



Research Paper

## English Lexical Borrowing in Filipino: Morphophonological Adaptation of English Lexemes and Loanwords

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### Abstract

English has profoundly influenced the Philippine language through the assimilation of source language words into the recipient language. This linguistic exchange, influenced by historical and cultural contacts, has resulted in a notable transformation of linguistic aspects in the Philippines. Over time, English has seamlessly been incorporated into the Filipino language, highlighting a notable process of linguistic exchange. This study specifically delved into the morphological and phonological adaptations of English loanwords in Filipino, examining nuances and shifts in linguistic structure and meaning during the borrowing process through purposive sampling. Qualitative research methods and content analysis were employed, focusing on loanwords extracted from Bob Ong's novels as a linguistic corpus, delving into the process of incorporating English loanwords into the Filipino language, exploring how this integration instigates a transformation to align with the grammatical and linguistic structure of the target language, and revealing notable morphophonological adaptations and semantic shifts that occur during the borrowing process. Inflections of English lexemes, complemented with Filipino morphemes, were observed, along with modifications to phonological rules, phonotactic constraints, morphemes, and shifts in semantic meaning. The analysis revealed an overall change in the morphophonological structure of phrases and sentences within the corpus. This research underscores the impact of cultural and contextual factors on the adaptation of English loanwords into Filipino, emphasizing specific patterns or structures in the vocabulary borrowing process tailored to the target language. This study contributes valuable insights for linguistic researchers, educators, and language enthusiasts interested in tracing language development and evolution through borrowing and adaptation.

**Keywords:** *Morphology, Morphophonology, Morphophonemics, Lexical Borrowing, English Loanwords, Loanwords, Filipino Language, Content Analysis*

### INTRODUCTION

The Philippines is a prime example of a country that has experienced the influence of loanwords, specifically English loanwords. The country is filled with rich and diverse indigenous languages across its regions. However, given the abundance of cultural background of languages, Filipinos still commonly incorporate English words into their own language, leading to changes in lexicon, phonology, syntax, and meaning (McFarland, 2019). Chureson (2013) stated that the Filipino language had undergone significant transformation due to the influence of English, with the adoption of loanwords being a notable aspect of this evolution.

In addition, the incorporation of loanwords, however, goes beyond just adopting and borrowing English words. Over time, languages borrow words from other languages, adapt them to their own structure, and use them in everyday communication. Zhan (2023) claimed that language borrowing was caused by historical events and globalization, which created connections on social and lingual aspects. Due to its usefulness in the fields of sciences, commerce, communication, and education; English language is borrowed mostly for these fields of practice to bridge social dynamics in shaping the social world. Thus, according to Rao (2018), the notable influence of the English language has led to it becoming a global language that is familiar with the development of society and the progress of science and technology. As the world becomes more connected, the integration of loanwords from other languages will continue to shape the future of

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the Filipino language, making it more diverse and dynamic.

As stated by [Sevillano et al. \(2023\)](#), the Philippines was a colony of the United States from 1898 to 1946, during which the Americans influenced the Filipinos with their cultures, resulting in the colonized country adapting to the colonial mentality of Americans, including learning the English language. This historical event brought about significant changes in the country, including the widespread adoption of English loanwords. [Leith \(2020\)](#) stated the relationship between language borrowing and colonization, with the former often being a consequence of the latter. His study revealed that the English language spread to every country colonized by the British, and during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, the number of mother-tongue speakers of English rose from 5 to 7 million to 250 million. [Esquivel \(2019\)](#) discussed how the English language was introduced in the early 1900s and has now become the second official language of the Philippines. Tagalog and English are mostly used in various domains, such as education, business, government, media, and other publications. One of the typical reasons for borrowing is when a new concept is presented, but it is also possible for borrowing to use such new words needed for an already existing concept ([Carling et al., 2019](#)). These factors can lead to morphophonemic adaptation in one's own language.

The study of language is a vast and complex field that encompasses numerous branches of inquiry. As stated by [Arlianda \(2022\)](#), loanwords were being labeled as borrowing because these words were adopted by speakers from one language to another, which involves the concept of language contact. The term "morphophonemics" is derived from the words "morphology" (the study of word structure) and "phonemics" (the study of speech sounds). Morphophonemic adaptation refers to the process of integrating the morphological aspects of sound and form of a word structure when they are adopted from one language to another ([Aronoff, 2015](#)). This concept was first introduced by the linguist Zellig Harris in his book "Methods in Structural Linguistics". He discussed the importance of analyzing the "morphophonemic structure" of words to understand how they are formed and function in a language.

According to [Haspelmath, \(2009\)](#), there may be instances where certain English phrases and words might be deemed suitable in English but lack equivalent counterparts in Filipino. Some involve straightforward cultural borrowing, in which both cultural and lexical elements are considered.

In a broader sense, Lexical borrowings come in several types, with the primary distinction between direct and indirect borrowings. Direct borrowings involve evident elements from the source language (SL) in the recipient language (RL), such as English, with variations like loanwords, false loans, and hybrid loans. Meanwhile, indirect borrowings are less apparent, like calques (involving translation) and semantic loans (acquisition of new meanings by existing RL elements), as highlighted by [Fajardo \(2016\)](#).

Despite the extensive presence of English loanwords in the Filipino language, a notable research gap remains concerning the morphophonemic adaptation and semantic change processes that occur during the integration of these loanwords. While previous studies have touched upon aspects of loanword incorporation in Filipino, there is a limited understanding of the specific patterns and processes by which English loan words undergo morphophonemic adaptation to fit the phonological and morphological structure of Filipino ([Inkelas, 2014](#)). Furthermore, [Gustilo and Dimaculangan \(2018\)](#) stated that the negative attitude toward the adaptation shows an unwillingness to accept PhilE neologisms, particularly those code-mixed with Tagalog elements, thus; the semantic changes that accompany the integration of loanwords into the Filipino lexicon have received insufficient attention. Exploring the nuances of morphophonemic adaptation and semantic change in English loan words would contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the linguistic dynamics between the two languages, shedding light on the interplay of phonological, morphological, and semantic factors involved in the assimilation of loan words

(Nkieny, 2021).

