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RESEARCH ARTICLE

English Lexical Borrowings in Chabacano Television Newscasts: Categories, Patterns, Affixations, and Semantic Fields

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Abstract

Lexical borrowings refer to the borrowing of words from one language to another to fill in certain words that do not have a direct translation to the local language. The study is anchored in the phylogenetic change theory made by Hockett (2008) and the deficit hypothesis authored by Kachru (1994). The present study explores the words lexically loaned from the English language in the Chabacano language. Raw data were taken for analysis from *Dateline Zamboanga*, a local *teleradyo* program airing regularly on both television and radio broadcasts. The borrowed English words were then tallied and sorted based on lexical categories, patterns, affixation, and semantic fields. In the investigation, frequency count was utilized to determine the number of iterations and percentage composition of the borrowed words. After investigating, the results are as follows: (1) nouns were the most borrowed part of speech, concretized by the 74.585% of lexically borrowed words being nouns; (2) phrase borrowing is more prevalent than sentence-level borrowing evidenced by 90.615% of lexical borrowings occurring in the phrase level; (3) borrowed words were originally English nouns but were transformed into verbs by means of Chabacano prefixation. Notably, the absence of suffixation gives prefixation total prevalence; and (4) the semantic field where these borrowed words were found to be frequently utilized was in reference to government agencies or offices comprising 25.476%. The results give the impression that the interlocutors in *Dateline Zamboanga* incorporate English utterances into the Chabacano language, thus modifying the former to suit their communicative purposes.

Keywords: *English Lexical Borrowings, Phylogenetic Change, Deficit Hypothesis, Semantics, Code-Switching*

Introduction

Chabacano is a creole language spoken in the southern part of the Philippines, predominantly in the city of Zamboanga and sparsely in the city of Isabela, island of Basilan. It is a unique mixture of Spanish, Tagalog, and various indigenous languages reflecting the city's history as a melting pot of cultures (Camins, 1999). Today, Zamboanga Chabacano is vibrantly used in broadcast media, churches, and even in music partly as a result of the aggressive effort of the local government of Zamboanga (Mangaser, 2016). One of these popular local television programs is *Dateline Zamboanga*, providing up-to-date information on local and national events to local residents. An interesting aspect of *Dateline Zamboanga's* news broadcast is its use of Chabacano as the main language while English words and phrases are frequently interspersed. This phenomenon is not unique to *Dateline Zamboanga*, as other Chabacano television programs and even everyday conversations in Zamboanga also incorporate English words. The use of English words in Chabacano newscasts can be likely attributed to the fact that English is a widely spoken language in the Philippines and is often used in formal contexts (e.g., education, law, business, etc.) Additionally, the Philippines has a history of American colonization, which has influenced the use and adoption of English in the country. However, the use of English words in Chabacano newscasts has been a topic of debate as some researchers and language scholars argue that although it reflects the changing nature of language and the influence of globalization may lead to the possible endangerment of Chabacano as a distinct language (De los Santos, 2011; Grenoble & Whaley, 1998; Mendoza-Denton, 2019; Zorc, 2005).

The Philippines is known for its numerous languages belonging to an assortment of ethnicities. In general, these languages, handed down from generation to generation, provide a unique cultural identity to each ethnic group. In particular, studying the lexical borrowing of Chabacano can help the local government of Zamboanga promote language maintenance among its residents principally the Chabacano speakers, thus ensuring that the language is used and its relevance is maintained. Additionally, language enthusiasts can gain a better understanding of the specific lexical aspects of English and how they are used in Chabacano newscasts. In so doing, this will probably shed light

on the ways in which English has impacted and to a certain extent enriched the development of Chabacano as a language over time. Moreover, this may also benefit policymakers in charge of the Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) program of the Department of Education, for them to realize that there are certain English words typically found in content areas that do not have direct translation in the local language, in this case, the Chabacano language. Lexical borrowing as a form of code-switching in fact is typically used by basic education teachers to increase their efficiency of communication in the classroom.

