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ABSTRACTS

1. Borrowing as a linguistic event

Christine Jacquet-Pfau, Jean-François Sablayrolles : Loanwords : from identification to analysis. Different aims and treatment

Two complementary ways of looking at linguistic borrowing are presented here with the aim of illustrating the complexity of this concept. The complexity of the concept of linguistic borrowing leads to misconceptions, which can however be clarified, by taking into account differing aims or points of view leading to different practices. Jean-François Sablayrolles concentrates on the process itself. Borrowing is traditionally defined as one of the three main types of neology, but the distinction between these three classes proves problematical in the practical task of extracting neologisms from texts and assigning them to the appropriate category. Some solutions are proposed. Christine Jacquet-Pfau, going beyond the question of process, aims at pinpointing certain formal properties in written sources which indicate words of foreign origin, not integrated into the system of the borrowing language. These markers can be used at different stages and in different applications of automatic analysis of language: retrieving information, indexing, identifying text types (specialised texts in particular), subject fields dealt with, and language used, especially for translation.

Sonia Branca-Rosoff, Sandrine Reboul-Touré : A discursive or a linguistic event ? Loanwords and terms in the vocabulary of the Internet

Lexical borrowing is a social process, and to account for it, it is necessary to underline the importance of human activities in language change. In analysing the French vocabulary of the Internet, this article takes as a starting point the broadly-based concept of the “event”, thereby shedding light on the social dynamics linked to borrowing. It investigates the concept of the linguistic event, which can be applied to the neological reaction leading to the conscious creation of new terms by French terminologists. This approach brings together the coining of new words and the conscious efforts of those involved, using lexical semantics and discourse analysis. As a conclusion, however, the article leaves the question open as to whether there is a clear distinction to be made between a linguistic and a discursive event.

John Humbley : The loanword dictionary : descriptive and prospective functions

The *Dictionary of European Anglicisms*, first published in 2001, presents some 1,500 words borrowed from English in twelve European languages. In analysing the various entries, and in comparing the different languages, it is

sometimes possible to pinpoint the linguistic “event” which triggers the loanword. In addition, some languages appear more open to anglicisms than others, thereby announcing the influences which later turn up in the more conservatively-inclined language communities. The resources which can be called upon to shed light on this – dictionaries, supplements, databases, are given a brief assessment.

Olivier Bertrand : Borrowings by Nicole Oresme, or how to translate Aristotle’s *Ethics* and *Politics* into 14th century French

14th century France saw the flowering of translations of the great political texts of Greece and Rome, and the translators, in their work, contributed to the creation of a new vocabulary of politics. Raoul de Presles made the first translation into French of the *City of God*, and Nicole Oresme addressed the works of Aristotle, *Ethics* and *Politics* in particular. Borrowing proved to be one of the main means by which translators introduced new concepts into a vocabulary hitherto dominated by religion. Indeed, as political science emerged, borrowing became an essential resource for coining new words. In this article, a particular case is examined in the tables and glossaries of Nicole Oresme’s works: that of the word *démocratie*.

Chantal Wionet : how languages figure in Thomas Corneille’s *Dictionnaire* (1694)

This article reviews the role of foreign languages in the second volume of the *Dictionnaire de l’Académie française* (1694), known after Thomas Corneille, who compiled it. This survey has two aims: the metalexicographical analysis on one hand, ascertaining the quantity and diversity of loanwords in the nomenclature, and the analysis of how loanwords were perceived in the 17th century from the particular point of view of the institution. To do this, the various formulations of the articles on words considered to be loans from various languages are studied and elements which shed light on how these words were perceived in French are highlighted.

Jacques Guilhaumou : From Saussure to Sieyès : analytical views on borrowing

This article draws on Saussure’s ideas on language as an institution and Sieyès’s order of language, with the view to situating linguistic borrowing in the context suggested by the latter’s view of the linguistic “event”. It focuses on the interpretation of the use made of the expression *concinnité des mœurs* in Sieyès’ manuscripts. Saussurian language dynamics, which are made material through the institution of language, are associated with the ordering of social relations and the combination of social art form expressed by a formula considered as a borrowing : *concinnité des mœurs*. The event takes form in language, tending towards the ideal of a well organised society.

