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WHY DO I STUDY ENGLISH?

Abstract. The article deals with history of world languages and answer the question why students study English.

Аңдатпа. Мақалада әлем тілдер тарихы және ағылшын тілін үйрену қажеттілігі зерттелінді.

Аннотация: В статье рассматривается история мировых языков и дается ответ, почему следует изучать английский язык.

Keywords: scientist, physics, mathematics, language

Түйінді сөздер: ғалым, физика, математика, тіл

Ключевые слова: ученый, физика, математика, язык

Why do I study English? To answer this question seems to be very simple: I am a first-year student of Kazakh Academy of Transport and Communications and the subject “foreign language” is on the Curriculum. But it is not that easy. Yes, I major in transport engineering, so mathematics, physics, strength of materials, and other sciences are the core of my professional training. But humanities?! Humanities seem to be of little use for engineers. But let us go back in history.

Archimedes of Syracuse (born in 287 BC, died in 212 BC, aged around 75) was a Greek mathematician, physicist, engineer, inventor and astronomer. He is regarded as one of the leading scientists in classical antiquity. He was one of the first to apply mathematics to physical phenomena, founding hydrostatics and statics, including an explanation of the principle of lever. He designed innovative machines, such as his screw pump, compound pulleys, and defensive war machines to protect his native Syracuse from invasion. Unlike his inventions, the mathematical writings of Archimedes were little known in antiquity. They were written in the Ancient Greek language and in about the year of 1400 were translated into the Latin language (which was the language of science at that time). His works became an influential source of ideas for scientists during the Renaissance i.e. 14-16 century AD. [1]

‘Middle Ages’ is the term denoting the period between the fall of the Rome and the Renaissance. Some historians refer to this period as ‘period of ignorance and superstitions’ in Europe. It was the time of ‘witch-hunting’ when religious fanatics burnt paintings of Botticelli and Michelangelo and Inquisition sent scholars to Auto-da-fe and burnt them and their manuscripts. Many works of outstanding scientists of ancient Greece and Rome were burnt as ‘pagan’. However, at that same time the Arab Empire is often considered to have experienced its Golden Age.[2] It was at that period that many works of antic Greek and Roman philosophers were brought to Arab Empire, saved from extermination and then returned back to Europe. There is even a manuscript of Aristoteles with notes on the margins made by Alfarabius in the Library of Ancient Manuscripts in France.

Sir Isaac Newton was an English mathematician, astronomer, and physicist who is widely recognized as one of the most influential scientists of all time and a key figure in the scientific revolution, His book *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica* (Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy), was first published in 1687. It laid the foundation of classical mathematics. Newton also laid the foundations of classical mechanics. Newton also made a great contribution to optics, and he shares credit with Gotfried Wilhelm Leibniz for developing the infinitesimal calculus. Newton’s *Principia* formulated the laws of motion and universal gravitation that dominated scientists’ view of the physical universe for the next three centuries. Newton removed

the last doubts of the heliocentric model of the Solar System [3]. Pay attention to the fact that Newton's major work was written in Latin., although he was English.

The Latin language dominated in science till the beginning of Industrial Revolution which is commonly connected with the invention of steam engine in Great Britain in late 1700. Since that time on the domination of the English language in scientific, trade and production spheres has constantly been increasing,

It is common knowledge that the British Empire dominated the whole world. Its colonies were on all continents: Europe, Asia, America, Africa, Australia. The territories of the colonies were incomparably larger than that of the metropoly. The same can be said about the population. Thus the number of English speaking people was very large. But at Victorian time speaking English for foreigners was not prestigious. Semi-slaves at colonies spoke so-called 'pigeon English' it was not prestigious, it was not voluntary.

The situation has greatly changed after World War 2. The US became the most powerful, the most developed country in the world. It produces the best cars. Hollywood shoot the best films, the universities pay the greatest grants attracting the best professors and the most talented students. So the greatest achievements in science are in the US. The Nobel Prize Winners are from the US. Major International organizations are headquartered in the US. Scientific conferences are held in English. American English does not differ greatly from British English. If you want to be a success you should speak English.

The English language has become the language of international communication. One of the greatest advantages of speaking English is the quickest access to the new technologies.. English is the primary language of business throughout the world. Most of money transactions, business contracts, emails, memos are written in English. Fluent English will give you additional benefits in seeking the job with a foreign company.

Speaking even a little of English will help you to travel all over the world. Air companies, airports, hotels, restaurants, cafes, shops, SPAs, hairdressers employ English speaking personnel. Internet, WhatsApp, email, will give you a chance to communicate with the whole world. That is why I study English.

REFERENCES

- [1] <https://en./wiki/Archimedes>
- [2] https://en./wiki/Dark_Ages
- [3] https://en./wiki/isaak_Newton