

**Docent. PH.D. XOSHGEDEM EHMEDOVA**  
**Azerbaijan State Oil And Industry University**  
[xoshqedembeshirqizi@gmail.com](mailto:xoshqedembeshirqizi@gmail.com)

## **FOREIGN ELEMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

### **Summary**

There are some languages that try to avoid as far they can the use of alien terms. They do this by forming new words that are made up of native elements. English, however, has always made use of foreign words. The English language has been particularly open to foreign influences.

A vocabulary is considered to be the indispensable affluence of any language. However, English language is full of multifarious words which have been replenished during the miscellaneous stages of its history. Old English was rather extensive. It is said to comprise about 50 000 words respectively.

With the United Kingdom and the United States of America as the giants of the world economic power, the importance of English, which is the first language of these countries, is naturally and undeniably great. Claimed as having more than 500,000 in word power, no other languages in the world have been its equal though some like French and Spanish have attempted to compete against it. What makes English acceptable worldwide is its vocabulary. The mixed character of its vocabulary through adoption, assimilation and incorporation from other languages enables it to be 'shared' by the speakers of the languages it borrows, and thus, makes it some kind of familiar to those speakers.

**Key words:** Old English, Middle English, Modern English, borrowings, loan words, native words, spelling

These words were predominantly native words. They could be subdivided into a number of strata. The oldest stratum was composed of words which roots coming from the Common Indo-European parent tongue. Majority of these words were inherited by English collaboratively with some other Indo-European languages which share the same source, and also related words could be investigated in various Indo-European languages:

Old English	New English	Latin	Russian
mōdor	mother	mater	мать
niht	night	nox	ночь
nēowe	new	novus	новый
beran	bear	ferre	братъ

Another layer, relatively more recent, was words inherited by English and other Germanic languages from the same common Germanic source. You will find them in many languages, but only those belonging to the Germanic group:

Old English	New English	German
eorðe	earth	Erde
land	land	Land
sǣ	sea	See

The language in New English is growing on a faster pace, it is impossible to evaluate the exact amount of actually existing words in English language's present vocabulary. Notwithstanding some of the words existing in Old English and Middle English are not used in New English any longer, the number of new words surpasses the number of outdated ones in manifold.

Both internal means and external means are used for the purpose of enhancing the number of new borrowed words to the vocabulary, and the significance of either of them is unequivocally to estimate.

It is projected that there are far more 300 million native speakers and 300 million who use English as a second language and a further 100 million use it as a foreign language. English language still keeps its dominancy so that it is the language of science, aviation, computing, diplomacy, and tourism. It is listed as the official or co-official language of over 45 countries and is spoken extensively in other countries where it has no official status.

This domination is unique in history. In the cutting-edge universe English is the most widespread among the world's languages.

Half of all business deals are conducted in English. According to the statistic which has been carried out two thirds of all scientific papers are written in English. Over 70% of all post or mail is written and addressed in English. Most international tourism, aviation and diplomacy are conducted specifically in English.

The principal inner means in New English is the appearance of new words formed by means of conversion. Usually new words are formed by acquiring a new paradigm and function within a sentence. Thus, **book** (a noun) has the paradigm **book - books**. **Book** (a verb) has the paradigm **book - books - booked - booking**, etc. For example:

1. The **books** are source of knowledge.
2. He **booked** a seat in an airplane in advance.

The others are the following:

man (n) - man (v)

stone (n) - stone (v) - stone (adj)

Several couple of new words appear in New English due to their source of borrowing. It is essentially important to note if sociolinguistic factors are not taken significantly into account, the process of borrowing, the sources of loan words, the nature of the new words which is different from Middle English and their appearance in the language cannot be understood accordingly<sup>1</sup>.

It is known that, borrowed words comprise more than half the vocabulary of the language. These borrowings have found their way through the language from many sources, forming consequently diversity of etymological strata. The principal ones here are enumerated as following:

1. the Latin element
2. the Scandinavian element
3. the French element.
4. Latin element

*The first Latin* words entered the language of the forefathers of the English nation before they came to Britain. It happened during a direct intercourse and trade relations with the peoples of the Roman empire. They mainly denoting names of household items and products: apple, pear, plum, cheese, pepper, dish, kettle, etc.

Already on the Isles from the Romanized Celts they borrowed such words as street, wall, mill, tile, port, caster, camp and so forth.

Latin words such as altar, bishop, candle, church, devil, martyr, monk, nun, pope, psalm, etc. were borrowed after the process of introduction of the Christian religion (almost about 7th century), which is basically reflected in their meaning. These words are regarded to be Latin borrowings in the sense that they entered English from Latin source, but many of them were Greek borrowings into Latin, such as bishop, church, devil and many others.

