S. Brusniak, Student
D. Moskvitina, Phd in Phil., As. Prof., research advisor
Zaporizhzhia State Medical University

LATIN BORROWINGS IN THE ENGLISH WORD-STOCK OF J.K.ROWLING'S MYTHOPOETIC UNIVERSE

A series of books on Harry Potter – an orphaned young wizard, who became an irreconcilable fighter of the dark magic – has been keeping on top of all readership ratings for several decades. Such popularity is secured by many factors, among them there is extremely fascinating plot, young attractive characters, with whom teenagers can associate themselves, and enigmatic atmosphere, to mention just a few. The author of the series, a British bestselling writer J.K. Rowling, has designed a secondary universe, which generally corresponds to modern Europe and the USA, but, nevertheless, has a number of remarkable differences. The first and foremost is, certainly, the idea that magic, wizardry, fantastic beasts and other supernatural ideas and objects are real. Moreover, the difference is marked with the language of the British magic community, which is quite different from the English spoken in the real UK.

The tradition of introducing new languages or at least words and phrases into a secondary world is deeply rooted in the sci-fi and fantasy fiction tradition. Basically, all authors describing different worlds need (and coin) new nominations for those worlds' culture-specific elements. The laurels of the most productive language inventor belong to J.R.R. Tolkien who created several new languages (including several Elvish (Quenya, Telerin, Sindarin), several human (Adûnaic, Westron, Rohirric) languages, as well as Khuzdul (the language of the Dwarves), Entish (the language of the Ents) and Valarin (the language of the Ainur)) for his Middle Earth.

Nevertheless, *Harry Potter* series of books has also enriched the English language with some neologisms coined by J.K. Rowling. For instance, the word *muggle* ('a person of non-wizarding origin who does not possess magic powers') entered *Oxford Dictionary of English* in 2002 with the meaning 'a person who lacks a particular skill or skills, or who is regarded as inferior in some way' [3]. Later this word was joined by *quidditch* ('magicians' team sport played on broomsticks with four different balls') with the meaning 'a team sport played while straddling broomsticks, in which goals are scored by throwing a ball through any of three hoops fixed at either end of the pitch'. Moreover,the editing team of the *Oxford Dictionary of English* is quite optimistic about the prospective for other Harry Potter words to be registered by this dictionary: 'we explore some of the language of *Harry Potter*, and the related neologisms that we are currently tracking; if they gather enough evidence of widespread usage, these words could be joining *muggle* and *quidditch* in our dictionaries' [1].

Being a well-educated English philologist, J.K. Rowling designated new words using a rich palette of word-formation elements not only of English, but of other European languages. For example, she referred to French while creating the nickname for the villain of the story – *Voldemort,* which is literally 'flight of death' in French [2]. However, the most widely used source language for *Harry Potter* word creation is beyond doubt Latin. The authorized wizarding world website Pottermore.com gives detailed reasons for J.K. Rowling's use of Latin: 'Latin's more than just a historical

eccentricity – it's the basis of what we call Romance languages… It resonates through English too, with so many of our words coming directly from Latin… With wizards being old-fashioned in nature, it's not surprising that so many of their spells are rooted in a more archaic language' [4].

Indeed, the author widely employs Latin-derived stems for creating new words which belong mainly to names (e.g. Albus (from Latin *albus* – 'white'), Severus (from Latin *severus* – 'severe'), Lupin (from Latin *lupus* – 'wolf')), etc., and incantations (Fidelius – a spell of keeping secret (from Latin *fidelius* – 'faithful, reliable'), Patronus– a spell summoning a defender from Dementors (from Latin *patronus* – 'defender'), Cruciatus – a spell of tortures and pain (from Latin *crucire* – 'to torture')).

Structural and lexical-semantic analysis of Latin borrowings in the Wizarding English word-stock enabled to discover that Latin was employed by the author for creating those personal names that bear strong stylistic effect of antonomasia (a meaningful name). For instance, Professor Snape's first name Severus (severe) hints at his gloomy character and specific temper; the last name of Remus Lupin (wolf) tells the reader about his second personality of a werewolf; and the first name of Ludo (from Latin *ludo* – 'I play') Bagman reveals his strong inclination to gambling. For creating personal names, J.K. Rowling uses adjectives (albus, severus), nouns (lupus) and 1st person singular verbs (ludo). Besides, she employs Latin-originated names: e.g. Minerva, the Latin goddess of wisdom, has given name to Minerva McGonagall, and Horace Slughorn, a professor of Potions, has been named after the famous Roman poet.

As for incantation names, they are represented in two guises – as actual names (Cruciatus, Imperius, Fidelius) and as actual magic formulae, pronounced while casting a spell (diffindo, engorgio, expulso). The first group of words is represented mainly by Latin nouns (*cruciatus* – 'torture', *patronus* – 'defender'); however, the so-called 'invented' Latin nouns (namely, adjectives or infinitives transformed into nous by means of adding noun suffix –us) also occur (Fidelius (from Latin *fidelis* – 'faithful, reliable'), Imperius (from Latin *imperare* – 'to reign'), etc. The second group – actual spells formulae – comprises mainly 1st person singular forms of the Latin verbs: *expecto patronum* (literally 'I expect a defender'), *cave inimicum* (literally 'I beware of an enemy'), *levicorpus* (literally 'I make a body fly'), *evanesco* (literally 'I vanish'), *finite incantatem* (literally 'I finish a spell'), etc.

Apart from names and incantations, Latin is implemented in *Harry Potter* books via names of potions. For example, the famous Polyjuice Potion brewed by Hermione on her second year has Latin-borrowed prefix *poly-* (meaning 'many') in its name. The name of the potion of luck – Felix Felicis – is made of two forms of one and the same word: the first component (*felix*) is nominative case and the second one (*felicis*) is genitive case. Thus, this word combination means 'lucky of lucky'.

Latin borrowings play a very important role in Harry Potter books. First, they create a specific atmosphere of magic and sorcery, as Latin was the language of medieval alchemists who were considered half-scientists and half-magicians of their time. Second, words of Latin origin secure certain postmodern playing with the reader, who is encouraged to decipher them. And, finally, Latin borrowings enrich the lexicon of the novels, making them interesting objects for both literary criticism and linguistic analysis.

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