

THE INFLUENCE OF ENGLISH ON MODERN DUTCH LANGUAGE

Eshboboyeva Sevinch Fayzulla qizi

Sophomore student at Uzbekistan State

World Languages University

Scientific asvisor: Rahmonqulova Habiba Sodiqovna

ESL teacher of Uzbekistan State World

Languages University at Faculty of

Annotation. In the era of globalization, English has become a dominant global language that significantly influences other languages. One such language is Dutch, which has been experiencing rapid changes in vocabulary, structure, and everyday communication due to the growing presence of English. This paper explores how English affects the modern Dutch language, particularly in the areas of lexical borrowing, code-switching, media influence, and higher education. While the integration of English brings many benefits, including improved global communication and modern linguistic innovation, it also poses challenges related to cultural identity and the preservation of Dutch linguistic traditions. This study highlights both the advantages and disadvantages of English's growing role in Dutch and calls for a balanced approach to language development.

Keywords: English, Dutch, lexical borrowing, globalization, code-switching, media, higher education.

Annotatsiya. Globallashuv davrida ingliz tili boshqa tillarga sezilarli darajada ta'sir ko'rsatayotgan yetakchi global tilga aylandi. Shunday tillardan biri – golland tili bo'lib, u ingliz tilining tobora kuchayib borayotgan ta'siri natijasida so'z boyligi, tuzilishi va kundalik muloqotda tezkor o'zgarishlarga uchramoqda. Ushbu maqolada ingliz tilining zamonaviy golland tiliga, xususan, leksik qarz olish, kod-almashish, ommaviy axborot vositalari ta'siri va oliy ta'lim sohalaridagi ta'siri o'rganiladi. Ingliz tilining integratsiyasi global muloqotni rivojlantirish va zamonaviy lingvistik innovatsiyalarni taqdim etish kabi ko'plab ijobiy jihatlarga ega bo'lsa-da, u madaniy identitet va golland tiliga xos til an'analarni saqlab qolish borasida muammolarni ham yuzaga keltiradi. Tadqiqot ingliz tilining golland tilidagi o'sib borayotgan roli bilan bog'liq ijobiy va salbiy jihatlarni yoritadi hamda til taraqqiyotida muvozanatli yondashuv zarurligini ta'kidlaydi.

Kalit so'zlar: ingliz tili, golland tili, leksik qarz olish, globallashuv, kod-almashish, ommaviy axborot vositalari, oliy ta'lim.

Introduction. In today's interconnected world, English is more than just a language — it is a global means of communication, technology, science, and culture. Its wide use and influence have led to its deep integration into many other languages, especially in countries with high English proficiency. The Dutch language is one such example. Spoken by over 23 million people, Dutch has absorbed thousands of English words and expressions over the past few decades.

Dutch society's openness to global trends and its strong presence in international business and education have created an environment where English influence is not only accepted but often preferred. This paper aims to explore how English affects modern Dutch and the implications this has for the future of the Dutch language.

Literature Review. Many researchers have studied the influence of English on Dutch. Gerritsen et al. (2007) note that Dutch advertising often uses English words and phrases to attract younger consumers and create a modern image. Dibbets (2018) found that Dutch teenagers frequently use English in online communication, especially on social media, leading to common code-switching between English and Dutch. Van der Slik (2020) highlights that more than half of Dutch university programs are taught in English, which increases students' exposure to English vocabulary and academic terms. While some scholars see this as a natural part of language evolution (Edwards, 2016), others express concern about the potential decline of Dutch vocabulary richness and cultural identity (Hüning, 2019).

Result and Interpretation. A questionnaire was the main tool used to collect data for this study. It consisted of six questions related to the influence of the English language on different aspects of modern Dutch. One of the key questions asked students to identify the area in which they noticed the strongest influence of English on the Dutch language. The results indicated that media and advertising were selected by the majority of respondents as the domain most affected by English.

The domain most influenced by English in the Dutch language

Media & advertising	Higher Education	Social media	Daily conversation	Workplace language
40%	25%	20%	10%	5%

The results show that media and advertising is perceived as the most influenced area (40%). Students reported that English words and phrases are widely used in Dutch commercials, TV shows, and branding, giving a modern and global appeal. Higher education followed with 25%, with many students noting that most university courses are taught in English, and academic materials are often in English rather than Dutch. Social media was chosen by 20% of students, reflecting the popularity of English content on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube. Daily conversations (10%) and workplace language (5%) were also mentioned, showing that English expressions are increasingly common in both informal and professional communication.

