

BORROWING OF VERBS AND LIGHT VERBS



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DEDICATION

I want to dedicate this work to my family especially my beloved parents (Mr.&Mrs. Noor Hussain) who always support me in every step of my life.

Abstract

Borrowing is a socio linguistic practice when one language takes a word from another language. Borrowing of verbs is a cross linguistics phenomenon. Different morphological processes involve in the accommodation of a verb from one language to another. Some languages borrow verbal roots from other languages and put in those verbal roots into their own morphology. However, some exceptional case or a light verb as “to do” is required to adjust the borrowed verbal root. Light verbs are a very important syntactic issue in world’s languages. In some languages, light verbs are covert and others have overt light verbs. This study discusses the borrowing pattern of verbs in English and Urdu, and their relationship with covert and overt light verbs. Through content analysis this study differentiates the inflectional pattern of native and borrowed verbs in English and Urdu. The findings show that having covert light verbs, English borrowing pattern is different from Urdu which have overt light verbs. English borrows verbal roots from other languages particularly Greek, Latin and French and treat these verbal roots as a native item. Urdu also has borrowed significant number of verbs from Arabic, Persian and Turkish lexicon. But Urdu language has different approach in borrowing because light verbs are overt in it. Light verbs are widely used in Urdu. The borrowed verbs in Urdu do not follow the morphological pattern of Urdu; instead of this these borrowed verbs remain uninflected and take light verbs ker “to do”, de “give” and ly “take” along with them.

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