

geographical names. These are Neogoora burr, York gum and others. For others, the element N<sub>2</sub> also determines the place of distribution, but in terms of the natural properties of the place of distribution. This is mountain ash, river gum, etc.

The formations of the second subgroup can be correlated with formations of the blue gum type, defining the formations of the blue gum type as such, the nomination of which is based on the internal properties of the subject, and education of the type river gum as basing on the external properties of the object.

Considering that the “external world of an object” is a loose concept, it is advisable to preserve the combination of formations of the type. For example, a similar use of the she element is in the names she-beech (*Cryptocarya obovata*) and she-pine (*Podocarpus elata*).

She - oak gave rise to the name he - oak as a designation for *Casuarina stricta*. The opposition she - he served as a means of differentiation in the naming of different plant species, the differences between which were not by gender. The distinction between certain *Casuarina* species is achieved using attribute elements. For example, niver she – oak (*Cosuarina cunninghamiana*), black she – oak (*Casuarina suberosa*), nose she – oak (*Casuarina torulosa*) are distinguished.

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### THE LINGUISTIC TAPESTRY OF UKRAINE: DIALECTS AND ACCENTS

*The article explores the diverse linguistic landscape of Ukraine, focusing on dialects and accents. It examines the role of language in shaping individual identity and cultural affiliation. By examining historical and contemporary factors, the article highlights the evolution of Ukrainian dialects and their unique features.*

**Key words:** *Ukrainian dialects, linguistic diversity, cultural identity, historical evolution, language variation, regional accents, surzhuk.*

*Стаття досліджує мовний ландшафт України, зосереджуючись на діалектах та акцентах. Автори аналізують роль мови у формуванні індивідуальної ідентичності та культурної приналежності. Дослідження, спираючись на історичні та сучасні дані, демонструє розвиток українських діалектів та їхню різноманітність.*

**Ключові слова:** *українські діалекти, мовна різноманітність, культурна ідентичність, історичний розвиток, мовна варіативність, регіональні акценти, суржик.*

Language plays a pivotal role in shaping individual personality. From early childhood, individuals are immersed in the linguistic environment of their family and community. While this often involves colloquialisms or regional dialects rather than literary language, it serves as a fundamental identifier of personal, familial, generational, and cultural identity.

The Ukrainian language has undergone significant evolution due to historical events, wars, revolutions, literary influences, and everyday cultural practices. Even today, the historical use of the language persists in certain regions, as evidenced by terms like “vuika” (uncle) and “trepel” (hanger). Language, alongside physical appearance, personality traits, behaviours, habits, preferences, and other factors, contributes to individual identity, forming a unique personal brand.

Through language, individuals can identify with their cultural group and distinguish between ‘in-group’ and ‘out-group’ members.

Ukraine, like many other countries, possesses unique linguistic features that are studied by linguists and encountered by travellers. One such feature is the dialect, a form of spoken, folk language. Ivan Kotliarevskyi pioneered the use of this vibrant dialect in his “Aeneid”, challenging the prevailing norm of writing exclusively in literary Ukrainian.

Given Ukraine’s vast territory, it is unsurprising that linguists have identified ten distinct dialects within the country. While this article cannot explore all ten, we will focus on the most fundamental and widely used dialects.

An accent can be defined as the highest level of dialectal differentiation within a language, forming, along with dialects and idiolects, the primary unit of language classification. Accents are readily identifiable in speech streams due to their shared characteristics, which distinguish them significantly from other accents. These differences have evolved over centuries, influenced not only by internal linguistic developments but also by interactions with neighbouring languages. The Ukrainian language has coexisted with East Slavic languages (Belarusian and Russian), West Slavic languages (Polish and Slovak), the non-Slavic Indo-European language Romanian, and even the Hungarian language from a different language family [3].

A dialect is a linguistic variety that, alongside literary language, constitutes a national language. It can also be defined as a means of communication among members of a specific territorial or social group [4]. Consequently, we can distinguish between territorial and social dialects. Territorial dialects are characteristic of a particular region and encompass all aspects of language, including vocabulary, grammar, and phonetics [1]. They can be further classified into dialects, accents, and idiolects based on shared or distinctive features at all language levels, allowing for comparison and contrast.

In contrast, social dialects exhibit peculiarities primarily in vocabulary and idioms. We focus on territorial dialects encountered in conversations with individuals from various regions of Ukraine.

In Ukraine, there are three primary groups of territorial dialects: Srednopolissia, Slobozhanshchyna, and Hutsul. Within these groups, territorially proximate dialects form accents. Ukraine has three main accents: southwestern, southeastern, and northern. The northern accent encompasses the northern parts of Sumy and Kyiv regions, as well as Chernihiv, Zhytomyr, Rivne, and Volyn regions. The southeastern accent covers most of Kyiv, Odesa, Poltava, Cherkasy, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv, Kirovohrad, and Kherson regions.

The southwestern accent encompasses portions of Kyiv and Odesa regions, as well as Vinnytsia, Khmelnytskyi, Zakarpattia, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi, and Ternopil regions. The Middle Dnipro dialect, an archaic variant of the southeastern dialect, serves as the foundation for modern Ukrainian literary language.

