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On Some Features of Borrowings in Modern English

Modern English with specific aspects of its sound and grammatical system and vocabulary appears to be a product of a long historical development. During this process many various changes caused by different reasons have been influencing the language.

As we know vocabulary is changing permanently. Changeability and flexibility of language is caused by the fact, that language itself and its vocabulary are directly connected with production and other social activities. Lexis is particularly sensitive to the developments in and changes in lives of people.

English and American history and culture are very rich in different types of contacts with other countries, that is why the English language is very rich in borrowings. **Variety** is one of the main features of loan words in Modern English. Immigrants bring numerous languages which the English language assimilates. About 80% of words and terms of the English language originate from loan words.

Next feature is **flexibility of word formation**. There are three types of word formation in English language: zero substitution, substitution, and partial substitution. These types are flexible and various in order to make language precise and concise. For example words *Fenshui* (from Chinese), *Otaku* (from Japanese), *fajitas* (from Spanish) are borrowed directly from the donor language. Loan words *Lunik* and *parkour* are substituted with spelling and pronunciation changes. Other loan words such as *taikonaut* (from Chinese), *chauffeur* (from French), *volksport* (from German), *paparazzi* (from Italian) are partially substituted in either pronunciation or spelling. Some words after entry in English get new meaning such as *camping* (campsite) in Argentina and *wok* (stir fry) in Chinese.

In addition to the words the English language also acquires many catch phrases, aphorisms, slang phrases, that is why **Assimilation of Slangs Phrases and Aphorisms From Other Languages** is also one of typical features of borrowings in Modern English. For example, no duo no die, good good study, day day up (Chinese), jamais vu, daja vu, cherchez la femme, flea market (French), Musse sein? Es muss seine, in feier luft (German), in fretta, I pazzi per lettera sono I maggiori pazzi (Italian).

One more feature of borrowings in Modern English is **creativity**. The English language assimilates words not just take them from other languages. Borrowings are being adjusted to the English language by adding affixes or by changes in spelling and pronunciation, e.g. *taikonaut*, *kylin*, *lunik*, *lassi*, *force de flapper*, *westpolitik*, *kosher*, *juku*, *jihad*, etc. It means the language adopts various cultures but it does it by making appropriate alterations.

Modern English is a sophisticated system, which absorbs a lot of borrowings from many languages due to numerous international contacts and adapt them to the usage of native speakers. Typical features of borrowings in Modern English give the language its unique image.