

THE LOAN LEXEME AT THE CROSS-CULTURAL JUNCTURE

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This article looks into cross-cultural semantic differences of words like doctor, a loan, in English and Ukrainian and it breaks a new ground for the study of language and cultural values. There is a brief insight into language-culture relationship which steadily comes back into the focus of cotemporary linguistics.

*The investigation shows that significant benefits can be gained from the integration of semantics, etymology, discourse analysis, cross-cultural linguistics, and contrastive linguistics. Anna Wierzbicka points out that language and culture are not just interconnected, but inseparable. The contextual and cultural relevance combined navigate the interpreter within the realm of cultural complexity of the Source and Target Languages (Dirven, 2015). The diachronic analysis of the English lexeme **doctor** borrowed from Latin 'church father' (biblical) has expanded its semantic structure by medical person, university lecturer, scientific degree since late 14c. In Ukrainian **доктор** is also a borrowing from Middle Latin *doceo* "teacher", "scholar" and the component "a person practiced medicine" (XIV c.) has not taken the dominant position in the lexical meaning of the noun **доктор** which is still occupied by the component *учений* "scientist, scholar." Though borrowings embedded in the Target Language still represent "a wealth of cultural baggage of the Source Language which sooner or later can be further actualized in discourse.*

*The cross-cultural or intercultural semantics, according to Bert Peeters, is a contrastive or comparative study of culturally-marked words like **doctor** aimed at reaching a better understanding of known cultural values and explicative communicative norms.*

Key words: loan/borrowing, etymology, apposition, semantics, structure, discourse, cross-cultural.

Михайленко В. В. Запозичення на міжкультурному перехресті. Пропонована стаття продовжує серію робіт автора (2009; 2016, etc) з функціональної семантики прикладки у структурі речення та типології дискурсу сучасної англійської мови. У статті досліджено міжкультурні семантичні розбіжності слів, зокрема лексеми **доктор** – латинського запозичення в англійській та українській мовах, що накреслює шляхи вивчення мовних одиниць у безпосередньому зв'язку з культурними цінностями мовного соціуму.

Зуважено, услід за Анною Вежбіцькою, що мова і культура не просто взаємопов'язані, вони – нероздільні. Наведено власну гіпотезу, згідно з якою, актуалізація компонента лексичного значення слова може бути контекстно залежною, тоді як компонент лексичного значення частотного слова може бути контекстно незалежним, але обидва пов'язані з контекстом і культурою.

Міжкультурна семантика, за словами Б. Пітерса, є контрастивним або порівняльним дослідженням культурно маркованих слів, спрямованим на краще розуміння культурних цінностей, експлікованих комунікативних норм, відомих як адресантові, так і адресату. У світлі нових даних у процесі вивчення культурних семантичних відмінностей лексеми **doctor** латинського запозичення в англійській та українській мовах вирізняється однакова кількість компонентів в її лексичному значенні. Водночас помічено, що їхня компонентна таксономія відрізняється, крім компонента «людина, яка лікує хворих» – доміанти в англійській одиниці, тоді як в українській одиниці вона периферійна, до того ж найчастіше вона передається українською лексемою «лікар». В академічній спільноті лексеми **доктор** і **професор** є взаємозамінними в окремих випадках, хоча американські та британські лексеми вирізняються семантичною структурою лексеми *professor*. Такі культурно-семантичні відмінності є значущими особливо для усного та письмового перекладу.

Проведене дослідження засвідчує, що значні переваги можна отримати завдяки міждисциплінарній інтеграції семантики, етимології, дискурс-аналізу, міжкультурної та контрастивної лінгвістики.

Ключові слова: запозичення, походження, прикладка, семантика структура, дискурс, міжкультурний.

Preliminaries. John Locke in his "Essay Concerning Human Understanding" (Chapter 2, 1690) emphasises that when a man speaks to another, it is that he may be understood: and the end of speech is, that those sounds, as marks, may make known his ideas to the hearer. That then which words are the marks are the ideas of the speaker: nor can any one apply them as marks, immediately, to anything else but the ideas that he himself has. This leads him to explore different types of words, how we understand them, and how we use them to increase knowledge [13]. According to our hypothesis actualizing a component of the word

lexical meaning can be context-bound, while the highly frequent meaning component can be context-free but the both are context-bound and culture-bound [2]. Anna Wierzbicka points out that language and culture are not just interconnected, but inseparable [20]. The contextual and cultural relevance combined navigates the speaker/addressee/translator/interpreter within the realm of cultural complexity of the the Source and Target Languages. This article will look into cross-cultural semantic differences of words like doctor for the translation objectives also and it will break new ground for the study of language and cultural values.

