

The Use of Roman-German Languages among the World Languages

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Abstract: This article highlights genealogical classification of the Indo-European languages, Modern Germanic languages, connection of the Introduction to Germanic Philology with other linguistic disciplines Subject and Aims of the introduction to Germanic Philology.

Keywords: Roman, German, classification, genes, different, European, proto-Germanic, main stages, lexics, describe, approach

Introduction

A language can be considered from different angles. In studying Modern English. We regard the language as fixed in time and describe each linguistic level - phonetics, grammar or lexics - synchronically, taking no account of the origin of present – day features or their tendencies to change. The synchronic approach can be contrasted to the diachronic. When considered diachronically, every linguistic fact is interpreted as a stage or step in the never-ending evolution of language. In practice the contrast between diachronic and synchronic study is not so marked as in theory. We commonly resort to history to explain current phenomena in Modern English. In describing the evolution of language we can present it as a series of synchronic cross-sectional e.g. The English language of the age of Shakespeare (16th-17th c) or the age of Chaucer (14th c). Through learning the Germanic philology every student achieves a variety of aims, both theoretical and practical. Since English belongs to the Germanic group of languages, it would be natural to expect that it has many words or roots in common with cognate Germanic languages: German, Swedish, Danish and others. You may find many more words in Modern English exact parallels in the Romance language: French, Latin, Spanish and others. English other Germanic languages Romance languages give g. geben -sw. Giva peace g. Frieden Fr paix sw. Fred L. pace Dutch - vrede It pace sp paste word - give - is of native, Germanic origin. The word - peace- is borrowing from Romance languages. In present-day English the proportion of Romance roots is higher than that of native roots. One more aim of this course is to provide the student of English with a wider philological outlook. The history of Germanic languages shows the place of Germanic philology in the linguistic word, It reveals their ties and contacts with other related and unrelated tongues. Another important aim of this course is of a more theoretical nature. While tracing the evolution of Germanic languages through time, the student will be confronted with a number of theoretical questions such as the relationship between statics and dynamics in language, the role of linguistic and extra linguistic factors, the interdependence of different processes in language history. These problems may be considered on a theoretical plan within the scope of general linguistics.

Modern linguistics has improved on the methods of comparative linguistic research applied in the 19th century. In addition to external reconstruction which was based on comparing different languages, the reconstruction studies history from internal sources alone. This method is based on the assumption that every language is a well organized and well balanced structure of elements. Therefore, it among the productive systems there occur some smaller non-productive systems one can surmise that they are relics of preceding stages of development. When traced into the past,

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these systems often appear more numerous and more productive, for example, modern plural forms like oxen, teeth isolated now, were found in larger groups of nouns at an earlier period. It follows that the past history of languages can also be reconstructed by considering their dialectal varieties, since the dialects often preserve forms, words or pronunciations which have become obsolete in the literary standard. Genealogical Classification of the Indo-European languages. There are more than 2700 languages to be found in the world today and all these fall into linguistic groups which are part of linguistic family which may have appeared indifferent parts of the globe. The Indo-European languages as a whole are divided into major branches, in addition to which there are known to have been others which dies out without learning any written records. The major branches and their main representatives are as follows: 1. Indian group (the oldest form is Sanskrit). The main representatives of the Modern Indian languages include Bengali, Marathi, Hindi, Gypsy and some others. 2. Iranian group, which is represented by such languages as Avestan or Zend (old form) the so-called Pahlavi (the middle form) and Baluchi, Pushtre, Kurdish, Yagnobi, Ossetic and some other modern languages. 3. Baltic group, which is divided into Lithuanian, the language spoken by three million people, the old texts of which go back to the 16th century and Lettish, spoken by two million people. 4. The Slavonic languages, which are divided into three large groups:

