



UNIVERSIDAD DE SALAMANCA

FACULTAD DE FILOLOGÍA

GRADO EN ESTUDIOS INGLESES

Trabajo de Fin de Grado

Chinese Borrowings in the History of
English: A Diachronic Study Based on the
Oxford English Dictionary

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This thesis is submitted for the degree of English Studies

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Signature

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Abstract

The primary focus of this thesis is the study of Chinese lexical borrowings in the history of the English language. The main objective is to examine relevant historical events that have promoted contact between English and Chinese, with the purpose of studying how lexical borrowings from Chinese have influenced English. The corpus of Chinese lexical borrowings has been retrieved from the online version of the *Oxford English Dictionary (OED3)*, which is an essential source to study the English language. The lexical borrowings have been analyzed in three aspects, namely their chronology, dialect, and subject. The results of the analysis lead to a better understanding of the reasons why certain Chinese dialects have contributed more words to English, why the number of borrowings increased from the 17th century onwards, and why in certain semantic categories there are more words than in others.

Keywords: Chinese lexical borrowings, history of the English language, *OED*, language contact.

Resumen

Este trabajo se centra en el estudio de los préstamos léxicos chinos en la historia de la lengua inglesa. El objetivo es identificar los eventos históricos que han promovido el contacto entre la lengua china y la inglesa, con el propósito de estudiar cómo los préstamos léxicos del chino han tenido un importante impacto en el vocabulario del inglés. El corpus de préstamos léxicos chinos ha sido a partir de la versión online del diccionario *Oxford English Dictionary (OED3)*, que es una fuente esencial para el estudio de los préstamos en el inglés. Los préstamos léxicos han sido analizados en tres aspectos, su cronología, dialecto y tema. El resultado del análisis nos permite comprender mejor las razones por las que ciertos dialectos chinos han aportado más palabras al inglés, por qué el número de préstamos ha aumentado desde el siglo XVII, y por qué ciertas categorías semánticas tienen más palabras que otras.

Palabras claves: Préstamos lingüísticos chinos, historia de la lengua inglesa, *OED*, contacto lingüístico.

1. Introduction

The English language has been characterized by its ability to adapt and absorb elements from other languages. As English expanded its influence through trade activities and colonization, it inevitably encountered languages and cultures that provided it with new concepts, objects, and ideas. Therefore, English borrowed words from these languages in order to fill lexical gaps and express new concepts. Among the languages that have contributed words to the English lexicon, Chinese is especially worth analyzing. The establishment of a stable contact between English and Chinese started in the 17th century, when British traders became interested in trading with China. This marked the beginning of an ongoing linguistic exchange that led to the incorporation of Chinese borrowings into English.

The present work aims to investigate the impact of Chinese on the English language by analyzing the Chinese borrowings recorded in the online *Oxford English Dictionary* (*OED3*). By examining the *OED* entries of Chinese borrowings, we can gain a valuable insight into the historical development of Chinese borrowings in English and the cultural interactions behind their adoption. To lay the groundwork for this study, it is necessary to establish a conceptual understanding of borrowings and their motivations, as well as to explore the typology of borrowings. Furthermore, by examining the historical events that promoted the interaction between the two languages and cultures, we will have a clearer understanding of the social background that facilitated linguistic exchanges between English and Chinese. This includes a brief explanation of significant historical events from the 17th century, when trade activities between Britain and China fostered linguistic exchange, to the 19th and 20th century, when Chinese immigration played an important role in the adoption of Chinese borrowings in English. The study will also consider the changing policies and approaches of the *OED* regarding the inclusion of borrowings from other languages. By conducting a diachronic analysis of Chinese borrowings in the *OED* in terms of their chronology, dialectal origin, and subject, we seek to shed light on the nature and extent of Chinese linguistic influence on English over its history.

2. Borrowings: Motivation, Types, Factors, and the Case of Chinese and English

Languages are dynamic systems that are in a constant state of change, reflecting the social and cultural contexts in which they are used. When different cultures interact in a context of language contact, the possibility of linguistic change increases. This phenomenon can occur in a variety of settings and can lead to various outcomes, such as the adoption of borrowings, whereby “a language (or variety) takes new linguistic material from another language (or variety), usually called the donor” (Durkin 132). This section will examine the motivations for languages to adopt words from other languages, while it will refer to different types of lexical borrowing, and to the factors influencing the quantity and types of words borrowed, with the purpose of explaining the outcomes of the contact between English and Chinese.