This study was undertaken because there have been notable occurrences of English words being incorporated into the Filipino language in daily interactions. Despite the Philippines' linguistic diversity, the present study explored the specific patterns or detailed assimilation of English loanwords in the Filipino language. Previous studies have touched upon aspects of loanword incorporation in Filipino; however, there is a limited understanding of the specific patterns and processes by which English loanwords undergo morphophonemic adaptation to fit the phonological and morphological structure of Filipino (Inkelas, 2014). Furthermore, Exploring the nuances of morphophonemic adaptation and semantic change in English loanwords would contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the linguistic dynamics between the two languages, shedding light on the interplay of phonological and morphological rules involved in the assimilation of loanwords Almathkuri, (2022).

The researchers pursued this study because no other researchers have yet provided enlightenment to the limited understanding of the morphophonemic adaptation of English loanwords from English to Filipino. There is still a need for further research on the morphophonemic changes that occur in English loanwords used in the Filipino language. This research contributes to the existing literature by providing a comprehensive analysis of the morphophonemic structures and adaptation of English loanwords in the Filipino language. This research provides insights into the complex nature of language contact and the dynamics of language change.

This study seeks to provide insights into the "English Lexical Borrowing in Filipino: Morphophonological Adaptation and Semantic Change of English Loanwords" Specifically, the study aims to answer the following problems: Analyzing the morphophonological adaptation of free and bound morphemes and lexemes in English-Filipino language contact

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The study of language borrowing is an intriguing area of research in linguistics and the Filipino language. The concept of "borrowing words" or "lexical borrowing" has been a prevalent linguistic phenomenon throughout history. It refers to the process of adapting words from one language to another. However, it was not until the nineteenth century that the term "borrowing" gained popularity and became more firmly discussed.

The Filipino language was considered Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Philippine, Greater Central Philippine, and Central Philippine language. As cited by Bolas and Hernandez (2013) (*from the study of Lewis, Simon, & Fennigs, 2013*), the number of Tagalog speakers in the Philippines reached 21,500,000 by 2000. They further included (*from the study of Matos, 2009*) that in 2007, Tagalog ranked 58th in the 100 Most Spoken Languages in the World. In 1980, Bautista claimed that if the Filipino and English language continue to build connection as to now, and if the interaction of Tagalog and English will be preserved by the knowledgeable members of the society, then this will be a huge factor that Filipino-English language will eventually merge, be studied, and fall into just one linguistic system. Martin (2020) concluded in his study that the types of morphemes, words, phrases, and clauses in which language changes can occur led them to reveal a higher proficiency of the Filipino-English bilingual. This revealed that there were Englishes used Pinoylish words in various situations and language contexts. According to Peters (2020), there is evidence to demonstrate the durability of some Philippine cultural keywords (e.g. *población, mestizo, sala, lola*) that survived the Spanish colonization and were transferred to Philippine-English.

English contact with other languages was proven by Lising (2021), who investigated the different varieties of English as a second language because of socialization and interpersonal

interaction by bilingual or multilingual speakers in East and South Africa, India, Singapore, Hong Kong, and the Philippines. Thus, English has a large number of loanwords that have made significant contributions to its dictionary (Burrige & Bergs, 2017). Because the Philippines has a vast number of English speakers, the Filipino language has also borrowed extensively from English, which has played a significant role in shaping its vocabulary.

The English language has been influenced by the advancement of technology, and according to the study of Akhy and Iswari (2021), this has shaped the vocabulary and potential of students to consider the English language as part of the EFL classroom. In line with education, the study of Suharno (2022) included that English language is included in the teaching process, although the focus of the researcher is the difficulties on online-learning delivery, but English language was used most likely in preparation of the topic and learning delivery. As part of language learning, upon categorizing the participants based on gender, Budiarti (2022) claimed that students used their metacognitive strategies to learn the English. With domains such as education, media, technology, and popular culture, the adaptation of the English language has been seen. Thus, it was also observed that the adaptation of English loanwords into Filipino has resulted in unique morphophonemic changes that reflect the language's history of borrowing and evolution.

### **English Lexemes and Loanwords**

In linguistics, a complete list of all possible words within the source language is referred to as *lexis*. According to Ruano-Garcia (2010), this is also labeled as a particular subset of words formed by a particular variety of language. Bolton (2006), in line with the New Englishes, argued that the strong result of localized lexical forms reflects the way of communication used in the particular speech community. Philippine English is a new variety of English Language due to the influence of English in the Philippine language.

With its lexical form, previous studies have focused on various aspects of loanwords with their lexical and semantic features and even the attitudes of speakers toward borrowing. For instance, in a study by Chureson (2013), in his investigation, he found that the English language in the Philippines has Filipino words. Moreover, there has also been quite numerous similar studies that focus on loanwords in other countries. Sowers (2017) explored lexical borrowing from English to Japanese and its effects on second-language vocabulary acquisition, whereas Ahmad et al. (2021) analyzed the lexical borrowing of English loanwords in the Urdu language.

In the study of Calude et al., (2017), the use of loanwords has become prevalent in the field of literature, and it has been a common thing because of sociolinguistic and linguistic factors in some language contact scenarios that continuously draw interest from linguists and non-linguists. The usage of loanwords or lexical borrowing originated from a given language and is being productively used in local languages. According to Durkin (2014), the history of English loanwords is associated with the history of the English language. In his book, he characterized the four major periods. Namely, Old English, Middle English, Early Modern English, and Later Modern English. In his book, he revealed that each period reflects major changes in pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary in the English language. From that periodization, this opens the idea of how the English language became superior among all languages around the globe. As stated in the study by Bryson and Case (2015) they found that there was no language that has the same flexibility as the English language. It was revealed that the English language is not only considered as the second language of 50 countries around the globe; moreover, it is known to be the most widely taught foreign language that has been spread with the help of British Colonialism.

