

Borrowings in Terminology Formation in Glass Industry

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Abstract

Language contact is a common phenomenon across world which gives rise to bilingualism and multilingualism. There are many consequences of language contact with borrowing being one of the widely studied consequences of it. The borrowing as a linguistic phenomenon has various perspectives which have been an interesting area of research especially after the studies carried out by Einar Haugen and Uriel Weinreich. No work has been done in the specific area of borrowing in terminology formation. This study is an attempt to analyse borrowing in terminology formation. The research is specifically carried out on the terminology used in glass industry.

Key Words: Borrowings, Language Contact, Bilingualism, Terminology.

1. Introduction

Coming together of the speakers of different languages is a natural phenomenon. The contact between people speaking different languages gives rise to what is called language contact which results in influencing the languages in contact at different levels. One of the outcomes of this contact is “Borrowing”. When speakers of these languages communicate with one another, they learn some part of the other language, and while learning the language they tend to borrow some words from the other language and use them in their own language. This is how borrowing takes place.

Borrowing has been an important area of research in linguistics and other related fields, such as, Lexicology. A lot of work has been done in this field in the last few decades, especially after the work done by Einar Haugen and Uriel Weinreich. However, to the best of our knowledge, no work has been done in the specific area of borrowing in terminology formation. So, here is a small attempt by the researcher to analyse borrowing in terminology formation. The research is specifically made on the terminology of the glass industry.

The purpose of the study is to show instances of borrowing in the terminology used in the glass industry. Borrowing is an inevitable part of human language; it is found everywhere, in every language. Hence, its existence in terminology formation is not an astonishing matter. Keeping this in view, the researcher tried to find cases of borrowing in the terminology formation of the glass industry of Firozabad. This area is mainly of *Hindustani*, which is a lingua franca of North India. It is basically an Indo-Aryan language and is derived from the Khadiboli dialect of Delhi. It is a combination of two Indian languages, viz. Modern Standard Hindi and Modern Standard Urdu.

2. Defining Borrowing

Einar Haugen, who gave new direction to the study of borrowing in 1950's, defines the term borrowing as, “the attempted reproduction in one language of patterns previously found in another”. In his view, in new linguistic situations, speakers attempt to reproduce previously learnt linguistic patterns. In the patterns that he learns, some may be of non-native language. These non-native patterns are said to have been borrowed from the other language. So, his definition means that reproduction of any linguistic pattern which does not belong to the speaker's own language is ‘borrowed’.

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3. Types of borrowing

Einar Haugen has described following types of borrowing.

3.1. Import

Import is an item which is similar to the model (in Haugen's terms), viz. original. It refers to the case of borrowing in which the borrowed item is quite similar to the original, as much as a native speaker could recognise it to belong to his own language. The borrowed item must be an innovation in the borrowing language.

3.2. Substitution

Substitution refers to an inadequate version of the original. In this case the borrowed item cannot be recognised by the native speaker. Here, the borrowing speaker substitutes a similar pattern from his language, and the term is not completely alien to his language.

To Haugen, borrowing is a process, not a state. However, in discussion, it is the results, not the process, that is described. Following are the "results" of borrowing as described by him.

3.2.1. Loanword

"Loanword" is the umbrella term for all types of outcomes of the process of borrowing. It can be said that it includes all the other terms. It precisely refers to terms which import the phonemic shape from the lending language, along with some or whole meaning of the term.

3.2.2. Loan Blends (Hybrid)

Loan Blend refers to the cases in which only a part of the phonemic shape of the model is borrowed, while the rest is simply substituted from the recipient language. In simple words, it can be said that hybrid words consist of parts from different languages. For example, the term 'monolingual' has a Greek prefix and a Latin root. Similarly, Pennsylvanian German imported English "plum pie" and made it [blaumə pie], importing 'pie' and substituting [blaum], viz. Plum.

3.2.3. Loan Translation (Calque)

It can be said to be an extension of Hybrid. In Hybrid, one part is imported from the one language, and the other part is retained from the recipient language. However, in loan translation the whole form is substituted from the native language, and only the concept is borrowed. In other words, in loan translation a word or a phrase is borrowed from another language by word-for-word translation. For example, Hindi has borrowed concepts like 'prime minister' as [pra:dhan məntri], etc. Similarly, English has got 'marriage of convenience' from French 'mariage de convenance'.

