Terms of Foreign Origin in Kinesiological Terminology

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The aim of this study was to analyse the words of foreign origin that have entered the Croatian language and that are used within the domain of kinesiology, the science of human movement. The sample consisted of 659 technical terms that were ultimately categorised into eight categories: terms of English, French, Latin, Italian, German and Greek origin, and the categories proper names and other languages. The allocation of terms per category was expressed both in frequency distributions and in percentages. It is evident that the terms of English origin were the most frequent ones (26.6%), as well as proper names (26.6%), followed by the terms from French (10.9%), Latin (9.5%) and Italian (9%). There are some technical terms that are borrowings for which there are no originally Croatian translation equivalents, and for a number of them such equivalents might never be found. However, it is possible to find Croatian counterparts for the other terms of foreign origin which could appropriately denote the concepts in question.

In the end, it is also concluded that the international nature of kinesiological vocabulary helps in developing communicative competence in Croatian sportsmen when using English as a foreign language.

1 Introduction

All languages borrow lexical material from other languages. This process is as old as the existence of natural languages, and considered one of the common features of bilingual and multilingual contact and communication (Jarvis/Pavlenko 2008). It can take many different forms, which can be illustrated by two extremes: on the one hand borrowing can be of a very transient and ad hoc nature, such as in code-switching, where all the interlocutors are aware of the parallel use of the two linguistic systems; on the other hand, some lexical items that have been borrowed from one language, either directly or through other language or
languages, can be assimilated in a recipient language to such an extent that most
speakers of the recipient language do not perceive them as foreign anymore.

There are many reasons why lexical items from one language enter another
language, the two most frequent sets of reasons probably being the following:

a) those that could be categorized under the common denominator of contact
(McNamara 1988; Kontra 2001; Kistler 2005; Gao 2006; Sakel 2007; Rizzo
2008; Hidalgo 2008; Yuzhu 2008; McKenzie 2008), regardless of the type of
contact – cultural, scientific, geographical, etc.

b) the language which borrows a word either does not have an appropriate
lexical equivalent for it, or the existing word’s semantic field is wider/
narrower than that of the word being borrowed. For example, there exists no
originally Croatian word for a ball. The word used in Croatian is lopta and it
is of Hungarian origin. There is also no originally Croatian word for pressure.
Instead the Czech word tlak is used.

Lexical material is borrowed from other languages more often than
grammatical (Skelin Horvat 2004). When entering another language, loanwords,
i.e. lexical borrowings of a more permanent nature, undergo phonological,
morphological (Štebih 2008) and semantic changes (Stojić 2006). Sometimes,
items from one language do not always enter another language directly (Muhvić-
Dimanovski 1996). The word judo entered Croatian through English and not
from the language of its origin, i.e. Japanese. The same applies to words such as
karate, which also originated in Japanese and entered Croatian through English,
and taekwondo, the word of Korean origin which entered Croatian in the same
way as the first two.

Words of foreign origin can be found in all languages and the process of lexical
borrowing can happen between any combination of languages. This process has
been extensively documented. For example, Baklanova (2006) analysed lexical
items that were borrowed from Chinese, Sanskrit, Malayan, Arabic, Spanish,
English and some other languages by Tagalog. De Vries (1988) was interested
in Dutch loanwords in Indonesian, Mwita (2009) scrutinised the adaptation of
items from Arabic in Kiswahili, Ljubičić (2008) examined the entering of lexical
elements of Italian origin into French and vice versa. Bunk (2009) focused on
the analysis of calques of German origin in Czech, Elyildirim and Şahin (2008)
explored foreign words entering Turkish, and Paradis (2006) explored foreign
words entering Russian.

English is nowadays probably the language from which the greatest number
of lexical items is being borrowed. However, it itself has been and still is subjected
to borrowing from other languages (Hoffer 2005). It is estimated that more than
10,000 words of French origin entered English during the period in which Middle
English was spoken, and out of that number approximately 75% remained in the
English language (Renouf 2004). Lexical items from Scandinavian languages also
entered English, but on a much smaller scale than items from French (Lindström
2001).

As for the Croatian language, the rule applies that if both the originally Croatian lexical item and its corresponding foreign counterpart coexist, then the Croatian item has advantage over the foreign term as regards usage (Turk/Opašić, 2008). In other words, a word of foreign origin should be used when there is no appropriate counterpart of Croatian origin (Babić 1995; Babić/Finka/Moguš 2004: 56).


