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Centro de Letras e Artes
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SELEÇÃO DE MESTRADO 2020 PROVA DE LÍNGUA ESTRANGEIRA: INGLÊS

Instruções: A partir do artigo científico abaixo responda as seguintes perguntas, **em português**. Não escreva o seu nome em nenhum lugar nessa prova ou em papéis que serão entregues com ela. Na linha a seguir, escreva o seu número de identificação.

Identificação: _____

LANGUAGE CONTACT: LEXICAL BORROWING IN SPEECH OF THE RUSSIAN GERMANS OF THE KIROV REGION

INTRODUCTION

The Kirov region is one of the largest multinational regions of the Russian Federation which includes representatives of more than a hundred nationalities. The main ethnic groups are Russians, Tatars, Mari, Udmurts, Ukrainians, Byelorussians, Azerbaijani, Armenians, Gypsies, Chuvash, Germans, Moldovans, Komi. As a result of such multilingualism, there has developed a linguistic situation characterized by a great variety of interacting languages and their forms functioning on a relatively small territory. More than that, speech of people is, naturally, subject to social stratification which makes the process of language interaction even more complicated. Thus, the Kirov region is an interesting and important place where comprehensive linguistic and socio-cultural studies can be conducted.

The problem of the language forms is of great importance in modern linguistics. In domestic and foreign studies of recent decades, it is often stated that, despite a large number of studies devoted to language variation, many issues related to heterogeneity of the language continuum still remain relevant but under-researched. It especially applies to some problems associated with a multifaceted description of the language forms found in different territories and defined as relatively autonomous communication systems having their own specific elements, norms, and speakers.

Quite recently, in the late 1980s, there was an increase of academic interest in the problem of the relationship between language and the environment caused by the scientific concern over the fate of national minorities in Russia and the CIS¹. This resulted in an increased number of studies of history, culture, and language of these minorities. The linguistic diversity, dying and disappearing languages are the topics of numerous studies at the turn of XX and XXI centuries. The fate of such languages, their present functioning,

¹ The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) is a regional intergovernmental organization of originally ten post-Soviet republics in Eurasia formed following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.



and their future is the priority for humanity since language reveals the world philosophy; it is a system of knowledge about the world, reflected in its rules and linguistic structure. This problem is also studied within the framework of German speech islands in Russia and other CIS countries and has its own traditions: the focus is always on the inhabitants of the speech islands and their dialects (Dinges, 1925; Schirmunski, 1931; Dongauzer, 1980; Vashkau, 1994; Domashnev, 2005; Klassen, 1969; Stumpp, 1972; Auerbach, 1989; Naidič, 1997). The significance of the research in this field is quite evident, since recording an authentic linguistic worldview of the Russian Germans makes it possible to preserve it. Although, it is currently becoming extremely difficult to do it due to gradual disappearance of these dialects. Besides, a speech island is a kind of a “language laboratory” (Schirmunski, 1930) bringing about in short time the linguistic processes which developed over centuries on the way to our contemporary standard languages.

It is well-known that there are some isolated separate speech islands still existing in Russia, where speakers of various German dialects live. Their ancestors moved from Germany to Russia in the second half of XVIII - early XIX centuries. The dialects of many of such islands have been described quite comprehensively (Smirnitckaya & Barotov, 1997; Moskalyuk, 2000; 2002; Dyatlova, 2003; Moskvina, 2006; Svetozarova, 2006; Serzhanova, 2007). However, there are also Russian German settlements which are still little known and whose dialects have scarcely been investigated. These include, for example, the former special settlements of Sozimsky and Chernigovsky of the Verkhnekamsk district of the Kirov region whose German dialects represent a unique form of the language that has evolved under certain historical and social conditions and they have been functioning in the context of intralinguistic and interlingual interaction. The German dialects of the above-mentioned settlements genealogically belong to the two main dialect groups: Low German and Upper German, however, as a result of their separation from the main ethnic group they developed their own phonetic, morphological, syntactic and lexical features determined by the internal laws of language development. At the same time, these dialects have for a long time been exposed to and are still influenced by a foreign language environment, primarily that of the Russian language, which leads to alignment and unification of the languages.

(BAYKOVA; PORCHESKU; ONOSHKO; SHISHKINA; SKURIKHINA; MIRONINA. Disponível em http://www.tojdac.org/tojdac/VOLUME8-SPTMSPCL_files/tojdac_v080SSE146.pdf. Acesso em 30/09/2019).

- 1) Como os autores justificam a relevância dos estudos na região de Kirov?
- 2) Segundo os autores, que tema foi muito pouco pesquisado até agora?
- 3) O que torna difícil o registro de dialetos de grupos da Alemanha na Rússia?
- 4) Em que período os primeiros indivíduos desses grupos provenientes da Alemanha passaram a ocupar regiões da Rússia?
- 5) O que torna esses dialetos especiais do ponto de vista linguístico?