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THE SEMANTICS OF MODERN ENGLISH PERSONAL NAMES OF CELTIC ORIGIN

The article deals with structural, semantic and conceptual analyses of more than 100 modern English personal names of Celtic origin.

Key words*: anthroponyms, Celtic languages, historical onomastics*

Names surround us in their myriad multiplicity, the common and the rare, the ancient and the new, the parochial and the alien. Anthroponyms, or personal names, constitute a very important part in every culture. For a long time they have been of paramount importance both for the name-bearer and the name-giver(s). Thus, for instance, in tribal cultures new-borns can be given a name or names, reflecting their ethnic background and closely connected with the tribal totems and family/tribe history. Children can also bear a name with a certain magic power to ward off evil spirits from them and/or from the people of the family/tribe. Names are also believed to be able to bestow upon their bearer certain positive characteristics, such as physical health, strength, stamina, as well as happiness and good luck, honesty, wealth, etc. Compare modern English names such as *Laura* (of Latin origin, meaning «triumph»), *Victor* (from Lat. «winner»), *Vivian / Vivien* (from Lat. «lively»), *Maxim* (from Lat. «the greatest»), *Rose, Rosa, Rosabel, Rosabella, Rosabelle, Rosalia, Rosalie* — all meaning «as beautiful as a rose», *Justin* (m) and *Justina/Justine* (f) (from Lat. «just, fair, honest, morally correct»), etc.

Every nation has its own naming traditions, and the naming trends are changeable and are often preconditioned by outer factors, such as important political events, changes in social life and/or in religious beliefs, etc. When Christianity ousted paganism and became widely spread, it not only introduced new values and a new philosophy, but also influenced existing naming trends. As a result, babies started to be christened in churches and given names after saints (hence the term *Christian name*). First names of Biblical origin are still very common nowadays in all Indo-European languages, the most popular in Great Britain being *John, Mary, Sarah, Mathew,*

Paul, Peter to mention but a few. Another vivid example is connected with drastic social changes caused by October revolution of 1917 in Russia. To commemorate the outstanding communist leaders and a new doctrine, the most devoted citizens gave their newborns such names as *Lenina, Stalina, Octyabrina, Bronislava*, etc. Nowadays these names are not used.

Some American studies of psychological effects of names show that having an unusual name can help a child's development and can boost a child's confidence and self-esteem. Strange as it may seem, but there is also evidence that a student's name even can influence a grade at school that a teacher gives that student. Today many parents, especially in the USA, create new names for their children. People are choosing nicknames as formal first names, e.g. *Carrie* (from *Caroline*), *Candy* (from *Candida*), *Ray* (from *Rachel*), or *Tanya* (from *Tatiana*). There are a quite a few so-called unisex names, such as *Denny, Edie, Jody, Jule, Marty, Terry, Tonie* and others. There are also many parents who turn to their ethnic roots and want to reflect them in the child's name by naming the baby after his/her ancestors or giving the names originating from ancient languages.

In modern English, anthroponyms represent a heterogeneous by origin group of onyms. This can be explained by the fact that the vocabulary of the present-day English language is cosmopolitan as it consists mostly of borrowed words: «The English language has vast debts. In any dictionary some 80 % of the entries are borrowed. The majority are likely to come from Latin, and of those more than half will come through French. A considerable number will derive directly or indirectly from Greek. A substantial contribution will come from Scandinavian languages, and a small percentage from Portuguese, Italian, Spanish and Dutch.» [14, p.xv]. Such a motley picture is a result of numerous remarkable reconfigurations that the stock of English words has undergone within the past 1500 years, the most influential historic events being the Scandinavian invasions, the Norman Conquest, and the Christianization of Britain. Each of those events brought about certain changes in the linguistic situation in Britain, so to say 'shaped' the language on different levels (phonetic, morphological, syntactic, etc.), thus contributing to the lexical diversity of English.

Personal names, like any other part of the vocabulary of a language, can be viewed as a historical repository in which the culture of the past is stored. In the United Kingdom people use a wide variety of names, mostly of Latin and Germanic origin. However, there are a number of first names

of Celtic origin. Though they are not as numerous and common as other anthroponyms, personal names of Celtic origin are still used and constitute a very important part of English anthroponyms. To such belong *Alan, Cadel, Duncan, Neal, Doreen, Fiona, Rowena* to mention but a few. Studies of the semantics of personal names can, to a certain degree, restore the changeable but imperishable lexical 'map' of the history of a people, 'a map of the objects, concepts, processes and relationships about which the culture needs to communicate' [12, p.80].

