

Nativized Hispanic Borrowed Words in Cebuano Visayan Editorial “Masanta Nang Badlungon”: A Lexical Analysis

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Abstract

This linguistic study descriptively analyzes the nativized Hispanic borrowed words in Cebuano Visayan. A lexical analysis of the morphemic structures of words is undertaken in order to investigate the language nativization. The textual source of the analysis is the editorial from Superbalita-Cebu with the title: “*Masanta nang Badlungon*”. The words are examined as to lexical categories, English equivalents, root words, Spanish equivalents, and nativization. After an in-depth lexical analysis of the morphemic structures of words from the textuality as supported by the theory of phylogenetic change through linguistic borrowing, the following are the findings: (1) The Hispanic borrowed words in the Cebuano Visayan editorial are twelve nouns, three verbs, and three adjectives. (2) All twelve nouns borrowed from Spanish exemplify linguistic acculturation through lexical nativization. (3) The three verbs borrowed from Spanish words reveal nativized spellings and all are added with nativized affixes. (4) The three adjectives borrowed from Spanish change their orthography and native Cebuano Visayan affixes are added. Moreover, based on the findings, it concludes that Hispanic words borrowed in Cebuano Visayan are acculturated through lexical nativization. Hence, this study recommends that a historical and exploratory study be made to the nativized Hispanic borrowed words in Cebuano Visayan to trace back on its origin which will give a better insight to why such word is born and continues to be used.

Keywords: Lexical analysis, cebuano visayan, nativization, hispanic borrowed words, morphemic structures, Spanish equivalents, linguistic acculturation.

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INTRODUCTION

The so-called mingling of languages occurs in the Philippines, a Spanish colony for more than three centuries. Borrowed terms have greatly contributed to the development of lexical and semantic structures in Philippine indigenous languages (Quebec, 2021). The Filipinos and Spanish conquistadors interacted for a long period of time and as a result, the dialectal infusion of Spanish language is indeed evident in Philippine local languages particularly in Cebuano Visayan. One of the Philippines' major languages is the Cebuano Visayan (Caturza, 2012; Dita, 2010; Linguistic Data Consortium, 2020; & Pesirla, 2019). It is a widely spoken language in the Visayas and Mindanao. However, the linguistic study on lexical borrowings is less documented in the oral and written genre (Quebec, 2021). Given this premise, a lexical analysis of word morphemic structures is undertaken to investigate the phenomenon of linguistic borrowing by Philippine

languages, which nativized these borrowed Hispanic words.

Language needs to evolve as communicative needs have evolved. Such evolution of language has taken its big leap because of the emergence of lexical nativization. This has truly influenced the landscape of how people communicate and how this communication being represented textually. Linguistic process by which a borrowed word is phonetically and morphologically adapted to the native language is known as nativization. As mentioned by Pandharipande (1987), nativization is a linguistic process in which a component of the linguistic structure (lexicon, syntax, and other components of grammar) is incorporated into the native language of the speaker. The language is adapted to new uses and undergoes nativization in new contexts; thus, nativization can refer to the process by which the characteristics or linguistic features of certain

foreign words change when they are used in the dominant language (Sankoff & Laberge, 1974).

Theoretical Framework

This paper argues that Hispanic words borrowed in Cebuano Visayan are acculturated through lexical nativization. This assumption is supported by

the theory of phylogenetic change through linguistic borrowing. Any language is design to evolve over time. Among the borrowing is a mechanism of phylogenetic change. As mentioned by Quebec (2021), when two languages come into contact, either one or both may be altered.

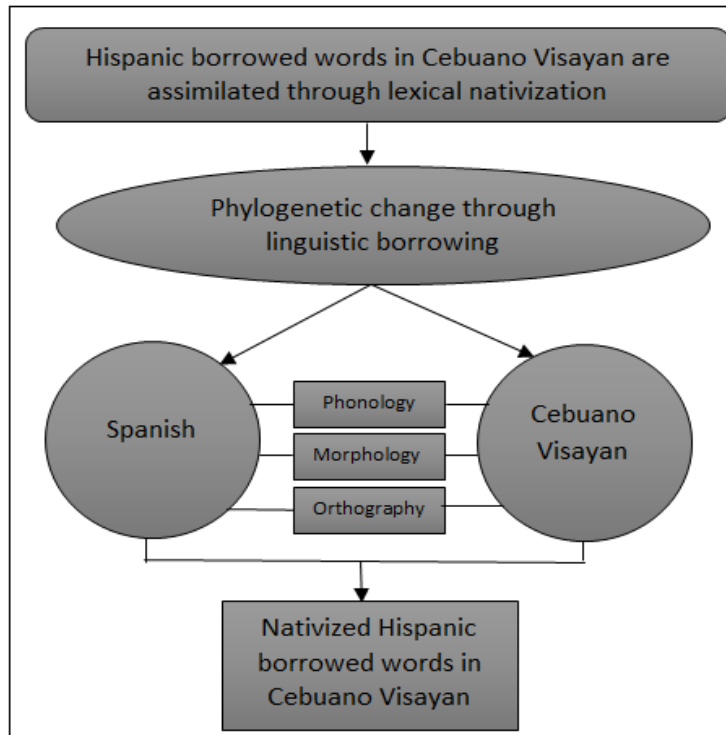


Figure 1: A Schematic Presentation of the Theoretical Setting of the Study

METHODOLOGY

This linguistic study utilizes descriptive research method that presents non-numerical presentation, analysis, and interpretation of verbal data in the analysis of the Cebuano Visayan editorial. To investigate the nativized Hispanic borrowed words in Cebuano Visayan, a lexical analysis of the morphemic structure of words is undertaken. The textual source of the analysis is the editorial from SunStar Superbalita News-Cebu with the title: “Masanta nang Badlungon”. SunStar is a network of community newspapers in the Philippines which originates in Cebu City (Genon-Sieras, 2020). This linguistic investigation of the nativized Hispanic borrowed words in Cebuano Visayan editorial undergoes three different phases: Identification of the borrowed content words (phase

one), Identification of English equivalents, lexical categories, and Spanish roots (phase two), and Analysis of lexical nativization (phase three). Thus, all the words taken from the textual source are examined as to lexical categories, English equivalents, root words, Spanish equivalents, and nativization.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The Hispanic borrowed words in Cebuano Visayan are twelve nouns, three verbs, and three adjectives. This part of the linguistic investigation reveal how Spanish words have been lexically nativized in terms of orthography, phonology, and morphology. After the tabled verbal data, the words and their associated structural segmentations are indicated in matrices and discussed analytically.

