



Dynamics of dialect change in urban communities: Analysis of linguistic variation and evolution of Polish urban dialects based on data from local libraries

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Abstract. The relevance and necessity of the study of this topic lies in the fact that, in comparison with other lexical groups, dialectal linguistic units are peripheral and can easily be lost. The purpose of this study was to thoroughly examine and analyse the emergence and development of dialects in different regions of Poland. The study employed structural-functional and dialectical methods, the method of synthesis, logical and comparative analysis, the method of generalisation, as well as comparative, statistical, and system analysis. As a result, it was found that linguists distinguish three urban dialects of Polish: Warsaw, Poznań, and Kraków. The Warsaw dialect is the most widespread urban Polish dialect. Over the past few decades, the Warsaw dialect has undergone considerable changes. These changes can be noticed on several levels: the mazurka has disappeared, the accent and intonation have been simplified, and some terms are pronounced differently. Simple past tense forms are used more often than complex ones, and the grammar generally becomes simpler. The number of English and Russian borrowings is growing. Conventional phrases and expressions are becoming less common, while slang and colloquial terms are becoming more common. Unfortunately, Polish urban dialects are under threat of extinction. Local libraries are crucial for the preservation of dialects, as they collect resources on urban dialects and hold events to promote their use. The study is practically important, since all the theoretical provisions, conclusions, and recommendations can be used by philologists to improve their knowledge of the dialectal vocabulary of Poland

Keywords: lexical units; dictionaries; vernacular; territorial vocabulary; language systems

Introduction

The modern Polish language was formed as a result of a long historical development. All the changes in its phonological, grammatical, and lexical composition were caused by both external factors shaped by the history of the nation and internal laws of development. The evolution of language takes place in parallel with human development. The conservatism of modern Polish regional dialects is one of their key features. The principal reason for these and other literary standard deviations is not

evolution, but rather the absence of evolution: dialects retain layers of foreign languages, as well as numerous linguistic phenomena from the language's historical past. The development of dialects in Polish, which is the result of several historical and cultural influences on the language, is one of its most interesting features. The relevance of this subject is that a detailed investigation of Polish dialectal vocabulary will help to increase vocabulary, improve understanding of grammar and pronunciation,

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and improve the ability to communicate with locals, as Polish dialects have different vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation depending on the region.

Having studied the linguistic landscape of Poland, R. Górski & H. Grochola-Szczepanek (2023) argue that it is relatively homogeneous. Although dialects are an exception, it is generally accepted that regional variations of Polish also lose their distinctive qualities and turn into a standard version. Local dialects in the respective local communities no longer have the privilege of being the only language spoken there. The younger generation believes that having strong public speaking skills is important for getting better job prospects in general and more opportunities for career advancement. Only the oldest people in the community were allowed to speak in traditional ways.

I. Jaros (2022) notes that vernacular dialects preserve the vocabulary developed in previous periods. This is explained by their heterogeneity. Although their development was marked by independence from the Polish language as a whole, they were also constantly influenced by it at different stages of the language's evolution. According to the conclusions of I. Nowakowska-Kempna (2023), in this case, dialectological research can and should begin with the analysis of the speech of the oldest generation of rural residents (and other monosystemic people) who use their dialect as their main language.

Studies of spoken urban language conducted by B. Dunaj & M. Mycawka (2023) showed that the absence of Masurian and labialisation are the two main ways in which the speech of the inhabitants of the surrounding area differs from the urban dialect. This fact is sometimes used to denigrate the language of villagers. This is confirmed by a vivid example of their mockery: the term "uorcyki" was used to describe people who lived in the neighbouring villages of Krakow.

Local dialects are losing their uniqueness through various processes, which were investigated by H. Grochola-Szczepanek *et al.* (2019). Lexical changes are the fastest, while phonetic changes are the slowest. The active or passive knowledge of a local dialect is strongly influenced by socio-demographic variables such as age, gender, and educational level. Studies of changes and differences in rural speech are rich in Polish sociolinguistic dialectology; still, studies that base their conclusions on statistics regarding concrete language elements are rare.

