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### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### LINGUO-CULTURAL ANALYSIS OF THE LEXICAL DOUBLETS IN ENGLISH.

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#### Abstract

The present article deals with the problem of lingo - cultural analysis of lexical doublets in English. Topicality of the problem is doublets, as lexical doublets make a significant lawyer in the English vocabulary.

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#### Introduction:-

Lexical doublets, especially etymological doublets which belong to this layer as the leading and important group of words appear to be result of the language contact borrowed from other languages to fill in the gaps in the vocabulary of the language – recipient in the process of verbal communication.

In the article the authors analyses the lexical doublets in order to find the linguocultural roof of such a borrowing. Here authors give semantic types of borrowing, also discuss the nature of the socio – political background, where the borrowing takes place.

The author distinguishes the following groups of lexical doublets: stylistic doublets, morphological doublets and syntactic doublets.

In the article we find a brief go back to the history of the oculars who dealt with the problem of lexical doublets in English, French, German, Russian and Uzbek. The author gives his estimations to these papers marking notable and weaker points in those works.

At the end of the article the author touches the sociocultural aspect of this problem.

It is started here, that behind each borrowed word we find a special socio cultural background, political – economic condition and others with the word. All these characterize the need for borrowing a foreign word which is grounded by the absence of the reference. In the language recipient and this lacuna is filled by the borrowed word, which in its turn reflects the culture to which the native speakers of the language have.

#### Etymological aspect of Lexical doublets

The word “Etymology” traces back to ancient Greek philosopher Stoic Hrisipp who introduced it as the term denoting “The real meaning of the word”. In Greek etymons (genuine, real) + logos (word, information).

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E.A. Makayev gave the following definition to this word.

“Etymon” is the most ancient, and the most known. And the primary or pro – form of the language unit (root, word). [E.Makayev *Struktura slova v germanskikh yazikakh*, m.1970.p.34]

Within the frame of Etymology and the basis of historical – comparative method the ancient word derivation patterns and “inner – forms” of the word (or the elements of the meaning) are reconstructed.

As a result of such an analysis the linguist yet same information about the facts of distraction, decomposition, shifting, elimination, and other phenomena in the language units as a result of the extra linguistic and intra linguistic factors as socio – cultural, Interlingua, territorial, temporal and other processer, this had taken place in the formal and semantic structures of the words.

In the process of analysis the following moments are reconstructed.

1. The degree of the motivation or structural (phonetic, graphical) changes.
2. The contamination of the word forms;
3. The influence of semantic elements to the word,
4. Semantic, functional or structural (phonetic, graphical) changes.

Besides that as a result of the etymological investigation we’ll get information about the extra linguistic factors influencing the form and the meaning of the word, like socio – historical event, change of the spelling material culture, religion, mythology and others.

As to V.N. Toporov the objective of the etymological analysis is determining the coordinates of different systems: (Philological word – derivational lexical, semantic, stylistically and poetic) and fixing the crossing points of those coordinates;

Prolonging the further development of the word, and to mark the development trajectory of the direction of the chance. [Toporov V.N. *o nekotorykh teoreticheskikh osnovaniyakh etimologicheskogo analiza – v a*, 1960, n. 49]

The above mentioned statements show that etymology is not investigating a separately taken word, learning its history and development.

Mamatov pointed out two types of etymology [A. Mamatov *Etimologik kuzatishlar* T. 2000, p4, 240 p.]

1. General etymology
2. Special etymology

“It is not a secret – wrote the scholar, - etymology is not so widely spread as a branch of science. Up to now it is a sphere of activity for a down linguists to be busy with discussing the origin of one and same words. We give the students general information about etymology and think that this is sufficient for them. [A.Mamatov, *Etimologik kuzatishlar*, T.2010. p. 5]

It is doublets that etymology is one of the most difficult branches of lexicology. The difficulty is in the fact that no one is able to see this predecessors, to watch or to observe what had happened before. Using written records is the only very limited opportunity about the times paned. Therefore a linguist has to judge on the earliest, pre – historic periods only using his brain and imagination on the basis of what had been done before him.

