

DICTIONARIES OF FOREIGN WORDS OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE: EVOLUTION OF DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

This article examines the issue of comparing different editions of dictionaries of foreign words in the Russian language. In particular, a comparative description of their lexical composition is given, indicating the predominant groups of units. Semantic transformations characteristic of foreign words undergoing the stage of adaptation in the Russian language are also described.

Keywords: borrowing, anglicisms, dictionary, English language, modern Russian language, semantic meaning.

The prerequisite for creating dictionaries of foreign words is the active process of borrowing. In particular, throughout history the Russian language has been enriched with a large number of words related to the scientific, technical and socio-political process, economics, art, etc. For example, *norm*, *lexicon*, *logic*, *variation*, *barbarism*, *industrialization*, *justice*, *revolution*, *internationalism*, *manifesto*, *manganese*, *rational*, *region*, *regression* and others.

The appearance of dictionaries of foreign words was caused by the fact that the monuments of ancient Russian literature and writing included foreign language units that were unfamiliar to many readers, and in order to explain to a wide range of people the semantics of certain words, the need arose to create such dictionaries. The main task of dictionaries of this type is a brief description and explanation of borrowings that are found in fiction, journalistic and scientific texts.

A dictionary is a collection of words (usually in alphabetical order), set expressions with explanations, interpretations, or translation into another language. [4: 755].

Among the first dictionaries of foreign words is the “Lexicon of New Vocabularies in Alphabet,” which was compiled by order of Emperor Peter the Great. This dictionary includes 503 dictionary entries from the Petrine era.

The dictionary by N.M. Yanovsky “New Word Interpreter”, published in 1803-1806, is considered the most famous dictionary of the 19th century.



The dictionary created in the 20th century is the publication of I.O.Zhirkov “Dictionary of Foreign Words” of 1909. During this period, the Russian language was replenished with such socio-political terms as diplomat, propaganda, speaker, proletarian, party, liberal, neutrality, as well as terminology related to religion *mosque, Ramadan, guru*, science – *planetarium*, sports – *record*, everyday names – *pudding*, etc.

The “Dictionary of Foreign Words of the Modern Russian Language” by T.V.Egorova, published in 2014, can be considered a modern dictionary of foreign words. This dictionary includes borrowings from recent years, which are mainly represented by neologisms. Among them there are also units, the graphic display of which is still a matter of debate.

Over the course of a long period, the Russian language borrowed words from Greek (*ode, apricot, calligraphy*), French (*hero, kiosk, commentary*), Dutch (*glass, fairway, flag, privateer*), Turkic (*dzhigit, esaul, kazna*) and other languages.

Since the first half of the 20th century, the Russian language has been actively replenished with anglicisms. In T.V.Egorova’s dictionary one can find units of various thematic groups: *dress code, image, jeans, shopping* (Clothing, fashion); *chips, coffee break, crackers, lime* (Food, drinks); *coach, linesman, jockey, image maker, manager, knockdown* (Profession and professional activities); *laptop, lounge, listing, media, overtime* (Terminological units: music, sports, computer technology); *lifting, make-up* (Cosmetics), etc. [1].

In addition, poets and writers widely used Anglicisms. For example, N.M.Karamzin used the following anglicisms in his works: *picnic, toast, sir, Quakers, anchovies* and others. The sun of Russian poetry A.S.Pushkin introduced several English words into the Russian language, among them the well-known *dandy, ideal, roast-beef, beef-steaks*. Anglicisms are also found in the works of L.N.Tolstoy, F.M.Dostoevsky and many other writers and poets.

It is quite noteworthy that anglicisms sometimes “claim” to take the place of words from other languages that have taken root in the Russian language. For example, the French word price list was replaced by the anglicism price list, and the Latinism trend “makes room” for the anglicism trend.

The 1909 edition of I.O.Zhirkov’s “Dictionary of Foreign Words” includes more than 5000 borrowings. Here we mainly provide an interpretation of words characteristic of book speech, indicating the source language. Outdated and rarely used words are not included in the dictionary.



It can be assumed that one third of foreign language borrowings penetrated into the language after the compilation of I.O.Zhirkov's dictionary. This is confirmed by the fact that during this period the modern Russian language began to come into contact even more actively with other languages, in particular with Western European ones. Here we should dwell on the essence of the designation "modern" in relation to the Russian language. In particular, some researchers understand modern Russian as the language starting from the Pushkin period to the present day. This understanding is accepted in "Russian Grammar" (1980) [5].

Other scientists agree that modern Russian is the language of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. A similar interpretation of modern language is found in textbooks published after 1980. This issue is a subject of controversy in terms of the use of foreign language units. By modern Russian we understand the language of our era, since the period we have indicated is marked by a rapid influx of foreign language elements, words and expressions. Some of them often expanded their semantics, others (functioning in the 19th - mid-20th century) fell out of active use.

According to statistics, from 1960 to 1985, about 9 thousand foreign words were borrowed into the Russian language, and from 1985 to 2005, approximately 2 thousand foreign words were borrowed into the Russian language annually. It can be argued that over the past decades the number of borrowings exceeds 50 thousand words [6].

The Dictionary of Foreign Words of the Modern Russian Language by T.V.Egorova contains about 100000 words and expressions of foreign origin. The publication contains mainly words that have appeared in the Russian language in recent years.

In the process of borrowing, some words are semantically transformed. Semantic expansion is the acquisition of a new meaning by a word, due to which the vocabulary of the language can be enriched. This phenomenon is observed in examples: *club* in the meaning of "institution for recreation and entertainment" (art club, disco club, business club), and this word can also denote organizations that deal with financial problems in the world (European Club of Creditor Countries, Investment club) [2]; *address* in the meaning of "designation of the place of residence, location of someone or something" (business address, my address), in the meaning of "inscription on a letter, postal item indicating the destination and recipient" (exact address), another meaning "written greeting to commemorate an anniversary or other event" (bring an address, criticism to the directorate), this process is also observed in the word *party*. It can be used to mean "a political organization of a social class or social stratum" (political party, democratic party),



“the Communist Party of the Soviet Union” (party member, expel from the party), or “a separate part in a polyphonic musical work performed by one instrument , by one singer” (violin part, Lensky part), as well as in the meanings of "one game", "a certain amount of goods" (chess game, shoe lot) [4]

In addition to expanding the semantic meaning, the reverse process can occur, narrowing the semantic meaning. Let's consider the anglicism *casting*, which in the source language has the following meanings: 1) throwing, throwing; 2) casting, casting (process and product); 3) (approximate) count; (pre)computation; 4) distribution of roles; selection of actors [3]. “Dictionary of Foreign Words of the Modern Russian Language” by T.V.Egorova gives the following meanings: 1) selection of actors, determination of the composition of performers in show business, cinema, television; 2) preliminary selection of models and fashion models at competitions in the modeling business [1].

Reading the above, we can summarize that the borrowing process is a dynamic phenomenon. The peculiarity of the analyzed dictionaries is that both editions contain borrowings that are actively used in politics, economics, fashion, science and popular culture. It should be noted that in I.O.Zhirkov’s dictionary the main attention is paid to the interpretation of words that are used in book speech, and in T.V.Egorova’s dictionary – on units characteristic of colloquial speech. In these publications, anglicisms are quantitatively the leaders.

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