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ҒЫЛЫМИ ЖУРНАЛ

НАУЧНЫЙ ЖУРНАЛ  
Торайғыров университета

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**ТОРАЙҒЫРОВ  
УНИВЕРСИТЕТІНІҢ  
ХАБАРШЫСЫ**

**Филологиялық сериясы**  
1997 жылдан бастап шығады



**ВЕСТНИК  
ТОРАЙҒЫРОВ  
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## **ENGLISH AS AN ACADEMIC LINGUA FRANCA IN PERIODICALS**

*The given article considers the relevance of the English language and the level of its functioning as an academic lingua franca in Kazakhstani periodicals. Authors particularly dwell on English language articles published in scientific and methodical journal Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education recommended by the Committee for Control of Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (CCES MES RK) in the period from 2010 to 2019 years. Due to the quantitative method, the high tendency of publishing English language articles has been identified in the journal Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education. As a result it is evident that in the academic setting English is sharply becoming the lingua franca as a means of exchanging scientific data and fixing the main results of research. The largest number of English-language articles were presented in the section of Linguistics. However, the statistical data enables us to assume the progressive use of English as an academic lingua franca in all areas of philological sciences.*

*Keywords: globalization, English language, academic lingua franca, scientific article, periodicals.*

### **Introduction**

At the age of globalization and the expansion of international contacts, English is gaining a special status within the framework of academic communication.

Canadian scientist M. Jelavich points out: «The intensification of communication and contact between peoples of different nations has become an experiment in not only economic harmonization, but also cultural adoption and adaptation that will reverberate across educational and research institutions. The examination of national culture in relation to business and management, education and research is an important issue in this era of globalization» [1, 26]. Globalization

is correlated with the economic development of countries and cultural interaction between them and covers processes in the field of education and research.

British linguist D. Crystal, who closely follows the world status of English and its impact on other languages, notes that globalization creates many unique language situations, in the light of which the role of both multilingualism and local languages simultaneously increases [2, 11].

«English alone that can reasonably claim to have become a global lingua franca» [3, 11]. Therefore, English language, in this sense, has reached truly global dimensions no other language has come near before. It is used in a very large number of domains, spoken by millions of people for different purposes.

From a linguistic point of view, globalization manifests itself primarily in the ubiquity of the English language, which is necessary for the participation of all communities in joint projects and implementation of their common interests. Thus, the English language as lingua franca acts as a communicative tool of globalization and its inherent cooperation between cultures.

The English language as a lingua franca (ELF) is defined as «any use of English among speakers of different first languages for whom English is the communicative medium of choice, and often the only option» [4, 7].

The website of the first and largest ELF corpus, the Vienna-Oxford International Corpus of English, or VOICE, adds that ELF is «additionally acquired» ([www.univie.ac.at/voice](http://www.univie.ac.at/voice)).

A. Mauranen considered ELF as a «variety of English» [5, 514] and said that «English as a lingua franca is largely similar to English as a native language in comparable social circumstances, but it also manifests lexico-grammatical features that are clearly different: nonstandard grammatical and lexical forms are relatively common, together with lexical simplification in a statistical sense» (Mauranen A.).

Since the appearance of the first ELF studies (Jenkins 2000; Mauranen 2003; Seidlhofer 2001), the proliferation of investigations that have been carried out on different aspects of it has been dramatic. The increasing use of English as a lingua franca in a wide range of settings opens up possibilities for carrying out studies of a varying nature [6, 31].

S. Canagarajah mentions: «are greater in number than the traditionally understood [native speakers] who use English as their sole or primary language of communication» [7, 925]. The level of growth of English as a lingua franca belongs to non-native speakers using English as a means of communication.

Most languages have never developed a scientific register, and some which have are beginning to lose it because English has taken over as the lingua franca of academic publishing in more and more countries and disciplines over the past 60 to 80 years [8, 3]. Over 90 per cent of the articles in the major SCI database (Science Citation Index of the Institute for Scientific Information in Philadelphia

is an example of the most influential databases on science and technology) are taken from journals that are published in English. European databases also have this as common practice instead of leaving room for articles written in European languages other than English [9, 10].