Above we mentioned the definition of etymology suggested by KURISSIP. In the history of the science this term was used in different meanings.

Earlier scholars by the term “etymology” understood interpreting the meaning, content of texts. In Greek it is “exegeza” in Arabic – “tafsir”, in Uzbek – “matn tahlili”. In its turn it is the essential subject of “hermeneutics” the art of knowing, the art of getting information.

Throughout the centuries alongside with the scholarly analysis of the history of words “false etymology” or “false etymology, people’s etymology” flourished in etymology.

For example the Latin word “malum” means (evil, a bad thing: eg: Mala herbaa to crescit) A bad bush grows fast or figuratively: A bad habit spreads fast or in English word “Malfunction” some apparatus or a part of it is out of order. It would not work.

Also in Latin there was a word “malum” which meant “an apple”. As a result of the likeness in form and pronunciation, the scholastic’s found likeness between Biblical legend about the first sin of the human being – Adam, Eve, an apple and a snake. They tried to prove that legend by the help of the false etymology. Criticizing the false etymology of such philosophers F. Engels wrote: “Etymology should be learned and not be worked out”. [F. E 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Vol.36, p.257]

We approved of the opinion expended here. As a proof to this statement we can recall the fact, that the end of the XX century, after the decay of the former SU, Republican linguists obtained ideological freedom and intensively began to etymologizing the names of their nation, country and others. The names of nations were made old. Some scholars worked out the etymologies of their nations, found “direct” relationship between them and Adam and Eve. They found vet that they are directly related to Adam and Eve. They began compiling family trees including Adam and Eve’s line continuing up to the beginning of the XXI century.

The same can be said about the etymon “Uzbek”. A false etymology of the work – “Uz – self, +bek – (a little of a leader of armed people) →Uzbek is a commander for himself, a king for himself”. Figuratively “born to be a (king) or a military leader”. This is a concrete example of the etymological investigations of the end of the XX century.

As to KHRISSIP the stoics used data on Etymology in their investigations on physics, cosmology, ethics, theology, Law and others. To ground viewpoints theoretically.

Etymology was mixed with rhetoric’s and they thought that etymology is a discipline which deals with choice and use of the stylistic devices.

Up to the end of the XIX century etymology was opposed to syntax, understanding investigating the main phonetic processes, and laws, types of flexion, conjugation and word formation.

In ancient Rome and Greece semasiology was referred to as a branch of philosophy and its main subject – the word was analyzed within the frame of philosophical scholastics. Word and its meaning were taken as an essence and they thought that the word has a form, color, chemical and physical feates quantity etc. This found its reflection in Plato’s Famous work “Cratlos” The same can be said about the works by Heraclitus, Marc Tracy’s Warren’s treatise.

### “The Latin language”

In all these books we find how the authors tried to use onomatopoeia sound symbolism to explain the meanings of the words – using etymology, they said,

As the words consisted of the letters, then letters should be the primary elements of the meaning of the word.

1. As an example they were sure that the Greek letter R (ro) denoted the real rush, roughness. And the letter “lambda” denoted softness, tenderness etc. Ex: They explained that: Latin lapis (stone) has the following etymology; lapis, leaders, problem) something which injures one’s feet, somebody falls down and his leg gets hurt.
2. The meaning of the Latin word “fenestra” (window) is explained in the following way:
3. Fenestra – ferensnos extra (something leads us outside)
4. Latin “Cadaver” (corpse); cadaver –cadore.
5. (to fall – to dive): + da (dare – to give) + ver (vermis - worm) – fallen, eaten by worms.
6. Latin “Capillus” (Nair) was described in the following way.
7. Capillus – capitus – pillus – hair of the head, wool.

The representatives of this trend state that “By means of influencing the meaning of the world we’ll have impact or the thing denoted by this word itself, and these words will have to obey out will! This leads to magic effect of the word and cause the appearance of the magicians using the language as the weapon of magic effect.

As a result of this some meanings of the words undergo encoding by means of euphemism, taboo etc.

Metaphorisation and connotation flourishes. And in its turn they arise the need to discuss the interrelation between the primary and derived meanings of the word.