Croatian also borrows from languages other than English, e.g. German (Talanga 2002; Turk 2005; Dragičević 2005; Štebih 2006; Stojić 2006, 2008), Italian (Crjlenko 1993; Sočanac 2002, 2005; Stepanić 2006; Stepanić et al. 2009), French (Dabo-Denegri 2005), Hungarian (Žagar-Szentesi 2005; Nyomárka 2006; Blažeka 2006), Russian (Menac 2003-2004, 2005; Radčenko 2006), Turkish (Andrić 2003), Arabic (Muljačić 2007), as well as Latin (Tekavčić 1997), and there are words that are used internationally (Ivir 1996; Broz 2008). Dialects of other languages such as Slovene (Blažeka 2007) affect Croatian dialects which are in close contact.

Since sport and exercise are today a global phenomenon, it is only natural that the process of borrowing lexical elements from one language to another occurs in this domain as well. The result of the popularization of sport and exercise, i.e. the popularization of both competitive and recreational sporting activity participation, is that they permeate all areas of the society regardless of education, occupation, gender, political preferences, etc. of people who choose to participate...
in them. Another aspect which significantly contributes to the popularisation of sport is the awareness of positive health-related effects of regular sporting activity.

Since sport and exercise are regarded as a domain that has its own technical vocabulary, the focus of this paper will be on lexical borrowings in Croatian with the special focus on kinesiology.

2 Methodology

The terms used in Croatian in the domain of sport and exercise, i.e. in kinesiology, were collected from research and professional literature. The sample of collected terms, totalling 659, is not complete, i.e. it could be supplemented further. The number of terms collected was the result of the analysis of the currently accessible sources. The collected terms fall either within the category of terms that have been completely unassimilated in Croatian - e.g. base jumping, funky kick, or those that have been either partly or fully assimilated in Croatian (Barić et al. 1999: 104-112; Muhvić-Dimanovski/Skelin Horvat 2006).

The terms relating to chess and other board games, as well as the names of and the terms relating to various card games were excluded from the analysis because only the sporting activities that fall into the category of physical sporting activities are part of kinesiology, since kinesiology is considered to be the science of human movement. Neither in chess nor in any other board game is movement essential for any physical changes in the human body. Names of numerous martial arts such as pehtwani, the modern Indian wrestling, and those originating in the Far East, e.g. gendai budo, geomusul, haidong gumdo, ling lom, etc. whose names together with martial arts themselves are not widely spread, i.e. are of regional character, were also excluded.

We have also excluded Latin and Greek anatomical and physiological terms although kinesiology is based on anatomy, as well as on physiology. Such terms were not taken into consideration for the analysis because there are too many of them, and the size of anatomical and physiological nomenclature would take the analysis beyond the limits of this study. However, not all terms of Latin (or Greek) origin were excluded – e.g. terms denoting movements of joints such as fleksija (Eng flexion), ekstenziija (Eng extension), rotacija (Eng rotation), everzija (Eng eversion), inverzija (Eng inversion), etc. were included in the sample.

We have also included terms from shooting and archery. Although both sports have been a part of the thousands of years long hunting and warfare tradition, they have their place within the concept of sports due to the fact that they possess one of the attributes of sport, namely a determinant which regards sport as a physical activity based on competition (McPherson/Curtis/Loy 1989: 15).

Since only a few terms were collected from certain languages, we have formed the category ‘other languages’ to be able to put such terms into one group in order to make the analysis more clear. For example, terms such as kanu (Eng canoe), whose origin is Arawak, and katamaran (Eng catamaran), whose origin is Tamil, were assigned to this category.
Ultimately, the initial 23 categories, i.e. 22 languages from which the analysed terms originated (English, German, French, Italian, Latin, Greek, Spanish, Norwegian, Dutch, Hungarian, Russian, Czech, Polish, Japanese, Baltic, Korean, Tamil, Arabic, Turkish, Portuguese, Arawak and Inuit) and the category proper names, were condensed to the final eight categories: terms originating from English, French, Latin, Italian, German and Greek, terms originating from other languages and the category proper names.