According to M. Rak (2023), the concept of the language spoken in rural areas has emerged, understood as a multivariate formation consisting of elements of traditional subdialects, as well as common, informal, regional, ecological, and professional varieties. These social and linguistic phenomena have led to a change in terminology. The socio-economic composition of the modern rural population, which includes both traditional farmers and farmers educated in agricultural schools, as well as representatives of other professions, has influenced the adoption of this broad language approach. Dialectologists

note changes in the rural language system at all levels, but due to the open nature of the system, the most noticeable changes are at the lexical level.

Even though sociolinguistic attempts to investigate dialectal language have increased, many important issues, including the problem of society's attitude towards dialectisms, the place of dialectal speech in relation to language rights and language protection, continue to be ignored by scholars. Considering the above, the purpose of this study was to analyse the traditional division of territorial dialects in Poland, as well as to identify their specific features, and to investigate the dynamics of changes in Polish urban dialects.

Materials and Methods

To investigate the evolution of Polish urban dialects in greater detail, the structural-functional and dialectical methods, the method of synthesis, logical and comparative analysis, the method of generalisation, as well as comparative, statistical and systemic analysis were employed.

The structural-functional method was used to define the main concepts of this study, namely "dialect", "subdialect", "vernacular", "regional dialect", and "urban dialect". The history of the emergence and development of the Polish language and the Polish urban dialect, on the example of Warsaw, was investigated, as well as the purpose and function of the language and dialects for a person and society. The principal characteristics and differentiating features of a dialect as one of the forms of language were considered in general. The study examined which territories of Poland are mostly covered by the vernacular. The number of dialects and their sub-dialects, the principal factors and processes influencing the evolution of urban Polish dialects were determined. The two most effective methods of studying the dynamics of language changes in certain localities and the specific features of local vocabularies were considered. The existing relationship between the literary language and territorial dialects was investigated. The value of Polish dialects for history and culture was determined, and the role of local libraries in preserving dialects and promoting their use was defined.

Using the dialectical method, the findings and opinions of other researchers on this issue were investigated and a unified picture of the specific features of dialects in different territories of Poland and the dynamics of their changes was formed. The methods of analysis and synthesis played a major role in the study. To investigate the problem in greater detail, the study was divided into several parts. In the first part, the traditional division of dialects and territory of Poland was defined. The division of urban dialects was studied. The study identified the specific features of each dialect, namely pronunciation, alternation, simplification, and identifies the territories where a particular dialect is widespread. The study investigated which dialect is the most common among citizens of cities and surrounding towns, and which is

considered outdated and has practically disappeared from use. The study examined which languages influenced the above dialects. The second part of the study investigated the dynamics of changes in some Polish dialectal terms. Using the method of comparative, statistical, and systematic analysis, based on the materials of local libraries analysed the evolution of dialect changes in the Warsaw dialect (Atlas of the..., 1979; Koerner & Szwedek, 2001; Fellerer, 2020). The study examined the history of the Warsaw dialect and the features that distinguish it from the Polish language. The cause of the change in the variations of these words was established.

The second method, synthesis, was used to formulate recommendations for creating methods for preserving dialectisms as the country's linguistic and cultural heritage to protect the language and preserve diversity.

Results

The Polish language belongs to the West Slavic language subgroup known as the Lechitic subgroup. It is derived from the Proto-Slavic language, which, according to most linguists, used to form a common branch called Balto-Slavic. The Balto-Slavic language belongs to the Indo-European language family of Satem. Over

40 million people speak Polish, making it the second most popular Slavic language by number of users. Polish is also spoken by a large Polish diaspora living abroad. Only in the second half of the 20th century did the Polish language become more unified. This was partly due to the massive resettlement of millions of Poles from the eastern to the western regions of the country after the annexation of their homeland by the Soviet Union after World War II. Although the differences between these dialects are not great, Poles still speak differently in different parts of the country. But there are no obstacles to understanding each other. Compared to the various German dialects, the differences are minor.

Each of the seven dialects of the Polish language traditionally recognised by Polish linguists is tied to a specific geographical area. Dialects are often divided into subgroups (Table 1). Regional differences primarily reflect the division of tribes about a millennium ago. The dialects with the largest number of speakers include the Greater Polish dialect spoken in the west, Lesser Polish (spoken in the south and southeast), Mazovian and Masurian, which is common in the centre and east of the country, and Silesian (spoken in the southwest) (Sierociuk, 2020).