a) Eastern Slavonic where we find three languages: Russian, spoken by more than 122 million people. Ukrainian, spoken by some 40 million people. Byelorussian, spoken by 9 million people. B) Southern Slavonic, which include: Bulgarian, spoken by 7 million people; Serbo-Croatian, spoken by 12 million people; Slovenian, spoken by 2 million people. 5. Germanic groups of languages. Germanic languages are divided into three groups: a) North Germanic or Scandinavian which includes Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic. The songs of Edda written in Icelandic are important landmarks in world literature. B) West Germanic with: 1) English, spoken today by about 2770 million people. 2) Frisian, spoken in the provinces of Northern Netherlands, with their oldest literary sources dating from the 14th century. 3) German, spoken by about 83 million people, with two dialects - Low German and High German. 4) Dutch, spoken by 12 million people. 5) Yiddish, now spoken by Jewish population. C) East Germanic which has left no traces. The only representative of this group is Gothic, whose written records have been preserved in the fragmentary translation of the Bible by the Bishop Ulfila. 6. Italo-Celtic languages have two large groups: 1) Italic, the only language of which has survived is Latin. Latin has developed into the Romance languages: French, Italian with numerous dialects, Spanish, Portuguese, Rumanian, Moldavian. 2) Celtic includes Irish, Scottish, Briton subgroup with Breton, spoken in Wales. 7. Greek, with numerous dialects, such as Doric, Ionic-Attic, etc. The literature begins with Homer's poems the Iliad and the Odyssey, dating from the 8th century BC. 8. Armenian, spoken by three and a half million people in Armenia and in many settlements of Armenians in Iran, Turkey, etc. 9. Albanian, spoken by two million people in Albania. 10. Tocharian dating from the 7th century AD. 11. Hittite, which survives in cuneiform tablets recovered from Boghazkoy in Anatolia, the site of the capital of the ancient Hittite kingdom. The Hittites or Hethites of the Bible may have been the Indo-Europeans (the Khatti mentioned in Egyptian records). The interpretation of this language and its close relation to Indo-European was announced by Bedrich Hrozný in December 1915. Its discovery has raised many new and interesting problems. Modern

Germanic Languages

Languages can be classified according to different principles. The historical, or genealogical classification, groups languages in accordance with their origin from a common linguistic ancestor. Genetically, English, German belong to the Germanic or Teutonic group of languages, which is one

of the twelve groups of the IE linguistic family. Most of the area of European large parts of other continents are occupied today by the IE languages, Germanic being one of their major groups.

The Germanic languages in the modern world are as follows:

1. English is spoken in Great Britain, Ireland, the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the South African Republic and dominions. In India English is considered a second official language.
2. German - in Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, part of Switzerland.
3. Netherlands - in the Netherlands and Belgium, Flanders.
4. Afrikaans - in the South African Republic
5. Danish - in Denmark
6. Swedish - in Sweden and Finland
7. Norwegian - in Norway
8. Icelandic - in Iceland
9. Frisian - in some regions of the Netherlands and Germany
10. Faroese - in the Faroe islands
11. Yiddish - in different countries, spoken by Jewish population.

List of Germanic languages given in manuals and reference books differ in some points, for the distinction between separate languages, and also between languages and dialects varies.

It is difficult to estimate the number of people speaking Germanic languages. The total number of people speaking Germanic languages approaches 440 million. All the Germanic languages are related through their common origin and joint development at the early stages of history will show where and when the Germanic languages arose and acquired their common features and also how they have developed into modern independent tongues. The connection of the Introduction to Germanic philology with other linguistic disciplines. In studying this course you find a number of peculiarities which appear unintelligible from the modern point of view. These are found in the vocabulary and in the phonetic and grammatical structure of the language.

In the sphere of vocabulary there is considerable likeness between English and German. For example, the German for winter is Winter, the German for summer is Sommer, the German for sit is sitzen, etc. English has something in common with French. For example, English autumn is automna in French, English river is riviere in French. These similarities are easily observed by anyone having some knowledge of German and French. Similar facts are also found in the phonetic structure of the language, for example, in pronunciation and spelling. You may be faced with a series of phenomena, which cannot be explained from the modern point of view. For instance, why does the spelling 'ea' indicate different sounds in the words "speak, great, heard, heart, bear"? This question can only be answered by resorting to the history of language. Consequently, this course is also connected with disciplines studying present-day languages of Germanic, that is, with theoretical phonetics, theoretical grammar and lexicology.

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