So, how much did this lexical map change? And what were the «objects, concepts, processes and relationships» about which the ancient Celtic culture needed to communicate? These are the questions to which the present study is seeking an answer.

The starting point of our investigation lies within the historic background, as we consider it both reasonable and profoundly valuable to outline the demographic situation of the time.

The first inhabitants of England — Paleolithic humans — are supposed to have come to Great Britain from the European continent on dry land until around 6000 BC. At that time the English Channel had not yet been formed and Great Britain was an extension of the continental land-mass. Excavations in the south and east of England showed that the people were semi-nomadic hunters and fishers. It was two millenniums later that they started to farm the land and build permanent settlements. Unfortunately, nothing is known about their language.

The earliest people in England who have left their linguistic trace were the Celts. It is assumed that some 2000 years ago the Celts occupied most of Western Europe. The Celtic-language community in central Europe is known as the Urnfield Culture (around the year 1200 BC), its label derived from large-scale burial sites with the burnt remains of cremated bodies placed in urns. The archaeological finds showed that it was a warrior society, with strong emphasis on personal display. In the later centuries BC, with the expansion of Greek colonies and the rise of republican Rome, the centre of continental Celtic culture had moved further west [for more details see: 6, p. 27—29; 7, p.20—21]. The coming of the Celts to the British Isles marks the transition from the Stone Ages to the Iron Age. The language, or languages, that the Celts spoke belonged to the Indo-European family. By around 1000 BC early forms of the Celtic speech had evolved and by 600 BC these were being spoken in the Iberian Peninsula, in Ireland, and in North Italy. The language of

England has been given the name Brittonic, to correspond with the people's own name for that land which was Prydein, «Britain». In other parts of the British Isles a different branch of the same group was spoken — Goidelic, a precursor of present-day Gaelic in Ireland and Scotland. [5, p.20]. It is from the Celts that the ancient languages of Britain are derived, namely Welsh, Irish Gaelic, Scots Gaelic, Manx and Cornish, as well as Breton, still spoken in Brittany (France). A traditional genetic classification divides Celtic languages into two groups: 1) Gaelic, including Irish, Manx (the extinct language of the Isle of Man), and Scottish; and 2) Brythonic, including Welsh, Breton, and the extinct Cornish and Pictish [14, p.xxi].

More than one Celtic tribe invaded the British Isles: the Picts penetrated into the mountains in the North, the Britons occupied most of the island, and the Scots as well as some other tribes of Picts crossed over to Ireland and settled down there. Later the Scots returned to the north of the main island and settled down there along with the Picts, giving the territory the name of Scotland. From Greek manuscripts it is known that the British Isles were called the Tin Islands, for tin was mined from very early times in Cornwall, and ancient Greek and Phoenician traders constantly went there for tin. A more detailed report of the country and its inhabitants was given by Julius Caesar in his *Commentaries on the Gallic War*. He described the island and the Celts and their mode of living. In Caesar's words, in the 1st c. BC the Celts lived in tribes, and were ruled by powerful military leaders, called kings. The Celts lived in villages, farmed the land, and cultivated corn, using light ploughs and hoes. In war time they used two-wheeled chariots and were armed with metal swords and spears. The Celts made money out of gold and silver; they also began to build roads to make easier trading. The Celts were pagans; they worshipped Nature, and personified the sun, the moon, the sky, the sea and all nature elements. The polytheistic Celts also believed in the magic power of their priests — druids, called so because they used to live near oak groves.

The Celts were both skilful workers and brave warriors. They praised wise and courageous women, as well as men; sometimes women were made tribal chiefs — queens. Such traits of character as courage and strength can still be traced in some of surviving feminine personal names of Celtic origin, such as *Bridget, Donalda, Glady,* and *Meredith,* though male names with the similar meaning and connected with warfare outnumber the latter almost 9 to 1, e.g. *Arthur, Barry, Barrie, Brian, Casey, Chad, Cadel, Cadogan, Cadwallader, Galahad, Kimball* and many others (see Tables 2 and 3 below).

There are also a number of names that are connected with a place of origin or a living place of a person. These include mostly male names, e.g.*: Albion, Brendan, Doran, Dougal, Duane, Duncan, Dylan, Emlin, Emlyn, Lachlan.* Very few names, such as *Cassidy, Gilroy, Sholto* (and they all are male names) stand for a person's preoccupation by trade. A few male names and by far more female names indicate something in a person's appearance, e.g. the colour of the skin as in *Dougal, Duane, Duncan,* or the colour of the hair, as in *Roy,* certain defects, as in *Comyn,* or handsomeness, as in *Kenneth.* Semantic analysis of female names shows that the idea of beauty, perfectness in appearance and moral purity is closely connected with the white colour. To such belong the following female names: *Bronwen, Cairine, Fenella, Fiona, Guinevere, Gwendolen, Gwyneth, Olwen* and some others.

