

English loanwords in Thai new word dictionary: A reflection on society

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Abstract

The latter part of the 21st century is widely recognized as an era where communication technology significantly shapes access to information and the absorption of foreign cultures. This trend is evident in the increased usage of English loanwords. An examination of English loanwords featured in the Royal Institute's *New Words Dictionary*, Volumes 1-3, reveals three primary methods of integration: transliteration, translation, and coinage. Transliteration involves adapting English words to fit the Thai language system while retaining their original form or adjusting them to adhere to Thai pronunciation principles. Translation, on the other hand, entails rendering English words or phrases into Thai equivalents. Coinage refers to the creation of entirely new Thai words with similar meanings. Comparing the meanings of English loanwords in the new Thai dictionary with those derived from English sources (*The Cambridge Dictionary* available at <https://dictionary.cambridge.org>) reveals significant changes from the original meanings. These alterations range from narrowing to broadening and sometimes even completely transforming the original meaning. In the vocabulary section, the dictionary of new words primarily focuses on words related to intelligence, emotions, and values. It encompasses terms associated with the mind, emotions, feelings, thoughts, and values, collectively constituting the majority of the vocabulary. An analysis of English loanwords in the dictionary underscores substantial shifts in meaning, indicating the evolving nature of language and its impact on societal comprehension and communication.

Keywords: English loanwords, language and society, *New Word Dictionary*, social reflection, Thai language

1. Introduction

Language change is a phenomenon in language use that reflects social conditions influenced by factors over time, such as changes in values, beliefs, culture, advances in technology and communication, as well as economic changes. In the context of the Thai language, change is often expressed through borrowing from foreign languages or using words and structures from other languages. It reflects the changing social and cultural landscape. Language borrowing plays an essential role in shaping the Thai language, which occurs along with the borrowing and absorption of cultural elements in society (Udomphan & Yinsen, 2018). Therefore, borrowing foreign languages into Thai is a process that reflects cultural exchange and interacts with neighboring regions and distant cultures.

English loanwords have played a significant role in shaping the Thai language, highlighting Thailand's integration into the global community and its exposure to English-speaking cultures. These loanwords have permeated various aspects of Thai society, spanning technology, education, business, and everyday communication.

The integration of English loanwords into the Thai language is a multifaceted process, often achieved through transliteration. Transliteration entails adjusting English words to conform to Thai phonetic and orthographic rules, allowing the words to fit the Thai sound system used in daily life (Saelee, 2013). Additionally, English loanwords in Thai may undergo semantic shifts or adaptations to align with the cultural context of Thai society. This process involves modifying the meaning or usage of loanwords to better harmonize with Thai cultural norms and linguistic conventions. Thus, the incorporation of English loanwords enriches the Thai language and reflects the dynamic interplay between global influences and local expressions.

Research on the incorporation of foreign languages into Thai, including studies of Thai dictionaries, reveals that English, alongside Pali, Sanskrit, Khmer, and Chinese, holds a prominent and increasingly vital position. English is recognized as an international language, prompting the Royal Institute to produce several Thai dictionaries. These dictionaries undergo meticulous review and updates to ensure accuracy and relevance, aligning with the evolving nature of language (Kesetet, 1978, cited in Butte & Singsawat, 2019).

Following the release of the Royal Institute's *Thai Dictionary Edition* in 1999, subsequent editions spanning volumes 1-3 were published in 2007, 2009, and 2011, respectively. These editions aim to capture new words, expressions, and phrases and modifications in the usage of existing vocabulary. They serve as valuable resources for teaching

the Thai language, documenting the emergence and evolution of words within Thai society, and providing evidence for future research on the etymology of Thai vocabulary (Borisuth, 2011).

Certainly, the Royal Institute's creation of new dictionaries highlights a significant influx of English loanwords, observed in various forms such as transliteration and translation. Additionally, these dictionaries aim to date the evolving meanings of these borrowed words within the context of Thai society. Consequently, a keen interest is arising among researchers to delve into the English loanwords cataloged by the Royal Institute, exploring their meanings and etymology.

A comprehensive study of English loanwords included in the *New Dictionary*, Volumes 1-3, allows for an analysis of usage patterns and the societal influences that affect language use in Thai society and culture. Additionally, examining the vocabulary of these borrowed words helps to identify trends in various aspects of Thai society

This endeavor serves as a reflection of Thai society, fostering a deeper awareness and understanding of its intricacies. The reflection of society encapsulates its attitudes, behaviors, thoughts, and values, all of which are manifested through observable societal phenomena. The outcomes of this reflection serve as indicators or agents that shape and influence the beliefs and behaviors of individuals within the society. Through this analysis, a clearer picture of societal dynamics emerges, paving the way for informed observations and potentially contributing to societal development and progress.

2. Background

2.1 Borrowing and loanwords

“Borrowing” is a fundamental process in linguistic evolution. It involves the incorporation of new vocabulary from one language into another through the emulation of words from the source language. When languages interact, lexical borrowings, commonly known as loanwords, emerge as the primary vehicles for transferring linguistic elements.

The term “borrowing” or “word borrowing” is employed in two distinct contexts: firstly, as a broad descriptor encompassing any process of transferring linguistic elements, whether initiated by native speakers integrating foreign elements into their language or by non-native speakers importing features from their native language into another. Secondly, “borrowing” specifically denotes the assimilation of foreign elements into the speaker's native language, serving as a synonym for adoption (Thomason & Kaufman, 1988).

