

The Usage of Anglicisms within Urban Areas of the Dominican Republic

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Introduction

What is an anglicism?

A word borrowed from English by another language.

What is borrowing?

Haugen (1950) defines a *borrowing*, as a word that is adopted from a donor language and later is reproduced in the context of the receiving language

Example: I'm going to take a *siesta* later



Research Questions

1. How often do native speakers from urban areas of the Dominican Republic where I did interviews, use Anglicisms related to technology, fashion, sports, and entertainment?
2. What factors determine whether or not they use Anglicisms?



Relevant Literature

Haugen (1950) *The Analysis of Linguistic Borrowing*

- The basis on how to define different types of loanwords

Poplack, Sankoff, y Miller (1988) *The social correlates and linguistic processes of lexical borrowing and assimilation*

- The basis for analyzing the frequency of occurrence

Pratt (1990) *The status of loanwords in modern monolingual dictionaries*

- The basis for deciding if the borrowing came from English or another language

Capuz (2005) *La inmigración lexic*

- The basis for analyzing morphological and phonological adaptation



Methodology

20 participants from four different urban areas within the Dominican Republic

Interviews were informal conversations with guided questions (from 45 mins to 1 hr)

Questions pertained to technology, fashion (clothing), entertainment, and sports

(e.g., How much of an impact does social media have on your daily routine?)

Data collected was analyzed according to gender, age, level of bilingualism, population, and education

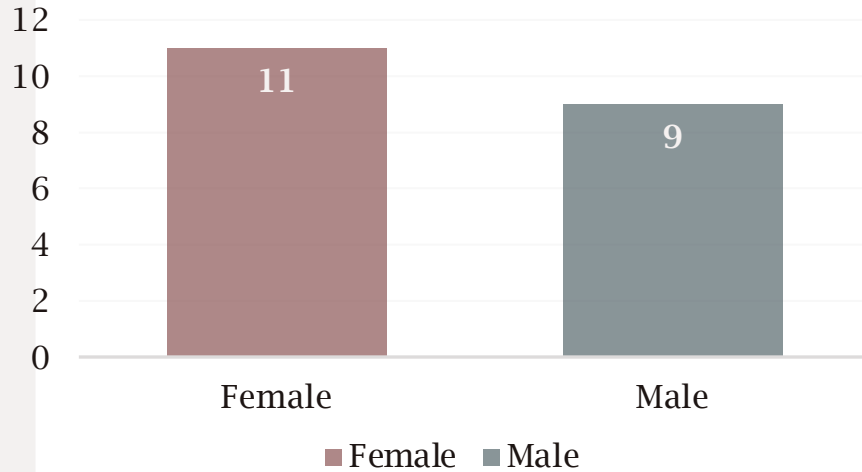


Basis for future research

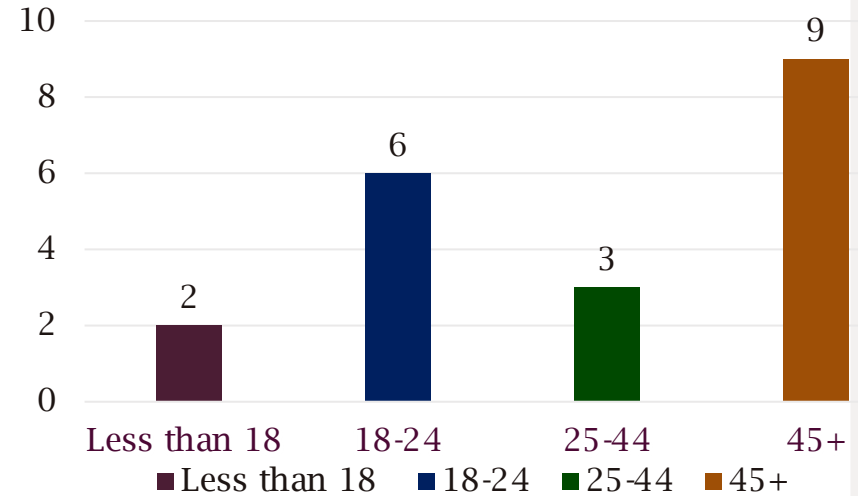
The results may not be generalizable because the numbers are small, however, it is a good basis for future research as apparent trends in this pilot study suggest.