The analysis of the nomenclature of concepts reflected in the personal names under consideration has revealed the following: in the surviving personal names the basic concepts are differently rated. There are concepts that are mostly reflected in male names and are seldom present in female names, and vice versa (see table 1). In Table 1 below we list main concepts employed in the existing first names of Celtic origin, the abbreviation *Fa* stands for 'absolute frequency'.

Table 1

Concepts reflected in personal names of Celtic origin

No.	concept	Male names, Fa	Female names, Fa
1.	Leader, or possessing a leader's qualities	11	5
2.	Warfare	10	-
3.	Courage, reliability	9	1
4.	Glory, fame	8	2
5.	Place of living or origin	8	2
6.	(Certain traits of) character	7	3
7.	Appearance	6	-
8.	Beauty, perfection	1	6
9.	Faultlessness, purity	-	11
10.	Happiness, good luck	1	3
11.	Preoccupation, skills, trade	3	-
12.	Love, affection	2	3
	other	14	5
	Total:	80	41

The information given in Table 1 allows us to conclude that the Celts were keen on everything connected with warfare. This accounts for the fact that in a man the ancient people highly appreciated leadership qualities, courage, and reliability. In female names the concepts of faithfulness, purity, inner and outer beauty, care and love are foregrounded and highly rated. Tables 2 and 3 list still existing personal names of Celtic origin by gender criterion. Each name is accompanied by etymological information based on [2, 3, 4, 8], and translation into Ukrainian.

The analysis of the morphological composition of the Celtic anthroponyms has shown that modern English first names for men and women fall into three groups:

(1) simple, i.e. those consisting of one root morpheme only, e.g. **Brice, Bruce, Chad, Evan, Ivor, Kean, Keane, Owen; Enid, Fiona, Isolda, Isolde, Linne, Mab, Morna**, etc.

(2) derived, i.e. the names consisting of one root morpheme and one suffix, e.g. **Aneurin, Llewelyn, Llewellyn, Merlin, Merlyn, Tristram, Tristam, Tristan**, etc.;

(3) compound, consisting of two root morphemes, as **Blodwen, Cadwalader, Cadwallader, Gareth, Kimball, Morgan; Bronwen, Branwen, Guenevere, Guinevere, Olwen** and others.

The conceptual analysis of the surviving personal names has shown that it is possible to distinguish between **simple** (or *one-concept*) names and **composite** (*two-concept*) names. Thus, *Alan, Alun, Barry, Barrie, Dilys, Goronwy, Mungo, Roy,* and *Sholto* can be included into the first group. Two-concept-based names can be illustrated by such male names as *Idris, Kendrick, Llewellyn, Morgan*, and female names such as *Fenella, Guenevere, Murie, Rowena, Winifred*. It is because of semantically composite names which represent a combination of concepts that there exists the discrepancy in the quantity of the names listed in tables 1, 2, 3.

Table 2

The semantics of modern English male names of Celtic origin

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
1.	*Aidan*		(Celtic) aodhnait 'вогонь'	Ейдан
2.	*Alan, Alun*	Al, Allie, Ally	(Celtic) alun 'злагода'	Алан

