Linguistic borrowing involving both linguistic and non-linguistic factors continues to occupy a significant realm of linguistic research. As such, this paper focuses on the use of English loanwords in French and Italian journalistic texts. Special attention has been given to the choice of texts to be analysed as it is vital to obtain a high level of equivalence between topics and genres. In order to encompass a diversity of topics, the analysis includes those which discuss issues of global relevance, including the economy, international and European politics, environment technology, etc. Following an examination of the empirical data, this article contrasts the share of English elements in both languages at the lexical level of linguistic analysis.

0. Introduction

Undoubtedly, the English language has had a tremendous impact on the majority of European languages. This fact has been particularly pronounced over the last decades. In previous eras of European history, both Italian and French exerted a similar influence on the more common languages of Europe. However, the current and ever-increasing economic, technological, and cultural developments of English-speaking countries, primarily the United States of America and Great Britain, has given more weight to the English language in a number of fields (commerce, politics, science etc.), within different registers.
(formal/informal), and within various types of discourse. The purpose of this paper is to analyze the influence of the English language on contemporary French and Italian. The analysis shall be based on the corpus of French and Italian daily newspaper texts.

1. Language Borrowing

Society is the key factor in terms of both man and language. In fact, one could easily paraphrase John Donne’s famous verse, “No man is an island” as “No language is an island”. It is well known that contacts between people living in different geographic areas and belonging to different cultures normally (or rather eventually) results in contacts between languages. Moreover, boundaries between languages are not as hardened as the frontiers between countries. Languages are constantly permeating each other, whereby certain languages predominantly give loanwords, while others – in most cases – receive them.

Further, language borrowing implies different factors: linguistic, sociolinguistic, political, cultural etc. Thus, language borrowing indicates: a) intercultural contacts; b) interlinguistic contacts; and c) language change. As Crystal notes (1992: 46-47), terms such as “borrowing”, “loan words”, “loan blend” and “loan shift” are rather misnamed, as words are not “given back” in a reciprocal sense. Consequently, one might have advocated the use of “copy”, both as a verb and a noun, instead of “borrow” or “loan”. Nevertheless, we have decided to keep the latter terms in this paper as their equivalents are well entrenched, both in French (e.g. mot d’emprunt) and Italian (e.g. prestito), as well as within the realm of Croatian contact linguistics (e.g. posuđenica).

1.1. Loanwords

Loanwords represent a linguistic fact reflective of the ever-increasing global economic, technological, and cultural exchanges between people. Being multifaceted and multistage linguistic, cultural, and political phenomena, such loanwords concern a broad spectrum of social studies. If they are viewed as a part of neology, loanwords could be treated as the subject matter of linguistic disciplines such as semantics, lexicology, and lexicography. Where it concerns problems stemming from the adaptation of loanwords, all fundamental linguistic disciplines (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics) have their say, each at a given stage.

On the other hand, loanwords might be regarded as an important object of interest for sociolinguists, particularly if they focus on contacts among different language communities. More specifically, the ways in which different language communities adopt foreign elements is primarily explored by contact linguistics. In its broadest sense, this phenomenon merits due attention by researchers engaged in non-linguistic disciplines such as sociology and, to some extent, political science.

Figure 1 illustrates the broad range of disciplines involved in studies of different aspects of the language borrowing phenomenon:
In terms of loanwords, one must bear in mind that such borrowing is part of a wider linguistic phenomenon termed neology. Neology comprises all the processes which determine the creation of new words in the vocabulary of a language. Every natural language is susceptible to processes of neologism creation, either by producing them out of their own resources, or by importing them from other linguistic systems. The neology process is conditioned by man’s social evolution, i.e., that which is brought about by new inventions, phenomena, products, etc., which entails the inevitable appearance of new words. Neologism is a new word or a new expression in a language whose destiny is highly uncertain: either it will be accepted as part of the receiving language vocabulary, or it will disappear from the receiving linguistic system.

