

THE TYPES OF LOANWORDS AND ITS ROLE IN COMMUNICATION

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ABSTRACT

This thesis is dedicated to the types of borrowed words, their definitions and roles. The use of loanwords is not merely a lexical act but also a socially meaningful one – a contextual expression of self, social identity and language regard.

KEYWORDS:

loanwords, equivalents, loan shifts, loan translations, lexical loanwords.

INTRODUCTION

The English and the Americans can be proud of a very rich set of dictionaries of word-groups and loanwords. Their object is mainly practical: loanwords are considered an important characteristic feature of natural spoken English and a stumbling block for foreigners. The choice of entry is not clear-cut: dictionaries include word combinations, separate words, greetings, proverbs, quotations.

METHODOLOGY

Lexical borrowing is one of the default mechanisms to add new-form-meaning pairs to a language. Language borrowings occur in the event of contact of different ethnic groups speaking different languages due to social, political, economic, or cultural reasons. To illustrate, when a certain ethnic minority lives in the area dominated by the host society, language assimilation, or as it is often referred to by linguists, language shift takes place. The language shift in such a case is conditioned by the pragmatic considerations such as the need to acquire a job, get an education, or engage in business.

The direction of language shift is always conditioned by the most influential factors that refer to the situation. To illustrate, a seller will tend to shift to buyers' language to manage to win customer trust and develop customer relations based on loyalty. This situation has been observed through human history when traveling merchants being the clients of numerous sellers in the Asian countries introduced into their local languages some of the Roman group language words.

For instance, the word *bank* that is so common in its different phonetic variations in hundreds of modern-day languages originally comes from Italy, and it was spread by the Hebrew merchants through the entire area of countries located within the major trading road from Europe to Asia.

The process of language shift is inevitably connected with the process of conventionalization. Kemmer defines conventionalization as "a gradual process in which a word progressively permeates a larger and larger speech community". The result of the process of conventionalization is the total loss of connections with the source language according to the perception of the community of the word borrowers.

In the English language, linguists had distinguished many periods of conventionalization when the language was affected by a certain culture and its language and was actively adopting new words. The outcome of conventionalization for the English language is the creation of its more or less stable version known by the modern-day people.

According to Winford, there exist three types of language contact situations as it can be seen from the following comment, "we can, in general, distinguish three broad kinds of contact situation: those involving language maintenance, those involving language shift, and those that lead to the creation of new contact languages". Although this author distinguishes the three major types of language contact situations, he makes a clarification that in numerous situations, the type of a contact situation is difficult to distinguish, and at times, contact situations may have the features of more than one type of contact situations.

Evaluation of cultural and historical examples of language changes suggests an important conclusion. When two languages come into contact with each other, certain linguistic shift situations may occur, such as language borrowing. In this essay, language borrowing will be discussed.

Language Borrowing Types

Language borrowings may differ in their kinds and degrees from minor ones to more structural types and from casual to heavy language borrowings. Commenting on language borrowing types, Winford has stated that “situations involving primary lexical borrowing, that is, borrowing of content morphemes like nouns, verbs, etc., are extremely common, and most, if not all, languages have been subject to this kind of influence at some time or another”.

The common types of language borrowings that are distinguished by linguists are phonological, lexical, and calques. The example of phonological borrowings is [x]: *yecch* and [Z]: *prestige*. The examples of lexical loanwords are the following words coming from French and Spanish *ballet*, *captain*, *chivalry*, *fiancé*, *adobe*, *cigar*, *mosquito*, and *rodeo*. The examples of calques originating from French and Canton Pidgin English are *look-see*, *no-go*, *long time no see*, *no can do*, and *chop- chop*.

Language Borrowing Type 1

Language borrowing type 1 is lexical borrowing. In this case, the new language acquires the loan words or loan blends. The example of this phenomenon in the English language is borrowing from French, such as *rendezvous*. One more example of the loan words is the Dutch corner. Another example is loan blends originating from Pennsylvania German, such as *basic*.

A yet another example is the derivational blend that consists of an imported stem and native affix such as *artillery*. The compound blend is one more illustration of the language borrowing type 1 linguistic phenomenon. This blend implicates the creation of new loan words with the use of imported stem and native stem. The case of the compound blend is *plumpie*, where the reader may notice two stems *plum* and *pie*.

Language Borrowing Type 2

Language borrowing type 2 is the borrowing that appears in use in the new language as a result of loan shifts. To illustrate, a semantic extension from Portuguese to English is *frio* meaning cold infection. This word is formed under the impact of model of the native language usage. Another illustration is the case of phonological resemblance being the basis for shift in semantics in such English word as *humorous* in parallel with Portuguese word *humoroso*. A yet another illustration is the loan shift from the Norwegian language of the word *wervelwind* to English word *whirlwind*. More examples are French *art deco* or *art style* and *rotonde* or *rotunda*.

Evaluation of the particular loan shifts examples narrated above suggests a conclusion that in the case of lexical borrowing, the lower language will borrow a word with the semantic connotation absent in this language from the upper language, where people have already faced certain phenomenon and came up with the lexical term for it.

Language Borrowing Type 3

Language borrowing type 3 is loan translations. Here, the phenomenon of borrowing through direct translation takes place. An illustration of such phenomenon is the creation of a German word with the lexical meaning „skyscraper“ by means of literary translation of morphemic parts of this word from English into German.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

As a result, the German language has adopted the translational loan from English-speaking nations that became familiar with the very notion of skyscrapers earlier due to the emergence of this technological breakthrough in their territory.

From this illustration, it becomes clear that loan translations are the phenomenon that takes place when the loan item is a composite form in the upper language and the borrower creates a parallel composite structure from one's language material. Ultimately, we hope that the special issue makes a strong case for the consideration of the expression of speaker identity as a motivating factor in the use of loanwords, regardless of the language contact situation and, in complementarity to other social factors and existing language-internal factors affecting this use.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be pointed out that the evidence shows that when two languages come into contact with each other, the language shift situations will occur including lexical and phonetic borrowings. Language contact takes place in situations in which groups of different languages speakers interact such as colonization, migration, performing trade or occupying new lands inhabited by other nations. As a result of language contact, speakers of one language adopt words from speakers of another language that is referred to as the source language. Such words are qualified by linguists as loan words or borrowings.

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