Etymology comes back to learning the meanings of words and the history of their development.

One of the most interesting aspects of etymology is lexical doublets which is also called etymological doublets.

Lexical doublets are the words which derived from one word but have different form and meanings.

For example, the Latin word *discus* (circle, round object) was borrowed into English several times. Firstly this word appeared in the English language in the form “disc” and later changed its spelling and pronunciation – “disk” (in the meaning of the item of kitchen).

In Middle English period this word was borrowed from Medieval Latin in the form “desc” (*discus* → *desc*). In the Middle English period *desc* underwent the spelling changes: *discus* → *desc* – *deske* – *desk*. It denoted an office table.

In modern English it denotes a desk and a table.

In Middle English one more word was borrowed from middle French “*dais*” (a rostrum, a tribune) a special stand in the churches to make a speech. This word also developed from Latin “*discus*”. And as the time passed this word has changed its phonetic structure and meaning.

At last in the XVII century the word “*discus*” was borrowed from classical Latin once more in the meaning of “disc”. And this borrowing survived to our days without changing its form and meaning.

For example, DVD disc, disc – jockey, CD – disc, compact disc, floppy disc etc.

So, one Latin word served as a base for three English words. These three words were borrowed into English in different times and ways. These words can illustrate etymological doublets. That these words derived from one origin can be explained only by means of a profound and adequate etymological analysis. It will be a bit wrong to say that etymological doublets are observed only when words are borrowed from one language. This can happen in English where there takes place changes in the pronunciation and meaning of the word. For example, English “*shade*” (evening darkness, dusk) and “*shadier*” (darkness, gleam, corner) developed from old English *sceadu*.

“*Shade*” was derived from the Nominative case form and *shadow* developed from the dative case form of the word (*03 sceadu*).

As etymological doublets which developed from the word one language we can exemplify the words “*mead*” and “*meadow*” (pasture, grassland, field).

The difference between them is that “*mead*” is used in the poetic language and styles and *meadow* is used in the neutral style.

“*Dyke*” (damb) and “*ditch*” (canal, brook channel) also developed from one root and later undertake semantic differentiation.

“*Of*” (-from, of) as a preposition and adverb is also lexical doublet and it unclearly went the semantic process.

The words “*Through*” (wide, complete, detailed, etc.) and *through* (by way of, pre-) etc. are the lexical doublets which derived from one root “*cloths*” and “*clothes*” are also etymological doublets. The same can be said about “*whit*” and “*Wight*”.

1. Doublets of this type do not make a significant part of English doublets.
2. The main sources of lexical doublets in English are borrowed words.
3. We know the following groups of etymological doublets in English.

English Scandinavian. In this group of lexical doublets we notice that one element of the pair is an English word, the second element is a Scandinavian word. The cause of the formation of this pair is explained by the fact of their belonging to one group in genealogical classification of languages. As a result they underwent the same or similar phonetic laws and these laws may cause the words obtaining similar or different forms. When the words belonging to the Scandinavian languages are borrowed into English they shape their phonetic shape in accordance with the phonetic regularities of the English language and doublets appear. English – Scandinavian doublets are mostly characterized by the consonant cluster “sk”.

In this pair the word with the element “sk” is a Scandinavian word, and “sk” is an English word. This is because at the end of the old English period letter combination sk changed into sh. [sk>ʃ]. In Scandinavian languages this change did not take place.

Ex: skirt - shirt; screech – schvick; scar – share; screw – shrew; scabby – shabby.

Among English – Scandinavian doublets we find the one, where pronunciation changed greatly from each other.

**For instance:**

1. Scandinavian words – English
2. Hale (sound, healthy – whole (complete)
3. Rise (to feed, to grow up) – rear (to tread)
4. Egg (on) – to instigate – edge (the end)
5. Loose (wide, free) – less (negative prefix)

Doublets borrowed from the French language. The development of the doublets of the French origin is explained by the differences between Northern and Central groups of dialects.

The English language borrowed words from both of these groups of dialects. As a result of this there arose lexical doublets.

