

Министерство образования и науки Российской Федерации
Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение высшего
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Институт иностранных языков

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**Studying proverbs and sayings as a means of developing
tolerance in young people
(on the material of English and Russian proverbs)**

Исполнители: Алешина Полина Андреевна,
Юрченко Анастасия Сергеевна
9 класс, МАОУ СОШ № 67

Руководитель: Ваторопина Елена Васильевна,
учитель английского языка
МАОУ СОШ № 67

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INTRODUCTION

The role of proverbs and sayings in our life can hardly be overestimated. Nowadays there are a lot of ways to keep and transfer information: with the help of audio, visual carriers, and also in electronic version. But a lot of years ago, when writing even wasn't developed, the only way to gain the experience was our language. Even now we have our ancestors' messages in the form of songs, fairy-tales, ceremonies. But the most brief, informative and perhaps the most frequently used messages are proverbs and sayings.

The aim of the paper: To prove that proverbs and sayings reflect the national character of the English and their way of thinking.

The object of the investigation is English proverbs and sayings.

The subject of the investigation is the content of the proverbs and sayings.

The hypotheses of the investigation: English proverbs and sayings reflect the national character of the English and their way of thinking. **If we study features of proverbs and sayings in the Russian and English languages, it will help us to understand better language realities, and the national character of native speakers. Studying proverbs and sayings is one of effective ways to develop tolerance of the young people to different cultures and nationalities.**

To prove the hypotheses it's necessary to do the following **tasks**:

- To make an excursion into the history of the proverbs and sayings.
- To show the difference between the Russian and English proverb, as the consequence of differences in mentalities.
- To make a list of English proverbs, their translations and Russian equivalents.
- To make a contribution into my stock of knowledge of English.

The methods of the investigation: studying different kinds of literature (books, encyclopedias, web-sites), analysis, interview.

I. THE NATIONAL CHARACTER OF THE ENGLISH

The national character of the English has been described in different ways, but the most commentators agree over one quality, which they describe as a sense of superiority or "insular pride". English patriotism is based on a deep sense of security. Englishmen as individuals may have been insecure, threatened with the loss of their job, unsure of themselves or unhappy in many ways. But as a nation they have been secure for centuries. The English are a well-disciplined people and it is probably no exaggeration to say that they have the best manners in the world. [1] They are all polite, they all know how to hold their knife and fork and how to behave in society. Besides they are never rude. Coarse expressions are hardly ever used. You may be struck by the fact that life in Britain is less noisy. The English display a surprising unity in a crisis. They also have a strong sense for public order. The apparent coldness of Englishmen has been almost universally noted by the foreigners. But they also confess that once one gets to know an Englishman better, he turns out to be a very companionable fellow.

The typical feature of the English is their love of games. They love playing all of them. They play football and cricket; games are nowhere so popular as in England. But however childish at their games they are very serious in business.

The English have long been famous as a nation of animal-lovers. There is a pet in nearly every family and often the family dog or cat has a special chair near the fire, special food and a special place in the hearts of its owners. All this doesn't mean that the English differ from other human beings. They certainly feel the same emotions: jealousy, envy, joy and happiness as others – only their external reactions are different.

When one speaks of the English, one usually means all the nations living within the borders of the United Kingdom – Scots, Welsh or Irish. The difference between these nations is great enough for everyone who lives in Britain, but for the outside world it is less apparent.

There are certain stereotypes of national character which are well-known in

Britain. For instance, the Irish are supposed to be great talkers, the Scots are not a very happy or fun-loving nation and have a reputation for being careful with money, and the Welsh are renowned for their singing ability. These characteristics are, of course, only caricatures and are not reliable descriptions of individual people from these countries. Nevertheless, they indicate some slight differences in the value attached to certain kinds of behavior in the countries concerned. [1]

However, the people from Scotland (the Scottish), Wales (the Welsh), Northern Ireland (the Irish) and England (the English) are all the British.

The British live on the same island; of course, there are some common cultural characteristics.

For example, it is true that British people often talk about the weather, especially if they don't know each other very well. It is true that they are more reserved than Russian people: they don't like to show their emotions and they don't make friends easily with strangers. It also seems to be true that the British are not very good at learning foreign languages.

The national character of the English has been very differently described, but most commentators name one quality, which they describe as fatuous self-satisfaction, serene sense of superiority, or insular pride.

England's coastline has helped to shape both the history of the English nation and the psychology of the English character. The knowledge that there was a wide stretch of water between the British and "foreigners" encouraged a sense of security that could easily slide into one of superiority. And it was true that her physical isolation made this country different.

