THEORETICAL AND LINGUISTIC FOUNDATIONS OF CROSS-LINGUISTIC INFLUENCE AND BORROWINGS (A CASE STUDY OF INTERFERENCE AND LEXICAL BORROWINGS)

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Annotation: *This article analyzes the nature and structural traits of interference and lexical borrowing in cross-linguistic communication. Drawing on Weinreich and Haugen, it examines how individual speech interference becomes a borrowing in the language system. The findings have practical value for comparative linguistics, language teaching, and lexicography.*

Keywords: *multilingualism, cross-linguistic contact, codification, contact linguistics, lexical lacunae, interference, lexical borrowing, parole.*

In the context of contemporary globalization and active multilingualism, the intensification of cross-linguistic contact keeps contact linguistics among the primary priorities of comparative linguistics. Interference and lexical borrowing, which arise at the intersection of divergent linguistic systems, are fundamental factors in the internal development and lexical enrichment of a language. Analyzing their conceptual boundaries within Ferdinand de Saussure's dichotomy of langue and parole holds high theoretical and practical significance.

U. Weinreich, the founder of classical contact linguistics, defines interference as deviations from the norms of either language occurring in the speech of bilinguals as a result of language contact [Weinreich 1953: 1]. E. Haugen argued that this phenomenon should be approached not merely as an error, but within the dynamics of borrowing and innovation [Haugen 1950: 211]. Interference is initially a dynamic, unstable process of speech (parole) within the individual bilingual consciousness, whereas lexical borrowing is its institutionalized outcome, assimilated by the recipient speech community and stabilized in the lexical system (langue) [Haugen 1950: 214; Щерба 1974: 24].

Unlike random errors, interference stems from systemic asymmetries between two languages and is predictable and rule-governed. It manifests at the phonetic-phonological, grammatical, and lexical-semantic levels [Weinreich 1953: 14; Thomason, Kaufman 1988: 38]. Lexical borrowing arises from extralinguistic (historical and sociocultural) and intralinguistic needs (filling lexical lacunae, linguistic economy) [Thomason, Kaufman 1988: 35]. Passing from bilingual speech into the language system, a new unit goes through a "linguistic filter": after phonetic, morphological, and semantic assimilation, it is codified as a lexicalized borrowed unit [Usmonov 1972: 24].

Thus, interference is the primary driving impulse of cross-linguistic contact, while lexical borrowing is its systemic and normative culmination. Studying these mechanisms is useful for contrastive exercises in foreign language teaching, for reducing calquing errors in translation, and for refining lexicographic criteria for new loanwords.

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