Article Title
A Comparison of Word-formation between Chinese and English

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Bio Data
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Abstract
Word-formation is the study of words, dealing with the construction or formation rules of words in a certain language. This paper studies and analyses various ways of Chinese and English word-formation so that similarities and differences are found between the two languages. Through comparison, Chinese or English learners could have a better way of acquiring either or both of the two languages concerned.

Key words
Lexicology; compound; derivation; affixation; conversion; blending; loans;
Word-formation or word formation is also known as morphology, which in linguistics represents the study of construction rules of words. Through studying and analyzing rules of Chinese and English word formation, both Chinese L2 and English L2 learners can also enlarge their native language vocabulary in addition to finding out the similarities and differences between the two languages concerned. The specific learner target groups, which could maximize such a contrastive approach will be left for others to determine and is beyond the scope of this paper, but nevertheless may represent a very worthwhile follow-up endeavor.

As early as in the Qin Dynasty in China, scholars began to notice the construction rules of Chinese words. Later in the Qing Dynasty, some works were written to explicitly analyze the formation of Chinese words. “Ma Shi Wen Tong” (Dr. Ma’s Argument) by Ma Jianzhong is a milestone of Chinese word study in ancient China. His opinion of “modifier + root >> word” and “root + root >> word” was quite close to that of modern Chinese linguists. After the “May 4 (1919) Movement”, more and more Chinese linguists began to study and analyze Chinese word-formation. Many books have been written and published ever since.

In 400 B.C., Indian linguist Panini described in detail how Sanskrit words were formed in his grammar book “Eight Chapter Book”. His view on word-formation had greatly influenced European lexicologists. However, little progress had been made in the study of word-formation since the time of Panini though various questions were raised by scholars in the 18th and 19th centuries. This was shown in many aspects of word study in the past centuries. One of the reasons was that study on word formation (lexicology) was not as
popular as linguistics at the beginning of the 20th century. Since 1916, Saussure’s theory of synchronic and diachronic linguistics has had a great impact on the field of modern linguistic, yet its closely related subject of lexicology was simply put aside and paid little attention to. Linguists either focused on synchronic linguistics as L. Bloomfield did or just adopted diachronic linguistics as Kozoid did. In 1957, Noam Chomsky had his “Syntactic Structure” published, and syntax became a focus at that time while other structuralists went on with their studies on phonetics and morphology. In 1960, H. Marchand published his influential book “The Categories and Types of Present-Day English Word-formation”, in which he disregarded synchronic and diachronic approach to word study. During the 1980s, linguists conducted their studies on word formation from different points of views: phonetic, synchronic and semantic respectively. More linguists intended to find out a universal grammar through their studies on the formation of words (Laurie Bauer, 1983:2-6).

In 1980, Ren Xue-liang had his book “Chinese Word-formation” published by China Social Sciences Press. In this book, the author proposed five approaches to word-coinage and word-formation: morphological approach, syntactical approach, rhetorical approach, phonetic approach and synthetic approach. Zhang Shou-kang, author of “A Brief Introduction to Chinese Word-formation”, said that word-coinage and word-formation should go hand in hand. All words coined in whatever way have certain structures or follow certain rules (1983:104). This makes it possible for us to make a contrast of word-formation between Chinese and English.
I. Compounds of Chinese and English

Phonetic forms of Chinese compounds

(1) noun + noun >> compound:

lu + xian >> luxian
(road thread way)
mei + mu >> meimu
(eyebrow eye appearance)
shou + zu >> shouzu
(hand foot closetie)
fen + cun >> fencun
(foot inch extent/length)
bi + mò >> bimò
(pen ink handwriting)
ren + wù >> renwù
(person thing figure)
xiong + di >> xiongdi
(elder brother younger brother brother)
fāng + yuán >> fāngyuán
(square circle area)
dōng + xi >> dōngxi
(east west thing)

