

Linguistic and conceptual appropriateness of borrowed health and agriculture terms of English and Amharic in Tigrigna

Abraha Girmay¹, Fikadu Gebrezigabher², Kelkay Girmay³, Hagos Abrha⁴, Girmay Tesfay⁵

Abstract

Though a certain language is enough to describe the culture and ideology of its speakers, a language can borrow new terms to introduce new concepts or to give privilege to others. Borrowing new terms can also make language rich in its word power. However, borrowings of new terms from other languages can be a cause for language change, which affects it negatively. Thus, this study investigated borrowed terms of health and agriculture from English and Amharic in Tigrigna spoken in northern Ethiopia. To achieve this, data were collected from four weredas using interviews (elicited method), observations, and document analysis of the Tigray electronic and print media. The collected data were analyzed through a qualitative approach. The findings of this study show that there are a number of new borrowed agriculture and health terms in the study area. In addition, almost all of these terms, which are being spoken in rural areas by farmers, follow the phonological structure of Tigrigna. Hence, they are making Tigrigna rich in its word power. On the other hand, most of the terms that are being spoken in urban by literate people follow English and Amharic phonological structures. These terms do not have conceptual appropriateness. As a result, such terms are sources of different communication barriers, which can lead to grammatical change and dominance of English and Amharic over Tigrigna. Therefore, it needs an institution that follows the terminology aspects of Tigrigna in the study area.

Keywords: conceptual appropriateness, linguistic appropriateness, phonological structure, morphological form, receiving language, source language

Introduction

¹ Lecturer, Department of Tigrigna Language, literature and Folklore, College of Social Sciences and Languages, Mekelle University e-mail: abrahagirmay@gmail.com

² Lecturer, Department of Tigrigna Language, literature and folklore, College of Social Sciences and Languages, Mekelle University

³ Lecturer, Department of Tigrigna Language, literature and folklore, College of Social Sciences and Languages, Mekelle University

⁴ PhD, Assistant Prof. Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, College of Social Sciences and Languages, Mekelle University

⁵ Assistant Prof., Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, College of Social Sciences and Languages, Mekelle University

Language is built up by different elements, such as terms and words, as they are components of the language form. The elements make the language complete in its components and functions. According to Galinski (2005:1) and Olubode-Sawe (2015:40), these language components (words, terms, vocabulary, and expressions) are categorized into general-purpose language and special-purpose language. Narrowing to the research topic, Bozdechova (2015) says that in any given environment, language forms, specialized variants of expression, are known as jargon for special purposes, or language for special purposes, which are called terms. They are characterized by a high share of terminological units, which are crucial for professional or subject-field communication to facilitate unambiguous communication in a particular area of knowledge (Galinski, 2005:1, Olubode-Sawe, 2015:40, and Infoterm, 2005:12). Although evolution in the meaning and usage of scientific terminology is almost inevitable, it is important to try and minimize the resulting confusion (Bouougri, Gerdes & Porada, 2007:1)

Considering all the benefits analyzing of the existing terminology, it can provide practical and applicable lessons to terminology development practitioners and policymakers (Matsuda et al, 2008:2). The terminology and terminology community or terminologist focuses on specialized or specific subject areas within which it studies knowledge such as units, structure, representation, evolution, acquisition, etc. (Antia, 2000:16, and Antia, 2003:8, Olubode-Sawe, 2015:39). Terminology science also intends to collect terms, design terms to the appropriate concept, create new terms for new concepts if it is necessary, classify the terms based on their relationship, and computerize them in the database. Additionally, they also standardize the new terms (Chancellor, 2002:12).

Although the relation of language to the ideas underlying words, terms, or other designators, is arbitrary, the signifiers and signified terms and concepts are designed conventionally by the speakers (Burke et al., 2000:21, Wright, 2003:113-114). According to the linguistic convention created by the target language speakers, terms shall fulfill semiotic principles: transparency, consistency, appropriateness, conciseness (linguistic economy), derivability, and linguistic correctness for the native language (Infoterm, 2005:10, Valeontis, and 2006:4). The precision of the specialized field must be achieved by a precise communicative instrument (Bozdechova,

2015: 2252). A Term is a word or a combination of words in a specific language that is created to define precisely some special notions and to designate special objects. It is independent of the context which means it has a clear concept in that specific area and does not exchangeable its meaning in different contexts. It is specifically subject to some special convention or regulation relatively (Infoterm, 2005:12, Leitchik, 2003:87, Chancellery, 2002:12, and Allmendinger, 2009:2, Bozdechova, 2015: 2253-2254). Hence, any new term should follow the criteria of the morphing structure of the target language to make a good contribution to the language functions. The terms fulfill several basic functions: cognitive, interpersonal, inter-textual, and referential (Bozdechova, 2015: 2253-2254).

