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## WHAT IS BERRY? ETYMOLOGY OF BERRIES' NAMES

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**Abstract**

Recently the study of language based on the analysis of the origin of the thematic groups is considered to be relevant. Nowadays territorial boundaries are no longer significant and people have the opportunity to learn the culture and history of the countries worldwide. The main attention is paid to identifying the origin of words in Russian and English and comparing their etymology. This topic is rather relevant because understanding of the origin of the vocabulary will help students to classify this vocabulary. In future it will facilitate its memorization in English.

**Key words:** etymology, origin of the word, comparative analysis of words.

The name of all objects is encountered in everyday life has its origin. And sometimes it's extremely surprised to find out where this name came from. One of the simplest and common but in the same way curious and unexplored category is berries. Everyone knows plenty of berries but few of us have ever thought why and where they got such names and there is no conventional explanation. Some of them were named in appearance, others by the name of the place of growth, others by their similarity to some objects and so on and so forth.

Nowadays territorial boundaries are no longer significant and people have the opportunity to learn the culture and history of the countries worldwide [Grinkova 1958, 109].

That's why the topic of this article is "Etymology of berries' names". This theme is rather hot because understanding of the origin of the vocabulary will help students to classify this vocabulary. In future it will facilitate its memorization in English.

Etymology is the field of linguistics that deals with establishing the origin of words, their initial structure and initial genetic connection with other words.

Language is a dynamic, very flexible system that cannot be imagined as frozen and unchanging [Room 2006].

It often happens that the origin of a given word cannot be determined absolutely accurately. In this regard, the etymologies of words are divided into true (absolutely reliable, indisputable) and hypothetical (hypothetical, problematic). There is only one true etymology of a word; while there can be several hypothetical ones. Hypothetical interpretations in the dictionary are accompanied by caveats: *probably, most likely, apparently, etc.* At the current stage of the development of the science there are much more words with hypothetical etymology than with indisputable ones. And there are words that have not yet been subjected to etymological analysis.

It's not a secret that Russian and English are related to different language groups. Russian is one of the Slavic language groups when English is part of the German one. But they are still in one language family that's why its especially interesting to see into similarities and differences in words' meaning specifically berries [Abaev 1952, 56- 69].

Before proceeding directly to the analysis of the origin of the words there are two explanations to be made.

Firstly, in English as in Russian in the everyday sense of meaning the word "berry" doesn't coincide with the scientific term "berry". For example, tomatoes and watermelons are berries from the botanical point of view. And it's not customary to call them berry in everyday life. From a scientific point of view, lemon is a berry but raspberry is not. So, in connection with this confusion, this article will focus on berries in the generally accepted sense of this word, trying to take into account the features of both languages.

Berries have been known to mankind for a long time. This is one of the oldest parts of human diet.

To begin with the very word "*berry*" in English has an unknown etymology. There are several variants of its origin claiming to be true. Some scientists say that "*berry*" has German origin. Root "*ber-*" is present in all Germanic languages including the ancients. In the Old English the word "*berry*" was used to mean the fruits of grapes, since they are "*naked*" means without villi such as apricot. But over time the meaning expanded to the modern one/

Russian equivalent for English "*berry*" has clearer origin. It comes from the pre-Slavic word "*aga*". In the Serbo-Croatian "*vinyaga*" we see a print of it: "*vinyaga*" means "*vine*" (so to speak, "*wine berry*"). From this "*aga*" the word "*agoda*" was first produced using the suffix "*-oda*", which then, as they say, "*developed the initial iot*" and turned into a "*jagoda*" [Semenov 2015].

And now let's move on to the ancestry of the most common berries names.

Raspberry is one of the most ancient berries in the world. For the first time it was discovered in Greece on the Ida mount. That's why it's scientific name is "*ideus*". It is known that firstly raspberry was used only as a medicinal plant. Flower tincture was used by Greeks and Romans for treating snake and scorpion bites. The origin in English is uncertain but possibly it is connected with Anglo-Latin *vinum raspeys* which means "*a sweet rose-colored wine*". Ernest Klein suggests it was formed via the French word, from Germanic source with original sense of "*rough berry*", based on the appearance.