Three sources that list the etymology of loanwords in Croatian were used – Anglicizmi u hrvatskom i srpskom jeziku (Filipović 1990), Rječnik stranih riječi (Klaić 1986) and Hrvatski etimološki rječnik (Gluhak 1993). To detect the origin of terms that could not be found in the mentioned sources and that entered as loanwords not only Croatian but some other languages such as English and German, Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (2005), Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary (1999) and Deutsches Wörterbuch mit einem «Lexikon der deutschen Sprachlehre» (Wahrig 1991), as well as Duden Deutsches Universalmüberbuch (2003) were also used. Consequently, an attempt was made to synchronise the identification of the language of origin, to the extent to which it could be done, with data in the listed sources. There were examples whose etymology could not be traced to the principle of detecting the language of origin as used by Klaić (1986), Filipović (1990) or Gluhak (1993), or they could not be found in any of the three sources. For example, Klaić (1986: 643) lists Inuit as the language of origin of the word kajak (Eng kayak), and Inuit is the language that has also been treated as the language of origin of this word in our analysis. Filipović (1990: 1980), on the other hand, regards kajak as anglicism because it is an integrated, full member of the English vocabulary (1990: 17). However, both Klaić (1986: 656) and Filipović (1990: 114) say that the language of origin of the word kanu (Eng canoe) is Arawak, the language of an Indian people who once lived in the Antilles, and that it entered American English through Spanish and French (Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary 1999; Duden Deutsches Universalmüberbuch 2003: 875). A question can therefore be raised why both Klaić (1986) and Filipović (1990) consider English to be the language of borrowing for the word kanu. As for the analysis in this paper, it was Inuit that was regarded as the language of origin of the word kajak and, as a word from a language of low frequency, it was allocated into the category other languages. The word kanu was allocated into the same category, i.e. it was not treated as a word of English origin, but as originating from the language in which it was created, i.e. Arawak. In other words, the criterion for allocating a term into one of the language-of-origin-related categories was to identify as accurately as possible the language of origin from which the term transferred either the same or similar form and meaning that it has within the context of kinesiology into other languages.

The terms were analysed as regards their frequencies and percentages by eight categories, and the data were processed by the statistical package Statistica for Windows, release 7.0.
3 Results

Upon condensating the initial 23 categories into the final eight, it was evident that loanwords from the English language and proper names were the most frequent (26.6%), and were followed by loanwords from French (10.9%), Latin (9.5%) and Italian (9%) (Table 1, Figure 1).

<table>
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<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREEK</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Categories of borrowings from other languages in Croatian kinesiological terminology expressed in frequencies and percentages

![Figure 1. Frequency distribution of borrowings by eight categories](image)

Interestingly, as many as 26.6% of loanwords, which are to be found in sports such as artistic gymnastics, rhythmic gymnastics and figure skating, belonged to the category proper names. According to the data presented in Table 1 and Figure 1,
it is clear that the lowest number of borrowings by category was from Greek. As mentioned, there were languages which were donor or source languages even for a smaller number of items. However, since they were all allocated to the category other languages, their language of origin in this analysis is not distinguishable.

4 Discussion

4.1 Development of sport and physical exercise

Society and sport are inseparable phenomena connected from the very beginnings of human civilization. Wrestling, running, rowing, fencing, swimming, fights in which contestants used a javelin or a knife, long jump, high jump, hockey, equestrian sport, etc. belong to a group of sporting activities in which people participated already in ancient civilizations. The Sumerians took part in boxing contests and, according to Crowther (2007: 16), sporting and various other contests were very probably everyday activities practised in the temples during festivals. Since language is intricately connected with society, and hence also with sport, changes occurring in all segments of sports and society are reflected in language. It is not surprising that many idioms that are used in everyday language can be traced to the language of sport, e.g. životna utakmica (Eng a life game), stati na loptu (Eng restrain/cool down the game). Some terms that are used in sport are very old. For example, the word skijanje (Eng skiing) originated from the Old Norse word skith, meaning stick of wood, i.e. a ski (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, 2005).

Sport strongly developed in 18th and 19th centuries, both in France and in England. Consequently, nowadays there are two official languages of the Olympic Games – French and English. In modern time the development of sport skyrocketed not only in France, but even more so in English speaking countries and this is one of the reasons for a a large number of loanwords from French, but especially from English, within the context of sport in many languages, and thus also in Croatian.

The debate about the origing of the term kinesiology is still going on (Mraković 1993; Renson 1989; Starosta 2002), but this issue will not be addressed here.