Participants

SEX



AGE



La Romana - 10



Santo Domingo - 7



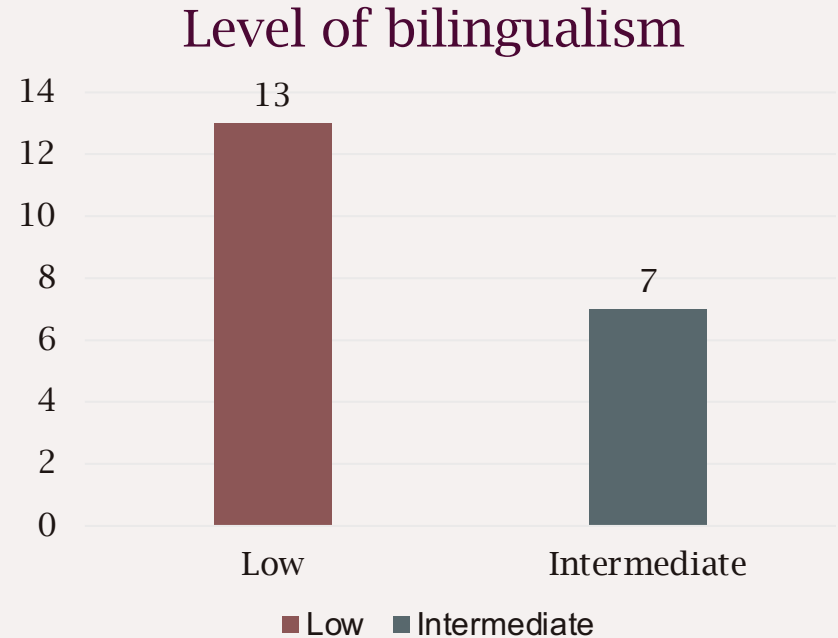
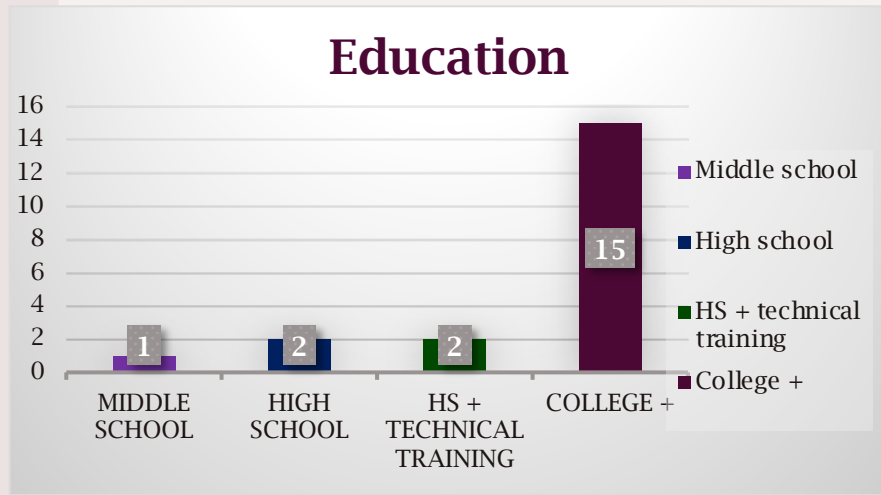
Higüey - 2



Samaná - 1



Participants



75% were college educated

65% had a low level of bilingualism
(according to **self reported** daily
use of English)

aftershave hobby
apps indie
blower influencers
chat jacket
country jazz
denim laptops
email leather
fancy leggings
food trucks live
girly longboarding
gospel metal