Danielle Bouverot, Agnès Steuckardt : Using the Online *Trésor de la langue française* to analyse borrowings from Russian

Words borrowed from Russian into French are bound up in a relationship situated in some point in time between French speakers and the Russian language. The article gives a chronological inventory of Russian loanwords, classified by their first appearance as testified by the *Trésor de la langue française*, featuring accounts of travellers and geographers. Then 19th century Russian literature appears as the principle purveyors of lexical transfers, such as the ethnonyms *tchérimisse*, *tcherkesse*, or name of realia such as *kakochnik*, *nagaiika*.... A similar inventory drawn up from the *Petit Robert* shows the role of the press in the 20th century, with the transfer of specific names used in the Soviet system, such as *goulag*, *nomenklatura*, then *glasnost*, *perestroika*. The French speaker seems to keep these Russian loanwords at arm's length, as if the Russian universe of reference remains somehow irreversibly foreign.

Snejana Gadjeva : The dynamics of borrowing : turkisms in Bulgarian

As a general rule loanwords are not used in the target language in the same way as in the source language, but instead, are adapted to its system. The nature of this adaptation can vary from one language to another and from one period of time to another. In this study we propose to demonstrate the dynamic character of the use of loanwords, taking the example of turkisms in Bulgarian. We raise several questions in order to refine the comprehension of the phenomenon of borrowing. Do loanwords have a stable place in the target language ? What are the linguistic factors that promote or discourage their integration ? Are there historical contexts in which their use is prohibited or advocated ? Do they have different connotations compared to the native words and if so, then for what reasons ? We first make a few remarks on the development of the linguistic transformations that determine the acceptance of the turkisms in the system of the Bulgarian language. Then we look at the various functions of these loanwords in order to describe the changes of usage that has occurred. On these two points we conduct our analysis on a diachronic axis of the overall development of the Bulgarian language.

Jean-Marc Sarale : The lexicalisation process of some loanwords from Japanese

The article examines the question of the integration/lexicalisation of loanwords, based on a French language corpus of discursive occurrences of loanwords from Japanese (*karaoke*, *tsunami*, *zen*). Four issues are discussed :

- the stabilisation of the written form of the loanword after interaction between phonetic, graphic and epilinguistic representations of the Japanese words ;
- the act of naming, without really knowing the meaning of the borrowed term, i.e. naming an exogenous cultural entity, an act which can be dated and analysed ;

- the incorporation of facets representing the cultural ethnotype “Japan” into a programme of meaning, where they posit semantic values which differ from the reference ;
- correlations between the restrictions of the loanword and its semantic plasticity – some syntactic functions promote movement of subduction of its lexical matter.

2. Miscellaneous

Jean-Claude Boulanger : A reasoned bibliography of neology, preceded by some miscellaneous thoughts

Institutional research carried out in new word studies since 1970 led to the publication of bibliographies of research on neology. It is shown how these compilations first emerged in the field of lexicography to be taken up in language planning and terminology. The article also includes an examination of the relationship between neology and time. The meaning of the marker “neologism” merits some thought. Two interpretations are possible: either the marker refers to the date when a new word appears and is consigned to the historical part of the dictionary article, or it refers to the perception of the novelty of a lexical unit. The feeling that a word is new only lasts for a relatively short time and varies from one word to another. Neology in this sense is a temporary quality, which means that from a logical point of view the nature of neology is quality-based – an accidental value, and not on quiddity, an essential value.

Rosa Estopà : Recording new words in Spanish and Catalan over two decades : Observatori de Neologia de l’IULA

The Observatori de Neologia was created by Maria Teresa Cabré in 1989. Its task is to collect and analyse new words in Spanish and Catalan disseminated by mainstream media. The article describes how the corpora is analysed and the methods used have evolved over the years, from the linguistic viewpoint (exclusion corpus, means of systematic coverage), and the material viewpoint (storage systems, automatic detection of new words, etc.). The article proper concludes on the reasons which prompted this enterprise, which go well beyond the scope of language planning. The annexes present the members of the team and a comprehensive list of the publications on neology issued since 1995, and the resources developed and made available on the Observatori website.