

THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF BORROWINGS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENGLISH VOCABULARY

Jumanova Go`zal Alisherovna

*Teacher of the "Foreign Languages 1" department,
Tashkent University of Applied Sciences
e-mail: guzal.jumanova89@gmail.com*

Abstract: The lexical richness of the English language is complemented by a large number of words borrowed from other languages during its historical development. Incoming words have played an important role in expanding the pronunciation, writing and meaning of English, making it the most global language in the world. This article analyzes how words that are part of the development of the English language have a positive effect.

Key words: Incoming words, English, lexicon, intercultural communication, globalization, innovation, language development.

The reason why we have chosen this quotation is that it serves as an excellent introduction to the topic. Since the study is devoted to borrowing words, it is appropriate to define what is actually meant by borrowed words. Longman Dictionary of Language defines borrowed word as a word or phrase which has been taken from one language and used in another language. English has always come into contact with other languages. Consequently, there are many loan words in present-day English. When a borrowing is a single word, it is called a loan word. If a borrowed word or phrase is widely used, most speakers will pronounce it according to the sound system of their language vocabulary. English has borrowed its lexicon from languages, with French (25%) being the most important donor. Other influent languages are Japanese, Spanish, African languages, German and Greek. Haugen states that borrowing is the adoption of a linguistic expression from one language into another language when no term exists for the new object and concept.¹ Grosjean uses the term ‘language borrowing’ to refer to terms that have passed from one language to another and have come to be used even by monolingual, and he distinguishes them from instances where the bilingual borrows items spontaneous source language and adapts their morphology, which he calls ‘speech borrowing’. It is obvious from the above statement that loan words or borrowings are not words which formally exist in one language and are not newly created. The loan words are new words which are adopted from another language through various factors such as politics and close cultural contacts.

According to Graham Bannock, there are six patterns of borrowing, namely:²

1. Total borrowing: the English words borrowed are transferred into Indonesian completely. There are two groups of words that can be categorized into total borrowing. First, they are simply spelled and pronounced as the original and for example, the word

¹ Great Example of Modern-Day Neologisms. Available at [http:// www.vappingo.com/word-blog/great-examples-neologism](http://www.vappingo.com/word-blog/great-examples-neologism), accessed May 5, 2013.

² Bannock G., Manser W. International Dictionary of Finance. Penguin Books, 1989, P.81.

‘online’. Second, there are no changes in terms of spelling, pronunciation and meaning and for example, the word ‘data’.

2. Partial borrowing: the English words borrowed are modified or adopted in terms of spelling and pronunciation. For example, the word ‘modulation’ becomes ‘modulasi’.

3. Total modification of loan words: the English words borrowed are totally changed so that they bear no resemblance to the original. For example, the word ‘case’ becomes ‘kasus’.

4. Borrowing with modified meaning: the English words are maintained fully or partially intact, but the meaning is source language-likely or totally changed. For example, the word ‘manipulation’ which has positive meaning becomes ‘manipulasi’ but then shows negative meaning.

5. Newly created words based on loan words: English loan-words ending in ‘-city’ are usually transformed into ‘-sitas’ in Indonesian. For example, the word ‘university’ becomes ‘universitas’.

6. Partial phrase borrowing: the English phrase is partially borrowed, usually only the first words. For example, the word ‘demonstration’ becomes simply ‘demo’.

There are different reasons why foreign languages have entered English. One of them is connected with trade or colonial occupation. That is why in the ninth century Scandinavian words became part of the English lexicon. The same applies to the role of Flemish/Dutch in creating Middle English. The Dutch expressions used in English business communication are dollar, groat, guilder and mart. Other languages also serve as a source of borrowings into English.³ The number and character of borrowed words tell us of the relations between the peoples, the level of their culture, etc. It is for this reason that borrowings have often been called the milestones of history. Thus if we go through the lists of borrowings in English and arrange them in groups according to their meaning, we shall be able to obtain much valuable information with regard to England’s contacts with many nations. Some borrowings, however, cannot be explained by the direct influence of certain historical conditions, they do not come along with any new objects or ideas. Such were for instance the words air, place, brave, gay borrowed from French.⁴ It must be pointed out that while the general historical causes of borrowing from different languages have been studied with a considerable degree of thoroughness the purely linguistic reasons for borrowing are still open to investigation. The number and character of borrowings do not only depend on the historical conditions, on the nature and length of the contacts, but also on the degree of the genetic and structural proximity of languages concerned. The closer the languages, the deeper and more versatile is the influence. This largely accounts for the well-marked contrast between the French and the Scandinavian influence on the English language.⁵ Thus under the influence of the Scandinavian languages, which were closely

³ Балхия К., Таттибаева А. Бодуэновские чтения: Бодуэн де Куртенэ и современная лингвистика: Междунар. науч. конф. Казань, 11-13 дек. 2001 г., С.50.

⁴ Ginzburg R.S. A Course in Modern English Lexical System of Modern English. Master’s Thesis. Munich: GRIN Verlag. 1979. On the mass media material.

