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ENGLISH AS A LANGUAGE OF INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMMUNICATION

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In contemporary science, international cooperation is a defining feature of research activity. The development of digital technologies, global scientific networks, and academic mobility has led to the formation of a unified communicative space in which the English language dominates. This trend is particularly evident in archaeology, a discipline grounded in interdisciplinarity and international field research.

This is driven by the need to integrate diverse methodological approaches and scientific traditions within joint research programs. Under such conditions, effective communication becomes a key factor in the successful implementation of scientific projects.

Historically, the language of science has evolved—from Ancient Greek and Latin to French and German. However, in the second half of the twentieth century, English established itself as the global standard of scientific communication. Today, the majority of scientific publications are indexed in databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar, where English-language texts prevail, directly influencing the visibility and citation impact of research. This necessitates the adaptation of researchers to the requirements of the international academic environment. At the same time, this trend establishes new criteria for evaluating scientific activity, particularly those related to publication output.

In the field of archaeology, this is most clearly manifested in publication practices. Leading journals such as *Antiquity*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, and *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* publish materials in English, ensuring global access to research findings [3, p. 3]. This facilitates the rapid dissemination of new approaches, particularly in studies of climate change and the social organization of ancient societies. Moreover, publications in such journals enhance the international status of researchers and academic institutions. They also contribute to the formation of a shared scientific discourse within archaeological scholarship.

A concrete example of international archaeological communication can be found in projects conducted under the auspices of UNESCO, aimed at preserving World Heritage sites, where English is used as the working language for coordinating research. A similar role is played within European archaeology, particularly during the annual conferences of the European Association of Archaeologists, where representatives of various scientific schools exchange research findings. Such initiatives demonstrate the importance of a unified language for organizing international scientific dialogue and ensuring effective knowledge transfer between generations of researchers.

Scientific communication and professional networking play a significant role in the development of modern archaeology by facilitating the integration of researchers into the international academic environment. Interaction among scholars occurs through participation in international conferences, workshops, field schools, as well as via digital platforms and academic social networks. In this context, English serves as the primary means of communication, enabling the maintenance of professional contacts regardless of national and linguistic barriers.

An essential component of scientific interaction is the peer-review process, which involves the discussion and evaluation of scholarly work in an international context. Communication with journal editorial boards, preparation of responses to reviewers, and participation in collaborative publications all require a high level of proficiency in academic English. Furthermore, networking fosters the formation of interdisciplinary research groups, which is particularly important for archaeology as a complex science.

Through active communication, researchers gain access to new ideas, methods, and technologies, as well as opportunities to participate in international grant programs. At the same time, insufficient language proficiency may limit participation in such forms of collaboration, highlighting the importance of English as a tool for professional advancement in modern science.

An important aspect of international archaeological communication is fieldwork, which directly requires effective linguistic interaction. In international expeditions, working communication includes briefings, field documentation, description of stratigraphic sections, cataloguing of finds, and coordination of teamwork. In particular, English is used for completing field diaries, creating context sheets, recording GPS data, and discussing interpretations at excavation sites. This ensures the standardization of data and its subsequent integration into international research projects. Effective communication in field conditions directly affects the quality of recording archaeological information. Any inaccuracies in data transmission may lead to errors in subsequent interpretation.

In field research, English functions as a lingua franca. During international expeditions, researchers use standardized terminology to describe finds and stratigraphy, including terms such as *stratigraphic layer*, *pottery assemblage*, and *feature*. This ensures precision in communication, but also requires a high level of linguistic competence.

The use of a common language also facilitates prompt decision-making during excavations, which is particularly important given the time constraints of the field season.

The formation of shared terminology is an important aspect of international communication, but it is accompanied by translation challenges. For example, the English term *settlement* may encompass a broader range of meanings than its Ukrainian equivalent "поселення," creating the risk of ambiguous interpretation of archaeological data. Such cases demonstrate the need for a critical approach to the use of foreign terminology.

Translation issues may also arise due to differences in scientific traditions across countries, requiring clarification of terms within each specific study.

An important element of international archaeological communication is terminological unification, which involves the standardization of scientific concepts and their consistent use across different research traditions. In modern archaeology, this is achieved through publications in international journals, the use of English-language glossaries, and participation in collaborative projects. For example, terms such as *context*, *feature*, and *assemblage* have established meanings in Western archaeological practice, yet may lose precision or acquire broader interpretations in translation. Terminological unification enhances the accuracy of scientific communication, while also requiring consideration of national scientific traditions and contextual usage.

Despite its clear advantages, the dominance of the English language gives rise to a number of challenges. In particular, researchers point to the phenomenon of "linguistic inequality," which manifests in unequal opportunities for non-native speakers. Additionally, there is a risk of the marginalization of national languages in scientific discourse, potentially leading to homogenization and the loss of local traditions. This may negatively affect the development of local scientific schools and increase dependence on English-language academic standards.

Thus, the English language plays a key role in international archaeological communication, ensuring the functioning of scientific publications, databases, and research projects. At the same time, its dominance is accompanied by challenges related to linguistic inequality and translation issues. This necessitates not only proficiency in English but also a critical understanding of its role in modern science.

Therefore, linguistic competence becomes an essential component of the professional training of archaeologists, enabling full participation in the international scientific community.

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