Continuation of table 2

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
3.	*Albion*	Al	(Celtic) Alba 'Шотландія'	Албіон
4.	*Aneurin*	Nye	(Celtic) an- 'все' + eur 'золото' + зменш.суф. —in	Анайрін, Еньюрін
5.	*Angus*		(Celtic) 'aonghus' ='the only choice'	Ангус, Ангюс
6.	*Arthur*	Art, Arth, Artie, Arty	(Celtic) art, arth 'ведмідь'	Артур
7.	*Barry, Barrie*		(Irish) Bearrach 'spear','спис'	Баррі, Беррі
8.	*Brian*	Bri	(Celtic) brigh 'сила'	Брайан
9.	*Blodwen*		(Welsh) 'white flower' ' біла квітка'	Блодуен
10.	*Brendan*		(Irish) Brenainn 'Той, шо мешкає біля маяка'	Брендан
11.	*Brice, Bruce*		(Celtic) brys 'швидкий, спритний'	Брайс, Брюс
12.	*Cadel, Cadell*		(Celtic) cad 'битва, бій'	Кадел
13.	*Cadogan*		(Celtic) 'бій місцевого значення'	Кадоган
14.	*Cadwalader, Cadwallader*		(Celtic) cad 'битва, бій' + gwaladr 'розпорядник, керівник'	Кадуоладер
15.	*Caradoc*		(Welsh) Caradwg 'коханий'	Карадок
16.	*Carmichael*		(Celtic) Caer Michael 'фортеця Михайла'	Кармайкл
17.	*Casey*		(Celtic) 'славетний»	Кейсі
18.	*Cassidy*		(Celtic) 'майстерний'	Касіді, Кесіді
19.	*Chad*		(Celtic) cad 'битва, бій'	Чад
20.	*Comyn*		(Irish) comyn 'кривий, згорблений'	Комін
21.	*Denzil, Denzell*		(Celtic) dinas 'фортеця, оплот'	Дензіл, Дензел
22.	*Dermot*		(Irish) Diarmaid 'вільна людина'	Дермот

Continuation of table 2

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
23.	***Dillon, Dilwyn***		(Welsh) Dillwyn 'хоробрий'	Діллон, Ділвін
24.	***Dilys***		(Welsh) 'істинний'	Діліс
25.	***Donald***	Don, Donnie, Donny	(Gaelic) Domhnall, Domnall 'властелін світу, наймогутніший у світі'	Доналд, Дональд
26.	***Doran***		(Irish) Deoradhan 'чужинець'	Доран
27.	***Dougal***		(Gaelic, Irish) Dubhgall 'Смуглий чужинець'	Дугал
28.	***Duane***		(Irish)Dubhan 'смугла людина'	Дуейн
29.	***Duncan***	Dunc	(Gaelic) Donnchadh 'смуглий воїн'	Данкан, Дункан
30.	***Dylan***		(Welsh) Dylan 'син моря'	Ділан, Делан
31.	***Emlin, Emlyn***		'Той, що мешкає біля кордону'	Емлін
32.	***Evan***		(Celtic) Eoghain 'юнак'	Еван
33.	***Farquhar***		(Gaelic) Fearchar 'мужній, сміливий, найдорожчий'	Фаркуар, Фаркар
34.	***Fergus***	Fergie	(Celtic) ver gusti 'важливий вибір'	Фергус
35.	***Finlay, Finley***		(Gaelic)Fionnlagh 'прекрасний герой'	Фінлі, Фінлей
36.	***Galahad***		(Celtic) 'бойовий яструб'	Галахад
37.	***Gareth***		(Welsh var. of *Gerard*) gēr 'спис' + hart'сильний, міцний'	Гарет
38.	***Garret, Garrett***	Garry, Gary	(Irish var. of *Gerard*) gēr 'спис' + hart 'сильний, міцний'	Гарет
39.	***Gavin***		(Welsh) Gwalchmai 'Яструб долини'	Гевін, Гавін
40.	***Gilmour***		(Gaelic) Gille Moire 'слуга Діви Марії'	Гілмор

Continuation of table 2

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
41.	*Gilroy*		(Gaelic) Giolla ruaidh 'слуга рудої людини'	Гілрой
42.	*Goronwy*		(Welsh) (букв.) 'герой'	Горонуї
43.	*Griffith*		(Welsh) Griph-iud 'вождь, господь, господин'	Гріфіт
44.	*Harvey*	Harve	(Breton) 'боєздібний'	Харві
45.	*Havelock*		(Welsh var. of *Oiver* < Osc Anleifr — (букв.) 'предок залишається'	Хавлок
46.	*Idris*		(Welsh) iud 'господь, господин, вождь' + ris 'вогненний'	Ідріс
47.	*Ivor*		(Welsh) Ifor 'господин'	Айвор
48.	*Kean, Keane*		(Manx) 'воїн'	Кін
49.	*Kegan*		(Manx) 'син поета'	Кіган
50.	*Kendrick*		(Welsh) Cynwrig cyn 'начальник, головний' + (g)wr 'чоловік, герой '	Кендрік
51.	*Kenneth*	Ken, Kennie, Kenny	(Gaelic) Caioneach 'статний, гарний'	Кенет
52.	*Kimball*	Kim	1.(Welsh) Cynbel < cyn 'начальник, головний' + bel 'війна'; 2. OE Cynebeald < cynn 'рід, народ, плем'я', + beald 'сміливий, відважний'	Кімбал
53.	*Lachlan*	Lachie, Lachy	(Gaelic) Lochkan, Lachlan –'Мешканець країни озер, вікінг, скандинав'	Лаклан, Локлан
54.	*Llewelyn, Llewellyn*	Llelo, Llew, Lyn	(Welsh)llew 'лев', також llyw 'вождь' + eilun 'подібність'	Ллуелін, Ллуеллін
55.	*Lloyd*		(Welsh) Llwyd 'сірий'	Ллойд
56.	*Madoc*		(Celtic) 'madawg' ' щасливий'	Мадок, Медок