In Britain traditions play more important part in the life of the people than in other countries. The long centuries during the land was free from invaders means that the British could keep their traditions. The British are proud of their traditions and carefully keep them up.

One of them is their attitude to the royal family. In the days of Queen Victoria (1837-1901), ordinary British people thought that the royal family was very special. Victoria, her husband and their nine children were seen as an example

of perfect family life.

But today things are different. The Queen is still generally popular, but there have been too many problems with royal marriages. The Queen's sister and three of her four children - Charles, Anne and Andrew - are now divorced.

Prince Charles, the Queen's oldest son, married Princess Diana in 1981. Diana was young and beautiful and the newspapers and television were very interested in her. Soon she was more popular than Charles, her husband. But her marriage to Charles was not happy. When Diana died in a car accident in 1997 with her lover, Dodi Fayed, many British people were very sad.

The royal family is still very important for tourism in Britain. Special days like the State opening of Parliament in November and the royal weddings bring colour to people's lives. People in Britain enjoy reading about the lives of the royal family in newspapers and seeing them on television.

Housing. A traditionally the British like to live independently in their own houses. No wonder their favourite saying is "My home is my fortress". They do not like to live in flats. In recent years the percentage of people who have their own houses has increased greatly, and more than half of all families in the country live in homes built after 1945.

Basically people live in three types of houses, all depending on your income: in terraced houses, and in detached or semi-detached houses. The older type of housing is the terraced house. These houses, especially in old industrial centers, were arranged in long rows or terraces all standing together and with each house containing its own door, a front room and a back room on each of its two floors, with perhaps a small room above the entrance hall. The other type of house is the detached house standing on its own land and not attached to another building. Such houses are generally more expensive to buy than semi-detached houses, which are houses attached on one side only to another, usually very similar house.

These houses have their tiny front and back gardens and offer necessary privacy and comfort which every British wants to enjoy. Traditionally they have the dining-room, the living-room for receiving guests and the kitchen on the

ground floor, and the bedrooms upstairs. The number of bedrooms, bathrooms and the size of the house depends upon its price. Some houses have large gardens, especially in countryside.

Today, most British people own the home that they live in. Of all the homes in Britain 67% (16.7 million homes) are owned by the people who live in them. In the south of England, the numbers are 74.7% in the south-east and 72.8% in the south-west. In Wales 71.5% of homes are owned by the people in them. In Northern Ireland the number is 71.4%. But in Scotland the number of home-owners has traditionally been lower (now 60.2% of homes). On average, 2.4 people live as a family in one home in Britain. This number is smaller than in most other European countries. About 65% of people over the age of 65 live alone. When children grow up, they usually leave their parents' home for university or work. After they buy their own home, their parents do not usually come and live with them.

Spare time. British people now have more free time and holidays than they did thirty years ago. The average number of working hours has fallen, and by the mid-1990s almost all full-time manual employees were entitled to four weeks' holiday or more, in addition to public holidays including Christmas and Easter. Although for some people there was more leisure time (for the increasing number of pensioners for example), in general the pace of life became busier in Britain in the 1990s.

Typical popular pastimes in the UK include shopping, listening to pop music, going to pubs, playing and watching sport, going on holidays, doing outdoor activities and watching TV. The number of people playing sports has risen, partly due to the availability of more sporting facilities such as local leisure centers. As more people become aware of the necessity for exercise, it is estimated that one third of the adult population regularly takes part in outdoor sport and about a quarter in indoor sport. Among the most popular sporting activities are walking, swimming, snooker and darts; fishing is the most popular country sport. Football, cricket, horse racing and motor sports are all popular spectator sports.

Many magazines are published which relate to popular and minority sports and interests.

The British and Food. Visitors to Britain generally agree about one thing - British cooking. "It's terrible!" they say. "You can cook vegetables in so many interesting ways. But the British cook vegetables for too long, so they lose their taste." These visitors eat in the wrong places. The best British cooking is in good restaurants and hotels, or at home. "British tastes have changed a lot over the past twenty years. In 1988 the national average for each person was 352 grams of "red" meat each week, but now it's less than 250 grams. People prefer chicken and fresh fish. And more people are interested in healthy eating these days. In 1988 the national average was 905 grams of fruit and fruit juices each week, but now it's nearly 2,000 grams.

