# Anglicisms in comparison with other borrowings in Polish

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The status of borrowings in a lexical system in a particular language can be assessed from two points of view: in lists of words, usually in dictionaries, and in text. In the former approach the potential items in the system are actually taken into account, while in the latter the actual significance, or the functional load, of the items for the users is analyzed. In previous studies of borrowings from English (Anglicisms) in Polish it was predominantly data from dictionaries that were used, as this is the easiest approach. However, even these data were not used fully. In particular, Anglicisms were not analysed against borrowings from other languages and against other lexical items (non-borrowings) in the Polish language, therefore, without the comparative dimension, it is simply not known whether they are numerous or not, and any discussions of their frequency remain highly subjective. Studies of Anglicisms in text were far less numerous, the only significant one was the research by Witaszek-Samborska (1992, 1993), based, however, on a very small corpus from the 1960's, which, therefore, does not reflect contemporary usage.

This paper will discuss results from a recent, unpublished yet, study of borrowings in Polish by the author. In the study lists of borrowings, or, to be exact, names of entries (headwords) with their etymologies, were generated from computer versions of several recent dictionaries of Polish, both general ones (circa 50,000 entries) and those of so-called foreign words. This included not only single-word borrowings but also multi-word units. These lists were then analyzed quantitatively, so that it was possible to compare contributions from several languages to the lexical system of Polish. The study was modelled on that of Finkenstaedt and Wolff (1973), in which data from several Oxford dictionaries were analyzed. The quality of etymologies in Polish dictionaries will be also discussed.

Using these data it was also possible to make a list of Polish lexemes with etymological tags, which can be hopefully used in future to automatically (or semi-automatically) tag running text, therefore estimating the frequency and the functional load of borrowings. The list was prepared in the form of a lemmatization file for WordSmith, a popular corpus management system. Finally, the paper will discuss future directions of research to be carried out by the author.

## References

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