1.2. Loanwords: Typological classification

There are several ways to establish a loanword classification and they vary according to the applied classification criteria.

One approach to this question is to consider the essential reason behind language borrowing. This type of classification, proposed by Muhvić-Dimanovski (2005), divides loanwords into two categories: denotative and connotative loanwords.
Denotative loanwords are those which were taken over from other language(s) to give a name to new products or new concepts created abroad. In other words, denotative loanwords are imported together with the items they stand for in order to fill a lexical gap. Connotative loanwords, in contrast, are a direct result of the reputation of a country or its society, e.g., its allegedly prestigious standard of life. In other words, some countries may be viewed as a role-model in civilizational terms (Muhvić-Dimanovski 2005: 7). Given the attitude of speakers towards this kind of borrowing, these words may be referred to as “loanwords of luxury” or “snobbisms”, which testifies to the strong emotional bond speakers establish with the source language (Ljubičić 2011: 13).

Loanwords may also be classified on the basis of their source language. While English is widely accepted as the major present day source language, many others including French, Italian, Spanish, German, and Latin have been highly productive sources of loanwords at different periods of history (i.e., generating anglicisms, galicisms, hispanisms, italianisms, germanisms, latinisms to name but a few).

According to the degree of integration into the receiving language, loanwords may be classified into foreign words and loanwords. It must be noted that not all foreign words eventually become loanwords, i.e. only some foreign words are actually adapted according to the grammatical rules of the receiving language. The vast majority of foreign words are unadapted and easily identifiable as taken from another language in their original form; in many cases the receiving language already possesses a word of the same meaning. Loanwords are words taken over from a source language and integrated to a certain degree into the target language. (Hrvatski enciklopedijski rječnik 2004, s.v. posuditi).

Haugen’s distinction of the processes of importation and substitution is widely accepted by researchers engaged in contact linguistics. Importation is defined as the transfer of any aspect of a model into the target language; substitution refers to the process of replacement of any aspect of a model by a source language counterpart (Filipović 1986: 41). There are many degrees of integration that fall within the scope of importation and substitution processes, which is reflected in the different loanword categories. According to Muhvić Dimanovski (1992: 187, 188) a number of types of loanwords can be singled out on the basis of similarity with the model: model (i.e. a lexical item from the source language) – posudenica (i.e. loanword) – poluprevedenica (i.e. compounds consisting of elements from both source and target languages) – doslovna prevedenica (i.e. literal translation of a

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1 The distinction of two subcategories of loanwords is given by Werner Betz (1959), according to Gómez Capuz (1997). This distinction is considered obsolete by many scholars due to a considerable degree of fuzziness between the two categories.

2 The term model refers to a lexical item from the source language.

3 We opted for the Croatian terms as used by the author in order to avoid terminological ambiguities that would necessarily arise from the heterogeneity of different theoretical approaches. Those ambiguities appear to be even more conspicuous from a cross-linguistic point of view.
source language lexical item), *semantička prevedenica* (i.e. attributing a new source language meaning to an already existing lexical item of the target language), *djelomična prevedenica* (i.e. compounds obtained by a rather free translation of the source language semantic material) – *formalno nezavisna neologizam* (i.e. fixed expressions obtained by an entirely free translation of source language semantic material).

The classification of language borrowing can be based on the linguistic level at which it occurs; i.e. whether phonological, orthographic, morphological, semantic, lexical, or syntactic changes take place.

It is worth noting that the lexical level is the most dynamic in terms of quantity and frequency of inter-linguistic receiving and giving. This can be credited to the fact that the lexical system of a language is particularly prone to accepting neologisms, whereas phonological and morphological systems are seldom liable to changes of any kind.

Phonological and morphological structures of languages may be regarded as their most stable components, as is emphasised in the following:

“(...) it appears that only grammatical and phonological features require geographical proximity before diffusion of this sort can take place. Lexical items appear to be able to spread across much greater distances. Words can be borrowed from one language into another regardless of proximity. Very often, when speakers of a particular language happen to be dominant in some particular field, other language groups adopt words pertaining to the field from this language (Trudgill 1995: 154-55)”.