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
57.	***Malcolm***	Mal	(Gaelic) mael Colum 'служитель Св.Колумба'	Малком, Маль-кольм
58.	***Marmaduke***	Duke, Marmy	(Celtic) meriadoc 'мор-ський вождь '	Мармадьюк
59.	***Merlin, Merlyn***		(Welsh) Merddin, Myrdin 'морська фортеця'	Мерлін
60.	***Morgan***		(Welsh) Morcant < mawr 'великий' + can 'світ-лий, яскравий'	Морган
61.	***Mungo***		(Gaelic) mungo 'доро-гий, коханий'	Манго, Мунго
62.	***Murdoch***		(Old Irish) Muireadhach 'морський ватажок'	Мердок
63.	***Neal, Neale, Neil***		(Old Irish) Naill, (Gaelic) Niall < niadh 'воїн-переможець'	Ніл
64.	***Nolan***		(Irish) nuallan 'благо-родний, шляхетний, відомий'	Ноулан
65.	***Owen***		(Welsh) Owain 'шляхет-ний'	Оуен
66.	***Phelim***		(Irish) Feiolim 'завжди хороший, добрий '	Філім
67.	***Rhys***		(Welsh) Rhys 'завзятість, старанність, запал'	Ріс
68.	***Roy***		(Gaelic) rhu 'рудий, червоний'	Рой
69.	***Sholto***		(Gaelic) Sioltaich 'сіяч, сівач, сіяльник'	Шолто
70.	***Tristram, Tristam, Tristan***	Tris	(Celtic) drest, drust 'шум, гуркіт'	Трістрам, Тріс-там, Трістан

The etymological analysis of modern English female names of Celtic origin has revealed, among other interesting things, that, unlike male first names, most female names express only one concept, whereas only a few names denote two concepts (see Table 3).

Table 3

The semantics of modern English feminine names of Celtic origin

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
1.	*Aithne*	Aina, Aine	from (Celtic) aodhnait 'вогонь'	Ейтне
2.	*Alana*	Lana	(Celtic) alun 'злагода'	Алана
3.	*Bridget*	Biddy, Bride, Bridie, Brigid, Brita	(Celtic) brigh 'сила'	Бріджет
4.	*Bronwen, Branwen*		(Welsh) bronwen 'білі груди '	Бронуїн
5.	*Cordelia*		(Celtic) Creiryddlydd 'дочка моря'	Корделія, Корділія
6.	*Cairine*		(Scottish) ' чиста, ясна'	Кайрін
7.	*Caryl, Caryll*		(Welsh)' кохання'	Каріл, Керіл
8.	*Catriona*		(Scottish) 'чиста, ясна'	Катріона, Катріна
9.	*Colleen*		(Irish) cailin, caile 'дівчина'	Коллін
10.	*Deirdre, Deedra, Derdriu*		(Celtic) derdriu, deoirid 'з розбитим серцем, вбита горем'	Дірдре, Дірдрей, Дейрдре
11.	*Donalda*	Donaldina	(Gaelic) Domhnall, Domnall 'властелін світу, наймогутніший у світі'	Доналда, Доналдіна
12.	*Doreen*	Dor, Dore, Dorrie	(Irish) Doireann ' сердита'	Дорін, Доурін
13.	*Enid*		(Celtic) enaid 'життя, душа'	Інід, Еніда
14.	*Eveleen*	Evie	(Gaelic) Eiblin 'приємна'	Івлін
15.	*Fenella*		(Irish) Fionngualla 'білі плечі'	Фенелла
16.	*Fiona*		(Gaelic) finn, fionn 'білий, прекрасний'	Фіона, Фіоуна
17.	*Gladys*	Glad	(Welsh) gwledig 'правитель, властелін'	Гледіс, Гладіс
18.	*Guenevere, Guinevere*	Gwinny	(Welsh) Gwenhwyfar 'біла хвиля'	Гвіневір, Гіневір, Джіневра, Гвіневера

