

# Strategies Used for Borrowing Neologisms from Harry Potter Movies to Chinese

**Michaela FRYDRYCHOVÁ**

Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic

michaela.frydrychova01@upol.cz

## Abstract

The story of a young student of wizardry Harry Potter is still famous all over the world even though the first book was published more than 20 years ago. The author of this heptalogy J. K. Rowling made up a whole new world full of spells, potions, and magical creatures. When creating new words, she proved her talent for creating various puns. These expressions became a major challenge for translators of various languages, including Chinese. This study presents results of a lexicological analysis of the neologisms that occurred in Harry Potter films. The main aim of the analysis was to determine which loanword categories were used for borrowing every single neologism from English to Chinese and which category was the most productive one within various groups of neologisms and within the whole corpus.

**Keywords:** loanwords, borrowings, Chinese, Harry Potter, lexicology, translation

## Povzetek

Zgodba o mladem študentu čarovništva Harryju Potterju je še vedno znana po vsem svetu, čeprav je prva knjiga izšla pred več kot 20 leti. Avtorica te heptalogije J. K. Rowling je ustvarila povsem nov svet, poln urokov, napitkov in čarobnih bitij. Pri ustvarjanju novih besed je dokazala svoj talent za ustvarjanje različnih besednih iger. Ti izrazi so postali velik izziv za prevajalce različnih jezikov, vključno s kitajščino. Ta študija predstavlja rezultate leksikološke analize neologizmov, ki so se pojavili v filmih o Harryju Potterju. Glavni cilj analize je bil ugotoviti, katere kategorije izposojenk so bile uporabljene za izposojeno posameznega neologizma iz angleščine v kitajščino in katera kategorija je bila najbolj produktivna znotraj različnih skupin neologizmov in znotraj celotnega korpusa.

**Ključne besede:** prevzete besede, izposojenke, kitajščina, Harry Potter, besedoslovje, prevod



## 1 Introduction

Lexical borrowing is one way to enrich the vocabulary of one's language. The word of the source language is transferred to the borrowing language. This process occurs when there is a need to express a word that does not exist in the borrowing language. This process is known as cultural borrowing. Certain words are borrowed despite the fact that a native word already exists for such a meaning in the borrowing language. This is called core borrowing and Haspelmath (2009, pp. 35, 46) points out two types of factors of such a kind of borrowing: social and attitudinal factors and grammatical factors. The presented study below deals with the borrowing of neologisms in fantastic literature writing, therefore the scope of this research is limited to cultural borrowing.

Loanwords in Chinese have a long history. Shi Youwei (2021, pp. 32-105) in his book *Loanwords in the Chinese Language* introduces language borrowing in China in detail from the fourth century BC to these days. Yip Po-Ching (2007, pp. 329-332) divides the history of lexical borrowing in Chinese into three waves. The first one started by translating Buddhist scriptures from Sanskrit during the Han (206 BC – 220 AD) and Tang (618-907) dynasties. This wave lasted until defeating China in the Opium Wars (1840-1842) when the second wave began. Chinese started borrowing words from Japanese in this period. The last wave started after the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976) and still persists to this day. Loanwords from English, the most influential language of Chinese loanwords, began to further penetrate Chinese vocabulary in the twentieth century during the period of the May 4 Movement in 1919. Borrowing mainly took place in fields such as science and technology, culture, and thoughts (Kim, 2019, p. 4). Later in the 1980s, as China began to grow economically and opened up to the rest of the world, contact with English-speaking countries became even more frequent, not to mention the present with the possibilities of the Internet and social media.

Some linguistics deal with Chinese loanwords. Miao Ruiqin (2005) in her work focuses on phonetic borrowings from English, German, and Italian and wants to analyze the phonology of Chinese loanwords, namely the substitution of consonants and syllables structures that do not exist in Chinese. Kim Tae-Eun (2019) in her book *Mandarin Loanwords* does similar research, focusing mainly on the phonetic way of borrowing from English and bringing up a new model of adaptation of Chinese loanwords based on a combination of the phonetic and phonological way of borrowing. The above-mentioned Shi Youwei (2021) in his book provides different types of classification of Chinese loanwords, i.e. formal types, functional types, semantic types, etc. For this study, articles by Heřmanová-Novotná (1967, 1968, 1969, 1975) are crucial. She presents a detailed categorization of Chinese loanwords borrowed from European languages together with their subcategories and characteristic features. She specifically focuses on semantically borrowed loanword categories such as calques, induced new creations, and hybrid loanwords.