2.1. Motivations for Borrowing

As Phillip Durkin explains in *The Oxford Guide to Etymology*, the two main motivations for lexical borrowing are need and prestige.

Borrowings because of need are considered necessary since they express newly found intellectual concepts, imported products, and scientific discoveries. These new discoveries already have a name in the donor language, so the borrowing language will likely be influenced by it. For example, we may refer to the Nahuatl word *tomatl*, which the Spanish borrowed as *tomate* when they first discovered the plant. This word was later borrowed from Spanish into French as *tomate*, in German as *tomate*, while in English it was borrowed as *tomato*, and as *tomate* in Portuguese.

The idea of borrowing because of prestige is more complicated and can sometimes oversimplify complex sociolinguistic situations. It refers to borrowing words from a language that has a higher social or cultural status, such as being the language of science or the dominant language of the ruling social class. Unlike borrowings for need, borrowings for prestige are unnecessary because there is already a pre-existing concept to express the same thing. For example, we can find in English lexical borrowings from French, such as *mutton*, *beef*, and *pork* for *sheep*, *cow*, and *pig*, respectively.

2.2. Types of Lexical Borrowing

According to Mott and Laso (157-166), lexical borrowings can be classified into different types:

- A. Loanwords, defined as words borrowed from language X to language Y. They can be:

- a. Pure loanwords, that is, words adapted without any phonological or morphological change, such as *restaurant* from French;
 - b. Loanblends, which borrow a part of a lexical item and contain mixed morphology, such as the word *punging*, from the Chinese *pung* and the English inflectional morpheme *-ing*.
- B. Loanshifts, which consist of extending a word's meaning to accommodate a new concept acquired from a donor language. They can be divided into:
- a. Pure loan translations (or calques), which refer to the process whereby a new meaning is integrated with preexisting morphology. An example is the word *honeymoon*, which has been borrowed in Spanish as *luna de miel*;
 - b. Loan renditions, which refer to borrowings that show a less literal translation of the foreign word. For example, we may refer to the English word *skyscraper*, which in German is *Wolkenkratzer* 'cloud-scraper' instead of *Himmelkratzer*;
 - c. Semantic loans, which refer to borrowings that show a transfer of the meaning from a foreign concept alone. For example, the Old English word *dream* 'joy', which acquired its modern meaning from Old Norse *draumr* 'dream'.

2.3. The Case of Chinese and English

The intensity of contact can be considered a major factor that determines the degree of transference from one language to another. According to the degree of contact intensity, Thomason and Kaufman have developed a borrowing scale of five categories, ranging from casual contact where only non-basic vocabulary is borrowed to very strong cultural pressure where major changes are introduced (74-76). The contact between English and Chinese was rather casual before mid-19th century. For instance, their relationship was mainly based on trade, which started in the late 17th century. Until the mid-19th century, England's trade with China was limited by the Chinese authorities to Canton (see further section 2). The number of Chinese borrowings increased in the 20th century after China opened its market, as well as because of the spread of the Chinese diaspora in English-speaking countries such as the United States, Canada, and Singapore. Because of these limitations, before the mid-19th century, early Chinese borrowings in English are mainly confined to non-basic fields such as varieties of tea, porcelain, and Chinese cuisine, only expanding its diversity in the 20th century.

The knowledge of the other's language is another factor to take into consideration, since "[o]nly extremely limited borrowing is possible in a contact situation if neither the speaker of the donor language nor the speaker of the borrowing language knows anything of the other's language" (Durkin 156). The Chinese and the English had limited knowledge of each other's language since they communicated through linguists who spoke in "pidgin English, Cantonese and Mandarin" (Van Dyke, "Linguists" 77) by the early 1730s. Nevertheless, "that did not mean [those linguists] were to be 'experts' in anything foreign" (77) since their task was to mediate rather than translate. Even when the Chinese migrated to English-speaking countries, there was still little contact between the speaker of Chinese and English due to cultural conflicts.

3. A Brief History of the Contact between English and Chinese

In this section, some historical background is provided to understand why certain words in Chinese were borrowed into English. This section will offer a brief summary of historical events that had a relevant effect on the process of borrowing.

3.1. 17th Century: The Beginning of Trade with China

During the first half of the 17th century, England was competing with the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the Spanish to gain control of the Far East market. As D.K. Bassett explains ("Trade: Part I", "Trade: Part II"), at the beginning of the century, the English were barely interested in establishing a permanent settlement in China but focused on their trade with Japan.