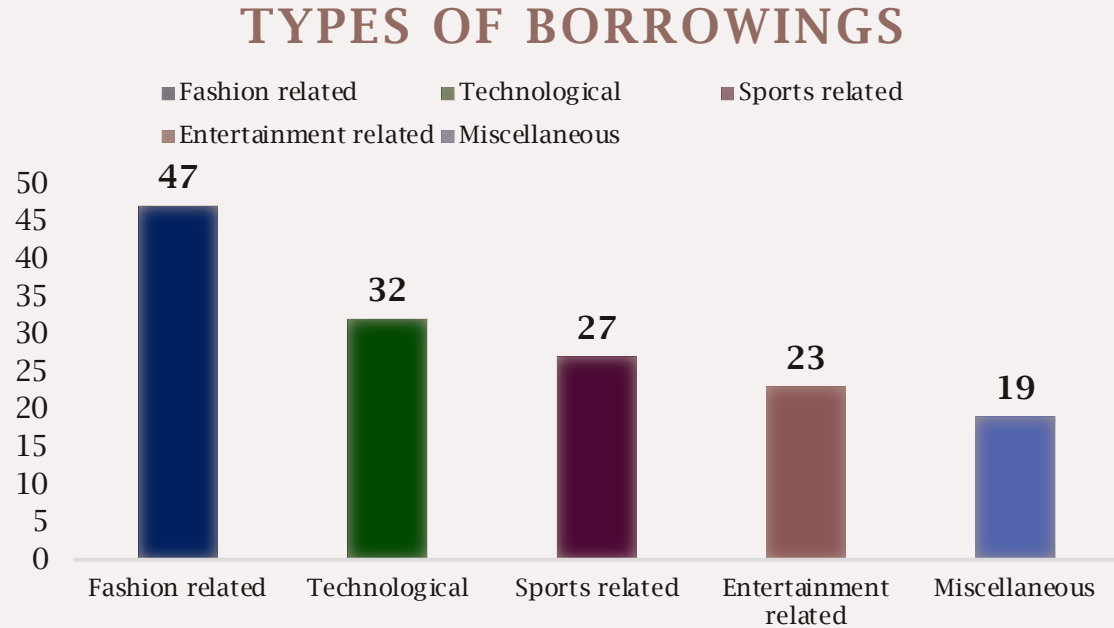
148

web slim-fit
trap shortstop
t-shirt shocking
trendy second base
toner research
thriller recording
telefax primer
spring portable
sporty piercing
splinter moisturizer
smartwatches outfit

Total number of individual borrowings utilized

Types of Borrowings

31 % were related to fashion (i.e., clothing, trends)



Grammatical Categories

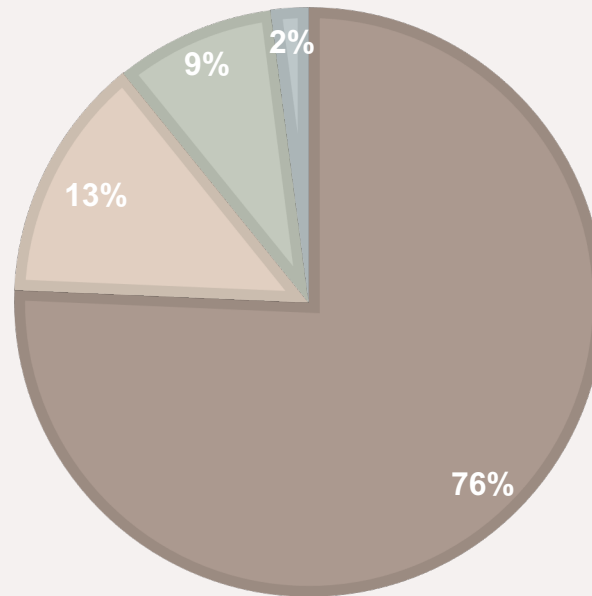
More than 75% of
anglicisms used were
nouns

(Tadmor et al 2010)
(Poplack, Sankoff, y
Miller 1988)



