

Russian English

This fascinating book offers a comprehensive exploration of Russian English as a world English variety. The authors introduce readers to the history of language contact between Russian and English, which has resulted in the Russianization of English and Englishization of Russian. They also discuss the functions of English as a Lingua Franca in the domains of politics, business, and tourism, as a tool in youth subcultures, education, and scholarship, and as a creative means in mass media, advertisement, music, and literature. The book engages with the major role of English in expressing a speaker's cultural and personal identity within the global community. This accessible and engaging work presents a great number of concepts within the field of Russian linguistics, as well as introducing readers to the outstanding Russian scholars in the field. Essential reading for students and researchers across a wide range of related fields.

ZOYA G. PROSHINA, Doctor of Philology (Habil.), is a Professor at the M. V. Lomonosov State University of Moscow. Her research interests include world Englishes, sociolinguistics, translation studies, and intercultural communication. She was guest-editor of a special issue of a World English journal on Russian Englishes and has co-authored the *Routledge Handbook of World Englishes, English as an International Language in Asia: Implications for Language Education* (Springer), and *Communicating with Asia* (CUP). She is the sole author of *Crossroads: English-Russian Dictionary of East Asian Cultures*, *The ABC and Controversies of World Englishes*, and *Theory of Translation (English – Russian, Russian – English)*. She is co-editor of the forthcoming *Handbook of World Englishes* (Wiley-Blackwell). In 2011–2012 she was president of the International Association for World Englishes.

ANNA A. EDDY holds the position of Language Assessment Specialist at the English Language Program at the University of Michigan, Flint. She obtained a PhD in Modern Languages from Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan with the focus on sociolinguistics of World Englishes. Her research interests include the use of English in non-native contexts, teaching of English as a Global Language, second language methodologies, and curriculum design. She serves as a site reviewer for the Commission on English Language Accreditation and as a Vice President for Standards at EnglishUSA.

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EDITED BY ZOYA G. PROSHINA

M. V. Lomonosov State University of Moscow

and

ANNA A. EDDY

University of Michigan, Flint



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We dedicate this book to Braj Kachru,
Yamuna Kachru, and Larry Smith – the
pillars of the World Englishes Paradigm
whose ideas stimulated this research.

*The sounds of English: so beautiful, yet so hard to master.
I wonder if I shall ever know their true meaning.
I smile as my mind carries me back to where
My first encounter with English took place.
A small Siberian town, far away in time and space
Lost in the woods and winter snow.
Me, a six year old girl then, looking at a delicate
White puzzle made of ice and snow
On the window by Frost.
My mom opens a book with beautiful pictures
And strange letters and reads:
“A Cat” – she opens her mouth so wide
That I can see her tongue and teeth,
“A Sheep” – her lips become unnaturally stretched
As if she tries to force a smile.
My young Russian mind refuses to accept
This funny sounding language. I don’t like it.
It makes my dear mom look ugly.
Besides, my intuition tells the sounds
She produces are not true sounds of English.
My poor mom, who all her life had lived
Behind the iron curtain, had never heard
A single word of live spoken English. Tatiana Dobrosklonskaya*

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Contributors

Elena Vladimirovna Beloglazova, Doctor of Philology (Habil.), is Associate Professor at St. Petersburg State Economics University and lecturer in translation studies. She has published articles on the cultural aspect of translatability and interlinguaculture, and with V. Kabakchi has co-authored *Introduction to Interlinguaculturology*.

Evgenia Mikhailovna Butenina, Candidate of Philology, is Associate Professor at Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok. She completed her PhD on Asian American literature and is currently researching Russian literature in English and the response to Russian classics in contemporary English fiction.

Anna A. Eddy is an Assessment Specialist at the English Language Program at the University of Michigan, Flint. She obtained a PhD in Modern Languages from Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, with a focus on the sociolinguistics of World Englishes. Her research interests include the use of English in non-native contexts, teaching English as a Global Language, second language methodologies, and curriculum design. She serves as a site reviewer for the Commission on English Language Accreditation and as a Vice President-Elect for Standards at EnglishUSA.

Anna Albertovna Ionina, Candidate of Philology, is Associate Professor at the Department of English Philology, Moscow City Pedagogical University and a Lecturer in the Theory of English Grammar. She completed her PhD dissertation on the Literature of the Russian Emigration in English Studies. Her interests focus on current trends and variability in English grammar.

Tatiana Alekseyevna Ivankova, Candidate of Philology, is Associate Professor at Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok. She completed her PhD on Chinese English and is currently working on Russian English in the mass media and academic Russian English.

