



Article

# The Peculiarities of Lexical Borrowings

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**Abstract:** This study examines the lexical borrowings and their influence on the French language. It is known that the vocabulary of a language is the most dynamic linguistic component, which is in the process of constant change. The development of vocabulary is manifested in two directions. On the one hand, the vocabulary of a language changes, is enriched, reflects the conditions of a certain historical period in the development of society, in its development, and these phenomena have no direct relation to the language system. It can also include the process of changing the meaning of words and enriching the vocabulary by borrowing words from other languages.

**Keywords:** Languages in Contact, Lexical Borrowings, Etymology, French, Romance Languages

## 1. Introduction

The phenomena of change and development of vocabulary are characteristic of each specific historical period regardless of the language system, and in the second case, they are characteristic of a specific language system [1].

When speaking of native and borrowed words, it is necessary to dwell on the period of the initial development of the Latin language, the period when the literary language had not yet formed. During the first Roman conquests of the Apennine Peninsula, Latin came into contact with various closely related Italian dialects [2].

## 2. Materials and Methods

Although Latin is a young and unstable dominant language, it has been heavily influenced by several dialects. Many words from Italian dialects have entered Latin. These include: *lupus* - wolf, *asinus* - donkey, *fenum* - hay, *bos* - bull, *casa* - hut, *furnus* - hearth, *colubra* - snake, *ursus* - bear, *ulfur* - sera and others [3].

During the same period, during the Celtic invasion of the north of the Apennine Peninsula, the Latin vocabulary was replenished with a number of words from the Celtic language: *cucullus* - hood, *bulga* - *kojanm bag*, *caballus* - horse and others [4].

Insufficient knowledge of the Etruscan language does not allow us to speak about the adoption of Latin by the Etruscans during the period of ethnohistory. As for the Greek language, contacts between the Romans and Greek colonists in the south of the Apennine Peninsula also led to the borrowing of Greek words: *talentum* - talent, *grupta* - cave, *gubernare* - to govern, *ballaena* - whale, *buxus* - beech and others.

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Later, Roman literature began to form under the great influence of Greek literature. Many Greek words entered the Latin literary language and entered colloquial speech, for example: *lira* - *has*, *saccus* - *net*, *scliola* - *school*, *petra* - *kamen*, *callicdra* - *chair*, etc.

In colloquial speech, there are known cases of replacing a Latin word with a borrowed word; for example, *petra* "stone" replaced the Latin word *lapis*; *colaphus* (*colapus*) - "blow" replaced the Latin *ictus*, etc.

From the period of the formation of literary Latin, we can talk about direct appropriations in popular colloquial speech. First of all, we should dwell on the acquisitions from the local languages of the regions conquered by Rome, where Latin speech entered as a spoken language. Little is known about Iberian elements in Latin, except for the following words:

*Tasconium* - *loam*, *gubia* - *chisel*, *fr. gouge*; *Gubbia*, *um. Gubbia*, *paramus*, *sarnam* - *valley*, *paramo*, *paramus*, *sarnam* - *scabies*, *sarna*

The Basque language and toponymy have retained some Iberian elements, for example, in settlements in the south of France: *Barat* - *chery* - *barath* - *garden*; *large city, district, village*; *iribarn* - *iribarn* - *deep country*; *Etcheverry* - *pickling house*, *berry* (*verry*) - *new* [5].

### 3. Results and Discussion

There is almost no information about borrowings from the languages of the Ligurians, Venetians, Thracians and, in particular, Illyrians. Only a few Ligurian suffixes have been preserved in toponymy. As for the addition of Celtic vocabulary, the information here is quite rich. Many Celtic words became the basis of the Latin language, and then the basis of French and other Romance languages:

*carrum* - *to give up* - *French: char*

*alauda* - *javor in ok* - *fr. Alouette*

*camisia* - *shirt* - *fr. chemise*

*becsus* - *beak* - *fr. bic*

*leuga* - *meadow long* - *fr. lieue etc.*

Most of the Celtic assimilations entered the Latin language in Gaul. It is known that the vocabulary of modern French contains about 300 words of Celtic origin [6].

From the first centuries of our era, borrowings from German entered the French vocabulary. The trade of Roman merchants with Germanic tribes, the raids of Roman legions on Germanic territories, contacts with Germans serving in the Roman legions - all this led to the introduction of many Germanic words into the Latin vernacular, for example:

*Burg* - *fortress*, *haring* - *herring*, *brun* - *brown*, *harpa* - *harp*, *gris* - *grey*, *wardon* - *to watch*, *werra* - *war*, *baro* - *free person* [7].

