



## THE STUDY OF LOANWORDS AND NEOLOGISMS IN ENGLISH AND KARAKALPAK LANGUAGES

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### ABSTRACT

*This article presents an in-depth comparative study of loanwords and neologisms in English and Karakalpak languages, emphasizing their linguistic, social, and cultural functions. It explores the mechanisms of word formation, the historical background of borrowing, and the role of globalization and technological development in shaping modern vocabulary. Moreover, it examines how the processes of lexical innovation reflect the identity, creativity, and adaptability of both language communities. The study demonstrates that while English has long been an influential donor language, Karakalpak has actively borrowed and creatively adapted lexical items to meet the needs of a rapidly changing society*

**Introduction.** Language, as a dynamic and living organism, constantly evolves to accommodate the communicative and cultural needs of its speakers. Every era brings with it new inventions, social changes, and cultural interactions, which inevitably lead to the expansion of vocabulary. One of the main ways in which languages grow is through borrowing from other languages and creating neologisms to describe new concepts, objects, and phenomena.

In today's interconnected world, English has become the leading global language of communication, science, and technology, while Karakalpak, a Turkic language spoken primarily in Karakalpakstan, has also undergone significant lexical change under the influence of Russian, Uzbek, and now English. Therefore, analyzing loanwords and neologisms in these two languages provides valuable insight into the broader processes of language contact, globalization, and cultural exchange.

Furthermore, such an analysis highlights how societies preserve their linguistic identity while simultaneously embracing modernization. Consequently, this study seeks to uncover both the historical development and the contemporary tendencies of lexical innovation in English and Karakalpak.

Before analyzing the data, it is necessary to define the two core concepts—loanwords and neologisms—and understand their mechanisms. According to Haugen, a loanword is “a linguistic form that has been transferred from one language to another and integrated into the

recipient's linguistic system." Borrowing may occur due to trade, migration, colonization, religion, or modern globalization [6, 210-231].

Loanwords can be classified as:

- Direct borrowings (*sushi, pizza, internet*),
- Calques or loan translations (*skyscraper* → *biyik imarat* in Karakalpak),
- Semantic loans, where an existing word acquires a new meaning (*mouse* – an animal → *computer mouse*).

Meanwhile, neologisms are new lexical units created within a language to express novel concepts or phenomena. These may arise through internal word-formation processes, including:

- Derivation (*digitalize, happiness*),
- Compounding (*smartphone, greenhouse*),
- Blending (*smog = smoke + fog*),
- Conversion (*to Google* from the noun *Google*).

In Karakalpak, neologisms may emerge from Turkic roots (*jalpaq ekran* – flat screen), semantic extension (*sabaq* – lesson → *onlayn sabaq* – online lesson), or from phonetic adaptation of borrowed forms (*kompyuter, printer*). Thus, both borrowing and innovation represent creative responses to communicative needs.

The history of English vividly demonstrates how contact with other languages shaped its lexicon. Old English (before 1100) contained primarily Germanic roots but had already absorbed words from Latin through Christianity (*school, wine, candle*).

During the Middle English period (1100–1500), the Norman Conquest of 1066 brought a flood of French vocabulary into English. Words such as *government, justice, beauty, cuisine, beef, and pork* became permanent fixtures in English usage. In the Renaissance era, the revival of classical learning encouraged further borrowing from Latin and Greek, enriching scientific and philosophical terminology (*radius, philosophy, democracy*).

In Modern English, colonial expansion introduced borrowings from Asian, African, and American languages, such as *bungalow* (Hindi), *safari* (Swahili), *chocolate* (Nahuatl), and *kangaroo* (Aboriginal). Moreover, in the 20th and 21st centuries, technological and cultural globalization accelerated the influx of new international terms (*robot, anime, sushi, emoji*) [4].

Consequently, English exemplifies a highly receptive and integrative linguistic system, capable of absorbing diverse influences while retaining its grammatical structure.

Unlike English, the Karakalpak language developed primarily within the Turkic linguistic family, yet it has been deeply influenced by historical contacts with Arabic, Persian, Russian, and English.