The language from which a loanword originates is termed the donor language, whereas the language into which it is borrowed is referred to as the recipient language. Alternative

terminology sometimes encountered includes “source language” and “borrowing language,” or “model language” and “replica language.” The word serving as the model for the loanword is known as the source word.

Prasithrathsint (1997) defines language borrowing as the process by which one language adopts characteristics from another until they become part of its linguistic makeup. This borrowing encompasses various linguistic features such as sounds, consonants, vowels, tones, melody, accent, and all types of words, particularly nouns, verbs, and idioms, as well as grammar.

From this definition, it can be inferred that language borrowing involves incorporating words or linguistic traits from another language into one’s own. This process may lead to alterations in sounds, vocabulary, and other grammatical structures within the borrowing language.

Lexical borrowing in linguistics refers to the process by which words or phrases from one language are adopted into another language. The term “borrowing” has been criticized for its metaphorical implication of an unauthorized transaction, as the lender is unaware of or does not consent to the loan. Despite attempts by linguists to propose alternative terms such as “mixture,” “adoption,” or “diffusion,” “borrowing” remains prevalent due to its specificity within the field and its exclusion from layman usage (Gaidatzi, 1985).

According to Haugen (1950), borrowing involves the reproduction of linguistic patterns from one language into another, although this reproduction may not always entail a direct imitation. The nature of the borrowed elements can vary widely from their original form (Gaidatzi, 1985). There are several types of lexical borrowings:

Loanwords: This term refers to cases where speakers import not only the meaning but also the phonemic shape of the borrowed word.

Hybrids: Hybrids occur when only a portion of the phonemic shape of a loanword is imported, with the remainder substituted by native elements. An example of this case is the American English word

plumpie, which became [blaumapai] when adopted by Pennsylvania German.

Loan Translation (Calque): This term describes a situation where a borrowed word or phrase is literally translated into another language. For example, the German “*Wolkenkratzer*,” the French “*gratte-ciel*,” and the Spanish “*rascacielos*” are all derived from the English “*sky-scraper*.”

Extension (Semantic Loan): Extension occurs when the meaning of a borrowed word expands or evolves in the borrowing language.

These various types of lexical borrowings demonstrate the dynamic nature of language and the complex interactions between different linguistic communities. In conclusion, while linguistic resources may use “borrowed words” and “loan words” synonymously, they represent distinct terms. This differentiation is crucial when considering language transfer, as it underscores perspectives from both the source and recipient languages.

The main differences between borrowed and loan words in linguistics are often blurred in both recent and old linguistic resources, which commonly fail to distinguish between the two terms fully in language studies. Although they are technically distinct terms, they are often used interchangeably or synonymously. The discrepancy arises from varying terminology employed by linguists and non-linguists alike, with some referring to forms borrowed from other languages as loan words and others as borrowed words, depending on the perspective of the originating language.

Suryani and Buragohain (2019) elucidated that the term “borrowed words” predates “loan words,” as evidenced by its earliest documented usage in 1875. Early linguists, including Whitney, De Saussure, and Sapir, primarily focused on their respective native languages rather than on words borrowed from other languages. Consequently, they did not perceive the necessity of distinguishing words loaned from their native language to others. This perspective persisted until approximately 1950 when Haugen (1950) redirected scholarly attention towards words loaned from the native language to other languages, thereby catalyzing the emergence of the term “loan words.” Despite this development, numerous previous studies failed to discern between “borrowed words” and “loan words,” thereby contributing to confusion among linguists and academics despite the issue remaining both distinguishable and relevant to the public.

Haspelmath (2009) defined the term “loanword” (or lexical borrowing) as a word that becomes integrated into a language’s lexicon through borrowing, transfer, or copying at some point in its history. While this definition is widely accepted, several important considerations must be taken into account.

Primarily, the term borrowing has been used in two distinct senses: firstly, as a broad term encompassing all forms of transfer or copying processes, whether involving native speakers adopting elements from other languages into the recipient language or non-native speakers imposing features of their native language onto a recipient language. This broad sense is the most commonly encountered usage of the term borrowing. Secondly, “borrowing” has also been employed in a narrower sense, specifically denoting the integration of foreign elements into the native language of speakers, which is synonymous with adoption.

It can be concluded that “loanword” and “borrowed word” are similar in that they both refer to the process of combining words from one language to another. They represent cases of language borrowing in which words from the source language are introduced into the recipient language. Both terms acknowledge the phenomenon of language contact and the exchange of linguistic elements between different communities.

However, there are slight differences between these two terms. A “loanword” is a broader term that covers various linguistic elements, including vocabulary, pronunciation, format, grammatical structure, and expressions. It shows a more holistic view of language borrowing that goes beyond vocabulary. On the other hand, a “borrowed word” specifically refers to a borrowed word or phrase that retains its original form and meaning from the original language. These words are generally integrated into a recipient's language with only minor changes in pronunciation or spelling. In summary, although both terms describe the process of linguistic borrowing, “loanword” has a broader scope, while “borrowed word” specifically refers to borrowed words that retain their original form and meaning.