⁵ Ullmann S. Semantic Universals. in: J. Greenberg, , Universals of Language. M.I.T. Press Cambridge, ed., 1966 217-262.

related to Old English, some classes of words were borrowed that could not have been adopted from non-related or distantly related languages (the pronouns *they*, *their*, *them*, for instance); a number of Scandinavian borrowings were felt as derived from native words (they were of the same root and the connection between them was easily seen), e.g. *drop* (AS.) — *drip* (Scand.), *true* (AS.)-*tryst* (Scand.); the Scandinavian influence even accelerated to a certain degree the development of the grammatical structure of English.⁶ Borrowings enter the language in two ways: through oral speech (by immediate contact between the peoples) and through written speech (by indirect contact through books, etc.). Oral borrowing took place chiefly in the earecipient languagey periods of history, whereas in recent times written borrowing gained importance. Words borrowed orally (e.g. *L.inch*, *mill*, *street*) are usually short and they undergo considerable changes in the act of adoption. Written borrowings (e.g. Fr. *communiqué*, *belles-lettres*, *naïveté*) preserve their spelling and some peculiarities of their sound-form, their assimilation is a long and laborious process.

Though borrowed words undergo changes in the adopting language they preserve some of their former peculiarities for a comparatively long period. This makes it possible to work out some criteria for determining whether the word belongs to the borrowed element. In some cases the pronunciation of the word (strange sounds, sound combinations, position of stress, etc.), its spelling and the correlation between sounds and letters are an indication of the foreign origin of the word. This is the case with *waltz* (G.), *psychology* (Gr.), *soufflé* (Fr.), etc. The initial position of the sounds [v], [dʒ], [ʒ] or of the letters x, j, z is a sure sign that the word has been borrowed, e.g. *volcano* (It.), *vase* (Fr.), *vaccine* (L.), *jungle* (Hindi), *gesture* (L.), *giant* (Fr.), *zeal* (L.), *zero* (Fr.), *zinc* (G.), etc.⁷ Borrowing as a means of replenishing the vocabulary of present-day English is of much lesser importance and is active mainly in the field of scientific terminology. It should be noted that many terms are often made up of borrowed morphemes, mostly morphemes from classical languages.

English vocabulary, especially its terminological layers is constantly enriched by words made up of morphemes of Latin and Greek origin such as words with the morphemes *-tron* used chiefly in the field of electronics, e.g. *mesotron*, *cyclotron*, etc.; *tele-*, e.g. *telecast*, *telelecture*, *telediagnosis*, *-in*, e.g. *protein*, *penicillin*; *-scope*, e.g. *iconoscope*, *oscilloscope*; *meta-*, e.g. *meta-culture*, *metaprogram*; *para-* meaning ‘related to, near’, e.g. *paralinguistic*, *parabiospheric*; *video-*, e.g. *videodisk*, *videophone*, etc.⁸ But though these words consist of borrowed morphemes they cannot be regarded as true borrowings because these words did not exist either in the Greek or in the Latin word-stock. All of them are actually formed according to patterns of English word-formation, and many function in modern English as new affixes and semi-affixes. There are true borrowings from different languages as well. They reflect the way of life, the peculiarities of development of the speech communities from which they come. From the Russian language there came words like *kolkhoz*, *Gosplan*,

⁶ Вольнова Д.Н. Иностранные заимствования как один из источников словарного состава английского языка. Современные научные исследования и инновации 2014, №12. Ч. 3

⁷ Ворно Е.Ф., Кашеева М.А., Малишевская Е.В., Потапова И.А. Лексикология английского языка. Пособие для учителей: Л.: Просвещение, 1955, ст.149.

⁸ See the website: www.longman.com/webdictionary

Komsomol, udarnik, sputnik, jak, etc. The words borrowed from the German language at the time of war reflect the aggressive nature of German fascism, e.g. Blitzkrieg ('aggressive war conducted with lightning-like speed and force'). As most of these words remain unassimilated in present-day English, they are all the time felt as foreign words and tend to drop out from the language. The period between the end of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st centuries faces the appearance of big number of new words mostly due to changes in politics, science, culture, etc. From the linguistic point of view this time period can be characterized as a clash of two tendencies. The native speakers tend to create new words (that could be explained by aspiration of native speakers to express their identity) but creation of neologisms usually meets certain criticism from the native speakers-proponents of standard language. During the last decades researchers focused on the so called “blended languages”- the products of English blended with other languages. The Internet has been enriched with websites of Japlish, Spanglish, Chinglish, Hinglish, etc. The process of assimilation in the recipient language passes several stages.

T. Strekaleva distinguishes five stages of assimilation of the borrowings in the Russian language. On the first stage the word is used “as it is”, with its phonetic and orthographic form remaining intact as in the source language.

Loan words have heavily outnumbered the native Anglo-Saxon word stock. Despite the fact, the native vocabulary dominates everyday conversation and provides nearecipient languagey all the most frequently used words in English.

