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Thus, the lexemes "mental" and "mental" originate in Latin and later assimilate in Russian and English, respectively, forming new meanings.

According to the generally accepted thesis today: "Language is anthropocentric: it is intended for the human being, and all linguistic categorization of objects and phenomena of the outer world is oriented to the human being; this is a common feature of all languages".

Vezhbitskaya, 1988, we can assume that the discrepancies in the meanings of the words "mental" in Russian and English are not accidental. Thus, unlike the Russian language, the adjective mental in English expresses not only mental abilities, but also characterizes a mentally ill person. Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English language.

In Russian, the adjective mental characterizes mainly the mental abilities of a person. Therefore, the national specificity of the attribute "mental" in the English language is manifested in the presence of a secondary nomination: "crazy" when characterizing mentally retarded people and people with mental illness. In modern Russian we will not meet examples with mental in this sense.

This is due to historical and cultural reasons why the meaning of "madman" was communicatively irrelevant to the Russian people. Use our [Custom Writing Service](#) to get help with essay.