## **Morphological Adaptation**

Morphological adaptation of loanwords is an important area of study in linguistics because it explores the ways in which languages borrow and adapt words from other languages to suit their own linguistic structures. [Martin \(2020\)](#) concluded in his study that the types of morphemes, words, phrases, and clauses in which language changes can occur led them to reveal a higher proficiency of the Filipino-English bilingual. In the case of English loanwords, morphological adaptation refers to the changes that occur in the structure of a word when it is borrowed from another language.

A study by [Mohammed and Samad \(2020\)](#) explored the morphological adaptation of English loanwords used in Modern Standard Arabic; the common nouns that were the focus of the researchers were found to be Arabicized. The findings of the study showed that English words were borrowed, but these foreign terms underwent various changes in morphological aspects when adapted to Modern Standard Arabic. Arabic speakers add the suffixes that are commonly added to the words in Modern Standard Arabic to adapt the English words. The variables included in this study were gender, number, and verb formation. All foreign words were adapted as if they were local terms.

Another study by [Sowers \(2017\)](#) on English loanwords in Kitigania, which focuses on the morphophonological analysis of degrees of adaptation, confirms that it was affected by two factors, namely differences in the structure of phonology between English and Kitigania and loanword transmission from the source to the native language. The study also found that the establishment of phoneme substitution, vowel epenthesis, and segment deletion are among the key processes in the adaptation of English loanwords to Kitigania.

These studies highlight the importance of understanding the factors that influence the morphological adaptation of loanwords in English and the cultural and linguistic context in which borrowing occurs. Loanwords undergo different changes when adapted into another language; these changes include; gender, verb formation, plural forms, possessive pronouns, and other word formations that fit grammatically correct in language adoption. By gaining a better understanding of these factors, linguists can gain insights into the broader processes of language borrowing and adaptation and the ways in which languages evolve and change over time.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

### **Research Design**

This study employed a qualitative content analysis approach to study the morphophonemic structures and semantic changes of English loanwords used in the Filipino language. A qualitative approach involves studying natural contexts that could provide an in-depth understanding and knowledge of the study ([Korstjens & Moser, 2017](#)).

In the current study, qualitative content analysis was used to gain insights into the morphophonemic structures of English loanwords used in the Filipino language. This analysis enables researchers to identify and describe patterns and relationships between the use of loanwords and the social and cultural contexts in which they are used. Furthermore, the researchers conducted a systematic and thorough analysis of the data to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the findings. By employing this approach, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of the linguistic and cultural dynamics between the English and Filipino languages.

