

A Study of English Loan Words in Myanmar Language Used in Wetlet Township

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Received: 06 February 2024; **Revised:** 12 June 2024; **Accepted:** 19 June 2024

Abstract

The Objective of this research are: 1) To study of English loanword used by Myanmar language in Wetlet Township, 2) To find out the difficulties of English loanwords used by Myanmar people in Wetlet Township, 3) To find out for frequency of loanwords use of different careers. The research involved a target population of 60 people in Wetlet Township of Myanmar, all of whom participated in the study. The study followed both quantitative and qualitative research methodology employing the questionnaire, in-depth interview, and additional comments. All data from the 60 people was analyzed by using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences version by means of frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation (S.D.).

The result of research found as follows: This research aimed to analyze the extent to which English words have been adopted and adapted within the local linguistic context. By examining the usage patterns and semantic shifts of these loanwords, the study sought to gain insights into the sociolinguistic dynamics and cultural influences that contribute to the integration of English vocabulary into the language spoken in Wetlet Township.

This study was conducted to explore the challenges and obstacles faced by the residents of Wetlet Township in integrating English loanwords into their everyday language. This research endeavors to explore the specific difficulties encountered by Myanmar speakers in the adoption and adaptation of English loanwords within the linguistic context of Wetlet Township.

This research was designed with the primary objective of examining that All interviewed the overall levels of agreement with the twenty statements were

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generally positive. Specifically: Statement number one, nine and eighteen received a moderately high level of agreement, with a mean score of 3.38, indicating that the majority of respondents leaned towards agreement. Statements number one, nine and eighteen except all received high overall agreement levels, with mean scores ranging from 3.55 to 4.05, suggesting strong agreement from the majority of participants for each statement.

Keywords: English Loanwords; Myanmar Language; Wetlet Township

Introduction

The most essential tool for successful communication among human beings is language. If there were no language, the world would be in great trouble as there would be so many misunderstandings among humans. (Richard (Ricky) Villar, 2018) There are many words borrowed from the English language in other domains of Myanmar society. borrowing, probably, has advantages as well as disadvantages. The prominent advantage obtained is that we get new and precise meanings of the words and the disadvantage is that some words which already exist in our mother tongue disappear due to the widespread use of borrowed words. In Myanmar era 980, king Anaukpetlun captured an English man by the name of Thomas Samwel When he conquered zinmei and kept him in Bago. However, the English man died there and diplomats from East India Company came to negotiate with the rules about this case, King Anaukpetlun invited the English in order to trade with Myanmar when they came back, then in 988, East India company started opening its branches in Myanmar, and communicating for commercial purpose. Later in 1824, 1825, 1885, there were three Anglo Myanmar wars and the contact with the English had more political impact. (Hla Thamein, 2009) In other words, the English language was the language of the conqueror. From that time, the British, their language, their culture and their traditions came into come to contact with people of different speech communities in Myanmar. Thus, Language borrowing and pidginization also occur. Moreover, terms from the prestigious language, English, are especially borrowed.

The Myanmar vocabulary was enlarged and augmented by the English loan words. The influence of English is preponderant in the domains of commerce, education, politics, etc. The financial advantages and social prestige attracted the people towards the learning of English. (Ashley South & Marie Lall, 2016) Because of

this demand, missionary schools became very popular. After independence, The Myanmar language became the official language, but the education system remained the same. But in the 60's, the teaching of English was abandoned in the primary level. English was taught only from the 5th standard. The medium of instructions became the standard. The medium of instructions became the Myanmar language. Under this system the proficiency level of the students declined, and their English often proved to be insufficient when they were sent abroad. In 1981, English came to be reintroduced in the primary schools and since the academic year of 1985-89, English became the medium of instruction in the science combinations in the 9th and the 10th standard, the English loan words had declined in number during the recent years have now increased again. (Ashley South & Marie Lall, 2016)

English is considered one of the world's most dominant languages. Hoffer stated "Its history is interesting for many reasons, including its flexibility in borrowing from other languages, a flexibility that has enriched its vocabulary over the centuries". In other words, because of the process of borrowing, English has become the language filled with words from a few foreign languages. (Hoffer, B.L., 2005)

When mentioning the process of borrowing, Trask stated "it is one of the most frequent ways of acquiring new words, and speakers of all languages do it". Borrowing is also said to be a natural process of language change. (Trask, R.L., 1996) It is a matter of one language which adds new words to its own lexicon by imitating those words from another language. According to Hall-Lew, a sociophonetician, the words, which are borrowed, are called 'borrowings' or 'loanwords.' (Hall-Lew, L.A., (2002)

It was believed that the major reason why borrowing is essential in the development of languages might come from the idea and the need of "filling conceptual gaps" in the absorbing language. (Danesi, M. & Rocci, 2009) Therefore, loanwords can be significantly used to describe a new thing or a new word. It means that some of the ideas which might not have appeared in one language before might be able to be added up because of the process of word borrowing from another language.