Table 1: Content Words Borrowed from Spanish (Noun)

Borrowed Words	English	Spanish	Nativization
1. Ordinansa	Ordinance	Ordenanza	e ➔ i z ➔ s
2. Konsehal	Councilor	Concejal	c ➔ k j ➔ h
3. Konseho	Council	Consejo	c ➔ k j ➔ h
4. Siyudad	City	Ciudad	-ciu ➔ -siyu
5. Kilometro	Kilometer	Kilómetro	No change
6. Ekipo	Equipment	Equipo	-qui ➔ -ki
7. Aksidente	Accident	Accidente	-cci ➔ -ksi
8. Kable	Cable	Cable	c ➔ k
9. Eskina	Corner	Esquina	-qu ➔ k
10. Proyekto	Project	Proyecto	c ➔ k
11. Kapabilidad	Skill	Habilidad	kap + habi ➔ abi
12. Ebidensya	Evidence	Evidencia	v ➔ b -cia ➔ -sya

The following nouns exemplify the linguistic acculturation through lexical nativization:

ORDINANSA (Spanish ORDENANZA, English ORDINANCE) changes E to I, Z to S;

KONSEHAL (Spanish CONCEJAL, English COUNCILOR) changes C to K, J to H;

KONSEHO (Spanish CONSEJO, English COUNCIL) changes C to K, J to H;

SIYUDAD (Spanish CIUDAD, English CITY) changes -CIU to -SIYU;

KILOMETRO (Spanish KILOMETRO, English KILOMETER) no change;

EKIPO (Spanish EQUIPO, English EQUIPMENT) changes -QUI to -KI;

AKSIDENTE (Spanish ACCIDENTE, English ACCIDENT) changes -CCI to -KSI;

KABLE (Spanish CABLE, English CABLE) changes C to K;

ESKINA (Spanish ESQUINA, English CORNER) changes -QU to K;

PROYEKTO (Spanish PROYECTO, English PROJECT) changes C to K;

KAPABILIDAD (Spanish HABILIDAD, English SKILL) adds the prefix -KAP to the root ABILIDAD, a native respelling of the Spanish HABILIDAD (English SKILL), removes the letter H; and

EBIDENSYA (Spanish EVIDENCIA, English EVIDENCE) changes V to B, -CIA to -SYA.

Table 2: Content Words Borrowed from Spanish (Verb)

Borrowed Words	English	Spanish	Nativization
1. Mapublikar	Publicize	Publicar	ma + c ➔ k
2. Giaprobahan	Approve	Aprobar	Gi + r ➔ -han
3. Mapirmahan	Sign	Firmar	ma + f ➔ p + r ➔ -han

The verbs borrowed from Spanish words reveal nativized spellings and all are added with nativized affixes:

MAPUBLIKAR adds the prefix -MA to the root PUBLIKAR from the Spanish PUBLICAR (English PUBLICIZE) changes C to K;

GIAPROBAHAN adds the prefix -GI and the suffix -HAN to the root APROBA, a nativized respelling of the Spanish APROBAR (English APPROVE); and

MAPIRMAHAN adds the prefix -MA and the suffix -HAN to the root PIRMA, a nativized respelling of the Spanish FIRMAR (English TO SIGN).

Table 3: Content Words Borrowed from Spanish (Adjective)

Borrowed Words	English	Spanish	Nativization
1. Lokal	Local	Local	c ➔ k
2. Sakto	Exact	Exacto	-ex ➔ s c ➔ k
3. Klarong	Clear	Claro	c ➔ k + -ng

The adjectives borrowed from Spanish change their orthography and native Cebuano Visayan affixes are added:

LOKAL (Spanish LOCAL, English LOCAL) changes C to K;

SAKTO (Spanish EXACTO, English EXACT) changes -EX to S, C to K; and

KLARONG adds the suffix -NG to the root KLARO, a nativized respelling of the Spanish CLARO (English CLEAR) changes C to K.

Generally, Hispanic borrowed words in the Cebuano Visayan editorial “Masanta nang Badlungon” are culturally assimilated by nativizing their spelling, which conforms to nativized phonology, because Cebuano Visayan is a phonetic language (Cebuano Phonetics and Orthography, 2020; Pesirla, 2019)), and by adding native affixations which correspond to a clear process of lexical nativization.

CONCLUSION

The above-mentioned data strongly proves that the Hispanic borrowed words in Cebuano Visayan are acculturated by nativizing their orthography, which equates to nativized phonology, as Cebuano Visayan is a phonetic language.

RECCOMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following are hereby recommended:

1. A historical and exploratory study be made to the nativized Hispanic borrowed words in Cebuano Visayan to trace back on its origin which will give a better insight to why such word is born and continues to be used;
2. A linear morphemic investigation on linguistic borrowing in various genres of 21st century textualities in the Philippines; and

3. Morphemic study on the language nativization of other Philippine regional dialects.

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