Lexical borrowing refers to the process by which words or phrases from one language are adopted into another language, either due to cultural or historical influences or for practical reasons such as the need for a specific term (Daulton, 2012). It typically occurs when two languages come into contact, and speakers of one language find that certain words or expressions from the other language are useful or necessary to express particular concepts or ideas that are not easily translatable into their own language. This process can occur in various ways, including through trade, migration, colonialism, or cultural exchange. Crystal (2010) states that borrowing takes place when a word from one language is introduced into another and integrated into its vocabulary. It can occur at various levels of language, including phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. In this paper, we have explored lexical borrowing of English words for use in Chabacano newscasts with regard to their (1) lexical category, (2) borrowing pattern, (3) morphemic structure, and (4) semantic field. As such, the study analyzed four (4) days' worth of *Dateline Zamboanga* episodes with the script and dialogue transcribed by two (2) stenographers who are employed in the local government of Zamboanga and whose mother tongue is Chabacano. Our research aimed to fill the gaps in the existing literature of lexical borrowing of English utterances in Chabacano broadcast communications. Although existing studies have identified the presence of lexical borrowing, the borrowing language is mostly *Sebuano* or *Bisaya* (Carreon, 2005; Sales, 2022). Also, there may be a dearth of research conducted on lexical borrowing in which English words are used by the borrowing language in the context of broadcast media (Aichatou, 2021; Carreon, 2005; Panhwar et al., 2021; Sales, 2022).

Our research intends to address these gaps by conducting a comprehensive analysis of Chabacano newscasts using the scripts, dialogues, or conversations sourced from *Dateline Zamboanga*'s news anchors and reporters, resource persons, and other personalities or the interlocutors during the aforementioned period of four days. The succeeding sections shall discuss related studies relevant to the present study, the framework, to be followed by the methodology employed. Lastly, results along with some discussions are delineated in the English lexical borrowings in Chabacano newscasts and are in accordance with the research objectives set in this study.

Research Objectives

The following research objectives were constructed to identify the English utterances lexically borrowed and utilized in *Dateline Zamboanga* newscasts.

1. To identify the English words borrowed in the Chabacano television newscasts of *Dateline Zamboanga*.
 - 1.1. To categorize the borrowed English words according to their lexical categories—nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, or conjunctions.
2. To analyze the patterns used in the borrowings at the phrase level and sentence level.
 - 2.1. To determine which pattern is more frequently used in the borrowings—phrase level or sentence level.
3. To investigate the morphemics structure changes that occurred in the lexical borrowings.
 - 3.1. To determine the frequency of occurrence of prefixation or suffixation in the morphemic structure changes.
 - 3.2. To classify the affixations as noun forming, verb forming, adjective forming, or adverb forming.
4. To group the borrowed English words into semantic fields.
 - 4.1. To identify the semantic fields where the borrowed English words belong, such as (a) government agencies or offices, (b) private companies or organizations, (c) titles or designations, (d) professional

or technical jargon, (e) places and streets, (f) transportation, (g) animals, (h) human descriptions and activities, (i) government programs and services and other similar undertakings, (j) modern-day expressions, (k) social media platforms and traditional media, and (l) COVID-19-related/induced vocabulary.

The research objectives sought to identify the lexical category, pattern of borrowing, morphemic structure changes, and the semantic fields of the lexically borrowed words utilized in Chabacano television newscasts. These objectives can be related to the deficit hypothesis of Kachru (1994) and the theory of phylogenetic change of Hockett (2008). Specifically, in our framework, the deficit hypothesis of Kachru (1994) addresses the first research objective. The categorization of the lexically borrowed English words according to their lexical categories (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, or conjunctions) in Objective 1.1 could provide insights into the areas of lexical deficits within the Chabacano language. The theory of phylogenetic change by Hockett (2008) is able to address the remaining research objectives. Objectives 2 through 4 are relevant to this theory as these objectives aimed to analyze the patterns, morphemic structure changes, and semantic fields of the borrowed English words in Chabacano. These objectives could provide insights into the linguistic changes that occur when languages come into contact, which is relevant to Hockett's theory of phylogenetic change. Objective 3.2, in particular, aimed to classify the affixations used in the borrowings as noun forming, verb forming, adjective forming, or adverb forming, which could provide insights into how Chabacano speakers are adapting English morphology to fit the lexically borrowed words within their own language to compensate for gaps within the Chabacano lexicon.