The story about the young wizard Harry Potter written by J. K. Rowling is well known for its significant number of neologisms, which is typical for fantasy literature writing. Original and unique neologisms are created to emphasize the difference between the imaginary world and its creations and our world (Čačija & Marković, 2018, p. 200). Translation of these words can be challenging. Newmark (1988, p. 149) claims that all neologisms in the literary text should be recreated based on the neologism of the source language. Kolev (2016, p. 7) argues that “if the translator neglects to translate the full meaning potential of the word, readers may fail to experience the entire range of meanings, or at least some of the meanings that were intended by the author of the source text”.

The main aim of this study is to map the borrowing process of neologisms that occurred in Harry Potter films from English to Chinese. We have decided to analyze neologisms occurring only in films because of two reasons. The first one is that the books contain a huge number of neologisms, and it would take a much longer time to collect and analyze those neologisms. There was an option to focus only on one book, but the author wanted to cover the whole story. The second reason is that in these times film can reach a wider audience. There are three partial aims: a) to detect all the loanword categories used for borrowing neologisms; b) to find out the distribution of loanword categories within the individual groups of words; c) to determine the distribution of loanword categories within the entire corpus of neologisms. Slaměniková and Uher (2021) carried out similar research. In their paper, they present an analysis of conversion methods of animal names from the Star Wars saga to Chinese. They also worked with Heřmanová-Novotná's categorization.

## 2 Creating the corpus, identifying and categorization of loanwords

It is important to highlight that the corpus is created of neologisms of Harry Potter films, not books. There are eight films.<sup>1</sup> The first one *Harry Potter and Philosopher's Stone* came out in 2001. The last film *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2* was released in 2011. While watching these films, all the neologisms were written down. Their equivalents in Chinese characters and pinyin transcription were then added to them. 340 neologisms were detected in all.

After their collection, all the neologisms were sorted into eight groups. The first four groups are proper nouns: Anthroponyms, Toponyms, Zoonyms, and Chrematonyms. There is also a group called Spells, Curses, and Potions. The last three groups are common nouns: Animals, Creatures and Plants, Artefacts, and a group called Characters' Designation. Four neologisms could not be sorted into any group and were therefore excluded from the analysis.

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<sup>1</sup> The book series has seven parts, but there are eight films: the last book was divided into two films.

First, phonetically transferred neologisms were identified and marked with the letters PL (phonetic loanword). The rest of the neologisms were transferred by semantic way of borrowing. To determine which types of loanwords were used, every neologism was written down including the words it is made up of and information about the source language. The words mostly originated from English and Latin. There were several neologisms in which the origin was difficult to determine. In these cases, information about the etymology of the words on the *Harry Potter Wiki*<sup>2</sup> website helped decode the source language.

Based on the relationship between the meaning of words in both the source and borrowing language, the type of loanword was determined. Six types of loanwords were identified in all. There were two problematic words. The first one was difficult to sort into any loanword category, while the second one's origin in the source language could not be identified. This is the reason why these two words were also excluded from the analysis. Finally, 6 problematic words out of 340 detected neologisms were excluded, and therefore 334 neologisms were analyzed.

As mentioned above, six types of loanwords were used for borrowing neologisms. The definitions in Zdenka Heřmanová-Novotná's articles were used for loanword categorization. These are the detected loanword categories:

- **phonetic loanwords (PL)**: transfer of the phonetic form of a word in the source language to the borrowing language;
- **calques (C)**: direct translation, morphemes of the source language are replaced by morphemes of the borrowing language with the same meaning, (C+): direct translation extended by added lexical morpheme;
- **hybrid loanwords (HL)**: these loanwords contain a phonetic component of the source language and a semantic component of the borrowing language;
- **semantic loanwords (SL)**: using an already existing word of the borrowing language;
- **induced new creations (INC)**: morphemes of the source language are synonymous with morphemes of the borrowing language. Words whose morphemes are in hyponym-hypernym relationship to morphemes in the word of the source language were also sorted into this category. Words whose morphemes are not clearly synonymous with morphemes of the source language, but where the relationship between them is distinguishable, are also sorted into this category. It is important to point out that this category also contains cases, where at least one morpheme of the borrowing language was in one of the relationships described above with the morpheme of the source language.

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<sup>2</sup> [https://harrypotter.fandom.com/wiki/Main\\_Page](https://harrypotter.fandom.com/wiki/Main_Page)

- **nonrelated loanwords (NRL)**: this category was created by the author of this article. Nonrelated loanwords are defined as words, in which morphemes of the source language are not in any relationship with morphemes of the source language, or the relationship between them is so vague it is not considered relevant for this study.

