 2) **Derived words:** Ex: *collaborationist* – one in occupied territory works helpfully with the enemy, to *accessorize* – to provide with dress accessories;

- 3) **Compound:** Ex: *air-drop*, *microfilm-reader*.

New words are as a rule monosemantic. Terms, used in various fields of science and technology make the greater part of neologisms. New words belong only to the notional parts of speech: to nouns, verbs, adjectives etc.

colloquial words



- Colloquial words are characteristic of the informal style of spoken English.
- Colloquialisms are common sayings that people use in everyday speech and some are very old expressions.
- Colloquialisms are expressions appropriate to informal, conversational occasions. For example,
- *I felt “down in the dumps”* is a colloquialism for feeling depressed or miserable.

colloquial words



- The etymology of the term “colloquialism” can be traced to the Latin word “colloqui”, which in turn is derived from the words “com” meaning “with” and “loqui” meaning “conversation”.
- The phrase is used to refer to language that is normally used in casual conversation.
- Authors and playwrights often use colloquial language while writing, and therefore you may often come across instances of colloquialism in novels and plays because they provide an impression of actual or genuine talk

colloquial words



- Generally, colloquialisms are specific to a geographical region. They are used in “everyday” conversation and, increasingly, through informal online interactions.
- An example of the regional specificity of colloquialisms is the term used when referring to “*soft drinks*”. In the Upper Midwestern United States and Canada, soft drinks are called “*pop*”, whilst in other areas, notably the Northeastern and far Western United States, they are referred to as “*soda*”. In some areas of Scotland, the term “*ginger*” is used.

colloquial words



- One should distinguish between:
- **literary colloquial words** (which are used in every day conversations both by educated and non-educated people)
- **non-literary colloquialisms** which include:
 - slang,
 - jargonisms,
 - professionalisms
 - vulgarisms

slang



- refers to informal (and often transient) lexical items used by a specific social group, for instance teenagers, soldiers, prisoners, or surfers.
- is not considered the same as colloquial speech, which is informal, relaxed speech used on occasion by any speaker
- Slangisms are often used in colloquial speech but not all colloquialisms are slangisms.

slang



- One method of distinguishing between a slangism and a colloquialism is to ask whether most native speakers know the word (and use it); if they do, it is a colloquialism.
- **Slang functions in two ways:**
 - 1) the creation of new language and new usage by a process of creative informal use and adaptation,
 - 2) the creation of a secret language understood only by those within a group intended to understand it.

slang



- is a type of **sociolect** aimed at excluding certain people from the conversation. Slang initially functions as encryption, so that the non-initiate cannot understand the conversation, or as a further way to communicate with those who understand it. **Slang functions** as a way to recognize members of the same group, and to differentiate that group from the society at large. Slang terms are often particular to a certain subculture, such as musicians, skateboarders, and drug users.

slang



- As a rule, their meanings are based on metaphor and often have ironic colouring, e.g. *attic* (“head”), *beans* (“money”), *saucers* (“eyes”), etc.

Such words are easily understood by all native speakers, if they are not specific for any social or professional group.

jargon



- words or phrases used by people in a particular job or group that can be difficult for others to understand
- are usually motivated and, like slang words, have metaphoric character, e.g. *bird* (“spacecraft”) /astronauts’ jargon/; *to grab* (“to make an impression on smb.”) /newspaper jargon/; *grass, tea, weed* (“narcotic”) / drug addicts’ jargon/, etc. Words such as “*backup*”, “*chatroom*” and “*browser*” are computer jargon. Jargon is often referred to as “technical language”. It makes communication quicker and easier among members of a group who understand it

jargon



- **ecobabble** –using the technical language of ecology to make the user seem ecologically aware
- **Eeurobabble** - the jargon of European community documents and regulations
- **gobbledygook** - incomprehensible or pompous jargon of specialists
- **psychbabble** - using language loaded with psychological terminology
- **technobabble** - technical jargon from computing and other high-tech subjects

Vulgarism



- derives from Latin *vulgus*, the "common folk", and has carried into English its original connotations linking it with the low and coarse motivations that were supposed to be natural to the commons, who were not moved by higher motives like fame for posterity and honor among peers— motives that were alleged to move the literate classes. Thus the concept of vulgarism carries cultural freight from the outset, and from some social perspectives it does not genuinely exist, or — *ought* not to exist.

Vulgarism



- Although most dictionaries offer "obscene word or language" as a definition for **vulgarism**, others have insisted that a **vulgarism** in English usage is different from obscenity or profanity, cultural concepts which connote offenses against the community.
- One kind of vulgarism, defined by the OED as "a colloquialism of a low or unrefined character," substitutes a coarse word where the context might lead the reader to expect a more refined expression: "the tits on Botticelli's *Venus*" is a vulgarism.