# Konglish Borrowing Translation in Korean "Sweet & Sour" Movie

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Konglish is a Korean vocabulary adapted from English but pronounced according to Korean pronunciation. The pronunciation usually seems to sound like Korean, but the writing is more towards spelled English. An example is "Big Size" which in Korean becomes 빅 사이즈 (bik-sa-ee-jeu). This analysis focuses on Konglish findings in the Korean film that aired on 2021 entitled Sweet & Sour. "Sweet and Sour" is a captivating romantic comedydrama film from South Korea, helmed by director Lee Gye-byeok. The purpose of this study is to analyse the various word formation Konglish found in Sweet & Sour films and classify them according to the borrowing characteristics theory from Molina & Albir (2002). The researcher alson want to know the reason behind why the dominant type of Konglish borrowing are found. Molina & Albir (2002) have classified borrowing more detail into two characteristics: (1) pure borrowing, and (2) naturalized borrowing. This research uses the descriptive qualitative method because the results of the analysis presented descriptively. The data analysis technique used is to rewrite the dialogue in the form of a transcript, then take note and analyse the Konglish words contained in the dialogue. The results of this research found around 42 Konglish found in the film "Sweet and Sour" with details: Naturalized Borrowing found 13 times with a percentage of 30.95%. and Pure Borrowing found 29 times with a percentage of 69.04% and the influence of working field as this movie's background made Pure Borrowing as the dominant type found.

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#### INTRODUCTION

Language is a system created by humans to be able to communicate with each other. According to (Wibowo, 2001) language is a system of sound symbols that are meaningful and articulate (produced by the speech organs) that are arbitrary and conventional, which are used as a means of communication by a group of people to generate feelings and thoughts. Without language, we cannot communicate with other people.

The popularity of Korean culture, known as the Korean wave, has led to an increasing interest in learning the Korean language. Korean language learning has become accessible through various forms of entertainment such as songs, dramas, films, and literature. Many young people are motivated to learn Korean to communicate with their friends and idols influenced by the Korean wave. Interestingly, the Korean vocabulary is not solely derived from the Korean language itself. There are instances of word formations and cultural influences between Korean and English, resulting in borrowed words. These borrowings can be easily observed in Korean films and dramas, and they are referred to as Konglish, a blend of Korean and English.

Konglish is a Korean vocabulary which is an absorption word from English. Some examples in konglish itself are 셀카 (sel-ka) which is an abbreviation taken from two English words, namely "self" and "camera" or 아파트 (a-pa-teu) which stands for the English word "apartment". According to (Molina & Albir, 2002) divides borrowing into two main categories: pure borrowing and naturalized borrowing.

Sweet & Sour is one of the most famous films in South Korea. This film has been shown in 2021 and is being broadcast on one of the film streaming applications, namely Netflix. Synopsis Sweet and Sour tells the story of a man named Jang Hyuk (Jang Ki Yong), who wants to have a job as well as love. A romantic comedy genre, this big screen elevates the conflict of a love triangle relationship with different emotions. Because it is taken setting in the background of today's life, it will find a lot of Konglish vocabulary used in the dialogues of this film.

Many studies have been conducted to analyse the borrowing word formation; however, the

researcher would like to focus more on the characteristics of borrowing words found in Sweet & Sour film due to the limited research. Therefore, the purpose of this study is 1) to find Konglish in the film Sweet & Sour then classify it based on (Molina & Albir, 2002) theory of the characteristics of borrowing words, and 2) to find out what causes this type of borrowing to appear the most in the film "Sweet and Sour".

#### **METHOD**

The researcher uses a qualitative descriptive method to analyze and describe the Konglish found in the movie "Sweet and Sour" according to the types of borrowing word formations, namely pure borrowing, and naturalized borrowing. The research being conducted is qualitative in nature, specifically a type of descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive analysis aims to depict what happens and focuses on useful methods for research procedures.

Descriptive qualitative approach is a method that involves sentences or depictions of an object and does not present detailed arithmetic and statistical calculations (Moleong, 2009). Therefore, this descriptive study uses qualitative research because it uses non-numerical data which aims to analyse, classify, and describe the types of borrowing word formations for Konglish found in the film "Sweet and Sour". The study was conducted through problem formulation, data collection, data classification, and data analysis.

The main data or primary data used in this study is the movie "Sweet and Sour" from South Korea. This film is one of the well-known films and has won several international awards. The movie is analysed based on the types of borrowing word formation using Molina & Albir theory which classifies the characteristic of borrowing words into 2, namely pure borrowing and naturalized borrowing. Meanwhile, the secondary data in this study are articles, books, journals, and various other types of literature.

The technique for collecting data is by watching and observing films that are used as sources of research, including Parasite. Researchers will later watch and observe the movie "Parasite" and then observe the use of Konglish in every dialogue spoken by the characters in the film.

