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ВНУТРІШНІХ СПРАВ

**АКТУАЛЬНІ ПРОБЛЕМИ НАВЧАННЯ  
ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ  
ДЛЯ СПЕЦІАЛЬНИХ ЦІЛЕЙ**

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*У збірнику акцентовано увагу на методичних аспектах, спрямованих на розвиток мовної культури як стратегічного засобу забезпечення лінгвістичної безпеки держави; формуванні іншомовної компетентності правоохоронців України, враховуючи сучасні виклики та потреби; міжкультурній іншомовній компетентності загалом, що стає ключовою у навчальному процесі. Увага приділена організації самостійної роботи здобувачів вищої освіти, використанню інноваційних форм та методів навчання мов. Досліджено використання онлайн-навчання як альтернативної форми традиційного навчання, його переваги та виклики. Окремі дослідження присвячені викликам та можливостям, які виникають у зв'язку із сучасними умовами навчання мов, зокрема у мультикультурному аспекті, підкреслюючи важливість розуміння різноманітності культур у процесі вивчення та використання мов.*

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## **IMPORTANCE OF LEGAL ENGLISH IN LAW PRACTICE**

**Abstract.** In today's globalized world, communicating effectively in English is essential for success in many professions, including law. An aspiring lawyer or law student may find himself working with international clients or colleagues or conducting legal research in English. Therefore, using English for specific purposes has become urgent and obligatory. Being a proficient, fluent speaker of general English, in this respect, is no longer enough to be engaged in the global business world communication. The world of business these days has made it necessary to learn more specific English vocabulary, and it happens that legal English vocabulary is one of the most important ones.

**Keywords:** *legal English language, resources, communication, legal writing, legal pragmatics, vocabulary, study.*

**Анотація.** У сучасному глобалізованому світі ефективне спілкування англійською мовою є запорукою успіху в багатьох професіях, включаючи юриспруденцію. Юрист-початківець або студент-правник може опинитися перед

необхідністю працювати з іноземними клієнтами чи колегами або проводити юридичні дослідження англійською мовою. Тому використання англійської мови для конкретних цілей стає нагальною та обов'язковою потребою. З цього погляду, щоб брати участь у глобальному діловому спілкуванні, вже недостатньо володіти загальноживаною англійською мовою на високому рівні. Світ бізнесу в наші дні зробив необхідним вивчення більш специфічної англійської лексики, і так сталося, що юридична англійська лексика є однією з найважливіших.

***Ключові слова:** юридична англійська мова, ресурси, комунікація, юридичне письмо, юридична прагматика, лексика, навчання.*

Legal English is a term that refers to the formalized English vocabulary used in legal writing. It includes particular technical terms and concepts used only in the law field or the law industry [1]. Learning this specific English vocabulary and mastering it will help legal professionals improve their careers in many different ways. Therefore, raising legal awareness concerning cross-cultural business communication, as well as writing and drafting contracts and licenses, has always been the dream of so many people concerned with the legal field.

Lawyers are mistaken, believing that a general English course will be enough for them for work as well. However, for example, the Intermediate level is no more than a good base for learning the professional orientation of the language [2].

English for lawyers must be studied, depending on the specific law. It is essential to take into account the specifics of the practice. After all, some lawyers work with documents; others participate in court hearings. Only some lawyers go on a business trip around the world. However, everyone has to deal with reading English literature.

The use of English, including legal English, is expected to continue to grow in the 21<sup>st</sup> century due to Globalization and the increasing interconnectedness of the world. As businesses and law firms expand their reach across borders, it becomes more important for legal professionals to communicate effectively in English.

Additionally, the United States and the United Kingdom remain significant players in the global economy and legal systems. Hence, knowledge of legal English is vital for lawyers who work in or with these countries [3].

Moreover, as technology and the internet make information more readily available, legal professionals are increasingly likely to encounter legal documents and resources in English. Many legal resources are already published exclusively in English, such as legal journals and academic articles.

A lawyer's most valuable and powerful weapon is the ability to play with words. We are living in a time of Globalization. A lawyer from one country can represent a client in another country. Hence, the mindset and approach should be transnational or global. Almost eighty per cent of universities worldwide are using English for teaching the law of their land.

Similarly, legislators or constituent committees are drafting laws and rules in the English language so that they can be used and understood across the globe. In most courts, standard legal English is a mixture of English, Latin and French vocabulary. For illustration, Latin Maxims are frequently used in drafting petitions by lawyers or delivering verdicts by juries [4]. The understanding or interpretation of a legal document dramatically depends on the understanding of legal language. Skilful use of legal English in drafting a case is always instrumental in taking the judge to a desired verdict. Legal English follows particular linguistic structure, punctuation and terminology.