These acquisitions cannot be attributed to a specific German dialect. Only after the fall of the Western Roman Empire can we say that Germanic words belonged to a specific tribal group. With the spread of Christianity in the 4th century, many words related to religious concepts entered the Latin vocabulary from Greek. After the fall of the Western Roman Empire, new historical conditions arose for the development of the Latin language [8].

Each of the Roman provinces followed its own path of development. Gallic Latin is mixed with various Germanic dialects. The vocabulary of Gallic Latin is rich in Germanisms: it includes the Burgundian dialect of the south-eastern part of Gaul [9].

*raus* - *reed* - *prov. Raus/ fr. Roseau*

*stakka* - *prov. forehead* - *fr. Estache/ Prov. Estaca and others*[10].

Many words Table 1. were borrowed from the Franks who conquered northern and central Gaul, some of which entered the Provençal and Spanish languages:

**Table 1.** The Provençal and Spanish languages

	<i>english</i>	<i>provençal</i>	<i>Français</i>	<i>russian</i>
<i>Hapja</i>	<i>Axe</i>	<i>apcha</i>	<i>Hache</i>	<i>топор</i>
<i>Koita</i>	<i>clothe</i>	<i>cota</i>	<i>vêtements</i>	<i>одежда</i>
<i>Haga</i>	<i>hedge</i>	<i>haga</i>	<i>Haie</i>	<i>изгородь</i>
<i>Garba</i>	<i>sheef</i>	<i>garba</i>	<i>Grebe</i>	<i>снопъ</i>

Thus, over the course of many centuries, the vocabulary of the Latin language was replenished with new words from the various languages and dialects with which the Latin language came into contact [11].

From the period when literary Latin was formed on the basis of vernacular, as we saw above, these acquisitions were only assimilated by vernacular, and its vocabulary gradually departed from the vocabulary of classical Latin.

The vocabulary of a language is a constantly evolving component of the language, reflecting all the changes that have occurred in the historical development of society [12].

In this section we consider changes in the vocabulary of the French language, reflecting the conditions of the historical development of the French people, words from other languages, not directly related to the features of the lexical structure of the language. We will consider the enrichment of words through assimilation, loss of words and changes in the meanings of words.

Since the French language, like all other Romance languages, developed on the basis of popular Latin, its basis was formed by layers of Latin vocabulary. In the 9th century, the French lexical layer included all the lexical wealth accumulated over many centuries of the formation of the French people [13].

During the subsequent historical development of the French people, the vocabulary reflecting this development was constantly enriched and changed. Since Latin was the official state language, the language of the Church and science during the period in question, Latin adaptations were considered the main source of the French language. Latin borrowings during this period were much closer in sound form to their Latin source than words in colloquial Latin speech, which had undergone serious sound changes by the time the French language was formed. Therefore, these literary words (*mots savants*) always stand out in the vocabulary of the French language [14].

For example: *celestae-caelestem* (11th century), *diaboli-diabolium* (10th century), *element-elementum* (10th century); *orient-orientem* (12th century), *calends-calends* (12th century).

*claritate(m)* entered the French language through common speech in the form *clarte(t)*, and words such as *veritatem*, *trinitatem* entered the French language in the form of written Latin speech (in the 11th century). *verite(t)*, *trinit(t)*.

It should be noted that a large influx of Latin appropriations into the French vocabulary dates back to the 14th-15th centuries, especially after the end of the Hundred Years' War, when the scientific and cultural life of French society and the economy as a whole experienced a great upsurge. Interest in classical Latin and Greek literature increased in the 14th-15th centuries. Many Latin and Greek literary and scientific works were translated into French. The works of Titus Livy, Augustine, and Aristotle were translated into French. These translations played an important role in enriching the composition and vocabulary of the French language. When translating, there were additional words, as well as scientific terms that did not exist in French. In such cases, translators usually take a Latin or Greek word and translate it into French, changing its ending or stress in accordance with the sound system of the French language, for example:

*amicalis - amical (fr); superbus - superbe (fr), quaestionem - question (fr), tumuilum - tumulte (fr)* and others [15].

In the 14th and 15th centuries, French vocabulary is often borrowed from Latin and Greek, and this is characterized by the emergence of scientific terms, so this period can be considered the period of the emergence of scientific French terminology, such as : *abus, abus, college, commerce, extmen, fabrique, existence, collector, anatomy, negalite, austral, allegorique, debater, livide, universe*, etc.

During this period, in addition to words borrowed from Latin and Greek, the vocabulary of the French language includes words borrowed from other languages. But compared to words borrowed from Latin, their number was small. In the 11th and 12th centuries, words from Eastern languages entered the French language. This is due to the Eastern Crusades. The French became acquainted with new household items that were unfamiliar in France, and learned their names; for example, from Persian: *ehecs, caravan* ; from Arabic: *amiral, tasse, alchemy, algebra, yup, syrup*, etc.