Russian linguists are also haven't come to the consensus about the provenance of the raspberry name yet. There are also two variants. Some scientists associate word "*malyna*" with root "*mal-*" ("*small*") because raspberry consists of many small berry grains. Others connect it with an ancient Indo-European root meaning "*blue*" or "*black*". We can see it in Greek word "*melas*" meaning "*black*"). So they believe raspberry got its name for its dark red color. Both these explanations are not indisputable, but there are no better ones so far [Semenov 2015].

English word "*strawberry*" obviously consists of two parts "*straw*" and "*berry*". It is said that in some parts of the world strawberries are covered with straw for winter so that plants do not freeze. Other variant also connected with cultivating strawberry. They say name of this berry is connected with straw which is laid under the berries so they don't get dirty. But both of them are no more than some kind of legend because the word "*strawberry*" appeared much earlier than people started to cultivate this berry [Uspenskiy 2017].

Linguists say that the first part of the word "*strawberry*" means small yellow grains covered the berry. Other variant is that "*straw*" comes from word "*stray*" in the meaning of "*separate*" or "*strew*". This refers to the bines strawberry abundantly to wrap around in their place of growth.

In Russian "*clubnika*" can be deciphered as a "*tuber-like berry*". Etymologists explain the origin from the root "*club-*" because the fruit are spherical unlike and have conical or oval shape. General Slavic word ancestor meant "*rounded lump*". From here comes the cursed word "*cluben*" (tuber).

Gooseberry is type of thorny shrub with hairy fruit firstly cultivated in northern Europe in 1530. The most curious first part of this word is of uncertain origin. No part of this plant seems to have connection with goose. Linguist Watkins pointed the origin to Old French word "*grosele*" which means "*gooseberry*". But it also may arise from German "*Krausebeere*" with the root "*Krause*" means "*crispy, curly*". Anyway, it may be connected with German words in *kr-/cr-* and meaning "*to bend, curl; bent, crooked; rounded mass*". Under this theory the word "*gooseberry*" would be folk etymology.

But others linguists find no reasons to prefer these theories to literal reading. They say ground on which plants and fruits have received their names associating with animals are so commonly inexplicable, that the want of appropriateness in the meaning affords no sufficient ground for assuming that the word is an etymological corruption.

An interesting fact is that "*gooseberry*" also may be a slang or a "*fool*". Also, in euphemistic explanations of reproduction to children, babies sometimes were said to be found under a gooseberry bush.

In Russian cherry is considered to be a berry but in English is a fruit. But from the point of view of botany, cherries are neither a berry nor a fruit but a drupe. The fruit of plants genetically related to apricots and plums. Humanity has known them since ancient times. The ancient Romans learned about cherries from the ancient Greeks and loved them very much. They knew and distinguished many varieties.

Their name in English dates back to the Latin "*cerasum*" and is formed according to one version from the name of the region of their growth in modern Turkey (Giresun) or from the name of the small town of Kerasund (Κερασούντα), located between Farnakia and Trebizond, which became famous for cherries. According to this version, it was there that the Romans first met them, giving the name "*Kerasunt fruits*" - "*cerasi*" [Weekley 1921].

The word "*cherry*" first appeared in Russian in the XV century. The origin is unclear. According to some researchers, this word is primordial and is formed from a common Slavic basis. According to others, it is a loan from the same basis as the German "*Weichsel*" means "cherry", where the word, in turn, came from Late Latin. Latin "*viscum*" means "*bird glue*". In this case, the original meaning of the word is "wood with sticky sap".

Cranberry is the name of the fruit of several species of a swamp-growing shrub. Apparently an American English adaptation of Low German "*kraanbere*", from "*kraan*" means "*crane*" + Middle Low German "*bere*" means "*berry*". The reason for the name is not known, perhaps they were so called from fancied resemblance between the plants' stamens and the beaks of cranes.

German and Dutch settlers in the New World apparently recognized the similarity between the European berries and the larger North American variety and transferred the name. In England, they were "marshwort" or "fenberries", but the name, were imported by 1680s and were applied to the native species in 18c. The native Algonquian name for the plant is represented by West Abenaki "*popokwa*" [Uspenskiy 2017].

