

SPECIFICITY OF VOWEL SYSTEM DEVIATIONS IN THE NORTH-EASTERN DIALECT OF ENGLAND WITHIN THE PERIOD OF 2000-2010 YEARS

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The paper presents the results of the experimental study of the specificity in the vocalic system deviations registered in the pronunciation of the English north-eastern dialect speakers within the period of 2000-2010 years. By means of auditory and comparative analyses the author determines the exact nomenclature of segmental units of the north-eastern dialect vocalic system. The work also presents the percentage rates of the mentioned deviations actualizations as well as the quantitative relation between specific types of deviations in the vowel system and the speakers' socio-cultural level and their sex.

Key words: *English north-eastern dialect, pronunciation norm, phonetic deviations, vocalic system, frequency rate.*

Nowadays the sphere of interest among linguists covers such issues as factors causing language variation, the connection of language with a national mentality and with speakers' individualities [1; 2]. Studies of variantology, as well as dialectology, have become today relevant and of utmost interest and importance.

As is known, vowels generally carry a lot of information about the speaker. Even the very slight adjustments in vowel pronunciation can cue both regional and social differences. Therefore, the aim of this work is to study the vocalic system of the English north-eastern dialect in comparison to the Standard English taking into consideration a socio-cultural factor, sex of the speakers within the time period of 2000-2010 years.

The exact nomenclature of segmental units of the north-eastern dialect vocalic system was determined by means of auditory and comparative analyses of segmental phonetic units' deviations from the orthoepic norm of the English language. In total 19 vocalic segmental units have undergone the study covering deviations within monophthongs and diphthongs. Moreover, the results of the analysis have shown that the common tendency for all the speakers is the reduction of vowels which we consider to be connected with the short duration that was also proved instrumentally.

Graphical interpretations of the quantitative relation between specific types of deviations in the vowel system and the speakers' socio-cultural level and their

sex let us state that during the period of 2000-2010 years most deviations were characteristic of the speech of men, especially with a high socio-cultural level, though some dialect features of the vocalic system were only registered in the speech of women. For example, the advanced tongue position while pronouncing the open fully back phonemes /ɔ:/ and /ɑ:/ which qualifies them as back advanced phonemes, and the /aɪ/ nucleus diphthong descent in the first singular possessive pronoun *my* were registered exclusively in the speech of women with a high socio-cultural level.

A similar situation of vocalic deviations within 2000-2010 years was indicated in the speech of English East-North dialect speakers with mid as well as low socio-cultural levels. Proving that the speech of women tends to be more correct when compared with men. At the same time, female speakers of the English north-eastern dialect use deviations in their speech on a regular basis.

Moreover, the formed frequency rate matrices of dialect phonetic deviations show the change of a conventional tendency according to which the characteristics of the north-eastern dialect of England within the period of 2000-2010 display a low level of socio-cultural relation to the speech standardization. Such a tendency was caused by the increase of education availability, development of mass media, social and geographical mobility of the English north-east inhabitants. Thus, the paper proves the expediency of studying the vocalic system deviations from territorial, temporal and social points of view.

References

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