

**МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ  
СУМСЬКИЙ ДЕРЖАВНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ  
КАФЕДРА ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ  
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНИЙ НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНИЙ ЦЕНТР**

**МАТЕРІАЛИ  
VIII МІЖВУЗІВСЬКОЇ НАУКОВО-ПРАКТИЧНОЇ  
КОНФЕРЕНЦІЇ  
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНОГО НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНОГО ЦЕНТРУ  
КАФЕДРИ ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ**

**“TO LIVE IN A SAFER WORLD”**

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## AN ELECTRIC GUITAR AS A SMALL ORCHESTRA

A.B. Diedova, IN-01

A.M. Diadechko, ELA

I cannot imagine my life without my electric guitar. It is not a thing. It is an extension of myself. It is who I am.

Today not many people can tell about creation of this instrument. An electric guitar is a guitar that uses a pickup to convert the vibration of its strings into electrical impulses. Some of the earliest electric guitars adapted hollow bodied acoustic instruments and used tungsten pickups. The first electrically amplified guitar was designed in 1931 by George Beauchamp. George Beauchamp was born in Coleman County, Texas. Beauchamp performed in vaudeville, playing the violin and the lap steel guitar, before he settled in Los Angeles, California. During the 1920s, he experimented with the creation of electric lap steel guitars, electric guitars, electric bass guitars, electric violins, and instrument amplifiers. In 1931 he joined Adolph Rickenbacker to produce and sell electrified string instruments. Rickenbacker offered a cast aluminum electric steel guitar, nicknamed "The Frying Pan" or "The Pancake Guitar". It turned out that the sound defect can generate an infinite number of previously unknown sounds.

And here is the main question. How does it work? It is all because of pickups. Pickups are magnetic pieces set on the guitar's body — typically between the bottom of the fretboard and the bridge — that pick up the vibrations of the strings. Pickups contain electromagnets that produce magnetic fields in their surroundings. Whenever the strings of the guitar vibrate, those vibrations are "felt" by the magnetic fields. The vibrations, in simple terms the notes played, are converted into electrical sound signals further sent to an amplifier.

Andre Segovia once said about the guitar as a living thing: "The guitar is a small orchestra. It is polyphonic. Every string is a different color, a different voice." Many of the guitar players agree completely with these words.