GRAMMATICAL CATEGORY

■ Nouns ■ Adjectives ■ Verbs ■ Interjections



Classifications

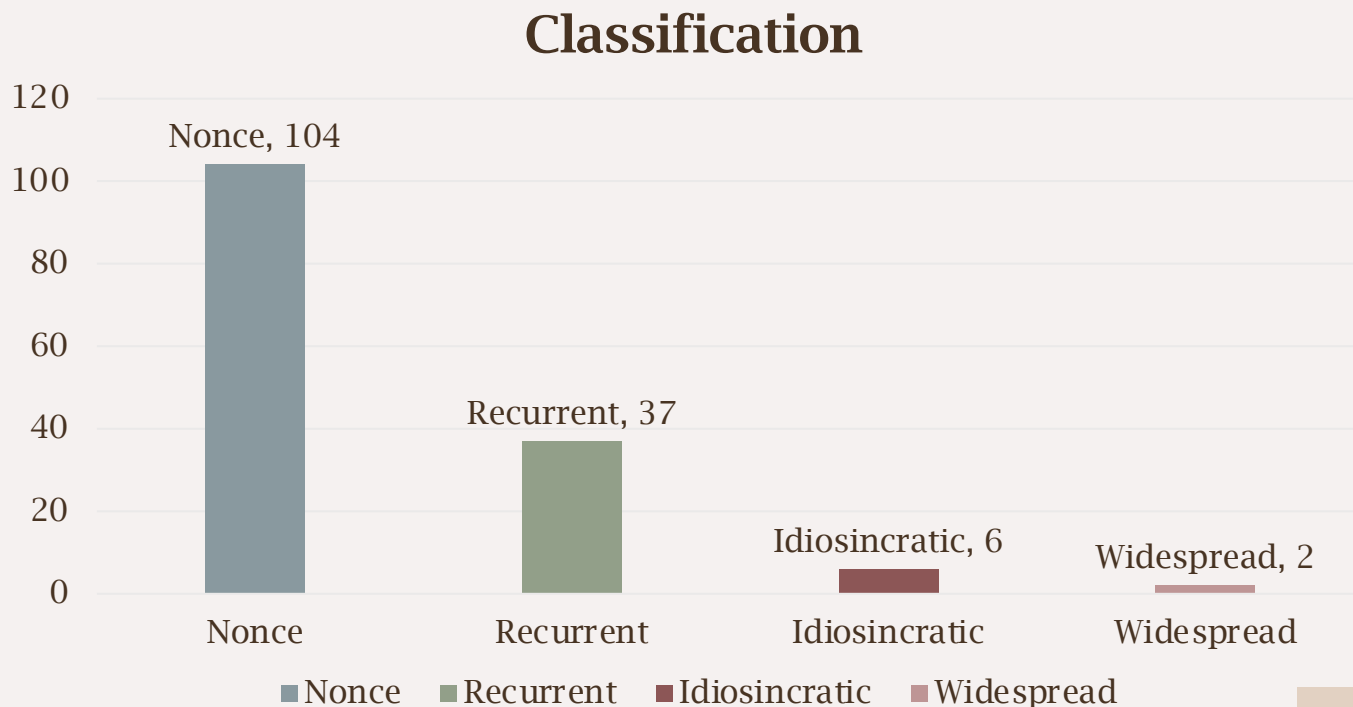
70% were nonce

Nonce- occurred only **once**

Recurrent – utilized by **2 +**
participants

Idiosyncratic- utilized
more than once by same
person

Widespread- utilized by
more than ten people



Gender

Age

Bilingualism

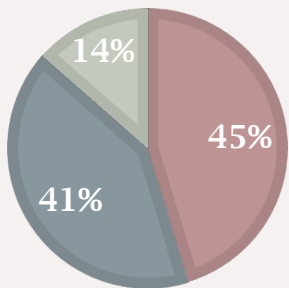
and general use of borrowings

65% of borrowings were used by participants **18- 24**

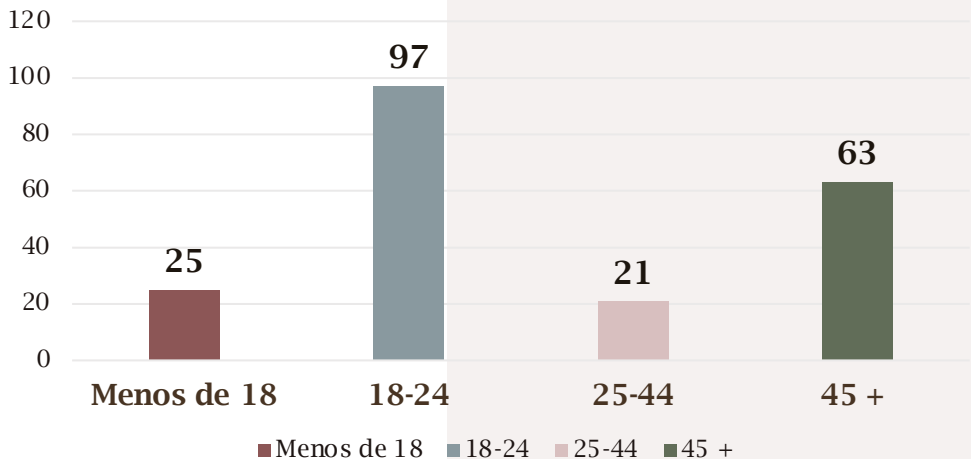
No notable role for gender and bilingualism