It would not be fair to depict English only as an “insatiable borrower”. I would like to underecipient languageine the well-known fact that as English spreads, it gives its words to various languages. Borrowing takes place in both directions, i.e. intoand from English. A special case of borrowings is the so-called calque. Calques or loan-transource languageations are words directly and part-by-partransource languageated from a foreign language. The English word superman is believed to be a loan-transource languageation of the Nietzsche’s concept of Übermensch. Similar examples could be found especially in an English-German interaction, e.g. rainforest – Regenwald, loan word – Lehnwort, etc. Such kind of interactions could be traced back to the Old English period, which is related to the Germanic roots of English. To give an example of a present-day calque is quite challenging but I have found Saddam Hussein’s metaphorical expression umm al-ma’arikwhich is used as an exact English transource languageation mother-of-all-battlesdenoting the most destructive battle. Lexical borrowing is a common notion in nearecipient languagey all languages; Words are taken from a donor language and used in a target language. This kind of borrowing does not deprive the donor language in any way, but rather enriches the target language with new lexical items. Some may state that borrowing words from another language may threaten the existence of the target language, as native words may disappear from the vocabulary of its users. On the other hand, borrowing can also be regarded as a natural step in the evolution of language, a step that enriches the target language with new vocabulary. Nearecipient languagey every language has words whose origin can be traced back to another language, even the lingua franca of modern times, English, has a wide variety of loanwords taken from French and German, to mention a few. As

we shall see, there are several different approach to the concept of borrowing. Defining what lexical borrowing is has changed significantly over the last decade. An earecipient languagey definition by Haugen defines a loanword as “(...) the attempted reproduction in one language of patterns previousource languagey found in another.” His definition is concerned with reproducing words from a donor language in a target language. He further divided different types of borrowing depending on their phonological and semantic characteristics. His framework for lexical borrowing will be presented in more detail in the next section. Thomason and Kaufman refer to borrowing as incorporation of foreign elements into the speakers’ native language.⁹ This definition views borrowing as a kind of one-way adaptation. In cases where the structures of the native language influences the second language, they define it as substratum interference. A more recent definition of the concept by Grosjean states that borrowing is the integration of one language into another. Thus, changing the phonology and/or the orthography of a foreign word to fit into the target language. In this project, borrowed words are treated in three different categories, based on Grosjeans’ definition of loan word integration, thus treating words as completely integrated in the target language, partly integrated, and directly borrowed with no sign of integration in the target language. Considering the hypothesis is of this present paper, it will be useful to define the act of lexical processing. This notion can be divided into two sub categories, namely processing at a lexical level, and at a sub-lexical level. Processing at a lexical level can be defined as processing at word level, looking at the whole string of letters as one. However, sub-lexical processing happens at different levels of the word. One can look at a word at the orthographic level, thus looking at the individual letter representations of a word. It turns out that individuals are able to read, and understand words, even though the letter strings are re-arranged e.g. raednig. In addition, word processing can also take place at the phonological level, proven in masked priming experiments, where one has found phonological influences in visual word recognition . One final aspect of sub-lexical processing is that of morphology. The morphological properties of a word, such as affixes and compounding play important roles in the decomposition of a word. Decomposing a word to its root, will then allow the morphemic representation to activate the mental lexicon, thus understanding what the word means . In the present paper, the focus will be on the orthographic and phonological representations of the word. In addition, the chapter will present recent studies done on the topic of lexical borrowing, which can be applied to the present study on loanwords. Some other linguists have different definitions about loan or borrowed words. For example, Hudson says that borrowed word is a general and traditional word used to describe the adoption into a language of a linguistic feature previousource languagey used in another.

Conclusion

Incoming words have had an important positive effect on the development of the English language. They helped to enrich the language, the emergence of new words and phrases, as well as connect with world cultures and technological progress. The role of incoming words in English lexicon has served to shape it as a distinct and most

⁹ Thomason S.G., Kaufman T. Neologisms. History of Psychiatry. 2009, p.480-496.

global language among world languages. This process ensures the continuous development of the English language and its flexibility for the new generation.

REFERENCES:

1. Bannock G., Manser W. International Dictionary of Finance. Penguin Books, 1989, P.81.
2. Ginzburg R.S . A Course in Modern English Lexical System of Modern English. Master's Thesis. Munich: GRIN Verlag. 1979. On the mass media material.
3. Great Example of Modern-Day Neologisms. Aviable at <http://www.vappingo.com/word-blog/great-examples-neologism>, accessed May 5, 1013.
4. Thomason S.G., Kaufman T. Neologisms. History of Psychiatry. 2009, p.480-496.
5. Ullmann S. Semantic Universals. in: J. Greenberg, , Universals of Language. M.I.T. Press Cambridge, ed., 1966 217-262.
6. Балхия К., Таттибаева А. Бодуэновские чтения: Бодуэн де Куртенэ и современная лингвистика: Междунар. науч. конф. Казань, 11-13 дек. 2001 г., С.50.
7. Вольнова Д.Н. Иностранные заимствования как один из источников словарного состава английского языка. Современные научные исследования и инновации 2014, №12. Ч. 3
8. Ворно Е.Ф., Кащеева М.А., Малишевская Е.В., Потапова И.А. Лексикология английского языка. Пособие для учителей: Л.: Просвещение, 1955, ст.149.
9. www.longman.com/webdictionary