Most journals have switched to English for purposes of broad readership. Already in 1997, Swales reported on the change of language from Swedish to English-only in the last medical serial in Sweden, *Läkartidningen* [10, 379].

French-authored articles in English are cited much more frequently than the articles in French: «The 1978 English-language papers received about 57,600 citations from 1978–1982, yielding a five-year impact rating – based on an SCI calculation – of 6.5 for the average paper. The French-language articles received 15,650, or a five-year impact of 1.9» [11, 344].

J. P. Vandembroucke [12, 1461] reports with respect to medical dissertations in the Netherlands, «By the language a thesis is written in you immediately judge its quality», meaning that thesis in English is valued more highly – as to its content! – than a thesis in Dutch or another language. Also between two texts, presented in the national Scandinavian and English languages, the preference was given to the second one «The majority of different aspects of scientific content was assessed to be better in English than in the national language version for both manuscripts» [13, 151].

In short, as these examples show, for scientists today, publishing findings automatically suggests writing the articles in English since most journals, even in non-English speaking countries, require articles in English [14, 86]. Academia lends itself nicely to such detailed linguistic investigations, as it is and has always been international by nature [15, 1].

As shown above, most academics do research, solve problems and devise solutions, present their research in international conferences, publish their findings in international journals and network in a number of ways with other researchers.

On the scale we are witnessing today, English is being used as the working language of many international domains. The twelve major international domains D. Graddol listed in 1997 have continued to use English increasingly as their working language [16, 8]:

- 1 Working language of international organizations and conferences
- 2 Scientific publication
- 3 International banking, economic affairs and trade
- 4 Advertising for global brands
- 5 Audio-visual cultural products, e.g. TV, popular music
- 6 International tourism
- 7 Tertiary education
- 8 International safety

9 International law

10 In interpretation and translation as a relay language

11 Technology transfer

12 Internet communication

Under such circumstances, the use of English in domain like science becomes more and more of a necessity, at least for publishing [17, 24].

The object of research paper is periodicals, to be more precise, articles published in the journal Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education recommended by the Committee for Control of Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan from 2010 to 2019 years, available on the Web site of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University ([www.kaznu.kz](http://www.kaznu.kz)).

The subject of research is the usage of English language as an academic lingua franca in periodicals.

Aim identify and analyze the relevance of the English language and the level of its functioning as an academic lingua franca in Kazakhstani periodicals.

Tasks:

- Identify the importance and role of English Academic language in the scientific world in the context of globalisation.
- Analyze tendency of publishing articles in English over the last decade.
- Study intercultural academic dialogue between scholars, development of intercultural communication and international research fellowships.

Results and discussion. There were used a range of methods such as quantitative analysis, content analysis.

Quantitative analysis (statistical analysis) was used to identify the percentage index of articles, to illustrate the validity of research, the gradual increase or decrease tendency of articles published in the Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education. The method was exploited to show the quantities of articles published in English over the last 10 years and the level of demand for the articles in the English language.

Content analysis. As the variation of qualitative analysis was oriented on defining or measuring various facts and trends reflected in scientific articles published in the journals recommended by the Committee for Control of Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The method was quite useful to demonstrate the main incentives, motives of publishing articles in English over the last decade.

English may be regarded as the global academic lingua franca. This statement is confirmed in the words of D. Graddol: «English is now well established as the world language of research and publication and more and more universities and

English is increasingly becoming dominant as the international language of research and publication, there is a need to investigate the scholars' empirically publications in English by non-native speakers.

In order to understand the situation in Kazakhstani science, we decided to analyze the articles published in the English language.