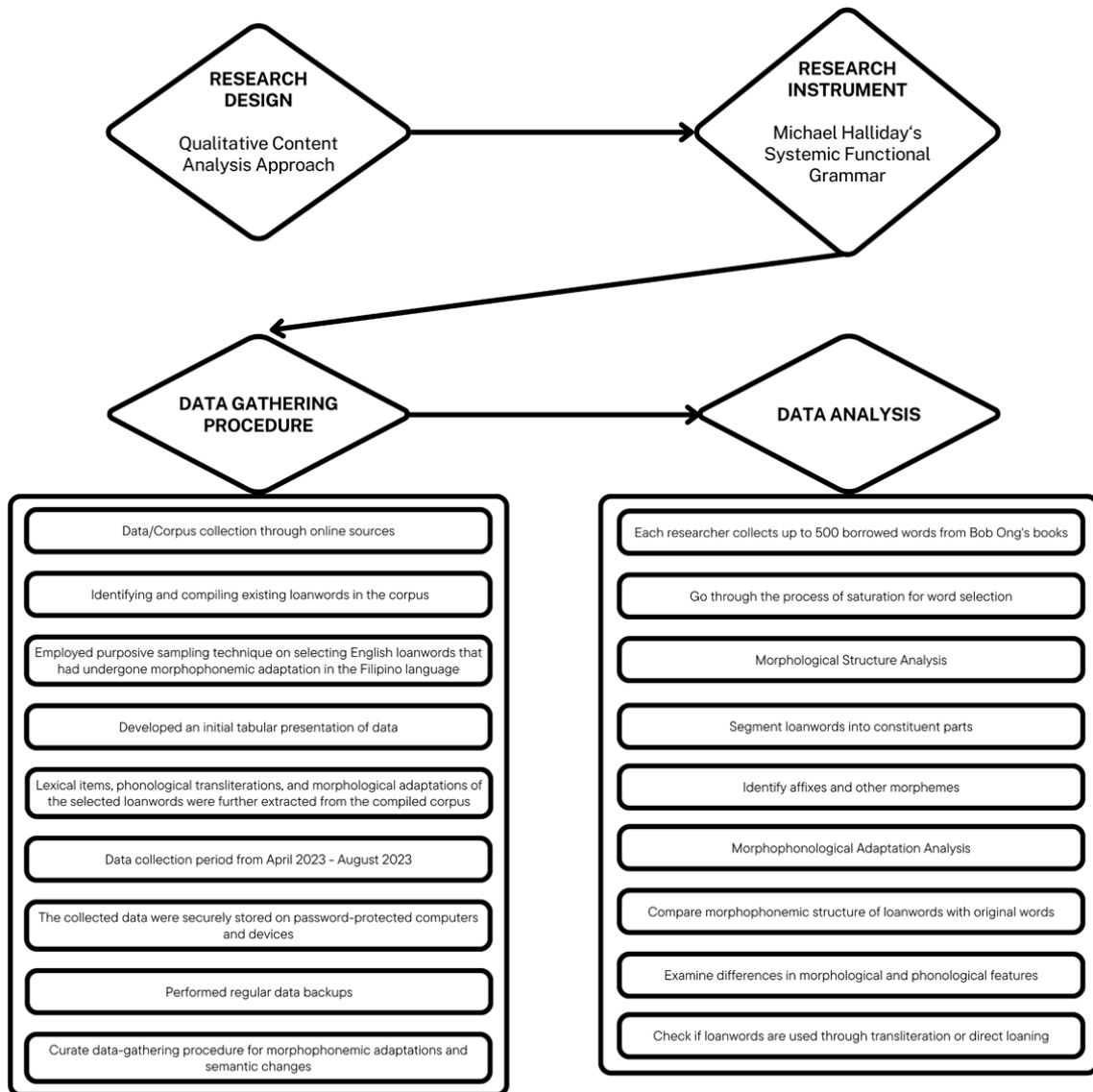


Figure 1. Research Design

**Research Instrument**

In this research, Michael Halliday’s Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) can be used as a baseline to explain the content of our research instrument. As a strong theoretical framework that can be used as a baseline to explain the linguistic processes in our research, specifically the morphological and phonological processes involved in the adaptation of English loanwords in the Filipino language, Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), based on the research of [Martin \(2016\)](#), can be used as a legitimate grammatical framework for this study. By using SFG’s functional approach, the analysis concentrates on how these loanwords work within the Filipino linguistic structure to accomplish particular communication goals. Contextual elements, such as social and cultural settings, impact the morphological and phonological modifications ([Fontaine, 2012](#)) seen in loanwords. Considering how they meet the needs of the borrowing community and achieve communicative objectives within the Filipino language, SFG’s functional explanations also shed light on the motivations and constraints that drive the morphological adaptations and phonological adjustments observed in loanwords.

**Table 1.** Morphological Structure of the Loanwords

Loanwords (English Lexemes Inflected With Filipino) Bound Morphemes)	Morphological Structure of The Loanwords				
	Filipino Affixes			English	Morphemic
	Prefix	Infix	Suffix	Free Morphemes Used In Filipino	Adaptation And Segmentation
De-Battery	[De-]	XXXX	XXXX	Battery	[De-] + [Noun]

This research offers a thorough understanding of the complex interaction between morphological and phonological processes in the adaptation of English loanwords in the Filipino language by integrating SFG with suitable research techniques and linguistic tools. The sample tables presented are a comprehensive analysis of the morphological adjustments applied to the loanwords, showcasing the bound and free morphemes involved in the adaptation process.

**Table 2.** Analysis of Morphological Adjustment

Bound Morphemes (Deriva- Tional)	Free Morphe- Mes in English  (Root Word)	Inflected Lexemes in English	Filipino Equivalent of The Deriva- Tional Bound Morpheme	Free Morphemes in Filipino (Root Word or Salitang Ugat)	Equivalent Inflected Lexemes in Filipino
un- (prefix)	popular	unpopular	"hindi"	popular sikat	hindi popular hindi sikat
Bound Morphemes In English (Inflec- Tional)	Free Morphe- Mes In English  (Root Word)	Inflected Lexemes In English	Filipino Equivalent Of The Inflec- Tional Bound Morpheme	Free Morphemes In Filipino (Root Word Or Salitang Ugat))	Equivalent Inflected Lexemes In Filipino
-s / -es	apostle	apostles	mga	oapostoles	mga apostoles

### Corpus of the Study

The corpus of this study was the loanwords found in the contemporary Filipino novels of Bob Ong, published throughout the years 2001-2005, namely ABNKKBSNPLAKo (Mga Kwentong Chalk ni Bob Ong), Alamat ng Gubat (Legend of the Forest), Ang Paboritong Libro Ni Hudan, Bakit Baliktad Magbasa ng Libro ang mga Pilipino (Mga Kwentong Barbero), and Stainless Longganisa. The corpus for this study consists of 100 English loanwords selected from the novels of Bob Ong. These loanwords were identified through a systematic review of the novels and analyzed on the basis of their morphological structure and sound patterns as they are used within the text.

The choice of Bob Ong's novels stems from their broad readership and reflective nature of Filipino society. Bob Ong's novels often explore societal issues, cultural nuances, and Filipino identity, making them a rich source for understanding collective experiences. The selection of these five books was driven by their accessibility and availability. Conducting a comprehensive analysis

of loanwords in an extensive corpus can be time-consuming. Since the researchers have limited access to Bob Ong's writings, the researchers selected the novels that they could access. By selecting a smaller number of novels, the researchers focused on analyzing a manageable amount of data without being overwhelmed by a large corpus. Moreover, the researchers dedicated more time and effort to thoroughly examining and documenting the morphophonemic adaptations and semantic changes of loanwords.

### **Data Gathering Procedure**

Data collection was carried out primarily through digital sources because the novels that the researchers have chosen and used as the corpus are seldom available in printed copies or were not available to the researchers during the data collection due to financial constraints. After obtaining access to the digital copies of the corpus readily available online, a list of English loanwords in Filipino was compiled from the various literary books chosen by the researchers, the novels of Bob Ong. A purposive sampling technique was employed to select English loanwords that had undergone morphophonemic adaptation in the Filipino language. The selection covered a diverse range of loanwords that can be analyzed using various morphemic and phonemic domains. An initial tabular presentation of data was developed to sort out the data according to the perceived morphophonological changes of loanwords. Lexical items, phonological transliterations, and morphological adaptations of the selected loanwords were further extracted from the compiled corpus. Data collection occurred from [April 2023] to [August 2023], and it occurred on a rolling basis as the corpus was continuously expanding and updated due to the subsequent recognition of some linguistic patterns that had been previously overlooked. The collected data were securely stored on password-protected computers and devices, with limited access to ensure reliability and data integrity. Regular data backups were performed on both internal, digital, and external storage devices to safeguard against data loss due to preconceived technical failures. The data-gathering procedure was curated to comprehensively examine the morphophonemic adaptations and semantic changes of English loanwords in Filipino.

### **Data Analysis**

In gathering the loanwords, the researchers each have their designated books of Bob Ong that they have read and collected a maximum of 500 borrowed words from all five books of Bob Ong. The researchers initially identified loanwords in the novels without distinguishing between transliteration and direct borrowing. Subsequently, the researchers categorized these loanwords on the basis of their usage patterns. This methodology allows for a comprehensive exploration of loanwords in the corpus. The researchers then went into the process of saturation and which would then be saturated as it goes through the process of selecting it.

To analyze the morphological structure, the loanwords were segmented into their constituent parts to examine the morphological structure of each word. The process involved identifying affixes (prefixes, infixes, suffixes) and other morphemes that make up the loanword. The researchers then examined the different forms that an English loanword can take, based on the grammatical structure and rules of the Filipino language.