With its beneficial purpose for some, English loanwords have probably played an important role in many areas from business and education; a number of authors, writers, bloggers, and scholars have been continuously adopting loanwords to

magazines, websites, and academic textbooks for communication. Consequently, English loanwords are regarded immensely necessary like a part of our life.

Obviously, English borrowing loanwords in the Burmese language are believed to reflect the meaning spoken regarding the social value information, and most of these spoken have a subtle and indirect message that needs to be interpreted and studied. Because of the interesting aspect, this study aims to investigate the use of English loanword used by Myanmar native speakers and the problems English loanwords used by Myanmar native speakers in Wetlet township, Myanmar. This study will help those interested in learning and currently studying English loanwords understand more about how they are used in Burmese contexts.

Research Objectives

1. To study of English loanword used by Myanmar language in Wetlet township
2. To find out the difficulties of English loanwords used by Myanmar people in Wetlet township.
3. To find out for frequency of loanwords use of different careers.

Research Methodology

The study of research designs a mixed-method research design was used the researcher where selected 60 people used English Loanword in Myanmar language in Wetlet Township. After conducting the pilot study, the questionnaire was revised again by the research advisor. Then, the researcher distributed the questionnaire to the respondents on 25 August, 2023. The data analysis and SPSS statistical analysis is very important for all research or experiment that involve statistics as a research methodology.

Results

According to the questionnaire described about information related to the participants' backgrounds and some personal information. The researcher used statistical values of frequency and percentage of data in the following tables.

1. Gender of the Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	26	43.30%
Female	34	56.70%
Other	0	00.00%
Total	60	100.00%

(N=60)

Table 1 Gender of the Respondents

Table 1 The gender of respondent stated that the respondents were male about 26 (43.30%) and 34 or (56.70%) of respondents were female and other 0.00% of respondents. Therefore, it could be concluded that the majority of respondents were female.

2. The result of the English loanword used by Myanmar language in Wetlet Township

Statement (1)	Level of opinion	Frequency	Percentage	\bar{X}	S.D.
I am familiar to use the English loanword in food Category (coffee, cake, chocolate, biscuits, hamburger, hot pot, pudding, strawberry, wafer, Coca-Cola) in my daily life.	Strongly disagree	6	10.00%	3.38	12.09
	Disagree	7	11.70%		
	Moderately	16	26.70%		
	Agree	20	33.30%		
	Strongly agree	11	18.30%		
Total		60	100.00%	High	

Table 2 The result of the English loanword used by Myanmar language in Wetlet Township

Table 2 The statement one was 'it is group of Food English loanwords in Myanmar language used in Wetlet Township of Myanmar.' It was to find the resultant scales of the opinion of the respondents in Food English loanwords. The table indicated that 6 (10.00%) of respondents strongly disagreed; 7 (11.70%) of respondents disagreed; 16 (26.70%) of respondents moderately; 20 (33.30%) of respondents agreed and 11 (18.30%) of respondents strongly disagreed. The statistical figure Mean (\bar{X}) was (3.38) and SD was (1.209). Therefore, it could be concluded that

the level of the respondents' opinion was moderately high because, among the two sides of the opinion, both agree and disagree sides were quite equal with the statement.

Statement (2)	Level of opinion	Frequency	Percentage	\bar{X}	S.D.
I seldom encounter the use of English loanwords in electrical category (Computer, phone, television, plug, camera, Video, recorder, cassette, battery, wire) in my daily life.	Strongly disagree	1	1.70%	3.72	1.09
	Disagree	8	13.30%		
	Moderately	16	26.70%		
	Agree	17	28.30%		
	Strongly agree	18	30.00%		
Total		60	100.00%	Level: High	

Table 3 The statement two was 'It is group of Electrical English loanwords in Myanmar language used in Wetlet Township of Myanmar

Table 3 The statement two was 'It is group of Electrical English loanwords in Myanmar language used in Wetlet Township of Myanmar.' It was to investigate the resultant scale of opinion of respondents to use all types of Electrical English loanwords. The table indicated that 1 or 1.7.00% of respondents strongly disagreed; 8 (13.30%) agreed; 16 (26.70%) were moderately; 17 (28.30%) agreed; and 18 (30.00%) strongly agreed with the statement. The statistical figure Mean (\bar{X}) was (3.72) and SD was (1.09). Therefore, it could be concluded that the level of the respondents' opinion was high because the majority of respondents agreed with the statement.