Another consequence of the listed historical facts is that a certain number of names of sports federations and associations are either English (e.g. The International Tennis Federation, International Handball Federation, International Ice Hockey Federation, International Baseball Association, etc.), or French (e.g. Fédération International de Natation, Fédération International de Football Association, Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique, Fédération Internationale de Lutte Amateur, Fédération Equestre Internationale, Fédération Internationale de D’Éscrime, etc.), the latter probably being even more frequently the case.
4.2 Terms originating from English

Owing to the globalisation and the fact that English has become the communication language in the whole world, it is unlikely that any other language could take its leading place on the scale of languages from which other languages borrow lexical material. Additionally, many sports originated in English-speaking areas, as is the case with football, basketball, volleyball, rugby, baseball, etc., so that the number of terms which enter other languages and which are connected with such sports is large.

Sometimes loanwords are not used correctly. In Croatian few people will use the lexical unit jahač na valovima (Eng surfer or surf rider), instead of the word surfer that is commonly used in everyday speech. The correct Croatian counterpart of the English term surfer or surf rider is jahač na valovima because the term surfer is ambiguous. It could represent both a person who participates in the sporting activity that is termed jahanje na valovima (Eng surfing) and in the sporting activity termed jedrenje na dasci (Eng windsurfing). The terms surfing and windsurfing are not synonymous, so the usage of the term surfer to denote a person who uses a board and a sail in Croatian is ambiguous.

Sometimes a loanword is used more frequently than the original Croatian counterpart. The native Croatian word as a counterpart of the English word jogging is trčaranje and its usage has many advocates. However, the usage of the loanword džoging is much more widespread, although the usage of the native term trčaranje would be more accurate considering the previously mentioned rules of using the coexisting native rather than borrowed lexical material in Croatian (Babić 1995; Babić/Finka/Moguš, 2004: 56; Turk/Opašić, 2008).

The creation of new terms stagnates in some sport disciplines, e.g. in sports and sport events that have a long tradition, such as athletics and football. However, since new sports develop rapidly, new terms which, consequently, broaden the terminological apparatus of sport and exercise are created. One of the best examples is aerobics. Terms such as funky kick, step touch, slide, repeater, over the top, new body, etc. are foreignisms that have no appropriate Croatian counterparts and have not adapted to the Croatian language in any way. Aerobics is not the only one in this respect: ultimate fight, kick boxing, snooker, curling, base jumping, etc. are further examples of sporting activities whose names have no equivalents in Croatian. Still, most borrowings have been adapted to a greater or lesser extent, e.g. džoging (< Eng jogging), aperkat (< Eng uppercut), bekend (< Eng backhand), etc.

4.3 Terms originating from French, Italian and Latin

A significant number of terms are borrowed from French, but also from Italian, which is primarily the result of the fact that there are sports that developed either in France or in Italy. For example, although the beginnings of fencing are to be sought in ancient civilizations such as Assyria and China, in modern time it spread primarily in Italy in the 16th century. Hence, Croatian borrowed
terms such as ripoša (< Ital riposte; Eng riposte/riposte). However, during the 18th century French fencing style became the most widespread, so that the French terms connected with fencing, e.g. en garde and épée and the Old-French numbers prime, seconde, tierce, quarte, quinte, sixte, septime and octave that denote eight basic defensive positions in fencing, entered not only English, but other languages as well. Consequently terms such as floret (< Fr fleuret; Eng foil), epe (< Fr épée; Eng épée/éppé), en garde (< Fr en garde; Eng en garde/on guard), etc. exist in the Croatian language.

In artistic gymnastics the term chainé okreti (in English approximately: chainlike turns), i.e. 1/2 turns on both legs, is used. The first element – chainé – is a gallicism denoting a chain. In other words, chainé okreti denotes an element in artistic gymnastics, and the execution of this gymnastic element resembles the series of chain rings that are interconnected. The colloquial expression used in Croatian as a synonym for this term is putujući koraci, which could be roughly translated as travelling steps.

In women's artistic gymnastics the loanword sissonne is used to denote a jump in which the lead leg is below the horizontal position (Međunarodni gimnastički savez/Ženski tehnički odbor/Hrvatski gimnastički savez 2009-2012: 21). The term is an eponym and it was derived from the name of a French noble Comte de Sissonne, who lived in the 17th century and who is considered to be the inventor of this jump (however, not in the context of artistic gymnastics but in the context of dance) (Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary 1999). According to the mentioned source, it is “a jump in which the dancer lands on one foot, with the other extended to the back, front, or side”.