This observation additionally corroborates our theoretical standpoint from which loanwords appear to be the most significant segment of language borrowing and the most evident, particularly when written language, in this case journalistic discourse, is analysed.

1.3. The English Language Influence on the Italian and French Languages

The dominance of English as a source language has been particularly evident over the last few decades; one may easily see its influence on a vast body of languages. In many cases, the English language has played an important role as the immediate source language for a wide variety of “micro-languages” (various fields and activities). Moreover, a great number of linguistic elements have been borrowed from English as an immediate source language.

Fascination among native French and Italian speakers with English words has been lexically depicted in some coined terms, such as *Franglais* or highly anglicized French (a blend of *français* and *anglais*) and *Itangliano* or highly anglicized Italian (a blend of *italiano* and *anglo-*).

The heightened importation of English language elements over the last decades may be indicative of the tendency to re-shape and adapt French and Italian national identities to the standardizing elements of globalization. This primarily corresponds to the importation of English/American culture, but also
to the fact that these two countries are part of the European Union, where English is often perceived as the unofficial lingua franca.

The popularity of the English language and English loanwords in Italy dates back to the first-half of the twentieth-century. Under Mussolini, foreign words were actually treated as stigmatized elements to be avoided (at all costs); use of foreign words in the media as well as other areas of public life were subsequently prohibited. A list of purist Italian replacements for foreign words was published by Accademia d’Italia. Italian citizens who refused to abide by this law risked being fined, and in some cases were even sent to prison. Upon the fall of fascism in Italy, the English language became associated with cosmopolitanism and modern ideas. Thus, it is presumed that using English words in Italian was then perceived by some Italians as a sort of a liberating experience (leaving behind the oppressive purism characteristic under Mussolini).

As such, this may be one factor for why not one linguistic authority in Italy exerts significant control of neology, although there are some important institutions such as the Accademia della Crusca, which aims to fortify the purity of Italian, spread historical knowledge of the Italian language, and raise awareness of its present evolution in the context of cross-linguistic exchanges in the modern world. (http://www.accademiadellacrusca.it/)4

On the other hand, the so-called war against “franglais” is considered a vital issue within France. Much more organized than the Italian variant, the protection of French is primarily led by the following mutually coordinated institutions of intersecting competencies:

*L’Académie française* is the most renowned and eminent institution with a nearly 400-year old tradition. Its mission is to protect the French language and proscribe its correct usage, which is ensured by creating and updating the Academy’s dictionary and working on boards responsible for new terminology. In the past, the Academy’s work consisted primarily of consolidating the use of the language, while today it strives to maintain the French language qualities and implement what it considers necessary linguistic changes. (http://www.academie-francaise.fr/)

*Conseil Supérieur de la Langue Française* is an inter-ministerial body tasked with presenting government proposals concerning the usage, spread, and promotion of the French language, as well as designing policies on foreign and regional languages.

*La délégation générale à la langue française et aux langues de France - DGLFLF*) is a body associated with the Ministry of Culture and Communication responsible for stimulating and directing the State’s language policy. (http://www.dglflf.culture.gouv.fr/publications/dglflf.pdf)

*Commission Générale de terminologie et de néologie* coordinates the activities of the terminology and neology commissions for developing the French language in 18 ministerial departments.

As noted above, France exerts a far greater institutional effort to preserve its

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4 We quote web addresses only for recent information on public institutions.
native language than does Italy; a feature which is likely to be manifested in the journalistic texts included in the analysis below.

1.4. Loanwords in the Journalistic Discourse

Journalistic discourse (novinarsko-publicistički stil)\(^5\) is perhaps the most complex discourse type. It encompasses not only newspapers as a source of information, but also television, radio, and the Internet. Beyond its main function to deliver information, journalistic discourse also involves advertising, educating, and entertaining (Silić 2006).