The data analysis technique used is a qualitative research analysis because this research deals with words and not numbers. In analysing the data, the researcher went through a series of procedures as follows: 1) identified Konglish contained in the movie "Sweet and Sour", 2) reduced unnecessary data, 3) classified the Konglish found into 2 types of borrowing words, 4) analysed the meaning of Konglish which had been classified, 5) conclude the results of data collection that has been analysed.

### **FINDINGS**

# 4.1 Type of Konglish Found

# 4.1.1 Result

The researcher found that there are two types of borrowing translation in Konglish contained in the film "Sweet and Sour" which can be seen in the table as follows:

| Borrowing                | Konglish Word Found  |   | Total      | Percentage |
|--------------------------|--|---|------------|------------|
| Types                    |  |   |            |            |
| Pure Borrowing           | 판타스틱 (pantasetig)  - Fantastic 팀 (tim) – Team 넥스트 (Neksete) – Next 스타일 (seutail) – Style 유머 (Hyumeo) – Humor 베리 (peri) – Very 테러블 (tereobeul) – Trouble 피니시 (pinisi) – Finish 워크 (wokeu) - Work 파크 (pakeu) – Park 언더그라온 (eondeogeuraon) – Underground 디스어포인트 (diseopointeu) – Disappoint 아일랜 (aillaen) – Island 블랙 (beuleg) – Black 피그 (pigue) – Pig | 픽 (pik) – Pick 와이파이 (waipai) – Wi-Fi 크리스마스 (keuliseumaseu) – Christmas 커플 티 (keopeul ti) – Couple Tee 인트로듀스 (inteulodyuseu) – Introduce 굿 모닝입니다 (gutmoning) - Good Morning 아메리카노 (amelikano) – Americano 크리에이티브(keulieitibeu) – Creative 파이널 (paineol) – Final 커미스트리 (keomiseuteuli) – Chemistry 코어퍼러트 (ko- eopeoleote) – Cooperate 어빌리티 (eobilliti) – Ability 핸드폰 (haendeupon) – Handphone | 29<br>Word | 69,04%     |
| Naturalized<br>Borrowing | 에이스 (eiseu) - Ace<br>나이스 (naiseu) - Nice<br>엑설런트 (egseolleonteu)<br>- Excellent<br>어메이징 (eomeijing) -<br>Amazing<br>스테이지 (seuteiji) -<br>Stage<br>햄버거 (haembeogeo) -<br>Hamburger<br>파이팅 (paiting) -<br>Fighting   | 비타민 (bitamin) - Vitamin 마카롱 (makalong) - Macarons 차트 (chateu) - Chart 옐로 (yello) - Yellow 카드 (kadeu) - Card 커피 (keopi) - Coffee 브리지 (beuliji) - Bridge 디자인 (dijain) - Design  | 13<br>Word | 30,95%     |

# 4.1.2 Analysis

# Naturalized Borrowing

# • N1 햄버거 (haembeogeo) – Hamburger

SL: "하지만 우리는 <u>햄버거</u> 먹어요" (hajiman ulineun <u>haembeogeo</u> meog-eoyo)

TL: "But we eat hamburgers"

This type of Konglish is included in the category of naturalized characteristics because the word "햄버거 (*haembeogeo*)" is adapted from the English "**Hamburger**". Although it has the same meaning as the original word in English, the writing and pronunciation are different because it follows the Korean pronunciation so that this word is meant to be of the naturalized type.

# • N2 파이팅 (paiting) – Fighting

SL: "설계 1팀, 파이팅!" (seolgye 1 tim, paiting!)

#### TL: 1 design team, **fighting!**

This type of Konglish is included in the category of naturalized characteristics because the word "파이팅 (paiting)" is adapted from the English "Fighting". It belongs to the naturalized type because the meaning of "파이팅 (paiting)" in Korean is to encourage, while the original meaning in English is to fight., the writing and pronunciation are different because it follows the Korean pronunciation so that this word is meant to be of the naturalized type.

# • N3 비타민 (bitamin) - Vitamin

SL: "피곤할땐 비타민 보충!!" (pigonhalttaen bitamin bochung!)

## TL: Vitamins to replenish energy!

In this sentence fragment, the word "비타민" (bitamin) or in English "Vitamin" is included in the Naturalized Borrowing category because there is no structural change in the word but the letter "V" in "Vitamin" changes to "B" or "bitamin" so that the pronunciation changes.

# • N4 마카롱 (makalong) -Macarons

SL: "핀란드산 수제 <u>마카롱</u> 너무 맛있어요" (pinlandeusan suje <u>makalong</u> neomu mas-iss-eoyo)

#### TL: Finnish handmade macarons are so delicious

In this sentence fragment, the word 마카롱 (makalong) or in English "Macarons" is included in the Naturalized Borrowing category because there is a change in the letter "S" in "Macarons" to "G" or "" (Makalong) so that the pronunciation changes.

# • N5 커피 (keopi) – Coffee

SL: "아, 여기 커피 드세요" (a, yeogi keopi deuseyo)

### TL: Have some coffee

In this sentence fragment, the word ≯□ (*Keopi*) or in English "Coffee" is included in the Naturalized Borrowing category because there is a change in the letters in the word, namely the letters "C" menjadi "K" yaitu "<u>K</u>eopi".

