

Marta Lackova \*

## THE ROLE OF -ING IN CONTEMPORARY SLAVIC LANGUAGES

*The article deals with words of English origin (with the terminal suffix -ing) which have penetrated into contemporary Slavic languages. The general introduction into the characteristics of -ing lexemes in the English language as well as principles of lexical unit adaptation are provided. The main emphasis is put on orthographic, morphological, word-formation and semantic adaptation of the lexical units in the Slovak, Russian and Czech languages.*

**Key words:** loan word, anglicism, -ing participle, orthographic, morphological, word-formation and semantic adaptation.

### 1. Introduction

One cannot consider the usage of anglicisms with the *-ing* ending to be a new phenomenon but in the contemporary social situation the occurrence and significance of these lexical units increases – this is the reason why we have concentrated on this specific field of vocabulary. The dictionaries of slang and neologisms in the studied languages have become the source material of the research [2] [4].

The goals of the research of lexical units which bear the terminal suffix *-ing* are developed in the following intentions:

- to provide characteristics of a specific layer of lexicon as a complete synchronic issue which reflects synchronic dynamics accompanied by integration changes from penetration into the system of a Slavic language through word-formation processes to semantic processes;
- to depict how language systems and language users cope with the process of acceptance of these anglicisms;
- to describe the contemporary nature of the process taking into consideration their adaptation and impact on the communication process course.

The above mentioned adaptation concerns these aspects of a lexical unit [1]:

- distribution and utilization of the loan word;
- stylistic characteristics;
- phonetic and morphological characteristics;
- semantic adaptation;
- word-formation incorporation;
- incorporation into synonymic, homonymic and antonymic relations;
- incorporation into syntagmatic relations;
- relation of the loan word to the hitherto expression of the notion.

Our comparative analysis has its roots in the morphological features of the *-ing* lexical units in English. In the English language the present *-ing* participle is called nonfinite; it is one of the nonfinite forms of the verb [3]. It occurs as a nonfinite form in the progressive aspect following the verb to be and *-ing* participle clauses. The *-ing* participle form is almost invariably predictable from the base.

Studying verbal grammatical categories, the distinctions of aspect are the only ones which are expressed when taking into account structural possibilities of a single nonfinite verb phase. The perfective/nonperfective contrast is sometimes possible in an *-ing* participle phrase in adverbial clauses; on the other hand, the *-ing* participle phrases are not capable of expressing the progressive/nonprogressive contrast, since the *-ing* participle is not necessarily associated with the progressive.

Moreover, there are constructions in which the *-ing* participle construction is progressive in meaning and has aspect contrast with the infinitive.

In the English language there are adjectives that have the same suffix as the participle in *-ing*. They are called participial adjectives. The difference between the adjective and the participle is not always clear-cut. When a direct object is present, the participle is the function for the *-ing* form. On the other hand, premodification by the intensifier *very* is an indication that the form is an adjective [3].

The participle sometimes achieves adjective status when it is connected with another element. When an *-ing* form occurs on its own or is preceded by a genitive noun phrase, the construction becomes ambiguous between an *-ing* clause and a noun phrase with a verbal noun in *-ing* as its head.

\* Marta Lackova

Faculty of Humanities, University of Zilina, Slovakia, E-mail: marta.lackova@fpv.uniza.sk

The possibility to modify a noun by a present participle depends on the potentiality of the participle to indicate a characteristic feature. The premodification by the *-ing* participle is a current trend in journalism and technical writing.

An *-ing* form may also be [3]:

- a concrete count noun referring to what results from the action of the base (*opening*);
- a concrete noncount noun with reference to the material of which the base is made (*panelling*);
- an abstract and noncount noun which describes the activity connected with the base (*framing*);
- an abstract count noun which expresses the occasion of the base verb's activity (*christening*);
- occasionally a noncount noun (*clothing*).

Noun compounds created from a verbal noun in *-ing* plus subject (*working party*); object plus verbal noun in *-ing* (*brainwashing*); verbal noun in *-ing* plus adverbial (*waiting room*) and obligatory plurals (*savings*) are very productive ways of forming new lexical units.