Table 1. Traditional division of dialects in Poland

Division of dialects	Subdialects
The Greater Polish dialect (descended from the Western Slavic language spoken by the Poles)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Krajna dialect (Polish: gwara krajniacka). 2. Tuchola dialect (Polish: gwara tucholska). 3. Kociewie dialect (Polish: gwara kociewska). 4. Chełmno-Dobrzyń dialect (Polish: gwara chełmińsko-dobrzyńska). 5. Cuyavian dialect (Polish: gwara kujawska). 6. Chojno (Southern Greater Poland) dialect (Polish: gwara chazacka).
Mazovian dialect (descended from the language of the Mazovians)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Podlasko-Suwałki dialect (Polish: gwara podlasko-suwalska). 2. Warmia dialect (Polish: gwara warmińska). 3. Kurpie dialect (Polish: gwara kurpiowska). 4. Masurian dialect (Polish: gwara mazurska). 5. Malbork-Lubawa dialect (Polish: gwara malborsko-lubawska). 6. Ostróda dialect (Polish: gwara ostródzka).
Lesser Polish dialect (descended from the language of the Vistulans, the most numerous dialectal group in modern Poland in terms of the number of speakers)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Łowicz dialect (Polish: gwara łowicka). 2. Sieradz-Łęczyca dialect (Polish: gwara sieradzko-łęczycka). 3. Holy Cross Mountains dialect (Polish: gwary świętokrzyskie), often associated with the ancient tribe of the Lędzianie. 4. Lasowian dialect (Polish: gwara lasowska). 5. Orawa dialect (Polish: gwara orawska). 6. Spisz dialect (Polish: gwara spiska). 7. Podhale dialect (Polish: gwara podhalańska).
Northern Borderlands dialect (currently spoken mainly by the Polish minorities in Lithuania and in north-western Belarus)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Białystok dialect (Polish: gwara Białostocka). 2. Vilnius dialect (Polish: gwara wileńska). 3. Suwałki dialect (Polish: gwara suwalska).
Southern Borderlands dialect (often considered a derivative of a mixture of Old Polish and Old Ruthenian, as was spoken in Red Ruthenia in the Middle Ages. Today, it is partially widespread in the northern and western (former German) regions among the older generation of Poles (those who moved to these lands from the territories annexed by the Soviet Union).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lwów dialect (Polish: gwara lwowska) – not currently used.
Silesian dialect (descended from the language of the Slavic tribe called Ślężanie, in modern times spoken in the regions of Upper Silesia)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cieszyn Silesian dialect (Polish: gwara cieszyńska). 2. Lach language (Polish: gwary laskie), a dialect related to the Czech language. 3. Niemodlin Silesian dialect. 4. Gliwice Silesian dialect. 5. Jabłonków Silesian dialect. 6. Kluczbork Silesian dialect. 7. Prudnik Silesian dialect. 8. Opole Silesian dialect. 9. Sulkovian Silesian dialect.

Source: P. Dębowski & J. Waniakowa (2023)



Since 2005, one dialect has been considered a separate language – Kashubian. It is used by the descendants of the ancient Pomeranian tribes. A subdialect is the Slovincian dialect (Polish: gwara słowińska), but it died out in the early 20th century, the last speakers living in the village of Kluki on Lake Łebsko.

Polish urban dialects are a diverse group of dialects of the Polish language spoken in cities and towns in Poland. These dialects are derived from various dialects of Polish, but over time they have been influenced by other languages such as German, Czech, and Yiddish. The Warsaw dialect is the most famous Polish urban dialect. It is characterised by a distinctive intonation and vocabulary such as “kej” (what) and “sikorka” (girl). The Poznan dialect is spoken in Poznan and the surrounding area. It is characterised by the use of the ending “-y” in verbs, e.g., “robiymy” (“robimy”) and “chodzimy” (“chodzimy”). The Krakow dialect is used in and around Krakow. It is characterised by the use of the ending “-om” in the dative case, e.g., “domom” (house), and increasing use of loanwords from English, e.g., “okej” (good) and “weekend” (weekend). Disappearance of phonetic dialectal features: in many Polish urban dialects, such characteristic phonetic features as the change of “sz” to “s” and the change of “cz” to “c” are disappearing. The grammar of Polish urban dialects is being simplified. For instance, in many dialects, the ending “-e” in the accusative plural disappears. Borrowed words from foreign languages, primarily English, penetrate Polish urban dialects.