### 3 Results of analysis of individual word groups

A detailed description of the results of the analysis is provided below. Information about the realized types of loanwords is provided together with data and examples for every word group.

#### 3.1 Anthroponyms

Anthroponyms are those proper nouns that denote a person or group of persons (Lotko, 2003, p. 16). It is the largest word group within the whole corpus, containing all 120 items. There are full names in this group such as *Albus Dumbledore*, nicknames like *Mooney*, only first names like *Marge*, or only last names like *Yaxley*.

- **PL**: *Harry Potter* – the name of the main character was borrowed into Chinese as *Hāli Bōtè* 哈利·波特. Phonetic loans are, with 101 items, the most productive loanword category in the group of anthroponyms.
- **HL**: *Nearly Headless Nick* – a nickname for the ghost of Gryffindor house, whose head is almost detached from the body, can be found as *Chàdiǎnméitóu de Níkè* 差点没头的尼克. The words *nearly* and *headless* were replaced by the Chinese words “almost, nearly” *chàdiǎn* 差点, “not have” *méi* 没 and “head” *tóu* 头. The name *Nick* was transferred phonetically as *Níkè* 尼克. Ten hybrid loans were detected in the group of anthroponyms in all.
- **C**: *Wormtail* – a nickname for Peter Pettigrew was borrowed into Chinese as *Chóngwěiba* 虫尾巴. The English words *worm* and *tail* were substituted with words with the same meaning: “insect, worm” *chóng* 虫 and “tail” *wěiba* 尾巴. Four anthroponyms were borrowed through the calque category, with two of them marked as C+.
- **INC**: *Dark Lord* – one of Voldemort’s nicknames can be found as *Hēimówáng* 黑魔王. For the Chinese version of this name the words “black” *hēi* 黑 and “Prince of the Devils, erlking” *mówáng* 魔王 were used. As calques, the category of newly induced creations was used for borrowing four anthroponyms.
- **NRL**: *You-know-who* – another one of Voldemort’s nicknames, used to not reveal his real name, was borrowed as *Shénmìrén* 神秘人. This loanword is

made up of the words “mysterious” *shénmì* 神秘 and “human being” *rén* 人. Only one item of all the anthroponyms was created by this loanword category.

### 3.2 Toponyms

Another word group is toponyms. These are geographical proper nouns – local and geographical names (Lotko, 2003, p. 118). This group contains 28 items including street names, city names, etc. The names of shops and institutions like *Azkaban prison* or *Gringotts Wizarding Bank* were sorted to this group as well.

- **C:** *Honeydukes* – the name of a famous candy shop was borrowed into Chinese as *Fēngmì gōngjué* 蜂蜜公爵. For the words *honey* and *duke*, Chinese words with the same meaning were used: “honey” *fēngmì* 蜂蜜 and “duke” *gōngjué* 公爵. Calques were the most productive loanword category among toponyms. The direct translation was used for 9 out of 28 items, with two of them classified as C+.
- **PL:** *Budleigh Babberton* – the name of the village, where Horace Slughorn was hiding, was phonetically transferred to Chinese as *Bādélái Bābódùn* 巴德莱巴伯顿. Eight phonetic loanwords were detected in the group of toponyms in all.
- **HL:** *Zonko’s Joke Shop* – the name of one of the Hogsmeade shops can be found in Chinese as *Zuǒkē xiàohuadiàn* 佐科笑话店. The name *Zonko* was phonetically transferred as *zuǒkē* 佐科, and the words *joke* and *shop* were borrowed through the word “joke” *xiàohua* 笑话 and morpheme “shop, store” *diàn* 店. Five toponyms were classified as hybrid loans.
- **INC:** *Room of Requirement* – the name of a secret room, which revealed itself only when somebody needed something, was borrowed into Chinese as *Yǒuqiúbiùyìng wū* 有求必应屋. The words *room* and *requirement* were substituted by the Chinese idiom “respond to every plea, grant whatever is requested” *yǒuqiúbiùyìng* 有求必应 and the morpheme “house, room” *wū* 屋. In the group of toponyms, four items were classified as induced new creations.
- **SL:** *Chamber of Secrets* – the name of the chamber secretly created by Salazar Slytherin can be found as *Mìshì* 密室. This is already an existing word in Chinese with the meaning “a room used for secret purposes”. Only one neologism was classified as a semantic loanword in the group of toponyms.
- **NRL:** *Flourish and Blotts* – the name of the book store in Diagon Alley was borrowed as *Lìhén shūdiàn* 丽痕书店. The English words *flourish* and *blotts* (created from the word blotch/blot) were substituted with the morphemes “beautiful” *lì* 丽, “mark, trace” *hén* 痕 and with the word “book store” *shūdiàn* 书店. Some kind of relationship between the words of both languages can be spotted, but it is so vague that it is not considered relevant. Only one case of nonrelated loanwords was detected in the group of toponyms.