4. Instances of Borrowing from Glass Industry

Language spoken in Firozabad is mainly Hindustani, which is a mixture of Hindi-Urdu. Hence, most of the terms used in the Firozabad glass industry are from Hindustani. But, as we go through the data collected from the industry, it shows a large number of instances of borrowing, which have been discussed below.

4.1. Loanwords in the Glass Industry Terminology

As discussed above, loanwords refer to a word which has been imported in a language along with its phonemic shape, and some or whole meaning. In this section we are going to discuss the cases of loanwords as found in the glass industry terminology.

The data used in the paper was collected from glass industry, Firozabad. The method used in the data collection is participant observation. The researcher visited several glass producing

factories, and asked random questions to the owners and labourers and also the market personnel who deal with the glass products produced in these glass industries.

The collected data was observed. Words which have been borrowed were marked. These words were analysed to find the source language, and to discuss any changes that have taken place while borrowing the words. The data has been represented in tabular form to make it more appealing and easier to understand.

Findings and Discussion

Table 1. Borrowing of the term Cutting /kəTiŋ/

Entry no.1	Meaning			
/ kəTiŋ /	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Cutting	--	V	To cut something
Phonological change	Morphological change		Semantic change	
No change	Category change			

The above table shows borrowing of the term / kəTiŋ / from English language. English word cutting means ‘to cut something’, however in the glass industry it refers to a kind of bangles which have cuts over their surface. Keeping these points in view, it can be said that the term has encountered a category change, from verb to noun, and semantically the meaning has specialised from a more general sense of ‘cutting something’ to ‘a specific type of bangles’.

Table. 2. Borrowing of the term /sa:Tən/

Entry no. 2	Meaning			
/sa: Tən /	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Satin	--	N	A type of cloth
Phonological change	Morphological change		Semantic change	
ə → I	No change			

The above table shows borrowing of the term /sa:Tən / from English. In English, the term satin refers to a type of cloth which typically has a glossy surface and dull back. In the glass industry, the term is used to refer to bangles which have a glossy appearance. Phonologically, the term has encountered a vowel rising, as /i/ is a high vowel. Morphologically, there has been no significant change. Semantically, the term has encountered a meaning expansion, as the term which referred to a type of clothes now refer to a type of bangles also.

Table. 3. Borrowing of the term /jipsi/

Entry no. 3	Meaning			
/ jipsi /	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Gypsy	--	N	Member of Romani
Phonological change	Morphological change		Semantic change	
No change	No change			

The above table shows borrowing of the term /jipsi/, from English. In English, the term refers to gypsies, which is a colloquial name of the Romani. However, in the glass industry, it refers to the type of bangles which is made up of a comparatively stronger material, making them stronger than other glass bangles. As the two meanings have no direct connection with each

other, so it is a case of shift of meaning. However, there has been no phonological or morphological change in the form of the term.

Table 4. Borrowing of the term /faivstar/

Entry no. 4	Meaning			
/ faivstar/	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Five star	--	Adj.	Denoting highest standard or quality
Phonological change	Morphological change		Semantic change	
No change	Category change			

Above table shows borrowing of the term /faivstar/ from English. In English, the phrase denotes high quality or standard, however, in the glass industry; it refers to a type of bangles, which have four lines of white colour over their surface. This suggests that this is a case of meaning shift. Morphologically, this is a case of category change from adjective to noun. There has been no significant change phonologically.

Table 5. Borrowing of the term /səçin/

Entry no. 5	Meaning			
/səçin/	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
Sanskrit	Sachin	--	Adj.	Pure
Phonological change	Morphological change		Semantic change	
No change	Category change			

The above table shows borrowing of the term /səçin/ from Sanskrit. In Sanskrit, the term means 'pure' while as, in the glass industry, it refers to a type of bangles which have four black colour lines running through their centre. As there is a change in the meaning, that too without any prior connection, hence it is a case of meaning shift. Morphologically, category change is found from adjective to noun. Phonologically, there has been no change in the term.