In this article, the term “loanword” is used instead of “loan word” because “loanword” is a more precise term used in linguistics to specifically refer to individual words borrowed from one language into another. The compound form “loanword” emphasizes the concept as a single entity, highlighting the phenomenon of borrowing individual lexical items. In contrast, “loan word” as two separate words can be ambiguous and might be interpreted more generally to include multiple words or phrases borrowed from other languages rather than focusing on single lexical items. By using “loanword,” clarity and specificity are ensured in our discussion of linguistic borrowing.

2.2 Loanwords in Thai

Bandhumedha (2003) examined historical factors influencing language interactions in Thailand, categorizing them into cultural origins, geography, trade, and the integration of foreign languages into the Thai linguistic perspective. These interactions have led to a rich linguistic mosaic in Thailand, characterized by diverse influences from neighboring regions and historical trading partners.

Additionally, lexical borrowing in the Thai language, as classified by applied linguistics, encompasses several elements such as form, meaning, semantics, phonetics, writing systems, Idiomatic Borrowing, grammar, and prosody.

Form: The structure or shape of the borrowed word.

Meaning: Refers to what a word, phrase, sentence, or text is intended to convey, signify, or represent. It is the idea or concept that a linguistic form communicates to a listener or reader.

Semantics provides a systematic framework for understanding meanings, focusing on the structure, relationships, and rules governing meaning in language.

Phonetics: The adoption of sounds or pronunciation patterns from other languages. It focuses on how sounds are produced, transmitted, and received. Phonetics examines the physical and physiological aspects of speech sounds.

Writing Systems: The integration of symbols or letters from other languages into the Thai writing system.

Idiomatic Borrowing: The adoption of idiomatic expressions from one language into another. This adoption can include direct translations or adaptations that fit the cultural and linguistic context of the borrowing language.

Grammar: The adoption of grammatical structures from foreign languages.

Prosody: The adoption of stylistic elements, such as intonation and rhythm, from foreign languages and the rhythm, stress, and intonation of speech. It encompasses pitch, loudness, and duration patterns that occur in spoken language, which contribute to the expressive aspects of speech.

Examples of lexical borrowing include the adoption of words from Khmer, Chinese, and English into the Thai lexicon. Semantic borrowing involves the adoption of meanings or concepts from other languages, while phonetic borrowing entails the adoption of sounds or pronunciation patterns. Writing system borrowing involves the integration of symbols or letters from other languages into the Thai writing system. Idiomatic borrowing refers to the adoption of expressions from other languages. Grammar borrowing and prosody borrowing entail the adoption of grammatical structures and stylistic elements from foreign languages, respectively.

In conclusion, the borrowing of foreign languages into the Thai language is a multifaceted phenomenon shaped by historical, cultural, economic, and educational dynamics. It reflects Thailand's rich linguistic heritage and ongoing interactions with diverse linguistic traditions, contributing to the linguistic diversity and vitality of the Thai language.

Bilyamae and Prasatkaew's (2020) research on foreign loanwords in the Thai language corroborates the multifaceted nature of word borrowing. Their study identified five distinct methods of word borrowing: transliteration, word translation, coining words, and forming words by combining structures and changing meanings. These methods reflect the diverse strategies that Thai speakers employ to integrate foreign linguistic elements into their language.

Moreover, research also delved into the semantic categorization of borrowed words, revealing four overarching characteristics. These characteristics encompass the realms of nature, human behavior, intelligence, emotions, feelings, and values, as well as interpersonal

relationships. Such categorization sheds light on the thematic domains within which borrowed words are utilized, highlighting the broad spectrum of concepts and ideas imported from foreign languages into the Thai lexicon. Study underscores the dynamic and multifaceted nature of language borrowing in the Thai context, illuminating the intricate processes by which linguistic exchange occurs and enriches the Thai language with diverse cultural and conceptual influences.

In 2022, Jiaphong (2022) conducted a comprehensive analysis of loanword patterns and semantic categories found within the Royal Institute of Thailand Dictionary, specifically focusing on loanwords originating from foreign languages. This study encompassed 15 languages, including Khmer, Chinese, Javanese, Vietnamese, Japanese, Mon, Bengali, Persian, Portuguese, French, Malay, Latin, English, Arabic, and Hindi. From this linguistic exploration, a total of 1,710 loanwords were unearthed. Among the identified loanwords, English loanwords emerged as the most prevalent, comprising 883 instances, accounting for 51.64% of the total. Following closely were Khmer loanwords with 430 instances (25.15%) and Chinese loanwords with 142 instances (8.30%). In contrast, Latin and Vietnamese loanwords were the least frequent, each language contributing merely two words, which constituted a mere 0.11% of the total loanwords.

The loanwords in Thai were observed to manifest in eight distinct forms, ranging from one-syllable words to eight-syllable words. Notably, the most common pattern was observed to be two-syllable words, totaling 795 instances (46.49%). This was followed by three-syllable words with 377 instances (22.04%) and one-syllable words with 308 instances (18.01%). Conversely, eight-syllable words were the least encountered, comprising only three instances, which equated to a mere 0.18% of the total.

A semantic analysis revealed that the loanwords could be classified into 17 different clusters, indicating various semantic categories to which they belonged. The majority of borrowed words were found to be related to education, science, and technology, accounting for 447 instances (26.14%). Following closely were words associated with nature and the environment, totaling 195 instances (11.40%), and actions, with 184 instances (10.76%). Remarkably, vehicle-related meanings were the least represented, with only 17 instances, making up a mere 0.99% of the total number of foreign language loanwords.