Statement (3)	Level of opinion	Frequency	Percentage	\bar{X}	S.D.
I am regular to use the English loanword in stationery Category (blackboard, white board, sign board, poster, clip, post card, diary, form, file, sticker) in my daily life.	Strongly disagree	3	5.00%	3.71	1.07
	Disagree	6	10.00%		
	Moderately	9	15.00%		
	Agree	29	48.30%		
	Strongly agree	13	21.70%		
Total		60	100.00%	Level: High	

Table 4 The statement three was 'it is group of Stationery English loanwords.

Table 4 The statement three was 'it is group of Stationery English loanwords.' It was to survey the resultant scale of opinion of respondents to use all types of

stationery English loanwords. The table presented that 3 (5.00%) of respondents strongly disagreed; 6 or 10.0% disagreed; 9 or 15.00% were moderate: 29 (48.30%) agreed and 13 (21.70%) of respondents were strongly agreed with the statement. The statistical figure Mean (\bar{X}) was (3.72) and SD was (1.075). Therefore, it could be analyzed that the level of the respondents' opinion was high because the majority of respondents agreed with the statement.

In conclusion, the analysis conducted using SPSS software indicates that the overall levels of agreement with the twenty statements were generally positive. Specifically: Statement number one, received a high level of agreement, with a mean score of 3.38, indicating that the majority of respondents leaned towards agreement. These findings suggest that the respondents tended to agree with the statements presented in the survey, with some statements garnering particularly strong consensus. This data provides valuable insights into the attitudes and opinions of the surveyed individuals, which can be further explored and analyzed to draw meaningful conclusions and inform decision-making.

Discussion

This research on study of English loanwords used in Myanmar language in wetlet township of Myanmar shown the significant features of difficulties of English loanwords Categories list use in Myanmar language in Wetlet Township. most of the respondent's answer are found in this analysis as the gender of respondent stated that the respondents were male about 26 (43.30%) and 34 or (56.70%) of respondents were female and other 0.00% of respondents. Therefore, it could be concluded that the majority of respondents were female. The finding result of the overall level was high (\bar{X} =3.71, S.D.=1.07) because the majority of respondents agreed with the statement.

Differently, constant English loanwords investigated documentary research mothod of the units for this study where 248 English loanwords have found from the data collections, (Ven. Mitin Chakma, 2016) Another research constant of relationship between where study that the units for this study were found 309 Burmese loanwords in Shan had found from the data collections, (Aggasena, 2021) And also, different study where data collective are English loan words used in entertainment news in Thai daily newspapers included 6,264 loan words.

Similarly, constant of English loanwords study where the final result included 6,264 loan words; the most frequently used word classes of English loan words used were nouns 3,760 items (60.03%), the most frequently used in the patterns of word formation of English loan words used were transliteration 4,958 items (79.15%) and the meanings of English loan words in the Thai language as appeared in the Royal Dictionaries, 2011 included 130 words, (Kamluesai, 2017) Compare with research finding the overall level was high $\bar{X}=3.72$, S.D. =1.091) because the majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Other researcher the same or related the study the English loanwords where the data collective are where 248 English loanwords have found from the data collections, which has been divided into four types: 1) Loanwords (transliteration), 67%, 2) Loan blended, 26%, 3) Loan shift 5%, and 4) Loan translation, 2%. Data analysis of the research study was shown and discussed with illustrations (Ven. Mitran Chakma, 2016)

In conclusion, English loanwords analysis, results in the more organized English loanword used. The functions of these linguistics features contribute a great deal to academic English discourse community.

New Knowledge

In this research about how people in Wetlet Township, Myanmar use English words, First, this research wanted to see how much people in Wetlet use English words. Second, the research aimed to find out the difficulties people face when using English words. Third, the research wanted to know how often different jobs use these loanwords. The study involved people from Wetlet, and all of them took part by answering questions and talking in interviews.