### 3.3 Zoonyms

Zoonym is defined as the name of an animal. They can be divided into so-called true zoonyms and false zoonyms. True zoonyms are actual animal names, while false zoonyms are names of fictional animals (Karlík et al., 2002, p. 204). This group of words contains 19 zoonyms both true and false. There are names of dogs like *Ripper*, names of owls like *Hedwig* and names of house-elves such as *Kreacher*.

- **PL:** *Aragog* – the name of Hagrid’s large spider was phonetically transferred to Chinese as *Ālāgēkè* 阿拉戈克. Phonetic loanwords were the most productive loanword category among zoonyms, with 14 items detected as phonetic loanwords in all.
- **SL:** *Grim* – the name of the omen that takes the form of a large dog can be found as *Bùxiáng* 不祥. This is an already existing word in Chinese with the meaning “ominous, inauspicious”. Two items were borrowed through the semantic loanword category.
- **INC:** *Fang* – the name of Hagrid’s dog was borrowed into Chinese as *Yáyá* 牙牙. The English word *fang* was substituted with the duplicated morpheme “tooth” *yá* 牙. Only one case of induced new-creations was detected in the group of zoonyms.
- **HL:** *Mrs. Norris* – the name of the janitor Filch’s cat can be found in Chinese as *Luòlìsī fūren* 洛丽丝夫人. The name *Norris* was phonetically transferred as *Luòlìsī* 洛丽丝 and the English abbreviation *Mrs.* was borrowed from the Chinese word “Mrs., madame, lady, wife” *fūren* 夫人. Hybrid loanwords were detected in only one case in a group of zoonyms.
- **NRL:** *Scabbers* – the name of Ron’s rat was borrowed into Chinese as *Bānbān* 斑斑. Rowling created this name from the English word *scab*. In Chinese, translators duplicated the morpheme “spot, speck” *bān* 斑. As with the induced new-creations and hybrid loanwords, nonrelated loanwords were detected only in one case in the group of zoonyms.

### 3.4 Chrematonyms

Chrematonyms are those proper nouns, which denote human creations nonrelated to nature, e.g., social phenomena, institutions, products, etc (Lotko, 2003, p. 47). Thirty neologisms were classified as chrematonyms in all. Most of them are product names.

- **C:** *Daily Prophet* – the name of this magical newspaper was borrowed into Chinese as *Yùyánjiā rìbào* 预言家日报. The English words *daily* and *prophet* were substituted with words with the same meaning: “prophet” *yùyánjiā* 预言家 and “daily paper, daily” *rìbào* 日报. The calque category was used for borrowing 11 chrematonyms, two of which were marked as C+.

- **INC:** *Goblet of Fire* – the name of the tool for choosing students, who will take part in the Triwizard Tournament, can be found in Chinese as *Huǒyàn bēi* 火焰杯. The English words *goblet* and *fire* were substituted with the Chinese word “flame” *huǒyàn* 火焰 and the morpheme “cup, trophy” *bēi* 杯. New induced creations helped to transfer 11 chrematonyms, which were, together with calques, the most productive loanword categories among this group of words.
- **PL:** *Gryffindor*, *Hufflepuff*, *Ravenclaw*, and *Slytherin* – the names of the four Hogwarts houses were phonetically transferred to Chinese as *Gélánfēnduō* 格兰芬多, *Hèqípàqí* 赫奇帕奇, *Lāwénkèláo* 拉文克劳 and *Sīlǎitèlín* 斯莱特林 (in the same order as above). These four cases are the only phonetic loanwords realized in the group of chrematonyms.
- **HL:** *Bettie Bott’s Every Flavor Beans* – the name of the candy was borrowed into Chinese as *Bǐbǐ duōwèidòu* 比比多味豆. The name *Bettie Bott* was phonetically transferred as *Bǐbǐ* 比比. For the English words *every*, *flavor*, and *bean*, the Chinese morphemes “many, much, more” *duō* 多, “taste, flavor” *wèi* 味 and “pod-bearing plant or its seeds” *dòu* 豆 were assigned. There were only three cases of hybrid loanwords in the group of chrematonyms.
- **NRL:** *The Quibbler* – the name of a magazine can be found in Chinese as *Chàngchàngfǎndiào* 唱唱反调. When creating this name, Rowling was inspired by the English word *quibble*. In Chinese, the name for this magazine is created by the duplication of the morpheme “sing” *chàng* 唱 and the word “different tune, the opposite point of view” *fǎndiào* 反调. Only one case of a nonrelated loanword was detected in the group of chrematonyms.