In which area do students most frequently observe English words being used in the Dutch language?

Technology & internet	Education	Entertainment	Daily speech	Advertising
30%	25%	20%	15%	10%

The majority of respondents (30%) observed that technology and internet-related fields are where English words are most commonly used in Dutch. Students noted that terms such as login, download, update, and cloud have become an integral part of daily vocabulary. Education ranked second (25%), with English terms like bachelor, master, lecture, and assignment frequently appearing in Dutch universities and schools. Entertainment (20%)—especially music, films, and social media—involves a heavy use of English phrases. Daily speech (15%) showed a growing presence of casual English expressions such as sorry, cool, and anyway. Advertising (10%) was also mentioned, where English is often used for brand names and slogans to attract modern and international audiences.

Which aspect of the Dutch language is most influenced by English, according to learners?

Vocabulary	Pronunciation	Sentence structure	Idioms & phrases	Word order
38%	27%	18%	12%	5%

The results reveal that vocabulary is the most influenced aspect of the Dutch language, according to 38% of participants. Learners pointed out that many English loanwords—especially in the fields of technology, entertainment, and business—are now used in daily Dutch. Pronunciation (27%) is also changing under English influence, with Dutch speakers often adopting English-like sounds when pronouncing borrowed terms. Sentence structure (18%) and idiomatic expressions (12%) reflect subtle changes, especially among youth who frequently translate English expressions literally into Dutch. A small percentage (5%) noticed influence in word order, though it remains largely stable due to grammatical differences between the two languages.

How often do Dutch speakers encounter English influence in their daily language use?

Very often	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
35%	30%	20%	10%	5%

The results show that 35% of respondents encounter English influence very often in their daily Dutch language use, especially in informal speech and media. An additional 30% experience this influence often, mainly through social media, advertisements, and workplace communication. About 20% notice English borrowings sometimes, while 10% and 5% reported rare or no exposure respectively. These findings indicate that English has become a persistent and common part of modern Dutch, shaping vocabulary and expressions across various social contexts.

Loss of Dutch vocabulary	Confusion in grammar	Culture identity Concerns	Overuse of English terms	Resistance to change
40%	25%	20%	10%	5%

What challenges do Dutch speakers face due to the influence of English on their language?

The results indicate that 40% of respondents feel the greatest challenge is the loss of Dutch vocabulary, as many English loanwords replace traditional Dutch terms. Confusion in grammar was noted by 25%, with some learners struggling to maintain proper Dutch sentence structures when mixing English elements. Cultural identity concerns were raised by 20%, as some fear that the increasing use of English may weaken Dutch cultural uniqueness. Overuse of English terms (10%) in everyday language can sometimes lead to misunderstandings or exclusion of those less familiar with English. Finally, 5% of participants resist these linguistic changes, preferring to preserve pure Dutch language usage.

Overall, how do Dutch speakers feel about the increasing influence of English on their language?

Very positive	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Very negative
30%	35%	20%	10%	5%

The results show that a majority of respondents (65%) have a positive attitude toward the increasing influence of English on the Dutch language, appreciating its role in modernization, international communication, and enriching the vocabulary. About 20% remain neutral, recognizing both benefits and drawbacks. Meanwhile, 15% expressed negative feelings, concerned about the possible erosion of Dutch cultural and linguistic identity. These findings suggest a general acceptance of English influence, but also highlight the need for balanced language policies to protect Dutch heritage.

Conclusion. The influence of English on the modern Dutch language is widespread and continues to grow. English brings many benefits: access to international knowledge, global business, and modern expression. However, it also brings challenges in terms of language preservation and cultural identity.

This paper concludes that while the English influence is natural and, to some extent, unavoidable, a balanced approach is necessary. Dutch educators, media, and policymakers should encourage bilingualism without letting Dutch lose its distinctiveness. Respecting the global role of English while promoting national language pride is the key to sustainable linguistic development.

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