(2) verb + noun >> noun compound:

chuan + piào >> chuanpiào
play + boy >> playboy
(transmit ticket subpoena) pick + pocket >> pickpocket
sī + jī >> sījī flash + light >> flashlight
(attend to machine driver) push + button >> pushbutton
tiao + zhan >> tiaozhan cut + bank >> cut-bank
(provoke fight challenge) cut + throat >> cutthroat
chàng + ge >> chàngge cut + line >> cut-line
(sing song sing (song)) make + weight >> makeweight
qiān + mǐng >> qiānmìng
(sign name signature)
qì + cáo >> qícáo
(start draft draft) an + xìn >> anxìn
(comfort heart set one’s mind at ease)
(3) subject + predicate >> compound: noun + verb >> compound:
mín + zhǔ >> mínzhǔ head + ache >> headache
(people decide democracy) heart + attack >> heart-attack
xia + zhì >> xiazhì ear + pick >> ear-pick
(summer reach top Summer Solstice) tear + drop >> teardrop
dì + zhèn >> dizhèn foot + note >> footnote
(earthquake) sun + rise >> sunrise
xin + téng >> xinténg eye + reach >> eye-reach
(heart ache feel sorry) hand + write >> handwriting
xing + jì >> xingjì bus + stop >> bus-stop
(temper irascible short-tempered)

(4) verb + adverb >> compound: verb + adverb >> compound
shuo + ming >> shuoming work + hard >> hardworking
(say clearly explain) last + ever >> everlasting
tuí + fan >> tuīfan grow + out >> outgrown
(push over topple) take + off >> take-off
kuò + dà >> kuòdà break + out >> outbreak
(extend largely enlarge) behave + well >> well-behaved
da + dao >> dadao know + well >> well-known
(beat down overthrow) break + down >> breakdown
tí + gāo >> tígāo take + over >> takeover
(lift high improve) throw + over >> overthrow
(5) modifier + stem >> compound noun; adjective + noun >> compound:
hóng + qí >> hóngqí green + house >> greenhouse
(red flag red-flag) black + horse >> black-horse
hei + ban >> heiban black + board >> blackboard
(black board blackboard) high + way >> highway
fei + ji >> feiji blue + print >> blueprint
(flying machine plane) hot + line >> hotline
zuò + tan >> zuòtan red + head >> redhead
(seat talk tea-party) red + neck >> redneck
huǒ + chē >> huǒchē safe + guard >> safeguard
(fire cart train) cold + front >> cold-front
guang + gào >> guanggào  blue + eye >> blue-eyed

(6) relationships within Chinese noun compounds (semantic analysis of Chinese compounds):

N1 is the place where N2 operates or is located:
yanjing (eye lens) glasses  haitan (sea beach) beach
kongjun (air troops) air-force  shoubiao (hand watch) wristwatch

N1 depicts the form of N2:
bingshan (ice mountain) iceberg  bingtang (ice sugar) crystal sugar
kuaimei (chunk coal) lump coal  zhuancha (brick tea) brick tea

N2 depicts the form of N1:
xuehua (snow flower) snowflake  langhua (wave flower) spray
bingkuai (ice piece) ice cube  shanfeng (mountain top) peak

N2 is used for N1:
caidao (vegetable knife) cleaver  jiku (machine store) hangar
yandou (tobacco cup) pipe  qiupai (ball paddle) racket

N1 is the habitat of N2:
haitun /hetun (sea/river) dolphin  shuiniao (water bird) aquatic bird
bihu (wall tiger) gecko  hainiu (sea cow) manatee

N2 is caused by N1:
shuizai (water disaster) flood  leihen (tear trace) tear stains

chehuo (vehicle misfortune) vehicle accident  xueyin (blood stamp) blood stain

N2 is produced by N1:
N1 is a metaphorical description of N2:
jidàn (chicken egg) egg
niunai (cow milk) milk
niuròu (cattle meat) beef
cansi (silkworm silk) silk
lóngtǐ (dragon body) emperor’s health
tuoniao (camel bird) ostrich
huóchē (fire cart) train
chaïyou (firewood oil) diesel fuel
N1 is something that N2 has or contains:
mingpian (name strip) name card
shoutao (hand glove) glove
banma (stripe horse) zebra
cesuo (toilet place) lavatory

II. Derivations in Chinese and English

In both Chinese and English, many words are formed by adding affixes to roots. Roots are actually content morphemes or cores, carrying with them lexical meanings. Affixes could be either functional (grammatical) or semantic (lexical).