In rhythmic gymnastics in which a competitive routine is executed with musical accompaniment, terms denoting tempo are frequent, e.g. largo (Eng largo), grave (Eng grave), larghetto (Eng larghetto), adagio (Eng adagio), andante (Eng andante), moderato (Eng moderato), allegro (Eng allegro), vivace (Eng vivace), etc. These terms, as tempo markers, spread into other languages, Croatian included, from Italian. Their ultimate origin is Latin (< Ital largo < Lat largus; Ital larghetto = diminutive of largo; Ital moderato < Lat moderatus; Ital allegro < Lat alacer; Ital vivace < Lat vivax – all according to Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English 2005 and Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary 1999 – Ital grave < Lat gravis, according to Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary 1999), but in Latin they were not originally used in the musical sense.

Some of these terms can be traced back to languages other than Latin. According to Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary (1999), the term adagio which was formed from the expression ad agio, i.e. in a relaxed way, smoothly, without tension, can be further traced to Old Provençal ais or Old French aise (Eng ease). The term andante, another musical tempo marker, spread from Italian, but its further origin is not clear. The already listed source - Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary (1999), lists the Latin word ambitus, meaning circular motion and roundabout journey, as its possible antecedent. Then, there are other terms in rhythmic gymnastics that are of French origin. For example, échaper denotes a slight throw of a ribbon, i.e. a slight release of the handle (to which the ribbon is attached) or throwing and catching one end of a rope.
Throughout history Latin has, more than any other language, influenced other languages (Vratović, 2002), thus also English and Croatian. Vratović (2002) points out that the share of Latin in Croatian, as well the share of its influence is much bigger and much more important than that of German, Italian or Czech. It is therefore understandable that the number of words from Latin was the third largest one in our analysis. Terms such as *trajectoriija* (< Lat *trajectoria*; Eng *trajectory*) whose native counterpart is the term *putanja*, the already mentioned terms such as *fleksija* (< Lat *flexio*, the native Croatian term is either *savijanje* or *pregibanje*; Eng *bending*), *ekstenzija* (< Lat *extension*; the native Croatian terms is *ispučanje*; Eng *extension*), *rotacija* (< Lat *rotatio*; the native Croatian terms being *vrtnja* and *kruženje*; Eng *rotation*), as well as the terms *abdukcija* (< Lat *ab + ducere*; the native Croatian term is *odmicanje*, i.e. *moving or drawing away from something*, e.g. *the axis of the body*; Eng *abduction*) and *adukcija* (< Lat *ad + ducere*; the native Croatian term being *primicanje*, i.e. *moving or drawing toward something*, e.g. *the axis of the body*; Eng *adduction*), etc. are all of Latin origin.

Since Vulgar Latin is the basis of Romance languages – and French and Italian belong to this branch of the Indo-European family of languages – it is not surprising that the terms originating from these three languages – French, Latin and Italian – account for 29.4% of the total number of cases in this analysis. If 26.6% of the terms originating from English are added to the previous number, then it becomes evident that more than half of all the analysed terms, i.e. 56%, are loanwords from these four languages.

Due to the fact that, as already said, the sample of terms collected for this analysis is not complete and that there are terms that were not included, further research into loanwords used in the Croatian language within the context of kinesiology would probably result in some minor shifts of the rank of certain categories on the frequency scale. However, such shifts would in general probably not affect the conclusion that the greatest number of loanwords, in comparison to other languages, entered Croatian from the English language. Naturally, this conclusion can be drawn provided that no anatomical or physiological terms be considered. If these terms were taken into account, then the number of terms of Latin origin would certainly prevail.

### 4.4 Proper names

Two sports – artistic gymnastics and figure skating – are particularly interesting for this analysis because a significant number of their terms are eponyms, i.e. certain elements were termed by using the names of athletes who were the first to execute these elements. This way of naming a newly invented element is very practical since terms tend to be short and clear. Such examples include *tkačev* (Eng *Tkatchev* < Rus *Tkačëv*), *delčevo* (Eng *Detchov* < Bulg *Дetchов*), *ritberger* (< Ger Werner Rittberger), *salhow* (< Sw Ulrich Salchow), etc. Here is an example illustrating why ascribing a family name of an athlete to a certain concept is the easiest way of giving a name to a certain gymnastic or figure skating element: a Russian gymnast, Kolyvanov, was the first to execute an element in
which a gymnast executes a straight somersault backwards with 2/1 turns followed by a piked somersault backwards. It would be very difficult to coin a short and clear term that could be used to name such an element. Hence, using the family name of an athlete proves to be the best possible way to name such complex concepts.