Due to the lack of interest of the directors of the East India Company, there was scarce contact between England and China, apart from a few unauthorized and opportunist expeditions to Macao in 1635 and 1644. Nevertheless, those travels were only made to collect Portuguese contraband goods and to make a profit out of it. It was only after the refusal of the Japanese to admit the English in their country in 1673 that the East India Company started to consider China as an alternative market instead of Japan. They first approached China indirectly through Formosa (Taiwan), where they had established a factory in 1670, and through Tongking.

The trade with China increased the interest of Europeans in "not only porcelain, but silks, calicoes, and lacquerware" (Berg 49). These "commodities were profoundly attractive; once the possibilities of their possession moved beyond princes and aristocrats, there seemed no stopping the expansion of trade" (49).

3.2. 18th Century: The Increased Importance of the Chinese Market

The interest in the Chinese market in the late 17th century continued to develop in the 18th century. Not only were the English interested in trading with China, but also the French, Danes, Dutch, and Swedish. This meant that the number of vessels arriving in China experienced a major increase. The Chinese authorities in Beijing saw the need to establish a series of restrictions since they “had no desire to allow other foreigners to stay in China permanently, so it was better to set up a system whereby they could visit to trade, but then had to leave after they received their cargo” (Van Dyke “Forging” 7).

Canton became the perfect trading location because of two reasons: its geographical location and its facilities. Canton was a major inland river port, which meant that the authorities could easily monitor trade and avoid unauthorized visits and smuggling activities, while offering shelter against typhoons in the South China Sea. The foreigners tried to establish trades in different ports in Xiamen and Ningbo, but they all turned to Canton because it offered advantages for the merchants, such as naval stores, packaging materials, and a community of artisans that provided services such as ship repairing.

In 1757, the British tried to trade in Chusan, which was a promising port that could have become a threat to Canton’s dominance. Nevertheless, the emperor intervened by restricting all foreign trade to Canton. Because of this incident, Canton became the official center of foreign trade from 1757 to 1843.

In this century, the goods traded continued to expand in quantity and variety. For example, the interest in tea was to grow exponentially, since “[i]n the 1720 the British exported but 160 piculs of tea from China, but in 1722 they exported 5,500 piculs.” (Pritchard, “The Struggle for Control” 281). Apart from tea, Pritchard also refers to other items that were traded, in which we can find different types of chinaware, spices, sugar, furniture, textiles, ornaments, and plants (“Private Trade”).

3.3. 19th Century: The Opium Wars and Chinese Immigration

The 19th century was a century of conflict between England and China, largely because of the Opium Wars.

Opium already existed in China since its introduction during the Tang Dynasty (618-906 AD). The Chinese were aware of the danger of opium, and therefore prohibited its use except as medicine by 1729. In 1799, the restrictions were further harshened, when its use, importation, and cultivation were all prohibited since the Chinese became

excessively addicted to opium, to the point of becoming incapacitated. Nevertheless, “[b]y the 1830s British demand for tea had become enormous; tea worth twenty million pounds sterling was imported into Britain annually.” (Bard 8) This high cost was paid by the British by using the profits they gained smuggling opium into China.

In 1839, “the Emperor appointed Lin Zexu as his Commissioner charged with total eradication of the infamous trade” (Bard 10). Lin Zexu (1785-1850) traveled to Canton and took measures to ensure that all opium trade stopped, which included destroying all opium stocks. These measures were against the British benefits and, as a result, an armed conflict known as the First Opium War (1839-1842) started. This conflict ended with the defeat of China, who was forced to sign the Treaty of Nanjing (Nanking) by which terms China opened to foreigners the five ports of Guangzhou (Canton), Xiamen (Amoy), Fuzhou (Foochow), Ningbo (Ningbo), and Shanghai as Treaty Ports; an indemnity of 21 million dollars was exacted, and the Island of Hong Kong was ceded in perpetuity to Britain. (Bard 11)

With the later Second Opium War (1856-1860), the British further expanded their gains from the first war, forcing China to sign the Treaty of Tientsin, which legalized the opium trade, while “open[ing] ten more ports to trade; permit[ing] foreign legations in Peking (Beijing); open[ing] the Yangtze River to foreign merchants; [and] allow[ing] Christian missionary activity” (Sheng and Shaw 196)

During this treaty port era, China’s trade increased remarkably. Imports from other countries amplified in their volume, and exports generated “both higher volume and more varieties” (Keller et al. 30). This means that the contact between China and foreign merchants was intensified.