1. Functional (grammatical/phonetic) affixes

In Chinese, functional affixes may phonetically help balance words in pronunciation and grammatically indicate the plural form of pronouns. For example:

(1) prefix + root:
lao-(phonetic prefix): lao hu (tiger), lao shu (mouse), lao shi (teacher), lao xiang (hometown fellow), lao zhang (Mr. Zhang), lao ye (grandfather), lao zei (old saying: bad guy).
a-(phonetic prefix): a yi (aunt), a ge (brother), a mei (sister), a ba (father), a san (name of a person, usu. the third born son).
zui-(grammatical prefix): zui hao (at best), zui huai (at worst), zui da (the biggest), zui jin (recently), zui gao (the highest), zui duo (at most), zui shao (at least).
(2) root + suffix

-zi (phonetic prefix): in lao zi (father), er zi (son), mao zi (hat), pang zi (fat man), dian zi (idea/proposal), pai zi (pat/rhythm), zhuo zi (desk), dao zi (knife), che zi (bike/car), hai zi (kid), tao zi (peach), li zi (plum).

-men (grammatical prefix): zan men (we), wo men (we), ni men (you plural form), ta men (they), ren men (people), gu niang men (girls), zhan shi men (soldiers).

In English, some suffixes are functional ones, they help change part of speech:

(1) nouns can be changed to adjectives by adding suffixes like “-al”, “-ous”, “-ful”, etc. For example:

condition >> conditional, function >> functional, nation >> national;
danger >> dangerous, fame >> famous, courage >> courageous,
care >> careful, mouth >> mouthful, hand >> handful.

(2) verbs and adjectives can be changed to nouns by adding suffixes like “-ion”, “-ness”, “-cy”, etc. For example:

generate >> generation, revolve >> revolution, evolve >> evolution,
precise >> preciseness, kind >> kindness, sad >> sadness, mad >> madness,
idiot >> idiocy, excellent >> excellency, bankrupt >> bankruptcy.

2. Semantic (lexical/content) affixes

Semantic affixes exist both in Chinese and English, they change the semantic meaning of words (Some semantic affixes in Chinese change both the meaning and parts of speech, therefore, these affixes in Chinese are called semi-affixes).

(1) semi-affixes in Chinese:

A. prefixes (they are usu. productive, functional and oriented):
ci- (next to/poor): as in ci da lu (subcontinent), ci yao (less important), ci pin (poor quality product), ci ri (next day), ci qiexian (sub-tangent).

ya- (second to): as in ya wenhua (subculture), ya jun (silver medal winner), ya redai (subtropical), ya zu (sub-tribe), ya wendai (sub-temperate), ya liusuan (sulphurous acid).

fei- (not): as in fei zhengshi (informal), fei fa (illegal), fei guanfang (unofficial), fei jinshu (nonmetal), fei shengchan (nonproductive), fei junshihua (demilitarize).

fan- (against): as in fan zhan (anti-war), fan geming (counterrevolutionary), fan gong (counterattack), fan bi (inverse ratio), fan dong (reactionary), fan kang (resist), fan she (reflex), fan shou (backhand), fan yi ci (antonym), fan su (countercharge), fan yu (irony), fan zuoyong (counteraction).

ban- (half/semi-): as in ban chengpin (semi-finished product), ban bian tian (half sky --- women in new China), ban daoti (semi-conductor), ban dao (peninsular), ban fengjian (semi-feudal), ban gongkai (semi-overt), ban guanfang (semi-official), ban jing (radius), ban qiu (hemisphere), ban tian (half of a day), ban ye (midnight), ban zidong (semi-automatic), ban tu (midway).