### 3.5 Spells, Curses and Potions

This group of neologisms contains the names of spells like *Bubble-Head Charm*, curses that lead to their realization like *Obliviate!*, or the names of potions like *Elixir of Life*. Ninety-one neologisms were assigned to this group in all, which makes Spells, Curses, and Potions the second largest group of words in the analyzed corpus.

- **INC:** *Oculus Reparo!* – the exclamation of a spell, which is used for repairing broken glasses, can be found in Chinese as *Yǎnjīng huīfù rúchū* 眼睛恢复如初. Rowling made up this exclamation by putting together two Latin words, “eye” *oculus* and “to renew, to revive” *reparo*. The Chinese version consists of the words “eye” *yǎnjīng* 眼睛, “resume, renew” *huīfù* 恢复 and “as before, as of old” *rúchū* 如初. The induced new creations are the most productive loanword category among the group of spells, curses, and potions. Altogether 40 items were borrowed through this category.



- **NRL: *Imperio!*** – the exclamation of one of the most dangerous curses, which places its victim completely under the control of the caster, was borrowed into Chinese as *Húnpò chūqiào* 魂魄出窍. This exclamation is deduced from the Latin word "command, rule" *imperium*. The Chinese version consists of the words "soul" *húnpò* 魂魄, "issue, put out, produce" *chū* 出 and "hole, a key to something" *qiào* 窍. 18 neologisms of this group of words were classified as nonrelated loanwords.
- **C: *Unforgivable Curses*** – a designation of the three most dangerous and sinister curses (Imperius Curse, Cruciatu Curse, and Killing Curse) can be found in Chinese as *Bùkěráoshù zhòu* 不可饶恕咒. The English words *unforgivable* and *curse* were substituted with Chinese words with the same meaning: "cannot, should not, must not" *bùkě* 不可, "forgive, pardon" *ráoshù* 饶恕 and "incantation" *zhòu* 咒. Calques participated in borrowing 14 neologisms of this group, with 5 of them marked as C+.
- **PL: *Wingardium Leviosa!*** – the exclamation of a spell, that makes an object fly or levitate, was phonetically transferred to Chinese as *Yǔjiādímù lèwéi'àosà* 羽加迪姆勒维奥萨. Eleven neologisms of this group were borrowed through the phonetic loanword category.
- **SL: *Fianto Duri!*** – the exclamation of a spell, which is usually used for strengthening protective spells, can be found in Chinese as *Gùruòjīntāng* 固若金汤. Rowling created this spell of Latin words "to be made, to become" *fio* and "to become hard, stern, to last, to remain" *duro*. In Chinese, an already existing idiom "strongly fortified, impregnable" *gùruòjīntāng* 固若金汤 was used for borrowing this neologism. Semantic loanwords helped to borrow five neologisms in this group of words.
- **HL: *Vipera Evanesca!*** – the exclamation of a spell, which makes snakes disappear, was borrowed to Chinese as *Shéshé, āiwéinísīkǎ* 蛇蛇, 哎唯尼斯卡. Rowling once again used the Latin words "viper, snake" *vipera*, and "to vanish, to disappear" *evanesco* to create this spell. In Chinese, the word *vipera* was semantically borrowed through duplication of the morpheme "snake" *shé* 蛇, and the word *evanesco* was transferred phonetically as *āiwéinísīkǎ* 哎唯尼斯卡. Only three items in this group of words were borrowed through the hybrid loanwords category.

### 3.6 Animals, Creatures and Plants

Common names of animals such as *Acromantula*, creatures like *Boggart*, or plants like *Gillyweed* can be found here. This group contains 21 neologisms.