The results from the survey showed that many people in Wetlet find it hard to use English words in their language. A large number of respondents agreed that expressing ideas using English words is challenging. This highlights the importance of understanding and addressing the difficulties people face when using English loanwords in Wetlet. Additionally, the study included interviews with ten people from Wetlet, offering more detailed insights into their perspectives on and use of English loanwords.

To sum it up, this study provides valuable insights into the usage of English loanwords in Wetlet Township, Myanmar. By using different methods, such as surveys

and interviews, the research helps you understand the challenges people encounter and emphasizes the importance of considering the language dynamics in this specific community.

Conclusion and Suggestion

The aim of this study was to investigate to study of English loanwords used in Myanmar language in wetlet township of Myanmar. The research involved a target population of 60 people in Wetlet township of Myanmar, all of whom participated in the study. The research utilized both quantitative and qualitative research methods, including questionnaires and in-depth interviews with people from Wetlet Township of Myanmar.

This research was designed with the primary objective of examining that all respondents were male and female, most of them aged 21 to 30 years old respondents were the majority in this study and other age respondents were the minority. All interviewed that the overall levels of agreement with the twenty statements were generally positive. Specifically: Statement number one, nine and eighteen received a moderately high level of agreement, with a mean score of 3.38, indicating that the majority of respondents leaned towards agreement. Statements number one, nine and eighteen except all received high overall agreement levels, with mean scores ranging from 3.07 to 1.07, suggesting strong agreement from the majority of participants for each statement.

To sum up, our study showed us a lot about how people in Wetlet Township used and felt about English loanwords in Myanmar language. It gives us a good look at both the good things and the challenges. As Myanmar deal with more English loanwords, it is crucial for people to find a good balance between using them for clear communication and keeping our unique Myanmar language and culture strong.

This section is to give suggestions about study of English loanwords used in Myanmar language in wetlet township of Myanmar and researcher who will do further research.as the following:

1. The study offers a gateway to incorporate essential elements, such as the detailed methodology employed for data collection and analysis. This could include insights into how loanwords are categorized, highlighting any distinctive features or patterns that emerge during the research process.

2. Furthermore, the study may explore the diverse perceptions of loanword usage across different demographic groups, providing a nuanced understanding of how language dynamics vary within the community. In addition to examining linguistic nuances, the research could shed light on the cultural implications of English loanword usage.

3. To enhance the study's depth, researchers may consider incorporating a historical perspective on English loanword adoption in Myanmar. Drawing comparisons with other languages and exploring the temporal evolution of language dynamics can provide a richer context for understanding contemporary language use in Wetlet Township.

4. Considering the potential benefits and challenges posed by English loanwords, the study could also explore recommendations for a balanced approach to their incorporation. By proposing guidelines that emphasize linguistic preservation and cultural sensitivity, researchers contribute to ongoing discussions about language policy and planning. This forward-looking aspect of the study positions it not only as an analysis of the present linguistic landscape but also as a resource for shaping future language practices within Wetlet Township.

5. Additionally, the research could delve into the practical implications of English loanword usage in Wetlet Township. Examining how these borrowed words are employed in everyday conversations, written communications, and media sources can provide a more holistic understanding of their impact on language usage patterns. This practical lens can uncover whether English loanwords are integrated seamlessly into the linguistic fabric of the community or if there are instances of resistance or adaptation.

Finally, the study on English loanwords used in Myanmar in Wetlet Township holds the potential to be a multifaceted exploration of linguistic dynamics, cultural identity, and community responses to external influences. By incorporating methodological transparency, practical implications, recommendations for balanced usage, and insights into generational perspectives, the research becomes a valuable contribution to the broader field of language studies and community-focused research.

Suggestion for Further Studies

This study has been conducted at wetlet township of Myanmar and researcher who will do further research. Based on the result of the research, the researcher would like to give some suggestion as following:

1. From taken the result, the next study should be focused on the English loanwords used in other languages such as Rakhaing, Shan, Mon etc.
2. Hopefully, for the future research should be examined how the use of English loan words varies across different age groups within the community.
3. For the future researchers who want to conduct research with the same subject, the result of the research can be used as an additional reference or further research with different discussion.
4. For the next study should be investigated linguistic borrowing patterns by analyzing the phonological, morphological, and semantic adaptation of English loan words in other languages.
5. For the future study should be explored whether the use of English loan words contributes to language shift or if there are efforts to maintain the traditional other languages such as Kayin, Kayar, Burmese etc.

These objectives can serve as a starting point for further research, and you can adjust them based on the specific focus and scope you want for your study.

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