

Received: 16.08.2024
Accepted: 14.10.2024

Received in revised form: 16.09.2024
Available online: 15.10.2024

Original Research

Citation: Citation: Beqaj, A., & Derjaj, A. (2024). Evaluation on Greek and Balkanic borrowings in Spanish and Albanian, in glotodidactics of Spanish to Albanians. *Turkophone*, 11(2), 93-98. <https://dx.doi.org/10.55246/turkophone.1533892>

EVALUATION ON GREEK AND BALKANIC BORROWINGS IN SPANISH AND ALBANIAN, IN GLOTODIDACTICS OF SPANISH TO ALBANIANS

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ABSTRACT

In this study, we aim to highlight the place of Greek borrowings in the Spanish language and in Albanian, concerning Spanish learning as a foreign language among Albanians. After we have given a synchronous view of the current situation of the Spanish language in Albania, we will stop and separate the phenomena and cases of borrowings from ancient Greek, the importance they have for Albanian and the features we encounter during the didactics of the Spanish language. We will highlight the influence of ancient languages, especially Greek, which has influenced the lexical level of the languages in question, and consequently the terms we encounter in science, culture, literature and art. After a brief overview of the history of the Spanish language, we have also classified words in several lexical fields. In the end, we will single out the role of Greek borrowings in the didactics of Spanish in the framework of the known and the unknown. These borrowings are part of the known, such as the case of photography and hydrology, which, based on the hypotheses of Krushen and Thomason, facilitate the learning of a foreign language.

Keywords: Borrowings, Spanish, grammar, lexicology, glotodidactics, Old Greek.

1. INTRODUCTION

Lexico-grammatical elements and their presence from one language to another best determine borrowings from one language to another. The phenomenon of borrowing arose during a long historical process, this is because the language is not only connected to a certain territory, the language travels and along with it new processes appear where people have to borrow words from one place to another. Our study is mostly based on the classification of borrowings and more specifically to that category of borrowings that appears essentially different from those created by linguistic interference, as may be, for example, the cases of the language of the first generation or generation of immigrants, or the cases of bilinguals (Weinreich, 1953).

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The word “borrowing” itself in the dictionary of the Albanian language clearly defines it as a term in linguistics; borrowed word or structure. For the linguist Lazaro Carreter borrowing is; *"Linguistic or lexical element usually borrowed by one language from another language, either by adapting it to its original form, or by imitating or transforming it. Borrowing is a borrowing incorporated into the system where it can also be within the same language, when a specialized slang term is incorporated into the general language, or vice versa."* (Carreter, 1968).

The influence of a language on the world is a process as natural as it is common, it is a phenomenon that occurs in other cultures as well. History proves that every borrowed word has had an important role in the development of languages. As Spanish is one of those languages that are of great importance in terms of the number of speakers who speak it as a mother tongue but also as a second language. The Cervantes Institute defines that:

"Spanish is a global language that is experiencing constant growth. It is among the top five languages in the world in terms of the number of speakers, both in terms of the number of countries where it is official, but also in terms of geographical extent. It is the official language of the United Nations, where nearly 24 million people study it as a foreign language." (Instituto Cervantes, n.d.)