- **C: *Venomous Tentacula*** – the designation of a plant with movable sprouts full of poison can be found in Chinese as *Dúchùshǒu* 毒触手. The English words

*venomous* and *tentacle* were substituted by the Chinese morpheme “poison, toxin” *dú* 毒 and the word “tentacle” *chùshǒu* 触手. The literal translation was used for borrowing 11 neologisms of this group, 5 of them were classified as C+.

- **INC:** *Sopophorous Bean* – the name of these beans, which were used for making the Draught of Living Death and other potions, was borrowed into Chinese as *kēshuìdòu* 瞌睡豆. The Latin word “deep sleep” *sopor* and the English word *bean* were substituted by the Chinese word “sleepy, drowsy” *kēshuì* 瞌睡 and the morpheme “pod-bearing plant or its seeds” *dòu* 豆. Four neologisms in this group of words were borrowed through the category of induced new creations.
- **PL:** *Grindylow* – the designation of the dark water creature was transferred phonetically to Chinese as *Gélíndílùò* 格林迪洛. The phonetic transfer was used for borrowing three neologisms in this group of words.
- **NRL:** *Wrackspurt* – the designation of an invisible creature that flies into people’s ears and confuses them was borrowed to Chinese as *Sāorǎoméng* 骚扰虻. The English words *wrack* and *spurt* were substituted with the Chinese word “harass, molest” *sāorǎo* 骚扰 and the morpheme “horsefly, gadfly” *méng* 虻. Nonrelated loanwords were realized only in three cases of neologisms in this group of words.

### 3.7 Artifacts

Common names of various artifacts such as *Trace*, *Portkey*, or *Quick-Quotes Quill* can be found in this group of words, which contains 16 neologisms.

- **INC:** *Time-Turner* – the designation of this device, whose main purpose is time traveling, was borrowed into Chinese as *Shíjiān zhuǎnhuànqì* 时间转换器.
- **C:** *Remembrall* – the name of the glass ball with smoke in it, which turns red every time its possessor forgets about something, can be found in Chinese as *Jìyìqiú* 记忆球. The English words *remember* and *ball*, used for creating this word, were directly translated by the Chinese word “remember, recall” *jìyì* 记忆 and the morpheme “ball” *qiú* 球. Five neologisms of this group of words were borrowed through the calque category in all, with 2 of them marked as C+.
- **NRL:** *Bludger* – the designation of one of the balls used for playing Quidditch was borrowed to Chinese as *Yóuzǒuqiú* 游走球. English version of the neologism was created from the word *bludgeon*. In Chinese, translators put together the word “wander about” *yóuzǒu* 游走 and the morpheme “ball” *qiú*

球. Two neologisms of this group of words were borrowed into Chinese through the nonrelated loanword category.

- **PL:** *Galleon* – the name of one of the coins of the wizarding currency was transferred phonetically to Chinese as *Jiālóng* 加隆. Only one neologism in this group of words was borrowed into Chinese through the phonetic loanword category.
- **HL:** *Quaffle* – another designation for one of the Quidditch balls can be found in Chinese as *Guǐfēiqiú* 鬼飞球. The original name was in all probability created from the English word *quaff*. The Chinese version consists of the phonetic loanword *guǐfēi* 鬼飞 and the morpheme “ball” *qiú* 球. The hybrid loanword category was used for borrowing only one neologism of this group of words.
- **SL:** *Foe-Glass* – the name of the artifact that looks like a mirror, but instead of a reflection shows its possessor's enemies, was borrowed into Chinese as *Zhàoyāojìng* 照妖镜. The English neologism, consisting of the words *foe* and *glass*, was substituted by the already existing Chinese word *zhàoyāojìng* 照妖镜 with the meaning “monster-revealing mirror; demondetector”. As in the previous two loanword categories, semantic loanwords helped to borrow only one neologism in this group of words.

### 3.8 Characters' designation

Last, common nouns in the group of words called Characters' Designation were analyzed. Designations such as *Auror*, *Beater*, or *Death Eater* can be found in this group. Only 9 items belong here in all, which makes the Characters' Designation the least represented group of words in the analyzed corpus.