This thorough examination of loanword patterns and semantic categories highlights Thailand's extensive communication and interaction with individuals from both Asian and European countries. The prevalence of loanwords from a diverse range of languages underscores the country's cultural openness and engagement with the global community.

English loanwords are the most prominent foreign language influence in the Thai lexicon, surpassing even borrowings from Pali-Sanskrit. This trend is expected to further escalate in significance over time, as emphasized by Prasithrathsint (2006) and Kingkham (2007). The widespread adoption of English as an international language by numerous countries has propelled its importance as a medium for inter-country communication. Consequently, contemporary Thai language users exhibit a strong inclination towards incorporating English into their speech and writing. As a result, English words have become pervasive in the Thai language.

Kullawanich et al. (1992) and Kingkham (2013) delineated methods of borrowing English words in Thai:

Translation of Words: This method involves borrowing English words by translating their meanings into Thai. It is employed for ideas or abstractions lacking existing counterparts in Thai. Before borrowing words through translation, Thai equivalents with similar meanings to the English words are used for communication. For example, “middle-man” in Thai becomes “คนกลาง” [khon klɑŋ], which is a direct translation of “middle” and “man.” Similarly, “standpoint” in Thai becomes “จุดยืน” [dʒɔd juen], which is a direct translation of “stand” and “point.”

Transliteration: Transliteration involves borrowing English words into Thai by transcribing their sounds and translating the letters. This method yields clearly identifiable borrowed words from English. Many English words have been borrowed into Thai through transliteration, although some have been coined into Thai by the Royal Institute. Nonetheless, Thai speakers often prefer to use transliterated words over coined ones, as they may be more familiar. For example, “kiwi” becomes “กีวี” [ki:wi:], and “suit” becomes “สูท” [su:t]

Vocabulary Coinage: In this approach, new Thai words are coined to represent English ideas or concepts. These newly coined terms convey the desired ideas, often with different sounds from their English counterparts. Academics and government officials typically undertake the responsibility of coining these terms, especially in academic or specialized fields. The Royal Institute is tasked with creating Thai words to replace borrowed foreign words, including academic vocabulary. For example, “องค์กร” [ʔoŋ ka:n] is coined from “organization,” and “ภูมิหลัง” [phu:m lâŋ] is coined from “background.”

Additionally, another reason for borrowing English words into Thai is the necessity of doing so within an academic context. Because Thailand has received art and technology from Western nations, academic English vocabulary in the Thai language has expanded rapidly. As

a result, there have not been enough new words coined in Thai to accommodate the increasing number of borrowed words from English (Phokasamrit, 2021)

Culturally, the integration of Western culture has prompted the inclusion of English in local product and service names, even when the Thai language suffices, which is aimed at capturing consumer attention.

Language evolution dictates that languages continually change over time. Borrowing English words enhances the Thai language, influencing linguistic shifts and usage within Thai society. The introduction of English words into Thai also induces changes in pronunciation, meaning, and syntactic structure.

In summary, the use of English in spoken Thai entails incorporating both vocabulary and pronunciation elements from English, which includes borrowing syntactic structures, meanings, or cultural ideologies from English-speaking societies. The process of introducing borrowed words into Thai serves as a clear mechanism for language evolution originating from external sources. Additionally, borrowing from English is intertwined with the social, economic, and cultural dimensions of English, exerting a significant impact on contemporary Thai society and influencing changes within the Thai language. It is possible to confirm that the process of transliterating or borrowing English words into other languages is an inevitable aspect of cultural exchange, adaptation, and evolution in different societies.

3. Data and Methods

This study of English loanwords in *The Dictionary of New Words*, The Royal Institute Edition Volumes 1-3 (2007, 2009, 2011) employs the following research methods.

3.1 Reviewing documents and research related to foreign languages in Thai involves examining the changes or transformations in the meanings of borrowed foreign words, the borrowing of English words, and the vocabulary of loanwords in English transliterated terms in Thai dictionaries.

3.2 Collecting and compiling English loanwords in the Royal Institute Dictionary Volumes 1-3 entails selecting only those words labeled with (๑.) and excluding duplicate entries.

3.3 Utilizing the analytical framework to study the process of integrating and converting English words into Thai involves a comprehensive system for scanning foreign language words. This system is complete with transliteration, interpretation, and directional control systems. According to the concepts outlined by The Royal Institute (1989) and Kingkham (2013), these components play a crucial role in the process. When writing English words and creating new

Thai vocabulary, the transliteration process entails accurately transcribing English words into the Thai system without altering their form or sound, although minor adjustments may be made to reflect the origins of the original words. Additionally, loan translations involve translating English phrases or words to determine suitable Thai equivalents. Furthermore, examining subtitles written by The Royal Institute, rather than relying solely on English words, reveals more nuanced meanings, which are often exclusive to the English language.

3.4 Analyzing data involves comparing the definitions of English loanwords in *The Dictionary of New Words*, The Royal Institute Edition Volumes 1-3 (2007, 2009, 2011), with the meanings of English words. Specifically, semantic analysis will be conducted to compare the definitions provided in the Royal Institute Edition dictionary with those obtained from *The Cambridge Dictionary*, available on the website <https://dictionary.cambridge.org>. The results of this analysis are elucidated descriptively, highlighting any discrepancies, similarities, or nuances observed between the definitions provided by the two dictionaries. Additionally, the analysis will aim to provide insights into the contextual usage, connotations, and cultural implications associated with the interpreted meanings of the words in both dictionaries. Through this comparative examination, a deeper understanding of the semantic variations and linguistic nuances inherent in the translation and interpretation of English loanwords into Thai will be attained.