A more detailed account of journalistic discourse, particularly one that examines features of journalistic texts across genres, topics, and other relevant parameters, falls beyond the scope of this article. Nevertheless, there is space to note two important characteristics of journalistic texts relevant to this research: (a) the exclusive use of standard language; and (b) texts are inextricably (and obviously) linked to foreign realities based on the need to present current affairs on a wide range of topics. Metaphorically, journalistic discourse is likely to represent a grow bed of neologisms of foreign provenience. Further, because of the accelerated rhythm of daily publishing, it is expected that a considerable number of English loanwords are incorporated into news stories – no matter how vigilant an editorial board may be.

2. RESEARCH

We have limited our corpus analysis to a number of news stories published in major, national daily newspapers in France and Italy between 2010 and 2011. Circulation and quality were the primary criteria applied to the selection of the newspapers used in the empirical research. As such, the newspapers taken into consideration had to meet two requirements: (a) a national audience, i.e. a high level of sales and disbursement throughout the territory of the given country; and (b) specific traits of broadsheet newspapers, i.e. they should primarily cater to educated readers. This latter criterion may be interpreted rather flexibly, namely because today’s high-quality newspapers tend to assume certain characteristics of tabloids as a means to acquire a larger readership. In other words, they do not ignore aspects of life commonly found in tabloids (such as scandal, fashion or celebrities) and the boundaries between these two categories are increasingly grey. Nevertheless, we consider this newspaper model to be particularly relevant in terms of English’s influence on contemporary French and Italian.

\(^5\) The term journalistic discourse may be considered as an equivalent of the term novinarsko-publicistički stil, proposed by Silić (2006). The terms originate from different theoretical approaches to the problem of classifying the (standard) language system into a number of subsystems.
In light of the above, our analysis includes texts deriving from presumably the most eminent and widely-read national dailies in France and Italy: Le Monde and Le Figaro, and La Repubblica and Corriere della sera, respectively.

In the course of our research, we encountered difficulties concerning the choice of texts/articles to be analyzed due to several parameters that had to be respected in order to obtain comparable results. First, it was necessary to obtain a high level of equivalence regarding topics and genres. Second, in order to encompass a diversity of topics, the analysis took into account texts dealing with issues of global importance, such as the economy, international and European politics, the environment, technological innovations, etc. Our aim was to extract the most “up-to-date loanwords” as a testimony to the current level of influence imposed by the English language.7 Namely, it was important to exclude loanwords of an earlier generation, as well as internationalisms, both categories being already well-entrenched in the French and Italian languages.

2.1. Presentation of Results

The contrastive analysis reveals varying levels of the English language’s influence on the two Romance languages. In some aspects, the French and Italian texts exhibit different ways of assimilating English elements. French authors often use French language material to render the concept, whereas Italian authors more than likely incorporate foreign terms in their original form (French/Italian: e.g. le Conseil de stabilité financière/il Financial Stability Forum; les principaux dirigeants/il leader;8 les mesures de relance monétaire et budgetaire/la exit strategy, le manovre anti-recessive;9 une croissance durable/la crescita sostenibile; le sommet/il summit)

The impact of English on both French and Italian is most obvious in journalistic texts dealing with specific fields, including information technology, mobile communications, and the entertainment industry. However, the Italian texts – in addition to the above – reveal a manifest presence of new English loanwords in journalistic texts dealing with the English-speaking world, as well as the European Union.

Figure 2 (below) contains selected examples of various types of loanwords. As a complete classification of recent English language borrowing in French and Italian journalistic discourse is beyond the scope of this article (as well as our contention that reporting on the obtained statistics would unnecessarily encumber the discussion of the results), the analysis below illustrates the most emblematic loanwords in random order in one single table.