- **INC:** *Mudblood* – the abusive designation of a muggle wizard (born in a non-magic family) can be found in Chinese as *Níbāzhǒng* 泥巴种. The English version consists of the words *mud* and *blood*. In Chinese, these words were substituted by the word “mud” *níbā* 泥巴 and the morpheme “species; race” *zhǒng* 种. Three neologisms of this group of words were borrowed through the induced new creations category.
- **PL:** *Animagus* – this neologism designates a wizard who can turn himself into an animal. It was phonetically transferred to Chinese as *Ānīmǎgésī* 阿尼马格斯. The phonetic loanword category helped to borrow two neologisms from this group of words.
- **HL:** *Muggle* – the designation of non-magic people was borrowed into Chinese as *Máguā* 麻瓜. The English neologism is created on basis of the word *mug*. In Chinese, the character *má* 麻 was chosen because of its phonetic feature, and the morpheme *guā* 瓜 most likely refers to the Chinese word

“fool; blockhead; simpleton” *shǎguā* 傻瓜. Only one item of this group of words was borrowed through the hybrid loanword category.

- **C:** *Death Eater* – the designation of the wizard who follows Lord Voldemort, practices dark magic, and acknowledges only pure-blooded wizards can be found in Chinese as *Shísǐtú* 食死徒. The English version consists of the words *death* and *eater* and these words were borrowed into Chinese through the morphemes “eat; meal; food” *shí* 食, “die, be dead” *sǐ* 死 and “pupil; follower; believer” *tú* 徒. One neologism of this group of words was borrowed through the calque category (in this case it was marked as C+).
- **NRL:** *Seeker* – the designation of a Quidditch player whose main task is to catch the Golden Snitch was borrowed to Chinese as *Qiúshǒu* 球手. The already existing English word *seeker* was substituted with the Chinese morphemes “ball” *qiú* 球 and “hand” *shǒu* 手. The morpheme *shǒu* 手 also works as a sorting component in the designation of some professions. Only one neologism of this group of words was borrowed through nonrelated loanwords.
- **SL:** *Squib* – this word in the Harry Potter world designates a wizard who is unable to practice sorcery and was borrowed to Chinese as *yǎpào* 哑炮. The English word *squib* was substituted with an already existing Chinese word *yǎpào* 哑炮 with the meaning “dud”. As for the previous three loanword categories, the semantic loanword category was used for borrowing only one neologism in this group of words.

### 3.9 Other types of motivation in the borrowing process

It became clear, during the analysis, that some of the neologisms were borrowed into Chinese based on the description of their specific features. For some of them, their appearance, function, or attribute was considered during the borrowing process. These neologisms were mostly classified as nonrelated loanwords, and some of them belong to the induced new creations category. Three examples of such cases are listed below.

- **Marauder’s Map** – this is a map of Hogwarts together with all of its classrooms, corridors, and secret rooms. The map can also identify everyone who is in Hogwarts at the moment. People on the map are portrayed by using a label with their names. Their position and the direction of their movement in the school are displayed by the moving symbols of human feet. English version of the neologism refers to a group of schoolmates who created the map. In Chinese, Marauder’s Map can be found as *Huódiǎn dìtú* 活点地图. This neologism is made of the morphemes “alive, living” *huó* 活, “spot; dot” *diǎn* 点 and of the word “map” *dìtú* 地图. Chinese designation refers to moving symbols of human footsteps on the map.

- **Periculum!** – a spell used in dangerous situations when a wizard needs help. During its exclamation, a red sparkle comes out of the wand and flies high in the air. There it splits into more sparkles, and it makes this spell look like a firework. Using this spell, a wizard calls for help in case of danger. This neologism was derived from the Latin word “danger, peril” *periculum* and was borrowed to Chinese as *Hóngsè huǒhuā* 红色火花. The Chinese exclamation of this spell contains the words “red” *hóngsè* 红色 and “spark” *huǒhuā* 火花 and refers to the visual realization of the spell.
- **The Quibbler** – the name denotes a tabloid publishing strange articles together with conspiracy theories. Many wizards think of this magazine as trash. Its name was derived from the English word *quibble* and can be found in Chinese as *Chàngchàngfǎndiào* 唱唱反调. The Chinese version of the neologism consists of the duplicated morpheme “sing” *chàng* 唱 and the word “different tune; opposite point of view” *fǎndiào* 反调. The Chinese loanword points to the fact that this magazine publishes articles contradicting those in serious magical journals.

#### 4 Conclusion

This study’s main purpose was to map the process of borrowing neologisms occurring in films about the young wizard Harry Potter. A corpus containing 334 items was compiled. Neologisms were sorted into eight groups based on their common characteristics and then analyzed. Six types of loanwords were detected in all: phonetic loanwords, calques, hybrid loanwords, semantic loanwords, induced new creations, and nonrelated loanwords.