A category of new mixed dialects is distinguished (Polish: nowe dialekty mieszane). This ambiguous term is intended to describe the current linguistic landscape, which consists of various dialects caused by the migration of people from other parts of the country and the eastern border regions to the “restored areas” (Polish: ziemie odzyskane). These dialects are considered recessive because they lack cohesion and commonalities throughout the territory and are more likely to use the common language than in other regions (Kerswill & Wiese, 2022). A range of dialects known under the general name of the Polish language of the eastern borders (Polish: polszczyzna kresowa) are also spoken outside the current borders of Poland. Polish urban dialects are a valuable source of information about the history and culture of Poland. They are also an important part of Polish national identity. Unfortunately, Polish urban dialects are under threat of extinction. With the migration of people and the spread of the Polish language, fewer and fewer people use urban dialects. However, there are many initiatives aimed at protecting Polish urban dialects. Local libraries play a significant role in this, collecting materials on urban dialects and organising events to promote their use. Local libraries play a vital role in collecting and sharing materials about Polish urban dialects.

Having investigated examples of words of the Warsaw dialect, based on the “Atlas of the language and folk culture of Wielkopolska” (1979), “Towards a History of Linguistics in Poland: From the Early Beginnings to the End

of the Twentieth Century” (Koerner & Szwedek, 2001), “Urban Multilingualism in East-Central Europe: The Polish Dialect of Late-Habsburg Lviv” (Fellerer, 2020), it can be concluded that the Warsaw dialect is becoming increasingly homogeneous and is approaching standard Polish. Compared to standard Polish, the Warsaw dialect is characterised by the disappearance of nasal vowels ([ɔ̃],[ɛ̃]), especially in the final syllables of words; palatalisation of velar consonants before [ɛ] and [ɛ̃], especially in the final syllable (Polish – rękę [ˈrɛŋkɛ̃] or [ˈrɛŋkɛ], dialect – rękje [ˈrɛŋkʲɛ]); replacement of the vowel group [ɔa] with [ua]/[uwa] (Polish – zawołowany [ˌzavɔalɔˈvani], dialect – zawałowany [ˌzavualɔˈvani]); replacement of the vowel [i] with [i]/[i] (Polish – kochany [kɔˈxani], dialect – kochany [kɔˈxani] or [kɔˈxani]). Some traditional features of the Warsaw dialect are disappearing. It is important to protect the Warsaw dialect, as it is a valuable source of information about the history and culture of the Polish capital.

As early as the 18th century, when the Polish substrate was enriched with numerous words borrowed from the Mazovian dialect, the Warsaw dialect stood out as a separate language group. The languages of the Warsaw burghers and the Polish royal court had a considerable influence on this mixture. Among them were Italian, Yiddish, French, Latin, and English. During the partition of Poland in the 19th century, many terms were adopted into the dialect from German, and later Russian was adopted into the dialect. After the Second World War, the majority of the city’s inhabitants were from other regions of Poland, and only a small percentage of the city’s indigenous inhabitants were a small percentage, as not all of them returned. As a result, various Polish dialects have had a significant impact on the language spoken in Warsaw. Prague and Wola were the only districts of Warsaw where this dialect was still spoken to some extent. Since the 1960s, the process of language unification has been taking place, and under the influence of the media (radio and television), it has led to a sharp decline in the number of speakers of all Polish dialects, including Warsaw.