3.5 Analyzing the vocabulary of English loanwords in *The Dictionary of New Words* consists of words borrowed from the English language and integrated into the Thai lexicon, as outlined in the linguistic-cultural concept of Hopi Domains proposed by Voegelin (1957), and the English transliteration vocabulary concept by Santikul and Chaiyapanya (2017). It encompasses terms associated with nature, human behavior, wisdom, emotions, values, and interpersonal relationships.

4. Characteristics of English Loanwords Found in the Thai New Words Dictionary

From the study of English loanwords in the new words dictionary, The Royal Institute Edition Volumes 1-3, there are a total of 612 English loanwords. These loanwords are utilized in various ways to reflect the characteristics of Thai society. English loanwords in the new dictionary are borrowed and employed in three main ways: transliteration, translation, and coinage.

4.1 Transliteration: Transliteration involves adapting English words into Thai script while retaining the original phonetic form. A total of 578 loanwords, making up 94.44% of the total vocabulary, were identified using this method and categorized as follows:

4.1.1 Direct Transliteration: Direct transliteration involves directly transcribing English words into Thai script, maintaining the closest phonetic resemblance to the original pronunciation.

Example 1:

เกย์	[ke:]	(Transliteration from Gay)
จัมโบ	[dʒʌm.bəʊ]	(Transliteration from Jumbo)
เซล	[seɪw]	(Transliteration from Sale)

4.1.2 Transliteration with Sound Adaptation: Transliteration with sound adaptation involves modifying the pronunciation of English words to align with Thai pronunciation. This adaptation can occur through:

1) Adjustment of Tonal Marks: Adjustment of tonal marks involves the utilization of Thai tonal marks with English loanwords to ensure their alignment with Thai pronunciation rules.

โน้ตบุ๊ก	[no:t - bu:k]	(Transliteration from Notebook)
เวิร์กช็อป	[wɔ:k - chəp]	(Transliteration from Workshop)
สμιอลทอล์ก	[sa - mɔ - tɔ:k]	(Transliteration from Small talk)

2) Syllable Sound Reduction: Syllable reduction involves the process of reducing or simplifying syllable sounds in speech.

2.1) Eliminating the first syllable involves removing the initial syllable from the English loanword to shorten pronunciation.

Example 3:

ไซ์ซ์	[sáj]	(Transliteration from Excite)
เด็น	[dɛn]	(Transliteration from Modern)
โหลด	[ləʊd]	(Transliteration from Download)

2.2) Truncation of End Syllables entails removing syllables at the end of English loanwords to shorten pronunciation.

Example 4:

เพจ	[pɛt]	(Transliteration from Pager)
ไมค์	[maj]	(Transliteration from Microphone)
แอร์	[ʔɛ:]	(Transliteration from Airhostess)

3) Initialism involves taking the initial letters of words in English and arranging them together.

Example 5:

SME	(Small and Medium Enterprises)
VCD	(Video Compact Disc)
ICU	(Intensive Care Unit)

4) Dragging into meaning is the process of taking English words and changing their sound to imitate the sound or shape of Thai words.

Example 6:

เวิร์กทูเดา	[wǎ:p - thu: - dau]	(imitating the sound from Verb to do)
สตอเบอรี่	[sa - to: - bǎr - rí]	(imitating the sound from Strawberry)
มอเตอร์ซ่า	[mo: - tǎ: - khǎ]	(imitating the sound from Motorcar)

4.2 Loan Translation: involves translating English words or phrases to define words or phrases in Thai. In total, there are 31 words, making up 5.07% of the total vocabulary.

Example 7:

โทรศัพท์เคลื่อนที่	[to: - rá - sàp - khu:ân - thi:]	(translated from Mobile phone)
เศรษฐกิจฟองสบู่	[sèt - tha - kít - fɔ:ŋ - sa - bu:]	(translated from Bubble economy)
อริยะขัดขืน	[ʔa - rí - yá - khàt - khu:ñ]	(translated from Civil disobedience)

4.3 Coinage: Through the implementation of the new Thai language control system, three new Thai terms have been coined to replace English terms, enhancing clarity in communication. These three words make up 0.49% of the total vocabulary.

Example 8:

ภาษามือ	[pha: - sǎ: - mu:]	(Sign language)
วิสัยทัศน์	[wí - sǎj - thát]	(Vision)
สารต้านอนุมูลอิสระ	[sǎn - thân - ʔà - nú - mu:n - ʔit - sà - rà]	(Antioxidant)

5. Meaning of English Loanwords in the *Dictionary of New Words*

From studying the meanings of borrowed English words in the Dictionary of New Words, the changes in assigned meanings can be classified into three types.

5.1 Narrowing of meaning is characterized by the fact that the original English word may have multiple meanings, but it is used to represent only one specific meaning.