Literature Review

Lexical Borrowing from the English Language

English language has become the primary source of borrowing for various languages in the world (Ciprianová & Vanco, 2010). In the Philippines, the use of English is considered a mark of higher education and social status in the current generation. The borrowing process may involve nativization,

a linguistic process whereby a borrowed word is phonetically and morphologically adapted to the native language (Pandharipande, 1987). In order to achieve said linguistic process, language contact would be necessary. Language contact is a critical aspect of human behavior induced by factors such as proximity, migration, trade relationships, intermarriage, and war (Bello, 2015). Accordingly, borrowing is the most widespread linguistic evidence of language contact (Hudson, 2004), where a speaker adopts a linguistic expression from another language (Akindede & Adegbite, 2005; Haugen, 1969; Trauth & Kazzazi, 1996). Pure lexical borrowing occurs when a word or expression is transferred from one language to another without alteration. Borrowing enriches the language by creating neologisms, which are conspicuous types of language change. For a language to meet its lexical needs and become a vector of development, it must innovate and create new words while keeping pace with technological advancements. Borrowing too much, however, as what occurred to the Kanuri language, can lead to endangerment or even language suicide. English has become a dominant language globally and serves as a neutral language for people from different linguistic backgrounds, playing a crucial role in promoting globalization (Sik & Anping, 2004). As English continues to expand globally and different varieties emerge worldwide, localized lexical items have been adopted to suit the needs of different societies. The interaction of languages such as English-Malay, English-Chinese, English-Tamil in multilingual Malaysia, and English-Tagalog or English-Cebuano and other languages in the Philippines facilitates bilingual speakers in selecting words culturally associated with the local language and culture (David et al., 2008; David & McLellan, 2007; Powell et al., 2008).

Linguistic borrowing is a common phenomenon in the Philippines, particularly in *Sebuano*, as noted by Rubrico (1998). *Sebuano*, like *Tagalog*, is undergoing linguistic change through lexical borrowing from English, and as long as English remains the official language of commerce, science, and technology, this trend is most likely to continue. Borrowing from English is causing concern among Americans and the English who fear that Filipinos are colonizing the Queen's English and transforming English nouns into Tagalog verbs, as evidenced in *mag-text*, *mag-chess*, and *makikipag-Internet* (Carreon, 2005). Despite

this, lexical borrowing is seen as a positive movement in the intellectualization of the Filipino language, particularly in the expansion of its technical lexicon, as claimed by Tecson (2000). Borrowed terms have played a significant role in the development of lexical and semantic structures in Philippine indigenous languages (Quebec, 2021). However, the same author also notes a lack of documented linguistic studies on lexical borrowings in the oral and written genre. The effect of borrowing can be seen in Japanese language, where it is now difficult to speak without using English words (Sowers, 2017). Overall, the process of lexical borrowing is a dynamic one that occurs when one language adopts words from another language to enrich its linguistic system, resulting in code-switching and borrowing, leading to a natural process of lexical borrowing (Daulton, 2012; Treffers-Dallers, 2007).