Today many people want food to be quick and easy. When both parents are working, they cannot cook large meals in the evenings. 'Ready-made' meals from supermarkets and Marks and Spencer and 'take-away' meals from fast food restaurants are very popular. If you are feeling tired or lazy, you can even phone a local restaurant. They will bring the food to your house. Twenty years ago, British people usually ate at home. They only went out for a meal at special times, like for somebody's birthday. But today, many people eat out at least once a week. In the past, traditional steakhouses were very popular places, but now many people prefer foreign food. Every British town has Indian and Chinese restaurants, and large towns have restaurants from many other countries too.

Pubs are also very popular. There are over 60,000 pubs in the UK (53,200 in England and Wales, 5,200 in Scotland and 1,600 in Northern Ireland). British people drink an average of 99.4 liters of beer every year. More than 80% of this beer is drunk in pubs and clubs.

A Nation of Animal Lovers. The British are traditionally a nation of animal lovers. This is clear from the large number of animal programs on TV. There are programs about wildlife in Britain and other countries, and about pets at home.

There are programs like Animal Hospital about sick animals and the working lives of animal doctors. Some programs try to find new homes for unwanted or homeless animals. All these programs are very popular. There is a pet in nearly 50% of the 24.2 million homes in Britain.

What is a typical Englishman like?

Many people, especially those who never lived in England, picture the Englishman in such a way: A tall, slim, fair-haired gentleman, with regular aristocratic features and a look of superiority in his blue eyes; conscious of his historic mission “to rule the world”; contemptuous of all other, non-English, nations; formal, cold, haughty, very reserved even in his relations with his fellow Englishmen; living in reasonable luxury in his suburban country house which is supposed to be his “castle” and going on short round-the-world trips in a private yacht, now and then, like Sir Francis Chichester, just to prove that Britain still remains the country of great sailors; very conservative in his political and social views; well-bred, polite, quiet, taciturn, reticent in speech; fond of sports and animals; and at last, possessing a great sense of humour, a special “English type” of humour, often difficult to understand for foreigners. [4]

Many books and articles have been written on this subject by different authors, both English, giving first-hand information, and foreign, who have lived in Britain long enough to know.

Some of them are full of praise and admiration for this country and its people, others are rather critical; some present a serious study of the subject, others are just humorous; some are true to fact, others may be erroneous.

All of them help us to understand better and get to know these people.

To find out what our schoolmates think about Englishman’s character we asked them some questions connected with the topic, and analyzed the results of the questionnaire. 70 students took part in the survey.

According to the results of the questionnaire (Appendix 1), many Russians, specifically my schoolmates, think that the main traits of the English character are: sense of humour; love to animals; sense of superiority; the best manners; love to games; a strong sense for public order.

II. THE ENGLISH CHARACTER IN THE ENGLISH PROVERBS AND SAYINGS

The genius, wit, and spirit of a nation are discovered in its proverbs.

Francis Bacon

Proverbs and sayings are short statements of wisdom or advice that are transmitted from generation to generation and have passed into general use. Every culture has a collection of wise sayings that offer advice about how to live your life. Proverbs have been considered the flowers of popular wit and the treasures of popular wisdom. A Proverb is a simple and short saying, widely known, often metaphorical, which expresses a basic truth or practical precept, based on the practical experience of humankind, and the idiosyncrasies of a people and their culture in time and history. A Saying is a shot well-known expression – a remark of wisdom and truth or a general advice.

A great way to improve your understanding of the English culture, people and history is to study English proverbs and sayings. By memorizing them, you will not only learn some common English sayings; you will also help your brain to become better at forming good English sentences. [2]

Proverbs and sayings of different cultures have a lot in common, but besides there are specific features, characterizing the color of some original national culture, its centuries-old history. Proverbs and sayings contain deep sense and national wisdom, which have roots far in the past. They reflect people's way of thinking and perception of the world. They are considered to be "codes" of culture, its specific laconic and witty language. Combined with other sources, they could show us unknown side of the 'story', how different aspects of life were and are reflected in people's mind, what is considered important in a culture's perception of its micro world and thus remembered and transmitted, how are the "others" perceived, how is the "anger" and fear of the difficult times articulated and, as

psychologists would say, compensated through that articulation. As Dr. Panos Karagiorgos says, "Proverbs contain keen observations of everyday life, constitute popular philosophy of life, and provide an insight into human behavior and character. They survived thanks to their brevity, their rhyme and rhythm which delighted the ear and helped the memory".

We can see culture, traditions and history of the nation, to learn what is kind and evil and feel what a nice means for developing of man's moral values and cultural level can proverbs and sayings be.