1.1 Spanish as a global language

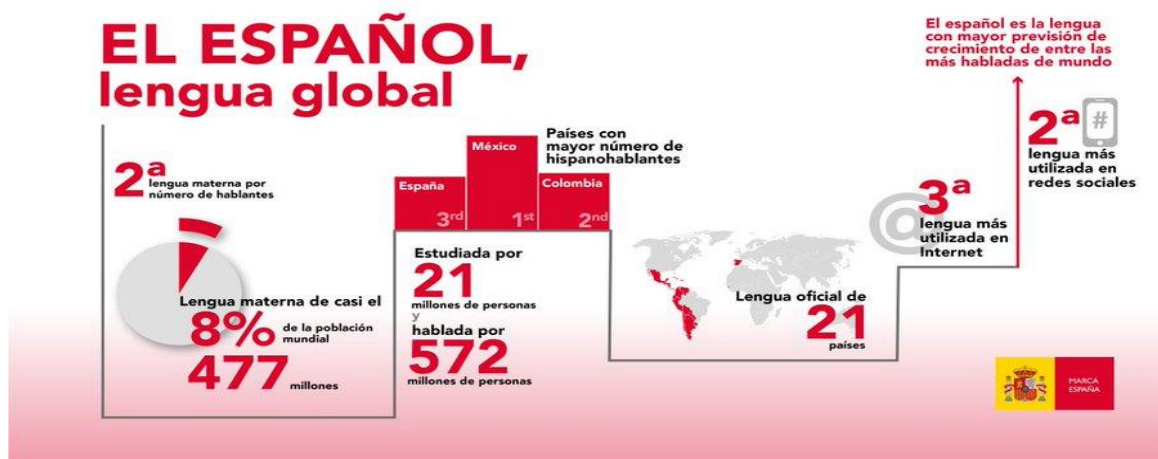


Figure 1. Spanish language in the world (Source taken from the central page Spain in the ONU¹)

The Spanish language comes from Vulgar Latin. To make it even more clear, the main source for the formation of Neo-Latin or Romance languages dates back to approximately the 9th century AD, where the popular Latin language or Vulgar Latin (Lingua Latina Vulgaris or sermo quotidianus) are formed by the union of the spoken Latin language with local dialects under the influence of certain historical conditions (Kosta, 2003).

¹ <https://twitter.com/SpainUN/status/988423354456604672/photo/1>

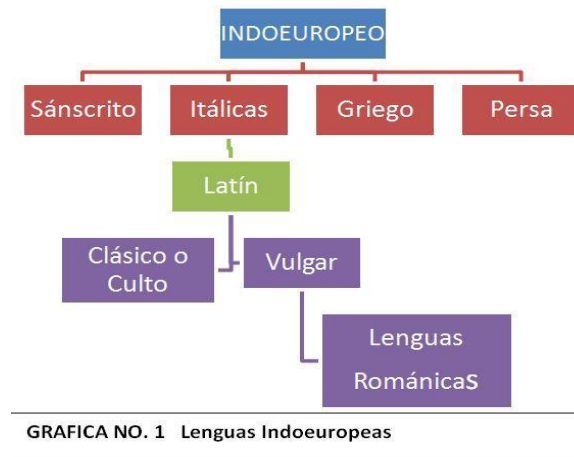


Figure 2. Indoeuropean Languages (Source taken from a blog central page ²)

Although this language, according to the classification of Modern Linguistics, belongs to the Indo-European group, it has acquired many features from different cultures. Historical Greek-Latin influences have made an extraordinary contribution to the lexical, grammatical and linguistic enrichment of this language.

The history of the Greek colonizers in the southern regions of Spain during the years 1000 before Christ have left deep traces in the enrichment of this language. In Spain, most of the regions spoke ancient Greek, alongside Latin, which was one of those languages that had Greek influence, and consequently both together have had their linguistic, scientific, cultural and grammatical role in today's Spanish. Greek was the language used for science during classical antiquity and undoubtedly continued to be so for centuries after and even continues to be an unshakable pillar of the lexicon today.

Let us first dwell on the explanation of the word Hellenism or High Greek. According to the etymology explanation, Hellenism is a term that refers to Greek culture. This term comes from the Greek language which means to speak like a Greek.³ How has the Greek (Hellenic) language influenced today's Spanish?

The Old Greek language is the origin of not only many Spanish words, but also many Spanish prefixes. Specifically, we are giving some aspects of Greek which have created roots throughout the history of languages, but especially Spanish. There are many topics on which this language has influenced for many decades, although it is appropriate to emphasize that there are few people who make the differentiation of a word or its origin. Our focus is mostly on the typical terms of a common communicative vocabulary, the one we encounter during the day or in learning a second foreign language. Language has tremendous influences on culture, art, literature, but linguistic interference during a lesson is inevitable.

