

Words we Borrow: Loanwords

Today let's look at loanwords: where they come from and why we use them.



The World of Languages
and Languages of the World

Objectives

- We can see that the English language has borrowed thousands of words from other languages to bolster our vocabulary.
- We can see that other languages also borrow words from English and from other languages.
- We can see that language evolves, changes and grows as humans move and evolve.



Let's Go!

What do all these words have in common?

ballet

café

croissant

genre

eau de toilette

entrepreneur

rendez-vous

debacle

penache

fiancé

divorce

elite

naive

They are all words we have borrowed from **French**.

Loanwords are borrowed from other languages and have little or no changes.

We use them in our daily lives without realising where they come from.

They often come from other language families.



We are linguistic magpies

- 1. We have taken words from the Anglo Saxons, Celts and Norse invaders.
- English is said to borrow words from over 350 different languages.



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2. The Normans arrived in 1066 and by the end of the 13th Century, we had absorbed over 10,000 French words.

What is this picture of?
(Clue: it's a tapestry!)



The Normans



The Romans

- 3. Britain was invaded by **Romans** in 43AD who brought Latin to British shores.
- Gaul (now France) was also invaded by Romans in 58BC. The Normans, therefore, brought Latin with them as well as Norman French.



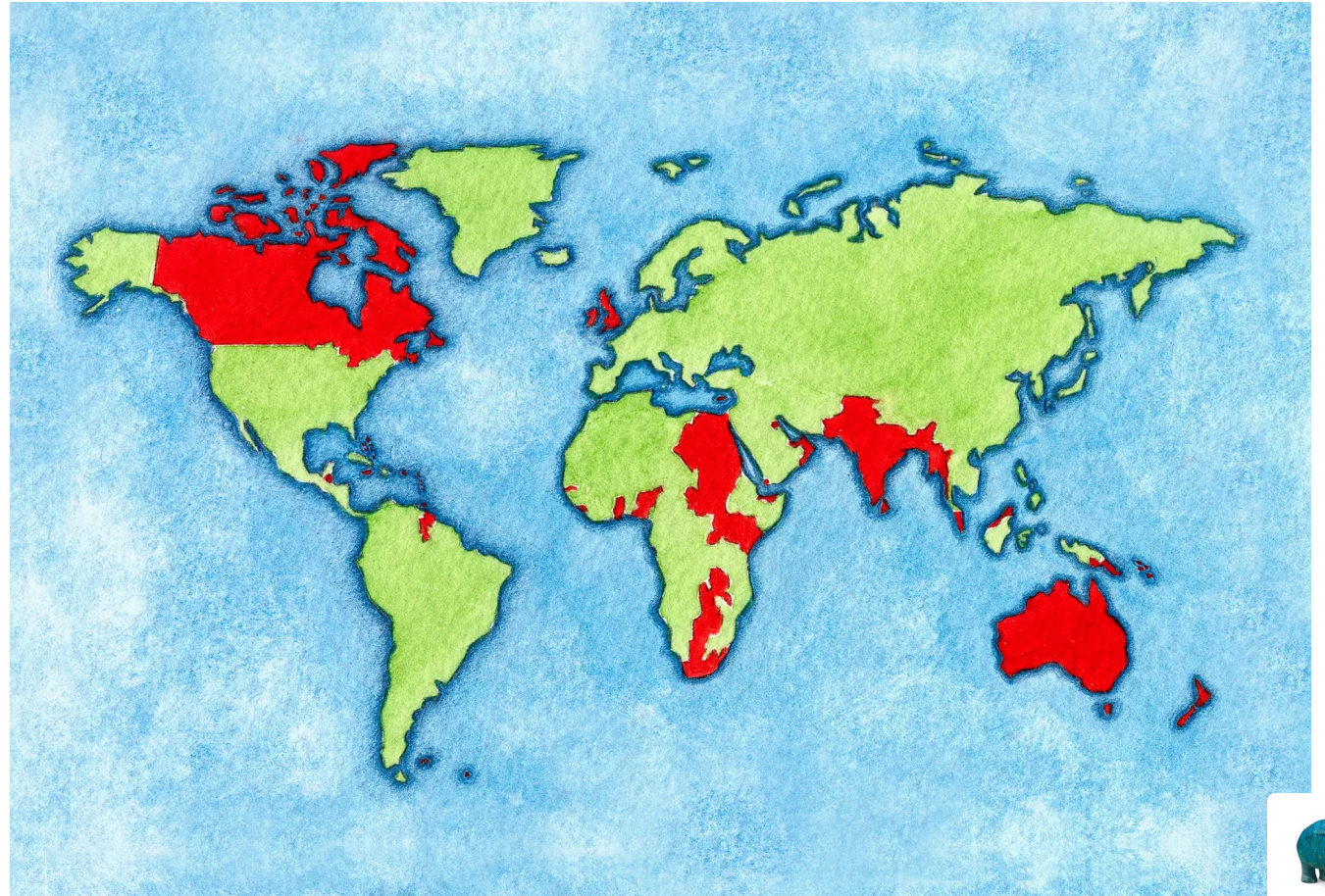
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The British Empire

