

ENGLISH AS LINGUA FRANCA BETWEEN RUSSIAN AND JAPANESE CULTURES

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Research studies show that specialized kind of English is developed within the English language description of foreign culture. This is a special form of language existence. Most of scientists call it as English of Intercultural Communication which has the interpenetration of two linguocultures. This English has double language reality because it is formed on the basis of “double language” culture (English culture plus local culture).

We define the status of English as the language of Intercultural Communication, or World Englishes, or in the terms by V.V. Kabakchi as “Cross-Cultural-English”, or in the terms by V.V. Safonova as “Language of International Communication in the Context of the Dialogue of Cultures and Civilizations”, or as Lingua franca (intermediate language) between cultures. This English includes into its vocabulary many “Ksenonyms” in the term by V.V. Kabakchi. “Ksenonyms” mean the linguosociocultural terms of the foreign language cultures and different national, historical, geographical, religious, cultural realities. But namely they are the greatest difficulty in translation. Intermediate language is universal and can occur in any combination of languages and cultures but in practice this English is often combined with Asian languages and cultures.

We'll try to show this process on the examples of housing and hotels, entertainment and leisure time, eating out and holidays in Japanese culture. These themes are studied on the first course by the students at Tomsk Polytechnic University (the italicized-highlighted words are ksenonyms).

Japan has unique territory and culture. So, we can find many unique types of housing, especially traditional homes, modern homes, one room mansion and capsule hotels. A traditional Japanese house does not have a designated use for each room aside from the entrance area (*genkan*, 玄関), kitchen, bathroom, and toilet. Any room can be a living room, dining room, study, or bedroom. This is possible because all the necessary furniture is portable. It is important to note that in Japan, living room is expressed as *ima*, living "space". This is because the size of a room can be changed by altering the partitioning. Partitions within the house are created by *fusuma*, sliding doors made from wood and paper, which are portable and easily removed. Large traditional houses often have only one *ima* (living room/space) under the roof, while kitchen, bathroom, and toilet are attached on the side of the house as extensions.

A capsule hotel is a type of hotel developed in Japan that features a large number of “extremely small rooms” (capsules) intended to provide cheap, basic overnight accommodation for guests who do not require the services offered by more conventional hotels. The guest room is a modular plastic or fiberglass block roughly 2 by 1 by 1.25 m (6 ft 7 in by 3 ft 3 in by 4 ft 1 in). Most include a television, an electronic console, and wireless internet connection. The capsules are stacked side-by-side.

At a Japanese inn you will have a chance to wear a yukata.

The word “yukata” is a linguosociocultural term which is specific for inner culture of Japanese language. Such English words can partially correlate the meaning of the word: dressing-gown, bath-robe, house-coat, pyjamas, night-gown. But the best way to define it is following: The yukata is a gay cotton kimono and quite relaxing to wear. And if you read such sentence: After his bath he enveloped his still-glowing body in the simple hotel bath-robe and went out to join his friends in the café down the street?! – It can provoke cultural shock.

And what are “kabuki, bunraku and noh”?

Kabuki is the most colourful of all forms of traditional Japanese entertainment. It is a combination of acting, singing and dancing. The women’s parts are played by male actors. The exaggerated make-up is used to intensify the feeling of the character the actor portrays. Bunraku is a classical puppet play in which the story – teller and the puppet’s leader work in full view of the audience. “Noh” simply means “performance”. It is characterized by the use of masks and by stately dancing and singing to the accompaniment of instrumental music.

And what about Japanese specialities?

Sukiyaki, Shabushabu, Tempura and Yakitory are just the right Japanese dishes. Then if you are the adventurous type you would like typical Japanese foods such as sushi and soba (buck-wheat noodles). Tempura is a delicious variety of shrim, fish, seaweed, chrysanthemum leaves and various familiar vegetables. Literally tonkatsu means pock cutlet with shredded cabbage, two slices of tomato and a bowl of miso soup.

Japanese holidays are unforgettable, for example Takayama Festival. The date of the first Takayama Festival goes back to 16th century. The festival is held twice a year, one in Spring and one in Autumn. The Spring Festival is held to pray for a good harvest. The Autumn Festival is held after the crops are harvested. It is for giving thanks. In both festival days, the yatai (festival floats) are displayed in the streets of Takayama.

Thus, we see in the situation of contemporary globalization we are moving from the using English as a foreign language to the using it as the single second language and as the intermediate language. This is the only way to overcome the language barrier.

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GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES OF TENSE AND ASPECT IN ENGLISH COMPARED TO CHINESE AND JAPANESE

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The aim of this paper is to review the tense system of the English language in comparison with two non-Germanic languages of Asia, namely Chinese and Japanese. Comparing of different grammatical categories of heterogeneous languages is a mainstream trend in contemporary linguistics. It is based on the cross-lingual matches that may signalize the genetic relations between the two or more languages compared. In our case the three languages belong to three different language families – Germanic branch of Indo-European language family (English), Chinese branch of Sino-Tibetan