The spread of Islam introduced numerous Arabic and Persian words related to religion, education, and culture. For example:

- *kitap* (book),
- *dunya* (world),
- *adam* (human),
- *muxabbat* (love),
- *sóz* (word) [7, 414-418].

These words, despite their foreign origin, are now fully naturalized and phonologically integrated.

During the Soviet period, Russian became the dominant source of lexical borrowing. Words related to politics, science, technology, and administration entered the language, such as:

- *zavod* (factory),
- *avtobus* (bus),
- *traktor* (tractor),
- *student* (student),
- *proletar* (proletarian).

Interestingly, Russian borrowings often preserved their original morphology, though sometimes adapted to Turkic phonetics.

In the post-Soviet era, English emerged as a major source of lexical borrowing, primarily through mass media, the Internet, and education. Common examples include:

- *kompyuter* (computer),
- *internet*,
- *onlayn* (online),
- *market*,
- *manager*,
- *business* [1].

These terms are frequently used without translation, especially among young speakers, symbolizing modernity and global connectivity.

Therefore, it can be concluded that the Karakalpak language, while striving to maintain its Turkic identity, actively engages in lexical exchange to remain relevant in a globalized context.

While loanwords reflect external lexical expansion, neologisms represent internal linguistic creativity.

In English, neologisms are often created through:

- Affixation: *digitalize*, *influencer*, *vloggable*;
- Conversion: *to Google*, *to text*, *to friend*;
- Clipping and Blending: *motel* (*motor* + *hotel*), *brunch* (*breakfast* + *lunch*);
- Semantic Shift: *mouse* (animal → computer device), *cloud* (sky → digital storage).

In Karakalpak, neologisms arise mainly through:

- Derivation: *aqqaratshı* (informant), *jasalma* (artificial);
- Compounding: *onlayn sabaq* (online lesson), *úy jumıs* (homework);
- Loan Translation: *baǵdarlama jasawshı* (software developer);
- Phonetic Borrowing: *printer*, *sistem*, *format*.

Thus, both languages exhibit a balance between borrowing and native innovation, demonstrating flexibility and adaptation.

Loanwords and neologisms do not merely enrich vocabulary—they reflect how societies perceive and interpret the world.

In English, the constant influx of new words illustrates its status as a global lingua franca. Meanwhile, Karakalpak's lexical innovations reveal the increasing influence of international culture, education, and technology.

For instance, the widespread use of English-origin words like *kompyuter* or *internet* in Karakalpak everyday speech indicates the integration of modern global culture into local identity.

However, the rapid growth of foreign words also raises concerns about linguistic purity. Some Karakalpak linguists argue for the preservation of native forms, suggesting equivalents like *baylanis orayı* (network) instead of *internet*. Yet, complete avoidance of loanwords is unrealistic, as language naturally evolves through contact and innovation.

Therefore, both English and Karakalpak exemplify the delicate balance between preserving linguistic heritage and embracing global modernity.

Cognitively, new words expand conceptual categories and allow speakers to verbalize new experiences. For example, the emergence of digital terms like *upload*, *hashtag*, *emoji*, and *selfie* illustrates how neologisms encapsulate new modes of thought. Similarly, Karakalpak terms like *onlayn sabaq* or *smartfon* signal changes in social interaction and communication habits.

Thus, lexical innovation not only reflects technological progress but also shapes how speakers conceptualize the world around them.

**Conclusion.** In conclusion, the study of loanwords and neologisms in English and Karakalpak languages highlights the dynamic and adaptive nature of human communication. English, as a historically receptive and globally dominant language, continuously expands through borrowing and internal innovation. In contrast, Karakalpak, while smaller in scope, actively absorbs and modifies foreign elements to express modern realities without losing its Turkic foundation. Both languages demonstrate that lexical change is a natural response to cultural interaction and technological advancement. Through loanwords, languages acknowledge external influence; through neologisms, they assert internal creativity. Therefore, the study of these processes offers a deeper understanding of how language evolves alongside human civilization, constantly balancing between tradition and innovation, local identity and global participation.

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