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## ORIGIN AND TYPES OF BORROWING WORDS FROM FRENCH TO ENGLISH WORDS

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**Annotation:** *The study outlines the linguistic aspects of the French borrowing process, its main extralinguistic causes and main stages, and other French borrowings adopted during the transition to English. Special attention is paid to the definitions given by various scholars and a number of lexicographic sources as a lexical phenomenon of borrowing. The article also discusses the many borrowings from French to modern English, as well as their grammatical and structural features.*

**Keywords:** *mastery, classification, French, historical periods, English, linguistic aspects, lexical phenomenon.*

### **I. Introduction**

Since the beginning of the study of lexicology, scholars have tried to classify different mastered objects in different languages. Therefore, there are many classifications in many linguistic sources. Nevertheless, the procedure for simplifying them and describing their typology is always filled with a certain uncertainty. For example, Capuz mentions French scholars who proposed a specific classification of borrowing.

### **II. Literature review**

Clein records the next eight levels of language system debt: phonological debt, prosodic debt, graphemic debt, morphemic debt (copying from linked morphemes), morphological debt (copying morphological patterns), semantic debt (moving debt, decay lexemes), syntactic assimilations (transfer of syntactic rules). Humbley suggests the following six categories of borrowing: “graphic and phonetic borrowings, morphological borrowings, semantic borrowings, lexical borrowings, syntactic borrowings, and phraseological borrowings” that are very similar to the former. Capuz is a young Spanish scholar who also proposed a classification of borrowing. It consists of seven types of loans, which are described below and given as examples.

#### *Formal borrowings*

They are considered relatively infrequent. What is more, they entail both phonological and orthographic changes. The said alterations, as maintained by Capuz, “affect the form (significant) and not the meaning (signifié)”. Examples of formal borrowings can be found in the language used in advertising, for instance: common bewilderment of sh and sch (shreiben – schreiben) that can be recognized in the German-speaking immigrants who live in the Englishspeaking countries, like England, for example: “appear[...] to be a hyper characterisation of neutral units following well-known features of a prestigious foreign language”.

### **III. Analysis**

#### *Semantic Borrowings*



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It entails a process of transmitting of sememes or specific units of meaning. Capuz identifies three major types of semantic borrowings, which are the following:

(1) Homologs – both items, from the source language and recipient language, demonstrate some analogy in meaning. However, their forms remain dissimilar. This type of borrowings is often called “semantic loan translation” or “semantic calque,” as it is a model of proper translation. Both lexemes share their primary meaning, but only one of them carries additional symbolic sense. The supplementary figurative sense meaning, however, can also be transmitted to another language. For instance, the English word “hawk” has its primary meaning “bird of prey.” In English, nonetheless, it also had an additional symbolic sense “hard-liner politician,” and that meaning can be borrowed by other languages.

(2) Analogs – both words, as the name suggests, preserve some analogy in sense and form. Consequently, it is much easier to see the semantic transaction between them, and they are undoubtedly more frequent and widespread than homologs. Examples of semantic meaning are extensively unearthed in translations as well as in the language used by bilinguals. Very often, such examples are generally identified as “false friends” of a translator/ interpreter. For instance, Capuz illustrates this idea by providing as an example an English word “conventional” with its primary meaning “customary, traditional.” However, as the author appends “in political jargon, it has developed the sense of “non-nuclear (weapons)” that is “traditional (weapons)””.

(3) Homophones – both lexemes show similarity in the form, but not the meaning. They are analogous as far as orthography and pronunciation are concerned, but the meaning remains different. For example, the English word “grocery” has its primary meaning, “grocer’s shop.” It was spread into American Portuguese “grosseria,” which has the primary meaning “rude remark.” The new meaning carried along with the borrowing, however, is a “grocer’s shop.”