² See Naranjo Amador Elena, *Nuestro idioma "el castellano"*, <http://carmenelena.over-blog.es/article-articulo-sin-titulo-102744003.html>

³ See Etimologia de HELENISMO <https://etimologias.dechile.net/?helenismo>

1.2 Suffixes and Affixes

1. A-(gr. ἀ-), an- (gr. ἀν-, first vowel): It is a prefix with a negative connotation which is often used in Spanish. It is used to change the meaning of the word. We can mention such examples: Anamorphosis - anamorphosis in the Greek language - ἀναμόρφωσις *anamórphōsis* 'transformación', transformation.
2. Para-(gr. παρα-): Para is often used as a prefix in the formation of some scientific cultisms, with different values: Paralelo - parallel in the Latin language - *parallēlus*, in the Greek language - παραλελος *parállēlos*.
- 3.- ta-(gr. -της), -ita (gr. -ίτης), -ista (gr. -ιστής): -ita y -ista are the different forms of the suffixes. They are noun suffixes and are used in principle to express where a person who performs a certain activity: Hipócrita- hypocritic in Latin - *tardío hypocrita*, in Greek - ὑποκριτής *hypokritēs*.
4. ico (gr. -ικός): Adjective suffix which generally forms adjectives derived from nouns: -automático-automatic. In the Greek language - αὐτόματος *autómatos*;

2. LEXICON

1. Photography: It is composed of the word photo- of a photo-1 y -grafía. (gr. photo-) y -grafía (gr. -γραφία). Φωτο- derives from the word φῶς, which means light; - γραφία - γραφή.
2. Hydrology: It is a compound word formed from hidro- (gr. ὕδρο-) and -logía (gr. -λογία). In the Greek language this word comes from , ὕδρο- as well as from the word νερό, which is also equivalent to the word water in Spanish; - λογία.

3. LITERATURE

Regarding numerous literary materials of different genres such as history, art, culture, daily current affairs, where we highlight many unknown words for the Albanian student. While reading and researching a number of unknown words, we noticed that some of them were borrowed from Greek, and for this we are helped by the RAE (Real Academia Española), which in their translation also determined the borrowed origin.

Patterns/ literary genre:

- Teatro -theater in the Latin language - *theātrum*, in the Greek language - θεατρον *théatron*, de θεᾶσθαι *theâsthai*.
- Tragedy – tragedy *tragoedia*, in Greek - τραγωδία *tragōidía*.
- Comedy- comedy in Latin - *comoedia*, in Greek- κωμωδία *kōmōidía*.

4. HERMENEUTICS

4.1 Mainly liturgical texts adapted to some extent for the students' level:

- Obispo- bishop in Latin-*tardío episcōpus*, in the greek language *ἐπίσκοπος epískopos*;
- Iglesia- Church. in Latin- *tardío ecclesĭa*, in the Greek language -ἐκκλησία *ekklēsía*;
- Cristo- Christ in Latin - *Christus*, in Greek - Χριστός *Christós*;

5. ART AND MUSIC

We emphasize other terms that have influenced this language as follows: In art, especially in music, the word 'polifonía' means polyphonic music.

- poliphony – in Greek language- πολυφωνία polyphōnía 'variety of tones'.
- history- in Latin language- *historia*, in Greek ιστορία *historía*.

6. GEOGRAPHY

- Europe-(gr.Εὐρώπη): The name of this continent also comes from Greek Mythology. In Spanish there are also some expressions that in the Albanian language have a use with a coloring connotation:
- La flecha de Cupido- Cupid's arrow that comes from Ancient Greek Mythology where we briefly mention Cupid the son of the Goddess of love, Aferdita where in mythology he was described as a child with wings. The goddess gave him a bow and two types of arrows, one of which was made of gold and the other made of lead. Today Cupid is defined as the symbol of love.

7. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we first referred to the history of the word “borrowing”, the processes in which a foreign language undergoes changes, then we explained the importance of the Spanish language as a foreign language, separating it with tables and statistics. We delved into the history of the Spanish language and talked about the influence of the Greek and Latin languages, how these languages have influenced the enrichment of another. We explained the history of Hellenism, how the main origin of the Spanish lexicon is explained, the importance and contribution that ancient Greek has given over the decades. Next, we gave examples of words and phrases from Old Greek and explained their importance at the linguistic level.

From what was mentioned above, we come to the conclusion that the Spanish borrowings from Albanian sometimes appear as direct and sometimes appear as followers of Greek elements and etymons. This corpus has a significant role in the glododidactics of Spanish in general and of Greek students in particular. They are guiding beacons in the long and beautiful journey of learning a foreign language.

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