The flourishing of Provençal literature in the 12th century influenced the development of French chivalric literature. After Provence was annexed to France in the second half of the 15th century, the following loanwords from Provençal entered the French vocabulary: *cabane, abeille, salade, cap, muscade, tin, emparer, cadeau, ballade, banquet*, etc. Since the 14th century, words of Italian origin entered the French language, which was associated with the strengthening of ties with Italy; words such as *bandier, brigade, citedel, squadron, partisan, tribune, alarm, bastion, canon*. During the Hundred Years' War, despite long-term communication with the English, loanwords from the English language entered, such words as *bigot, milor (my lord) were adopted*; from German: *escrevisse, foudre, rosse, gripper, bouter, danser, trompe, sale, breche* , etc. from Flemish: *paletot, plake, vakarme* , etc.

*Du Bellay*, a French poet and one of the founders of the literary group known as the Pleiades, proposed enriching the French vocabulary in the following ways:

- 1) the creation of neologisms, that is, the creation of new words using sources of the French language through affixation, combination and other methods of word creation;
- 2) the use of Latin, Greek and other linguistic acquisitions;
- 3) use of dialects;
- 4) the use of obsolete word-layers, that is, historicism and archaisms.

The vocabulary of the language is constantly replenished with words borrowed from other languages, but the additions differ depending on each period and historical conditions. Italian adaptations entered the French language in the 16th century. This is due to the constant ties between France and Italy and the Renaissance in Italy. Many artists, architects, and builders were invited to France. With the development of industry, trade relations with Italy were strengthened. In the first half of the 16th century, constant military conflicts with Italy created the basis for the introduction of Italian assignations: *weasel (it. carezze), pedant (it. pedante), gazette (it. gazzetta)*.

Sometimes Italian loanwords replaced French words of the same origin, for example: *chevalerie* replaced the Italian word *cavalerie* of the same origin; *balsan (Italian balzano)* replaces the French word *baucent* , etc.

The speech of court society, especially during the period of Catherine de Medici, contained many Italian appropriations, which were opposed by theorists such as A. Estienne, who proposed using the capabilities of the native language.

In the 16th century, as in previous centuries, many words were borrowed from Greek and especially from Latin. This happened due to the penetration of the French national language into the field of science: the French language, which displaced Latin, simultaneously absorbed scientific and technical terms of the Latin language. Many Latin words entered the language through written literary speech. It is known that the poets of

the Pleiades and their followers often used Latin appropriations. For example: *assimilator, captive, education, burial, social, structure, academy, e pithete, hypothesis, sympathy*, etc.

In the 17th century, the vocabulary of the French language continued to be enriched by borrowing words from different languages. For example, the development of trade and industry included many loan words related to this area in the vocabulary: *ballast, dock*. words like English ; *debit, bill, visa* - from Latin ; *folio, agio* - from Italian, etc.

These acquisitions enriched the French literary language of the 18th century. During this period, acquaintance with English philosophy and literature, interest in the question of the English state and political system, and economics led to the borrowing of many words from English: *gentleman, congress, club, toast, punch, whist, corporation, budget, universal, square, grog*, etc.

The additions included words that came into English from Old French and returned to the French vocabulary after some changes in sound and meaning: *boujet (petit sac)* - borrowed as a budget; *entrevue* - received in the form of an interview; *écerre (jardin carre)* - similar to a square; *desport (jeu)* - took the form of a sport.

As a result of the colonial policy of France, borrowings from the languages of the eastern colonies were adopted, for example, *fakir, kiosk, liana, piroga* , etc.

The first Russian words entered the French language: *arshin, kosaka, hetman, knut, steppe* , etc. These processes were connected with the growing ties of France with other countries. During the years of the French bourgeois revolution, the vocabulary of the language was rich and reflected all the changes taking place in public life.

#### 4. Conclusion

In conclusion, the development of the lexical stratum of a language takes place on the basis of the stages of a certain period, taking into account important changes in society. Both native and acquired layers play an important role in language development. The native stratum forms the basis of the language, and the acquired stratum enriches the language, helps to introduce new meanings and concepts. All phenomena in the change of the vocabulary of a language, the features of the lexical structure of a language are determined by the historical development of society. In each historical period, these phenomena have their own characteristics: these historical conditions indicate the sources and nature of appropriations, and also determine the nature of changes in the meaning of words and their connection with the development of thought. Native and borrowed lexemes demonstrate the complex and dynamic structure of language. Both play an important role in language development.

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