Some *-ing* participial forms can even function as marginal prepositions, nonfinite verb forms, conjunctions.

The gradience from deverbal nouns via verbal nouns to participles is illustrated in the following examples:

*some paintings of Cooper's* – deverbal noun; concrete count noun;  
*the painting of Cooper is as skilful as that of Smith* – verbal noun;  
 abstract noncount noun;

*Cooper's deftly painting his son is a delight to watch* – gerund;

*Cooper is painting his son* – participle.

## 2. Orthographic adaptation

When taking into account orthographic adaptation of anglicisms into the contemporary Slovak and Czech languages, the generally valid rules in the sphere are kept; on the other hand, in the Russian language they have most often acquired an orthographic form which is not stated in currently valid rules.

It arises from the orthographic analysis of anglicisms that their vocalic structure contains phonetic or graphic elements of the original English lexical unit. Moreover, an anglicism may hold one meaning in two or more orthographic forms. In other words, the analyzed anglicisms are:

- a) graphically motivated: *roaming* (SL); *интернет-банкинг* (RL); *casting* (CL);
- b) phonetically motivated: *miting* (SL); *брифинг* (RL); *antidumpingovy* (CL);
- c) phonetic-graphically motivated: *kanoning* (SL); *перайтинг* (RL); *raketyring* (CL);

Two, three or even four forms of one lexical unit appear in all the observed languages:

*skrining* – *screening*; *snouboarding* – *snowboarding*; *camping* – *kemping*; *carving* – *karving*; *carvingovy* – *karvingovy*; *casting* – *kasting*; *castingovy* – *kastingovy*; *factoring* – *faktoring*; *canyoning* – *kanoning*; *telerekording* – *telerecording*; *treking* – *trekking*; *trekkingovy* – *trekingovy*; *catering* – *ketering* (SL);

*хепенинг* – *хепенинг* – *хэппенинг*; *тагинг* – *тэгинг*; *франчайзинг* – *френчайзинг*; *франчайзинговый* – *френчайзинговый* (RL);

*dampingovat* – *dumpingovat*; *antidampingovy* – *antidumpingovy*; *racketeering* – *raketyring*; *franchisingovy* – *franchisovy* – *franzizingovy* – *fransizinkovy* (CL).

The most common variation represents the contrast of a double consonant and a single consonant:

*skiping* – *skipping*; *dresing* – *dressing*; *mobing* – *mobbing*; *lobing* – *lobbing* (SL);

*шоннинг* – *шонинг* (RL); *modeling* – *modelling* (CL).

There exist also lexical units which are written together or separately in the same meaning:

*home banking* – *homebanking* (SL);

*кикбоксинг* – *кик-боксинг* (RL);

*bodybuilding* – *body building* (CL).

The Czech language is the only one where the terminal letter *-k* has been accepted instead of *-g*: *briefing* – *brifing* – *brifink*; *trenink*; *dresink* – *dressing*; *fransizing* – *fransizink*.

The Russian language offers the widest range of possibilities of anglicisms orthographic adaptation. In order to highlight this phenomenon, the most common ways of vowels and diphthongs orthographic adaptation of *-ing* participles in the Russian language are classified below.

## 3. Morphological adaptation

Morphological features of these anglicisms in the studied Slavic languages are the combination of Slavic and English morphological features of individual word classes. At the same time, word classes borrowed from English acquire grammatical categories which are typical of the corresponding word classes in the Slavic languages.

The morphological analyses prove that the *-ing* ending is a suffixal terminal element with an independent processual meaning, since in the Slavic languages the root morphemes usually do not bear this semantic mark.

The studied anglicisms belong to masculine nouns in all the three languages: *e-banking*; *face-lifting*; *multitasking*; *sampling*; *shop-ping* (SL); *банкинг*; *допинг*; *неккинг*; *пейджиинг*; *роуминг* (RL); *biking*; *sponzoring*; *lobbing*; *gambling*; *peeling* (CL).

Most of them undergo declination processes (except for the following group of nouns in the Slovak language *action painting*; *clearing house*; *coming-out*; *rooming-in*; *sightseeing tour*).