GENDER & BORROWINGS

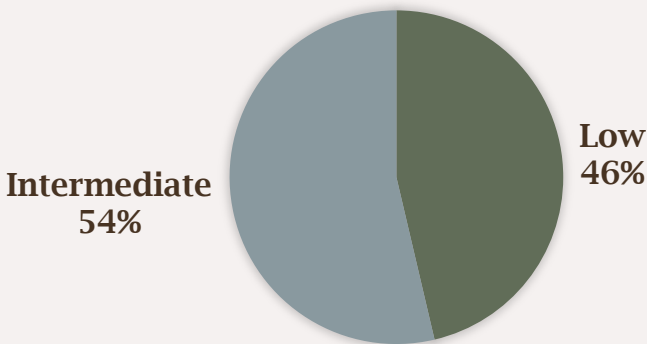
■ Only used by women ■ Only used by men ■ Both



AGE & BORROWINGS



BILINGUALISM & BORROWINGS



Fashion

47 of 148 borrowings

70% were nonce

53% were used by women, 31% by men
15% by both

76% were utilized by those 18-24

Level of bilingualism did not have a notable impact here

aftershave fancy
anti-aging fade
blower girly
champú high-
waisted
choker leave-in
concealer leggings
crop-top outfit
denim piercing
dreadlocks plain
concealer primer

punk
poloché
rímel
ripiao
skater
slim- fit
spray
tank tops
super- skinny
toner
trendy

Technology

32 of 148 borrowings

71% were nonce

56% were used by women – **28%** by men
16% by both

65% were used by those 18-24

Those of intermediate level utilized 23 of them and those of low level utilized 13

posts
posteo
recording
social media
smartphone
smartwatches
telefax
trending
wasaps
GPS
control parental

apps ignore
bar internet
CD googlear
chat gmails
chateando laptops
chatear meme
chateo nannies robots
computadora touch
email portable

Sports

left fielder
picheo
pícher
ponchar
play
second base
soccer
skateboarding
center fielder

27 of 148 borrowings

66% were nonce

51% were used by men, **37%** by women
11% by both

70% were used by those 18-24

77% were used by those with a low level of bilingualism, **51%** by those with a high level

basketball
cardio
catcher
first base
foul
home
inning
jogging
longboarding

Entertainment

23 of 148 borrowings

56% were nonce, **43%** were recurrent

70% were used by men, **8%** by women

21% were used by both

78% were used by those 45+ & **55%** by those 18-24

86% of the borrowings were utilized by those with a **low** level of bilingualism, 52% by those with intermediate

clubes metal
country resort
gospel rock
hip hop show
hobby trap
indie thrillers
jazz mix
mainstream
media
pop rap metal

Miscellaneous

19 out of 148 borrowings

89% were nonce, only 2 were idiosyncratic

57% used by women, **42%** by men

68% were used by those 18-24

68% of the borrowings were utilized by those with an intermediate level of bilingualism, **31%** by those with low