We know that the English language covered a long journey of centuries to develop and come to its present form. Every language takes a lot of time to develop. It is like a river flowing for centuries, and while changing its course or routes, it adopts or picks up many new words. The English language also followed this natural phenomenon and picked up numerous words from Latin and French languages and other popular dialects. The history of the English language and the development of the legal English language used in courts should be seen in the light of the history of Britain. The foreign invasions and impact of French and Latin languages left an everlasting impression on the legal language of that time. Legal English also includes many words, phrases and maxims prevalent and famous in the courts of France and Spain. Most of these words continue to

flow in legal English. Now, they have become part of the language used in courts. In the same way, many words and expressions, archaic or outdated in day-to-day English, continue to hold significance in legal English [4].

A lawyer is expected to be brief, precise and to the point. There is no need to use intricate diction or complex syntax, but the point of view or argument should be explicit and clear, citing the rulings and precedents in favour of the case. All this comes from proper training and experience. The foundation of this should be laid when a student is pursuing a law degree. The legal language uses pronominal adverbs and phrasal verbs very frequently. We find the use of words like hereof, thereof and whereof in Standard English.

Further derivatives, including -at, -in, -after, -before, -with, -above, -on, -upon, are mainly used in legal English to avoid repeating names or phrases. Law students have to learn very specialized terminology, structure patterns and verbal expressions, which interpret the laws and rules in the right spirit and the right place. It is only possible to argue a case effectively if appropriate legal language is used. We often see lawyers using foreign phrases and expressions to interpret a legal point effectively and forcefully. In legal English, the lawyers use very long sentences to avoid ambiguity and misinterpretation. This tendency is the influence of the Latin and French legal systems.

In the same way, we see the use of many impersonal expressions or the formation of sentences. It is often seen that ordinary words have different meanings when they are used in a legal context. Legal language is a technical language, and its translation is also technical. The translator has to see the available text in legal perception to do accurate translation or interpretation.

There are many ways that English can help practising lawyers. Some examples are:

**Access to Resources:** English is the primary language of legal research and scholarship, with many legal resources available exclusively in English. With a firm grasp of legal English, non-native speakers may be able to access critical legal resources, limiting their ability to conduct thorough research and stay current on legal developments. Many essential court decisions are available in English, from the UK and the US, but also international tribunals such as the European Court of Human Rights, the European Court

of Justice, the World Trade Organization's Appellate Body, etc. Many global commercial arbitration decisions are available in English, as well. When a lawyer can read and understand these court decisions, they are poised to better advocate for their client.

**Effective Communication:** Communication is vital in the legal profession, and communicating effectively in English is essential for success. Non-native speakers who are not fluent in legal English may struggle to understand legal documents, express themselves clearly, or negotiate effectively with clients or colleagues. When arranging international transactions, it is paramount to talk directly with the other side. If you have to rely on a junior lawyer or a translator, there is a risk something will be misunderstood or lost in the translation. Additionally, numerous international conferences offer excellent training as well as networking. When a lawyer can communicate with international colleagues in English, then the lawyer can take advantage of many opportunities.

**Career Advancement:** In today's competitive job market, employers seek lawyers with solid legal English skills. Non-native speakers who have mastered legal English have a competitive advantage when applying for positions at international law firms or working with international clients. In many legal markets, there is a growing number of potential clients who may need to learn the local language. These international clients often need to hire lawyers to set up new businesses, assist with banking matters to purchase real estate, deal with immigration issues, or consult in various other legal matters. When a lawyer can comfortably communicate with these potential clients in English, then the lawyer is poised to attract many new clients.

Law is a profession of words. It involves direct interaction with people and their intricate relationships. Therefore, perfection in language is necessary for a lawyer. A lawyer needs two skills to be successful in his profession. Firstly, he should be able to write and express himself well. His writing should be clear, precise, and concise to clarify his intention without doubt or ambiguity. His writing must help him to get his ideas across effectively and to get the results he wants. Apart from writing skills, he must also be efficient in oral advocacy. His speech must be simple enough for others to understand, and he should be able to convince others. The second skill necessary for the successful practice of law is knowing how to use the profession's tools, namely, law books and other

reference material [7]. A lawyer must know how and where to find the law. He must also develop sufficient reading ability to spot useful references with minimum waste of time and effort. All these require that a lawyer should have a good command of language.

Anyone who is related to the legal field, such as a lawyer, a judge, a legislator or any other person who may be involved in the process of drafting, enacting and administering laws, must have a good command of language for efficiency in the work. To succeed in the profession of law, therefore, one must realize the importance of language to the legal profession and must make every effort to acquire knowledge, skill and proficiency in verbal ability.