Example 9: ค็อก (อ. cock)

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
n. an adult male chicken n. a rude (an offensive) word for a penis n. a friendly form of address, used especially by a man talking to another man v. to move a part of your body upwards or in a particular direction v. to push the necessary piece of a gun up into position so that it is ready to fire	n. a device for turning water on and off from a pipe or container n. strategy, method, technique

Example 10: เวิร์ก (อ. work)

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
n. an activity, such as a job, that a person uses physical or mental effort to do, usually for money n. the material used by someone at work, or what they produce n. a place where a person goes specially to do their job n. something created as a result of effort, especially a painting, book, or piece of music n. surgery (= a medical operation) that is done to improve someone's appearance	v. to be successful, to proceed well

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
n. everything that you might want or expect to find in a particular situation n. an industrial building, especially one where a lot of people are employed n. the parts of a machine, especially those that move n. force multiplied by the distance moved v. to be effective or successful v. to do a job, especially the job you do to earn money v. to make a person or animal do a job v. If a machine or device works, it operates, especially correctly and without failure, and if you work it, you make it operate v. to succeed gradually in becoming something or cause a person or thing to become something, either by making an effort or by making many small movements v. to arrange for something to happen, especially by not using official methods and/or by being clever v. to shape, change, or process a substance	

5.2 Broadening of meaning is the characteristic in which the meaning of English words originally had one specific meaning, but it can be used in many ways, such as:

Example 11: คาราโอเกะ (อ. karaoke)

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
n. a form of entertainment, originally from Japan, in which recordings of the music but not the words of popular	n. A CD recording containing the melody of a song with lyrics, allowing individuals to sing along

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
songs are played so that people can sing the words themselves	n. A venue or establishment where customers can sing songs along with the provided lyrics n. A set of equipment comprising a melody and lyrics for singing along adj. About singing along to a CD, recording the melody along with the lyrics for singing along

Example 12: ชิ่ง (อ. racing)

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
n. competition in races n. horse races	v. To drive fast v. To drive rapidly with excitement v. To move swiftly by car

5.3 Transference of meaning is a characteristic wherein the original English word possesses a specific meaning but is utilized with a new meaning.

Example 13: พริตตี้ (อ. pretty)

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
adv. quite, but not extremely adv. almost adj. pleasant to look at, or (especially of girls or women or things relating to them) attractive or pleasant in a delicate way	n. A young woman or young man with a good appearance responsible for promoting new car products

Example 14: ไรต์ (อ. write)

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
v. to make marks that represent letters, words, or numbers on a surface, such as paper or a computer screen, using a pen,	(v.) To transfer data to a CD or DVD

Meaning in English Dictionary:	Meaning in the Dictionary of New Words:
<p>pencil, or keyboard, or to use this method to record thoughts, facts, or messages</p> <p>v. to send a letter or message to someone, giving them information or expressing your thoughts or feelings</p> <p>v. to create and record something, such as a book, poem, song, or computer program, on paper or on a computer</p> <p>v. to have the job of creating books, stories, or articles that will be published</p> <p>v. to say something in a book, newspaper, magazine, or document</p> <p>v. to record information in the memory of a computer</p>	

6. The vocabulary of English loanwords in the *Dictionary of New Words*

The vocabulary of English loanwords in the Dictionary of New Words consists of words borrowed from the English language and integrated into the Thai lexicon.

Table 1: Vocabulary of English Words Related to Nature

Category	Number	Percentage	Examples
Words related to measurement	24	36.92	cubic, jumbo
Words related to dates and times	13	20.00	count down
Words about compounds and reactions	8	12.31	foam, antioxidant
Words related to the element radical	5	7.69	turquoise, free
Words related to plants	4	6.15	kiwi, prune
Words related to mathematics	2	3.08	fifty-fifty, number
Words related to animals	2	3.08	fossil, sucker
Words related to geographic features, topography	2	3.08	summer, tsunami

Words related to radioactive elements created by scientist	2	3.08	x-ray, neon
Words related to inanimate natural resources	1	1.54	aura
Words related to heat energy, lighting, electricity warming and energy sources	1	1.54	global
Words related to phenomena caused by the sky shower	1	1.54	meteor
Words related to stars	0	0.00	-
Total	65	100.00	

In Vocabulary Related to Nature, there are 65 words that comprise 13 characteristics. The majority of the vocabulary falls under words related to measurement (36.92%), followed by words associated with dates and times (20.00%) and compounds and reactions (12.31%). Notably, no words related to stars and sky study methods were found.

Table 2 Vocabulary of English Words Related to Human and Human Behavior

Category	Number	Percentage	Examples
Words related to sensory perception and bodily sensations	31	41.89	blur, soft
Words related to clothing	30	40.54	suits, court shoes
Words related to medical treatment	11	10.81	treatment, repairs, vascular care unit
Words related to human function	3	4.05	signal, write, turn
Words related to physical attributes, and human form	2	2.70	no hands, body
Total	74	100.00	

In Vocabulary Related to Humans and Human Behavior, there are 74 words; all five characteristics in this category were identified. The most prevalent vocabulary pertains to the body's senses (41.89%), followed by words related to clothing (40.54%) and health and medical treatment (10.81%).

Table 3 Vocabulary of English Words Related to Intelligence, Emotions, and Values

Category	Number	Percentage	Examples
Words related to feelings and thoughts	53	43.80	imagine, sad, excite, artist, feel, romantic
Words related to values	47	38.84	modern, taste, poll
Words related to learning	19	15.70	course, coach, observe
Words related to religion	2	1.64	mob
Total	121	100.00	

Vocabulary Related to Intelligence, Emotions, and Values covers a total of 121 words. Words related to the mind, emotions, feelings, and thoughts dominate (43.80%), followed by words related to values (38.84%), Learning (15.70%), and Religion (1.64%). This distribution shows that the majority of the vocabulary in this category pertains to the mind and emotions, followed by words related to values and learning. Words related to religion are the least represented.