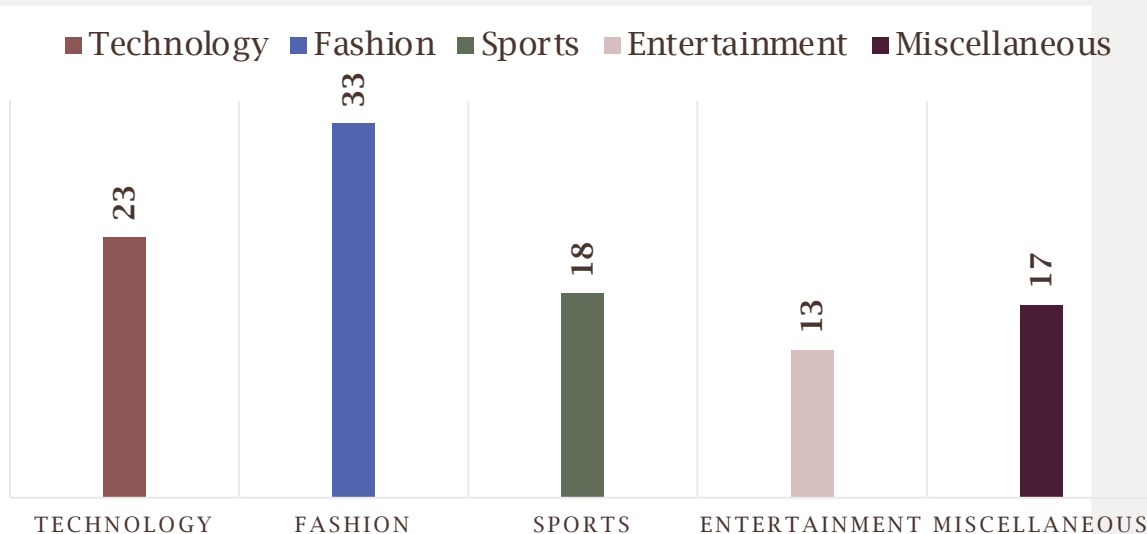


chill
customer service
delivery
endless
friends
FOMO
hamburger
shocking
splinter
spring
tricky
yea

Nonce borrowings

*utilized only once

BORROWING TOPIC & #NONCE



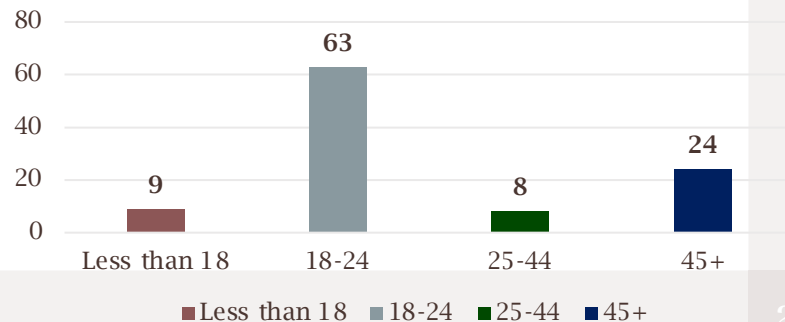
70% of borrowings were nonce

No significance between men and women

60% of nonce were used by those 18-24

60% used by those of intermediate bilingual level

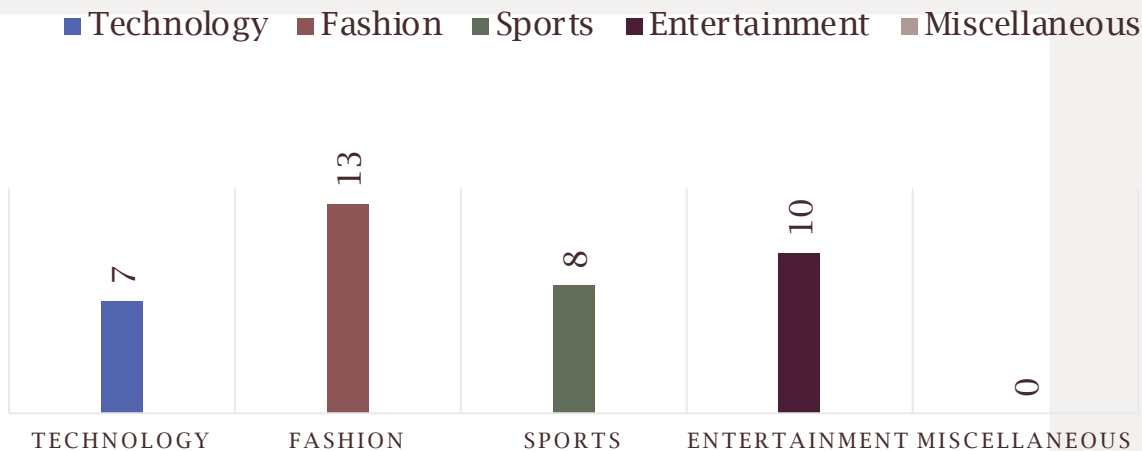
Age & 'nonce'