The end-goal of this article is an introduction to the basic assumptions, scope and methodology of loans like *doctor* investigation, focusing on the empirical search for the common features due to their origin and their distinctive features resulted in their individual development in English and Ukrainian languages [see 8]. There is also a brief insight into language-culture relationship which steadily comes back to the edge of cotemporary linguistics. First and foremost, we shall develop the corpora analysis. The cross-cultural or intercultural semantics [see 12], Bert Peeters says, is a contrastive or comparative study of putative cultural words aimed at reaching a better understanding of known cultural values and explicating communicative norms [17, 17].

Discussion. We would like to present a contrastive analysis of the address *doctor* or an apposition [5, 184] used in English and Ukrainian from the perspective of cross-cultural semantics, to blaze the trail of the branch of linguistics which investigates the relationship between meaning and culture in discourse. The cross-cultural or intercultural semantics, Bert Peeters, says, is a contrastive or comparative study of putative cultural words aimed at reaching a better understanding of known cultural values and explicating communicative norms [20, 10; 3, 1]. Pragmatically, the apposition is generally an explanation of the referent expressed by the personal name. It usually adds information that the speaker or narrator consider necessary to clarify what they have previously expounded. In some cases it becomes expected in certain contexts of their interaction to avoid possible ambiguity or misunderstanding [8]. The diachronic analysis of the English lexeme *doctor* borrowed from Latin 'church father' (biblical) has expanded its semantic structure (*medical person, university lecturer, scientific degree*) since late 14 c. In Ukrainian *доктор* is also a borrowing from Middle Latin *doceo* "teacher", "scholar" and the component "a person practiced medicine" (XIV c.) has not taken the dominant position in the lexical meaning of the noun *доктор* which is still occupied by the component *учений* "scientist, scholar". Though borrowings embedded in the Target Language still represent "a wealth of cultural baggage of the Source Language" [cf: 20; see also 7, 162] which sooner or later can be further actualized in discourse.

Martin Jay writes that there is a permanent "semantic defamiliarization of words that seemed commonplace, like *theory, subversion, paganism*, and so on – begin to appear strange, while other words that until present may have been strange – *abjection, the uncanny, psychlogism*, and so on – are interrogated until they reveal at least a few of their secrets [10, 5]. The semantic structure of words in the process of their functioning in discourse, as a social construct may be widening or narrowing to adapt to the speaker's communicative aims.

The lexeme *doctor* is frequently used as an apposition to the proper noun, or functions autonomously [1, 453]. Address is a very important and very frequent practice in everyday discourse of many linguocultures and certain address practices have become ritualized to the extent that their meaning becomes

blurred and obscured. Pragmatically, the apposition is generally an explanation of the referent expressed by the personal name and usually it adds information that the speaker or narrator consider necessary to clarify what they have previously expounded [see 11, 39]. In some cases it becomes expected in certain contexts of their interaction to avoid possible ambiguity or misunderstanding [4, 504; 8].

In the English-speaking countries, for instance, in the university setting students address their lecturers as Doctor + Surname or Professor [15, 83], as well as colleagues address each other Doctor or Professor in the academic setting when Australian university students address their lecturers by their first name, or in the hospital setting patients address medical staff as Nurse or Doctor. David Evans says that within discourse language units are much more than words and phrases and disembodied sounds but rather coming to life of social interaction. Rather, it is about the way in which the world is ordered through social practices [7, 3; 9, 22–23].

Corpora analysis. In the process of the etymological analysis of the lexeme *doctor* disclosed its history in the English Vocabulary. It was borrowed in c. 1300, in the form of *doctour*, "church father", from Old French *doctor* and directly from Medieval Latin *doctor* teacher, adviser, scholar. In classical Latin it denoted "teacher, agent", a noun from *docere* "to show, teach, cause to know", originally "make to appear right" and causative of *decere* "be seemly, fitting", from PIE root **dek-* "to take, accept".