To examine the morphophonological adaptation of loanwords from English to Filipino, the researchers compared the morphophonemic structure of the loanword with that of the original word in the target language. This involved identifying any differences in the morphological and phonological features of the original word and loanword.



**Ethical Considerations**

The researchers conducted a study using novels as a corpus and obtained permission from the school authorities beforehand. To be courteous, the researchers also plan to inform Bob Ong, the author of the novels, about their use in the study. The researchers did not modify any loanwords found in the novels, ensuring that the data collection process produced accurate results. Additionally, the researchers collected the data and information meticulously, one-by-one, and step-by-step, in line with the study’s purpose.

**FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

To facilitate a comprehensive analysis, the collected data have been organized into two distinct tables, each serving a specific purpose. The analysis and interpretation of these data tables will shed light on the various aspects and characteristics of the English loanwords under investigation. Through this linguistic and structural examination, the researchers drawn meaningful conclusions and contribute to the existing body of knowledge in the field of loanword analysis.

**Table 3.** Morphology and Adaptation of English Lexemes in Filipino

Loanwords (English Lexemes Inflected with Filipino) <i>Bound Morphemes</i>	MORPHOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE LOANWORDS			English Free Morphemes Used In Filipino	Morphemic Adaptation and Segmentation
	Prefix (Unlapi)	Infix (Gitlapi)	Suffix (Hulapi)		
de-battery	[de-]	—	—	battery	[de-] + [noun]
i-overnight	[i-]	—	—	overnight	[i-] + [adverb]
i-spray	[i-]	—	—	spray	[i-] + [verb]
i-special	[i-]	—	—	special	[i-] + [adjective]
i-de-describe ide-describe idedescribe	[i-]	—	—	describe	[i-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb] + [base form of the verb]
i-ka-cut i-le-layout	[i-]	—	—	cut layout	[i-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb but phonetically changing a vowel or a consonant] + [base form of the verb]
inescort inexpert inimport	[in-]	—	—	escort export import	[in-] + [verb]
ini-import ini-enroll ino-offer	[in-]	—	—	import enroll offer	[in-] + [first vowel of the verb] + [verb]
ini-idolo	[in-]	—	—	idol	[in-] + [first vowel of the verb] + [verb] + [vowel]
ipa-kidnap ipa-partner ipa-publish	[ipa-]	—	—	kidnap partner publish	[ipa-] + [base form of the verb]
ipapa-recite	[ipapa-]	—	—	recite	[ipapa-] + [base form of the verb]
ipang-vandal	[ipang-]	—	—	vandal	[ipang-] + [base form of the verb]
ipina-abort ipina-publish	[ipina-]	—	—	abort publish	[ipina-] + [base form of the verb]
ka-partner	[ka-]	—	—	partner	[ka-] + [noun]
ka-exchange gift ka-love triangle ka-loveteam	[ka-]	—	—	exchange gift love triangle loveteam	[ka-] + [compound noun]
ma-access	[ma-]	—	—	access	[ma-] + [verb]

<b>MORPHOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE LOANWORDS</b>					
<b>Loanwords (English Lexemes Inflected with Filipino) <i>Bound Morphemes</i></b>	<b>Filipino Affixes</b>			<b>English Free Morphemes Used In Filipino</b>	<b>Morphemic Adaptation and Segmentation</b>
	<b>Prefix (Unlapi)</b>	<b>Infix (Gitlapi)</b>	<b>Suffix (Hulapi)</b>		
ma-develop				develop	
ma-stranded	[ma-]	—	—	stranded	[ma-] + [adjective]
made-decompose	[ma-]	—	—	decompose	[ma-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb] + [base form of the verb]
mai-invalidate				invalidate	
mare-regular	[ma-]	—	—	regular	[ma-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the adjective] + [adjective]
mako-corner	[ma-]	—	—	corner	[ma-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb with phonetic transliteration of either the vowel or the consonant] + [base form of the verb]
masa-submit				submit	
mag-apply		—	—	apply	
mag-commute				commute	
mag-complete	[mag-]			complete	[mag-] + [verb]
mag-compute				compute	
mag-CR		—	—	CR	
mag-drugs				drugs	[mag-] + [noun]
mag-exam	[mag-]			exam	
mag-rosary				rosary	
magba-ballet		—	—	ballet	[mag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb] + [base form of the verb]
magde-deliver	[mag-]			deliver	
mag-e-enjoy				enjoy	
magba-blush	[mag-]	—	—	blush	[mag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb but with phonetic transliteration] + [base form of the verb]
magka-batch	[magka-]	—	—	batch	[magka-] + [noun]
magka-komplikasyon				complication	
magka-connect	[magka-]	—	—	connect	[magka-] + [verb]
magpa-project	[magka-]	—	—	project	[magpa-] + [noun]
magpa-convert	[magpa-]	—	—	convert	[magpa-] + [verb]
magpa-cute	[magpa-]	—	—	cute	[magpa-] + [adjective]
mai-pronounce	[mai-]	—	—	pronounce	[mai-] + [verb]
maisa-submit	[mai-]	—	—	submit	[mai-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb but with phonetic transliteration of the vowel] + [base form of the verb]
makaka-meet	[makaka-]	—	—	meet	[makaka-] + [base form of the verb]
makapag-review	[makapag-]	—	—	review	[makapag-] + [base form of the verb]
mala-weapon	[mala-]	—	—	weapon	[mala-] + [noun]
mang-good-time	[mang-]	—	—	good time	[mang-] + [compound adjective]
na-assign	[na-]	—	—	assign	[na-] + [base form of the verb]
na-imagine				imagine	
na-reject				reject	
naso-solve	[na-]	—	—	solve	[na-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb]
nata-type	[na-]	—	—	type	[na-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb with phonetic transliteration]
na-phase out	[na-]	—	—	phase out	[na-] + [phrasal verb]
na-extra	[na-]	—	—	extra	[na-] + [adjective]
na-late				late	
na-perfect				perfect	
na-culture shock	[na-]	—	—	culture shock	[na-] + [compound noun]

MORPHOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE LOANWORDS					
Loanwords (English Lexemes Inflected with Filipino) <i>Bound Morphemes</i>	Filipino Affixes			English Free Morphemes Used In Filipino	Morphemic Adaptation and Segmentation
	Prefix (Unlapi)	Infix (Gitlapi)	Suffix (Hulapi)		
naba-badtrip	[na-]	—	—	bad trip	[na-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the compound noun]
nag-offer nag-produce nag-recite	[nag-]	—	—	offer produce recite	[nag-] + [base form of the verb]
nag-e-evacuate nag-i-interview	[nag-]	—	—	evacuate interview	[nag-] + [repetition of the first vowel of the verb]
nag-back out nag-check out nag-log off nag-walk out	[nag-]	—	—	back out check out log off walk out	[nag-] + [phrasal verb]
nag-bonus nag-exam nag-lunch nag-rosary nag-vandal	[nag-]	—	—	bonus exam lunch rosary vandal	[nag-] + [noun]
nagja-jamming	[nag-]	—	—	jamming	[nag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb] + [noun/gerund]
nag-summer class nag-down payment nag-cutting classes	[nag-]	—	—	summer class down payment cutting classes	[nag-] + [compound noun]
naghu-hula-hoop nagla-live show	[nag-]	—	—	hula-hoop live show	[nag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the compound noun]
nagde-demo nagde-design nagdi-dispense nagpa-panic	[nag-]	—	—	demo design dispense panic	[nag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb] + [verb]
nagda-drugs nagdo-drawing nagko-coach nagpa-practice	[nag-]	—	—	drugs draw coach practice	[nag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb with phonetic transliteration]
nagka-award nagka-medal	[nag-]	—	—	award medal	[nagka-] + [noun]
nagka-canvass	[nag-]	—	—	canvass	[nagka-] + [verb]
nagpa-hypnosis nagpa-X-ray	[nag-]	—	—	hypnosis X-ray	[nagpa-] + [noun]
nagpa-power play nagpa-power trip	[nag-]	—	—	power play power trip	[nagpa-] + [compound noun]
nagpapa-bounty hunting	[nag-]	—	—	bounty hunting	[nagpapa-] + [compound noun]
nagpapa-cute	[nag-]	—	—	cute	[nagpapa-] + [adjective]
nai-publish	[nai-]	—	—	publish	[nai-] + [verb]
naka-schedule naka-overall	[naka-]	—	—	schedule overall	[naka-] + [noun]
naka-adapt naka-concentrate	[naka-]	—	—	adapt concentrate	[naka-] + [verb]
nakakapag-check	[nakakapag-]	—	—	check	[nakakapag-] + [verb]
nakapag-time travel	[nakakapag-]	—	—	time travel	[nakakapag-] + [compound noun]
nakikipag-party	[nakikipag-]	—	—	party	[nakikipag-] + [noun]
nangha-harass	[nang-]	—	—	harass	[nang-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb] + [base form of the verb]
napa-wow	[napa-]	—	—	wow	[napa-] + [interjection]

MORPHOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE LOANWORDS					
Loanwords (English Lexemes Inflected with Filipino) <i>Bound Morphemes</i>	Filipino Affixes			English Free Morphemes Used In Filipino	Morphemic Adaptation and Segmentation
	Prefix (Unlapi)	Infix (Gitlapi)	Suffix (Hulapi)		
niru-ruler	[niru-]	—	—	ruler	[ni-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the noun] + [noun]
pa-borrow	[pa-]	—	—	borrow	[pa-] + [verb]
pasimple	[pa-]	—	—	simple	[pa-] + [adjective]
pag-absent	[pag-]	—	—	absent	[pag-] + [verb]
pag-maintain				maintain	
pag-murder				murder	
pag-Internet	[pag-]	—	—	internet	[pag-] + [noun]
pag-e-edit	[pag-]	—	—	edit	[pag-] + [repetition of the first letter or syllable of the verb] + [base form of the verb]
pagre-report				report	
pagdo-drawing	[pag-]	—	—	draw	[pag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the verb with phonetic alteration] + [base form of the verb]
pagko-control				control	
pagsu-shoot				shoot	
pagta-touch-up	[pag-]	—	—	touch up	[pag-] + [repetition of the first syllable of the phrasal verb] + [phrasal verb]
pagpapa-autograph	[pagpapa-]	—	—	autograph	[pagpapa-] + [noun]
pagpapa-impress	[pagpapa-]	—	—	impress	[pagpapa-] + [verb]
pang-donate	[pang-]	—	—	donate	[pang-] + [verb]
pang-e-email	[pang-]	—	—	email	[pang-] + [repetition of the first letter or syllable of the verb]
pinaka-cool	[pinaka-]	—	—	cool	[pinaka-] + [adjective]
pinakapopular				popular	
taga- Department of Tourism	[taga-]	—	—	Department of Tourism	[taga-] + [noun]
umabsent	[um-]	—	—	absent	[um-] + [base form of the verb]
umorder				order	
dinu-do-it-yourself	—	[-in-]	—	do it yourself	[first consonant letter of the verb] + [-in-] + [u] + [verb/compound noun]
ginu-goodtime				good time	
pini-pep talk	—	[-in-]	—	pep talk	[first consonant letter of the verb] + [-in-] + [i] + [verb/compound noun]
pina-paddle	—	[-in-]	—	paddle	[first consonant letter of the verb] + [-in-] + [a] + [verb/noun]
jinajuggle				juggle	
ibinoycott	[i-]	[-in-]	—	boycott	[i-] + [first consonant letter of the verb] + [-in-] + [the remaining letters of the verb]
ibinase				base	
sineryoso [serious]	—	[-in-]	—	serious	[first consonant letter of the verb] + [-in-] + [the remaining letters of the verb with phonetic alteration]
winelkam [welcome]				welcome	
jumingle	—	[-um-]	—	jingle	[-um-] + [first consonant letter of the verb] + [the remaining letters of the verb]
tumambling [tumbling]	—	[-um-]	—	tumble	[-um-] + [first consonant letter of the verb] + [the remaining letters of the verb with phonetic alteration]
basehan	—	—	[-han]	basis	[base form of the verb] + [-han]
personalan	—	—	[-an]	personal	[adjective] + [-an]
napag-tripan	[napag-]	—	[-an]	trip	[napag-] + [word] + [-an]

In this tabular presentation, the first column of Table 3 is a list of the English loanwords

inflected with Filipino morphemes, constituted by the borrowed English lexemes added with Filipino morphological inflections. The second column presents the morphological structure of loanwords, further exemplified in the table by a subcolumn for the affixes (prefixes, infixes, suffixes), another subcolumn for the English free morphemes or the "root words" into which the Filipino bound morphemes are added, and the last subcolumn presents the grammatical structure of the segmentation process employed in each loanword structure.

