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Extended Abstract

The study of words ending to Persian suffix-i in speech of Azerbaijani Turkish speakers based on matrix language frame model

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Introduction

The most linguists describe the borrowing as a process to transfer the elements from a language to another language or languages. Bound morphemes are borrowed by attaching to free morphemes such as nouns, adjectives, verbs and... Derivational morphemes are transferred to other languages easier than inflectional morphemes. Persian suffix *-i* in the word *dusti* (friendship) is a derivational morpheme making a new word by being added to the word *dust* (friend). The suffix *-i* in the words *ketabi* (the indefinite *-i*), *didi* (second person singular *-i*) and *xubi* (*-i* as an inflectional form of the verb *budan* in the present tense) is an inflectional morpheme attached to the words *ketab* (a book), *did* (saw) and *xub* (good) respectively to present the grammatical function. So Persian suffix *-i* is a homonymous bound morpheme. Bound morphemes with the same forms and different meaning or grammatical functions are called homonymous bound morphemes. The frequent occurrence of Persian words with derivational morpheme *-i* in Azerbaijani Turkish speakers' speech and the limited usage of other forms (*-i* suffixes) in their speech was a starting point to study this phenomenon based on MLFM (Matrix Language Frame Model).

Materials and Methods

The research method is descriptive-analytic. At first, the different forms of Persian homonymous bound morpheme *-i* were classified into: early system morphemes (derivational morpheme *-i* and *-i* as an indefinite morpheme) and late outsider system morphemes (the second person singular *-i* and *-i* as an inflectional form of the verb *budan* in the present tense) according to differential access hypothesis. Then the data were analyzed based on the principles and hypothesis of MLFM. MLFM from the beginning emphasizes on two important principles: Uniform structure principle and 4-M model. Uniform structure principle serves to recognize that each constituent in language has a uniform structure that is maintained whenever the constituent appears. Another

development is the Differential Access Hypothesis as 4-M model. It specifies four types of morphemes: content morphemes, early system morphemes, and two types of late system morphemes. The model further subcategorizes late system morphemes into two types: bridges and outsiders. Early system morphemes are activated at the lemma level together with their content morpheme heads for their maximal projection. Late system morphemes depend on other types of information for their activation, and this information is only available at the level of the formulator, where language specific morphosyntactic patterns must be realized. The data has been collected from the interaction of 30 Azerbaijani Turkish people (Azerbaijani Turkish monolinguals, normal Azerbaijani Turkish Persian bilinguals and educated Azerbaijani Turkish Persian bilinguals) living in Ardabil province.

Results and Discussion

The data analysis shows that all of the borrowed words appearing in Azerbaijani Turkish speakers' speech belong to Persian. The frequency of Persian words ending to *-i* in Azerbaijani Turkish speakers' speech is presented in table 1.

Table 1.

The frequency of Persian words ending to -i in Azerbaijani Turkish speakers' speech

Homonymous bound morpheme	Example	Speaker	frequency	total
Derivational <i>-i</i>	Engelābi	Monolingual	180	950
		Normal bilingual	320	
		Educated bilingual	450	
Indefinite <i>-i</i>	Fardi	Monolingual		30
		Normal bilingual		
		Educated bilingual	30	
<i>-i</i> as a second person singular	Rafti	Monolingual		
		Normal bilingual		
		Educated bilingual		
<i>-i</i> as an inflectional form of the verb <i>budan</i> in the present tense	Sarhāli	Monolingual		
		Normal bilingual		
		Educated bilingual		

The majority of collected data belongs to the borrowed words ending to derivational *-i*. This morpheme appeared in the speech of all Azerbaijani Turkish people (monolinguals, normal bilinguals and educated bilinguals). The frequency of used derivational *-i* in the speech of mentioned speakers was 180, 320 and 450 respectively. The second group of the data were the borrowed words ending to indefinite *-i*. These borrowed words appeared in noun phrases were only used by all Azerbaijani Turkish-Persian educated bilinguals. The borrowed words ending to the second person singular *-i* and *-i* as an inflectional form of the verb *budan* in the present tense were not observed in the speech of any speakers.

Conclusion

Azerbaijani Turkish was the matrix language in all data due to uniform structure principle of MLFM. According to differential access hypothesis, late outsider system morphemes are structure makers and they determine the syntactic order of constituents in the sentences, meanwhile early system morphemes play role in transferring of meaning. Azerbaijani Turkish as a matrix language causes its late outsider system morphemes activates at formulation level to assign Azerbaijani Turkish morpho-syntactic frame on the sentences. So Persian late outsider system morphemes (-i adding to verb as the second person singular and -i as an inflectional form of the verb *budan* in the present tense) do not appear in speech of Azerbaijani Turkish speakers. Persian early system morphemes (-i as a derivational morpheme and -i as an indefinite morpheme) do not have any role in determining syntactic structure of sentences, therefore they can be transferred to Azerbaijani Turkish speakers' speech by being added to Persian content morphemes. So there is a relation between different morpheme nature (their selection at different abstract level) and their transferring to other languages. As Myers-Scotton (2002) has predicted that MLFM is more efficient in explaining language contact phenomenon.

Keywords: Homonymous Bound Morpheme; Persian; Persian -I; Azerbaijani Turkish; MLFM

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