Code-switching is the process of interchanging two languages within a single discourse or sentence, influenced by extralinguistic factors such as topic, interlocutors, and setting, as defined by Sipra (2012). The widespread exposure to the English language, particularly in academia, has made it challenging for this generation to speak using pure vernacular or target language in communication, making code-switching and borrowing prevalent (Sales, 2022). Durano (2009) identified two types of code-switching in the Philippines: deficiency-driven code-switching and proficiency-driven code-switching, with the latter indicating the speaker's competence in both Language 1 (L1) and Language 2 (L2) and the ability to switch between the two for various purposes. This act of alternating between two or more languages in a single conversation has contributed to nativizing local languages, which is particularly evident in Malaysia and the Philippines (Jenkins, 2003). Code-switching plays a critical role in this process, serving functions such as building solidarity, excluding others, practicing power, and maintaining the authenticity of the original source (David, 2001; Kow, 2003). In the Philippines, code-switching is common, with English being one of the official languages spoken by over 14 million Filipinos (Valerio, 2015). In an academic setting, code-switching may occur due to various reasons such as easier self-expression, loss of words, influences of people around, natural habit, exposure to two languages, fluency in speaking both languages, and making the speakers feel more comfortable (Matila, 2009, as cited in Valerio, 2015).

In the Philippines, code-switching occurs in business offices in Metro Manila where speakers switch languages for various reasons, including to make a direct quotation, direct a message to a specific addressee, give an interjection or an utterance filler, and qualify a previous statement (Pascasio, 1978). Bautista (1999) suggests that switching between languages can provide the fastest, easiest, and most convenient way of expressing something with the least waste of time, effort, and resources, which he calls “communicative efficiency.”

The English language is widely borrowed in many languages globally, including the Philippines. Linguistic borrowing involves adapting borrowed words to native languages, resulting in neologisms that enrich the language. To reiterate, borrowing from English is causing concern among native English speakers who fear that Filipinos are colonizing the Queen’s English. However, lexical borrowing is seen as a positive movement in the intellectualization of the Filipino language, particularly in the expansion of its technical lexicon. Code-switching, the process of interchanging two languages within a single discourse is prevalent in the Philippines and serves various functions. In an academic setting, code-switching may occur due to various reasons such as easier self-expression, loss of words, and fluency in speaking both languages. Code-switching has contributed to nativizing local languages, which is particularly evident in Malaysia and the Philippines.

Framework

We have utilized two (2) theories that served as the framework of the present study. First is the deficit hypothesis devised by Kachru (1994), who conceptualizes that lexical items are borrowed from other languages because of the recipient language’s shortcomings towards its vocabulary. Kachru (1994) further elaborates that the deficit hypothesis presumes that there is a present lexical gap existing within the recipient language. The hypothesis illustrates that the primary motive for lexical borrowing in this context is to remediate the deficient language. This can be exemplified in the situation where an individual will need to borrow words when they need to refer to concepts, objects, people, or entities that are quite uncommon in an environment he or she belongs to. This can be seen with the findings of Tecson (2000)

where the lexically borrowed words were all technical in nature.

Second is the theory of phylogenetic change by linguistic borrowing, also known as the “wave model” of language change, first proposed by the linguist Charles Hockett (1958). The model was further developed in 2008. This theory suggests that language change occurs through the borrowing of linguistic features from one language to another, rather than solely through internal evolution of a language’s grammar and vocabulary. According to Hockett’s theory, when two languages come into contact with one another, they may exchange linguistic features in a series of “waves” over time (Hockett, 1958). The first wave typically involves borrowing basic vocabulary words, such as words for common objects or actions, while the second wave may involve borrowing more complex grammatical structures, such as verb conjugations or sentence constructions.

Kachru’s deficit hypothesis suggests that the motivation for language borrowing is often due to a lack of vocabulary or expression in the borrowing language and a desire to fill the gap with words or structures from another language (Kachru, 1994). In the case of the present study, English lexical borrowing may be motivated by a lack of certain technical or modern concepts in Chabacano for use in the television newscasts. Hockett’s theory of phylogenetic change by linguistic borrowing proposes that language borrowing is not a random process, but rather, it follows certain patterns that reflect the historical and cultural relationships between the borrowing and source languages (Hockett, 2008). In the case of the study’s locale, Zamboanga City, which has a long history of contact with the Spanish and English languages, the borrowing of English lexical items may be influenced by the ongoing cultural and economic ties between the Philippines and other English-speaking countries. It may also be attributed to the globalization processes that made English the main medium of communication as a result of governmental, business-related, and other formal undertakings (e.g., diplomatic ties or agreements between an English-speaking country and Zamboanga City).