Scholars generally believe that they have begun to understand the process of developing innovations, and it does not matter what they call them (Garcia and Calantone, 2008:110). After the innovation, naming is the next concern of the innovative concept. Moreover, scientific or technical terms are usually not homegrown. They are often imported from the outside world because they are new to the speakers of the receiving language (Matsuda et al. 2008:1). Trans-lingual borrowing refers to the use of a linguistic expression from a source language to the target language in the way of creation of new forms (or composition) refers to the formation of new terms in a language by combining some of its morphemes, words, or even phrases to create new expressions denoting foreign objects or concepts (Olubode-Sawe, 2015:41).

Although borrowing is a very important source for developing the vocabulary items and terminologies of a language, the borrowed words should conform to the morphological and phonological structure of the recipient language (Komolafe, 2014:1). People whose mother tongue is not (or not sufficiently) developed from the point of view of terminology and special purpose languages or who are denied the use of their mother tongue in education and training, for accessing information, or interacting in their workplaces tend to be disadvantaged (UNESCO, 2005: V). Moreover, in the developed world, advances in science and technology stimulate the introduction of words into the language from various technical and scientific spheres denoting objects and phenomena, technologies, and processes, and without the linguistic confirmation of the target language, the terms assimilate to language (Hrytsai, 2015:1).

The purpose of terminology work is to increase people's access to the resources that they need to improve their communication. Similarly, when a language lags in terminology development for a given domain, its speakers are at risk of losing the ability to communicate in their language over time. There is, therefore, a need for (continuous) terminology planning in many language communities (Olubode-Sawe, 2015:40-41). Especially for developing countries, there is a strong necessity to establish an appropriate set of terminology to enable local people to learn science and technology efficiently throughout their educational programs using their mother tongues as the instructional medium. Instruction in the mother tongue is beneficial for students to acquire a basic concept of a subject (Matsuda et al., 2008:1).

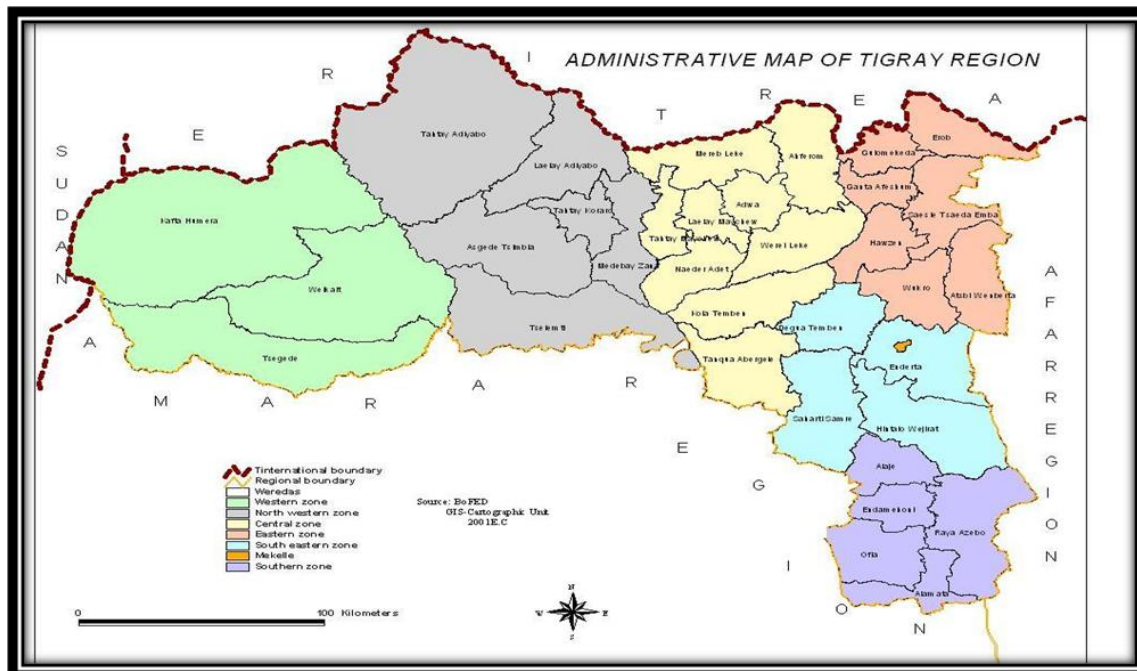
As the English language is a lingua franca of professional communication throughout the world (International Information Center for Terminology 2013: 5), it serves as an academic medium of education from grade nine to university level, and Amharic serves as the national working language of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. These two languages have a high contact with Tigrigna. Therefore, this study focuses on two subjects, which are borrowed health and agriculture terms of English and Amharic in Tigrigna because there is a limitation on terminology study in the Tigrigna language, especially in these two areas. Tigrigna has so many new terms due to showing society's development and globalization (social media). Then, this study aimed to assess the linguistic and conceptual appropriateness of the health and agriculture new borrowed terms in Tigrigna. Besides, this research has the following specific objectives:

