

Diachronic Semantic Changes of French Borrowed Vocabulary in the Russian Language¹

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Abstract

An integrated approach to describing the adaptation of borrowed vocabulary from the initial stage of its functioning in the receiving language to its complete assimilation by the receptor language is one of the key stages in the analysis of diachronic changes in the lexical system of the language. The main method of such a study is the diachronous descriptive method, which allows us to trace the evolution of a borrowed lexical unit on different synchronous sections of the receptor language and the donor language. This article is devoted to the analysis of the process of semantic adaptation of foreign language lexical units in the lexical system of the Russian language. The object of the study is borrowings of French origin that were part of the Russian language from the 18th to the 20th centuries. The semantic mastery of gallicisms by the host language is considered in the aspect of the diachronous process of semantic archaization and innovation. The semantic development of borrowing within the framework of the dynamic processes of the lexical system of the Russian language leads to archaization, historicization, actualization of the meanings of borrowing, as well as to the emergence of innovations (new meanings) and homonyms in the borrowed term on the basis of the receptor language. These changes indicate the activity of the following processes in the lexical system of the Russian language: semantic archaization, derivation and secondary borrowing on the basis of the host language, the conversion of polysemant borrowing into homonyms.

Keywords: Archaization; Historization; Secondary Borrowing; Gallicism.

1. Introduction

The lexical system of the modern Russian language is developing dynamically. “Being the most volatile part of a single language system, the changes

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that occur in the life of society are reflected in vocabulary” (Khanova et al., 2017). The formation and evolution of the lexical system is determined by the processes of neologization, innovation and archaization, indicating “tracking complexity of language processes, an entwinement of the internal and external phenomena in language” (Ashrapova & Alendeeva, 2014). Modifications of lexical units at the systemic-seismological level lead to the appearance of the so-called “returned vocabulary” or semantic innovations, the functioning of which is associated with the actualization or deactivation of their meanings (Gochev, 2014; Jenaabadi, & Khosropour, 2014).

The purpose of this study is to identify the features of the diachronic process of innovation and archaization of borrowings of French origin, included in the Russian language from the 18th to the 20th centuries. This period has become our focus, as it was during this period that the process of forming new thematic groups of vocabulary under the influence of intensive language contacts was most intensively conducted.

The relevance of the study lies both in the choice of research material, and in the need to study the dynamics of semantic changes in the vocabulary of the Russian language in the context of the diachronic process of innovation and archaization of borrowings of French origin that were part of the Russian language from the 18th to the 20th centuries.

2. Materials and Methods

The material of this study was borrowed lexical units of French origin, referring to various industry terminologies of the Russian language and being semantic innovations (words with outdated one or more meanings that name phenomena and concepts existing in modern reality).

The study is carried out within the framework of the main methods of linguistic analysis, such as general linguistic descriptive methods, a comparative method that allows you to compare a borrowed token with a correlate in French, and a component analysis method that allows you to trace changes that occur in the semantic structure of borrowed terms.

The following sources were used to carry out linguistic analysis in determining the semantic volume of borrowed lexical units: The Modern Explanatory Dictionary of the Russian Language (Ephremov, 2000), The Explanatory Dictionary of Foreign Languages (Krysin, 2007), The Historical and Etymological Dictionary of the Modern Russian Language in 2 volumes. (Chernykh, 2007), Historical Dictionary of Russian Gallicisms (Epishkin, 2010), Dictionnaire de l'Académie française 9^{ème} édition (version informatisée) (Française, 2015), Le Dictionnaire de la langue française Littré (version informatisée) (Française, 2015), Le Petit Robert (Dictionnaire de la langue française Littré; Le Petit Robert, 2005).

3. Results and Discussion

The ability of lexical units existing in the active dictionary to belong to different categories — to be both semantic archaism and an actively used term — is due to changes in the semantic volume of the lexical unit, namely, the correlation of outdated and new meanings (Krasnova, 2010). These changes are most often expressed in the form of the following processes (not always occurring in chronological order):

- semantic development of the word in one of the lexical meanings (or one meaning);
- transformation of the original semantics (an increase in the number of lexical meanings due to derivation on Russian soil and secondary borrowing) (Andrianova et al., 2016; Simamora et al., 2019).
- reduction of the semantic volume of the word (reduction in the number of lexical meanings) associated with the process of semantic archaization.