Methodology

Data Source

Transcripts of four (4) episodes of *Dateline*

Table 1. Dateline Zamboanga Episodes Uploaded to YouTube

Episode	Broadcast Date	Retrieval Date	URL
Episode 1	Sept. 1, 2022	Sept. 10, 2022	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szcnlS9C7Eg&t=14s
Episode 2	Sept. 2, 2022	Sept. 10, 2022	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGhgZeLl1MM&t=16s
Episode 3	Sept. 5, 2022	Sept. 10, 2022	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1nXo3n_eCU&t=14s
Episode 4	Sept. 9, 2022	Sept. 10, 2022	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XvT1Ub5vyKY

Zamboanga that were aired during September 2022 were taken for analysis. The news station named as GBPITV-11, which manages *Dateline Zamboanga*, in addition to their television and radio broadcasts, also uploads their episodes to YouTube, a social media platform that specializes in video content. These episodes were extracted from this particular platform. The researchers of this study believe that given its open access, no restrictions or impediments can possibly hamper the retrieval of the contents, that is, for research purposes. The four episodes were selected because of their chronological proximity.

Procedures

We have sought the assistance of two (2) stenographers who are Chabacano speakers and are currently employed in the city government of Zamboanga. The videos were then transcribed using the shorthand method in stenography. The transcriptions were made available to us in the form of an MS Word file. Initially, we extracted English words, phrases, and sentences and also extracted English words with Chabacano affixes from the transcripts. We then identified their lexical category, borrowing pattern, morphemic structure changes, and their respective semantic field and classified them accordingly. Finally, we then calculated the total number of lexical categories, patterns, affixations, and semantic fields in the dataset. The study involved a comprehensive analysis of the transcriptions with a focus on various linguistic aspects, making use of self-made tables and frequency counts.

Data Analysis

We have classified each transcribed episode manually. No other software except for Microsoft Word and Excel was utilized in the study. To analyze

the data, a descriptive method of analysis was utilized where data from the *Dateline Zamboanga* episodes were collected, classified, analyzed, and interpreted. Percentage composition was then done after getting the total frequency count of the data to identify which form of lexical borrowing was most prevalent in each method.

Results

Lexical Categories

The study examined the lexical borrowing of English words in Chabacano television newscasts of *Dateline Zamboanga*, with results indicating that borrowed English nouns are the most frequently used lexical category across all episodes, totaling 270 occurrences. Adjectives are the second most commonly borrowed category with 40 occurrences, while verbs, adverbs, and conjunctions are borrowed less frequently, with 16, 18, and 18 occurrences, respectively. These findings are consistent with previous research on lexical borrowing in other languages, where nouns are the most commonly borrowed category (Durkin & Wegener, 2019; Nian & Jubilado, 2011; Park, 2016). One possible explanation for the high frequency of borrowed English nouns is that they often represent new or unfamiliar objects, people, or concepts that have no existing equivalent words in Chabacano, making it a practical way to fill lexical gaps and thus expand the Chabacano lexicon. This can be seen in the transcripts where the words *instruction*, *classroom*, *reengineering*, *grid*, and *supplier* were lexically borrowed into the Chabacano newscast. It can be said that nouns have high semantic specificity and clarity, which makes them useful for conveying precise information in news reporting, such as referring to specific events or concepts that are relevant to the audience or the

Table 2. Lexical Categories of English Words Borrowed in Chabacano Television Newscasts of Dateline Zamboanga

Lexical Category	Episode 1	Episode 2	Episode 3	Episode 4	Total	Percentage
Nouns	85	60	71	54	270	74.586%
Verbs	5	4	5	2	16	4.420%
Adjectives	19	7	3	11	40	11.050%
Adverbs	7	3	5	3	18	4.972%
Conjunctions	12	2	4	0	18	4.972%
Total					362	100%

present context of the dialogue (Durkin & Wegener, 2019; Park, 2016).