English proverbs characterize distinctive character traits of England, like self-restraint, self-control, tolerance, conservative, hard work, love of their home and health. [3, 4] And I also tell you about love to the animals, gardening and tea ceremony.

Proverbs are vivid manifestation of national art and important part of language.

In proverbs people shared their ideas of truth, love and friendship, justice, man and his relationship with people around him, life and death, wealth and poverty, in the past and present, in the various aspects of reality. [3]

Love to home

Englishmen prefer to have their own houses rather than apartments in a block of flats, because they don't want to be over-looked by their neighbors. The proverb says: "An Englishman's house is his castle". The English are stay-at-home people. "There is no place like home", they say. When they don't work they like to spend their days off at home with their families. An English family prefers a house with a fireplace and a garden.

Love to gardening

Gardening is national hobby of Englishman, it's the way to understand they and their life. Weather in England is the best friend of a gardener, because it's wet and moderate. Most English love gardening. Sometimes the garden in front of the

house is a little square covered with grass and a box of flowers. They love flowers very much. Most English people love gardens, their own above all.

Love to animals

The English people like animals very much. They think: "Man, who loves animals can't be bad men." They like all off animals. Pet dogs, cats, horses, ducks, chickens, canaries and other friends of man have a much better life in Britain than anywhere else. Englishman doesn't force their pets to guard something, and doesn't use them in science experiments. They bring pet, because they love it. In Britain they have special dog shops selling food, clothes and other things. Most English have more candid relationship with pets than with people.

Tea lovers

It's so nice to have a cup of tea! Tea is the British national drink. The British people are the world's greatest tea drinkers. They have it many times a day. Some people have tea for breakfast, tea in lunchtime, tea after dinner, tea at tea-time and tea with supper. 8 out of 10 people in Britain drink tea every day. They drink a quarter of all the tea grown in the world each year. The British drink mostly Indian tea. Many of them drink tea on at least eight different occasions during the day.

We have found out many English proverbs and sayings about tea. [3, 4] Here some of them are:

- Not smb's cup of tea – "не его чашка чаю" – не входит в чью-либо сферу интереса.
- To take tea with smb. – "пить чай с кем-либо" – иметь с кем-либо отношения, вести с кем-либо дела.
- Not... for all the tea in China – "ни... за весь чай Китая" – ни за что на свете; "ни за какие коврижки".
- Read the tea leaves. – "Читать по чайным листьям" – предсказывать наобум, "гадать на кофейной гуще".

- Seven cups of tea make you up in the morning; nine cups will put you to sleep at night. – Семь чашек чая заставят тебя проснуться утром, девять чашек – усыпят тебя вечером.
- If you are hot, tea will cool you off, and if you are cold, it will warm you up. – Если тебе жарко, чай остудит тебя, если ты замерз, он согреет тебя.
- Tea must be strong, hot, and sweet like woman's kiss. – Чай должен быть крепким, горячим и сладким, как поцелуй женщины.
- Three comforts of old age: fire, tea and tobacco. – Три утешения старости: огонь, чай и табак.

Composure

Patience is a plaster for all sores.

Терпение пластырь для всех ран.

Терпение лучшее спасение.

Всякое дело терпением одолеть можно.

Restraint

Keep your mouth shut and your ears open.

Держи рот на замке, а уши открытыми.

Let sleeping dogs lie.

Спящих собак не буди.

Не буди лиха, пока лихо тихо.

Поменьше говори, побольше слушай.

Helpfulness and friendliness

Scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.

Почеши мне спину, тогда и я твою почешу.

Услуга за услугу.

Roll my log and I will roll yours.

Покати мое бревно, тогда я покачу твое.

Ты – мне, я – тебе.

Vanity

Better be the head of a dog than the tail of a lion.

Лучше быть головой собаки, чем хвостом льва.

To cast pearls before swine.

Метать бисер перед свиньями.

Politeness

All doors open to courtesy.

Перед вежливостью все двери открываются

Ласковое слово нетрудно, а споро.

Conservatism

You cannot teach an old dog new tricks.

Ты не можешь научить старого пса новым трюкам.

Старого пса к цепи не приручишь

Health care

Health is better than wealth.

Здоровье лучше, чем богатство.

Здоровье за деньги не купишь.

An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

Ешь по яблоку в день, и не нужен будет доктор.

We studied some English proverbs and sayings with a component "pets and other animals". We have found out that the common associations connected with animals are the following:

- Pigs are dirty, messy and rude.
- Lions are courageous and noble.

- Foxes are clever.
- Dogs are loyal, dependable and dependent.
- Cats are independent.
- Wolves are cruel and murderous.
- Gorillas are aggressive and violent.