7 Examples found in corpus are not necessarily equivalent in terms of grammatical number. Nevertheless, they were all extracted from texts dealing with the same events, problems and phenomena.
8 Ibid.
### Table 1: English Loanwords in French and Italian Daily Newspapers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>French</th>
<th>Italian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Financial Stability Forum</td>
<td>le Conseil de stabilité financière</td>
<td>il Financial Stability Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the leaders</td>
<td>les principaux dirigeants</td>
<td>le leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the exit strategy</td>
<td>les mesures de relance monétaire et budgétaire</td>
<td>la exit strategy, le manœuvre anti-recessive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sustainable growth</td>
<td>une croissance durable</td>
<td>la crescita sostenibile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the summit</td>
<td>le sommet</td>
<td>il summit, il vertice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the first lady</td>
<td>leurs épouses</td>
<td>la first lady Michelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration</td>
<td>l'Agence de sécurité routière américaine</td>
<td>la National Highway Traffic Safety Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Consumer Electronic Show in Las Vegas</td>
<td>le Consumer Electronic Show de Las Vegas</td>
<td>del Consumer Electronic Show a Las Vegas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>slate</td>
<td>la tablette, leur &quot;slate&quot;</td>
<td>la &quot; tavolletta&quot; di jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>computer, PC</td>
<td>l'ordinateur, le PC</td>
<td>il computer, il PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>closed circuit television footage</td>
<td>vidéo de surveillance</td>
<td>i filmati dalle telecamere a circuito chiuso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the online edition</td>
<td>l'édition en ligne</td>
<td>l'edizione online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Chinese cargo ship</td>
<td>le navire chinois</td>
<td>il cargo cinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>megastar Beyoncé Knowles</td>
<td>méga star de la soirée</td>
<td>la megastar della serata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Red Carpet</td>
<td>le tapis rouge</td>
<td>il Red carpet, tappeto rosso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>social networks</td>
<td>les réseaux sociaux</td>
<td>sui social network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>site</td>
<td>sur un site</td>
<td>sul sito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anti-pirate software</td>
<td>le logiciel antipiratage</td>
<td>il software antipirata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smartphone</td>
<td>smartphone</td>
<td>smartphone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do-it-yourself</td>
<td>les truc de do-it yourself</td>
<td>l'informativa do it yourself, il turismo fai da te</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>community of hackers</td>
<td>la communauté hackers</td>
<td>la community hacker italiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphical user interface</td>
<td>une interface graphique</td>
<td>l'interfaccia grafica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record label</td>
<td>un label musical</td>
<td>una label musicale, la casa discografica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>baby boomers’ retirement</td>
<td>la dolce vita des baby retraités n’existe plus</td>
<td>il pensionamento dei primi &quot;baby boomer&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European financial stability facility, the EFSF</td>
<td>le Fonds européen de stabilité financière (FESF)</td>
<td>il fondo Efsf, del fondo salva Stati Efsf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eurozone</td>
<td>la zone euro</td>
<td>la zona euro, l’ eurozona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fans</td>
<td>les fans</td>
<td>i fan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay pride</td>
<td>la gay pride</td>
<td>il primo gay pride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football hooligans</td>
<td>de jeunes supporteurs de football, violemment homophobes</td>
<td>il Pride è stato assalito da hooligans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sexy geeks of 2010</td>
<td>Le geek le plus sexy de 2010</td>
<td>il concorso per il geek più sexy dell’anno</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The analysis of the examples taken from French and Italian dailies demonstrates a number of distinct types of English loanwords, including both denotative and connotative types, as well as varying degrees of importation and substitution processes, in Haugen’s terms. It is evident that Italian journalistic discourse abounds in loanwords of the connotative type, while the denotative type of loanwords dominates the French journalistic texts included in the analysis.

As noted above, the majority of the examples from French journalistic texts (Figure 2) belongs within the denotative loanwords category (e.g., le PC, le nouveau Smartphone, le sommet, les réseaux sociaux, de la zone euro, le logiciel antipiratage, une croissance durable etc). On the other hand, connotative loanwords found in French journalistic texts are usually limited to topics concerning the entertainment industry (e.g., méga star de la soirée, le geek le plus sexy de 2009).