- To describe phonological structures of the borrowed health and agriculture terms of English and Amharic in Tigrigna.
- To investigate morphological forms of the borrowed health and agriculture terms of English and Amharic in Tigrigna.
- To analyze the conceptual appropriateness of the borrowed health and agriculture terms of English and Amharic in Tigrigna.

Method and materials

Location of study area

The research area of this study is Tigray, which is found in northern Ethiopia, and within Tigray, the data were collected from agriculture and health workers, and farmers from the central zone. In addition to this, to have sufficient population representation of Tigrigna, the data were collected from Tigray Media such as radio, television, and FM especially direct interviews of farmers' health and agriculture workers.



Central zone of Tigray Region (Yellow color) (cited BoFED GIS-cartographic unit 2001 E.C)

Sample Size of the Study

The informants of the study were farmers, health workers, agriculture workers, and media participants. From the health and agriculture sectors, twenty-four informants were randomly selected because they know and, use agriculture and health terms better than other sector workers. These twenty-four health and agriculture workers were willing to give information to the researcher. Moreover, data were collected from twenty-four farmers who were selected randomly to detect agricultural and health term usage in society. You can select more than these farmers but it is assumed enough. These data were used to differentiate whether the newly borrowed health and agriculture terms came up to the indigenous grammatical structure of Tigrigna or were used as they were in the source language. Therefore, these data helped in the phonological,

morphological, and conceptual usage of the new terms. Finally, health and agriculture documents were also used as data sources, which were distributed to society through written and electronic media.

Data gathering tools

Interview

To collect the concepts of agricultural and health terms, twenty-four health and agriculture workers were interviewed. This interview was used to see the original and new concepts of the borrowed terms. In addition to this, twenty-four farmers were asked about the pronunciation and meaning of the borrowed terms. To collect enough information about terms, the researchers raised different contexts of health and agricultural issues. Each term stated in Table One to Table Six was presented to the farmers and workers to check their meaning and pronunciation in and out of context. To list some of the raised issues, the farmers were asked to list down important chemicals of agriculture, to clarify how they get service in different health centers, and to describe the process of the team working in agricultural activities. Additionally, the farmers and officers discussed conservation activities in two separate groups. In these two groups, there were found different terms of agriculture.

Observation

In addition to interviews, observation has also been employed to gather data while farmers use the terms. The researchers took note of every daily health and agriculture terms usage. Using this instrument, phonological, morphological, and conceptual data of the health and agricultural terms were examined. Each term usage was documented from the daily observation.

Document Survey

Tigrigna is used as a working language in the Tigray Region in different Tigray sectors such as media, education, and offices. The study collected data from various health and agricultural documents. The assessed documents were written and electronic files.