This consequently means that quite a large number of terms is created in a sport which belongs to the group of the oldest sports in the world, which is somewhat contradictory to the previously expressed statement that the largest number of new terms is created in sports and sports events that do not have a long tradition. Gymnastics belongs to the group of sports practised already by ancient civilizations. According to some authors (e.g. Živčić 2007: 15), gymnastics was part of everyday life in ancient China about 4 000 B.C., and evidence also exists that it was practised in ancient Egypt approximately in the third millennium B.C. The most attractive were demonstrations of acrobatic skills, so the first gymnasts were actually acrobats. The word acrobat is of Greek origin, i.e. it was derived from the Greek word ἀκρόβατος. Today, there are types of gymnastics that are more recent than the ones mentioned. Modern artistic gymnastics developed in the 19th century in the then Germany and Czechoslovakia. Thus, although gymnastics is one of the oldest known sports such as athletics or wrestling, its terminological system is not ‘closed’, as is the case with the terminological systems of both athletics and wrestling. Names such as Gogoladze, Li Ning, Wu Guonian, Tong Fei, Azarian, Nakayama, Diomidov, Kasamatsu, Tsukahara, etc., i.e. new names for newly invented gymnastic elements, appear frequently. Terminology of this sport develops together with the concepts that the terms stand for and faster than in any other traditional sport.

4.5 Terms originating from German

The number of Croatian kinesiological terms whose language of origin is German is smaller both than the number of terms originating in French, and than the number of terms originating in Italian. Due to the political situation German was once a dominant language and a language of prestige in many countries in Central and Eastern Europe, and it left deep traces in many Slavic languages, which resulted in a significant number of borrowings of German origin, even at the syntactic level (Muhvić-Dimanovski 1996). Additionally, according to Muhvić-Dimanovski (1996) it seems that it was through German that English words most frequently entered Croatian”. However, as for Croatian and as for the borrowing of terms connected with sport and exercise, German gave way to loanwords from English, French, Latin and Italian, even though the first attempts to systematically collect sport and physical exercise-related Croatian terminology were directly connected with German and, to a lesser extent, to Czech.

In 1868, for example, Andrija Haidinjak composed a bilingual, German-Croatian dictionary with the title Njemačko-hrvatsko nazivlje za tjelesnu borbu i nazivlje za mačevanje (Jajčević 1987: 12). Another example was the dictionary written by Franjo Hochman in 1892, which was published in the journal Gimnastika (No. 10, Vol. 3) (Jajčević 1987: 17). The first part of the dictionary was comprised of
512 physical exercise related terms written in Croatian, German and Czech, e.g. hvat (Croatian), Griff (German) and hmat (Czech) (the English counterpart of this term is grip). The second part was comprised of 480 terms in German and in Croatian, e.g. Ansprung (German), naskok (Croatian) (Jajčević 1987: 17), mount being their counterpart in English. Franjo Bučar, the person who is credited for the development of sport and sports journalism in Croatia, Franjo Hochman and some other authors used Czech literature to write the first texts on sport and physical exercise topics in Croatian (Jajčević 1987: 24). However, the influence of the Czech language on Croatian kinesiological terminology was ultimately not significant. Likewise, the influence of German terminology on terminology in Croatian was not such as could have been expected based on the general influence of German on the Croatian language.

Two illustrative examples of terms originating from German are rimen and šrauba. The former has its origin in Latin (Lat remus, Wahrig 1991: 1069) where it has the same meaning as in German – oar. The term rimen is used colloquially in Croatian to denote a type of rowing in which each sweep rower (the name of this type of rowing in English is sweep rowing or oar-boat racing) has only one oar that is mounted on the boat. Such an oar is at least 3.9m long and it is longer than the scull (a scull is approximately 3m long) that is used to propel the boat in the type of rowing termed sculling. In other words, the term rimen has a particular meaning that is connected with the length of oars – namely, the German word Riemens denotes a longer oar that is used to propel a boat. Longer is in this case connected with the name of Riemens through the fact that this type of an oar is longer than the one used in sculling. Although rimen is not a standard term used in Croatian to denote one of the two types of rowing, it is frequently colloquially used among coaches and rowers and has therefore been included in this analysis.