Table 6. Borrowing of the term /ləstər/

Entry no. 6	Meaning			
/ləstər/	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Luster	--	N	Shine or sparkle
Phonological change	Morphological change		Semantic change	
No change	No change		?	

The above table shows borrowing of the term /ləstər/ from English. In English, the term means 'shine', whilst in the glass industry it refers to a type of bangles which have a shine surface. This shows that this is a case of shift in meaning as the two senses have no connection between them. There has been no other change in the form of the term.

Table 7. Borrowing of the term /renbo/

Entry no. 7	Meaning			
/renbo/	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Rainbow	--	N	Multicoloured arch

Phonological change No change	Morphological change No change	Semantic change
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The above table shows borrowing of the term /renbo/ from English. In English, it refers to ‘a multicoloured arch formed in the sky due to the refraction and dispersion of the sun’s light by rain or other water droplets. However, in the glass industry it refers to a type of bangles which are decorated using chemical colours. As the two senses are distinct, so it is a case of meaning shift.

Table 8. Borrowing of the term /pɔliʃ/

Entry no. 8	Meaning			
/pɔliʃ/	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	/pɔliʃ/	--	N	Substance to smoothen
Phonological change No change	Morphological change No change		Semantic change	

The above table shows borrowing of the term /pɔliʃ/ from English. In English, the term refers to a substance used to make something smooth and shinier. However, in the glass industry it refers to a type of bangles which are polished with golden colour.

Table 9. Borrowing of the term /kəTɪnpɔliʃ/

Entry no. 9	Meaning			
/kəTɪnpɔliʃ/	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Cutting polish	--	Compound word	Cut and polished
Phonological change No change	Morphological change Category change		Semantic change	

The above table shows borrowing of the compound word “cutting polish” from English. The term is made up of two English words, viz. “cutting”, meaning ‘to cut something’ and “polish”, meaning ‘a substance used to make something smooth and shinier’. As their meanings indicate, the two words are distinct in form and meaning, and have no explicit relationship. However, in the glass industry, it refers to a type of bangles which have cut on their surface and are polished with golden colour.

Table 10. Borrowing of the term /bra:s/

Entry no. 10	Meaning			
/bra:s/	A type of bangles			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Brass	--	N.	A metal
Phonological change No change	Morphological change Category change		Semantic change Meaning expansion	

The above table shows borrowing of the term /bra:s/ from English. In English, the term refers to a metal. However, in the glass industry, it refers to a type of bangles which is made up of Brass. There is no phonetic change in the phonological and morphological form of the word. Semantically, this is a case of meaning expansion, as the semantic boundary of the term “brass” has expanded from referring to a metal to a type of bangles also.

Table 11. Borrowing of the term /bɔs/

Entry no. 11	Meaning			
/bɔs/	A type of bangles			
Source language		Gender	Category	Gloss
English	Boss	--	N.	Chief, head
Phonological change No change		Morphological change No change		Semantic change

The above table shows borrowing of the term /bɔs/ from English. In English, the term means ‘a person who has charge of an organisation or worker, such as chief, principal, etc. However, in the glass industry, it refers to a type of bangles which is made up of brass and iron. These bangles are considered to be the strongest ones among all types of bangles. This suggests that the term has been connotatively used in this case as the term “boss” indicates the strongest position in an organisation, similarly, bangles named “boss” are the strongest ones among all. Phonologically and morphologically there has been no considerable change in its form.

Table 12. Borrowing of the term /bloər/

Entry no. 12	Meaning			
/bloər/	An iron rod			
Source language		Gender	Category	Gloss
English	Blower	--	N.	Person or thing that blows
Phonological change No change		Morphological change No change		Semantic change Meaning expansion

Above table shows borrowing of the English term /bloər/. In English, the term stands for ‘a person or thing that blows’ or ‘a mechanical device for creating a current of air to dry or heat something’. However, in the glass industry, it refers to ‘a long, hollow, iron rod used to carry molten raw material and to blow the material with mouth’. This rod is used while making glass bowls. This is case of semantic expansion as the semantic boundary of the term has expanded to incorporate this particular type of rods in the meaning of this term.