Data Analysis

The collected data from the research were analyzed using a qualitative approach. The collected terms are organized and classified according to their phonological, morphological, and

conceptual changes in tables. The collected data were organized and classified based on their features. Then, they were analyzed using a qualitative approach.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Linguistic appropriateness is used to analyze new imported terms in the target language. The borrowed terms are recommended to follow the linguistic structure of the target language phonologically, and morphologically (Tekabe, 2010:44). Chancellery (2002:15-16) describes that when we introduce new terms, we can use terminologisation, determinologisation, morphological derivation, semantic extension, compound words, symbols, acronyms, borrowing, phrases, and coinage. However, borrowing needs some modifications to the original structure of the borrowed terms based on the phonological and morphological structure of the receiving language.

In some cases, borrowing does bring about minor changes to the phonological structure of the borrowing language (Komolafe, 2014:1). The first approach is to simply borrow a word by creating a phonetically equivalent word in the host language. The second approach is to create a new word by combining a semantically relevant word root or word in the host language, which in this paper is called semantic adoption. The first approach is sometimes called phonetic adoption or direct borrowing which makes it easy to find connectivity to the original word, and easy to create the new term. This approach disturbs the purity of the host language and, it makes it difficult to guess what it means. In contrast, semantic adoption does not disturb the purity of the host language, and relatively is easy to guess what it means, for example, to what it relates. The disadvantage of semantic adoption is that it is not easy to find connectivity to the original word and not easy to create connectivity (Matsuda et al. 2008:1-2).

Phonological structures of the borrowed health and agriculture terms in Tigrigna

Phonemes are speech sounds that create meaning differences between words (Daniel, 2004:50). So, Tigrigna has inherent phonemes. However, through time, some phonemes (p, p' and v) are introduced with borrowed words: /p'/ with "t'ərp'eza" (means table in English) and ?itijop'ija" (Ethiopia in English letters), /p/ with "polis"(police in English) and "posta"(post in English), and

/v/ within “villa” and “volleyball” (Ferguson, 1971: 4). As the result of this, the borrowed health and agriculture terms of English which have /p/ phoneme are changed into indigenous phoneme /b/ as stated in Table 1, which data are found from the twenty-four farmer informants.

Table 1: Localized phoneme /P/

No	English terms	Phonetic transcription	Borrowed terms in Tigrigna (in IPA transcription)
1	Papaya	paɾaɪə	babajə
2	DAP	Dap	dab
3	Pump (pomba, Italy)	paɾmp	bumba
4	Pressurized motor	'prɛʃərəɪz motər	bidʒrajzid
5	Health Package	helth Pakidʒ	bakedʒ tiʃna

The loan words which have /p/ are pronounced /b/ by the farmers, as stated in table 1. In contrast, the officers articulate the sound as it is because they may have English knowledge, as the health and agriculture officers pronounced them. These all words are changed into “bolibol”, “bella” and “betro” by the indigenous society, as the farmer informants pronounced them. Such words: “vomit” and “avocado”, health and agriculture terms are pronounced as “bomit” and “abokado” by the farmers. These, /p/, /p'/, and /v/, are introduced into the language and given the symbol of the letter. Then in written form, the users write the given symbols as the original but pronounce them as /b/ and /t/ indigenously, as documentary media analysis in this research.

Phonology studies sound patterns, phonemes, and allophones of languages (Finegan, 2008:106). Every language has its accepted and easily pronounced systematic structure and speech sounds (DemolaJolayemi, 2010:32). The syllabic structure is the systematic structure of phonemes which are pronounced at once collectively, categorized into onset, core, and coda. Syllabic structure of Tigrigna is consonant vowel, and consonant vowel consonant clusters (Daniel, 2004:57-60). Each syllable has a consonant onset, vowel core, and consonant coda (optional), which are basic parts of a syllable. When the coda is geminated, the second consonant becomes the onset of the second syllable. That means vowels or consonants cluster is not allowed in

Tigrigna (Buckley, 1997:1-3). Every onset of the Tigrigna syllable begins through consonants, and vowels cannot construct syllables by themselves except with consonants.

The syllabic structure of borrowed health and agriculture terms of English and Amharic in Tigrigna is the same as Tigrigna's syllabic structure while we observed the farmers' terms usage. On the other hand, literate speakers try to follow English and Amharic syllabic structures as a result of the influence of educational background.