dan- (single/one): as in dan yi (unitary), dan du (alone), dan bian (unilateral), dan cheng (one way), dan ci (a word), dan diao (monotonous), dan fei (solo flight), dan jia (unit price), dan ju (simple sentence), dan shu (odd number), dan xibao (unicellular), dan xiang (individual event), dan yuan (unit).

shuang- (double/two): as in shuang bian (bilateral), shuang ceng (double-deck), shuang chun yin (bilabial sound), shuang fang (both sides), shuang gang (parallel bars), shuang hao (even numbers), shuang qin (parents), shuang shou (both hands), shuang yi ji (biplane), shuang yinjie (disyllable), shuang yuekan (bimonthly).
B. suffixes (they are also productive, functional and oriented)

-yuan (member/person): as in yan yuan (actor/actress), fuwu yuan (waiter/waitress), jiao yuan (teacher), dang yuan (Party member), chuishi yuan (cook), yao yuan (VIP), cheng yuan (member), zhi yuan (clerk), feixing yuan (pilot), jiashi yuan (driver), yanjiu yuan (researcher).

-min (person/foolk): as in nong min (peasant), mu min (herdsman), yu min (fisherman), nan min (refugee), hui min (Hui nationality).

-xue (subject): as in wen xue (art), yuyan xue (linguistics), jingji xue (economics), shu xue (maths), wuli xue (physics), renlei xue (anthropology), hua xue (chemistry), shengwu xue (biology), shehui xue (sociology), kaogu xue (archeology), dongli xue (dynamics), tianwen xue (astronomy), zhe xue (philosophy).

(2) semantic affixes in English:

A. prefixes (prefixes modify the lexical meaning of the base. They do not generally alter the word-class of the base.)

un-(in-, im-, ir-, il-): as in unfair, unfamiliar, unusual, unofficial, unreasonable, inevitable, insecure, incapable, impossible, immovable, immature, irregular, irresistible, illegal, illiterate, illogical.

re-: as in recover, retell, revise, recount, recollect, reread, rewrite, rebirth, repeat.

semi-: as in semivowel, semi-infinite, semi-lunar, semi-metal, semi-manufactures, semi-desert, semi-dome, semi-annual, semi-proletariat, semiarid, semi-automatic.

super-: as in supermarket, superman, supernatural, super-conscious, super-conductive, super-cool, super-family, supersonic, superhighway, superheat.

tele-: as in telephone, telescope, telegram, telecommunication, television.
multi-: as in multilateral, multinational, multimedia, multi-vocal, multifunctional.
uni-: as in unilateral, universal, uniform, unicycle, unimodal, unisexual, univalent.

B. suffixes (most English suffixes change the word-class of the base, but some contain lexical meanings.)

-er (-or, -ee, -ist): as in worker, farmer, teacher, driver, lawyer, doctor, visitor, employer, employee, interviewer, interviewee, trainer, trainee, joker, scientist, socialist, capitalist, pianist, violinist, colonist, colonialist, chemist, linguist.

-less: as in careless, painless, stainless, joyless, hopeless, meaningless, useless, colorless, reasonless, childless, motherless, homeless, penniless, cheerless.

-man: as in postman, salesman, sportsman, workman, walkman, seaman, newsman, tradesman, marksman, merchantman, Frenchman, laundry-man, clergyman.

(3) repetition of words to form new ones (this is somewhat a special way of word-formation in Chinese)⁵:

AA-style (words in this style are mostly kin terms):
baba (father), mama (mother), gege (elder brother), didi (younger brother), jiejie (elder sister), meimei (younger sister), shushu/baibai/jiujiu (uncle), taitai (wife), xingxing (star/chimpanzee); cici (again and again), jianjian (piece by piece), tiantian (day by day), yueyue (month by month), niannian (year by year), jiajia (every household), hahu (every family); shuoshuo (to say), xiexie (to thank/write), tiaotiao (to jump), changchang (to sing), kankan (to see), zouzou (to walk).

