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Introduction

The English language of today is the result of the developments that took place in the past. Many historical events had a great effect on the present English language. Many historical events changed the way people speak, such as the Scandinavian invasion, which helped English to alter in many different ways. The former brought many words which were taken from Latin, as a result of which the new vocabulary was formed. The Scandinavian invasion resulted in the mix of two languages, where two different peoples and their languages were involved.

English, like all the other languages is susceptible to change. The usage of any language reaches its peak and then a language becomes extinct eventually. Many words have been forgotten and many of them have been altered. Grammar and pronunciation of words and grammar changed as well to a great degree. The language we speak today is much more different from what it was centuries ago.

This paper is devoted to the changes of the word-stock of the English language, particularly to the Middle English and the Early Modern English periods.

The **object** of the study is the lexical system of the English language;

The **subject** of the study is the changes in the lexical system of the English language during the Middle English and Modern English periods;

Studying the word-stock of the English language within different time frames is important, as it helps to deeper understand changes within a language as a developing synergetic system.

The **goal** of this paper is to examine the historical changes within etymological character of the English word-stock.

To achieve the goal of the paper, the following **tasks** have been set, namely:

- to describe the word-stock of the English language during the Old English period;
- to reveal synergetic characteristics of the lexical system of the English language
- to discover the main changes in the word-stock of the English language during the Middle English period;

- to discover the main changes in the word-stock of the English language during the Early Modern English period.

Methods of scientific analysis employed in the investigation include the descriptive method, where the changes that occurred in the English language are examined and the inductive method which helps us generalize the collected data and examine the changes in the Middle English and Modern English periods.

The **structure** of the study fully agrees with the above set tasks and consists of the introduction, three chapters, conclusion, the list of literature, summary and appendix.

In the introduction the goal of the research is outlined.

Chapter 1 represents the general outline of the development of the English language. The changes in the language during the Old English period are investigated, the words which entered the word-stock of this period are examined.

Chapter 2 contains the investigation proper. The two texts of approximately similar lengths from different periods are chosen to study the etymology of the word-stock of the English language. The first one, *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer, belongs to the Middle English period. The second one is a poem *The Phoenix and The Turtle* by William Shakespeare belonging to the Modern English period. The peculiarities of the word-stock of the two periods of the English language will be studied based on these two texts.

The list of literature used in the paper contains dictionaries, most of which them can be found online, textbooks and original sources of the practical material.

Conclusion

In this work, we have studied the peculiarities of native and borrowed words in the English language, providing numerous examples based on two texts. The first one is *The Canterbury Tales: General Prologue The Rules of the Game, The Agreement and Drawing of Lots* by Geoffrey Chaucer (the Middle English period), the second one is the poem *The Phoenix and The Turtle* by Shakespeare (the Early Modern English period).

In *The Canterbury Tales*, of Middle English period, most words are of native origin, with the Latin occupying the second place. There are a small amount of French words.

In *the Phoenix and the Turtle*, of Early Modern English period, most words are still of native origin, but it can be seen that French words entered the English language at that period. Thus, many French words are also used.

Having analyzed both texts, it is important to point out the characteristics of linguosynergetic system in the English language based on these texts.

- 1. The English language is *non-linear*. Non-linearity of a language system is revealed in dependency of features and functions of the system on behaviour of each of its component. Non-linear system is hardly predictable, and our research confirms that. Due to the changes that occurred during the Middle English and Early Modern English periods, the system of the English language is not predictable and not systematic. As can be seen, the language constantly changes and it is impossible to predict how the language will be transformed.
- 2. The English language as an *open system*. A system is usually defined as a set of hierarchically organized components (elements, parts, subsystems, etc.), having spatial and temporal boundaries and existing in a certain environment. If a system interacts with its environment by exchanging information, then such a system is called open. Thus the English language is an open system. We can produce potentially an infinite number of different messages by combining the elements differently. According to the analysis, many French words entered the word-stock

of the English language which function as organized elements within its environment.

3. The system of the English language is *dynamic*. It always transforms and acquire new words, which another characteristics of a dynamic system. Any language is constantly changes, with new word-stock appearing in it.

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Table 4.1 ЗМІНИ В ЕТИМОЛОГІЇ ЛЕКСИЧНОЇ СИСТЕМИ ПРОТЯГОМ СЕРЕДНЬОАНГЛІЙСЬКОГО ТА НОВОАНГЛІЙСЬКОГО ПЕРІОДІВ

Origin								
Parts	Middle English				Early Modern English			
of								
speech								
Nouns	Anglo-	French	Latin	Old	Anglo-	French	Latin	Old
	Saxon			Norse	Saxon			Norse
	25	13	14		31	24	11	1
Verbs	29	3	8		20	3	3	1
Adj.	10	2	3	1	13	6	5	
	65	18	25		66	33	19	
	60.2 %	16.7%	23.1%		55.9 %	28 %	16.1%	

Дані таблиці уточнюють історичні зміни в етимологічному складі лексичної системи протягом 14-16 століть. Вони демонструють динамічний характер мови, її відкритість, яка виявляється у взаємодії з навколишнім середовищем, а також не лінійність поступу розвитку мови як синергетичної системи.