Despite the bevy of denotative loanwords, the examples from the Italian texts predominantly show characteristics of connotative loanwords as all of the following concepts could have been expressed by their Italian equivalent,
which semantically are closely related to the English element (e.g. *la first lady*, *il summit*, *i leader*, *la exit strategy*, *il Red Carpet*). As it can be inferred from the latter examples, contemporary Italian journalists seldom write without recourse to their English vocabulary. Unlike their French counterparts, they tend to use unadapted loanwords in a wider range of topics, from politics to gossip. Within one text, they often use an Italian synonym, paraphrase, or even explain in Italian what they have meant by the English expression (e.g. “Geek” ≈ *i computermaniacci*, “smanettoni informatici” sempre “sfogati” ≈ un po’ come il grande Bill Gates; *la exit strategy* ≈ *le manovre antirecessive*).

Another difference may be observed in terms of how assimilated English elements are in the French and Italian journalistic texts. In most cases, the French language implements one of the processes of substitution, whereas the loanwords found in Italian journalistic texts fall within the scope of the importation process.

Most of the English loanword examples found in French newspaper texts could be placed into the category of loan translations of different types: a) literal translation (e.g. *édition en ligne*, *le tapis rouge*, *le Fonds européen de stabilité financière*, *les réseaux sociaux*); b) compounds obtained by transposition\(^\text{10}\) (e.g. *les principaux dirigeants*); c) compounds consisting of elements from both source and target languages (e.g. *une croissance durable*, *le logiciel antipiratage*, *la communauté hackers*); d) fixed expressions obtained by modulation\(^\text{10}\text{1}\) (e.g. *les mesures de relance monétaire et budgétaire*).

In terms of Italian newspaper texts, we can establish that most English loanwords, specifically those that are easily identifiable as recent, are unadapted. Notwithstanding, the contemporary standard Italian language, especially its journalistic discourse, exhibits a strong presence of loan-translations (*la crescita sostenibile*), and a significant number of Italian words that have acquired new meanings through the analogy with similar words in English (e.g. *realizzare* < *to realize*; *impatto* < *impact*). These latter examples have been left out of our analysis as our focus was on the more recent borrowings that appeared in a limited number of news stories, or rather those that could afford comparability with French. It is imperative to note that Italian journalists tend to use English words to denote certain legal bodies, names of organisations, financial measures, etc., (*il Financial Stability Forum; il fondo Efsf*) that directly concern Italian society. Thus, while French authors immediately translated the new term *European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF)* as *le Fonds européen de stabilité financière*, and consequently use the corresponding acronym *FESF*, Italian journalists still prefer to use the English acronym *Efsf*, referring to this new concept mostly as *fondo Efsf*, or occasionally as *fondo salva-Stati (Efsf)*, which is definitely more transparent to non-English-speaking Italian readers.

\(^9\) Ibid.

\(^\text{10}\) Method of translation that involves replacing one word class with another without changing the meaning of the message (Vinay/Darbelnet 1977: 50).

\(^\text{11}\) Method of translation described as a variation of the form of the message, obtained by a change in the point (ibid.).
There are very few examples in which the English loanword has been expressed by a translation in Italian and by an unadapted loanword in French (e.g. il turismo fai-da-te, le trucs do-it-yourself). In most cases, the opposite is true (e.g. i social network; les réseaux sociaux).

As far as unadapted loanwords in both languages are concerned, the grammatical gender ascribed to English words does occasionally differ between the two languages (e.g. la Gay Pride, il Gay Pride; un label, una label).

As it is typical of any research focused on recent language contact, we encountered examples of loanwords that are apparently new, but in reality have co-existed with their native synonymous expressions as an integral part of French/Italian vocabulary for decades (e.g. French: un label musicale ≈ une maison de disques; Italian: una label musicale ≈ una casa discografica; il cargo ≈ la nave da carico). We have included such examples in our analysis as they are clearly connotative due to the fact that the authors could have avoided them. However, as they were closer to the original words used by the authors of the agency news in English, they opted for the already existent English loanwords, well-entrenched in French/Italian vocabulary.

