

## EVOLUTION OF NORMS IN THE RUSSIAN LITERARY LANGUAGE: FROM THE 19TH CENTURY TO THE PRESENT

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**Abstract:** This article explores the evolution of norms in the Russian literary language from the 19th century to the present. The study examines the linguistic transformations that have occurred due to historical, cultural, and technological influences. The research focuses on key linguistic shifts in phonetics, morphology, syntax, and stylistics while analyzing the role of codification and standardization efforts by Russian linguists. The article also highlights the impact of globalization and digital communication on contemporary language norms. Additionally, the study explores how external linguistic influences, particularly from European languages and modern English, have contributed to changes in literary Russian over time. The findings contribute to understanding the dynamic nature of literary language norms and their ongoing development, providing insights into potential future trends in linguistic evolution.

**Keywords:** Russian language, literary norms, linguistic evolution, language standardization, 19th century, modern Russian, digital communication, globalization, phonetics, morphology, syntax, stylistics.

**Relevance:** The study of the evolution of norms in the Russian literary language is essential for understanding the factors shaping language development over time. The 19th century marked a significant period in the formation of Russian literary norms, largely influenced by figures like Alexander Pushkin and the emergence of a standardized grammar. Since then, socio-political events, cultural shifts, and technological advancements have continued to shape linguistic norms.

In the contemporary digital age, the rapid evolution of communication tools and the influence of global languages challenge traditional norms, making this topic highly relevant for linguistic research. The increasing exposure to international discourse, especially in the realms of science, technology, and business, further accelerates linguistic change. Additionally, modern literary works reflect hybridized linguistic trends, incorporating colloquial structures and neologisms that were previously excluded from literary Russian. These developments emphasize the necessity of continuous analysis of evolving linguistic norms to preserve and develop the integrity of the Russian language.

**Research Aim:** The primary aim of this study is to analyze the historical and contemporary evolution of norms in the Russian literary language. The study seeks to:

1. Identify major linguistic changes from the 19th century to the present.
2. Examine the role of linguists and institutions in standardizing the language.
3. Investigate the effects of globalization and digital communication on literary norms.
4. Explore the influence of political and social changes on language evolution.
5. Predict potential future trends in the evolution of Russian literary norms.
6. Assess how the balance between traditional and innovative linguistic elements is maintained in contemporary literature.

**Materials and Methods:** This research is based on a combination of historical analysis, comparative linguistic analysis, and corpus studies. The methods employed include:

- **Historical Analysis:** Examination of primary sources, including 19th-century linguistic texts, dictionaries, and literary works. This method provides insight into the foundational grammatical and lexical structures that shaped the literary language of that period.
- **Comparative Analysis:** A comparison of linguistic structures from different time periods to identify evolutionary patterns. By analyzing classical literature alongside modern literary texts, key shifts in syntax, morphology, and stylistics are highlighted.
- **Corpus Linguistics:** Use of digital corpora to analyze contemporary linguistic trends and variations in literary norms. Large datasets from Russian literature spanning multiple decades allow for quantitative analysis of grammatical structures and lexical frequencies.
- **Sociolinguistic Surveys:** Collection of data from native speakers regarding perceptions of literary norms in modern Russian. Surveys target different generations to examine attitudes towards linguistic purity, loanwords, and evolving syntactic structures.
- **Lexical Analysis:** A focused examination of neologisms and loanwords integrated into modern literary Russian, tracing their origins and usage trends.

## Research Findings

### 1. Linguistic Evolution in the 19th Century

The 19th century was a pivotal era for the codification of the Russian literary language. Influential writers and linguists, including Pushkin, Lomonosov, and Karamzin, played

a key role in refining grammatical structures and developing a standardized lexicon.

Key features of this period include:

- The establishment of a balance between Church Slavonic elements and vernacular Russian.
- The simplification of syntax and morphology for greater accessibility.
- Increased influence of Western European languages, particularly in technical and philosophical discourse.
- Expansion of literary stylistics, allowing for more expressive and nuanced prose styles.

## **2. 20th-Century Transformations**

The 20th century saw significant changes in Russian literary norms due to political and social transformations, including:

- The influence of Soviet ideology on language standardization and simplification.
- The introduction of new lexical items related to industrialization and scientific advancements.
- Changes in stylistic norms, with greater emphasis on clarity and direct communication.
- Censorship's role in restricting linguistic diversity and promoting politically acceptable language.
- The influence of global literary trends in the late Soviet and post-Soviet eras, leading to more experimental and hybridized linguistic forms.

## **3. Contemporary Trends and Digital Impact**

The 21st century has introduced unprecedented changes in linguistic norms due to digital communication and globalization:

- The increasing acceptance of informal and conversational elements in literary writing.
- The adoption of loanwords from English, especially in technology, business, and entertainment.
- The rise of internet slang and abbreviations, influencing written norms in digital literature.
- A shift toward simplified syntax and sentence structures, influenced by rapid online communication.
- The integration of multilingual elements into modern Russian literary texts, reflecting broader cultural exchanges.
- The role of artificial intelligence and language processing tools in influencing literary style and grammar norms.

**Conclusion:** The evolution of norms in the Russian literary language reflects the dynamic nature of linguistic development. From the standardization efforts of the 19th century to the digital influences of the present, Russian literary norms have continuously adapted to societal changes. While traditional grammatical structures remain foundational, modern trends indicate a shift towards greater linguistic flexibility and inclusivity.

As literary Russian continues to evolve, it faces the challenge of balancing historical grammatical norms with the need for modernization. The incorporation of colloquial elements, neologisms, and loanwords has diversified literary expression, broadening its accessibility to modern readers.

Understanding these changes is crucial for linguists, educators, and language policymakers as they navigate the future of the Russian literary language. Future research should focus on tracking ongoing digital transformations and their long-term effects on literary norms. Additionally, further study is needed to explore how artificial intelligence and globalized communication networks will shape the next phase of Russian literary language evolution.

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