Another relevant historical event that contributed to the linguistic contact between English and Chinese was the massive immigration of Chinese population to the United States and Singapore in the 1850s, Canada in the 1860s, and New Zealand and Australia around the same period. The political instability derived from the Taiping Rebellion (1850-1864), the famines resulting from drought and floods, the over-population, and job opportunities in foreign countries, such as the California Gold Rush and the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad in the 1860s, pushed the Chinese to seek for a more stable and better life in other countries. According to Holland, “[d]uring the period 1851-1860 more than 40,000 Chinese entered the United States” (150), and “more than half of the immigrants during this period came from Guangdong Province’s Taishan County . . . and spoke the Cantonese dialect of Chinese.” (151) With the later construction of the

Canadian railroad, “more than five thousand laborers [went to Canada] through [labor] contracts directly from China, and another seven thousand Chinese railway workers were recruited from California.” (151) Nevertheless, the cultural differences between the Chinese immigrants and the Americans led to a rise of racism and xenophobia, expressed through anti-Chinese pamphlets and clubs. This anti-Chinese sentiment was also reflected in the Chinese Exclusion Act (1882), which “[imposed] a ten-year suspension on immigration and settlement of both skilled and unskilled Chinese workers in the United States.” (Misiuna 158) The same applied to the immigration process to Singapore. The “emigrants increased in number from 2,069 in 1838-1839, to 10,928 in 1849-1850. By 1890 the annual figure had risen to 95,400 and it passed the 100,000 mark in 1895, with 190,901.” (Ee 33) The majority of those immigrants were from South China, especially from Fujian and Canton. Due to the anti-Chinese sentiments risen in the United States, Canada, and other western countries, the Chinese were left only with the options in South-East Asia, further increasing immigration to Singapore. It is important to notice that Singapore became a British crown colony in 1867, so Singapore was a place of cultural diversity and contact. Even nowadays, Singapore has four official languages, English, Malay, Mandarin, and Tamil.

3.4. 20th Century: Political Unrest and Trade Depression

The first half of the 20th century was characterized by political unrest. It started with the Boxer Rebellion (1899-1901), which was an anti-foreign and anti-Christianity movement. Then followed the Chinese Civil War (1927-1949), in which the Communist Party of China and the Kuomintang fought for the legitimacy of the Chinese government. In the same period, the Second Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945) also took place.

All these wars left China economically devastated. As Keller et al. remark, “China’s trade growth during the last three decades is to some extent the flip side of the severe trade depression during 1948-78”. While before World War II China “accounted for around 2% of the world’s imports plus exports . . . , estimates suggest that China’s share had fallen by the 1950s to around 1.7% and by the 1970 to around 0.7%” (31-34). It will not be after 1978 that China will make trade liberalizing reforms and open itself to the global market again.

In this century, the relationship between the United States and China improved due to the Second-Japanese War. The United States’ “support for China gradually increased throughout the military conflict; once Japan became the common enemy and

China the fourth ally, granting such support was of strategic importance for the United States.” (Misiuna 159) The President Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882—1945) signed the Magnuson Act in 1943, which abolished the Chinese Exclusion Act.



Figure 1. Map of China with the places mentioned in Section 3.

4. The *Oxford English Dictionary* as Source of Chinese Borrowings in English

The *OED* has been widely considered as a fundamental resource to study words not only from England, but from different varieties of English, world Englishes, and borrowings. Despite its openness to include new words, its policies were not always as inclusive as they are nowadays. Since this present work will use *OED* as the source to study Chinese borrowings in English, it is necessary to understand the policies of *OED* when deciding which words should be included or not. This section will focus on the history of *OED*'s policies regarding borrowings.

4.1. History of *The Oxford English Dictionary*'s Policies towards Borrowings

The creation of the *OED* was a slow process. It started with its proposal in 1857, but the publishing of the complete first version of the dictionary did not take place until 1928. Between the period of 1933 to 1986, Supplements to the *OED* were published, and in the 1980s these supplements were integrated into the parent dictionary to create *OED2*. Nowadays, the *OED* has adapted itself to the new electronic era with its online version,

with its previous content being revised and new materials being published in parts (*History of the OED*). Many editors were involved in this long process, therefore the policies regarding borrowings inevitably changed, the dictionary being adapted to the editor in charge and to the ideologies of the society.