Ortographic adaptation of *-ing* participles in the Russian language (vowels/diphthongs)

Tab. 1

vowel/diphthong	original form	adapted form
e [ɪ] е	<i>rewriting</i>	<i>рерайтинг</i>
u [u:] ю	<i>tuning</i>	<i>тюнинг</i>
a [ɒ] о	<i>swapping</i>	<i>своппинг</i>
a [ɑ:] а	<i>targeting</i> <i>casting</i>	<i>таргетинг</i> <i>кастинг</i>
u [ʌ] е	<i>antidumping</i>	<i>антидемпинговый</i>
a [æ] е	<i>branding</i>	<i>брендинг</i>
a [æ] а	<i>banking</i>	<i>банкинг</i>
i [ɪ] и	<i>lifting</i>	<i>лифтинг</i>
e [ə] э	<i>ending</i>	<i>эндинг</i>
e [ə] е	<i>spelling</i> <i>armwrestling</i>	<i>спеллинг</i> <i>армрестлинг</i>
o [ɒ] о	<i>jogging</i>	<i>джоггинг</i>
aw [ɔ:] о	<i>trawling</i>	<i>троллинг</i>
ee [i:] и	<i>speedskating</i> <i>screening</i>	<i>спидскейтинг</i> <i>скрининг</i>
ie [i:] и	<i>briefing</i> <i>piercing</i>	<i>брифинг</i> <i>пирсинг</i>
ea [i:] и	<i>dealing</i> <i>leasing</i> <i>freaking</i>	<i>дилинговый</i> <i>лизинговый</i> <i>фрикинг</i>
i [aɪ] ай	<i>siding</i> <i>diving</i>	<i>сайдинг</i> <i>дайвинг</i>
a [eɪ] ей	<i>speedskating</i> <i>dating</i> <i>shaping</i>	<i>спидскейтинг</i> <i>дейтинг</i> <i>шейпинг</i>
a [eɪ] а	<i>catering</i>	<i>катеринг</i>
i [aɪ] ай	<i>writing</i> <i>highjacking</i>	<i>райтинг</i> <i>хайджекинг</i>
o [əʊ] о	<i>opening</i> <i>holding</i>	<i>опенинг</i> <i>холдинг</i>
y [aɪ] ай	<i>styling</i>	<i>стайлинг</i>
y [aɪ] и	<i>recycling</i>	<i>рециклинг</i>
a [eɪ] ей	<i>paging</i>	<i>пейджинг</i>
ow [əʊ] ой	<i>bowling</i>	<i>боулинг</i>
ow [aʊ] ай	<i>downshifting</i>	<i>даунишфтинг</i>
oa [əʊ] о	<i>snowboarding</i> <i>skateboarding</i>	<i>сноубординг</i> <i>скейтбординг</i>
oa [aʊ] ой	<i>coaching</i> <i>roaming</i>	<i>коучинг</i> <i>роуминг</i>
oa [ɔ:] оа	<i>cloaking</i>	<i>клоакинг</i>
ai [eɪ] е	<i>autotrainig</i>	<i>аутотренинг</i>

The following features are marked as marginal: one noun in the Slovak language is classified as pluralia tantum: *stopping*; in the

specific case of *онгоинг* it is a deverbal adjective in the English language and a substantive in the Russian language.

#### 4. Word-formation adaptation

The following word-formation processes find their realization when transferring the *-ing* anglicisms into the Slovak, Russian and Czech languages: derivation and compounding. Other word-formation processes (shortenings, acronyms, blending, conversion, calques, univerbization) have not been realized at all. Derivation processes and derivatives represent the most numerous group. The derivation of word classes from word-formative bases is realized mostly by means of suffixation.

In the Czech language only adjectival derivatives have been observed: *antidopingovy*; *fransizingovy*; *holdingovy*; *castingovy*; *leasingovy*; *liftingovy*; *marketingovy*; *pagingovy*; *ratingovy*; *roamingovy*; *cateringovy*.