ABAB-style:
taolun taolun (to have a discussion), canguan canguan (to pay a visit), duanlian duanlian (to take exercise), xuexi xuexi (to study), sikao sikao (to ponder)
III. Abbreviations in Chinese and English

Abbreviation is a way of word formation in the English language. It is also applicable in Chinese. But the word “simplification” or “word-clipping” could be a better one to denote abbreviation in Chinese. Let’s take a look at the following words:

Beijing dàxué >> bei dà huan jing bao hu >> huan bao
(Beijing University) (environmental protection)
chāoji shìchǎng >> chāo shì caiše zhaopian >> cai zhao
(supermarket) (colored photo)
minyòng hàngkōng >> mín háng dādāo biǎozhùn >> da biao
(civil aviation) (achieve standard)
zhānlàn xiǎoshòu >> zhan xiao zàochèn duānliàn >> chén liàn
(exhibition for sale) (morning exercises)
zhōnghuá rénmín gōng hé guó >> zhōng guó zuòjiā xiéhuì >> zuò xíe
(People’s Republic of China) (writers’ association)
zhèngzhì xiēshāng >> zhèng xíe canjīa bīsài >> can sài
(political consultation) (participate in games)
wàijiāo būzhāng >> wài zhāng lièshì jiāshū >> lié shū
(foreign minister) (martyr’s family)
guójiā zhíchān guānли wèiyuǎnhuì >> guó zī wéi
(state property administration)

English abbreviations include initialisms and acronyms

A. Initialisms (they are usu. pronounced letter by letter):

British Broadcasting Company >> BBC
European Union >> EU
International Olympic Committee >> IOC
Voice of America >> VOA
United Nations >> UN
United States of America >> USA
Greenwich Mean Time >> GMT
Central Intelligence Agency >> CIA

B. acronyms (they differ from initialisms in that they are pronounced as words rather than as sequences of letters):

North Atlantic Treaty Organization >> NATO
surface-to-air missile >> SAM
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization >> UNESCO
Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries >> OPEC

IV. Blends in Chinese and English

Blending is a process of word-formation in which a new word is formed by combining the meanings and sounds of two words, one of which is not in its full form or both of them are not in their full forms. Blends can be found both in English and Chinese though the number of blends is small in the latter.

English blends:

Motorist + hotel >> motel
Europe + Asia >> Eurasia
Smoke + fog >> smog
news + broadcast >> newscast
Breakfast + lunch >> brunch
light + radar >> lidar
African + American >> Afro-american
situation + comedy >> sitcom
Lunar + astronaut >> lunarnaut
cosmology + astronaut >> cosmonaut
Taikong + astronaut >> taikonaut
flap + aileron >> flaperon

Chinese blends:

bu + yong >> beng (“not necessary”, embodied in the combination of two Chinese characters)
V. **Conversions in Chinese and English**

Conversion is also known as word-class shift or functional shift, it involves shifting a word from one part of speech to another without changing its form. Both Chinese and English have conversion in word-formation. Take the following Chinese sentences for example:

A. jiao sun hou zai yeye de jian tou.
   
   Lovely grandson monkey at grandpa’s shoulder.
   
   (Here the Chinese word “hou” is used as verb, it means to “climb like a monkey.”)

B. zhe chang qiu sai you ta cai pan.
   
   This (classifier) football game by him referee.
   
   (“cai pan” is used as a verb here to mean “act/judge as a referee”.)

C. ta yan ci ji lie.
   
   He utterance bitterly
   
   (“yan ci” is a noun, but here it is used as a verb, it means to make utterances or to utter.)