- 4. The British Empire -growing from the late 16th century to early 20th century – brought words from around the globe into the English language.

- Do you know what any of the countries highlighted in red are?





Immigration

5. Immigrants to the UK and to the United States of America brought their words to the English language.



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Can you match the loanwords to the language from which you think it originates.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Kindergarten | a. German |
| 2. Caravan | b. Italian |
| 3. Garage | c. Hindi |
| 4. Mosquito | d. Spanish |
| 5. Opera | e. Japanese |
| 6. Ski | f. Greek |
| 7. Karma | g. French |
| 8. Bungalow | h. Arabic |
| 9. Karaoke | i. Norwegian |
| 10. Area | j. Sanskrit |



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How did you do?

1. Kindergarten - German
2. Caravan - Arabic
3. Garage - French
4. Mosquito - Spanish
5. Opera - Italian
6. Ski - Norwegian
7. Karma - Sanskrit
8. Bungalow - Hindi
9. Karaoke - Japanese
10. Area - Greek



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z Time!

It's

1. A small room filled with very, very hot air, often found in spas. It is meant to clean and relax you. (The word is Finnish.)

• S _ _ _ A

2. A machine that performs tasks, Click to add text coded by humans. Will they take over the world? (The word is Czech.)

• R _ _ _ T

3. A yummy food eaten for pudding or with breakfast, made from milk and often flavoured with fruits or vanilla. (The word is Turkish.)

• Y _ _ G _ _ _ T

4. A party or celebration, sometimes with a feast or a parade and plenty of music. (The word is Spanish.)

• F _ _ _ _ A



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Why does English use Loanwords?

English speakers find a word in another language to say something they don't yet have a word for. They borrow that word.

"Where self-expression is concerned, you can never have too many options".

(Chloe Rhodes, "A certain je ne sais quoi")



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Over to you!

Who can create a crazy sentence using at least three loanwords from the list below? Who can use the most loanwords in a sentence? Who can create more than one sentence? Who can create the funniest sentence?

- Algebra (Arabic)
- Anorak (Greenland Inuit)
- Angst (German)
- Assassin (Arabic)
- Avalanche (Romansch –Swiss language)
- Bandana (Hindi)
- Bungalow (Hindi)
- Chic (French)
- Confetti (Italian)
- Déjà vu (French)
- Dungarees (Hindi)
- Et cetera (etc.) (Latin)
- Fiesta (Spanish)
- Guru (Sanskrit)
- Hamburger (German)
- Incognito (Italian)
- Karaoke (Japanese)
- Kayak (Inuit)
- Ketchup (Malay)
- Pyjamas (Persian)
- Rucksack (German)
- Safari (Swahili)
- Vampire (Hungarian)
- Voilà (French)



What about other countries...the borrowing of words happens all over the world.

Can you think of your own examples?



A final thought...

- We borrow words from other languages and other languages borrow words from English.
- If a word doesn't exist in one language, does that affect the thoughts of the people in that country?

Does language shape our identity?



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WoLLoW would like to know...

- Can you fill in the gaps to complete the phrase?
- L _ _ n _ _ r _ s are words that are b _ r r _ _ _ d from other languages. They have little or no c h _ _ g _ s.



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