## > Pure Borrowing

## • P1 팀 (tim) – Team

SL: "이 결과물 <u>팀</u>에 넘가고 넥스트 스테이지 고, 고!" (i gyeolgwamul <u>tim</u>-e neomgago negseuteu seuteiji go, go!)

TL: This result is handed over to the **team**, Next Stage Go, Go!

This type of konglish is included in the characteristic category of Pure because the word "<u>El</u> (<u>tim</u>)" is adapted from the English "Team". The word adapted to Korean also has the same meaning as the original English word, and it is meant to be a pure characteristic because the spelling, meaning, and writing are the same.

# • P2 아일랜 (aillaen) - Island

SL: "오늘은 요 앞 재주 <u>아일랜</u>드 블랙피그 김치찜 어때? (oneul-eun yo ap jaeju <u>aillaendeu</u> beullaegpigeu gimchijjim eottae?)"

TL: How about Jaeju Island Black Pig Kimchi Steamed today?

This type of konglish is included in the characteristic category of Pure because the word "<u>아일랜 (aillaen)</u>" is adapted from the English "<u>Island</u>". It is meant to be a pure characteristic because the spelling, meaning, and writing are the same.

### • P3 블랙 (beuleg) – Black

SL: "오늘은 요 앞 재주 아일랜드 <u>블랙</u>피그 김치찜 어때? (oneul-eun yo ap jaeju aillaendeu **beuleg** pigeu gimchijjim eottae?)"

TL: How about Jaeju Island **Black** Pig Kimchi Steamed today?

This type of konglish is included in the characteristic category of Pure because the word "<u>블랙</u> (*beuleg*)" is adapted from the English "<u>Black</u>". It is meant to be a pure characteristic because the spelling, meaning, and writing are the same.

### • P4 픽 (pik) – Pick

SL : "역시 팀장은 <u>픽</u> 나이스" (yeogsi timjang-eun <u>pik</u> naiseu)

TL: After all, the team leader **pick** is nice.

This type of konglish is included in the characteristic category of Pure because the word "\(\frac{\pik}{\pik}\)" is adapted from the English "\(\text{Pick}\)". It is meant to be a pure characteristic because the spelling, meaning, and writing are the same.

# • P5 와이파이 (waipai) – Wi-Fi

SL: "와이파이 빠르냐?" (waipai ppaleunya?)

TL: Is the Wi-Fi fast?

In this piece of sentence, the word "와이파이" (waipai) or in English "Wi-Fi" is included in the Pure Borrowing category because there is no change in the structure in it but only has a Korean accent from actual English.

#### **DISCUSSION**

In the film "Sweet and Sour" it was found that the type of borrowing word that was found the most was Pure Borrowing. This is due to 2 main factors, namely work background and lifestyle in South Korea itself. The background of the film "Sweet and Sour" is the daily life of 2 characters who work as a nurse and a private employee for a construction company. One of the characters played by men has a boss who communicates in a mixed language between English and Korean. But instead of being pronounced in the right accent like American or British accents, the English sounds more like Konglish spoken in a Korean accent. This then affects the quantity of pure Konglish borrowing that is produced through conversations between characters in the film.

In addition, in a study entitled The Promise of English: Linguistic Capital and The Neoliberal Worker in The South Korean Job Market (Park, 2011) it is stated that Koreans who are trying to acquire proficiency in English feel frustrated because their image as poor English speakers is being maintained, thereby reducing the value of their investment in achieving the goals set by the company. The standard for English was also raised, which meant it was difficult for them to meet the target. If this continues, we cannot assume that achieving good English proficiency, as desired by employers, will lead to better job opportunities and financial stability. The only benefit is the company itself, because they can get workers with better English skills without recognizing workers' efforts and achievements in learning English. As a result, job seekers in the Korean job market now feel compelled to study English more intensively and face tremendous pressure. This indicates that workers who have good English skills are presumably able to get jobs "easily".

In connection with this research, the authors draw a conclusion between the research above and the discussion results obtained, namely that the effect of good English skills often becomes an arena for workers, especially those working within the scope of the company, to "Show Off" that they understand and understand English. This can also be seen from several scenes in the film "Sweet and Sour" where employees try to balance themselves by inserting several English dictions in conversations with each other.

#### **CONCLUSION**

From the results of an analysis of the film "Sweet and Sour", researchers found around 41 Konglish found in the film "Sweet and Sour" with details of the findings of each type of Borrowing as follows: Naturalized Borrowing was found 13 times with a percentage of 30.95%. and Pure Borrowing was found 29 times with a percentage of 69.04%. This indicates that the type most widely used in the film "Sweet and Sour".

From the results of this study, many of the dialogues which are dominated by Korean use and insert English words in them so that the percentage of Pure Borrowing is higher than Naturalized Borrowing itself. This also happens because the storyline in the film takes a lot of sides from the life of workers in the company so that the use of English and Konglish is very much found.

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