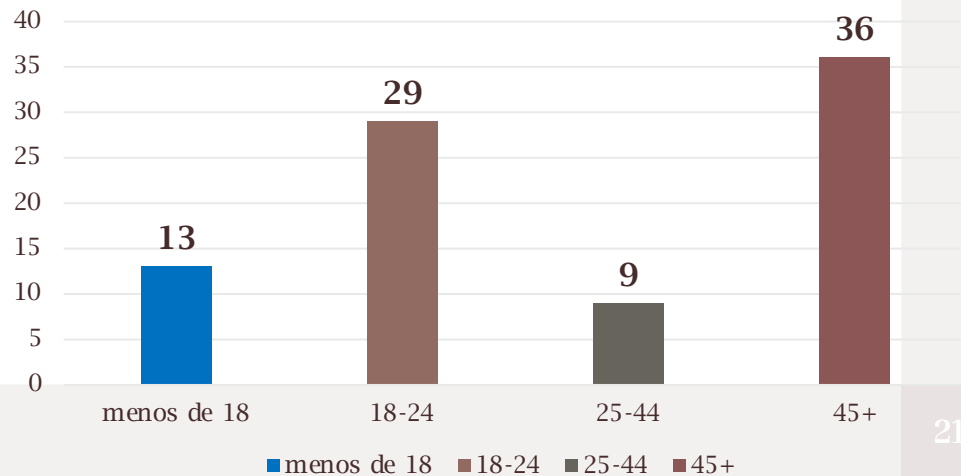
Recurrent borrowings

*utilized by 2 or more participants

RECURRENT & TYPES OF BORROWINGS



AGE & recurrent



No significant difference between men & women

97% of the recurrent borrowings were used by those 45 +

Those aged 18-24 utilized 78%

No significance in level of bilingualism

Idiosyncratic borrowings

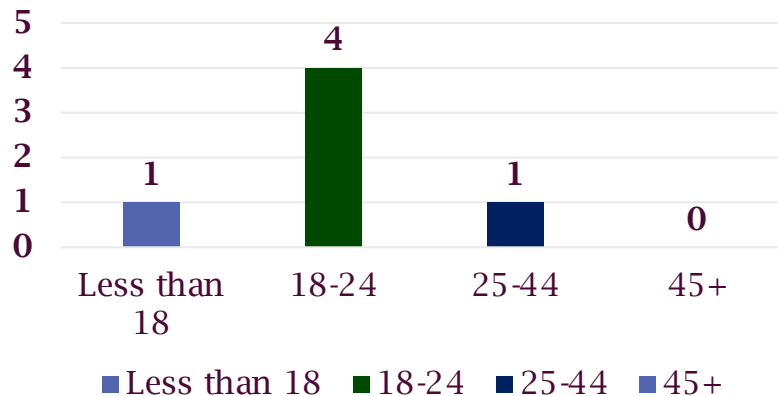
*used multiple times by the same participant

No difference between men & women

100% were utilized by participants with a low level of bilingualism

fílders
meme
outfit
primer
so
yea

AGE & #IDIOSYNCRATIC



Widespread borrowings

*used by more than ten participants

internet

used by 15

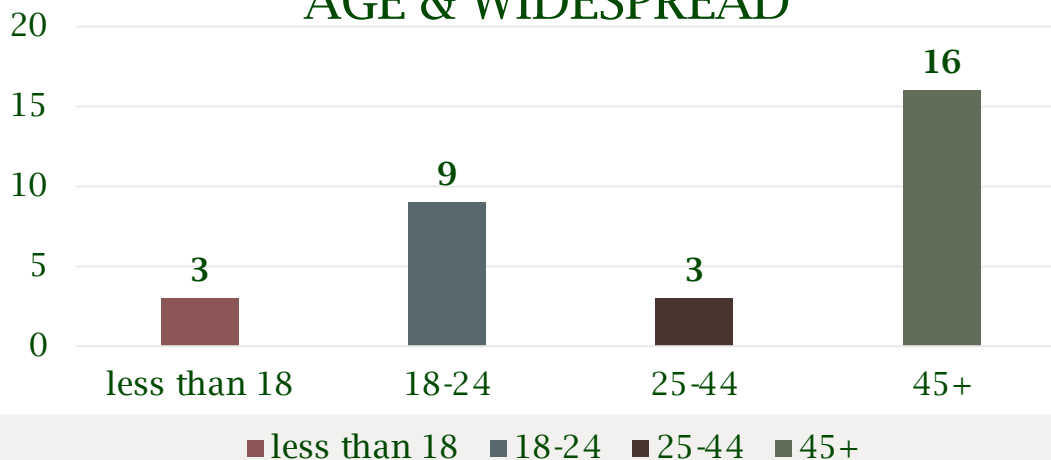
jean

used by 16

No **significant** difference between men & women

58% of occurrences included those with a low level of bilingualism, and **42%** high