One particularly interesting example is the compound adjective babyretraité, which appeared in a French news story about Italian retirement reforms. Although at first glance it appears to be an English loanword due to the presence of the element baby; however, there are no corresponding expressions in the English language. The lexical expression and the very concept it identifies emanates from Italy. Namely, the Italian compound noun/adjective “baby-pensionati” refers to young pensioners, particularly those who took an early retirement in the 1970s. This is a clear example of “pseudoanglicism” or “secondary anglicism” (Filipovic 1986: 193).

As a general statement of the results noted above, we would like to reiterate that our aim was to diagnose roughly the proportion of borrowing from English in French and Italian journalistic discourse and to make apposite observations.

3. Conclusion

In terms of the sheer amount of English loanwords found in the analyzed corpus, the impact of the English language must first be described as ubiquitous. The proportion of borrowings from English in the analysed corpus proved to be even greater than we had originally expected, particularly for the Italian texts. It is presumed that the journalist’s intent to render an atmosphere and spirit of internationally relevant events contributes to the extent to which English elements are incorporated into texts.

Such loanword usage can further affect the level of entrenchment of loanwords in the lexical inventory of the two languages. Assuming that the target audience of the analysed texts are predominantly standard language speakers, i.e. well-educated readers who daily seek out broadsheet newspapers, it could be expected that the observed phenomena might raise the level of influence of
English on the French and Italian standard languages even beyond the limits of the journalistic discourse.

Moreover, it can be hypothesized that by accepting foreign elements in their own languages, the language users assume certain traits of the foreign identity insofar as the source language is spoken in a speech community that is perceived as prestigious, or as it is pertinent to an attractive sphere of human activity. The level of tolerance towards the influence of English could be indicative of these tendencies. As outlined in paragraph 2.1, we suggest that purging the language of foreign words or unadapted loanwords can be tackled in a systematic and organised manner as in France, or such language policy can be rather feeble as in Italy. These differences seem to be clearly visible in the way French and Italian journalists cope with the problem of rendering new concepts in their languages and in their (un)willingness to use connotative loanwords.

As stated in paragraph 2.1, all new words have a rather uncertain future. New loanwords, particularly those denoting new concepts that may be relevant only for a limited period of time, might expire as soon as the activity or fashion they are related to fades from the public consciousness. Therefore, we firmly believe that it would be highly beneficial for French-Italian contrastive analysis if a similar cross-linguistic study based on an analogous corpus could be undertaken in the near future.

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ANGLIZMI U FRANCUSKOM I TALIJANSKOM DNEVOM TISKU

Jezično posuđivanje pobuđuje zanimanje velikog broja znanstvenika kao fenomen koji uključuje brojne lingvističke, ali i nelingvističke čimbenike. Cilj je ovoga rada uočiti i usporediti uporabu elemenata iz engleskoga jezika u francuskim i talijanskim novinskim tekstovima. Usporedna je analiza zahtijevala odabir analognih tekstova koji obrađuju istu tematiku. Kako bi bile obuhvaćene različite teme, odnosno različiti dijelovi leksika, u analizu su uključeni članci koji se bave pitanjima globalnoga značenja poput ekonomije, svjetske/europske politike, prirodnih katastrofa, ekologije itd. Nakon teoretskoga razmatranja jezičnoga posuđivanja, posuđenica i njihove klasifikacije, te načina prihvaćanja engleskih posuđenica u francuskom i talijanskome jeziku donosimo najvažnije rezultate usporedne analize prisutnosti angлизama u novinskome diskursu oba jezika.

Key words: loanwords, contrastive analysis, French, Italian, English language, journalistic discourse

Ključne riječi: posuđenice, kontrastivna analiza, francuski jezik, talijanski jezik, engleski jezik, novinski diskurs