Adjectival and adverbial derivatives are present in the Slovak language: *dampingovy* – *dumpingovo*; *treningový* – *treningovo*; *raomin-govy*; *mitingovy*; *dresingovy*; *kanoningovy*; *kempingovy*; *cateringovy*; *telerekordingovy*; *snoubordingovy*; *skippingovy*.

The Russian language is the most productive in the field of derivation; adjectives, nouns and verbs are created from English *-ing* lexical units: *дилинговый*; *кастинговый*; *катеринговый*; *лизин-говый*; *шоппинговый*; *шоппинговать*; *демпинговать*; *допинговый*; *картингист*; *роуминговый*; *консалтинговый*; *лифтинговый*; *маркетинговый*; *пейджинговый*; *рейтинговый*.

In some cases the derivatives build the basis for word-formative nests:

*kliring* – *kliringovy* – *kliringovo*;  
*виндсёрфинг* – *виндсёрфингист* – *виндсёрфингистка*;  
*демпинг* – *демпинговый* – *антидемпинговый*.

The combination of a Russian word base and the *-ing* ending occurs rarely: *Путинг* = митинг или тусовка путиноидов.

The processes of compounding are present only in the Russian language within the studied field: *рейтинг вопроса*; *рейтинг команды*; *холдинговая компания*.

In the case of hyphenated compounds, the first part of it does not undergo declination: *холдинг-компания*; *шоппинг-центр*; *шоппинг-терапия*; *допинг-тест*; *рейтинг-лист*; *датинг-моб*.

#### 5. Semantic adaptation

Taking into account the relationships between the form and meaning of anglicisms it is possible to state that from the semantic point of view the core of the anglicisms represent monosemic lexemes:

*ballooning*; *face-myolifting*; *deltaplaning* (SL);

*дрессинг; кёрлинг; миолифтинг (RL);  
biolifting; petting; teleshopping (CL).*

At the same time, cases of polysemy (*autokemping; timing; dis-  
peping; franchising; telerekording; trekking; feeling; mobbing; rating;  
styling (SL); райтинг; рейтинг; троллинг; спеллинг; перайтинг;  
хостинг (RL)*) in the Slovak and Russian languages and homonymy  
(*surfing; happening; lifting; miting; imprinting; skauting*) in the Slovak  
language prove the hypothesis that the more frequent a word is  
the more striking the above mentioned relationships are; nearly all  
polysemic and homonymic units belong to the core of the angli-  
cisms.

Moreover, only a limited number of the studied lexical units  
enter mutually synonymic or antonymic relations: *dopingovy -  
antidopingovy (CL)*.

## 6. Conclusions

The analysis of the gathered material shows certain charac-  
teristics in the group of *-ing* anglicisms which have penetrated into

contemporary Slavic languages. Not all the studied anglicisms in  
the given period have undergone an analogically adaptation process;  
in other words, the usage in the field of loan words adaptation  
into Slavic languages is not homogenous. One cannot provide strict  
rules of anglicisms functioning on system level; on the basis of  
material corpus it is possible to highlight only certain tendencies  
of integration adaptation processes.

In the end we would like to point out that our analysis is not  
based on an absolute completeness of the lexical material as the  
word stock represents an open system which is being developed  
and enriched by new lexical units.

Perspectives of the research are seen in these aspects:

- phonetic characteristics;
- other semantic relations; semantic shifts compared with original  
meaning in the English language;
- etymology of individual components;
- incorporation into syntagmatic relations;
- incorporation into individual functional styles;
- statistical representation of individual characteristic features.

## References

- [1] BLANAR, V.: *Methodological Notes on Lexical Units Adaptation from German to Slovak* (in Slovak). In *Philologica XLIX*. 1998. pp. 11-19.
- [2] *Dictionary of Contemporary Youth Slang* (in Russian). [online], [22. 3. 2010]. Available at: <<http://teenslang.su/>>
- [3] QUIRK, R., GREENBAUM, S., LEECH, G., SVARTVIK, J.: *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. Longman, 1985.
- [4] *Russian-Czech and Czech-Russian Dictionary of Neologisms* (in Czech). Praha : Academia, 2004.