As part of the processes of archaization and innovation, the analyzed gallicisms are also exposed to the basic mechanisms of term formation, such as trans-terminization and terminization (specification) of meaning. Transterminologization or terminological conversion leads to the emergence of many intersectoral homonyms related to various terminologies of the Russian language, such as fashion, science, technology, theater, music, computer science, sports.

Borrowed in the 19th century, the word *redan* (redan) was used as a military term in the meaning of 'open field fortification in the form of a ditch, trench, which has the shape of an acute angle projecting towards the enemy,' and its graphic version means 'the place of detention of the arrested and guardhouse '. Along with the historicalization of these two meanings as a result of secondary borrowing, this word begins to be used as a technical term: redan - a ledge at the bottom of a glider, a speedboat or a seaplane, which reduces resistance when moving on water and facilitates separation from water '(Compare redan - décrochement extérieur pratiqué sur la coque d'hydravions et d'embarcations automobiles rapides, facilitant le déjaugeage).

The musical term *conductor* (diriger) was formed in Russian from the verb to conduct according to an already established word-formation model: to venerate - a prompter, to travel - a voyager. Originally, borrowing was used in the meanings 'first violin ... at the beat of which the whole orchestra or all the musicians play' and 'the master of dance at the ball'. The meaning 'one who conducts an orchestra or choir, giving his interpretation of a musical work' is already an innovation on Russian soil, since such a noun is absent in French.

The term *Pavilonn* (pavillon) was borrowed by the Russian language in the XVIII century. as a military term. Originally, this term was used in the meanings of

'flag' and 'barracks'. The meaning of the prototype 'canopy, canopy over the bed' came into the Russian language. (compare: 'pièce d'étoffe, généralement de forme quadrangulaire, que l'on hisse sur un navire pour indiquer sa nationalité, la compagnie à laquelle il appartient, ou pour communiquer un signal, une information etc.', 'grande pièce d'étoffe couvrant et fermant un lit ou servant à isoler un angle ou la partie haute de la pièce '). This word was also used as an architectural term - 'small extension to the main building, outbuilding' (compare: 'corps de bâtiment d'un édifice important, construit en retrait ou en saillie, au center ou à un angle de cet édifice'). Today, the word *Pavilion* has a developed semantic structure despite the fact that all three initial meanings are obsolete:

I.

1. A small, light construction building in a park or garden;
2. Indoor light construction designed for trade or other purposes.

II.

1. Room equipped for shooting films;
2. The decoration in the studio, built to shoot some movie scenes;
3. Theatrical scenery depicting a closed room. All three meanings of the homonymous token are obviously novations based on the Russian language.

The expansion of the semantic volume of the borrowed word can occur not only through secondary borrowing or derivation on the basis of the Russian language, but also by changing the structure of the lexical meaning of the word, and redistributing the components of the semey. For example, the term *ramp* (*rampe*) appeared in Russian at the beginning of the 19th century. as a fortification term: *ramp* - 'entrances or shoots ... of the fortress, by which the guns are being erected', which is today historicism. In the middle of the XIX century. this word is also used as the theater term 'part of the proscenium where the lamps are lit', changing the lexical meaning of the theater French term and redistributing the components of its sememe (Compare: *rampe* - rangée de lumières placée au bord de la scène sur un théâtre (stage lighting devices at the forefront). The Russian language also borrowed this word in the meanings 'small barrier separating the box from the auditorium' and 'railings at the stairs', which were subsequently archaized. Borrowings of the second half of the XX century. are the values 'device for communication between levels with a slope accessible for movement ...'; " inclined platform for cars, cargo handling machines, etc. where - l and departure from there. ' At the end of the 20th century, another meaning develops on Russian soil in this lexeme, which is actively used in the sports field 'a special platform with a steep slope for performing tricks, somersaults on roller skates, a skateboard'.