The dialect has undergone considerable changes over the past few decades. These changes are noticeable on several levels. The disappearance of the Mazurian is observed (replacement of “sz” with “s”), simplification of intonation and accent, and a change in pronunciation: “ó” is transformed into “u” (e.g., “dobry” as “d’ubry”). The grammar is being simplified: the ending “-e” in the accusative plural is lost, and simple past tense forms are used more often instead of compound ones. The number of foreign borrowings is increasing, namely from English and Russian. Traditional expressions and phrases are disappearing, while colloquial and slang words are being used more often. For instance: instead of “poszłem do sklepu” (I went to the store), people are increasingly saying “poszedłem do sklepu”. Instead of “chciałbym” (I would like to), people increasingly say “chcę”. Thus, the linguistic picture used in certain areas has become more

dynamic due to social and economic changes that have contributed to increased interaction between the subdialect and the overall diversity of the language. Dialects no longer consist only of subdialectal elements, but also include elements of colloquial, special. Regional dictionaries, being comprehensive dictionaries, record not only colloquial and specialised characteristics of Polish words, but also subdialectal, regional, and common variations. It is not the variety of the vocabulary that is important, but its familiarity with a particular subject – for example, cuisine, work, farm, household, rituals, habits.

Thus, as the language of the capital, which serves important social and cultural purposes and combines a social dialect with a territorial dialect, the Warsaw dialect is a significant linguistic phenomenon in the history of the Polish language. Its development was associated with the emergence of new social relations, industrialisation, the expansion of the local population in the city, and the expansion of capitalism. The Warsaw urban dialect was formed as a result of its openness to external influences, borrowing of vocabulary and perception of various foreign language structures, including morphological, phonetic, and grammatical ones. An important component of language planning, language policy and education is the preservation of Polish dialects. A tool of language protection practice, a component of local identity, ensuring the continuity of language rights and protecting Polish-speaking territories from political speculation based on dialectal differences is the formation of a positive attitude in society towards dialectal speech as an important socio-cultural value of Polish culture.

Discussion

Polish urban dialects are a broad category of dialects of the Polish language spoken in Polish cities. These dialects have been influenced over time by German, Czech, and Yiddish, although they have their roots in various Polish dialects. Polish urban dialects are a rich source of knowledge about Polish culture and history. They also play a significant role in Polish national identity. Unfortunately, Polish urban dialects are under threat of extinction. Due to migration and the spread of the Polish language, people use urban dialects less and less.

According to the study, each region of Poland has its own unique language, which has developed due to various historical factors, geographical characteristics, and interaction with neighbouring ethnic groups. As a result, the Krakow, Warsaw, and Poznan dialects were formed. Therefore, it is worth agreeing with the conclusions of Y. Pan *et al.* (2022) that each dialect is based on certain cultural norms and ways of thinking. People from different linguistic backgrounds also demonstrate distinct behavioural patterns. People who grew up in an environment where a particular dialect is spoken will have a strong cultural imprint. Once established, this cultural imprint becomes a permanent part of an individual's human capital. Thus, language, which is increasingly used

as a proxy for culture in the relevant literature, is a better indicator of culture. Territorial dialect phenomena can occur in a particular region or only in a separate part of it. According to M. Abduvali (2020), it is in interaction of various internal and extra-linguistic factors that the development of dialectal vocabulary is formed. The fact that native speakers live in different geographical locations, and this affects their everyday life is one of the extra-linguistic elements that contribute to the creation of dialectal vocabulary. Author partially agrees with the researcher's opinion, since part from territorial factors, it is worth highlighting social factors. The social factor is that the dialect is characterised by structural closeness in the way people communicate, united by a common social circle, such as a joint job, sports team, or club.

Depending on the territory covered by specific regional features and the volume of lexical content, S.B. Nurymbetovich (2023) distinguishes two terms: dialect and subdialect. A dialect is a universal language without symbols that is used only in certain places. It should be added here that a dialect cannot be called a dialect as such. Nowadays, a dialect refers to a language spoken by a particular local community, such as a town or village. In turn, a dialect should be understood as a set of linguistic units (dialectisms) that together have certain common linguistic characteristics. K. Szymańska-Galińska (2021) also put forward this idea. The researcher notes that it is a mistake to assume that there are currently only three groups of urban dialects in Poland. Thus, according to the researcher, in addition to the Warsaw, Poznan, and Krakow dialects, it is worth mentioning the Gniezno, Leszno, Polotsk, Radom, Catholic, Cieszyn, Gdańsk, Szczecin, and Kashubian dialects. Unfortunately, most of them are disappearing due to the influence of standard Polish. It is difficult to agree with this statement, since most of the above-mentioned dialects have common characteristics, and therefore it is a mistake to divide dialects solely by territory.