Table 4 Vocabulary of English Words Related to Personal Relationships

Category	Number	Percentage	Examples
Words related to general tools and equipment	47	13.35	microchip, crochet
Words related to electrical appliances and measuring tools	40	11.36	notebook, circuit breaker
Words related to sports	39	11.08	golf, foul, fitness
Words related to communication	37	10.51	cyber, web board
Words related to economy, trade, and finance	29	8.24	chip, credit, bank
Words related to housing, places	26	7.39	knock-down, home office
Words related to gambling and recreation	24	6.82	party, online game
Words related to transportation, vehicles	23	6.53	passport, minibus
Words related to food	23	6.53	bakery, junk food, seafood, cereal
Words related to music	21	5.97	tone, music video

Words related to careers, position	19	5.40	board, VIP
Words related to human classification	17	4.83	ethnic group, lesbian,
			gay, both, man
Words related to war, politics, and government	4	1.14	nominee, boycott, bodyguard, mafia
Words related to drinks	3	0.85	coffee shop, soft drink
Total		352	100.00

Among the words related to personal relationships, There are a total of 352 words. The top three include words related to general electrical appliances (13.35%), electrical appliances and measuring instruments (11.36%), and sports (11.08%).

7. Discussion and Conclusion

The study of English loanwords in the *Dictionary of New Words*, Royal Institute Edition Volumes 1-3, reveals that these loanwords are incorporated into the Thai language through three primary methods: transliteration, translation, and coinage. The predominant approach is transliteration, wherein English vocabulary is adapted to fit the Thai language system while preserving the original word form. Transliteration methods include direct transcription of letter sounds to closely match English pronunciation, as well as modification of sounds to align with Thai language principles. This modification consists of adjusting the pronunciation to match Thai pronunciation, shortening syllables by omitting initial or final consonant sounds, utilizing abbreviated forms of language words, and altering sounds to emulate Thai word forms. These strategies aim to seamlessly integrate English loanwords into the Thai language, maintaining their original essence while accommodating linguistic nuances and conventions.

The meanings of English loanwords in the *Dictionary of New Words*, when compared with those translated from English dictionaries, often exhibit changes from their original meanings, manifesting either a narrowing or broadening of semantic scope. In some cases, an English word with multiple meanings may be used to denote only one specific concept in Thai. Conversely, certain words that have specific meanings in English may acquire multiple meanings in Thai, including instances where the original meaning undergoes a shift. This

phenomenon illustrates the dynamic nature of language and the contextual adaptations that occur during linguistic borrowing and integration.

In the examination of the English loanwords found in the Royal Institute's *New Words Dictionary*, Volumes 1-3, it becomes apparent that they are distributed diversely across various thematic contexts, such as nature, human behavior, emotions and values, and personal relationships. Notably, words related to measurement, sensory perception, and emotions and thoughts stand out as the most prevalent in each category.

The analysis of Words Related to Nature (Table 1) underscores this observation, where out of the 65 words examined, those linked to measurement comprise the largest portion, representing 36.92% of the total vocabulary. Examples include terms like "cube" and "jumbo." Following closely are words concerning dates and times, constituting 20.00%, such as "countdown," while words denoting compounds and reactions make up 12.31%, including "foam" and "antioxidant." Additionally, words related to plant terms represent 6.15% of the total, whereas vocabulary pertaining to mathematics, animals, geographic features, and radioactive elements established by scientists each contribute 3.08%.

Turning to the section on Words Related to Humans and Human Behavior (Table 2), an analysis of 74 terms reveals that those pertaining to sensory perception and bodily sensations are predominant, constituting 41.89% of the total. This is exemplified by terms like "blurred" and "soft." Following closely are words associated with clothing, accounting for 40.54%, such as "suit" and "court shoes." Medical treatment-related terms make up 10.81%, including "treatment" and "repair," while those related to human functions, physical attributes, and human form collectively represent 4.05% and 2.70%, respectively.

In Words Related to Emotions, Feelings, and Values (Table 3), there are 121 words. Terms associated with feelings and thoughts take the lead, constituting 43.80% of the total, including "imagination," "sad," and "exciting." Next are terms related to values at 38.84%, such as "modern" and "taste," while those related to learning account for 15.70%, featuring words like "course" and "observation." Words related to religion make a minor contribution of only 1.64%.

Finally, in Words Related to Personal Relationships (Table 4), an analysis of 352 words finds that those associated with general tools and equipment are most common, comprising 13.35% of all words, including "microchip" and "crochet." This is followed by terms related to electrical appliances and measuring tools at 11.36%, such as "notebook" and "circuit breaker," and those related to sports at 11.08%, featuring terms like "golf" and "fitness." Words related

to Communication account for 10.51%, while terms related to economy, trade, and finance represent 8.24%.

When examining the words in each category as a percentage, it is evident that words related to Personal Relationships have the highest count, totaling 352 (57.50%) out of 612, representing the highest percentage. Subsequently, words related to Intelligence, Emotions, and Values comprise 121 words (19.70%), while those related to Human and Human Behavior amount to 74 words (12.10%). The smallest percentage is attributed to words related to Nature, totaling 65 words (10.70%).

