

### National Traits of Anglophones and Hispanophones

In recent years, a keen interest in studying various aspects of cross-cultural communication is noted. One of key concepts of that is the national character. It is shown in the language, and its features are especially noticeable by comparing different linguistic communities.

The poor quantity of diminutive suffixes of English indicates low expressed emotionality of the people (an aunt – an aunty, a goose – a gosling, a book – a booklet). Some phraseological units also testify to emotional restraint (“Better the foot slip than the tongue”, “There is a time to speak and a time to be silent”). On the contrary, a good variety of diminutives in Spanish is an indicator of the expressivity of people (un coche – un cochecito (a car – a toy car), Rosa – Rosita (Rose – Rosie), un rey – un reyezuelo (a king – a petty king). Some phraseological units also tell us about heightened emotionality and openness of Hispanophones (“no tener pelos en la lengua” (not to mince one’s words)).

Comparing different traits of English-speaking and Spanish-speaking people, it is necessary to pay attention to a huge difference in complimenting. Usually English compliments characterized by a rather poor lexis (“You are so kind!”, “You are fun to be with”) are employed as a way of displaying kindness to a partner by mostly praising his or her moral qualities. Hispanophones often use diverse flattering phrases (piropos) as a weapon of seduction (“¿Desde cuándo los bombones caminan por la calle?” (Since when have candies begun to walk down the street?)).

The attitude towards such concepts as ‘time’ and ‘work’ is also reflected in phraseological units. Such Spanish phrases as “trabajo te doy” (it’s a tough job), “trabajar lo justo” (not to overwork) “Una onza de alegría vale más que una onza de oro” (An ounce of joy is worth more than an ounce of gold), are a good example of Hispanophones’ cold attitude to work and their craving for pleasure. Contrariwise, such English sayings as “Time is money”, “Business before pleasure”, “No pains, no gains” show that Anglophones are characterized by capacity for work, practicality and prudence.

Particular qualities of representatives of different nations are reflected in verbal means of communication. Studying this subject is important, as it can help to prevent cross-cultural misunderstandings.

### Литература

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