The Filipino language has a more extensive system of affixes, and each can convey various meanings depending on the root word to which they are attached. The grammatical structure employs various markers for tense, aspect, and mood to indicate verb actions. Nouns are usually unmarked for plural, with the pluralization morpheme "mga" employed as a separate word that precedes the noun. Filipino (Tagalog) has a richer system of verb tenses that includes various aspects, moods, and time references. The Filipino language has various tenses, even more than the tenses in English, including those related to aspect and mood, which may not have direct equivalents in English. Some morphemes in English have direct equivalents in Filipino, while others do not. The same morpheme can be a prefix in English but will become an infix/suffix in Filipino. Some English morphemes will become separate words in Filipino, like -s/mga and un-/hindi.

**Table 4.** Morphophonological Adaptation of Loanwords: English-Filipino Morphological Adaptation of Free and Derivational Morphemes and its Consequent Phonetic Changes

Bound Morphemes (Derivational)	Free Morphemes in English (Root Word)	Inflected Lexemes in English	Filipino Equivalent of The Derivational Bound Morpheme	Free Morphemes in Filipino (Root Word or Salitang Ugat)	Equivalent Inflected Lexemes in Filipino
un- (prefix)	popular	unpopular	"hindi"	popular sikat	hindi popular hindi sikat
re- (prefix)	fill	refill	re- "muli"	puno+in	refill punuin muli
	teach	teacher	xxxx	xxxx	titser
-er / -or (suffix)	clean	cleaner	taga-	linis	taga-linis
	conduct	conductor	taga-		
-ize / -ise (suffix)	legal	legalize	"gawing" -hin	legal	gawing legalisa / legalisahin
-able / ible (suffix)	comfort	comfortable	-able	—	kumportable
-ful (suffix)	power beauty stress	powerful beautiful stressful	ma- ma- nakaka-	kapangyarihan ganda	makapangyarihan maganda nakaka-stress
-ment (suffix)		—	—		—
	good	goodness	ka + -han	buti	kabutihan
-ness (suffix)	dark	darkness	ka- + -an	dilim	kadiliman
	happy	happiness	ka- + -han	saya/siya	kasiyahan
-less (suffix)	point meaning	pointless meaningless	"walang"	point meaning	walang point walang meaning
-ation / -tion (suffix)	interpret	interpretation	-syon	pagpapakahulugan	interpretasyon
-ion (suffix)	oppress	oppression	-yon	pang-aalipusta	opresyon
-ism (suffix)	ego commerce	egotism commercialism	-ismo	ego komersyo	egotismo komersyalismo
-ist (suffix)	loyal	loyalist	-ista	loyal	loyalista
-logy (suffix)	techno	technology	-lohiya	—	teknolohiya
-ly	slow	slowly	"nang"	mabagal	nang mabagal

Bound Morphemes (Derivational)	Free Morphemes in English (Root Word)	Inflected Lexemes in English	Filipino Equivalent of The Derivational Bound Morpheme	Free Morphemes in Filipino (Root Word or Salitang Ugat)	Equivalent Inflected Lexemes in Filipino
(suffix)					

Table 4 focusing on derivational bound morphemes and Table 5 focusing on inflectional bound morphemes. Derivational morphemes in English comprise prefixes and suffixes. Inflectional morphemes in English are exclusively suffixes. English lacks both derivational and inflectional infixes. This table presents a list of the derivational and inflectional morphemes found in English and their morphological equivalents in Filipino. The first column presents the bound morphemes and their affiliational categorization. The second column is a list of the free morphemes taken from the corpus, and the third column combines the bound and free morphemes. The fourth, fifth, and sixth columns, respectively, present the Filipino equivalents of the free and bound morphemes listed in the preceding columns.

**Table 5.** Morphophonological Adaptation of Loanwords: English-Filipino Morphological Adaptation of Free and Inflectional Morphemes and its Consequent Phonetic Changes

Free Morphemes in English (Root Word)	Bound Morphemes In English (Inflectional)	Inflected Lexemes in English	Filipino Equivalent of The Inflectional Bound Morpheme	Free Morphemes in Filipino (Root Word Or Salitang Ugat)	Equivalent Inflected Lexemes in Filipino
apostle	-s / -es	apostles	mga	apostoles	mga apostoles
	-s	—	—	—	—
	-ed	stranded	in- (for loanwords)	—	stranded
			-in- for Filipino words		
jam	-ing	jamming	-ing	—	jamming
	-ing	—	—	—	—
	-en	—	—	—	—
	)				
big	-er	bigger	mas	malaki	mas malaki
big	-est	biggest	pinaka-	malaki	pinaka-malaki
small		smallest		maliit	pinaka-maliit
	-’s	—	“ni” [noun] + ni + [noun]	—	—
	-s’	—	“nina” [noun] + nina + [noun]	—	—
	-est	—	—	—	—
	-en	—	—	—	—
	-th	fourth fifth sixth seventh eighth ninth tenth	ika-	—	ika-apat ika-lima ika-anim ika-pito ika-walo ika-siyam ika-sampu

The research findings reveal distinctive patterns in affix usage across the corpus, emphasizing a significantly higher prevalence in Filipino affixations than in English affixations. Our

analysis identified 22 derivational prefixes and 14 inflectional suffixes in Filipino, highlighting a nuanced morphophonological landscape. English lacks both derivational and inflectional infixes, diverging from Filipino's conventional affix structure. However, English loanwords in Filipino adhere to the same affixation rules, introducing a fascinating interplay between native and borrowed linguistic elements.