The diachronic analysis of the English lexeme *doctor* has investigated its semantic dynamics which stresses its expansion. From late 14 c. the component "holder of the highest degree in a university, one who has passed all the degrees of a faculty and is thereby empowered to teach the subjects included in it" actualized in the word lexical meaning and, consequently, the component "teacher, instructor, learned man; one skilled in a learned profession" was revealed in the word lexical meaning. The component "medical professional, person duly licensed to practice medicine" (replacing native OE *leech*) was revealed in the word lexical meaning in c., 1400, though this use of the word was still periphery until late 16 c. The transitional stage is exemplified in Chaucer's *Doctor of phesik* (Latin *physica* came to be used extensively in Medieval Latin for *medicina*). In Middle English there was the *medicin* "a medical doctor" (mid-15 c.) also borrowed from French. Similar usage of the equivalent of *doctor* is colloquial in most European languages: Italian *dottore*, French *docteur*, German *doktor*, Lithuanian *daktaras*, though these typically are not the main word in those languages for a *medical healer*. For similar evolution, we can compare Sanskrit *vaidya* – "medical doctor", literally "one versed in science". German *Arzt*, Dutch *arts* are from Late Latin *archiater*, from Greek *arkhiatros* "chief healer", hence "court physician". French *médecin* is a back-formation from *medicine*, replacing Old French *miege*, from Latin *medicus*. Thus, we can define three dominant components in the lexical meaning of *doctor* in English Vocabulary: (i) *a religious teacher, adviser,*

scholar (Church father, XIIIc.); (ii) *highest degree in a university*; and (iii) *a person duly licensed to practice medicine* (from 1400, though not in use until late 16 c.) (Etymological Dictionary online).

In Ukrainian *доктор* is also a borrowing from Middle Latin *doceo* “teacher”, “scholar” (ЕСУМ) and the component “a person practiced medicine” (14 c.) has not taken the dominant position in the lexical meaning of the noun *доктор* which is still occupied by the component *учений* “scientist, scholar”. Though borrowings embedded in the Target Language still represent “a wealth of cultural baggage of the Source Language [cf: 20; see also 7, 162] which sooner or later can be further actualized in discourse.

The semantic dynamics of the Ukrainian lexeme *doctor* “a person with a medical degree” «особа з вищою медичною освітою, яка лікує хворих» (АТСУМ) has a synonym *лікар* originally Slavic derived from the stem *върати* «говорити ← заговорювати» and the suffix, – «чь» і слова «върати», що означає «говорити»; in Bulgarian *лікар* «знахар, чаклун», see Serb-Croatian «чарівник, чаклун, волхв, знахар», the verb *врачімі* «ворожити, гадати, пророкувати, лікувати (знахарством)». verb *врачімі* «ворожити, гадати, пророкувати, лікувати (знахарством)».

The analysis of the dictionary definitions of the noun *doctor* has revealed the following constituent:

(1) A person with a medical degree who treats people who are ill or injured (Cambridge1; Collins1, 3);

(2) A person who has the highest-degree from a college or university: physician, surgeon, dentist, or veterinarian (Cambridge 2; Collins 3). Note: In British English: dentists who look after people’s teeth, and vets (=doctors who look after animals) are all referred to by the titles Mr, Ms, Mrs, or Miss. In the US, however, all of these doctors use the title *Doctor* (Collins; Macmillan);

(3) A person who has been awarded a higher academic degree in any field of knowledge (Cambridge 3; Collins 4);

(4) A teacher or learned man, *Archaic* (Collins 6; Macmillan 2).

Accordingly, the decomposition of the lexical meaning of the noun *doctor* gave rise to its semantic structure formation: MD (*doctor, dentist, veterinarian*), academic degree of any *specialist, teacher, learned man*. Cf: Ukrainian lexeme actualizes the components: *доктор, докторка, докорант, докаторанка, лікар, учений, учитель*.

The Law Dictionary supports the definitions give by the encyclopedic dictionaries: *doctor* (i) a learned man; one qualified to give instruction of the higher order in a science or art; (ii) In colloquial language, however, the term is practically restricted to practitioners of medicine. Harrison v. State, 102 Ala. 170, 15 South. 503; State v. Mc- Knight, 131 N. C. 717, 42 S. E. 580, 59 L. R. A. 187. This term means, simply, *practitioner of physic, without respect to system pursued*. A certificate of a homoeopathic physician is also a “doctor’s certificate”. Corsi v. Marezek, 4 E. D. Smith (N. Y.).