Our folk understanding of what these animals are like is metaphorical. It is so natural for us to understand non-human attributes in terms of our own human character traits that we often have difficulty realizing that such characterizations of animals are metaphorical.

English proverbs and sayings with a component "pets and other animals", their translation and Russian equivalents:

| English proverbs and sayings | Literal translation | Russian equivalents |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Дословный перевод пословиц | | |
| He died a dog's death. | Он умер смертью собаки. | Собаке собачья смерть. |
| Love me, love my dog. | Любишь меня, люби и мою собаку. | Любишь кататься, люби и саночки возить. |
| An old horse make straight furrow. | Старый конь борозды прямыми сделает. | Старый конь борозды не портит. |
| Частичный перевод пословиц | | |
| Birds of a feather! | Птицы одного пера! | Рыбак рыбака видит из далека. |
| Like cow, like calf. | Корова как теленок. | Каков поп, таков и приход. |
| Несовпадающий перевод пословиц | | |
| Let sleeping dogs lie. | Не будите спящую собаку. | Не буди лихо, пока оно тихо. |

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Every dog has his day. | У каждой собаки есть свой день. | Будет и на нашей улице праздник. |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|

So, English proverbs express to know mentality and national character of Englishmen. This is an additional source of cross-cultural knowledge. D. Dubrovin wrote: "Wisdom and spirit of people manifest in proverbs, and knowledge of proverbs contributes better understanding the way of their thinking and the character of people". I learnt and compared English and Russian proverbs and significantly expanded the knowledge of the English language, learnt some traditions and facts from history of the England, understood the folk wisdom and joined the universal moral values. I made a conclusion, that the national character, spiritual qualities, standards of conduct and activities of the British, are reflected in the proverbs.

Common English proverbs and sayings along with their meanings

- *A good beginning makes a good end.*

Meaning: If a task is carefully planned, there's a better chance that it will be done well.

- *A good name is the best of all treasures.*

Meaning: Your good reputation is worth more than money.

- *A friend's eye is a good mirror.*

Meaning: A real friend will tell you the truth.

- *The apple never falls far from the tree.*

Meaning: Children are in many regards like their parents.

- *Advisers run no risks.*

Meaning: It is easy to give advice, but hard to act.

- *All roads lead to Rome.*

Meaning: There are many different routes to the same goal.

- *All things come to those who wait.*

Meaning: A patient seeker will be satisfied in due time.

- *Actions speak louder than words.*

Meaning: What one does is more important than what one says.

- *A friend in need is a friend indeed.*

Meaning: A friend is never known till a man has need.

- *All cats love fish but hate to get their paws wet.*

Meaning: a person who is keen to obtain something of value, but who is not bold enough to make the necessary effort or to take the risk

- *An apple a day keeps the doctor away.*

Meaning: Apples are so nutritious that if you eat an apple every day, you will not ever need to go to a doctor.

- *A man is known by the company he keeps.*

Meaning: A person's character is judged by the type of people with whom they spend their time.

- *A tree is known by its fruit.*

Meaning: A man is judged by his actions.

- *Ask me no questions, I'll tell you no lies.*

Meaning: There are subjects I'd rather not discuss.

- *Bad news travels fast.*

Meaning: Information about trouble or misfortune disseminates quickly.

- *Blood is thicker than water.*

Meaning: Family ties are always more important than the ties you make among friends.

- *Better to be alone than in bad company.*

Meaning: Be careful in the choice of the people you associate with

- *Clothes don't make the man.*

Meaning: Appearances can be deceiving.

- *Easier said than done.*

Meaning: What is suggested sounds easy but it is more difficult to actually do it.

- *Every cloud has a silver lining.*

Meaning: There is nothing bad that does not bring about something good.

- *Every rose has its thorn.*

Meaning: No one is perfect.

- *Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.*

Meaning: Going to bed early and waking up early is good for success.

- *Every dog has its day.*

Meaning: Everyone gets their chance eventually.

- *Experience is the father of wisdom.*

Meaning: Experience and knowledge result in better judgement.

- *Failure is the stepping stone for success.*

Meaning: Failing will make you more determined to succeed the next time you try.

- *Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me.*

Meaning: One should learn from one's mistakes.

- *Forgive, but don't forget.*

Meaning: Let things go and pass, but don't forget what they were.

- *Fortune favours the bold.*

Meaning: People who bravely go after what they want are more successful than people who try to live safely.

