

Exercise 36

Translate the text into English.

Я люблю английский язык. Чем дольше я учу его и пользуюсь им, тем меньше, как мне кажется, я его знаю. Однажды я сидел в небольшой компании англичан. В разгар беседы сидевшая рядом со мной англичанка вдруг воскликнула: ^{cw} "Мистер Орестов, не тяните меня за ногу". Я смутился и даже виновато взглянул на свои руки: одна держала сигарету, другая лежала на колене, моем собственном. Откуда я мог знать тогда, что 'тянуть за ногу' значит в **английском** языке 'разыгрывать', 'дурачить', 'мистифицировать' и **еще кое-что**, не имеющее отношения к ногам. А знакомый **джентльмен** во время спора упрекнул меня: [∞] "Не бегайте, пожалуйста вокруг **куста**". Поскольку в комнате, где шла беседа, естественно не могло быть кустов, я понял, что опять поскользнулся на льду английского языка. Оказалось, это значит 'не ходите вокруг да около*' или, проще, 'говорите прямо'.

(из книги О. Орестова 'Другая жизнь и берег дальний')

Exercise 37

Explain the underlined words and word-combinations which have lately appeared in the language. Which of them seem familiar to you and have already gained ground not only in the English language but also in other languages? Indicate the areas of human activity they involve.

The Ever - Changing World of Words ... and the Way We Speak New.

A modern man or woman may work as a Eurocrat, or an ombudsman, a troubleshooter, a spokesperson, an anchorman or a III. Their children may be punks or skinheads, learn modern maths at the local poly or sixth-form college or attend a playground.

They pay VAT but do not practice tax evasion as they disapprove of the black economy. Instead they bulkbuy at the cashmnd j^am: **with** their credit cards. They may **live** in a tower block or a moMkJlome^. They eat junk food from a takeaway. They wear jumpsuits, homeknits.

or unisex hipsters ... To get to work, they travel along a ring road, bus lane, cycleway or pedestrian precinct, driving a hatchback or a mini-cab ... They might take the high speed tram or the intercity... To amuse themselves, they go wind-surfing, sky-diving, orienteering, visit a safari park, or play bingo at the community center. Discos attract those who are with it others feel more laidback listening to country-and-western on the hi-fi; they might read some sci-fi, dip into a coffee-table book, or watch sitcom or soap opera on the box or the video. Some get their kicks from jogging, others from yoga..

Exercise 38

Read the text below and say if the following statements are true or false.

1. Electronic media, the Internet including, have found a common standard for communication.
2. Electronic communications have had a considerable effect on language.
3. The language of electronic conversation does not differ from ordinary English.
4. The style of the **written** conversation is simple **and understandable** to everybody.
5. 'There is a special **dictionary for compute! users**.'
6. The English-speaking people have **lost** (the English Inm'uape ;r their property.

Electronic Media and the English Language

New technology does not only affect the language but it also changes our speech habits. For the electronic media that bind the world together are essentially carriers of language. To work efficiently they need a common standard. The personal computer (PC) has one: Microsoft's operating system, Windows. The Internet has another: TCP / IP, Esperanto or transmission protocol, which allows computers anywhere in the world to hook into it. The English language is now the operating standard for global communication.