Table 2: The terminological usage of the farmers

No	English Terms	Syllabic structure in English	Borrowed terms in Tigrigna (in IPA transcription)	Syllabic structure
1	nurse	Nurss	nərsi	nər-si
2	Germ	dʒurm	dʒərmi	dʒər-mi
3	Compost	Kom post	konfəs	kon-fəs
4	Syringe	Si-rindʒ	siringa	si-rin-ga

From table 2, the consonant clusters of English words are changed into the Tigrigna syllabic structure. For example, “nurse”, in English, is a syllable that has consonant vowel consonant structure. However, when it is borrowed, it is changed into two syllables, and consonant clusters are divorced into two independently. Here, we found /i/ vowel which is epenthetic (inserted sound) in Tigrigna. The third and the fourth examples are somehow different from the others. “si-rindʒ”, in English, has two syllables, and the final syllable has consonant clusters. When it comes to Tigrigna, “si-rin-ga” has three syllables. The final consonant cluster becomes into two syllables because it is not allowed in Tigrigna. Not only this, /dʒ/ sound is depalatalized into /g/. In the same way, the word “compost” is changed into “konfəs” that /p/ sound became /b/ because /p/ is not originally a Tigrigna sound and the hardness of the /p/ sound may be a reason to be deleted /t/ sound. The /b/ sound is also changed into /t/ through the influence of the fricativization of /s/ sound. The words that are listed in the table are almost assimilated into the Tigrigna except some scholars pronounce them as it is English pronunciation.

In addition to the above examples, there are borrowed health and agriculture English words in Tigrigna which follow the phonological structures of Tigrigna such as “machine”, “hospital”, “syrup”, “ambulance”, “card”, “pharmacy”, “DDT”, “polio”, “ADIS” are pronounced in

Tigrigna maʃin, hospital, (rarely, ʔasbidaḷə), furop/ʃrobo, ʔambulanis, kardi, farmasi, didit, poliyō and ʔedis respectively.

In contrast to the above data, there are terms of health and agriculture that come with English phonological structure as stated below.

Table 3: directly imported terms

No	English Terms	Phonetic transcription	Syllabic structure
1	Mask	mask	CVCC
2	Hand pump	hand pump	CVCC, CVCC
3	Health officer	helz ofi·sər	CVCC, VC,VC,VC
4	Disk	disk	CVCC
5	Menstruation	menstrooəyʃh'n/men·stru·a·tion	CVC CCCV,V,CVC

These terms are usually used by the literate workers of health and agriculture. These individuals keep the original phonological structure. Thus, these terms cause to phonological structure change of the Tigrigna. They are reasons to introduce consonant clusters in Tigrigna syllables. However, the farmers are not using this structure, and then the above words are substituted by Tigrigna words; “maski” (mask), “təḥaqʷ’anit may” (hand pump water), “kiʔila t’iʃna” (health officer), “məret miḥdəra” (disk) and “wərḥawi ʔabəba” (menstruation). Especially, the concepts of “menstruation” and “health officer” are existed in Tigrigna. These borrowed terms are used by only scholars. We can take them as code-mixed words rather than borrowed words because they are not assimilated intensively. Therefore, these concepts should be named through indigenous words because foreign words are difficult to understand for the farmers. In general, these terms cause for restructuring of the phonology Tigrigna and are becoming barriers to the daily interaction of society. Therefore, they should be replaced by indigenous words.

Similarly, Tigrigna borrows health and agriculture terms from Amharic such as “mirt’ ʔiton” (special baking stove) and “ʃint bet” (toilet) by its structure. The final part of these first words is a consonant cluster. The borrowed terms from Amharic are not too much as English borrowed terms.

So far, we have seen the consonant clustered final parts of borrowed words. The health and agriculture terms of English which have consonants clustered of the first syllable are borrowed and restructured into the consonant while they come into Tigrigna as stated below.

Table 4: syllabic changed terms

No	English Terms	Syllabic structure	In Tigrigna (in IPA transcription)	Syllabic structure
1	Global	CCV-CVC	gulobal	CV-CV-CVC
2	Syrup	CCCVC	ʃirop	CV-CVC
3	Glucose	CCV-CVC	Gulucoz	CV-CV-CVC
4	Flower	CCV-CVC	fulawər	CV-CV-CVC
5	Fruit	CCVC	furut	CV-CVC

The above data reveal that two or three consonants can come together in an English syllable but not in Tigrigna. So, to avoid the consonant clustered syllables, /u/, /i/, and /ɪ/ and /ʔ/ are inserted in the first syllable. They are epenthetic sounds of Tigrigna.