Table 13. Borrowing of the term /graɪndər/

Entry no. 13	Meaning			
/graɪndər/	A machine to make cuts over bangles			
Source language		Gender	Category	Gloss
English	Grinder	--	N.	Tool used to grind something
Phonological change No change		Morphological change No change		Semantic change Meaning expansion

Above table shows borrowing of the term /graɪndər/ from English. The term, in English, stands for ‘a tool or device used to grind something or smoothen something’. In the glass industry context, the term is used to refer to ‘a machine with an iron cutter which revolves continuously to make decorative cuts over the surface of glass products’. This can be seen as a case of meaning expansion as the semantic boundary of the term has expanded from a grinding machine to a machine that makes cuts over glass by cutting its surface.

Table 14. Borrowing of the term /bɔl/

Entry no. 14	Meaning			
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/bɔl/	Molten raw material in a specific quantity			
Source language	Gender	Category	Gloss	
English	Ball	--	N.	Sphere-shaped object
Phonological change	Morphological change		Semantic change	
No change	No change		Meaning expansion	

Above table shows borrowing of the term /bɔl/ from English. In English, the term stands for ‘any object that has a spherical shape’. In the glass industry, it refers to a specific quantity of molten raw material. This is a case of semantic expansion as the shape of the raw material, in this case, resembles to that of a ball. There has been no change phonologically or morphologically.

4.2. Loan blends in the Glass Industry Terminology

As we have already discussed, a loan blend is one in which some phonemic shape has been borrowed and some has been substituted from the host language. In this section we are going to discuss cases of loan blends as found in the glass industry terminology.

Table 15. Formation of the compound /kəʈiŋka:mda:r/

Entry no. 1	Meaning			
/kəʈiŋka:mda:r/	A type of bangles			
Source terms	Gender	Category	Gloss	
Term	Language			
/kəʈiŋ/	English	--	V.	To cut something
/ka:mda:r/	Hindi	--	Adj.	Inwrought

The above table shows formation of the compound term /kəʈiŋka:mda:r/. In the glass industry, the term refers to a type of bangles which have cuts over their surface and are decorated with sparkle filled in. The term is formed by combining one word from English, viz. cutting /kəʈiŋ/ to suit the cuts, hence its borrowed, and one word from Hindi, viz. /ka:mda:r/ to suit their ornamentation. The compound is a copulative one as both of the combining words are equal in meaning, both acts as the heads.

This is also a case of borrowing as one of the terms is from a foreign language, English.

Table 16. Formation of the term /ba:dəlkət/

Entry no.2	Meaning			
/ba:dəlkət/	A type of decorative item			
Source terms	Gender	Category	Gloss	
Term	Language			
/ba:dəl/	Hindi/ urdu	--	N.	Cloud
/kət/	English	--	V.	To cut

The above table shows formation of the term /ba:dəlkət/. The term is a combination of two terms, /ba:dəl/ meaning ‘cloud’, and English term cut /kət/, meaning ‘to cut’. In the glass industry, the term refers to a type of decorative item which has cloud shaped cuts over the surface to beautify it. The term is formed perfectly as it holds both the characteristics of the item equally. This is a case of borrowing as one of the terms is borrowed from a foreign language. This is a copulative compound as both the words have equal roles to play, and hence both are heads.

Note: We are not going to discuss loan translation in this paper as no cases of it were found in the glass industry terminology.

5. Conclusion

Borrowing is an inevitable part of human communication; we, consciously or unconsciously, use words from other languages every now and then. It has always been important in linguistic studies. Scholars from various fields of language have worked on borrowing. But, not significant work has been done on borrowing in terminology formation. This paper is a small attempt in this regard.

The paper discusses the data collected from the glass industry of Ferozabad. Only the instances of borrowing from the data have been discussed in this paper. The data shows that there has been an intense use of borrowed terms in terminology of glass industry. Most of the terms, which the researcher could get reach of, have been borrowed from English language, which is seen as a prestige language in the said community. There is a scope for further studies in this context. This study can be conducted on a larger scale in the glass industry, as well as in other small and large scale industries.

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