There are similar class-shifts from noun to verbs in English, for example:

A. We can man 10 ships. (man: to provide men)

B. He plans to go to Japan. (plan: to make an arrangement)

C. John was orphaned at the age of six. (orphan: to become an orphan)

D. Please bottle some water for me. (bottle: to put into bottle)
Notice: Some adjectives in Chinese (not all of them) could be used as predicates in Chinese sentences while those in English could not. For example, we may say in Chinese:

A. ta de    lian  se     cang bai.
   Her     face (color) pale
B. ta   hen     miao tiao.
   She  very     slender
C. shui    hen    shen.
   Water  very     deep.

Obviously, this does not work in English, because adjectives have to go with link verbs to serve as predicates in English. However, similarity between the two languages still exists in this aspect. In both languages adjectives could be used as nouns. But in English article “the” is put before an adjective to form a noun. Take Chinese for example:

A. qiong  ze      si       bian.
   Poor  (leads to) consider  change. (“poverty” will be used in English.)
B. qin lao   shi    ren    cong ming.
   Diligent  makes  one   clever  (“diligence” will be used in English)
C. jiao’ao   shi    ren    luo hou,    xu xin   shi     ren   jin bu.
   Proud    makes  one   lag behind,  modest  makes  him   progress.
   (“pride” will be used in English)

The following are two English sentences in which adjectives are shifted to nouns:

A. This is the school for the deaf and blind.
B. If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.
   (from Inaugural Address by J. F. Kennedy)
VI. **Mutual loans in Chinese and English**

With the development of science and technology, with the increasing exchange of culture and ideology, languages will inevitably supplement each other, especially with their words and vocabulary. On the one hand, many Chinese words went to English and were generally accepted, on the other hand, even more English words came to Chinese. The English language is extensively acquired by citizens in China, because the advanced science and technology are gaining their popularity not only in China but throughout the world.

1. Chinese loans from the English language:

1) phonetic translation:

bang (pound), suda (soda), qiaokeli (chocolate), sela (salad), sanmingzhi (sandwich), xiesidili (hysteria), aolinpike (Olympic), jita (guitar), baibai (bye-bye), katong (cartoon), tuteng (totem), shafa (sofa), da (dozen), kelong (clone), luoji (logic), dun (ton), leida (radar), nilong (nylon), bailandi (brandy), yinqing (engine), xianling (shilling), fei (fee), jiake (jacket), yapian (opium), keke (coco), xuejia (cigar), xiangbo (shampoo), beisi (bass), mangguo (mango), kaisimi (cashmere), mengtaiqi (montage), kafei (coffee), sha long (salon), fute (volt), sangba (samba), bangdi (bandage), jialun (gallon), disike (disco), anfeitaming (Amphetamine), jipu (jeep), pika (pickup), maikefeng (microphone), niguding (Nicotine), boyin (Boeing), oupeike (OPEC), jianeng (canon). Besides, there are many proper names of places and persons as well as brands of companies are phonetically accepted by Chinese, such as luoshanji (Los Angeles), niuyue (New York), lasiweijiasi (Las Vegas), kelingdun (Clinton), bushi (Bush), ligen (Reagan), fute (Ford), shashibiya (Shakespeare), haolaiwu (Hollywood), maidanglao (Mcdonald’s), etc.
2) “phonetic + semantic” translation:

wutuobang (Utopia), julebu (club), youmo (humor), jianqiao (Cambridge), weitaming (Vitamin), mote’er (model), puke (poker), aizibing (AIDS), pijiu (beer), kabinqiang (carbine), kapian (card), taifeitang (toffee), laiheng ji (leghorn), tuofu (TOEFL), dikejiating (dick), jiuba (bar), chetai (tyre/tire), tuokouxiu (talk show), beilei mao (beret), baleiwu (ballet), gao’erfuqiu (golf), binqiling (ice-cream), dishi (taxi), bashi (bus), paidui (party), patuo (partner), laifuqiang (rifle), shahuqiu (shuffle), baolingqiu (bowling), hua’erjie (Wall street), xipishi (Hippies), disinileyuan (Disneyland), hanbao (hamburger), beifoli shangzhuang (Beverly Hill).