Victor Vladimirovich Kabakchi, Doctor of Philology (Habil.), is a Professor at St. Petersburg State Economics University. His post-doctoral dissertation was on Foreign-Culture-Oriented English as a key to

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non-English-based cultures. He is the author of the *Dictionary of Russia* and has published several books on Russian-Culture-Oriented English.

Irina Vladimirovna Krykova, Candidate of Philology, is Associate Professor at the National University of Science and Technology MISiS. She holds a PhD on Japanese English trademarks and names of companies and has worked as a translation bureau manager dealing with Russian and international businesses.

Elena Ph. Lawrick is an Associate Professor and ESL Program Coordinator at the Reading Area Community College, PA. She holds a PhD from Purdue University, W. Lafayette, IN. Her research focuses on the evolving presence of English in the Russian academic community and innovative practices in teaching ESL students in the US higher education context.

Olesya V. Lazaretnaya holds a PhD from the University of Lisbon Centre for English Studies focusing on a sociolinguistic profile of three generations of Russian English users.

Maria Grigoryevna Lebedko, Doctor of Philology (Habil.), is a Professor at Far Eastern Federal University. She completed her post-doctoral dissertation on cognitive interaction of language and culture (comparison of American and Russian temporal conceptspheres). Her research interests are in comparative linguacultures, intercultural communication, cognitive linguistics and history of English. She has written numerous books including *Culture Bumps: Overcoming Misunderstandings in Cross-cultural Communication* and *Time as a Cognitive Dominant of Culture*, and is co-editor and co-author of *Critical Cultural Awareness*, and co-editor of four journals in Russia.

Galina Nikolayevna Lovtsevich, Doctor of Philology (Habil.), is a Professor and Chair of Linguistics and Intracultural Communication Studies at Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok. She completed her post-doctoral dissertation on contrasting English and Russian ELT terms and their cultural underpinnings. Her research interests are in applied linguistics, lexicography, World Englishes, and sociolinguistics. She is President of the Far Eastern English Language Teachers' Association (FEELTA).

Zoya G. Proshina, Doctor of Philology (Habil.), is a Professor at the M. V. Lomonosov State University of Moscow. Her research interests include world Englishes, sociolinguistics, translation studies, and intercultural communication. She was guest-editor of a special issue of a World English journal on Russian Englishes and has co-authored the *Routledge Handbook of World Englishes, English as an International Language in Asia: Implications for Language Education* (Springer), and *Communicating with Asia* (CUP). She is the sole author of *Crossroads: English-Russian Dictionary of East Asian Cultures*, *The ABC and Controversies of World Englishes*, and *Theory of*

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Translation (English – Russian, Russian – English). She is co-editor of the forthcoming *Handbook of World Englishes* (Wiley-Blackwell). In 2011–2012 she was President of the International Association for World Englishes.

Alexandra Abramovna Rivlina, Candidate of Philology, is Associate Professor at the National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow. She is active in Russian-English contact research.

Elena Salakhyan, PhD, is a Lecturer at Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen. She completed her PhD thesis on Eastern European Manifestations of English as a Lingua Franca.

Svetlana Grigoryevna Ter-Minasova, Doctor of Philology (Habil.), is a Professor, Chair of FLT Theory, and President and Founder of the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Area Studies at M. V. Lomonosov State University of Moscow. She is also the founder of the Russian School of Intercultural Communication. She has been named Doctor Honoris Causa by the University of Birmingham (UK), the State University of New York (USA), and the Russian-Armenian University (Armenia). She is the author of numerous books including *Language and Intercultural Communication* and *War and Peace of Languages and Cultures*.

Irina P. Ustinova is Associate Professor at Southeast Missouri State University, USA. She holds a PhD on English in Russian advertisement from Syracuse University, NY, USA. She has published articles on English in Russia since 2005.

Victoria L'vovna Zavyalova, Candidate of Philology, is Associate Professor and Head of the Speech Laboratory at Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok. She obtained her PhD on Chinese English phonetics and intonation. She is currently working on the corpus of Far Eastern Englishes.

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Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| AREC | Academic Russian English Corpus |
| CM | code-mixing |
| CS | code-switching |
| EFL | English as a Foreign Language |
| EIL | English as an International Language |
| ELF | English as a Lingua Franca |
| ELT | English Language Teaching |
| Eng | English |
| R | Russian language |
| RE | Russian English |
| RIA | Russian Information Agency |
| RT | Russia Today |
| RuNet | Russian net |
| S | sonorant |
| SE | Standard English |
| V | vowel |
| VOR | Voice of Russia |
| WE | World Englishes |