The term šrauba is used either in team handball in which it denotes a shot at the opponent’s goal which is executed in such a way that the back of the player executing it is turned towards the opponent’s goal, or in gymnastics where it denotes a turn (termed twist in English), in which the body rotates around its longitudinal axis. The word šrauba is of German origin – Schraube – and its Croatian counterpart is vijak. The English counterpart both of the German term Schraube and of the Croatian term vijak is a screw. However, in neither of the two mentioned sports is the word vijak used in Croatian to denote the concept in which the athlete’s body rotates around its longitudinal axis, although such usage would be correct, justifiable and recommended. The loanword šrauba is used instead, or the descriptions of concepts in question which, due to their length, are not practical for usage.

4.6 Terms originating from other languages

The number of loan words from languages such as Russian, Czech, Hungarian, etc. was very small and, therefore, they were all allocated into a separate category – other languages. The terms džudo (Eng judo), džišju džicu (Eng jujitsu), karate and, for example, kimono from Japanese, capoeira, a martial art, from Brazilian Portuguese, kajak (Eng kayak) from Inuit, karika (Eng ring – one
of the pieces of apparatus used in artistic gymnastics) and lopta (Eng ball) from Hungarian, skijanje (Eng skiing) and slalom from Norwegian, kopačka (Eng football/soccer boot) from Czech, kundak (Eng rifle stock or pistol grip) and nišan (Eng sight on a rifle) from Turkish, taekwondo from Korean, katamaran (Eng catamaran) from Tamil, etc. were all assigned to this category.

For some loanwords an originally Croatian word also exists. This is the case with the English loanword ofsađ (Eng offside), whose native counterpart is zaleđe. A significant number of terms originating from Latin also have their native, Croatian counterparts, e.g. ekstenzija and ispružanje (Eng extension), fleksija and savijanje (Eng flexion), abdukcija and odmicanje (Eng abduction), adukcija and primicanje (Eng adduction) and many other.

However, there are loanwords for which there are no native, Croatian counterparts, e.g. for the term waterpolo (Eng water polo) and polo. The term waterpolo is interesting because it is a combination of two elements – one is the English word water and the other is the Balti word polo, which means a ball (Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary 1999; Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English 2005). There are no originally Croatian words for kugla, which is a loanword from German (< Ger Kugel) and which is used in athletics to name both an event – bacanje kugle (Eng shot put) – and the implement thrown, i.e. a shot, and for another loanword from German – cil (< Ger Ziel) meaning goal in the sense the terminal point in a race (Random House Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary, 1999). There are also no appropriate originally Croatian counterparts either for the Hungarian loanwords lopta (Eng ball) and karika (Eng ring) or for the English loanwords set (the term is used in tennis) and nokaut (< Eng knockout). The Japanese word kimono also has no original Croatian counterpart and neither does the Polish loanword sablja (Eng sabre).

5 Conclusion

The science of human movement, kinesiology, is extremely liable to borrowing lexical material from other languages due to the global character of sport and physical exercise which are the foci of this scientific discipline. Our analysis has shown that Croatian borrows mostly from English, which is a result that has been expected considering the status of English as an international language. A result that has not been expected is the number of proper names used in Croatian kinesiological terminology, the reasons of which have been explained in previous sections. It is evident that English is not only the language from which Croatian borrows lexical material most frequently, but that it is also, and will most probably continue to be, the most frequent generating language as regards new terms in kinesiological terminology. This is because a certain number of sports has been (e.g. football, basketball, volleyball, etc.) and still is (e.g. kitesurfing) created in the English-speaking areas, or that they have developed on a large scale in English-speaking areas (e.g. tennis).
The inflow of new terms into Croatian kinesiological vocabulary reflects the fact that sport and physical exercise, within the wider concept of kinesiology, are global phenomena, which is reflected in the analysed sample of terms. On the one hand there are terms that are of English origin and are used as loanwords in many languages, thus also in Croatian. On the other hand, terms originating from a whole variety of languages are used in Croatian. This also speaks in favour of the fact that it is not only the actual geographical contact between areas that is the cause of borrowing words from one language to another, but that the concept of contact should be understood in a variety of ways such as cultural contact, domain contact, interdisciplinary contact, etc.

Loanwords of English origin are followed by loanwords from French, Latin and Italian. It is interesting that the number of loanwords from German is approximately four times lower than the number of loanwords that have, within the context of kinesiology, entered the Croatian language from English, in spite of the fact that Croatian has for a considerable amount of time been under a strong influence of the German language. Since kinesiology is a scientific discipline, the number of terms originating from Latin and Greek is not surprising.