As already noted, the compilation of the dictionary was proposed in 1857 and the idea of creating a dictionary came from three members of the Philological Society, Richard Trench (1807-86), Herbert Coleridge (1830-61), and Frederick Furnivall (1825-1910). They all shared the dissatisfaction with existing English dictionaries and had the “idea for a dictionary of their own that would completely re-examine the language from Anglo-Saxon times onward.” (Ogilvie 26)

Richard Trench proposed a scientific and evidence-based approach to dictionaries, which should be based on a wide variety of written texts. Nevertheless, his attitude towards loanwords and regionalisms in English was rather conservative. He first considered the inclusion of provincialisms and regionalisms unnecessary “unless they were ‘citizens’, i.e. unless they had spread nationally or had previously held national status.” (30) Then, years later, he changed his policy, whereby “Americanisms were to be admitted to the dictionary ‘on the same terms as our own words’, as were foreign words with an etymological appendix for the root and ‘primitive bases’.” (30) Still, he did not mention “any other global varieties of English which would have been emerging at this time.” (30) Herbert Coleridge (1830-61), the first editor of the dictionary from 1860 to 1879, was also conservative regarding the inclusion of certain words such as “imperfectly naturalized foreign words and words introduced from Latin and Greek” (31), which were included at the end of the dictionary.

It was not until Furnivall became the editor of the dictionary from 1860 to 1879 that borrowings started to be taken into consideration. His policy was to include “as many words as possible in the dictionary” (32), including loanwords from other countries, and his successors followed in his steps. James Murray (1837-1915), editor from 1879 to 1915, admitted borrowings, since he believed that the “English language was broader than that of the language spoken by the average person living in England” (36). Henry Bradley (1845-1923), editor from 1915 to 1923, believed that cultural contact enriched the English language and included “words derived from every civilized language of Europe, and from innumerable languages of Asia, Africa, America, and Australia.” (39) Charles Onions (1873-1965), editor of *OED1* and co-editor of the *1933 Supplement to the OED*, is considered the “most inclusive of all the editors until the present day of loanwords and

World Englishes.” (42) Finally, with Robert Burchfield (1923-2004), the “scope of the Dictionary was broadened to include considerably more words from North America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, South Asia, and the Caribbean” (“History of the OED”).

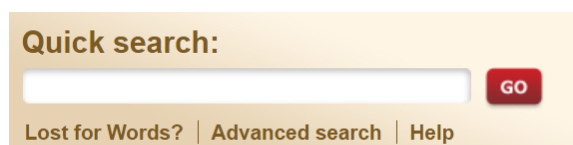
Overall, we can appreciate that the policies of *OED* changed from being conservative and centered on England’s English in the 19th century, to being progressively more open to varieties of English, world Englishes, and loanwords from countries all around the world. The inclusive policy of today’s *OED* makes it a suitable and reliable tool to study the Chinese borrowings in English.

5. Diachronic Study of Chinese Borrowings in the *Oxford English Dictionary*

With the advance of technology, *OED* has become an online dictionary, also known as *OED3*, where editors can update the entries of previous editions, as well as include new words. It also offers more flexibility for the readers when retrieving data, since it offers sophisticated tools that allow us to interrogate the dictionary in a number of ways by, for example, retrieving words according to their subject, origin, date of entry, and other interesting criteria. This section will focus on explaining the process of retrieving the Chinese borrowings from *OED* and the analysis of those borrowings according to their chronology, dialect, and subject.

5.1. Methodological remarks

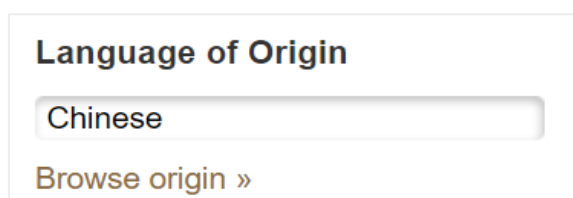
In order to retrieve the Chinese borrowings from *OED3*, it is necessary to use the “Advanced Search” option, where we can select the filters we need according to the purposes of our study. In this case, we need to use the filter “Language of Origin” and select “Chinese”. The search results give us a total of 263 entries.