## *Lexical Borrowings*

In linguistics, borrowing (also known as lexical borrowing) is a word from one language is adapted for use in another. In that case, the word that is borrowed is called a “borrowing,” “a borrowed word,” or “a loanword.” It is interesting to mention that the English language has been described by Crystal as an “insatiable borrower.” More than 120 other languages have served as sources for the contemporary vocabulary of English. On the other hand, present-day English is also a significant donor language – the leading source of borrowings for many other languages. Stražny observes the interface between two languages and maintains, “when different languages come into contact with each other, some degree of lexical borrowing inevitable takes place”. It is a widely acknowledged truth that lexical borrowings are among the most frequently identified loans. At the commencement, all borrowings were recognized and categorized as linguistic ones. Capuz offers to divide them into three groups:

(a) Importation – this is the most direct transmission between languages. Both the form and the meaning are imported without any additional amendments. For example, CD-ROM, club, pop, best-seller, poster, show, and countless other examples in various areas of everyday life.

(b) Loan blends or hybrids – these are lexical borrowings that involve both “importation” and “substitution” or, in other words, “transfer” and “reproduction.” Therefore, Capuz proposes a subdivision into three types of loan blends or hybrids: • transferred stem + reproduced derivative affix, like in words: filth-y (En) → fil-sig (Ger), or swing-ing (En) → swin-ant (Fr); • native stem + transferred affix, like in words: four-age (En) → Futter-age (Ger); • hybrid compounds, as in various anglicisms, like in words: porte-containers (Fr), manager de carretera (Es), or tenis de mesa (Es). (c) Substitution or loan translation – an example of lexical borrowing, which is a “complete morphemic substitution of lexical units of the language,” as Capuz elucidates. The paradigm in question always entails two or more elements. First, they are identified and analyzed, and then they

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are rendered into a recipient language. Contrasting to semantic borrowing, a loan translation deals with formulating a new lexeme in the borrowing language, like in the example of “grate-ciel” (Fr) “sky-scraper,” this happens to be a novel compound in French.

## IV. Discussion

### *Syntactic Borrowings*

It deals with relationships between lexemes and other words. It is the form of the morphemic substitution that is always adopted. Syntactic borrowings entail various grammatical relationships, predominantly issues of agreement, dependence, and order. Capuz proposes two types of syntactic borrowings:

(a) Syntactic Innovation – this is the case where the structure is completely unidentified in the borrowing language. For example, *estar siendo* + passive participle in Spanish can stand as a syntactic borrowing from the English form *am/is/are* + being + passive participle.

(b) Syntactic Borrowing of Higher Frequency – when the form is known and recognizable in the borrowing language. Nevertheless, it is relatively rare and limited to particular distributional contexts.

Similar to syntactic borrowings, phraseological borrowings also involve a morphemic substitution, known as loan translation. As underlined by Capuz, it “must imply a metaphor, an image,” “both the model and the loan translation must be idiomatic, with a global sense which cannot be derived from the addition of the senses of its constituents.” Some lexical loan translations carry not only the primary meaning but also some shades of it, which are conversational. They can be subdivided into three types:

(a) Locutions or lexical idioms – these are either nominal cases, like *round table* (En) → *mesa redonda* (Es), *cold war* (En) → *guerra fría*, *beautiful people* (En) → *gente guapa* (Es), or adverbial cases, like *somehow* (En) → *de algún modo / de alguna manera* (Es).

(b) Lexical and syntagmatic idioms – these are founded on a verbal construction, like *to play a role* (En) → *jugar un papel* (Es), or *to be in the same boat* (En) → *estar en el mismo barco* (Es).

(c) Statements – these come as examples of formulae, cliché, or sayings as well as proverbs.

## V. Conclusion

Assimilation is the process of adapting a word to the phonetic and lexico-grammatical norms of language. We distinguish three main types of assimilation: phonetic, grammatical, and lexical. Phonetic assimilation is the process of adapting the phonetic form of a derived word to the sound system of the receiving language. Grammatical assimilation is the conformity of a mastered word to the morphological or grammatical norms of the main language. If a word is grammatically mastered, it takes (accepts) English paradigms and categories. Lexical assimilations are the conformity of an adopted word to the lexical-semantic system of the main language. If a phrase is involved in word formation according to English rules, it can be called a lexically assimilated word.

In this article, we present the following classification of modern French debt: phonological debt, prosodic debt, graphemic debt, morphemic debt (copy of linked morphemes), morphological debt (copy of morphological patterns), semantic debt (semantic debt, decomposition), lexical assimilation (transfer of lexemes) and syntactic assimilation (transfer of syntactic rules).

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