

The Role of Borrowing in Language Evolution: Lexical and Structural Perspectives

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Abstract:

Language is a fundamental tool in shaping worldviews, with its diversity in vocabulary and phraseological units playing a critical role. Throughout history, linguistic interactions among various countries and nationalities have led to the emergence of new words and idioms. Borrowing, the process by which one language adapts elements from another, is central to this evolution and can be categorized in tree types. Following article defines these tree types with examples.

Introduction

A language plays a significant function in the construction of the world view. The diversity of vocabulary and phraseological units, on the other hand, is critical. It is obvious that there is no language in the world without new words or phrases. Because, over the course of history, various countries and nationalities have interacted, resulting in the emergence of new words and idioms in the language.

Borrowing is the process of one language adapting linguistic elements from another language. There are two sorts of borrowing, depending on the way in which the words were borrowed:

- ✓ Lexical
- ✓ Structural

The first type of borrowing involves the transfer of words from one language to another, which is known as loanwords. Some words, such as "chalet" and "ballet," were borrowed from French and incorporated into American English. There are numerous examples of lexical borrowing in the Uzbek language as well. Words like osmon, oftob, and bahor baho were borrowed from Tajik, whereas kitob, maktab, xalq, and shoir were borrowed from Arabian. According to Gulbakhor Nazarova, there are words in Uzbek that were first used in the history of Turkish languages, then adopted into other languages, and afterwards borrowed into our language once more. For example,

the word "yogurt" [[ingl. yogurt turk. yogurt, t.-tat.-yoghurt]] Original Turkish lexeme, jam, canned fruit, chocolate, cocoa, and other additives (fillers) is a creamy dairy product mixed with cream (plain yogurt, kefir, etc.).

Many words that have become international terminologies due to their unique meanings, such as photo, radio, internet, and sports, have been adopted into other languages without translation. Qizlarkhon Sobirova (2015) writes in her dissertation that some Uzbek words, such as "Kurash", "Xalol", "Chala", and "Yonbosh" are becoming more international as there are no equivalents or translations in other languages.

Types of borrowings

There are three types of structural borrowing: phonological, morphological, and syntactic borrowing. According to phonology, some adopted words have retained their pronunciation. For example, with the introduction of some French words such as prestige, leisure, and measure, [ʒ] was introduced from the French language. In comparison, some English lexemes are also pronounced without changing their sound system. The words offline, business, provider, and trainer are adapted into the Uzbek language without changing their way of pronunciation. Interestingly, some of the English words were only introduced in the written version, and they are pronounced differently than the original pronunciation. For example,

English pronunciation	Uzbek pronunciation
<i>Tunnel</i> [tanel]	Tunel
Budget [badjet]	byudjet

The adoption of morphological components or patterns by one language under the influence of another is known as morphological borrowing. Words are frequently borrowed with an affix, which may then become part of the morphological system of the language from which they were acquired. For example, the Latin plural form has been retained for many of the terms that English has inherited from Latin. For most speakers, the plural of colloquium is colloquia, not colloquiums. In some circumstances, the morpheme becomes useful and can be used with other words. For example, English absorbed the derivational suffixes able-ible from French through the borrowing of words like incredible and this affix which became productive and linked to the words that have not got French roots such as writeable and drinkable. In terms of comparison, there are some prefixes in the Uzbek language which were introduced with the adaptation of Persian-Tajik lexemes. For instance, the prefixes ba-, be-, ser-, xush-, and bar-were utilized in creating new words in the Persian and Tajik languages. Badavlat, beayov, Xushbijim can be examples, while among them be-, no-, and ser prefixes were utilized for the formation of Uzbek words such as

Tadjik prefix+Tadjik words	Tadjik prefix+Uzbek words
Beayov	Bebosh
serunum	serqatnov
nosozi	Noto'g'ri

Another interesting fact about the morphologic borrowings is that some Uzbek affixes can be replaced with their Tajik prefix equivalents, for example :

Tadjik prefix	Uzbek affix
Beayb	Aybsiz
Bearmon	Armonsiz
Beandoza	Andozasiz

In syntactic borrowing, the order of subject and verb should be adopted from other languages. For example, there are similar sentence orders between one and several language families. While the influence of another language can cause for syntactic borrowing.

Conclusion

In summary, borrowing plays a crucial role in the evolution of languages, enriching them through the integration of new words and structural elements. Lexical borrowing expands vocabulary, while structural borrowing influences pronunciation, morphology, and syntax. These processes highlight the interconnectedness of languages and the impact of cultural exchanges. By understanding borrowing, we appreciate the dynamic nature of language and its ability to adapt and grow, reflecting the rich tapestry of human communication.

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