We have analyzed 250 English language articles published in 44 issues of the journal with 4 issues per year. However it is worth mentioning that between 2012 and 2016 6 issues were published each year. As the focus of our investigation was scientific articles in English, we paid less attention to the articles published in other languages. We covered several spheres as Linguistics, Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature, Theory of Translation, Literary Studies, Culture and articles of Young Scientists. Thereby, the result of the investigation will be as follows:

1 There was just one article in the domain Linguistics in 2010–2011 year period. This is due to fact that English was actively adopting to the Kazakhstani science and was passively acted as an academic lingua franca in the journals recommended by the Committee for Control of Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

2 The next academic year was flourishing, because 6 scientific articles were published in English, namely Linguistics (2), Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature (2) and Literary Studies (2).

3 In 2012–2013 years the number of articles published in English were increased by 8 and were presented in such sections as Linguistics (4), Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature (2), Young Scientists (2).

4 There was the same tendency in quantity in both academic years 2013–2014 and 2014–2015. Overall 20 articles were published, 11 out of them in Linguistics, Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature (1) and Young scientists (8).

5 The sharp increase of articles in English started from 2015 to 2019 with overall 79 articles in the section of Linguistics, 63 articles in the section of Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature, 45 articles in the section of Literary Studies, 12 articles in the section of Theory of Translation, 10 articles in the section of Young Scientists and 6 articles in the section of Culture.

Table 1 – Number of articles in the Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education recommended by the Committee for Control of Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan from 2010–2019

Period	Overall articles in English	Linguistics	Literary Studies	MTLL	Theory of Translation	Culture	Young Scientists
2010	1	1					
2011	6	2	2	2			
2012	8	4		2			2
2013	10	5		1			4
2014	10	6					4
2015	22	6	3	9	2		2
2016	53	16	11	14	4	5	3
2017	43	15	9	13	1		5
2018	50	21	10	15	3	1	
2019	47	21	12	12	2		
	250	97	47	68	12	6	20

The given table illustrates that there has been gradual increase of articles in the sphere of Linguistics since 2010. It is the only section which covers articles in English over the last 10 years. For instance there was no articles in the English language in the sections Literary Studies, Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature, Theory of Translation and Culture in 2010 and 2014. Some spheres show fluctuation, in particular: Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature 14 articles in 2016, but 12 articles in 2019; Theory of Translation 4 articles in 2016, but 2 articles in 2019. It should be noted that in this sections articles in English started from 2015. While number of publications of young scientists were pretty humble, 3 articles in 2016 and 5 articles in 2017. It should be noted that since 2018, the journal hasn't been issued any section separately devoted to articles written by young scientists. Owing to collaborative work of master's student and PhD students with their scientific consultants this section Young Scientists was eliminated from journal.

As a result it considerably helped to subdivide articles into several domains of philological sciences and enables us to determine sections where large amount of articles were published in English. They are: Linguistics, Methodology of



This is an indicator that our scientists strive to be participants in scientific progress. They are constantly working on increasing their relevance as researchers, presenting new conclusions and statements, contributing their point of views to the discussion of certain issues. In addition, there is an incentive to publish in peer reviewed journals and increase their rating as a scientist. But the main motive for publishing articles in a foreign journal included in international citation indexes is a sense of self-realization in a certain field of science. To realize it, conducting the research itself, systematizing the idea is not enough, there is a need for high-quality presentation of the material in written form in English.

Conclusion. Therefore today, Kazakhstani journals, in particular the journals of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University approve the relevant requirements for the content and requests for articles in order to get further promotion to the international database Scopus. Hence the demand for high-quality English-language articles. Confirmation to this is the fact that the selection of articles in the Heralds of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University has become more complex and correspondingly the total number of articles in journals has become less. For instance, in 2016, there was the largest number of articles in English 53 items that was 1/5 of all articles – 265 publications of that year; in 2019, 47 articles were published in English, which was 33 % of the total number (139) of articles.

