

The impact of nominal anglicisms on the morphology of modern spoken German

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Declaration

This thesis contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due reference has been made in the text. I give consent to this copy of my thesis, when deposited in the University Library, being made available for loan and photocopying subject to the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968.

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Abbreviations

ADJ = adjective

ADSV = *Allgemeiner Deutscher Sprachverein* ‘General German Language Society’

dem. = demonstrative

DH = *Deutsch Heute* ‘German Today’ (corpus)

f / fem. = feminine

gen. = genitive case

LCE = Lexical Conceptual Equivalent

LMP = Last Member Principle

m / masc. = masculine

m-rule = morphological rule

n / neut. = neuter

N = noun

neg. art. = negative article

NGP = natural Gender Principle

NP = noun phrase

pl. = plural

poss. pro. = possessive pronoun

p-rule = phonological rule

RR = Rightmost Rule

RVG1 = Regional Variants of German 1 (corpus)

sc-rule = subcategorisation rule

SDS = *Stiftung Deutsche Sprache* ‘German Language Foundation’

s-rule = semantic rule

V = verb

VDS = *Verein Deutsche Sprache* ‘German Language Society’

Abstract

This is a project in the field of language contact and evaluates the influence of English on the German language. To my knowledge, it is the first study to investigate the integration of anglicisms into spontaneous spoken German. The purpose of the research is twofold. On the one hand, it aims to contribute to the understanding of the mechanisms for gender and plurality marking. On the other hand, by examining whether anglicisms conform to the patterns of German grammar or, conversely, exert an influence on German grammar, the study addresses the central language-identity nexus in sociolinguistics. In other words, the overarching question guiding the present investigation is whether English is exerting a significant influence on German.