The northern dialect is characterized by the use of the ending “-є” instead of “-а” after a long consonant (e.g., життє, весіллє, зіллє) and the ending “-и” instead of “-і” in plural nominative adjectives (e.g., добри, здорови, гарни). Additionally, there is a notable similarity between terms in the northern dialect and those found in Polish and Belarusian, reflecting the geographic proximity of these languages [2].

However, it is inaccurate to assume that a dialect is a mere blend of two neighbouring languages, even in border regions. Dialects, in fact, contribute to the formation of a particular language, rather than the other way around. Moreover, a dialect exists within a specific region, with its features gradually evolving from one region to another, devoid of sharp boundaries like those on a political map [1].

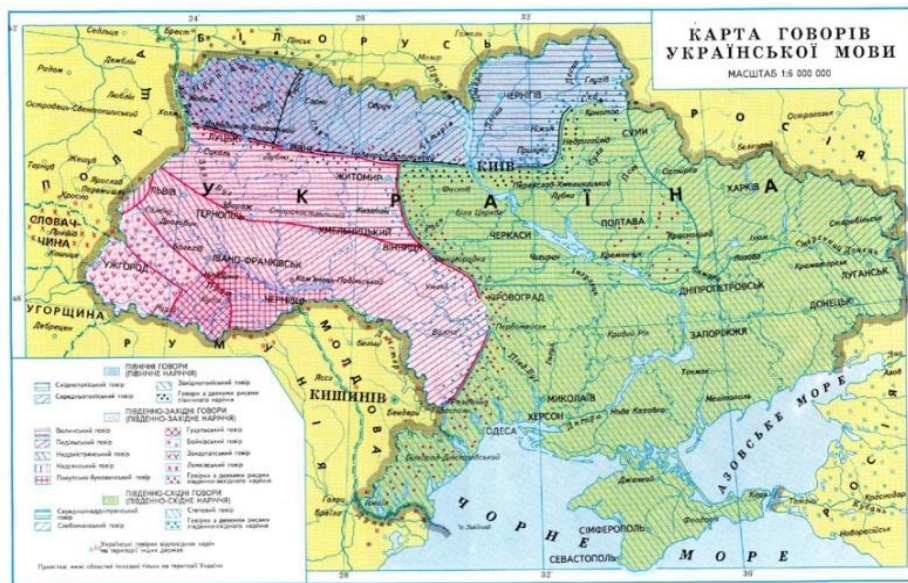
The southeastern dialect is characterized by numerous linguistic features that have been incorporated into the literary norm of Ukrainian. It is primarily based on a six-phoneme system of stressed vowels. However, the southeastern dialect also exhibits unique features not reflected in literary Ukrainian. These include the preservation of soft sibilant consonants (e.g., ло [лʲá] for

лоша (foal), ведме [ж'а́] for ведмежа (bear)) and the ending “-ій” in many hard-group adjectives (e.g., прохід [н'і́й] for прохідний (passage), мар [н'і́й] for марний (vain), б'і́ [л'і́й] for білий (white) [2]. Additionally, the southeastern dialect is influenced by Rusisms, Turkisms, Bulgarianisms, and borrowings from Romance languages. Due to its extensive geographic distribution, this dialect is the most prevalent in Ukraine.

The southwestern dialect is further divided into the Volyn-Podillia dialect, prevalent in Volyn and Podillia regions, and the Galician-Bukovyna dialect, common in the historical regions of Galicia and Bukovyna, including the Hutsul dialect. Additionally, the southwestern dialect encompasses the Carpathian dialect, which combines the Boyko (North Carpathian), Zakarpattia, and Lemko (West Carpathian) dialects.

The following features are identified in the aforementioned dialects: the transition of unstressed “o” to “y” (e.g., гоулу́бка, кужу́х); the mixing of “e” and “i” in words (e.g., жиев́е, висл́о); and, in the Bukovynian dialect, the replacement of the articulation of “i” with “e” (e.g., би́ки – бе́икé, же́то – жи́то). Additionally, archaic endings of the dative and locative plural of masculine nouns, such as “-ом”, “-ім”, “-ох”, and “-іх” (e.g., син́ом, бра́тім, на син́ох, на бра́тіх instead of син́ам, бра́там, на син́ах, на бра́та́х), have been preserved in various dialects [2].

For a more comprehensive understanding of the previously discussed dialects and accents, please refer to the accompanying map (Pic. 1). This map illustrates their territorial distribution and relationships with neighbouring dialects.



Picture 1. Map of Ukrainian dialects

Furthermore, residents of certain regions in Ukraine utilize a linguistic hybrid known as surzhyk, characterized by a blend of Russian and Ukrainian vocabulary with Ukrainian phonetics and grammar. Surzhyk is not considered a distinct language or dialect but rather a linguistic blend often characterized as a “cocktail of ignorance” by some linguists. Addressing the issue of surzhyk and promoting the avoidance of such language mixing is essential.

Despite providing only a superficial overview of Ukrainian dialects, the work highlights their richness and diversity. The misconception that dialects degrade speech stems from the Soviet era, when the government discouraged Ukrainian writers from using them to avoid reflecting the Ukrainian mentality and identity. However, when we examine these dialects, we can trace the historical developments of the regions where they are found. Ultimately, language serves as a reflection and preservation of the changes experienced by its speakers.

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