



THE ANTHROPOLOGY AND DESCRIPTION OF ANGLICISMS IN RAILWAY TERMINOLOGY

Mirsagatova Dilorom Ubaydullaevna
UzSWLU, senior teacher

Annotation. *Language is a living entity that continuously evolves, especially when influenced by technological advancements, global interactions, and cultural exchanges. One such area where language adapts rapidly is the field of railway transportation. As the railway sector integrates new technologies and practices, it also adopts terminologies from the language of the pioneers in these advancements. This has led to the influx of anglicisms—words borrowed from English—into railway terminology. Understanding the anthropology and description of these anglicisms is crucial for both linguistic and cultural studies, as well as for those involved in the industry.*

Key words: *anglicisms, anthropology, globalization, English-speaking countries, railway technology.*

The term "anthropology" refers to the study of humans, their cultures, and their development over time. In the context of anglicisms, it involves analyzing how borrowed English terms become part of a language, in this case, railway-related vocabulary. The adoption of anglicisms in the railway sector is tied to several factors, including technological progress, globalization, and the absence of equivalent terms in native languages.

Historically, the development of railways began in Europe and the United States, with English-speaking countries like the UK playing a major role in railway technology and infrastructure. As the technologies spread to other parts of the world, including Europe, Asia, and Africa, many of the terms associated with these advancements came along with them. Words like "locomotive," "station," and "signal" became standard vocabulary in various languages, as they were tied directly to the innovations that introduced the railways to these regions.¹²

The anthropology of anglicisms in the railway sector is also influenced by cultural and technological exchange. The adoption of English terms reflects a form of cultural prestige or the desire to align with global standards. Additionally, as English became a dominant language of science and technology, especially in the 20th and 21st centuries, it brought with it a host of specialized terms that were difficult to translate directly into other languages without losing their specific meanings. For instance, terms like "express" and "freight" are used globally with little to no adaptation because they succinctly capture complex concepts.

The use of anglicisms in the railway sector can be broadly categorized into technical terms, management and legal terms, and terms related to logistics and services. Each category plays a unique role in the operations and communication within the industry.

¹² Hoffer, B. L. (2005). *Language Borrowing and the Globalization of English*. Intercultural Communication Studies, London – p. 53-72.

1. Technical Terms

The most significant category of anglicisms in the railway sector is technical terminology. These terms relate to the infrastructure, equipment, and processes essential for the functioning of railways. Examples include:

- **Railway:** Refers to the system of tracks and the overall infrastructure required for train travel.
- **Train:** A vehicle composed of multiple carriages or wagons, typically powered by a locomotive.
- **Station:** A place where trains stop for passenger boarding, alighting, or for loading and unloading goods.
- **Platform:** An area at a station where passengers wait to board or alight from trains.
- **Signal:** A device used to manage train movements and ensure safety on the tracks.

These terms have been borrowed directly from English because they were integral to the technologies being introduced. Translating these words into local languages was often not practical, as the terms were closely associated with the imported machinery and methods.

2. Management and Legal Terms

Another group of anglicisms found in railway terminology relates to the management and legal frameworks that govern railway operations. These include:

- **Franchising:** A system where the right to operate certain rail services is granted to private entities by a government or a larger organization.
- **Leasing:** Refers to the rental agreements for trains or railway infrastructure.
- **Management:** The coordination of various aspects of railway operations, including logistics, staff, and customer service.

These terms have entered the railway vocabulary as the sector has become more commercialized and globalized. English is often the lingua franca for business and legal discussions, leading to the widespread use of such terms even in non-English-speaking countries.

3. Logistics and Service-Related Terms

The third category includes terms related to the services provided to passengers and cargo, as well as the logistics of transporting goods by rail. Examples include:¹³

- **Ticket:** Refers to a travel pass issued to passengers for boarding a train.
- **Cargo:** The goods transported by rail, including bulk materials, containers, and specialized freight.
- **Freight:** A term often used interchangeably with cargo, but more specifically referring to the overall transportation of goods by train.

¹³Tofiño-Quesada, G. (2006). *Railway Terminology in Multilingual Contexts: Challenges and Adaptations*. *Translation Studies Quarterly*. P. 112-130.



These terms are critical for both daily operations and customer interactions. They are often retained in English to ensure consistency with global railway standards, which facilitates easier coordination with international partners and customers.

The adoption of anglicisms in the railway sector can be attributed to several key factors:

1. Technological Progress and Innovation

As new technologies are developed and introduced into the railway sector, they often come with specific terminologies that are difficult to translate while preserving their original meaning. For example, innovations like "high-speed rail" or "maglev" (magnetic levitation) are concepts that originated in English-speaking research and engineering communities. To maintain the precision of these terms, they are often adopted directly into other languages.

2. International Standards and Harmonization

The railway industry operates across borders, making standardization essential for interoperability. International standards are often written in English, and thus the terms used in these standards become part of the global vocabulary. This is especially important for safety, signaling, and operational protocols, where misinterpretation could have serious consequences.

3. Absence of Local Equivalents

In many languages, there may not be an equivalent term for specific railway-related concepts, especially when these concepts are new to a region. Adopting the original English term allows for consistency and clarity in communication. For example, "containerization" is a term used in freight transport that has no direct equivalent in many languages, leading to the adoption of the English term.

While anglicisms offer practical benefits, their widespread use can pose challenges. Over-reliance on English terms may lead to a lack of development of native vocabulary, potentially weakening the linguistic richness of a language. Furthermore, if the terms are not properly adapted, they might cause confusion among those who are not familiar with English, particularly in non-English-speaking regions.

Efforts to create equivalent terms in local languages are sometimes undertaken by linguistic institutions and industry stakeholders. These efforts aim to strike a balance between retaining international standards and preserving linguistic identity. However, such initiatives must ensure that the adapted terms maintain the precision required for technical and operational clarity.

Anglicisms have become a significant part of the railway sector's terminology, reflecting both the global nature of the industry and the influence of English as a dominant language in technological and commercial fields. Understanding the anthropology behind the adoption of these terms highlights the interplay between language, culture, and technology. While the use of anglicisms helps maintain consistency with international standards, it is essential to balance their use with the development of native terms to ensure both clarity and cultural preservation. As the



railway industry continues to evolve, so too will its language, adapting to new challenges and innovations while reflecting the rich history of global connectivity.

References:

1. Crystal, D. *English as a Global Language*. Cambridge University Press. -2003. P 156
2. Haugen, E. *The Analysis of Linguistic Borrowing*. *Language*, 26(2), London - 1950. P.210-231.
3. Hoffer, B. L. (2005). *Language Borrowing and the Globalization of English*. *Intercultural Communication Studies*, London – p. 53-72.
4. Munday, J. (2018). *Translation and the Spread of Technical Terminology: A Case Study of the Railway Industry*. *Journal of Technical Translation*. P. 65
5. Tofiño-Quesada, G. (2006). *Railway Terminology in Multilingual Contexts: Challenges and Adaptations*. *Translation Studies Quarterly*. P. 112-130.