There are borrowed health and agriculture terms of English in Tigrigna which have a similar syllabic structure to Tigrigna terms. Accordingly, the farmers and literate Tigrigna speakers similarly pronounced them.

Table 5: familiar syllabic structure of borrowed terms

No	English Terms	In Tigrigna (in IPA transcription)	No	English Terms	In Tigrigna (in IPA transcription)
1	Mango	m	6	Motor	Motor
2	Cancer	kancər	7	Cake	Kek
3	Carrot	karot	8	Apple	ʔapil
4	Ameba	ʔameba			
5	Avocado	ʔabocado			

All the above terms are similarly pronounced in Tigrigna. However, the words: ameba, avocado, and apple are different in their initial syllabic structure to some extent. When they come to Tigrigna, they add /ʔ/ consonant to keep the consonant-vowel (consonant) syllabic structure of

Tigrigna, but it is an abstract variation that cannot simply differentiate the sound while they articulate it.

We can also observe the unconditional change in the borrowed health and agriculture terms of English. For instance, “neem” is pronounced as “lim”, “mimi”, “limo”. Not only this, safety net, diversion, and pressurized motor are articulated as “ʃiftinnet”, “səftinət and “dajnvərʃin motər” respectively. The reason is not linguistic but it is the matter of that being new (unfamiliar) terms.

The phonological pronunciation of abbreviated words of Tigrigna is different from English. But, in the borrowed abbreviated health and agriculture terms are articulated as they are pronounced in English. Such examples are “OPD”, “TB”, “ORS” and “WF”. These abbreviations affect the Tigrigna abbreviation pattern. Tigrigna abbreviated words are pronounced as a word or/and describe each abbreviated word. In addition to this, the farmers are graded by English Letters: “A” for Excellent, “B” for Very Good, and “C” for Good. As these letters are not conceptually transparent to the audience, they should be replaced by Tigrigna letters or ordinal numbers.

Morphological forms of the borrowed health and agriculture terms in Tigrigna

The second criterion of borrowed terms of the health and agriculture terms of English in Tigrigna is morphological appropriateness. To clarify, any borrowed or created term should follow the morphological properties of the language. The morphological feature is the derivational and inflectional structure of words. Morphology is also a science that studies the internal structure of words/terms. Now, let us see the morphological structure of borrowed health and agriculture terms of English in Tigrigna.

The compound word structure of Tigrigna differs from the compounded words class. For example, when the compounded words are nouns, the modified word comes before the modifier, “bet timhirti” (school), “ḥayli ʔajər” (air force) and “ḥajli midri” (military force). In contrast, when the compounded words are adjective and noun, the noun is head and comes after the adjective, “k’əjjih məsk’əl” (Red Cross), “k’udus mikiʔel” (Saint Mikael).

In some borrowed terms, this rule is missed, example, “jigin t’abija” (nursery of plant), “wəha t’ələfa” (diverted water), and “jint bet” (toilet) are common words borrowed from the Amharic language. These terms should be changed into Tigrigna structure as “t’abija jigin” (nursery), “t’ələfa wəha” (diverted water), and “bet jinti” (toilet). The words and concepts, “jigin” (plant) and “wəha” (water), are presented in Tigrigna called “fəlsi” (plant) and may (water). Therefore, these existing terms are dominated by the national work language words, Amharic.

The borrowed terms can be assessed in grammatical features. From the grammatical features, derivability is one aspect. The borrowed terms should follow the derivability pattern of the target language (Tekabe, 2010:46). However, health and agriculture terms do not have derivability features. For example, “package”, “extension”, “union”, “cluster”, and “check dam” are borrowed terms that cannot derivate other Tigrigna words (verbs, adjectives, and adverbs) because Tigrigna morphological structure is different from English. While they are substituted by Tigrigna terms, the substituted terms can create other words, such “t’imrət” (package), “misfihfah” (extension), “hibrət” (union), “maʔkəl” (cluster), “kətri” (check dam) can be changed into verbs, “t’imurət”(packaged), “səfəhə” (extended), “habərə” (united), and “kətərə” (dammed).