Table 2 also shows the percentage of lexically borrowed English words used in Chabacano newscasts grouped according to lexical categories. The table indicates that nouns are the most frequently borrowed lexical category, with a total frequency of 270 and a percentage of 74.586%. Adjectives and adverbs have relatively lower frequencies, with percentages of 11.050% and 4.972%, respectively. Verbs and conjunctions have even lower frequencies, each having a percentage of 4.420% and 4.972%, respectively.

Again, the results suggest that nouns are the most frequently borrowed lexical category in Chabacano newscasts. This finding is consistent with previous studies on lexical borrowing, which have shown that nouns tend to be the most commonly borrowed words across languages and contexts (Bullock & Toribio, 2009; Matras, 2009). Some of the lexically borrowed nouns include *tricycle*, *franchise*, *siege*, *complainant*, *boulevard*, and *helicopter*. These words appear to be commonly used words that are borrowed not just in the Chabacano context but in other languages endemic to the Philippines as well (e.g., *Sebuano*, *Waray*, *Tagalog*). The high frequency of noun borrowing in Chabacano newscasts could be attributed to the fact that nouns often convey specific concepts or referents that are not easily expressed in Chabacano. Borrowing nouns can be a practical way of expanding the Chabacano lexicon and providing precise information to the audience.

Lexical Patterns

The study also examined the lexical patterns of English borrowings in Chabacano television newscasts of *Dateline Zamboanga*, as shown in Table 2. The table presents the frequency of phrase-level borrowing and sentence-level borrowing across all episodes.

The results indicate that phrase-level borrowing is the most common pattern, with a total of 309 occurrences, while sentence-level borrowing has a total of only 32 occurrences.

The high frequency of phrase-level borrowing in Chabacano newscasts could be attributed to the fact that phrases often convey specific meanings or concepts that are difficult to express through a single-worded Chabacano. As such, borrowing entire phrases can be a practical way of expanding the Chabacano lexicon and conveying a clearer information to the audience. From the study, we have identified numerous phrase-level borrowing in the episodes. A few of these notable examples are “*a little el transmission charges; member consumers; for example, lang,*” which depict the phrase-level borrowings used by the speakers within each newscast episode. Similar findings have been reported in previous research on lexical borrowing in other languages. For instance, a study by Rambelli (2016) on the lexical borrowing of Japanese in Italian shows that phrase-level borrowing is the most common pattern, as it allows for the adoption of specific cultural concepts and expressions. Additionally, a study by Dossena and Ljungqvist (2019) on the lexical borrowing of English in Italian shows that phrase-level borrowing is often used to convey stylistic effects and emotional connotations. These findings suggest that phrase-level borrowing is a prevalent practice in lexical borrowing across different languages and contexts.

The low frequency of sentence-level borrowing in Chabacano newscasts could be due to the fact that borrowing entire sentences may result in a more significant deviation from the Chabacano grammar and syntax. Also, this could potentially result in confusion or miscommunication among the audience. However, sentence-level borrowing could still serve as a useful tool for conveying specific messages or quotations in news reporting.

Table 3. Patterns Used in the Lexical Borrowings in Chabacano Television Newscasts of Dateline Zamboanga

Borrowing Pattern	Episode 1	Episode 2	Episode 3	Episode 4	Total	Percentage
Phrase level	55	79	86	89	309	90.616%
Sentence level	8	13	8	3	32	9.384%
Total					341	100%

Furthermore, Table 3 also presents the percentage of lexically borrowed English words grouped according to their borrowing patterns. The results show that phrase-level borrowing is the most common pattern, accounting for 90.616% of all borrowed words, while sentence-level borrowing accounts for only 9.384%. The high frequency of phrase-level borrowing could be attributed to the fact that phrases often convey specific meanings or concepts that are difficult to express in a single word. Borrowing entire phrases can be a practical way of expanding the Chabacano lexicon and simplifying them for the audience or listeners. Some examples of phrase-level borrowings are the following: “*nine hundred, one five (pertaining to one thousand five hundred), mass oathtaking, and members consumers.*” These findings give the suggestion that some speakers lexically borrow to create “shortcuts” to increase the efficiency of their conversation (Bautista, 1999). This result is also consistent with the findings of previous research on lexical borrowing in other languages, such as the study by Rambelli (2016) on the lexical borrowing of Japanese in Italian.

