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**Аннотация**

к выпускной квалификационной работе

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**на тему: Лингвистическая ситуация в Юго-Восточном регионе Великобритании**

**Key words:** *South-East England;**linguistic situation; Cockney; London accent; London-based features; Estuary English; levelling; dialectal diversity; the standard; pronunciation deviations; vowel pronunciation trends.*

The thesis explores the linguistic situation in South-East England which is coloured by the spread of London accents in the region. The relevance of the thesis is conditioned by the fact that the linguistic situation in the South-East is unique in terms of

- its proximity to London and thus adoption of London-based features;

- the process of levelling, resulting in the emergence of interdialect forms;

- its potential to set the standard pronunciation and affect the prestige of the country.

Therefore, the aim of the thesis is to describe vowel variability in the South-East of England, the region that nurtured the current British standard of pronunciation.

The thesis is of high importance as new vocalic trends may testify to the emergence of one supra-dialectal variety that could become the future standard.

The structure of the paper includes an introduction, two chapters, conclusion, references (58 sources) and appendix.

The empirical part offers a detailed study of recent vocalic tendencies in the South-East, revealing even unsuspected ones, which went unnoticed in the previous research works in the realm (/ɜ:/ realizations as [e], /ɑ:/ as [ɒ], /ʌ/ as [ɑ], /ӕ/ as [ʌ] and /e/ as [ʌ]).

The experimental corpus makes 19 min. 48 sec. and contains 5 authentic speech recordings of young women from London, Surrey, East Sussex, Kent and Hampshire.

The acoustic analysis included vowel formant extractions (F1, F2) which allowed to estimate southeastern monophthongs in terms of their quality (height and advancement). Statistical processing of the acoustic measurements helped to infer mean formant values and create formant plots for each studied dialectal variety.

The main conclusion is that London pronunciation trends have a powerful impact on the linguistic situation in the South-East of Great Britain. The following London features are in abundant use in the region: HappY-tensing, nearly central realisations of /ɪ/ and /ʊ/, diphthongisation of /i:/, more close /ɒ, ɑ:, æ/ realisations, /u:/ and /ʊ/ fronting.

The given topic has a wide application in the foreign language teaching methodology, since the study can enhance the student’s understanding of fluent regional English speech, thus preparing them for real-life interactions with native speakers of English.

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