



Classification of French Borrowed Words in English and Their Place in the Semantic Field

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Abstract: If the borrowed word is preserved in the language and spreads in it, it will inevitably undergo a process of phonetic assimilation, and its completeness and speed will be determined both by the peculiarities of the sound composition of the given word and by its importance and spread. Here we approach a very important aspect of assimilation, namely the lexical aspect.

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I. Introduction

If the borrowed word is preserved in the language and spreads in it, it will inevitably undergo a process of phonetic assimilation, and its completeness and speed will be determined both by the peculiarities of the sound composition of the given word and by its importance and spread. Here we approach a very important aspect of assimilation, namely the lexical aspect.

Why turn her face towards the strange old gentleman, as if addressing him! (Dickens, Christmas stories, p. 31). In this sentence, the word "strange" is translated as the adjective "strange" in the sense of "strange, unfamiliar".

Analysis. As a result of the semantic development of French borrowings in English, their meanings can differ greatly from their original meanings.

For example, the adjective "famous" was acquired in the 14th century. Its original meaning was "(in a bad way) famous", but later the word acquired a positive meaning and now means "famous, familiar", for example:

"You're so famous" (Sheldon, If tomorrow comes, p. 319).

Not all of the learned words have lost their original meanings, often these meanings have been preserved along with acquisitions. At the same time, the original meanings can be as widespread as the new ones.

The words "fancy, fence, story" are the result of shortening with subsequent changes in meaning.

"Fancy" is a shortened form of the French word "fantasie". The abbreviation "fancy" was originally only a phonetic variant, but later the word "fantasy" was formed, which became somewhat

distant in terms of meaning - in the sense of "imagination, play of the imagination, illusion" and "fancy" means "imagination, whimsy, whimsy, desire".

"Fancy, Jim, to be in love and play Juliet!" (Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, p. 55). In this example, the word is translated as "desire".

The word "fence" is a shortened form of the word "defense". Initially, this word was used as a basic word in the sense of "protection". Later in the 15th century it acquired the meaning of "means and method of protection", and later in the 16th century it took on the meaning of "wall, fence", which is the main meaning of the modern English word "fence".

"I've got a brother that's bigger than he is; and, what's more, he can throw him over that fence, too" (Twain, *Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn*, p. 9).

The word "Story" was acquired in the 13th century and is a shortened version of the word "estoire". Initially, the unstressed vowel was dropped, which led to a change in the word form. After some time, the same word was borrowed from the French language (history) for the second time. For a long time, there was almost no semantic difference between the words "story" and "history", they were phonetic variants of the same word. But much later, in the 14th century, the word "story" changed its meaning: "story", "legend", "fantasy". In this way, a new word was formed that differs in form and semantics from the assimilated French verb.

The computer banks held her life's story, and readily told it to everyone who pressed the right buttons (Sheldon, *If tomorrow comes*, p. 199).

It always means that they have a history (Wilde, *The picture of Dorian Gray*, p. 83).

The word "Mister" is used before the surname of a person with or without a title. This word is a modified form of the word "master".

Originally, the word had many meanings and was also used as an addressee before the surnames of dignitaries or the highest ranks of the clergy. Gradually, the scope of this address expanded, and later this word began to be used before the names of persons who did not have a title, but occupied a certain position in society. In modern English, it is more common and is used to refer to any male, regardless of social status. In cases where the word "Master" is used as a means of reference, it is Mr. was written, which caused the vowel to change during the pronunciation process, so master and Mr. has become two different words with different appearance and meaning. In modern English, the word "mister" is never written in full (it is only written in full when it expresses rude speech; in that case, it is used without a proper noun).

Mr. Dombey retired to nurse his wholesome thoughts in his own way (Dickens, *Dombey and Son*, p. 253).

Discussion. It is worth noting that almost all 1024 French acquisitions underwent lexical assimilation in the process of semantic development (except for a small number of barbarisms). Some of the 1,024 French words have completely changed to their English synonyms, or have acquired additional meanings, or lost their original meanings by acquiring new meanings, or have been reappropriated by the English language. French words adopted by the English language have lost their linguistic properties. Lexically acquired French words are widespread.

As soon as this or that foreign word is mastered, the sound image of this word undergoes changes and obeys the laws of the sound structure of the mastered language.

A sign of the phonetic assimilation of French words during the Middle English period is the transfer of stress from the final French syllable to the main syllable, for example in words such as honor, envie, pite, vertu. French verbs with prefixes, such as recorden, commanden, avauncen, when they are assimilated, their stress is shifted to another syllable, following the example of native English verbs arisen, awaken, forgiven, etc.

The process of accentuation in the French vocabulary happened gradually. For the first time since French words appeared in English, they are often syllable-final or when the word ends in an unstressed [ə], as in French they kept the accent. Examples: *compagnye* (modern company), *resoun* (modern reason), *corage* (modern courage). However, in the texts of the XII-XIII centuries, there are special cases of accent transfer in words borrowed from the French language, which are common in popular speech, for example: *office* - *office*, *contre* - *contre*, *prisun* - *prisun*, *castel* - *castel*, *ransoun* - *ransoun*.

English stress differs from French in the intensity of the stressed syllable versus the unstressed syllable. This factor, along with stress migration, resulted in the frequent shortening and dropping of unstressed syllables in French words that entered English compared to the same words in French.