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
19.	*Gwendolen, Gwendoline*	Gwen, Gwenda, Gwennie, Gwynne, Wendy, Wynne, Wynette	(Welsh) gwyn 'білий'	Гвендолен, Гвендолін
20.	*Gwyneth*	Gwinny, Gwyn, Gwynne	(Welsh) gwynedd 'та, яка має благословіння'	Гуінет, Гвінет
21.	*Isolda, Isolde*		(Welsh) Essyllt 'гарна, пре-красна'	Ізолда, Ізол-де, Ісоулд, Ісоулде
22.	*Linne*	Linnet	(Gaelic) linne 'озеро'	Лін(н)
23.	*Mab*		(Irish) Meadhbh > meave 'радість'	Меб, Маб
24.	*Melva*		(Welsh) melfa 'миле, дороге місце'	Мелва
25.	*Meredith*	Merry	(Welsh) Meredydd, Maredudd 'велич, верхо-вний ватажок'	Мередіт
26.	*Merlin, Merlyn*		(Welsh) Merddin, Myrdin 'морська фортеця'	Мерлін
27.	*Morgan*		(Welsh) Morcant < mawr 'великий' + can 'світлий, яскравий'	Морган
28.	*Morna*		(Old Irish) Muirne 'кохана'	Морна
29.	*Muriel*		(Celtic) 'muir' море + 'geal' блискучий	Мьюріель , Мьюріел
30.	*Myfanwy, Myvanwy*		(Welsh) 'моє прекрасне дитя'	Міванві
31.	*Olwen*		(Welsh) Olwen 'біла стежка, білі сліди'	Олвен, Олуен
32.	*Oonagh, Una*		(Irish) Oonagh < uan 'ягнят-ко, молода вівця'	Уна
33.	*Rowena*	Rhona	(Celtic) Rhonwen 'струнка й прекрасна '	Ровена , Роіна

Continuation of table 3

No.	Personal Name	Derivative(s)	Origin and Meaning	Translation
34.	***Winifred***	Freda, Win, Winnie, Wyn	(Welsh) Gwenfrewi 'щасливе примирення'	Вініфред, Уініфред
35.	***Wynne***		(Welsh) 'прекрасна, щаслива'	Уінн

Out of the above listed names some are still popular nowadays; the others are not so frequently used. Research has shown that the most favourite ones are 1) for boys — *Alan, Alun, Arthur, Brendan, Brian, Brice, Bruce, Dylan, Dermot, Gareth, Garret, Griffith, Fergus, Kenneth, Llewelyn, Llewellyn, Morgan, Neal, Neil, Owen;* 2) for girls — *Bronwen, Caryl, Catriona, Deirdre, Fiona, Fenella, Gwendolen, Gwyneth, Morgan, Morna, Muriel, Rowena.* [see also: 4, p.14].

As a result of the Germanic invasions, which started in the middle of the fifth century and lasted for about one hundred and fifty years, by the end of the 6th century the Celts had been either killed, or driven into Wales, or enslaved, and the Anglo-Saxons were securely established. English held sway in England. Only some place-names and a few ordinary words of the Celts remained. As well as a number of personal names — a linguistic echo of the far-off past.

Personal names of Celtic origin constitute a minor though a very important part of today's English anthroponyms. Its importance lies within the historic plane, casting light upon a formerly mighty and successful people and a thriving ancient culture. Why Celtic languages — once the most extensive group of the Indo-European family — gave in before Italic and Germanic languages, leaving scarce trace of their existence, has been a mystery for philologists and one of the inexplicable phenomena of history.

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Домброван Т. І.

СЕМАНТИКА СУЧАСНИХ АНГЛІЙСЬКИХ ВЛАСНИХ ІМЕН КЕЛЬТСЬКОГО ПОХОДЖЕННЯ

У статті розглянуто структурні й семантичні характеристики сучасних англійських антропонімів кельтського походження. Аналізу підлягали 70 чоловічих імен і 35 жіночих імен.

Ключові слова: *антропонім, кельтські мови, історична ономастика*

Домброван Т. И.

СЕМАНТИКА СОВРЕМЕННЫХ АНГЛИЙСКИХ ЛИЧНЫХ ИМЕН КЕЛЬТСКОГО ПРОИСХОЖДЕНИЯ

В статье рассматриваются структурные и семантические характеристики современных английских антропонимов кельтского происхождения. Проанализировано 70 мужских и 35 женских имен.

Ключевые слова: *антропоним, кельтские языки, историческая ономастика*