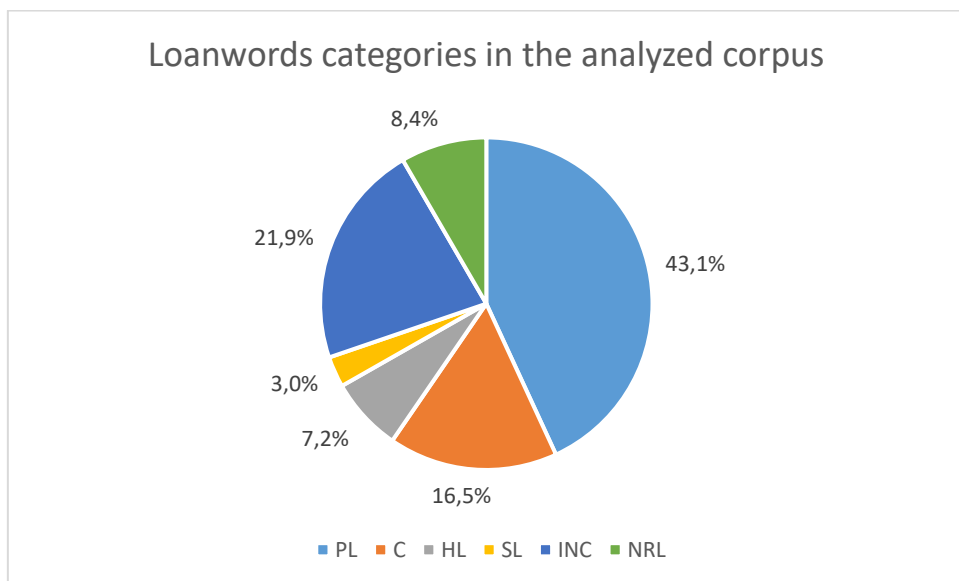
Representations of loanword categories in individual groups of words were described above. The most productive category of all was the calque category. Calques dominated in three groups of words and in one group dominated in the borrowing of the same number of neologisms as induced new creations. The second most productive category was induced new creations and the third was phonetic loanwords. The least productive category was semantic loanwords.

As mentioned above, 334 neologisms were analyzed. Focused on the representation of loanword categories in the entire corpus, the most productive loanword category was phonetic loanwords. 144 (43.1 %) items were phonetically transferred in all. Most of them belong to the group of anthroponyms, the largest group of neologisms in this corpus. The second most productive category was induced new creations, which helped to borrow 73 neologisms (21.9 %). The next in order is the calque category with 55 (16.5 %) literally translated items. Nonrelated loanwords were classified in 28 cases (8.4 %). The category of hybrid loanwords is represented by 24 borrowed items (7.2 %). The least productive loanword category in the entire corpus

was the category of semantic loanwords with 10 (3 %) borrowed neologisms. To summarize these results better, a table with data about the representation of loanword categories in individual groups of words was created. This table is followed by a graph indicating the representation of loanword categories in the entire corpus.

**Table 1:** Numeral representation of loanword categories in individual groups of words

	PL	C	HL	SL	INC	NRL
Anthroponyms	101	4	10	X	4	1
Toponyms	8	9	5	1	4	1
Zoonyms	14	X	1	2	1	1
Chrematonyms	4	11	3	X	11	1
Spells, Curses and Potions	11	14	3	5	40	18
Animals, Creatures, and Plants	3	11	X	X	4	3
Artifacts	1	5	1	1	6	2
Characters' Designation	2	1	1	1	3	1



**Figure 1:** Percentage image of representation of loanword categories in the analyzed corpus

Results of the analysis indicate that within individual groups of words and also within the entire corpus the most productive loanword categories are phonetic loanwords, calques, and induced new creations. There are two possible reasons why

the phonetic loanword category was the most productive. The first one is that neologisms in fantastic literature are not supposed to become part of common vocabulary and therefore the translators did not put all that much effort into the semantic way of borrowing these words. The second reason is that most of the phonetic transferred neologisms were proper nouns, specifically anthroponyms. Unlike Chinese, English anthroponyms mostly do not bear meaning. Based on this premise, the translators in all probability did not use the semantic way of borrowing to transfer personal names, despite the fact that proper nouns in fantastic literature always carry meaning.

The film adaptations cannot cover all the neologisms from the books. Therefore, the author of this article decided to continue with such research using neologisms from the books. Attention will be focused this time only on proper nouns. The corpus will also be extended by two additional fantastic works of literature: *The Lord of the Rings* and *Game of Thrones*. The author hopes to find general tendencies and motivations in borrowing proper nouns from fantastic literature writings into Chinese.

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