The BNC gives the following illustrations of semantic structure of the noun *doctor* revealing the following components:

(i) A person with a medical degree (see Cambridge, Collis, Macmillan), when used autonomously in the sentence it is written in lowercase cf.:

1. *So er, was it that doctor, Doctor Patrick Steptoe?*

2. *There used to be a doctor, called Doctor Bes-sie lived there.*

There is an assumption that Ukrainian *лікар* “doctor” might have been borrowed from Germanic, c.f. Goth. iekais «лікар», OHG. lahihi got. Iëkipon «лікувати», двн. Lachinon (ЕСУМ) and represents the English correspondence of *doctor*; e.g.:

3. *Вперше українці можуть вільно обирати лікаря у медзакладі, незалежно від форми власності.*

4. *Це розвантажить лікарів, дозволить їм більш якісно та оперативно надавати медичні послуги пацієнтам.*

In colloquial English, however, the term *doctor* is practically restricted to practitioners of medicine (Law Dictionary). This term means, simply, practitioner of physic, without respect to system pursued. When it is used as an apposition followed by the personal name it is written in uppercase, see also:

5. *You should have a reasonably clean bill of health by then, ' Doctor Staples said. (Health care)*

6. *He was seated again in Doctor Staples's office, watching the doctor examined his x-ray on an illuminated screen. (Health care)*

7. *Doctor Minden had no right to interfere with my treatment programme. (Health care)*

The given component is also the dominant in the English term referring to various areas of health care, dentistry and veterinary – *doctor* colloquially, and *Doctor* appositively. Unlikely the Ukrainian *спеціаліст ветмедцини* is labeled *ветеринар* “лікар, що лікує тварин, з фахівець з ветеринарії” originates from French *vétérinaire*, English “veterinarian” cf. German Veterinär which came first from Latin *veterinārius* «sumpter» (see Fasmer). Thus English and Ukrainian terms have the common origin, but differentiated in the areas of their use: English *veterinarian* (abbreviation *vet*) “a person trained in the medical treatment of animals” (Cambridge), colloquially a *doctor* is, while in Ukrainian it is used in both styles, e.g.:

8. *Офіційний лікар ветеринарної медицини – це спеціаліст ветеринарної медицини.*

Though English *veterinary clinic* is rendered into Ukrainian as “ветеринарна лікарня” retaining the derivative *лікарня* from *лікар*, e.g.:

9. *Тема реорганізації державних установ ветеринарної медицини не стосується лікарень - вони функціонуватимуть у тому ж статусі.*

The English term *dentist* “a person whose job is treating people’s teeth” [Cambridge] has a general name *doctor*; in Ukrainian *стоматолог* «фахівець із стоматології; дантист, зубний лікар, лікар-стоматолог». Ukrainian *дантист* was borrowed through Russian from French *dentiste* which originates from Latin *dens, dentis* “tooth”, cf: OHG zan → MG. Zahn, OLG tand, see Ukr. Ясна [Fasmer]. Accordingly, English and Ukrainian having the common origin differentiated in styles. See Latin *doctor, doctoris*: (1) academic title, (2) doctor (3) instructor, (3) teacher, (4) trainer (Latin-English Dictionary online).

The noun lexeme *doctor* actualizig the component "a person who has been awarded a higher academic degree in any field of knowledge" is a characteristic feature of the English culture, e.g.:

10. *Doctor Trevor; ITN newscaster Trevor McDonald is to become an Honourary Doctor of Letters (IT)*

11. *His Postscript evokes the aim of a white-coated Doctor Kundera' to solve an aesthetic problem: how to write a novel.* (Literature)

Maria Panes points out that by using apposition the author foregrounds a certain aspect of the discourse, an aspect, primarily, a degree which has great importance in the interchange between the interlocutors representing different professional communities [cf 17, 93]. This discourse is an active phenomenon which is likely to actualize the definite component of the word lexical meaning encoded by the speaker [see 18, 17]. Additionally, the interlocutor or interpreter can decode the author's intended component with the help of the word distribution and lexical professionalisms, e.g.:

Illustration 5. "Discourse of Health care" (health).

Illustration 6. "Discourse of Health care" (examine, x-ray, illuminated screen).

Illustration 7. "Discourse of Health care" (treatment programme) help to recreate a general context, besides the communicative situation can its bit.

Illustrations 10. "Discourse of literature" (newscaster, letters).

Illustration 11. "Discourse of literature" (postscript, write, novel).

In the academic English or printed mass media the lexeme *doctor* may be implicit and cotextually redundant due to the position of the referent – the Ph.D. degree ("attested from 1869; abbreviation of L. Philosophiae Doctor 'Doctor of Philosophy'") in the professional community is taken for granted, e.g.:

12. "This study is an incremental step toward a fuller understanding of turbulence", said Stewart Zweben, lead author of the research published in the Journal Physics of Plasmas.

13. „On the test data sets examined, the FRNN has improved the curve for predicting true positives while reducing false positives", said Eliot Feibush, a computational scientist at PPPL.