As no institution manages the new terms, the names of the terms are interchangeable, and the name of one concept may be represented by two or more terms. Some of them come from English, and others are also created from the Target language. So, having double names for one concept is common in the health and agriculture terms of English and Amharic in Tigrigna. Specially, “mənafəfa himumat” (patient recreation) taken from Amharic and Tigrigna, “t’ifnapakedʒ” (health package) taken from Tigrigna and English, and “model gəbar”(model of farmer) taken from English and Tigrigna in combination respectively. All these terms can be named in Tigrigna terms such as “məzənagʒi himumat”, “timur t’ifna” and “mərʔaja gəbar”.

Table 6: The borrowed health and agriculture concepts

No	English Concepts	Phrases in Tigrigna (in IPA transcription)	Gloss
1	Agriculture extension	maʔikəl məsəl t’əni marəstot	Training Center of Farmer

2	Medical ward	Mədək'əsi kifli hımumat wisht'awi dəwe	Bedroom of internal "dawe" patient
3	Union	hibrət sirah mahbər	Collaborated work of association
4	Reforestation	Dagmə girəba	Conservation of the desert area
5	Drop (medicine)	Naj řajni t'ibta	Eye's drop
6	Gain ology	Məhkəmi t'inusat	Medication of pregnant

The phrases are longer than English terms, but they are better clear than English terms because the phrases are nearer to the users. Thus, most of the society uses phrases rather than English terms although they are not linguistically economic.

Taking the concepts is another way of borrowing. It is also used in the borrowing health and agriculture processes of Tigrigna. For example, "firki wərhi" (half-moon) means digging out area to conserve the water and soil, "s'ərə balif" (anti-insects/biotic), "dərho řamərika" (the hen of America) that means the race is not indigenous, "t'əbt'əbta may" (drop irrigation), "k'inatawi zala" (polar conservation) that means a type of conservation, "mətrəbawi zala" (terminal conservation) that is a type of conservation, miřk'abt'əli (conserving wet), mit'anə sidra" (family plan), "sin-zirařti" (crop) and "dagim girəba" (reforestation) are the best examples of borrowing terms in the health and agriculture sector of Tigrigna speakers. These terms are easily understood and they keep the phonological and morphological principles of Tigrigna.

Last but not least, the method of borrowing is replacing the existing terms with one means of taking the other's terms. In particular, the speakers believe that the source language is powerful and they respect it. Even though the terms and their names are there in the language, the speakers are borrowing from English terms due to their privilege. From English, the borrowed names, even there are in Tigrigna, "mastireřin" (menstruation), "malarija" (malaria), "řiskel" (scale), "banana" (banana), "birasen" (surgical operation), "terminal" (terminal), "ORS" (ORS), "řimatim" (tomato). But, they can completely be substituted by "wəřhawitsigijə", "řaso", "mizan", "muz", "mət'bařti", "fələg", "c'əw řingliz" and "komidrə" correspondingly.

In the same way, there are borrowed health and agriculture terms of Amharic; even they exist in Tigrigna. For instance, "řigin t'abija" (nursery of plant), "řagobar" (Miskito

net), “gibirna”(agriculture), “birtukan” (orange), “birtukanfahi” (orange tea) and “k’əjsur” (red carrot) are Amharic terms that can be replaced by Tigrigna terms; “fəlsit’abija”, “zanzira/lamsija”, “hifja”, “ʔaranfi”, “ʔaranfi fahi”, and “k’əjihsur”. This demonstrates that the society borrowing these terms is giving more privilege to English and Amharic than the Tigrigna.

Conceptual Appropriateness of the Borrowed Health and Agriculture Terms in Tigrigna

In conceptual appropriateness, motivation is a criterion to change the concept and names of terms. In Tigrigna, there are health and agriculture terms that have more additional names for each concept even if the names are there in language. For example, “vomit” and “to check my health” are English terms. These concepts and terms are “təmlas”/ “nəʕak’əb”/”ʕak’ək” (their dialectal variations) and “t’ifnəj kəragis’ ”. Without any motivation, banana (English), birtukan (Amharic, orange), shinti bet (Amharic), and birasen (English operation) entered into Tigrigna in addition to the existing terms. It may be the reason that to give more opportunity to English and Amharic.

