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# On the Problem of Borrowings in the Modern Russian Language

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#### **Abstract**

The article discusses different views of linguists on borrowings in modern Russian, analyzes different types of borrowings. The strengthening of the processes of globalization and digitalization of modern life leads to the fact that borrowings, as a rule, from other languages, actively penetrate into many languages, including Russian. With the advent of new life realities, there is a need for their concise nomination, which the lexical system of the Russian language cannot always provide. A negative consequence is the clogging of the Russian language, which is expressed in the inappropriate use of foreign vocabulary. Borrowed words that are most actively used in modern Russian can be conditionally combined into the following thematic groups: "Information technology", "Economy", "Politics", "Science", "Culture", "Social and psychological phenomena", "Fashion and beauty", "Sport", "Gastronomy".

**Keywords:** borrowed words, foreign words, borrowings, clogging, modern Russian language.

Language is an evolving phenomenon that does not stand still. The sociocultural situation of the late XX - early XXI centuries is characterized by significant political and economic changes, which could not but affect the language system, since there is no doubt that evolutionary language changes take place precisely during the period of global transformations in society. The general availability of communication regardless of time and distance, the erasing of boundaries between different peoples thanks to information and communication technologies, has greatly contributed to active borrowing from other languages, which has become both a positive and a negative phenomenon in the modern Russian language.

The study of modern borrowing processes makes it possible to discover the main trends in the development of the language, to trace the ratio of internal linguistic and extralinguistic factors of borrowing. The purpose of this article is to analyze the existing theories of borrowing and characterize the status of these language processes at the present stage.

Paying attention to the positive quality of borrowing, A. Potebnya noted that "to borrow means to take in order to be able to contribute more to the treasury of human culture than you receive." This view of borrowings allows us to trace the close relationship between the history of individual words and phrases, the history of the whole language and the history of the people. Thus, the process of borrowing is the process and result of the transition of linguistic elements (words) from one language to another under the influence of certain extralinguistic factors.

Traditionally, the term "borrowing" is used in linguistics in two senses: in a broad and narrow sense. In a broad sense, borrowing is understood as a language contact, the interaction of two language systems, which becomes a way of enriching the vocabulary of the language. In a narrow sense, this term refers to the process of entering the language system and adapting the lexical system, i.e. a language process that occurs within the interlingual space and is characterized by the assimilation of foreign vocabulary by the system of the recipient language at

all levels - phonetic, morphemic, morphological, syntactic. So, the term "borrowing" can refer to borrowed words, as well as language units of any level. In this article, by borrowing we mean borrowed words.

Today, the question arises of the appropriateness of using borrowed words in speech. Some linguists consider the process of borrowing to be a positive phenomenon, enriching the language, facilitating active connections between representatives of different nations and cultures, while others deny the positive nature of borrowings, because they litter the language and crowd out authentic analogous words and expressions. However, these same scientists emphasize that individual borrowings were used or are still used only because of fashion trends, without special need, for example: "A woman always has a couple of very good news for a man, and even if which of them turns out to be not very comme il faut, a man should not express his displeasure" (Zakhar Prilepin).

In modern linguistics, the following groups of borrowed vocabulary are traditionally distinguished: borrowings and actually foreign words. Borrowings are words that have long and deeply entered the language system, obeyed all its laws, are close in phonetic structure to the Russian language and its sound composition and are already perceived by native Russians (doll, rail, wagon). Actually, foreign words have retained their alien sounding and spelling, and their meaning should be checked against the explanatory dictionary of foreign words (insider, promoter, plug-in).

However, it should be noted that at the present stage of language development, linguistic elements have been recorded that do not correspond to those analyzed above. These elements already perform not so much the function of saving the language as the opposite - they expand the semantic grammatical and textual horizons. This term is understood as words, phrases, text fragments borrowed from other languages, but perceived by native speakers as alien, completely retaining the signs of their foreign language origin. They are not adapted to the phonetic, semantic and lexical system of the Russian language and are used in the form in which they exist in the source language. For example: good-bye, arbeiten, my name is Vova (from advertising).

But it should be noted that such lexemes quickly adapt to our speech and assimilate into the Russian language. So, the words Wi-Fi, Coca-Cola, website, vip-client, PR are already deprived of their former exoticism, and some of them form a word-building nest in a layer: vipovsky, PR, promoted, etc.

In recent years, dictionaries have recorded many words that reflect the realities of our reality: hospice, DJ, cheeseburger, body, latte coffee, body, businesswoman, bodybuilding. These names reflect concepts that have no analogues in the modern Russian language among the original Russian vocabulary, and therefore, in our opinion, such borrowings are necessary, they not only enrich our language, but also allow effective communication to take place.

However, there is a whole layer of borrowings that penetrate the language of popularization of youth subcultures. Since this process directly concerns the younger generation, who "on the fly" grasps everything new, this process is swift and the most dangerous. For example, some popular words have similar full synonyms (message - message, OK - good, okay, weekend - end of the week, weekend), but are actively used by young people in everyday speech.

The problem is aggravated by the fact that these borrowings are also readily adopted by the mass media, which have become more accessible due to scientific and technological progress and the rapid development of information and communication technologies. The media in the age of information warfare have a huge impact on the minds of people and undoubtedly affect the language culture. People often focus on the language of the media, considering it as a model, an example to follow. And this often becomes the cause of lexical errors made subsequently misunderstanding the meaning of borrowed words. In addition, in a sense, the widespread use of unmotivated borrowings clogs the language, displacing native Russian words: PR - instead of public relations, baby – lovely person, boyfriend - young man, etc. It must be remembered that the abuse of borrowed vocabulary can lead to the fact that the text will not be understandable for a certain audience of readers, and, accordingly, the goal of communication will not be achieved.

In addition, in our region, another problem of language clogging is more acute than ever - interference between the Russian and Ukrainian languages due to the long-term phenomenon of bilingualism. The process of interference lies in the fact that the speaker in his mind mixes the language units of two languages, which, firstly, clogs his speech, and secondly, creates a situation of misunderstanding between two or more interlocutors.

The following words can serve as examples of such unmotivated "borrowing": nonsense (instead of a lie), beetroot (instead of a beet), tribular (instead of an onion), hailing (instead of a minute), statement (instead of a statement), cordon (border), etc.

Especially often such speech deviations are observed in the speech of representatives of the older generation, as well as people from rural areas, where the conditions of bilingualism are more widespread. You should avoid such unreasonable borrowings in your speech, since these extra lexemes violate the literary norm established in the Russian language, that is, they clog our language, and do not enrich it, as it might seem.

Thus, the problem of borrowing words in the Russian language has been relevant for several centuries. There are disputes between linguists as to the extent to which it is expedient and permissible to allow word borrowing into the language. On the other hand, one should not forget that language is a self-developing mechanism that is subject to strict immutable laws. He knows how to self-cleanse and discard everything superfluous, leaving only the necessary and functional. Borrowing as a means of enriching the language and promoting intercultural relationships is definitely a positive phenomenon.

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