14. "This research opens a promising new chapter in the effort to bring unlimited energy to Earth", Steve Cowley, director of PPPL, said of the findings, which are reported in the current issue of Nature magazine.

Illustration 12. "Discourse of Physics" (lead author of the research, Physics of Plasmas).

Illustration 13. "Discourse of Physics" [+ Computation] (true positives, false positives, computational scientist).

Illustration 14. "Discourse of Physics" (energy, director of PPPL).

In some cases the lexeme *professor* "a faculty member of the highest academic rank at an institution of higher education". It was borrowed in late 14 c. with the component *teacher*, i.e. "one who teaches a branch of knowledge", from Old French *professeur* (14 c.) and directly from Latin *professor* "person who professes to be an expert in some art or science; teacher of highest

rank", agent noun from *profiteri* "lay claim to, declare openly" (see *profess*). As a title prefixed to a name, it dates from 1706. Short form *prof* is recorded from 1838. The rank presupposes that the bearer must have a Ph.D. degree, e.g.:

15. *Professor Mann works on gravitation, quantum physics, and the overlap between these two subjects.*

16. *Professor of Chemical Biology, Oxford University is recognised for ground breaking research into the structures and properties of biological molecules.*

17. *Professor Sir Gordon Duff is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences, the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.*

Illustration 15. "Discourse of Physics".

Illustration 16. "Discourse of Chemical Biology".

Illustration 17. "Discourse of Medical Sciences".

The fact is that in the UK, much of Europe (and, for the most part, in Australasia and South Africa), 'professorship' denotes distinction: a professor is someone who has been promoted to the highest academic grade – usually on the basis of her or his scholarly achievements. It's the equivalent to what, in North America, is known as full *professorship*; Most professors will be PhD-holders (COBUILD, Collis, Macmillan, Oxford).

In written texts *Doctor* is abbreviated to *Dr*; its frequency is 10884 cases in BNC. e.g.:

18. *Dr McNab had thoughtfully retired as his patient was regaining consciousness* (Surgery).

19. *Dr Curtis is well satisfied with your patient's chest* (Surgery).

20. *Dr Akhlaghi is registered with the General Dental Council and NHS England and also has affiliations with the British Dental Association* (Dentistry).

21. *Dr. Mangat always ensures he takes time with us and everything is perfect – he capped my husband's front teeth* (Dentistry).

22. *Dr Akhlaghi is registered with the General Dental Council and NHS England and also has affiliations with the British Dental Association* (Dentistry).

23. *Dr Glen Foley enjoys every aspect of veterinary medicine* (Veterinary).

24. *Dr Naomi Hosker graduated from Royal Veterinary College in 2012* (Veterinary).

25. *Dr Ahmer Wadee is a Chartered Scientist and Chartered Mathematician, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Maths & Applications and the Institute of Structural Engineers* (Mathematics).

26. *Who was willing to leave a Western nuclear establishment to help Dr Tariq build his atom bomb was either an idiot or a traitor* (Atomic Physics).

Besides, both the title and the degree are not used together in English, when in German it is a regular case.

In Ukrainian the abbreviation *Д-р* as an apposition which is usually in the postposition to the personal name is not frequent, but rather widely used as a degree marker of any person who holds a doctorate, e.g.:

27. Іванців Володимир Васильович: Д-р біол.н., проф. 2008 [Д-р Іванців В. В.]

28. Василь Фурман, доктор економічних наук, – гість «112 Україна».

We must admit that pragmatically appositions are used by the speaker to underline a specific feature of the interlocutor or the person spoken of [see 4, 504].

The discourse analysis proves that the context or setting are very important for the felicitous communication which encourages interlocutors to use ritualized cliché in a definite situation adopted in the society. No two languages are ever sufficiently similar to be considered as representing the same social reality [7, 5], especially, when the dynamic semantics underwent at different speed. By using apposition the author foregrounds a certain aspect of the discourse, an aspect which has great importance in the interchange between the interlocutors.

Findings and perspectives. The present paper continues a series of papers on functional semantics of the apposition in the structure of sentence

and discourse [14; 15] In light of new findings on cultural semantic differences of *doctor*, a Latin loan, in English and Ukrainian we can reveal the same number of components in its lexical meaning but their taxonomy differs, besides the component “a person who treats patients” is the dominant one in the English unit, while in the Ukrainian unit it is periphery and most frequently it is rendered by the lexeme *лікар*. In the academic community the lexemes *doctor* and *professor* are interchangeable in some cases, though the American and British differ in the semantic structure of the lexeme *professor*. Such cultural semantic differences are significant for translation and interpreting.

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