CAUSES AND WAYS OF THE BORROWING FORMATION

Mădălina MURSA

CZU: 811.111'373.45 ***mursa32@gmail.com***

English is one of the world's most prominent languages. Its history is fascinating for many reasons, including its flexibility in borrowing from other languages, a flexibility that has enriched its vocabulary over the centuries, and it keeps evolving even in the present days.

Throughout the entire history of humanity, human communication has led to situations where different languages establish interaction and exchange between each other, and accordingly their mutual influence becomes inevitable causing certain changes in the vocabulary, grammar syntax and phonetics of those languages.

A good illustration of this phenomenon is the important role played by Greek and Latin languages in Europe, the Old Slavonic language in the Slavic world, and the Arabic language in the Muslim East.

Furthermore, the changes that take place in certain languages reflect the historical, cultural and moral values of the nation.

In the Middle English period there was an influx of loans. It is often contended, that since the Norman conquest borrowing has been the main source to the enrichment of the English vocabulary and as a result there was a sharp decline in the productivity and role of word-formation. Historical evidence, however, testifies to the fact that throughout its entire history, even in the periods of the mightiest influxes of borrowings, other processes no less intense, were in operation such as word – formation and semantic development, which involved both native and borrowed elements. Over the history, the English language came in a long and close contact with several other languages, mainly Latin, French and Old Norse (or Scandinavian).

The great influx of borrowings from these sources was caused by a number of historical causes. The first cause is due to the great influence of the Roman civilization, thus making Latin the basic language in England for a long period of time. Old Norse was the language of the conquerors who were on the same level of social and cultural development and who connected easily with the local population in the 9th, 10th and the first half of the 11th century.

The words were borrowed in different periods and for different purposes, for science, medicine, art, technology, etc. In the course of time, loan-words have undergone several changes that were common for English language itself. The loan-words were influenced and changed their semantic, structural or more or less morphological meaning, even their phonetic appearance. Afterward, they were assimilated with the native English words looking as pure English ones losing their origin or etymology. One language may possess words for which there are no equivalents in the other language. There may be words for objects, social, political, and cultural institutions and events or abstract concepts which are not found in the culture of the other language.

We can take some examples from the English language throughout the ages. English has borrowed words for types of houses (e.g. *castle, mansion, teepee, wigwam, igloo, bungalow*). It has borrowed words for cultural institutions (e.g. *opera, ballet*). It has borrowed words for political concepts (e.g. *perestroika, glasnost, apartheid*). It often happens that one culture borrows from the language of another culture words or phrases to express technological, social or cultural innovations. The main reason for borrowing is to provide a word from the source language variety when there is no suitable existing word in the target language. A loanword or a borrowing refers to the process of speakers adopting words from a source language into their native language. "Loan" and "borrowing" are of course metaphors. In times of need, speakers purposely adopt the new word from the borrowing language as it is thought that the word most exactly fits the idea they are trying to express. For example, the Japanese word, *tsunami*, came into light and more widespread – especially after the disaster that devastated Indonesia in 2004. It is most appropriate to the natural disaster as this word is used by the Japanese people.

Borrowed words enter the language as a result of influence of two main causes: linguistic and extra-linguistic. Extra-linguistic factors are economic, cultural, industrial, political relations, historical. For example, due to the great influence of the Roman civilization Latin was for a long time used in England as the language of learning and religion.

Old Norse of the Scandinavian tribes was the language of the conquerors.

French (Norman dialect) was the language of the other conquerors who brought with them a lot of new notions of a higher social system, developed feudalism. It was the language of upper classes, of official documents and school. These factors are extra-linguistic ones [43].

The absence of equivalent words in the language to express new subjects or a phenomena determined people to borrow words.

Borrowings enter the language in two ways: through oral speech (by immediate contact between the people) and through written speech (by indirect contact, through books).

Oral borrowing took place in the early periods of history, whereas in recent times written borrowings have gained more importance.

Words borrowed orally are usually short and they undergo more changes in the process of adoption, such as phonetic, grammatical and semantic changes, e.g. Latin – *inch*, *mill*, *street*. Written borrowings preserve their spelling and some peculiarities of their sound form as their assimilation is a long process, e.g. French – communiqué, belles-lettres, naïveté. Written borrowings are often rather long and they are unknown to many people. Borrowings are also formed through the process of affixation, some of the derivational affixes of Latin and French origin are:

Latin affixes: *-ion, -tion, -ate, -ute, -ct, -dprotégé, dis-, -able, -ant, -ent, -or, -al, -ar* in the words like session, relation, create, attribute, conduct, applaud, disable, curable, accurate, constant, absent, major, cordial, solar etc.

French affixes: *-ance, -ence, -ment, -age, -ess, -ous, en-* in the words like endurance, patience, government, village, actress, serious, enable etc. In spite of the numerous outside linguistic influences and the etymological heterogeneity of its vocabulary the English language is still, in essential characteristics a Germanic language. It has retained a ground work of Germanic words and grammar. Word-formation and semantic development were throughout the entire history of the English language much more productive than borrowing. Besides most native words are marked by a higher frequency value. On the other hand under the influence of the borrowed element words already

existing in the English changed to some extent their semantic structure, collectability, frequency and word forming ability.

Borrowing also considerably enlarged the English vocabulary and brought about some changes in English synonymic groups, in the distribution of the English vocabulary through sphere of application and in the lexical divergence between the two variants of the literary national language and its dialects. The great number of borrowings in English left some imprint upon the language. The first effect of foreign influence is observed in the volume of its vocabulary. In most cases, the borrowed words and synonymous native words remained in the language, becoming more or less differentiated in meaning and use.

As a result the number of synonymic groups in English greatly increased. The synonymic groups became voluminous and acquired many words rarely used. This brought about a rise in the percentage of stylistic synonyms. Today only about five percent of our new words are taken from other languages.

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