

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ВНУТРІШНІХ СПРАВ УКРАЇНИ  
ОДЕСЬКИЙ ДЕРЖАВНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ  
ВНУТРІШНІХ СПРАВ



Кафедра мовної підготовки



МОВА І ПРАВО:  
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНИЙ АСПЕКТ РОЗУМІННЯ,  
ТЛУМАЧЕННЯ ТА ЗАСТОСУВАННЯ ПРАВА

Матеріали студентсько-курсантського круглого столу  
(04 березня 2025 року)

Одеса  
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*ОРГКОМІТЕТ КРУГЛОГО СТОЛУ*

Голова:

Корнієнко М.В., т.в.о. першого проректора Одеського державного університету внутрішніх справ, д.ю.н., професор

Члени оргкомітету:

Домброван Н.В., начальник відділу організації наукової роботи, к.ю.н., доцент

Подлісецька О.О., доцент кафедри мовної підготовки, к.філол.н., доцент

Ситько О.М., завідувач кафедри мовної підготовки, к.філол.н., доцент

Тягнирядно Є.В., доцент кафедри мовної підготовки, к.пед.н., доцент

Шаповаленко Н.М., доцент кафедри мовної підготовки, к.філол.н., доцент

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## **INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN THE LEGAL FIELD AND THE ROLE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Afanasieva Valeriia**

3rd year cadet of the 310th training unit,  
faculty of training specialists for pre-trial investigation bodies  
of the National Police of Ukraine

Academic supervisor: **Arapaki Maryna**  
*Odessa State University of Internal Affairs*

Today, the role of a lawyer in society is extremely important, as these professionals deal with complex problems in the social-political, economic, and international spheres. Practically all areas of society require targeted and creative professional activity from lawyers. Knowledge of two or more languages, especially English, is considered a significant advantage when seeking employment. However, it is essential that proficiency in English is at a high level to have an advantage in the recruitment process. A lawyer must speak fluently and accurately, be able to find the right words, and master both oral and written communication. They need to use appropriate terminology to present facts, persuade, and clearly explain the content of documents to both clients and in court. It is even better if a lawyer can do this in English. Even if a person is proficient in English at a conversational level, it is crucial to master specialized terms and the corresponding rules for their use, as this is necessary for successful business communication. Even native speakers must additionally study the professional vocabulary of their field. A legal professional should be able to use specific syntactic structures, construct sentences skillfully, and identify exceptions and discrepancies in legislative acts. They need to determine which main traits, qualities, and skills should be developed in themselves to become a true professional.

Fluent knowledge of the English language is a requirement without which a lawyer cannot build a successful career. For example, at the international law firm “Integrites,” a lawyer simply cannot work without fluent English proficiency, as most projects are related to international law or involve foreign companies. Speaking about the special role that the English language plays in international business communication, it is worth noting that English has been declared the official language of

international and multinational corporations. Approximately 50% of companies in Europe communicate with each other in English. For example, Philips, a Dutch multinational company, has chosen English as its communication language rather than Dutch. A similar situation is observed in the German company Porsche, where English is preferred over German, despite the fact that many Germans work there and that German is also a global language of communication [1, p. 74].

Legal English is one of the forms of English used in the field of law. In other words, it is specifically taught as a language for professionals in the justice field, such as judges, lawyers, and legal practitioners. Legal English is not a native language for these professionals. Learning legal terms along with concepts of law is the only way to identify oneself as a lawyer. Courses in foreign languages and foreign languages for professional purposes for future lawyers are aimed at acquiring the skills necessary to use the language for conducting required documentation and business negotiations in a specific area [2, p. 84]. Studying legal English helps develop communicative skills in all types of speech activities for professional purposes and forms skills that are essential for independent work with English-language legal literature and documents. A lawyer should possess a basic level of grammar, including syntax and morphology, and have at least a basic understanding of the general content of texts for effective English communication in a professional environment.

One should not forget about written English for lawyers. There are also many nuances here, as each country has its own legal system, corresponding legal terminology, etc. Thus, significant difficulties arise for students regarding legal terms, as the terminology of English, British, and Ukrainian law differs significantly. This is explained by both linguistic reasons and differences in political systems. For example, in England, a "county" refers to a "County of city (of town)," whereas in the USA, a "county" refers to a "metropolitan town." The terms "solicitor" and "barrister" exist only in British law, while "counselor" (lawyer) is used in the USA and Ireland [3, p. 16].

The formation of professional written communication skills is an important part of learning a foreign language in a professional context. In the business sphere, written forms are often used for business correspondence and documentation. This is especially relevant when it is necessary to convey a message accurately or present complex and substantial information for further analysis. Written texts, which often

have legal force, differ in their logic and precision of expression compared to spoken communication. When writing written messages, students are given the opportunity to think through sentences, choose appropriate words, and correctly use grammatical forms, among other things. Written information, stored on paper or electronic media, can remain accessible for a long time and can be referred to at any moment for review, verification, or corrections. Thus, for a legal specialist, it is necessary not only to communicate in a foreign language but also to possess the skills and abilities for professional communication, including conducting business negotiations, both oral and written, in a foreign language [4, p. 17].

In modern society, learning a foreign language is an important part of a lawyer's training, essential for their professional activities. Teaching English to future lawyers is aimed at mastering the language in various aspects, including documentation and courtroom presentations. A lawyer must understand the fundamentals of several legal systems while considering the differences between the Ukrainian and Anglo-American legal systems. It is also important to pay attention to the correct translation of legal terms and texts.

Thus, it can be concluded that the English language has become the most significant in intercultural communication at the present stage. The formation of professional speech is a continuous process that should be stimulated in classes not only in language courses but also in specialized disciplines, where it is possible to constantly acquire speaking practice. No international sphere of human activity proceeds without the "participation" of the English language. English began its journey to the status of an international language in the 18th century, and its influence continues to grow even now, especially due to the globalization of the world and the Internet. English as a language of international communication has united the national characteristics of various peoples while preserving its own identity. The ease of learning, historical circumstances, and rapid globalization of information have allowed English to surpass other languages such as German, French, or Spanish. The process of spreading the English language is unstoppable and is determined by its importance in international spheres such as business, culture, and the political exchange of information and communication.

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