- *The grass is always greener on the other side.*

Meaning: You will always want what you don't have.

- *Good things come to those who wait.*

Meaning: Be patient and eventually something good will happen to you.

- *He laughs best who laughs last.*

Meaning: He who wins in the end wins.

- *Money cannot buy happiness.*

Meaning: Wealthy people have their own set of concerns.

- *Never put off till (until) tomorrow what you can do today.*

Meaning: You should not delay doing something if you can do it immediately.

- *Never say never.*

Meaning: Nothing is impossible, anything can happen.

- *Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.*

Meaning: Stay out of trouble, but be prepared in case you become troubled.

- *Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings.*

Meaning: Children often speak wisely.

- *A penny saved is a penny earned.*

Meaning: Money that you save is more valuable than money that you spend right away.

- *Tomorrow is another day.*

Meaning: You can't do everything today

- *Two heads are better than one.*

Meaning: Two people working together have a better chance of solving a problem than one person working alone

- *Union is strength.*

Meaning: If people join together, they are more powerful than if they work by themselves

- *Use it or lose it.*

Meaning: Not using a skill might lead you into losing it.

- *Walk the walk and talk the talk.*

Meaning: First do your task, and then talk about it.

- *What you sow is what you reap.*

Meaning: Everything that happens to you is a result of your own actions.

- *When in Rome, do as the Romans do.*

Meaning: When you are visiting another country, you should behave like the people in that country.

- *You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink.*

Meaning: You can give someone an opportunity, but you can't force him to take advantage of it.

- *The proof of the pudding is in the eating.*

Meaning: You will not really learn about something unless you test it.

- *That which does not kill you, makes you stronger.*

Meaning: Unpleasant experiences will make you wiser.

- *The end justifies the means.*

Meaning: Wrong methods may be used if the result of the action is good.

- *Time is money.*

Meaning: Time is valuable and should not be wasted.

- *Health is wealth.*

Meaning: The loss of health is loss of all happiness.

- *He who plays with fire gets burnt.*

Meaning: If you behave in a risky way, you are likely to have problems.

- *Hope for the best, but prepare for the worst.*

Meaning: Bad things might happen, so be prepared.

- *Little by little and bit by bit.*

Meaning: Do things slowly and carefully.

- *Manners make the man.*

Meaning: A person's manners show their origins.

CONCLUSIONS

During writing the research paper the following aims were achieved:

- It is proved that proverbs and sayings reflect the national character of the English and their way of thinking.
- A list of English proverbs, their translations and Russian equivalents is made.
- Our knowledge in this sphere is expanded.

The following conclusions can be made on the topic:

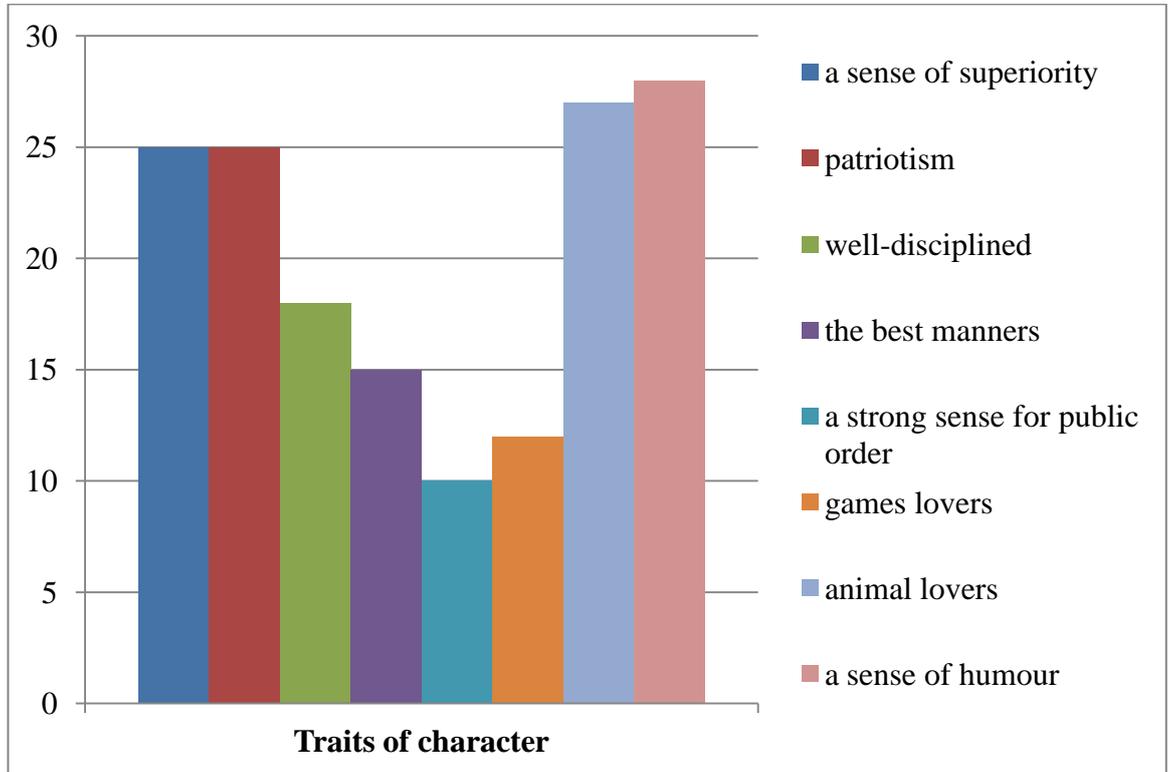
Proverbs and sayings have been developing together with the history of the people. They reflect people's mentality and transferred from one generation to another both in written and oral form. The main sources of proverbs and sayings are drawing from other languages, Bible text and folk. There are proverbs which are common for the most of people of the world and which are peculiar for a certain nation.