1. Central group of dialects. Northern group of dialects.
2. To chase (to hunt, to run after - catch (to get hold of smith)
3. Chieftain (leader of the tribe) - captain (military rank)
4. Chattel (movable property) - cattle (animals)
5. Cheat (sea map) - card (playing cards)
6. Chivalry (knight ship) - cavalry (horse – riding military men)
7. Chant (related to church singing) - cant (jargon)
8. Channel (strait) - canal (passage, waterway)
9. Guard (security service) - ward (assistance, helper).

One more group of the lexical doublets borrowed from French makes the words borrowed in different times. If the first layer includes the borrowings of medieval period, the second layer includes the words borrowed in the XVIII the century. Let's analyze the following doublets.

1. To annoy (to teas) – ennui (to get bored, to miss)
2. Suit (permission, begging)– suite (lords hap)
3. Saloon (pub) – salon (well – made, decorated hall).
4. Liquor (liquid) – liqueur (drink).
5. French – Latin doublets.

A lot of the words borrowed from French are the result of the development of the Latin words. Naturally the majority of these words changed their form and meaning and there took place a differentiation from primary Latin form. Norman Conquest was the period when lots of French words were borrowed into English.

In the period of Renaissance words from the classical Latin were directly borrowed into English. And the words borrowed from classical Latin came wet to be the original forms of the words borrowed earlier from French. This was one more way of forming lexical doublets.

Borrowing from old and middle French into English:

1. Feat (подвиг, жасорат) – (fact)
2. Treason (betrayal) – tradition (tradition)
3. Reason (consciousness) – ratio (coefficient, relation)
4. Dainty (tender) – dignity (value)
5. Defeat (failure) – defect (shortcoming)
6. Norman – French borrowings underwent certain changes and came close to the French form. For example, Chaucerian “viage”, Modern English “voyage” (travel) graphically corresponds to the French form. Old English “Leal” (faithful) changed into “Loyal”.

Other examples:

“Marches” changed into “marquis” “flauete” (flute) changed into flete. (In French flute).

Middle English verb “douten” and old French word “douter” “denoted” to be afraid”. For example “redoubtable” (frightening, horrible, etc.) as an adjective and the noun – rederet (redut). Now old meaning is lost both in English and French. Modern English noun and verb “doubt” and modern French verb “doubter” are used in the meaning:

“to doubt”.

English word “danger” was borrowed from the French language in the meaning of a “state authority, government”, but later as the time passed this word obtained the meaning of “threat”.

We can illustrate the changes in the semantic structure of borrowed words with other words too.

The words:

“Machine”, machinist machinery were borrowed from the French language. They can be compared with the word “mechanization” in which nothing remained from the words machine and mechanisms.

In some doublets pronunciation differs in two members of the doublets. For example the word “Celtic” has to pronunciation variants: “Celtic” – [ˈk e l t I k] – related to the Celtic tribes and peoples, Celtic [ˈs e l t I k] – a name of the football team from Glasgow Scotland.

Having analyzed the problems related to the etymological aspect of lexical doublets we’ve come to the following

### Conclusions:-

1. Etymological analysis plays a significant role in linguistic investigation of the vocabulary. It thorough detailed etymological analysis helps the linguist to trace back the history of the word to the time of etymon – or “primary meaning” and “perform” – primary form of the word. Within the group or family of languages.
2. Lexical doublet in a pair of words denoting one and same notion or thing which developed from one origin. The second type of the lexical doublet is the pair of words which were borrowed from different languages but denote one and same thing or notion.
3. Lexical doublets appear in the languages as a result of the extra linguistic contacts between the speakers of different languages when they have different contacts on a certain territory. These contacts can be of different types: wars, occupations, peaceful coexistence, cultural communications, similar socio – economic way of life, neighborhood relations, being in equal states in natural disasters etc.
4. Linguacultural relations also play a significant role in the formation and development of lexical doublets as the less – cultured people borrow words from the language more cultured valiant, of the being borrowed words in their of work stock.
5. Further analysis of the problem of lexical doublets may be helpful for understanding general and special problems of language of language development.

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