However, it should be noted that the legal profession is mainly concerned with practical and factual writing, which differs from imaginative and creative writing. Legal writing always has a purpose; it aims to achieve valuable results.

The use of language is crucial to any legal system, not only in the same way that it is vital to politics in general but also in two particular respects. Lawmakers characteristically use language to make law, and the law must provide for the authoritative resolution of disputes over the effects of that use of language. Political philosophers are not generally preoccupied with questions in the philosophy of language. However, legal philosophers are political philosophers with a specialization that gives language (and philosophy of language) particular importance [5].

What is the relationship between the language used to make legal standards and the law itself? If the law provides that a form of words determines the content of a standard (such as a contract term, a criminal offence, or a duty of the executor of a will), what is the effect of using the words? The question demands general theories of the meaning of language and the interpretation of communicative acts. If there are no general theories, then there is no general answer to the question. A theory of meaning and interpretation of legal language would not be much less available than a theory of meaning and interpretation of language [6].

The dependence of the effect of legal language on context is an instance of a general feature of communication, which some philosophers of language have approached by distinguishing semantics from pragmatics. The distinction is, roughly, between the



meaning of a word or phrase or other linguistic expression and the effect that is to be ascribed to the use of the expression in a particular way by a particular user of the language for a specific context. The pragmatics of legal language is a vast field because the term 'pragmatics' could be used as a heading for much of what modern legal scholars and theorists have described as grounds for interpretation. In fact, 'pragmatics' could also be used as a heading for much that they have described as the theory of interpretation – since 'pragmatics' is a term not only for the effects of communication but also for studying those effects.

It is controversial whether legal pragmatics is simply a part of the pragmatics of language use in general. Suppose the pragmatics of language use depend on the context of an utterance. In that case, the legal context of a lawmaking use of language will have implications for the meaning conveyed and, therefore, for the law that is made.

Discussions of the pragmatics of legal language are expressly or implicitly premised on a view of the relation between a lawmaking use of language and the law that is made. It is the view that if an agency or a person is authorized to make law, it makes the law that it communicates by using language. That 'communication model' must be qualified in at least four ways because the law itself regulates the making of law:

1. the law that is made will be limited by any legal limit on the power of the lawmaker (as to the substance of the law that it can make or as to the process by which it can lawfully make law);

2. rules of law may qualify the law that is made in a variety of ways that are not susceptible of any general characterization;

3. courts may need to resolve indeterminacies in the effect of an act of lawmaking, and where they do so, their decisions may have conclusive legal effect (for the parties, and also for the future if the decision is treated as a precedent);

4. if a court departs from the law that the lawmaker communicated (for good reasons or bad), the decision of the court may still have conclusive legal effect (for the parties and also for the future if the decision is treated as a precedent) [6].

Even with those qualifications, some theorists reject the communication model. They argue that identifying legal rights and duties cannot be based merely on facts such as whether an authority has communicated this or that.

You can improve your professional language level in the same way as learning Standard English: with a teacher or on your own.

In the first case, it is a structured program and an established schedule of classes, systematically and with control of progress. At the same time, the program is compiled by experienced methodologists who monitor the relevance of requests in the legal field.

Self-study using materials from the network can be successful. Only if the student is collected and responsible enough to use his time correctly. A lawyer must set a clear goal for himself, be able to find the necessary materials, as well as opportunities to put the acquired knowledge into practice.

Here are some ways to improve a person's legal English skills:

**Take Legal English Courses:** Many law schools and training programs offer legal English courses explicitly designed for non-native speakers. These courses can help improve your legal vocabulary, reading comprehension, and oral communication skills.

**Read Legal Texts in English:** Reading legal texts in English can help non-native speakers improve their understanding of legal concepts and terminology, as well as their ability to read and interpret complex legal documents.

**Practice Writing Legal Documents in English:** Non-native speakers can improve their legal writing skills by practising drafting legal documents in English. It can include contracts, briefs, and memos [3].

In conclusion, knowledge of Legal English is essential for practising lawyers. It makes a significant contribution to their success on the professional front. The value of Communicative English is enhanced if a lawyer is well-equipped with proficiency in legal English.

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## **СУЧАСНІ ТЕХНОЛОГІЇ У ВИВЧЕННІ ІНОЗЕМНОЇ МОВИ**

**Анотація.** У статті досліджено засоби навчання іноземної мови, які мають важливе значення для забезпечення повноцінної та ефективної організації діяльності здобувачів вищої освіти із оволодіння іншомовною діяльністю. Процес навчання реалізується завдяки зусиллям двох його учасників – викладача і