AGE & WIDESPREAD



Spelling, Phonological & Morphological Changes

27 borrowings underwent
morphological,
phonological, and
orthographic changes

minicomputadora

pitcheo

pícher

poloché

ponchar

ponchaba

poncharse

posteo

rapero

rímel

ripiao

sueta

tubi

wasaps

bluyins

cátcher

champú

champú detox

chateando

chatear

chateo

clubes

computadora touch

esmóquin

filders

googlear

jonrones

Examples

“Poloché” is considered a loanword because “polo shirt” was adopted as a single word.

poloché
comes from
“polo shirt”

- the “sh” has been
replaced by “ch”

- English vowels have
been replaced by
Spanish vowels

- Position of the accent
has shifted

ripiao
comes from
“ripped” [jeans]

base (rip)
- From the verb
“ripear”, you get
“ripeado”, which is
pronounced as “-iao”

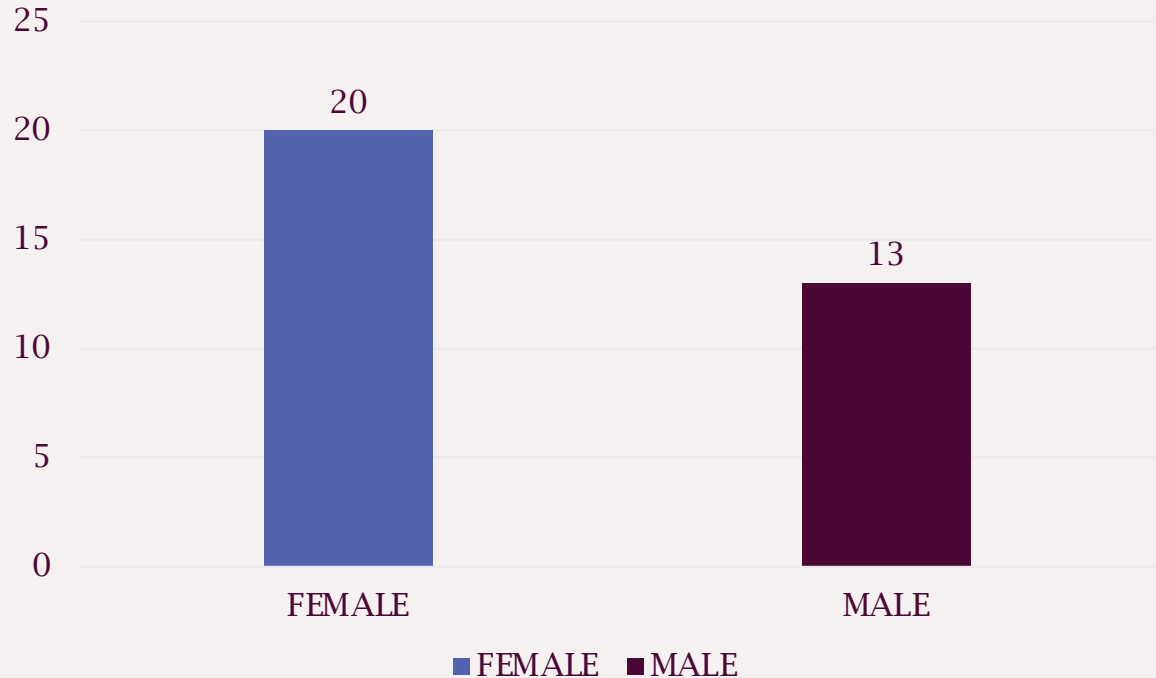
googlear
meaning
“to google”

base (googl)
suffix -ear

Haugen (1950) considers ‘ripiao’ and ‘googlear’ to be *loanblends*, where one morpheme comes from the donor language and the other comes from the receiving language

Women were more likely to make morphological changes as they speak

SEX & MORPHOLOGICAL CHANGES



Notable Findings

- Participants aged 18 -24 have a higher propensity towards borrowings in their speech as well as more innovative
- Fashion related borrowings were most common, as well as most innovative
- Participants aged 45+ showed more propensity towards recurrent and widespread borrowings
- Women were more likely to use fashion related borrowings but also technology related ones, men were slightly more inclined towards sports
- As demonstrated in previous studies, level of bilingualism did not play a significant role in whether a participant utilized borrowings or not
- A high level of bilingualism is not necessary to use borrowings that they are exposed to

However, those with intermediate level bilingualism were more likely to exhibit 'nonce' borrowing habits