The structure of the lexical meaning of the word *password* (*parole*) has also changed. This word has been known in Russian since the beginning of the 18th

century. in the meanings “promise, honest word, obligation”, “military divorce on which orders, passwords and slogans are communicated”, “obligation taken under the honest word of an officer of the enemy army”. In this case, semantic archaization occurs due to the reduction of the original values and components of the values borrowed directly from the French language by the Russian language: parole (password) - assurance donnée à qn. (a promise made to someone). The prototype for the modern meaning of the word password ('secret word or phrase used to identify your people (in military service or in the conditions of conspiracy)') was the meaning of the French lexeme 'mot ou suite de mots, phrase' (word, phrase or phrase) As a result of the redistribution of the components of the family, as well as in connection with the mediation of the German language, this word acquired the character of a military term. In in Russian, the lexeme acquired another meaning, actively functioning in the field of computer science and computer engineering - 'a certain combination of characters entered by the user in the computer to gain access to data and programs', which ultimately contributed to the loss of semantic relations between the foreign word and the French prototype and the process of semantic archaization.

Diachronic changes in the semantic structure of the borrowed token are also manifested in a change in the ratio of the meanings of semantic archaism and the modern word as a generic with a specific one (semantic hyperonym and hyponym). For example, the word *hood* (*capote*) came to the Russian language in the first half of the 19th century. meaning 'women's outerwear, coat of a special cut'. Initially, this lexeme was borrowed in the meaning of 'mante que les femmes portaient par-dessus leurs habits et qui les couvrait de la tête aux pieds' (long women's cape, outer clothing covering the woman from head to toe). Subsequently, the content of the lexical meaning of borrowing narrowed and, on the basis of the host language, a semantic hyponym appeared: 'free female dress with sleeves on the through fastener'. Along with the historicization of some of the meanings of this token ('military overcoat', 'hat style, female hat with wide brim only at the front, ribbons pulled from the sides', 'hood <in picket> is called when one of the players picks up all the bribes') there was also a rupture of the seme of the original lexical unit. In Russian explanatory dictionaries of the 20-30s. In the XXth century the homonymous token *hood* is fixed in the meaning of 'hinged metal cover (car, airplane) that protects the motor, mechanism from pollution, dampness, etc.' (Compare *capote* - couverture amovible d'une voiture).

The borrowed token *injection* (injection) originally existed in the Russian language as a medical term - 'injection, injection' (XIX century). Subsequently, in Russian, the nuclear seme *injection* remains, while the seme *injection* is reduced, and the semantic hyponym itself begins to be used as a technical term and a term in physics: injection - 1. tech. Entering a beam of charged particles into the accelerator for further acceleration or accumulation of particles. 2. physical. Penetration of nonequilibrium charge carriers into a semiconductor under the influence of an electric

field. 3. tech. Injection of fuel (combustible mixture) into the combustion chamber of the engine.

4. Summary

The study showed that the semantic changes in borrowings of French origin that were part of the Russian language from the 18th to the 20th centuries are expressed in the combined process of historicizing the meanings of the lexeme (hood, redan), archaizing and updating its meanings through secondary borrowing (pavilion, ramp) or innovations based on the host language (password, injection). This process shows the importance of the semantic development of borrowing as the central stage of its adaptation in the receptor language and indicates that "foreign language vocabulary is developing as part of the lexical system of the borrowing language and functions as an originally Russian: new meanings are developed and the old ones are archaized" (Ageeva et al., 2015).

The dynamic process of semantic adaptation of borrowing can, in turn, lead to the formation of homonyms based on the same break and terminization of the meanings of Gallicism-polysemant. A study of the semantic structure of gallicisms and their prototypes on different synchronous sections of the receptor language and the donor language showed that borrowing can be "commonly used in one language and have a narrow or even terminological meaning in another one" (Galiullina et al., 2016). In addition, preservation of the original meaning of the prototype term in the borrowing term indicates the formation of separate thematic groups of the Russian language under the influence of "direct borrowing of terms" from the international terminology fund through the French language (Subich et al., 2017).

5. Conclusion

Thus, the correlation of outdated and modern meanings, the redistribution of the sememe components of the lexeme itself, the semantic transformations of the hyponymic and hyperonymic type, archaization and innovation are the basis of diachronic semantic changes in the borrowed vocabulary of the French origin of the Russian language. Term-forming processes and diachronic processes of semantics transformation are inextricably linked with each other at the stage of semantic assimilation of borrowing terms. The analysis of the dynamics of semantic transformations of borrowed terms is of particular importance from the point of view of their lexicographic description, and also allows you to identify the national and international in Russian.

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