3) semantic translation:

ouyuan (Eurodollar), zhuixingzu (fans), gongjin (kilogram), meiyuan (US dollar), yingbang (British Pound), ouzhou zhaiquan (Eurobond), kongzhong keche (Airbus), niujin (Oxford), diguo zhuyi (imperialism), zhimin zhuyi (colonialism), shawen zhuyi (Chauvinism), feizaoju (soap opera), qingjing xiju (sitcom), lianbang kuaidi (FedEx), fulun she (Rotary club), da xiaotiao (the Great Depression), shanglaiti (sonnet), hong shizi (Red Cross), dianshi (television), lanqiu (basketball), shibao (times), jiguang (laser), jiaoxiangyue (symphony), gonghui (trade union), mianbao (bread), zhishang (IQ), heiren (black man), mangwen (Braille), jidutu (Christian), shengdan laoren (Santa Claus), xili (baptism), shengjing (Bible), jiaotang (church), qiaopai (bridge), zongtong (president), yiwen buming (has no money to one’s name).

4) Direct loans (popular among the educated): UN, USA, UK, TV, WTO, NATO, W.C., IQ, OPEC, APEC, OK, UFO, BBC, MBA, NBA. IC, PC, CD, VCD, DVD, IT, SOS, EMS.

2. English loans from the Chinese language:
1) phonetic translation:

A. according to the standard Mandarin pronunciation: putonghua, jiaozi, kow-tow, weiqi, majiang, Beijing, coolie, ginseng (herb medicine), gaoliang (crop), qigong, wushu/gongfu (martial arts), chow mein (fried noodle), suanpan (Chinese calculator), kang (bed), mu (measurement of land), liang, jin (measurement of weight), li (measurement of distance), yuan, jiao, fen
8 erhu (a musical instrument), chilin, xiucai (talent), yamen (government office in ancient China), dazibao (big-character poster, popular in the period of Great Culture Revolution), fenghuang (phoenix), pipa, erhu (musical instruments), yangko (rural folk dance), Wu Liang Ye (liquor), Moutai/Maotai (liquor), kaoliang (a kind of crops), yamen (administration in old times), feng shui (geomantic omen), yen (addition).

B. according to the Southern (or coastal) dialect pronunciation: tea, congou (tea), pekoe (tea), hyson (tea), oolung (tea), silk, pongee (silk), shantung (silk), litchi, cumquat (orange), loquat (musical instrument), chop suey (food), sampan (deck), cumshaw (thank), chin chin (please), tong (hall), Tai Chi, cheongsam (long dress), won ton, longan (a kind of fruit), Cantonese, Hainanese, Chingming (Pure Brightness, the 5th solar term), typhoon,

2) semantic translation:

bean curd, soya sauce, steamed bun, spring roll, moon cake, chopsticks, Chinese rose, Chinese yam, China grass, horoscope, mandarin duck, panda, phoenix, gold fish, joss house (temple), incense, firecrakers/fireworks, monk, tael, yellow jackey, acupuncture, cupping, empty word, sworn brother, big character posters, tung oil, brick tea, Beijing Opera, Confucius, Daoism, Buddha, Confucianism, Four Books, Five Classics, Eight
Legged Essay, Eight Power Allied Force, paper tiger, Great Leap Forward, Cultural Revolution, Little Red Book, capitalist roader, Gang of Four, Chinese herbal medicine. These words and phrases are “Creoles” at first, but as they are gradually accepted by the English speakers, and collected in the English dictionaries. Maybe it is better to call them “loans” in this case.