During our work on the research paper we came to conclusion that it helped us to understand better language realities, and the national character of native speakers. Studying proverbs and sayings is one of effective ways to develop tolerance of the young people to different cultures and nationalities.

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**The main traits of the English character
(the results of the questionnaire)**



Life in England



**English proverbs and sayings with a component "home, family, time"
and their Russian equivalents**

| English proverbs and sayings | Translation | Russian equivalents |
|--|--|---|
| East or West, home is best. | Восток ли, запад ли, а дома лучше всего. | В гостях хорошо, а дома лучше. |
| What is done cannot be undone. | Что сделано, того не переделаешь. | Сделанного не воротишь. |
| To tell tales out of school. | Разбалтывать (сплетничать) за стенами школы. | Выносить сор из избы. |
| First think, then speak. | Сперва подумай, потом говори. | Слово не воробей, вылетит, не поймаешь. |
| Still waters run deep. | Тихие воды имеют глубокое течение. | В тихом омуте черти водятся. |
| Roll my log and I will roll yours. | Покати мое бревно, тогда я покачу твое. | Ты – мне, я – тебе. |
| Little strokes fell great oaks. | Малые удары валят большие дубы. | Терпение и труд все перетрут. |
| As you make your bed, so you must lie on it. | Как постелешь, так и поспишь. | Что посеешь, то и пожнешь. |
| Everything is good in its season. | Все хорошо в свое время. | Всему свое время. |
| Look before you leap. | Посмотри, прежде чем прыгать. | Не зная броду, не суйся в воду. |
| So many men, so many minds. | Сколько людей, столько умов. | Сколько людей, столько и мнений. |

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| It never rains but it pours. | Беда обрушивается не дождем, а ливнем. | Пришла беда – отвори ворота. |
| Business before pleasure. | Сначала дело, потом развлечения. | Делу время, потехе час. |
| Tastes differ. | Вкусы различны. | На вкус и цвет товарища нет. |
| Live and learn. | Живи и учись. | Век живи – век учись. |
| It is no use crying over spilt milk. | Бесполезно лить слезы над пролитым молоком. | Слезами горю не поможешь. |
| Never say never. | Никогда не говори "никогда". | Никогда не говори "никогда". Нет ничего невозможного. |
| Brevity is the soul of wit. | Краткость – душа ума (остроумия). | Краткость – сестра таланта. |
| Don' t cross a bridge till you come to it. | Не переходи моста, пока ты до него не добрался. | Наперед не загадывай. Не дели шкуру неубитого медведя. Не говори "гоп", пока не перепрыгнешь. |
| What is done cannot be undone. | Что сделано, того не переделаешь. | Сделанного не воротишь. |
| Every cloud has a silver lining. | Всякое облако серебром оторочено. | Нет худа без добра. |
| One good turn deserves another. | Одна хорошая услуга заслуживает другую. | Долг платежом красен. |
| Tomorrow is another day. | Завтра будет новый день. | Поспешишь – людей насмешишь. |
| Time is money. | Время – деньги. | Время – деньги. |