In Russian the origin of the word is undeniably pan-Slavic, but its etymology is vague. There is an option that the word cranberry means "the berry that birds like to peck", a Serbian analogue of the word "*beak*" can serve as an indirect confirmation.

Other linguists believe that cranberries got its name from the place of growth and means "swamp berry". In Old Slavonic the word "*kluchevina*" with a similar root means "swamp". The dialect name of cranberry is "*zhuravicha*", so it can be assumed that the appointment of berries is close to the name of such a marsh bird as the crane. In addition, the appearance of the crane is often associated with a poker, the common name of which is "*kluka*" also has a similar root.

And finally, the last option is the onomatopoeic theory of the origin of the word "cranberry". In Old Slavonic "*klukat*" means "*to make noise*". Here, an analogy is drawn with the Serbian word "*kluk*" means "*squeezed grapes*" and the onomatopoeia of these words is erected to the sound made by crushed berries.

The currant is a very small kind of seedless blackish raisin or dried grape, used in cookery and confections, a shortening of "*raysyn of Curans*" means "raisins of Corinth". The "s" was mistaken for a plural inflection from Anglo-French "*reisin de Corauntz*". The raisins were exported from southern Greece. Then in 1570s the word was applied to the small round red or black berry of an unrelated Northern European plant. Then lately introduced in England, on its resemblance to the raisins. It later was applied to plants having similar fruit in America and Australia [Wedgwood 1978].

Russian equivalent of one of the meaning of the word "*currant*" is "*smorodina*". Currant is one of the most common berries in Russia. they were loved back in ancient Russia. Especially popular was the currant mash.

But the berry got its name not because of its taste, but because of its unusual smell. In ancient times, the smell of the people seemed so strong that they chose the root "*smorod*" for the name of this plant.

The root has pre-Indo-European roots and sounded in ancient times as "smerd" or "*smrod*" means the strong odor, stink.

These are just some brief examples of berry name's stories, but they also shed light on the big picture.

It can be judged that the etymology of the berry name's origin is an interesting, but rather vague topic. Scientists could not come to one version of the origin of these names in both Russian and English. In both languages there are many fairly plausible theories. Despite the fact the Russian and English languages belong to different language groups; it seems possible to distinguish quite common features from them [Otkupschikov 2005, 145-157].

Thus, many berries got their name in honor of their places of growth and various geographical features. Adaptations of the names of objects and animals on the basis of various associations are also popular for berries names. But decisive in both languages can be called naming in accordance with external signs, whether it be the shape, color, or even the smell of berries.

All words are changing over time. This affects both the phonetic shell and the lexical meaning. Over the centuries, so many changes can accumulate that the original appearance and meaning of the word will be "darkened." This creates significant difficulties for analysis. And the establishment of the origin of the word does not mean that the earliest, original form will certainly be restored.

Modern etymology is a fascinating and complex science, which can provide a huge contribution to the process of systematizing and learning a language. But unfortunately, there are so many more questions than answers.

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## СТРАТЕГИЯ КООПЕРАЦИИ РЕЧЕВОГО ПОВЕДЕНИЯ ТЕЛЕВЕДУЩЕГО В ТЕЛЕВИЗИОННОМ ДИСКУРСЕ (НА ПРИМЕРЕ CORINA RIES – DIE TALKSHOW)

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#### Аннотация

Статья посвящена исследованию стратегии кооперации речевого поведения телеведущего как основного способа осуществления успешной коммуникации в рамках определенного телевизионного жанра. В статье рассматриваются особенности жанра ток-шоу, которые влияют на построение речевого поведения телеведущего и на выбор коммуникативных стратегий в процессе общения. В статье приведены примеры использования телеведущим тактики кооперации на примере Corina Ries-Die Talkshow. В статье также рассматривается понятие телевизионного дискурса, и выдвигаются особенности телевизионной коммуникации в рамках этого дискурса.

**Ключевые слова:** коммуникативная стратегия, коммуникативная тактика, кооперация, телевизионный дискурс, речевое поведение телеведущего, эффективность общения.