In addition, out of 250 articles published in English, 40 articles were written by foreign authors. These are scientists from the countries such as Germany, Ukraine, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Turkey, the Kyrgyz Republic, China, Russia, USA, Canada, India, UK, Poland. This means that both Kazakhstani authors and scientists from all over the world are interested in our journal. Among the articles written by foreign scholars two articles were in the German language. They are as follows: «Expressiver Sprechact «Entschuldigung» im Deutschen und Kirgisischen» and «Sprache im Wandel: Veränderungen in der Deutschen Gegenwartssprache»

As analysis has shown, there is a high tendency of publishing articles in English over the last decade. This is due to the factors as: State programs of the country (as a part of Bologna process scholars are supposed to publish articles in English as it is an academic lingua franca), intercultural academic dialogue between scholars, development of intercultural communication and international research fellowships. Apart from those above-mentioned factors, significant factor is that the Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education is oriented on being in the list of journals indexed in Scopus database. Thereby, the latter factor is becoming more popular among scientists as it enables them to present their articles across the globe. Correspondingly, they endeavor to do it by means of English.

The overwhelming majority of articles published in English belong to linguists. However, in perspective, there is a hypothesis that the publication of articles in English will increase steadily in all fields of philological sciences.

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### **Мерзімді басылымдардағы ағылшын тілінің академиялық лингва франка ретінде қарастырылуы**

аль-Фараби атындағы Қазақ ұлттық университеті,  
Қазақстан Республикасы, Алматы қ.  
Материал 18.09.20 баспаға түсті.

*Берілген мақала қазақстандық мерзімді басылымдардағы ағылшын тілінің маңыздылығын және академиялық лингва франка ретіндегі қызметінің деңгейін қарастырады. Авторлар 2010–2019 жылдар аралығында Қазақстан білім және ғылым саласындағы бақылау комитеті бекіткен Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education ғылыми-әдістемелік журналындағы ағылшын тілінде жарыққа шыққан мақалаларды талдайды. Сандық әдістің негізінде Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education журналындағы ағылшын тілінде жарыққа шыққан мақалалардың жоғары үрдісі анықталды. Зерттеу жұмысының нәтижесі ағылшын тілінің академиялық ортада негізгі ғылыми нәтижелердің алмасу құралы ретінде лингва франка статусына айналғандығын көрсетті. Ең көп ағылшын тіліндегі ғылыми мақалалар тіл білімі бөлімінде жарияланған. Дегенмен, статистикалық деректер ағылшын тілінің лингва франка ретіндегі қолданысы филология ғылымдарының барлық салаларында үдемелі түрде артып келе жатқанын болжап көрсетті.*

*Кілтті сөздер: жаһандану, ағылшын тілі, академиялық лингва франка, ғылыми мақала, мерзімді басылым.*

А. Т. Алимбаева., Р. М. Таева, Ж. Т. Таубаев,

М. С. Онгарбаева, Г. К. Дайрабекова

### **Английский язык как академический лингва франка в периодических изданиях**

Казахский национальный университет имени аль-Фараби,  
Республика Казахстан, г. Алматы.

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*Данная статья рассматривает значимость английского языка и уровень его функционирования в качестве академического лингва франка в казахстанских периодических изданиях. Авторы анализируют англоязычные статьи, опубликованные в научно-методическом журнале Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education, рекомендованным Комитетом по контролю в сфере образования и науки Министерства образования и науки Республики Казахстан (ККСОН МОН РК), в период с 2010 по 2019 годы. Благодаря количественному методу была выявлена высокая тенденция публикации статей на английском языке в журнале Eurasian Journal of Philology: Science and Education. В результате становится очевидным, что в академической среде английский язык приобретает статус лингва франка, как средство обмена научными данными и фиксации основных результатов исследования. Наибольшее количество англоязычных статей было представлено в разделе языкознание. Но статистические данные позволяют предположить, что прогрессивное использование английского языка в качестве академического лингва франка будет наблюдаться во всех областях филологической науки.*

*Ключевые слова: глобализация, английский язык, академический лингва франка, научная статья, периодические издания.*

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