Another rudimentary group of Latin borrowings entered English with the blossom of learning it refers to the time approximately 15 - 16 centuries since at that time Latin language was realized by scientists all over the world and it was considered the common name-language for science. These words were mainly borrowed through books, by people who knew Latin well and tried to preserve the Latin form of the word as much as possible<sup>2</sup>. Hence such words as:

antenna - antennae, index - indices, datum - data, stratum - strata, phenomenon - phenomena, axis - axes, formula - formulae, etc.

Very many of them have suffixes which clearly mark them as Latin borrowings of the time:

- verbs ending in -ate, -ute: exasperate, absolute, attribute, contribute, salute
- adjectives ending in -ant, -ent, -ior, al: participant, reluctant, evident, superintendent, superior, cordial.

#### *Scandinavian element*

Chronologically words of Scandinavian origin penetrated into the English language in the interval of between the 8<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> centuries due to the Scandinavian invasions and settlement of Scandinavians on the British Isles. and its determination is not so easy to grasp. Its general notion that the number of words borrowed from this source was about 500, regardless some linguists surmise that this number could have comprise even far greater proportion, but due to the similarity of

the languages and scarcity of written records of the time it is sometimes sophisticated to say whether the word is a borrowed one or native, inherited from the same *Common Germanic source*.

Such words may be mentioned here, as: they, then, their, husband, fellow, knife, law, leg, wing, give, get, forgive, forget, take, call, ugly, wrong.

English Language, is primarily called *lingua franga* which means a mutual language for having international communication among people whose second language is English. It is predominant language in the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and numerous other countries. It is the official language of many nations in the Commonwealth of Nations and is widely understood and used in all of them. It is spoken in more parts of the world than any other language and by more people than any other tongue English belongs to the group within the western branch of the Germanic languages, a sub-family of the Indo-European languages. Its parent, Proto-Indo-European, was spoken around 5,000 years ago by nomads who are thought to have roamed the south-east European plains.

Old English, a variant of West Germanic, was spoken by certain Germanic people -specifically Angles, Saxons, and Jutes of the regions comprising present-day southern Denmark and northern Germany who invaded Britain in the 5th century AD; the Jutes were the first to arrive, in 449, according to tradition. Settling in Britain (the Jutes in Kent, southern Hampshire, and the Isle of Wight; the Saxons in the part of England south of the Thames; and the Angles in the rest of England as far north as the Firth of Forth), the invaders drove the indigenous Celtic-speaking peoples, notably the Britons, to the north and west. As time went on, Old English evolved further from the original Continental form, and regional dialects developed. The four major dialects recognized in Old English are Kentish, originally the dialect spoken by the Jutes; West Saxon, a branch of the dialect spoken by the Saxons; and Northumbrian and Mercian, subdivisions of the dialects spoken by the Angles<sup>3</sup>. By the 9th century, partly through the influence of Alfred, king of the West Saxons and the first ruler of all England, West Saxon became prevalent in prose literature. The Latin works of St Augustine, St Gregory, and the Venerable Bede were translated, and the native poetry of Northumbria and Mercia were transcribed in the West Saxon dialect. A Mercian mixed dialect, however, was preserved for the greatest poetry, such as the anonymous 8th-century epic poem Beowulf and the contemporary elegiac poems.

Old English was an inflected language characterized by strong and weak verbs; a dual number for pronouns (for example, a form for “we two” as well as “we”), two different declensions of adjectives, four declensions of nouns, and grammatical distinctions of gender. These inflections meant that word order was much freer than in the language today. There were two tenses: present-future and

past. Although rich in word-building possibilities, Old English was sparse in vocabulary. It borrowed few proper nouns from the language of the conquered Celts, primarily those such as Aberdeen (“mouth of the Dee”) and Inchcape (“island cape”) that describe geographical features. Scholars believe that ten common nouns in Old English are of Celtic origin; among these are bannock, cart, down, and mattock. Although other Celtic words not preserved in literature may have been in use during the Old English period, most Modern English words of Celtic origin, that is, those derived from Welsh, Scottish Gaelic, or Irish, are comparatively recent borrowings.

The number of Latin words, many of them derived from the Greek, that were introduced during the Old English period has been estimated at 140. Typical of these words are altar, mass, priest, psalm, temple, kitchen, palm, and pear. A few were probably introduced through the Celtic; others were brought to Britain by the Germanic invaders, who previously had come into contact with Roman culture. By far the largest number of Latin words was introduced as a result of the spread of Christianity. Such words included not only ecclesiastical terms but many others of less specialized significance.

