

DEVELOPMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE VOCABULARY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF STATE PROGRAM OF TRILINGUALISM

New words are being invented or introduced every day to express new things and new changes in society, both material and intellectual. Meanwhile, they are coined and used to arouse public attention and interest. In time they gain acceptance and become part of the English vocabulary. Today, new words sweep in at a rate much faster than at any other historical period of time.

Generally, there are three main sources of new words: the rapid development of modern science and technology; social, economic and political changes; the influence of other cultures and languages. Gozzi, the author of *New Words and Changing American Culture* (1990), studied 160 pages of entries from 12,000 Words and discovered that science and technology terms make up approximately 45 percent of new words, words associated with life-style constitute 24 percent, and social and economic terms amount to more than 11 percent.

Rapid growth of science and technology breeds such new words as green revolution, astrobiology, astrochemistry in biology and chemistry; space shuttle, earthrise, moon walk, parking orbits in space science; retrovirus, open heart surgery in medicine; smart bomb, fallout, irradiation in atomic technology, etc [1, 47].

Social, economic and political changes bring about an increasing number of new words. There are new words relating to food like fast food, TV dinner, megavitamin, soy milk. Granny glasses, pant suit, hip huggers are the result of people's changing view of clothing.

We also find music terms: disco, punk rock, soul music; words concerning television and films: talk shows, family movies, boob tube and the like.

Changes in politics and economy supply such words as petropolitics, Watergate, the fourth world, stagflation, demand-pull and so on. The development in education gives us open university, pass-failing grade, telequiz, etc. Women's liberation leaves us chairperson, girlcott, Ms and the like. The drug culture forces Mary Jane, soft drug, headshop into English.

The influence of other cultures and languages can be felt in many different fields. English has borrowed a host of terms concerning cuisine like stir frying, pita bread, tahini, felafel from Middle East.

Some black nationalists wear dashhikis to emphasize African roots. Mao jackets and Nehru jackets add to the vocabulary of American fashion. Martial arts from the Far East also find their way into English vocabulary such as aikido, kungfu, dojo and black belt. These are just a few new words. But they will suffice to show the nature of present-day English vocabulary and the trend of vocabulary growth.

Modes of Vocabulary Development

On the basis of the discussion so far in this chapter, we can conclude that modern English vocabulary develops through three channels: creation, semantic change, and borrowing.

1. Creation refers to the formation of new words by using the existing materials, namely roots, affixes and other elements.

The major means of word-building will be discussed in the chapter to follow. In modern times, this is the most important way of vocabulary expansion, e.g.

supercomputer
super-rich
super-fit
colaholic
chocaholic
newscast
sportcast

2. Semantic change means an old form which takes on a new meaning to meet the new need. This does not increase the number of word forms but create many more new usages of the words, thus enriching the vocabulary, e.g.

break (dance)
mouse
web
monitor

3. Borrowing has played a vital role in the development of vocabulary, particularly in earlier times. Though still at work now, it can hardly compare with what it did in the past. According to Thomas Pyles and

John Algeo (1982), borrowed words constitute merely six to seven percent of all new words. In earlier stages of English, French, Latin, Greek and Scandinavian were the major contributors.

In modern times, however, the components of borrowings show a difference. A study based on 6000 WORDS and The Barnhart Dictionary of New English indicates that 473 words were borrowed from other languages from 1961 to 1976.

Thirty percent of them come from French, eight percent from Latin, seven percent from Japanese and Italian respectively, six percent from Spanish, five percent from German and Greek respectively, four percent from Russian and Yiddish respectively, and the rest from other languages. It can be said that with the change of world situation and the development of economy the role of each foreign contributor will change accordingly. Reviving archaic or obsolete words also contributes to the growth of English vocabulary though quite insignificant. This is especially true of American English. For instance, loan used as a transitive verb was prevalent in the thirteenth century and then fell out of use. It was replaced by lend. But this use of loan survives in American English.

At present, the American use of guess for think, druggist for chemist, fall for autumn, sick for ill can all be traced back to much earlier times in British English.

Finally, mention should be made of an opposite process of development, i.e. old words falling out of use. For example, in the epic Beowulf, as Jespersen (1948) notes, there were more than 37 words used to express 'prince'. Now most of them are no longer in use.

Likewise, over 30 words denoting the 'sea' in old poems and writings have hardly survived. This is because we do not have the same need for the words as our forefathers did in their time.

We have considered two main ways to enrich the vocabulary of the English language, including the renaming of emerging concepts: word formation and the presence of foreign words. Another way to fill in the gaps in vocabulary is to apply old words to a new object or concept. GB According to Antrushina [2: 147], there are two groups of reasons that affect the change of meaning: historical or non-linguistic and linguistic.

Historical or non-linguistic changes, in particular changes in the social life of the country, culture, education, technology, art, may be different. We need the names of newly created objects, new concepts and phenomena. Take, for example, some social and technological changes. With the advent of the publication, semantic fields began to respond more significantly to literary and academic interactions and influences through various forms of print media, as new words began to enter the language of individuals rather than individuals. At the same time, the technological changes introduced by these innovators have given rise to many new words and testimonies. Some of them are semantic processing of other words, such as satellite (originally meaning "servant") and plastic (originally "possible" adjective); new words like wireless, radio, transistor and rail. Witnesses of recent decades are sputnik (1975), video (1958), laser (1960) and others, which show technical changes.

The general direction of the English lexicon at the present stage of its history is to increase the total number of its meanings and to ensure the quantitative and qualitative growth of the expressive resources of the language. Thus, word counting means that the total number of words individually registered in the latest English dictionary (NED) is about 25,000. The average value of each of these words is 25.

What do the words mean? It depends on its semantic structure. Semantic structure does not mean indivisible unity and does not necessarily mean the same concept. It is known that many words have several meanings and meanings. A word with multiple meanings is called polysemantic, and the ability of words to have multiple meanings is described as polysemous. Most English words are polysemantic. It should be noted that the richness of expressive language resources largely depends on the level of development of language polysemia.

Russian linguist V.V. Vinogradov made a great contribution to the development of polysemy [2: 98]. The scientist recognized the importance of differentiating from the use of meaning (contextual version). The meanings are stable and common to all people who know the language system. Use is the use of a single meaning of a polysemantic word, sometimes very personal, sometimes more or less familiar. The meaning is not the same as the application.

Of particular importance is polysemy, which occurs not only in the spoken language, but also in the language. The meaning of a word in speech is contextual. Polysemy does not interfere with the communicative function of language, because in each case the situation or context, i.e. the word environment, eliminates all unnecessary meanings and makes speech unambiguous.

References:

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