Borrowing lexical material from other languages is a natural phenomenon. Still, attempts should be made to find originally Croatian counterparts whenever such efforts are likely to result in an appropriate term. However, this might not always be possible, so that maybe no such counterparts will ever be found for some terms, e.g. for kanu or kayak. Still, if we remind ourselves that these two words are loanwords also in English (canoe and kayak, respectively), German (Kanu and Kajak, respectively) or Russian (каноэ and каяк, respectively), it is evident that other languages do not have native solutions to some of the borrowed lexical material either. In cases when efforts to find or create an originally Croatian word appear to produce a term that satisfactorily replaces a loanword, then the preference of its usage over a loanword should be considered. This is particularly important in cases of terms such as funky kick, step touch, over the top, etc. since they represent the terms for which originally Croatian counterparts do not seem impossible to be created. However, the task of finding an appropriate, originally Croatian term is an extremely difficult task that has to be done with utmost care and that requires the knowledge and effort both of kinesiologists and linguists.

6 Implications for language teaching

Although being very serious in recommending that originally Croatian terms should be used whenever possible, we have to add that the ‘international’ nature of kinesiological terminology can have a very positive effect in the process of foreign, especially English language teaching, and in the process of developing communicative language proficiency in English in young Croatian sportsmen.

In the modern approaches to foreign language teaching, the role of the mother tongue and the knowledge of previously learned languages is increasingly emphasised. The acquisition of languages additional to the first language is being
regarded as a continuum in which learners add to their previous language and world knowledge, and previous learning experiences. In this sense, learners of English with the special emphasis on the kinesiological terminology are in a very favourable position, since a lot of terms they already know from their first language (Croatian) can be effectively used in English. Since English is one of the primary sources of borrowings in the other languages too, Croatian learners can use their knowledge of non-originally Croatian terms in communicating with speakers of different world languages. This is a great asset for our young sportsmen whose lifestyle includes a lot of travelling and communicating across the globe. Therefore, one of the tasks of the foreign (English) language teacher should be raising his/her students awareness of the international nature of kinesiological terminology.

7 References


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NAZIVI STRANOГA PODRIJETLA U KINEZIOLOŠKOME NAZIVLJU

Cilj je istraživanja u ovom radu bio analizirati riječi stranoga podrijetla koje su u hrvatski jezik u kontekstu kineziologije, znanosti o ljudskome kretanju, ušle iz drugih jezika. Uzorak prikupljenoga nazivlja sastojao se od 659 naziva koji su inicijalno bili svrstani u 23 kategorije, prema 22 jezika iz kojih su potekli (engleski, njemački, francuski, talijanski, latinski, grčki, španjolski, norveški, nizozemski, mađarski, ruski, češki, poljski, japanski, Balti, korejski, tamilski, arapski, turski, portugalski, arawački, inuit) i u kategoriju vlastita imena. Navedene su 23 kategorije zatim kondenzirane na završnih osam, i to na nazive podrijetlom iz engleskoga, francuskoga, latinskoga, talijanskoga, njemačkoga i grčkoga jezika te na kategorije vlastita imena i ostali jezici. Učestalost naziva u svakoj kategoriji izražena je u frekvencijama i postotcima. Najučestaliji su bili nazivi podrijetlom iz engleskoga jezika (26,6%) te vlastita imena (26,6%), a zatim su slijedili nazivi iz francuskoga (10,9%), latinskih (9,5%) i talijanskoga (9%) jezika.

Za neke nazive stranoga podrijetla čini se da nije lako naći prikladne, izvorno hrvatske ekvivalente. Međutim, postoji skupina za čije je članove moguće pronaći hrvatske nazive koji bi dobro pokrivali značenje koje se želi označiti. Da bi se do njih došlo potrebna je sustavan rad stručnjaka iz područja kineziologije i lingvista koji će zajedničkim snagama i prema načelima normiranja terminologije razviti prikladne nazive.

Na kraju teksta se zaključuje da internacionalizmi u kineziološkoj terminologiji mogu imati pozitivan učinak na nastavu engleskoga kao stranoga jezika za potrebe kineziološke struke jer olakšavaju razvoj komunikacijske kompetencije u engleskome jeziku kod hrvatskih sportaša.

*Key words: terms of foreign origin, proper names, kinesiology, contact, equivalency*

*Ključne riječi: nazivi stranoga podrijetla, vlastita imena, kineziologija, kontakt, ekvivalencija*