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## The peculiarities of the terms of the disappearance of German in the speech of representatives of the German ethnic minority

The proposes theses deal with the description of the terms representing the linguistic and sociolinguistic peculiarities of the dying tendencies of the German language in the speech of the descendants of German immigrants dispersedly living on the territory of various German language islands located in different parts of the globe (Australia, USA, Russia).

Key words: language attrition; language death; language involution; German language islands; bilingualism.

At present, the description of the processes of language extinction is one of the main problems of areal linguistics. Of particular interest to linguistics is the study of the language forms of speech of representatives of German language islands around the world. This problem focuses the research attention of linguists on the description of the conceptual and terminological apparatus that helps to understand the peculiarities of the dynamic of the disappearance of German in the communication among the German settlers.

One of the notable examples of the disintegration of the German language can be the dying variety of German (relic variety) spoken in South Australia (Barossa Valley), 70 kilometers north of Adelaide, where between 2009 and 2012 a total of 32 speakers (over 80 years old) of Barossa German were recorded by C.M. Riehl. To describe a dying variety at the end of its development process, the researcher introduced the term «relic variety» and points out that the speakers of a relic variety used the minority language only during their childhood within the family. However, after entering school, where they acquired the majority language, the use of the L1 with siblings and other younger family members gradually ended and the use was restricted exclusively to communication with family members of the older generations. After the death of the older family

members (parents, uncles and aunts), they gave up the active use of the language completely. Usually, speakers received no instruction in their L1 and had little access to the written language. A relic variety is no longer actively spoken and therefore shows phenomena that usually occur in language attrition. The researcher states the speakers of a relict variety have usually already acquired an incomplete version of the L1 (only a spoken variety that was tied to family and religious contexts) and have never lived in a monolingual environment. This means that they are confronted with variable input that varies not only within the language community, but also for each individual speaker.

C.M. Riehl stresses in this process a special role is given to the speaker's ability to reproduce in speech the structures in German learned in childhood. According to this approach, in processes of language attrition the later-acquired abstract schemata are lost first, while concrete, rooted constructions remain in memory longer. This theory is also based on neurobiological findings that say that more frequently used constructions activate nodes within a connectionist network. Today's Barossa Germans have stored the forms that appeared more frequently and also in parallel in different construction types. It can be assumed that the competing constructions that occurred less frequently were less strongly rooted in memory and are therefore no longer accessible. Another plausible explanation is that both variants in the L1 were initially rooted in childhood, but due to language attrition processes only one of the variants was retained. Since German was used predominantly in the domains of school and church, it is obvious that these expressions were present in the speakers' linguistic repertoire for longer and more frequently.

Based on these considerations, the following criteria apply to a relic variety: 1) the minority language is used only by a small number of speakers of the oldest generation; 2) speakers acquired an incomplete system of an already simplified variety; 3) speakers received different input; 4) speakers did not acquire a writing system of the L1 variety (except for liturgical texts); 5) speakers live isolated from other speakers of the same L1) [4, p. 14].

Texas became one of the many German language islands on the linguistic map, where the final extinction of the German language in the speech of the descendants of German settlers took place. One of the most prominent researchers of the disappearing form of Texas German is Professor Hans Boas of the University of Austin in Texas, who has been conducting a comprehensive study of the features of Texas German for 13 years. During this period Hans Boas managed to record the speech of more than 350 active speakers of Texas German. The recorded speech of the descendants of Texas Germans, transcription and translation of their texts formed the basis of the archive created by the scientist to preserve the German oral speech of the inhabitants of Texas (Texas German Dialect Archive). Studying the monologue and dialogic speech of Texas Germans

recorded by him during field work in 2002 in different areas of the state of Texas and analyzing the records of his colleagues who recorded and studied the speech of the descendants of Texas Germans at different levels for 60–70 years Hans Boas came to the conclusion that Texas German has a number of features that can be described as language death which, according to the researcher, is «one of the most noticeable phenomena in linguistics» [3, p. 1], Hans Boas pointed out the factors which lead to language death of Texas German can be significant number of discourse markers, nouns, verbs and conjunctions borrowed from English, erosion of the genitive and dative cases as well as the pronunciation of some vowel sounds as diphthongs while consonants have different properties in the initial position of a word [2, p. 387–398].

The analysis of language situations in foreign colonies-settlements of Germans forces domestic researchers to pay attention to the phenomenon of language death. In this regard, it is quite interesting to consider the Tomsk region, where since the beginning of the 1940s a large number of descendants of German settlers were forcibly deported. Due to conditions of long-term residence in a space where they had to speak foreign language and live among people of foreign confession linguistic behavior of members of German ethnic minority reflects symptoms of language death of the second type, i.e. language involution, considered as a set of intra- and extralinguistic features of the functional and systemic-structural disintegration of a certain language form [1, c. 77]. One of the proofs of reflection of the processes of language involution can be the data obtained as a result of the sociolinguistic survey conducted in 2017 and 2021 by the author of these theses. 40 Russian Germans of different parts of Tomsk region (Parabel, Kargasok, Kolpashevo, Molchanovo and Chaya) were interviewed. The analysis of speech behavior of individual informants shows intralinguistic features which are reflected primarily due to the overwhelming pressure of Russian. This can be seen in the simplification of the syntax of German speech that can lead to the change in the sentence structure, failure of the frame construction, omission of the copula verb (copula) as well as the presence of construction of sentences according to the syntactic models of the Russian language [1, c. 79]. Extralinguistic factors that determine the processes of language involution in 5 districts of the Tomsk region reflects the pressure of state language (Russian) which widespreads the displacement of German in social, familial and professional spheres.

In conclusion, it can be said that at present, within the framework of areal linguistics, a large number of works are appearing aimed at the manifestation and description of an expanded range of terminological processes necessary to reflect the multifaceted phase movement of the German language in the speech of representatives of the German ethnic minority living on German language islands in different parts of the globe (Australia, the USA and Russia). It should be noted that the culture of the German language, widespread in the territories, is colored by

a clearly expressed dynamics of the extinction of these forms. It is represented by both linguistic and sociolinguistic features which had been identified, described and analyzed by scientists on the basis of fundamental data obtained as a result of studying fieldwork. There is a hope that scientists from South America, Africa and the Pacific region with German language islands will contribute to the terminological development of the phase of the dying of the German language in the speech of the descendants of German settlers in these regions.

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# Междисциплинарный подход к исследованию социально-экономического перевода

Данная статья посвящена рассмотрению особенностей перевода социально-экономических текстов. Доказывается, что социально-экономический перевод — это специальный вид перевода, обладающий рядом особенностей и специфических черт, которые обязательно должны быть отражены в переводе. Представленные наблюдения будут полезны начинающим переводчикам.

Ключевые слова: социально-экономический перевод; социально-экономическая лексика; международные отношения; культура; особенности перевода.