Semantic transparency has different criteria such as one term has one concept; one term shall be classified as a one-word class, and one concept should be assigned to one word rather than terms, phrases, or sentences (Rubens, 2002:56-57, 58). When we observe Tigrigna speakers on the health and agriculture sectors, having two names per concept is common. These two names of a concept come from the source language and target language. The borrowed term from the source language is used by the literate the indigenous term is used by the illiterate society. For example, “DAP” and “urea”, “siringa” (means syringe), and “vomit” is taken from English are optionally named by the society as “s’elim medaberija” meant “black fertilizer” and “s’eida medaberija” meant “white fertilizer”, “merfi?” “meant “needle”, neʕak’eb” meant “vomit” respectively. “ʕigin t’abija” meant “nursery plant” is borrowed from Amharic parallel to “fəlsi t’abija” by the society. These two terms per concept create confusion the daily communication.

The experienced farmers who are models to others are named/ graded as “A”, “B” and “C” for excellent, very good, and good levels. However, most Tigrinan farmers are not educated. As a result, the letters are not semantically transparent for them. Tigrigna letters should be used because comparatively, the users know them more than English letters. In addition to these, in most clinics and hospitals of Tigray, some rooms are noticed in English such as “OPD”,

“emergency room,” “Laboratory,” “X-Ray” but the orthography of these terms is not familiar with even the illiterate society.

Two different languages may have conceptually different or similar terms. In translating, some terms may be borrowed directly. Conceptually, the borrowed words should carry the same meaning between the target language and the source language (Chancellery, 2005:55). In Tigrigna agriculture and health terms however, some of them miss this rule such as, “diversion” meant “containers of water”, “supervisor” meant “manager of sub-district/werda”, “cluster” meant “center”, “formal” meant “conservational professional”, “global” meant “modern farming system”, “mental” meant “mental disordered” are good instances of this violation. In the source language, they meant “changing water direction”, “observer”, “group of activities/institutions”, “official”, “worldwide” and “mind” respectively. Thus, they do not have conceptual equivalence.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Conclusion

The borrowed agriculture and health terms are being used in Tigrigna in three ways. One, borrowing the terms directly except for some phonological changes is common while introducing new terms and concepts. Second, the data analysis reveals that speakers give new terms to the new concepts in addition to the borrowed target language terms. This happens by giving two terms per concept and showing mixed language use. Third, the new concepts are substituted through Tigrigna terms. This is the best way of terms engineering method than the two above methods.

The syllabic structure of Tigrigna is consonant-vowel or consonant vowel consonant. Therefore, when farmers use the directly borrowed terms, these borrowed terms are restructured in their phonological structure to the Tigrigna syllabic pattern. However, the educated section of the society pronounces the borrowed terms as they are in English. In some of the terms, the farmers pronounce the terms differently which is not similar to English or Tigrigna due to they are new to the users. In addition to phonological structure, some of the borrowed health and agriculture terms do not follow the morphological structure of Tigrigna. This means, most of the borrowed

terms do not have a drivability feature. They are not flexible and assimilated in the language; they cannot be changed into different word classes.

Given conceptual appropriateness, we shall not borrow terms and their concepts if they are there in the language. Moreover, the borrowed terms are given two names or terms which are taken from the target and source languages. Some of these terms do not fit with their meaning which is different from what they have in the source language.

Recommendation

Although borrowing terms from language to language is a common feature of many languages, its application should be based on term borrowing rules and procedures. These rules and procedures are managed by the institutions of terms. Therefore, in different languages, some institutions manage terms engineering issues. Although Tigray Language Academy is trying to work in some areas' terms, such as Tigrigna research terms, there should be developing terms engineering institution of Tigrigna in all fields of Tigrigna language by concerned institutions (academic languages of Tigray, culture and tourism bureau and Tigrigna departments).

The health and agriculture officers shall encourage Tigrigna terms, and try to introduce Tigrigna structured terms. The Tigrigna professionals should give training on Tigrigna terms engineering system. In health and agriculture offices, some language specialists shall be appointed to work as editors. Manuals focused on appropriate health and agriculture terms usage should be prepared and distributed to the society. Finally, these two sectors (health and agriculture) shall be investigated deeply in their terms usage, and Tigrigna policymakers should consider the new terms engineering system in different educational sectors. When developing terminology in Tigrigna, the new terms shall be taken from the familiar language such as Geez, and if it is not possible, we can go ahead to other Semitic languages.

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