According to their own research findings, the authors of the typology of Polish national language varieties sometimes do not distinguish the urban dialect as a separate one, and mark and categorise it differently, as well as search for its linguistic roots in other Polish language varieties. This leads to confusion in understanding and applying this idea. An urban dialect is considered an intermediate, mixed, and transitional version of a national language that has emerged as a result of social, economic, and cultural interaction between speakers of a common language and speakers of a regional language. It is the third type of language after the national and regional languages. P.P. Trudgill (2016) also sees the sources of urban dialects in the interaction between regional or vernacular languages and the standard language. A. Wilkoń (2000) agrees with his statement, although the researcher calls mixed languages not a dialect, but an urban language derived from ordinary and vernacular dialects. On the other hand, P.E. Gębal &



W.T. Miodunka (2023) take a different position, considering urban dialects as a useful variation of the non-Polish style of speaking the current language of the country. This brief overview of the categorisation of Polish language varieties presents two opposing perspectives: the urban dialect is considered a type of non-Polish spoken language, on the one hand, and a type of general and regional language, on the other hand.

The urban dialect is not only based on the historical past of the country, but also plays a growing role due to modern linguistic awareness and concern about the disappearance of language forms. F. Hinskens *et al.* (2022), having investigated this topic, noted that dialect is considered an exceptional value and an asset that should be preserved, in contrast to the past perception that it was simply a code of everyday communication that belonged to certain social groups and was often ignored. The author emphasises that today urban dialects are popularised by various means, including popular radio shows, books, and texts. It is worth adding to the findings of the researchers that, unlike other Polish urban dialects, only Poznan dialect is also used in music, in the city's public domain (museums, consumer spaces, names of objects, programmes, campaigns, and events), as well as in the virtual space (many fan pages, blogs, memes, and online stores).

The term "urban dialect" should also be considered in light of how this concept has changed over time. Urban dialects are defined in different ways, but they all have one thing in common: they are associated primarily with the poorly educated urban population, especially workers, labourers, domestic workers, and villagers who have come to the city and who "have not yet fully mastered the literary language". This is evidenced by the findings of A. Adler (2021). A dialect, as the researcher notes, is a lower-class language that is often rural and usually associated with the working class, villagery, or other people of low status. Dialects are a kind of (often incorrect) deviation from the norm – a deviation from the exact or normal form of a language. A distinct language variety that originates from a particular territorial use is known as a regional dialect. It demonstrates a range of dialect and accent variations. Over the centuries, geographical differences can give rise to different languages. According to A. Fawzi (2022), the place of origin of a person can be determined by their regional dialect. Other terms commonly used for this concept are local, territorial, or geographical dialects. Still, it is widely believed that this type of dialect is becoming less common in urban areas and more common in rural areas.

E. Al-Wer (2020), having investigated the emergence of dialectisms, notes that although vernaculars are still in use today, they are no longer influenced by the social, cultural, or economic circumstances of everyday life. Rather, they are steadily levelling out, deforming somewhat imperceptibly, and eventually heading towards a literary language. The author adds that modern modes

of production, the concentration of intellectuals in towns and villages, the influence of the press, fiction, radio, television, and schools all contribute to this complex and lengthy process. However, vernaculars continue to play an important role in society (Ming, 2020). It is worth adding to the researchers' conclusions that territorial dialects, along with other sources, continue to be one of the sources of enrichment of the vocabulary of the literary language. The gradual transformation of these dialectisms into normative ones, as well as the enrichment of the structure and expressive capacities of the literary language, require the establishment of the use of words and word forms as dialectisms and their appropriate processing in normative dictionaries and grammars.

It is worth agreeing with the findings of M. Duan & S. Zhou (2022) that language or dialect maps are useful resources for interregional communication. Dialect is no longer the only way to communicate, but a linguistic alternative that created a sense of familiarity and belonging. As the trend of emphasising local identity, returning to the "small motherland", and the need to emphasise the cultural identity of one's land has been clearly evident in recent years, an invaluable value, an element of intangible heritage, is beginning to emerge, which is noted in a dialect.