Quick search:

[Lost for Words?](#) | [Advanced search](#) | [Help](#)

Figure 2. Routine to retrieve Chinese borrowings from *OED3*. Step 1: Advanced Search



Language of Origin

Chinese

[Browse origin »](#)

Figure 3. Routine to retrieve Chinese borrowings from *OED3*. Step 2: Filter “Language of Origin”

Advanced search results

Showing 1-20 of 263 results in 263 entries

View as: List | [Timeline](#) Jump to alphabetical point: [GO](#) Sort by: [Entry](#) | [Frequency](#) | [Date](#)

1. [aiyah, int.](#) [View full entry](#) 1920
 ...Chiefly in Chinese contexts: used to express dismay, exasperation, surprise, etc.... ●●●●●●

2. [aiyoh, int.](#) [View full entry](#) 1937
 ...Chiefly in Chinese contexts: used to express distress, pain, surprise, etc.... ●●●●●●

Figure 4. Routine to retrieve Chinese borrowings from OED3. Step 3: Results

In order to see the evolution of the policies of the *OED* with regard to the inclusion of borrowings, the option of “Entry History,” which can be found to the right of each entry, provides us with detailed information, as in:

Help on Dictionary Entry | Print | Save | Email | Cite

Text size: [A](#) [A](#)

Quotations: [Show all](#) | [Hide all](#) | Keywords: [On](#) | [Off](#)

ivalent *āiyā*, *aiya*... [\(Show More\)](#)

asperation, surprise, etc.

led, monkey-tailed offspring of a bald-headed hedgehog, you

This is a new entry (OED Third Edition, December 2016; most recently modified version published online December 2021).

[Entry history](#)
[Entry profile](#)

Figure 5. Where to find "Entry History"

Entry history ✕

aiyah, int.

First published in [OED Third Edition](#) in December 2016.

oed.com is a living text, updated every three months. Updates may include:

- further refinements to definition, pronunciation, etymology, headwords or variant spellings, quotations, dating or styling of quotations;
- new quotations, senses or phrases.

Revisions and additions of this kind were last incorporated into this entry in December 2021.

Figure 6. Detailed information about the entry found in "Entry History"

After analyzing the 263 entries, we obtain the following results:

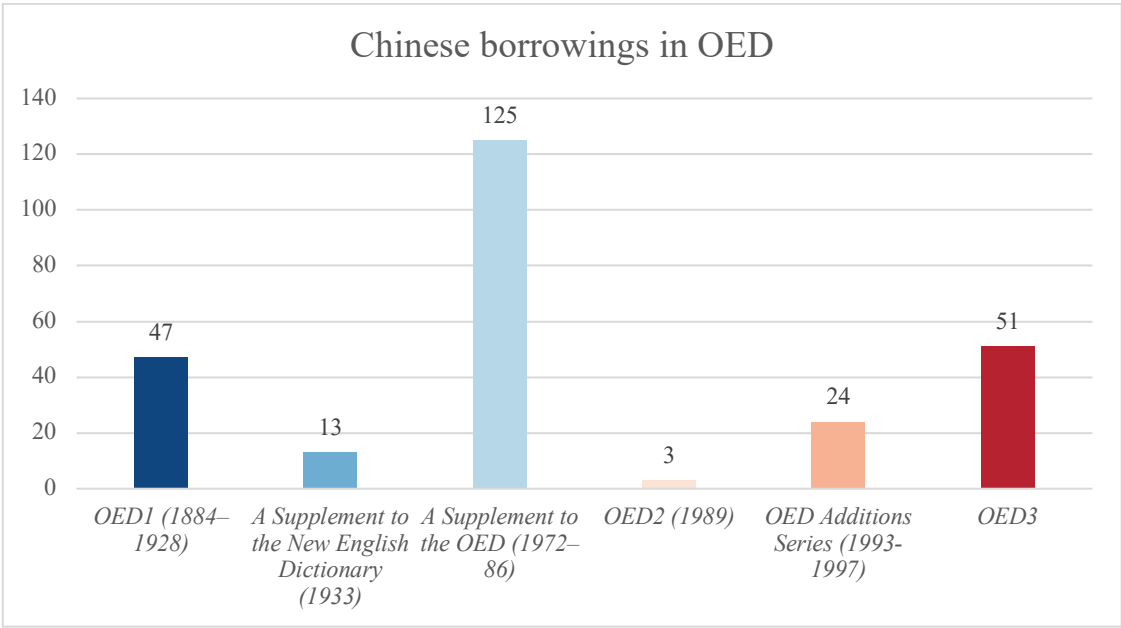


Figure 7. Number of Chinese borrowings in each edition of the OED

As it can be seen in Figure 7, most of the Chinese borrowings were first introduced in Burchfield’s *Supplement to the OED*. The *OED2* only included three new words, probably because 125 words had just been added to the *Supplement*. Although 51 new borrowings are included in *OED3*, the number of words can still increase, since the editors are still working on *OED3*.