Morphemic Structure Changes

Table 4 shows the morphemic changes observed in the lexically borrowed words in Chabacano television newscasts of *Dateline Zamboanga*. Among the morphemic changes, the most frequently observed is verb forming, with all occurrences being verb forming in nature out of the 18 borrowed English words. Notably, some lexically borrowed words were used more than once in the course of the dialogue or episode. This suggests that borrowing of English verbs in Chabacano may be a common phenomenon in this language genre. In terms of prefixation, the results indicate that it is the most frequently used form of affixation in the borrowed words, with a total of 18 unique occurrences. The results of this study are consistent with previous research on borrowing in other languages, which has shown that verb forming and prefixation are common patterns in borrowing (Gargallo et al., 2015; Sebba, 2012).

The high frequency of verb-forming changes could be attributed to the nature of news reporting, which often requires the use of action verbs to convey information effectively. Some of these findings include “*ya man issue which translates to have issued in*

Table 4. Morphemic Changes Observed in the Lexically Borrowed Words in Chabacano Television Newscasts of Dateline Zamboanga

Morphemic Change	Episode 1	Episode 2	Episode 3	Episode 4	Total	Percentage
Noun forming	0	0	0	0	0	0
Verb forming	11	3	6	3	23	100%
Adjective forming	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adverb forming	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total					23	100%
Method of Affixation						
Prefixation	9	3	3	3	18	100%
Suffixation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total					18	100%

English; *man* focus which is tantamount to focus in the English language; *ya man* hostage which means taken hostage.” This finding is consistent with previous studies on lexical borrowing, which have shown that verbs are the most commonly borrowed word class across various languages and contexts (Poplack & Sankoff, 1984;). Moreover, the use of affixation and prefixation in borrowed words is consistent with the observation that borrowed words are often adapted to fit the phonological and morphological rules of the borrowing language (Thomason & Kaufman, 1988).

Table 4 additionally depicts the percentage of lexically borrowed English words in Chabacano newscasts of *Dateline Zamboanga* grouped according to their morphemic changes. The table above indicates that all of the morphemic changes observed in the borrowed words are due to prefixation. Out of a total of 18 morphemic changes, all of them were observed to have undergone prefixation, while no words underwent suffixation. Subsequently, it shows that the percentage of prefixation is 100%, and the percentage of suffixation is 0%. Some of these morphemic changes by prefixation include “*tan* motor or riding a motorbike in English; *tan* bike or riding a bicycle.”

The absence of suffixation in the borrowed English words in Chabacano newscasts is consistent with previous studies on lexical borrowing. For instance, a study by Matras and Sakel (2007) on the typology of borrowing shows that prefixation is a more common morphological process in borrowing than suffixation. This is because prefixation allows for the creation of new words by adding a meaningful element at the beginning of a word, while suffixation often results in the creation of inflected forms of existing words. This finding suggests that the Chabacano language, like many other languages, tends to borrow words through the process of prefixation rather than suffixation in the context of broadcast media.

Semantic Fields

Table 5 presents the semantic fields of the lexically borrowed English words in Chabacano television newscasts of *Dateline Zamboanga*. The table shows the frequency of borrowings across different semantic fields in each episode and the total frequency across all episodes.

