

Abstract

The current article presents some critical thoughts concerning the popularized phenomenon of World Englishes. The significance of adequate perceiving and producing English speech for certain areas of international communication including the issue of international safety is stressed. Allophonic variation (aspirated and weak voiceless stops, taps, glottalization, assibilation) and omission patterns common for native English speakers but mostly ignored by teachers of English are observed. Challenges for English speech perception connected with those patterns are viewed, some techniques for practicing them in the classroom for Russian learners of English are shared.