Introduced first were words pertaining to the sea and battle, but shortly after the initial invasions other words used in the Scandinavian social and administrative system—for example, the word law—entered the language, as well as the verb form are and such widely used words as take, cut, both, ill, and ugly.

At the inception of the Middle English period, which dates from the Norman Conquest of 1066, the language was still inflectional; at the end of the period the relationship between the elements of the sentence depended basically on word order. As early as 1200 the three or four grammatical case forms of nouns in the singular had been reduced to two, and to denote the plural the noun ending -es had been adopted<sup>4</sup>.

The declension of the noun was simplified further by dropping the final n from five cases of the fourth, or weak, declension; by neutralizing all vowel endings to e (sounded like the a in Modern English sofa), and by extending the masculine, nominative, and accusative plural ending -as, later neutralized also to -es, to other declensions and other cases. Only one example of a weak plural ending, oxen, survives in Modern English; *kine* and *brethren* are later formations. Several representatives of the Old English modification of the root vowel in the plural, such as man, men, and foot, feet, also survive.

With the levelling of inflections, the distinctions of grammatical gender in English were replaced by those of natural gender. During this period the dual number fell into disuse, and the dative and accusative of pronouns were reduced to a common form. Furthermore, the Scandinavian they, them were substituted for the original hie, hem of the third person plural, and who, which, and that acquired their present relative functions. The conjugation of verbs was simplified by the omission of

endings and by the use of a common form for the singular and plural of the past tense of strong verbs.

In the early period of Middle English, a number of utilitarian words, such as egg, sky, sister, window, and get, came into the language from Old Norse. The Normans brought other additions to the vocabulary. Before 1250 about 900 new words had appeared in English, mainly words, such as baron, noble, and feast, that the Anglo-Saxon lower classes required in their dealings with the Norman-French nobility. Eventually the Norman nobility and clergy, although they had learned English, introduced from the French words pertaining to the government, the church, the army, and the fashions of the court, in addition to others proper to the arts, scholarship, and medicine. Another effect of the Norman Conquest was the use of Carolingian script and a change in spelling. Norman scribes write Old English *y* as *u* and *u* as *ou*. *Cw* was changed to *qu*, *hw* to *wh*, and *ht* to *ght*.

In the early part of the Modern English period the vocabulary was enlarged by the widespread use of one part of speech for another and by increased borrowings from other languages. The revival of interest in Latin and Greek during the Renaissance brought new words into English from those languages. Other words were introduced by English travellers and merchants after their return from journeys on the Continent. From Italian came *cameo*, *stanza*, and *violin*; from Spanish and Portuguese, *alligator*, *peccadillo*, and *sombrero*. During its development, Modern English borrowed words from more than 50 different languages.

In the late 17th century and during the 18th century, certain important grammatical changes occurred. The formal rules of English grammar were established during that period. The pronoun *its* came into use, replacing the genitive form *his*, which was the only form used by the translators of the King James Bible (1611). The progressive tenses developed from the use of the participle as a noun preceded by the preposition *on*; the preposition gradually weakened to *a* and finally disappeared. Thereafter only the simple *ing* form of the verb remained in use. After the 18th century this process of development culminated in the creation of the progressive passive form, for example, "The job is being done".

The most important development begun during this period and continued without interruption throughout the 19th and 20th centuries concerned vocabulary. As a result of colonial expansion, notably in North America but also in other areas of the world, many new words entered the English language. From the indigenous peoples of North America, the words *raccoon* and *wigwam* were borrowed; from Peru, *llama* and *quinine*; from the West Indies, *barbecue* and *cannibal*; from Africa, *chimpanzee* and *zebra*; from India, *bandanna*, *curry*, and *punch*; and from Australia, *kangaroo* and *boomerang*. In addition, thousands of scientific terms were developed to denote new concepts, discoveries, and inventions. Many of these terms, such as *neutron*, *penicillin*, and *supersonic*, were formed from Greek and Latin roots; others

were borrowed from modern languages, as with blitzkrieg from German and sputnik from Russian.

In Great Britain at present the speech of educated and literate people is known as Received Pronunciation. A class dialect rather than a regional dialect, it is based on the type of speech cultivated at public schools and at such of the older universities as Oxford and Cambridge. Many English people who speak regional dialects in their childhood acquire Received Pronunciation while attending school and university. Its influence has become even stronger in recent years because of its use by such public media as the British Broadcasting Corporation. RP is not intrinsically superior to other varieties of English, and is, itself, only one particular dialect. It has just achieved more extensive use than others.

