Самое популярное слово!

Hello guys! What word do you think is the most popular in the English language? It's a pretty interesting question, isn't it? In fact, there are many different words that English speaking people use very often in their speech. For example, «like». It seems to be a very popular word. Or another one — «anyway». That's true, «anyway» is one of the most frequently used words in English. By the way I have an article about this word on my blog.

So we can remember many popular words that are often used in the conversation. But none of them can compete with one and only word in English! With the word OK! This is a king of not only English language, but it's also the most popular word in the whole World. Just think about how often you meet this expression in your daily life. At work, on the Internet, electronic devices etc. OK is popular not only in spoken language, but in any writing as well.

I remember myself listening to some podcast from BBC Learning English long time ago. They discussed this topic there, talking about the most frequent words in English. And according to the polls OK was not the most popular word, but they were talking about all the words of any part of speech. In this case needless to say that the most popular word was of course «the». But guys from that podcast noticed that if they excluded all the conjunctions and prepositions, the most frequently used expression would be OK anyways.

What does this word mean? I'm sure you know it. «OK» or «okay, ok, O.K» basically means that everything is correct. Mainly this is a word denoting approval, acceptance, agreement etc. In the conversation we use it mostly to say that we agree with something or accept something that suits us. In the digital World OK means that all is correct. We usually confirm something clicking on the button «OK».

What is the origin of the word OK? There are many different opinions on this point. Most likely this word is a short for «orl korrekt» a jokey misspelling of «all correct» which was used in the USA in the 1830s. Also there were such a Democratic party that used OK as a slogan during the American President elections in the 1840s. One of the candidates was Martin Van Buuren that was nicknamed «Old Kinderhook» after his birthplace in New York state. His supporters formed «OK club». It definitely popularized the word among people in that time.

One more theory is that the word OK originated among Black Slaves of Western Africa and meant «all right, yes indeed» in various of West African languages. But unfortunately there are no evidences proving it.

Even now people don't have any accurate explanations about how the term OK came to this World. But anyway this is one of the most convenient and common expressions in English ever!

Keep learning English my friends and take care!