LINGUISTICS

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The present article deals with the study of both traditionally distinguished specific features of American and British slang and contemporary characteristics which are determined by modern social and linguistic situations. Slangy communication typical of the USA and Great Britain is analyzed. The importance of Afro-American component in modern American slang is stressed. Ethnic characteristics of American slang are studied. The author underlines the adaptive nature of American slang. British slang is considered to be dialectically determined, its unique character is explained by the presence of rhyming slang in its structure. Rhyming slang Cockney brings about a certain degree of coding in communication.

<u>Key words:</u> slang, American, British, modern, dialect, Afroamerican, communication, code, rhyming slang, Cockney.

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