

# The Kingdom of the English language



There were more than **30, 000 words** in Old English.

Modern English has the largest vocabulary in the world – more than **600, 000 words**.

Russian words in English are **balalaika, bistro, bliny, taiga, tsar, rouble, samovar, sputnik, troika, duma, dacha**.

70 per cent of the English language are from other languages and only 30 per cent of the words are English.

The words which are very often used in English are **the, of, and, to, a, in, that, is, I, it, for, as**.



English pronunciation is  
not easy for Russians.  
To speak more clearly we  
need to practice  
tongue-twisters.  
Sometimes even British  
people find them very  
difficult. Is it so?  
Try yourselves!

**Don't trouble troubles  
Until trouble troubles you.  
It only doubles trouble  
And troubles others too.**



**English spelling is another interesting thing. There are many rules of reading in English but sometimes it seems to me that there are much more exceptions to these rules.**

**The English language has about 41 sounds while their alphabet has only 26 letters. This is one of the reason why English spelling is so problematic.**

**More than 60 percent of English words have silent letters. Nearly every letter in the English alphabet is silent in some words.**



**There are proverbs and sayings in every language.**

**They are handed down from generation to generation and are supposed to have a universal value.**

**People use them to give a word of advice or a wise comment on the situation.**

**Some English and Russian proverbs are common and can be translated word by word from one language into another.**

**For example, ‘There is no smoke without fire’ has the Russian equivalent “Нет дыма без огня”.**

**With others the meaning of the proverb can be expressed in different ways.**

**For example, “once bitten, twice shy’ can be expressed in Russian by “Обжегшись на молоке, будешь дуть и на воду” или Пуганая ворона и куста боится”.**



Here are some other examples:

**Rome was not a built in a day.**

**There is no place like home.**

**Like father, like son.**

**Still waters run deep.**

**Every family has a black sheep.**

**All's well that ends well.**



**Every day we send sms and use ICQ. Why?**  
**Because it is fun, it is simple and it is addictive.**  
**We do it under the noses of our moms, dads and even teachers.**  
**Text friends have created a whole new language of their own.**

**SMS - short message service**  
**2 – to\too\two**  
**4 – for\four**  
**@ - at**  
**B – be**  
**B/C – because**  
**Pls – please**  
**TNX – Thanks**  
**U – you**  
**UOK – You OK?**  
**2day – Today**  
**Wknd – weekend**  
**B4 – before**  
**CU – See you**  
**ILU – I love you**  
**IK – I know**