3. English with typical Chinese characteristics (reflection of reform and open policy): laid off workers, official profiteering, Two Civilizations, Four Modernizations, One China policy, triangle debts/chain debts, construct clean politics, macro-economic control system, a collective ownership employee, bourgeois liberalism, special economic (development) zone (or SEZ), Opening Up/Open door policy, reform and opening up program, non-state industries, state manufacturers, floating population, vegetable basket project, planned commodity economy, fairly comfortable standard of living, iron rice bowl, enterprise contracted production system, family contract responsibility system, township enterprises, knowledge economy, spiritual pollution, one country two system, the “one family, one child” policy. Precious food like “birds nest, bears paw”; work point, Great Wall, Red Guard, PLA men.

Besides, there are some words and expressions with conspicuous cultural traces of Chinese nationality: beggars chicken; barefoot doctor; reform through labor; work one's heart out. Funny idioms like: “people mountains and people seas”; “one arrow two hawks”. These words refract the specific culture connotation of Chinese nationality in the specific history periods, express some unprecedented concepts, and exhibit the English culture of “getting rid of the stale and taking in the fresh”. Consequently, the things that English has
absorbed are not only loanwords, but also the exotic culture character they refracted, which may explain why English has become the international commonly used language.

Mutual loans in the two languages are not as many as mutual loans, say, between French and English or between German and English. This is because Chinese and English belong to different language systems. Another reason is that China had carried out “lock door” policy for a long time, especially in the Qing Dynasty. Thus a language barrier was formed and the cultural exchanges were terminated as well. But after the open policy was carried out, modern Chinese are striving to develop China’s economy, and to catch up with the technologically advanced Western World. The Chinese language, as a result of the policy, is also regaining its own prestige after a long-time depression.

VII. Newly-coined words:

With the rapid development of science and technology, more and more frequent intercommunication among people is being conducted each day with the aid of Internet. A language revolution is going on in the virtual world. New words and expressions pop up everyday and are being spread at very high speed. For example: netter, nettie, net-writing, net-writer, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, (Wireless Fidelity), Hi-Fi, (High Fidelity), 3-G (Generation Three), PHS (Personal Handyphone System), Walkie-Talkie, Gotone, GPS (Global Positioning System), Monternet (Mobile + Internet), GPRS (General Packet Radio Service), SMS (Short Message Service), MMS (Multi-media Messaging Service), SIM (Subscriber Identity Module), GSM (Global System For Mobile Communications), WAP (Wireless Application Protocol), PAS (Personal Access System), CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access), pre-paid Phone Card, roaming, Voice Prompt, WLANs (Wireless Local Area Networks), DV (Digital Video), 3-D (Three-Dimension), LCD (Liquid Crystal
Display). In addition, many derived words and expressions with the joint of the prefix “cyber-”: cyber culture, cyber chat, cyber news, cyber punk, cyber space, cyber mania, cyber source, etc.

Since Watergate event of Nixon became a political scandal in 1972, new words grafted by the suffix “-gate” frequently appear in the television programs and media. For example: debategate, irangate, whitegate, cartergate, nannygate. Besides, derivations with the aid of the word “-speak” include: computer-speak, business-speak, sports-speak, bureau-speak, summit-speak, college-speak, olympspeak.

Chinese new words and expressions are derived with the new meanings of English words:
Window >> chuang hu >> dian nao shi chuang
mouse >> laoshu >> shu biao
memory >> jiyi >> nei cun
library >> tushu guan >> xinxi ku.

VIII. Conclusion:

Through a detailed comparison of word-formation between the two languages, we can see that similarity exists between the two although they belong to different writing systems, one is graphic and the other alphabetic; one is inflectional (English) while the other is not. Both languages have compounds, affixations, conversions, blends, abbreviations and loans. They are more or less similar in essence to each other in word formation. In the past, many Chinese words were borrowed into the English language, but in the modern age, more and more English words are coming into the Chinese language. What all this tells us is that science and technology are leading human society forwards, and that the world is making
progress in this way or that. Language (vocabulary in this connection) is in constant change so that it keeps pace with the development of human society. So in the long run, the mutual influences will continue as long as Chinese and English people communicate with each other. The trend is that there will be more and more loans and derivations in the two languages.

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