Examining grammatical structures, Filipino verbs exhibit distinct markers for tense, aspect, and mood, whereas nouns often lack plural markings, relying on contextual cues for sentence comprehension. This contrasts sharply with English, where suffixes play a significant role in word modification. The sparing use of suffixes in Tagalog reflects a deliberate choice of morphological strategies.

In a literary exploration of works by Filipino author Bob Ong, our corpus analysis highlighted the prevalence of only two suffixes, "-an" and "-han," in stark contrast to English, where suffixes play a multifaceted role in transforming verbs into nouns or adjusting adjectives into adverbs. The abundance of suffixes in English significantly contributes to its expansive vocabulary and adaptability.

A distinctive characteristic of Filipino morphological adaptation lies in the versatility of bound morphemes, which allows a single morpheme to interact adeptly with diverse roots, generating a spectrum of possibilities for derived lexemes. This is in stark contrast to the more conservative word formation approach in Filipino, which relies on prefixation, infixation, syllable repetition, and word compounding, possibly influenced by historical language development.

Comparatively exploring English loanwords, our analysis extends to Urdu, Arabic, and Māori. Similar to Filipino, Urdu exhibits a rich morphological landscape, while Arabic showcases a unique fusion of infixes and suffixes. Maori's adaptation of English loanwords manifests through distinct patterns of affixation, compounding, and syllable repetition, contributing to the diverse strategies employed in the loanword formation process across languages.

Contrasting the morphological behavior of bound morphemes between Filipino and English, the former exhibits versatility, transforming a free morpheme into multiple parts of speech. This contrasts starkly with English, where bound morphemes typically serve a specific and singular function, limiting the range of word formation possibilities. The distinct patterns observed in English bound morphemes underline the diverse nature of lexical borrowing and morphological adaptation, highlighting the inherent differences between the two languages.

In comparison to previous research on English Lexical Borrowing, our study not only reinforces but also expands upon existing knowledge. The absence of infixes in English and the nuanced use of suffixes in Filipino provide novel insights into the morphological dynamics of English loanwords. A comparative overview of similar research on loanword studies is crucial for understanding the uniqueness of the linguistic dynamics of English and Filipino language contact. This study's perspective distinguishes it from previous research, shedding new light on the intricacies of morphophonological adaptation in the context of English-Filipino lexical borrowing.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

In conclusion, this study highlights the morphophonological dynamics and distinctions between English and Filipino concerning free and bound morphemes. Our exploration reveals the Filipino language's remarkable flexibility in assimilating English loanwords, morphemes, and lexemes. The richness of the Filipino affixation system, the complexity of verb tense, and the adaptability of bound morphemes collectively contribute to the linguistic diversity of this language. In contrast, English exhibits a more straightforward morphological structure with a limited array of affixation options. Despite the linguistic gap between English and Filipino, the borrowing process is marked by intricate adjustments, highlighting the adaptability of both languages despite

linguistic exchange.

These findings carry implications across various domains, from language education to literary analysis, emphasizing the importance of recognizing and appreciating morphophonological intricacies in human interaction and expression. For novelists, this research offers an opportunity to enhance linguistic precision and authenticity in narratives, inspiring creative language use and unique expressions. Readers, by understanding these intricacies, can deepen their comprehension, creating a more immersive reading experience rooted in cultural authenticity. Beyond the realm of literature, the knowledge gained from this study promotes cross-cultural understanding and effective communication in multicultural settings. It enhances the awareness of language evolution dynamics, emphasizing the ongoing transformation of linguistic landscapes. The insights into the mechanics of lexical borrowing contribute not only to linguistic research and have practical implications for language planning and policy-making. As languages evolve through contact, this research provides valuable insights into cultural exchange and the dynamics of linguistic evolution. This study serves as a foundational step for future research in language contact and borrowing, facilitating a deeper exploration of the intricacies of linguistic adaptation and contributing to a broader understanding of the ever-evolving nature of language and the diverse ways in which cultures intersect and shape each other's linguistic landscapes.

#### **LIMITATION & FURTHER RESEARCH**

This study laid the groundwork for a broader exploration of language borrowing and adaptation. Researchers' attention was only directed to the adaptation of English loanwords into Filipino, using Bob Ong's contemporary novels, providing valuable insights into English lexical borrowing in Filipino, specifically the morphophonological adaptation of English loanwords. However, although this paper aims to provide an explanation of the morphophonological adaptation of free and bound morphemes and lexemes in English loanwords in the Filipino language, sufficient collection and analysis of data was not possible because researchers only depended solely on the corpus of the contemporary novels of Bob Ong. Bob Ong is a famous contemporary Filipino writer who uses both English and Filipino in his literary works.

One limitation of this study is that the researchers only focused on loanwords found in the contemporary novels of Bob Ong and excluded loanwords found in other forms of media, such as newspapers, magazines, and online articles. Furthermore, this study only analyzed loanwords from English to Filipino and excluded loanwords from other languages that have been adapted into the Filipino language. Finally, this study only investigated the use of English loanwords in the Filipino literature and did not examine other aspects of language contact and change.

As stated by [Chureson \(2013\)](#), in some multilingual contexts, the Filipino language as the national language of the Philippines is evolving and is being mixed with English. This may be a consequence of globalization. Thus, this study does not limit further exploration in this rich domain of language interaction that may occur between English and Filipino languages. The researchers acknowledged the potential of investigating Filipino loanwords that were used in the English language, specifically, the reverse process between Filipino loanwords used in the English language. With this future exploration, the fascinating facets of intercultural communication and linguistic evolution will be unraveled. Such a study can unveil the adaptability and resonance of Filipino vocabulary beyond national borders, offering a deeper understanding of its influence on international discourse.

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