

THE INFLUENCE OF ENGLISH ON INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AND IT COLLABORATION

English today serves as a *lingua franca* in many professional fields and is the most common second language globally. With official status in 64 countries and over a billion speakers, it provides a shared platform for mutual understanding among people from diverse linguistic backgrounds. In international companies, at conferences, and during negotiations, English is the standard for meetings, emails, reports, and presentations. This helps reduce misunderstandings and facilitates smoother communication. The global dominance of English is not merely a linguistic phenomenon but a reflection of historical, economic, and cultural forces that have shaped its widespread adoption [2].

A major factor behind English's global dominance is its role as the language of business. Many multinational corporations have adopted it for internal and external communication, which streamlines collaboration between offices worldwide and enhances the efficiency of international teams. This trend is visible across industries, from technology to traditional manufacturing. Companies that implement English as a common corporate language often do so to improve operational efficiency and unify global operations, despite the potential challenges this may introduce [4].

English is also the dominant language in the scientific and technical domains. Most scientific publications, technical documentation, and software are produced in English, making it indispensable for professionals seeking to stay current. Participation in international webinars, conferences, and access to leading research typically requires English proficiency.

This is especially evident in the Ukrainian IT sector, where English has

become the standard for professional interaction. It enables participation in global projects, viewing presentations by leading engineers, and engaging with the international community. A fluent specialist can easily integrate into English-speaking environments, while a lack of language skills can hinder full participation in global networks.

In design, English has become a unifying language due to the global nature of the community. Tools like Adobe products, Sketch, and Figma operate primarily in English, and professional communication – through blogs, articles, and forums – is overwhelmingly conducted in English. This facilitates collaboration and knowledge sharing among designers targeting international audiences.

In IT, the prevalence of English is further reinforced by the fact that programming languages are based on English vocabulary. Even those developed outside English-speaking countries use English keywords such as `if`, `else`, and `function`. Additionally, the early dominance of the USA and UK in computer science established English as the default language for coding and documentation.

The use of English in international business is tied to the historical influence of Great Britain and the USA in global trade. Contracts, correspondence, proposals, and presentations are often conducted in English, which frequently serves as the “controlling language” in legal documents when disputes arise. The global spread of English was deeply rooted in the colonial and commercial expansion of the British Empire, which established English as a dominant language in governance, trade, and education across many regions [1].

Despite its benefits, the dominance of English presents challenges for non-native speakers. Linguistic difficulties, unfamiliar terminology, and cultural nuances can hinder effective communication. This can lead to reduced confidence, lower productivity, and missed opportunities for expression and innovation. Cultural misunderstandings may also emerge, even when formal language proficiency exists. Moreover, language barriers in multinational

companies can result in unequal access to information and informal networks, reinforcing existing power imbalances [3]. Addressing these barriers requires effort from both individuals and organizations. Investment in language training and the promotion of inclusive communication practices can foster a more equitable and effective work environment.

Ultimately, English enables global collaboration, fosters innovation, and connects specialists worldwide. It supports diverse teams by providing a shared medium for exchanging ideas, solving problems, and learning from one another. Many companies embrace the motto, “English is our working language,” as it symbolizes access to the global market and a bridge to international success.

REFERENCE

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