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| There's no time like the present. | Нет более подходящего времени, чем сегодня. | Не откладывай на завтра то, что можно сделать сегодня. |
| Never put off till (until) tomorrow what you can do today. | Не откладывай на завтра то, что можно сделать сегодня. | Не откладывай на завтра то, что можно сделать сегодня. |
| The end justifies the means. | Цель оправдывает средства. | Цель оправдывает средства. |
| That which does not kill you, makes you stronger. | То, что тебя чуть не убило, делает тебя сильнее. | На ошибках учатся. |
| The proof of the pudding is in the eating. | Вкус пудинга можно проверить лишь попробовав его. | На ошибках учатся. |
| Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings. | Доказательства из уст детей. | Устами младенца глаголет истина. |
| Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you. | Не буди лихо, пока оно тихо. | Не буди лихо, пока оно тихо. |
| If you want to improve, you must work so hard that it hurts. | Если хочешь достижений, нужно трудиться очень упорно. | Без труда не вытащишь и рыбку из пруда. |
| Hope for the best, but prepare for the worst. | Надейся на лучшее, а готовься к худшему. | Надейся на лучшее, а готовься к худшему. Хочешь мира – готовься к войне. |

**English proverbs and sayings with a component
"pets and other animals" and their Russian equivalents**

| English proverbs and sayings | Translation | Russian equivalents |
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| To kill two birds with one stone. | Убить двух птиц одним камнем. | Убить двух зайцев одним выстрелом. |
| A cat in gloves catches no mice. | Кот в перчатках мышей не поймает. | Без труда не вытащишь и рыбки из пруда. |
| Don't count your chickens before they are hatched. | Не считай цыплят, пока они не вылупились. | Цыплят по осени считают. |
| Don't look a gift horse in the mouth. | Дареному коню в рот не смотри. | Дареному коню в зубы не смотрят. |
| Every dog has his day. | У каждой собаки свой праздник бывает. | Будет и на нашей улице праздник. |
| Curiosity killed a cat. | Любопытство погубило кошку. | Любопытство до добра не доводит. Много будешь знать, скоро состаришься. |
| It is the last straw that breaks the camel's back. | Последняя соломинка ломает спину верблюда. | Последняя капля переполняет чашу. |
| Let sleeping dogs lie. | Спящих собак не буди. | Не буди лихо, пока лихо тихо. |
| The early bird catches the worm. | Ранняя пташка червяка ловит. | Кто рано встает, тому бог дает. |
| Little strokes fell great oaks. | Малые удары валят большие дубы. | Терпение и труд все перетрут. |
| Who keeps company with | Кто водится с волками, | С кем поведешься, от |

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| the wolf will learn to howl. | научится выть. | того и наберешься. |
| Better be the head of a dog than the tail of a lion. | Лучше быть головой собаки, чем хвостом льва. | Лучше быть головой кошки, чем хвостом льва. |
| There's a black sheep in every flock. | В каждом стаде есть черная овца. | В семье не без урода. |
| Every dog is a lion at home. | У себя дома каждая собака – лев. | Всяк кулик на своём болоте велик. Дома и стены помогают. |
| Every cook praises his own broth. | Каждый повар хвалит свой бульон. | Всяк кулик своё болото хвалит. |
| The leopard cannot change his spots. | Леопард не может изменить окраску. | Как волка ни корми, он всё в лес смотрит. Горбатого могила исправит. |
| Birds of a feather flock together. | Птицы с одним оперением слетаются в стаю. | Рыбак рыбака видит издалека. (Два сапога пара; птицы одного полёта; люди одного склада; одного поля ягода) |
| When pigs fly. | Когда свиньи летают. | Когда рак на горе свистнет. После дождичка в четверг. |
| Don't swap horses when crossing a stream. | Не меняй коней на переправе. | Коней на переправе не меняют. |
| When the cat is away, the | Кошка уйдет из дома, | Кот из дома, мыши в |

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| mice will play. | мыши будут играть. | пляс. |
| Rats leave a sinking ship. | Крысы покидают тонущий корабль. | Крысы бегут с тонущего корабля. |
| Better an egg today than a hen tomorrow. | Лучше яйцо сегодня, чем курица завтра. | Лучше синица в руке, чем журавль в небе. |
| First catch your hare, then cook him. Catch the bear before you sell his skin. | Сначала поймай зайца, потом приготовь еду. Сначала поймай медведя, потом продавай его шкуру. | Не дели шкуру неубитого медведя. |
| The dogs bark, but the caravan goes on. | Собака лает – караван идет дальше. | Собака лает – ветер носит. |
| Old birds are not caught with chaff. | Старых птиц не поймаешь на мякине. | Старого воробья на мякине не проведёшь. |