The influence of the mass media appears likely to result in a more standardized pronunciation, more uniform spelling, and eventually a spelling closer to actual pronunciation. Despite the likelihood of such standardization, a unique feature of the English language remains its tendency to grow and change. New words are permanently being coined and their usage is modified to express new concepts and ideas. Its vocabulary is constantly embellished and enhanced by linguistic borrowings, particularly by cross-fertilizations from American English. Since it is capable of illustrious possibilities of communication, the English language has become the chief international language.

## REFERENCES

1. Fennell, Barbara 1998. A history of English. A sociolinguistic approach. Oxford: Blackwell.
2. McWhorter, Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue, 2008, pp. 89–136.
3. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign\\_language\\_influences\\_in\\_English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_language_influences_in_English) - cite ref-3 Finkenstaedt, Thomas; Dieter Wolff (1973). Ordered profusion; studies in dictionaries and the English lexicon. C. Winter.
4. "[Joseph M. Williams, Origins of the English Language at](#)". Amazon.com.
5. Algeo, John (2010). [The Origins and Development of the English Language](#): Wadsworth. Williams, Joseph M (1986). [Origins of the English Language](#). New York.

**Х.Б.АХМЕДОВА**

## ИНОСТРАННЫЕ ЭЛЕМЕНТЫ В АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ РЕЗЮМЕ

Есть некоторые языки, которые стараются избегать, насколько это возможно, использования чуждых терминов. Они делают это, образуя новые

слова, состоящие из родных элементов. Однако в английском языке всегда использовались иностранные слова. Английский язык был особенно открыт для иностранных влияний. Словарный запас считается неотъемлемым богатством любого языка. Однако английский язык полон разнообразных слов, которые пополнялись на разных этапах его истории. Древнеанглийский язык был довольно обширен. Сообщается, что он содержит около 50 000 слов соответственно.

Учитывая, что Великобритания и Соединенные Штаты Америки являются гигантами мировой экономической державы, важность английского языка, который является первым языком этих стран, естественно и бесспорно велика. Утверждается, что его сила слов превышает 500 000, и ни один другой язык в мире не может сравниться с ним, хотя некоторые из них, например французский и испанский, пытались конкурировать с ним. Что делает английский язык приемлемым во всем мире, так это его словарный запас. Смешанный характер его словарного запаса посредством заимствования, ассимиляции и включения из других языков позволяет ему «разделяться» носителями языков, которые он заимствует, и, таким образом, делает его своего рода знакомым для этих носителей.

**Ключевые слова:** древнеанглийский, среднеанглийский, современный английский, заимствования, заимствованные слова, родные слова, правописание.

**X.B.ƏHMƏDOVA**

## **İNGİLİS DİLİNDƏ XARİCİ ELEMENTLƏR XÜLASƏ**

Bəzi dillər var ki, mümkün qədər yad terminlərdən qaçmağa çalışırlar. Onlar bunu yerli elementlərdən düzələn yeni sözlər yaratmaqla edirlər. İngilis dili isə həmişə xarici sözlərdən istifadə etmişdir. İngilis dili xüsusilə xarici təsirlərə açıqdır.

Lüğət hər bir dilin əvəzolunmaz zənginliyi hesab olunur. Bununla belə, ingilis dili tarixinin müxtəlif mərhələlərində yenilənmiş çoxşaxəli sözlərlə doludur. Köhnə İngilis dili olduqca geniş idi. Onun müvafiq olaraq təxminən 50 000 sözdən ibarət olduğu deyilir.

Böyük Britaniya və Amerika Birləşmiş Ştatlarının dünya iqtisadi gücünün nəhəngləri olduğu bir vaxtda bu ölkələrin birinci dili olan ingilis dilinin əhəmiyyəti təbii və danılmaz dərəcədə böyükdür. 500.000-dən çox söz gücünə malik olduğu iddia edilən, dünyada heç bir başqa dil onunla bərabər deyildi, baxmayaraq ki, bəziləri fransız və ispan dilləri ilə rəqabət aparmağa çalışdı. İngilis dilini bütün dünyada məqbul edən onun lüğətidir. Onun lüğətinin digər dillərdən mənimsənilməsi, assimilyasiyası və birləşdirilməsi yolu ilə qarışıq xarakteri onu



götürdüyü dillərdə danışanlar tərəfindən “paylaşmağa” imkan verir və beləliklə, onu həmin danışanlara bir növ tanış edir.

**Açar sözlər:** Köhnə İngilis dili, Orta İngilis dili, Müasir İngilis dili, borclanmalar, alınma sözlər, yerli sözlər, orfoqrafiya

**Rəyçi: filologiya üzrə elmlər namizədi, dosent F.Ə.Hüseynova**