When utilizing the findings derived from the three aforementioned lexical analyses to examine alterations in the lexical composition of English words within the Dictionary of New Words, Royal Institute Edition Volumes 1-3, in comparison with changes observed in the vocabulary of English transliterated words in Thai dictionaries from the years 1950, 1982, 1999, and 2011 (Santikul & Chaiyapanya, 2017), a significant disparity became evident. Specifically, the top three English words identified in the Dictionary of New Words markedly differed from those prominent in the four Thai dictionaries. This divergence is attributed to the paucity of terms associated with cognition, emotion, sentiment, cogitation, and axiology in Thai dictionaries spanning the period from 1950 to 2011. Merely three lexemes pertaining to these thematic domains were discernible across the stipulated timeframe: one word appeared in the 1950 dictionary, and two additional words were introduced in the 1982 dictionary. Regarding vocabulary pertaining to personal relationships (as presented in Table 2), akin to words related to tools and general utensils, it was observed that while comparing the frequencies within the same vocabulary to that of words related to interpersonal relationships, words associated with general tools ranked third. However, in the new edition of the Royal Institute Dictionary it exhibited the highest frequency with a total of 14 words. This reordering signifies a noteworthy shift in lexical priorities within the latest edition.

The findings from this change in terminology show that digital technology is undeniably advanced and essential in daily life (Ungsitipoonporn, 2023). The latter part of the 21st century is characterized by the widespread role of communication technology in accessing information and embracing foreign cultures. Consequently, Thai society has increasingly adopted intellectual, emotional, and cultural values from foreign countries to enrich experiences and embrace diversity. Technology serves as a vital tool in facilitating cultural exchange and learning at both individual and societal levels. Therefore, this shift in terminology reflects various societal changes and phenomena in Thai society.

However, technological progress is not only a tool to enhance learning about various cultures from abroad; it also involves the adoption of foreign languages, especially transliterated words, as they are the simplest and fastest way to use a foreign language. Nonetheless, when words relate to living conditions or societal feelings, transliteration may lead to misunderstandings. Similarly, it is crucial to coin words that carry the same meaning as the original ones (Krasaesin, 2016), allowing language users in that society to comprehend each other.

The findings from this change in terminology show that digital technology is undeniably advanced and essential in daily life (Ungsitipoonporn, 2023). In the latter part of the 21st century, the pervasive influence of communication technology is evident, shaping how individuals access information and embrace diverse cultures. Consequently, Thai society has progressively integrated intellectual, emotional, and cultural values from foreign contexts, enriching experiences and fostering a spirit of inclusivity. Technology plays a pivotal role in facilitating cultural exchange and knowledge dissemination, both at the individual and societal levels. Thus, the shift in terminology reflects broader societal changes and phenomena unfolding in Thai society.

However, technological advancement not only serves as a conduit for learning about diverse cultures but also entails the adoption of foreign languages, particularly through transliteration, as a convenient and expedient means of incorporating foreign linguistic elements. Nevertheless, when transliterated words pertain to societal conditions or emotional nuances, they may engender misunderstandings. Therefore, it becomes imperative to coin new terms that accurately convey the intended meaning, ensuring mutual comprehension among language users within the society (Krasaesin, 2016).

The results of this study on English loanwords in the *Dictionary of New Words* demonstrate that language borrowing can promote diversity and understanding in communication among groups of people with similar and different cultures and languages. However, in some instances, it may lead to confusion or conflict due to variations in the meanings of borrowed words or expressions. Therefore, understanding the evolving language in society is essential for fostering mutual comprehension.

The study on English loanwords in the Royal Institute's *New Words Dictionary*, Volumes 1-3, reveals three primary methods of integration: transliteration, translation, and coinage. Transliteration involves adapting English words to fit the Thai language system while maintaining their original form or altering them to match Thai pronunciation principles. Translation involves rendering English words or phrases into Thai, while coinage entails

creating new Thai words with equivalent meanings. It is noteworthy that English lacks tones, whereas Thai is tonal, resulting in original tones being retained when English words are utilized in Thai. The transliteration of English words into Thai follows a systematic process (Chonmahatrakul & Onsuwan, 2016).

The comparison between the meanings of English loanwords in the dictionary of new words and those translated from English dictionaries reveals significant changes from the original meanings. These alterations range from narrowing down the meaning to broadening it or even wholly shifting the original meaning. In terms of vocabulary, the dictionary of new words predominantly includes words related to intelligence, emotions, and values, encompassing terms associated with the mind, emotions, feelings, thoughts, and values, which collectively constitute a significant portion of the vocabulary.

Analyzing changes in lexical circles of English loanwords reveals significant differences between the dictionary of new words and the previous Thai dictionaries. The inclusion of words related to the mind, emotions, and values is more pronounced in the new dictionary, reflecting societal changes and increased exposure to foreign cultures facilitated by advancements in communication technology.

While technology aids in cultural exchange, particularly through language borrowing, it also poses challenges, especially with transliterated words that may lead to misunderstandings. Therefore, coining new words accurately is essential to ensure mutual understanding among language users. Overall, language borrowing enhances diversity and facilitates communication between individuals from different cultural backgrounds. However, it may also lead to conflicts due to differing interpretations of borrowed words. Therefore, understanding language changes in society is crucial for fostering mutual understanding and harmony.

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