Apheresis (shortening of initial syllables), which also occurs in French, can often be observed in Middle English words: vowels are shortened, and consonants at the beginning of words can shorten both prefixes and stem constituents. For example, *apprentice* - *prentice*. As a result of the shortening of the beginning of French words, new words are formed in a number of cases, among which not only the sound, but also the semantic difference appears over time, for example, *size* (*assize*), *sru* (*esru*). Examples such as *fense* (*defense*) show the close relationship between the phonetic changes of French words and their lexical development in the English language system.

Syncopé - the shortening of stressed or unstressed syllables in the middle of a word - is a common phenomenon in words that have come into English from French. In the monuments of the Middle English period, we observe the shortening of the vowel in the middle of the word: *sustenance* instead of *sust-nanse*; *sommandement* instead of *commad-ment*; *sonestable* instead of *con-stable*. Initial stressed vowels or vowel combinations are shortened if the stress moves to the preceding syllable. Examples: *ruItis* - from Old French *rulettis*; *mersle* - from French *mirasle*. In certain French words acquired during the New English period, the unstressed syllables are subject to syncope - *caritaine* - *sartain*; *shempinee* - *chimney*.

In English, the short French vowels *a*, *e*, *o* are used in two-syllable words on the first open syllable or before two consonants with a smooth stop, as well as in the following examples: *ashe*, *blame*, *date*, *robe*, *cote*, *haste*, *beste*, *table*, *feeble*, *coste*. This also applies to stressed French vowels in English. (For example, *basin*, *bacoun*, etc.)

The stressed vowels of the first syllable remain short in words: *baron*, *muton*, *pleasant*, *palais*, *maner*, *profit*, *forest*. The shortness of the vowel sounds in these words seems to be due to the fact that the French accent on the last syllable was preserved for a long time, and the vowels on the first syllable remained unstressed. If the accent in French possessive words falls on one syllable, like in French (*i*, *u*), for example: *attiren*, *spouse*, *poudre*, *jousten*. But if the stress moves from the last syllable to the preceding syllable, the French *i* becomes short - *cite*, *prisoum*, *mirour*.

In three-syllable words with an accent on the first vowel, the second usually remains short, for example - *lavender*, *vinegear*, *punishment*, *enemy*, *memory*, *natural*, *regular*. Exceptions: individual words whose final syllables consist of *i* + vowel. For example, *nation*, *story*, *patient*, *curious*. Stressed vowels become short before two or more consonants in a closed syllable (*lettre*, *suffre*, *dette*, *prince*, *defense*, *simple*). However, before *i*+consonant they are lengthened (*armour*, *forme*, *art*, *source*).

Another characteristic feature of French consonantism (consonant system) in proper words was the loss of French consonants between vowels and later after vowels. These consonants are often found in the Norman dialect of French in the words *carite*, *plente*, and soon disappeared from English, because they were not typical of English words in final position. Unusual sound combinations for the English language were also simplified, one of the sounds was made similar to another. Thus, in Latin words that entered English through French, the sound combination *pc* was simplified to *s*.

Etymological spellings of corps and psaltar are almost absent in Middle English texts, while cors and saltar are very common. The same thing happened with mb, in which m acquired a consonant sound (French tomber and English tomb), English bomb and French bombe.

In contrast to the words that entered English during the Middle English period and were fully assimilated into it, most of the words acquired after the 16th century only by partial phonetic assimilation, and in some cases by complete assimilation is described. This preservation of the French accent on the last syllable is reflected in the pronunciation of some French sounds that are unusual for English. The foreign phonetic and graphic appearance of such words leads to their perception as a foreign object in the language, whose French origin can be traced with sufficient accuracy. For example, let's take charade, sang-froid, chaussi, entree, elan and a number of other words that retain certain features of French pronunciation and accent. On the other hand, many recently acquired French words are mostly phonetically assimilated, for example bureau, pioneer, engineer, chauffeur, lieutenant.

Early French loanwords entered English mainly through the spoken language, which led to their adaptation to English articulatory abilities. People changed their pronunciation according to English standards. It is characteristic of words that have been adopted from French later (from the 16th century to the present) that they entered English through books rather than through live oral communication with French-speaking people. For these words, in most cases, preservation of the French spelling is characteristic.

Conclusion. The graphic and sound image of the words borrowed from the French language has been preserved in the memory of many people, which to some extent determines the preservation of the French pronunciation of these words. And finally, it is important that the founders of the words borrowed from the French language in the 16th-19th centuries were mainly educated layers of society (nobles and bourgeoisie). This explains the assimilation of many words associated with the lifestyle of the aristocracy (matinee, mesalliance, beaumonde) and words and phrases from the French household vocabulary, the scope of which is limited to the privileged strata of English society (liaison, complaisance, melange, decor, en passant, entre nous, soit dit). These words remain in the worldly vocabulary called slang, because they are foreign and incomprehensible to the general public. All these words are characterized by the preservation of French pronunciation and stress, that is, the absence of phonetic assimilation in the language. Thus, the generality of the word, its distribution circle is an important factor determining the completeness and level of phonetic assimilation of the acquired words.

The next factor that largely determines the degree of phonetic assimilation of the acquired words is the importance of the concepts expressed by them, their relationship with the words of the English synonym series, and their relation to the main vocabulary of the language. Most of the French words borrowed during the Middle English period expressed important concepts from various areas of folk and social life, which led to many of them entering the mainstream vocabulary of the English language, often as ideographic synonyms, and sometimes as core concepts. indicators, such as arms, valley, river, table, parliament.

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