The most frequent semantic field in the borrowed English words is “government agencies or offices,”

Table 5. Semantic Fields of the Lexically Borrowed English Words

Semantic Field	Episode 1	Episode 2	Episode 3	Episode 4	Total	Percentage
Government agencies or offices	25	21	29	32	107	25.476%
Private companies or organizations	7	5	4	3	19	4.524%
Titles or designations and ceremonies in giving honors	24	11	16	14	65	15.476%
Professional or technical jargon	23	8	18	25	74	17.619%
Places and streets	7	8	19	11	45	10.714%
Transportation	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Animals	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Human descriptions and activities	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Government programs/services and projects and other similar undertakings	14	13	10	4	41	9.762%
Modern-day expressions	1	0	0	0	1	0.238%
Social media platforms and traditional media	5	2	3	0	10	2.381%
COVID-19-related/induced vocabulary	34	13	8	3	58	13.810%
Total					420	100%

with a total of 107 occurrences. Some of these lexically borrowed words include “*City Engineer’s Office, City Hall, Center for Disease Control, and Technical Education Skills Development Authority.*” These words often have archaic equivalents in the Chabacano lexicon, but for the purpose of communication efficiency, most speakers lexically borrowed English counterparts as explicated by Bautista (1999). This also indicates that the Chabacano newscasts rely heavily on borrowing English words related to government agencies and offices. These words are often lexically borrowed to retain the technical meaning and bureaucratic identity of these words and for faster recognition for non-Chabacano speakers (Alcaraz, 2019). The findings also suggest that the frequent use of words from these semantic fields is due to the exposure of the Chabacano-speaking community to various media outlets, including television, radio, and the internet. Additionally, the frequent use of English in professional jargon may have contributed to the high percentage of borrowed words from these categories. Furthermore, this finding is consistent with previous studies on lexical borrowing in media discourse. For example, Liu (2019) found that English borrowings related to politics and government are common in Chinese media discourse, particularly in news reporting.

Another significant finding in Table 5 is the frequency of COVID-19-related/induced vocabulary, with a total of 58 occurrences across all episodes. This indicates that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the lexicon of Chabacano newscasts, leading to an increased use of English borrowings related to the pandemic. This finding is exemplified by some of the following words: “*COVID-19, in-person classes, Pfizer Biotech, and Omicron Subvariants.*” It can be attributed to the fact that these words are globally relevant especially when we were at the height of the pandemic; thus, it would be more efficient to all parties involved if these words were lexically borrowed to avoid confusion (Alcaraz, 2019). Additionally, this finding is consistent with studies on the impact of COVID-19 on language use, which have found that the pandemic has led to the emergence of new vocabulary and changes in the frequency of existing words (Crystal, 2020).

Additionally, the use of technical or professional jargon was also identified to have a significant presence within the lexically borrowed English words. These are words that pertain to specific fields or industries; among these words are “*kilowatt per hour, generation charges, warrant of arrest.*” These words are relatively unknown or in some cases are without direct equivalent in non-English languages (Bautista, 1999). Furthermore, these words are highly technical in nature, and modifying these words could result in confusion or misunderstanding, which is why most languages choose to lexically borrow words from this semantic field instead (Alcaraz, 2019).

Conclusion

The study aimed to describe the nature and quantity of the lexically borrowed English utterances used in four (4) *Dateline Zamboanga* episodes by its interlocutors. Guided by the abovementioned research objectives, the following are the salient findings of this study and their general implications: (1) nouns are the most frequently borrowed lexical category, and from this, it may be inferred that the same play a central role to effectively articulate ideas and concepts foreign in the borrowing language’s environment; (2) borrowing phrases as a borrowing pattern is more prevalent because of their malleability in terms of placement in contrast to borrowing entire sentences; this enables the interlocutors of *Dateline Zamboanga* to modify and tweak English utterances with a greater degree of freedom through semantical and syntactical shift; (3) high occurrence of verb-forming morphemic changes via prefixation suggests that borrowing often involves creating verbs from existing words, thus filling in the deficiency within the borrowing language’s lexicon. Moreover, the language genre of broadcasting fortifies the need to morphemically borrow English utterances and turn them into verbs in order to achieve vivid and intense narratives of events and communicative efficiency; and (4) the high frequency of borrowed words related to government offices or agencies, titles or designations, and giving honors suggests the need to maintain bureaucratic identity while professional or technical jargon is used to retain their technical meaning vis-à-vis the impact of today’s technological advances.

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