Thus, the problem of distinguishing between dialects requires the latest methods of studying dialectisms, including sociolinguistic conditions in both historical and contemporary contexts. The development of methods for preserving dialect continuums as a linguistic and cultural heritage of the country will be possible thanks to the research of the social functions of Polish dialects in the context of language protection and diversity policy.

Conclusions

Polish linguists traditionally distinguish seven types of dialect, each associated with a particular region. Each region has a distinct language that has developed over a long time as a result of various historical events, geographical features and interaction with other ethnic groups. Polish urban dialects are a diverse group of dialects of the Polish language spoken in cities and towns in Poland. These dialects are derived from various dialects of Polish, but over time they have been influenced by other languages such as German, Czech, and Yiddish. Urban dialects in Poland include Warsaw, Poznan, and Krakow dialects. A category of new mixed dialects is distinguished that consists of various dialects caused by migration of people from other parts of the country and the eastern border regions.

The Warsaw dialect is the most famous Polish urban dialect. The Warsaw dialect is characterised by the disappearance of nasal vowels ([ɔ̃], [ɛ̃]); palatalization of velar consonants before [ɛ] and [ɛ̃] (Polish – rękę [ˈrɛŋkɛ̃], dialect – rękje [ˈrɛŋkʲɛ̃]); replacement of the vowel group [ɔa] with [ua]/[uwa]; replacement of the vowel [ɨ] with [i]/[i]. The dialect has undergone considerable changes

over the past few decades. These changes are noticeable on several levels: the disappearance of the Mazurian (replacement of "sz" with "s", "cz" with "c"), there is a simplification of intonation and accent, as well as a change in the pronunciation of some terms, e.g., the pronunciation of "dobry" is changed to "d'ubry" ("ó" is transformed into "u"). The grammar is simplified (the accusative plural loses the ending "-e"), and simple past tense forms are used more often instead of compound ones. The number of foreign borrowings is increasing, namely from English ("okej" (good) and "weekend" (weekend)) and Russian. Traditional expressions and phrases are disappearing, while colloquial and slang words are being used more often. Unfortunately, Polish urban dialects

are under threat of extinction. Due to migration and the spread of the Polish language, people use urban dialects less and less. Local libraries play a vital role in preserving dialects, collecting materials on urban dialects, and organising events to promote their use.

Prospects for further research include the study of effective mechanisms for preserving dialectisms as the country's linguistic and cultural heritage.

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None.

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Динаміка діалектних змін у міських громадах: аналіз мовної варіативності та еволюції польських міських діалектів на основі даних місцевих

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Анотація. Актуальність і необхідність дослідження цієї теми полягає в тому, що, порівняно з іншими лексичними групами, діалектні мовні одиниці є периферійними і можуть легко загубитися. Метою цього дослідження було ретельне вивчення та аналіз виникнення і розвитку діалектів у різних регіонах Польщі. У дослідженні використано структурно-функціональний та діалектичний методи, метод синтезу, логічного та порівняльного аналізу, метод узагальнення, а також порівняльний, статистичний та системний аналіз. У результаті було виявлено, що лінгвісти виділяють три міські діалекти польської мови: варшавський, познанський і краківський. Варшавський діалект є найпоширенішим міським діалектом польської мови. За останні кілька десятиліть варшавський діалект зазнав значних змін. Ці зміни можна помітити на кількох рівнях: зникла мазурка, спростився наголос та інтонація, деякі терміни вимовляються по-іншому. Прості форми минулого часу вживаються частіше, ніж складні, а граматики загалом стає простішою. Зростає кількість англійських та російських запозичень. Загальноприйняті фрази та вирази стають менш поширеними, натомість сленг та розмовні терміни стають все більш поширеними. На жаль, польські міські діалекти перебувають під загрозою зникнення. Важливу роль у збереженні діалектів відіграють місцеві бібліотеки, які збирають ресурси про міські діалекти та проводять заходи, спрямовані на популяризацію їх використання. Дослідження має практичне значення, оскільки всі теоретичні положення, висновки та рекомендації можуть бути використані філологами для поглиблення знань про діалектну лексику Польщі

Ключові слова: лексичні одиниці; словники; народна мова; територіальна лексика; мовні системи