By using different tools offered by the online version of *OED*, the data retrieved from it will be analyzed according to three different criteria, their chronology, their etymology, and their subject. A glossary of all the Chinese borrowings in *OED* is included in the Appendix, where specific information about each entry can be found, i.e. the edition of *OED* in which the borrowings first appeared, their etymology, their subject, and their definition. This information can be found on the page of each entry. For instance, the etymological and dialectal information can be found in the “Etymology” section:

aiyah, int. Text size:

View as: [Outline](#) | [Full entry](#) Quotations: [Show all](#) | [Hide all](#) Keywords: [On](#) | [Off](#)

Pronunciation: [?] Brit. /aɪˈjɑː/, U.S. /aɪˈjɑ/

Forms: 1900s– **aiya**, 1900s– **aiyah**.

Frequency (in current use): ●●●●●●●●

Origin: A borrowing from Chinese. **Etymons:** Chinese *āai ā*, *āiyā*.

Etymology: < Chinese (Cantonese) *āai ā*, *aiya* or its Mandarin equivalent *āiyā*, *aiya* (late 19th cent. or earlier), of imitative origin. ([Show Less](#))

Figure 8. Where to find the etymological and dialectal information

For instance, the word *aiyah*, *int.* comes from Chinese, but it is not clear whether it comes from the Cantonese or Mandarin dialect. In these cases, I have decided to keep both dialects.

In cases such as *bok choy*, *n.*, which the *OED* has classified as Chinese (Cantonese), I have kept the more detailed origin, which is the Cantonese dialect.

bok choy, n. Text size: **A**

View as: [Outline](#) | [Full entry](#) Quotations: [Show all](#) | [Hide all](#) Keywords: [On](#) | [Off](#)

Pronunciation: ² Brit. [▶](#) /,bʊk 'tʃɔɪ/, U.S. [▶](#) /,bʌk 'tʃɔɪ/

Inflections: Plural unchanged, *bok choys*.

Forms: 1800s **pak-tsae**, 1800s– **bok choy**, 1800s– **bok tsoi**, 1800s– **pak-choi**, 1900s– ... [\(Show More\)](#)

Frequency (in current use): ●●●●●●●●

Origin: A borrowing from Chinese. **Etymon:** Chinese *baahk choi*.

Etymology: <Chinese (Cantonese) *baahk choi* (Meyer-Wempe transcription *paak' choi*) 'white vegetable' < *baahk* 'white' + *choi* 'vegetable'. Compare [PE-TSAI n.](#) [\(Show Less\)](#)

Figure 9. Detailed information of the word *bok choy*

In order to study the chronology of the borrowings, it is essential to pay attention to the quotation section, where we can find information such as when it was first recorded and from which work. For instance, *bok choy*, *n.* was first recorded in 1847. We can also find detailed information about the citation by clicking on the hyperlinked shortened title of the work, as in:

A kind of edible Chinese cabbage, *Brassica rapa* (Chinensis group), having broad, smooth-edged leaves which taper into succulent broad white petioles. [Thesaurus »](#)
[Categories »](#)

1847 R. FORTUNE *Three Years' Wanderings China* xvi. 306 The celebrated 'Pak-tsae', or white cabbage of Shantung and Peking, is a very different plant.

1894 *Bull. Corn...* common
Tsai..is a

1899 *Current...*

1949 *Mansfield...* sauted w

1060 S. G. HAI

Citation details ✕

Robert Fortune · *Three years' wanderings in the northern provinces of China: with an account of the agriculture and horticulture of the Chinese* · 1847.
London

Figure 10. Chronological information and source in which the word is recorded

This information is important to the analysis, since it clarifies the nature of the word, e.g., whether it has entered English by direct or indirect contact; if through direct contact, where the contact has occurred; and why the word was borrowed in relation to the period recorded.

And the last aspect in the analysis is the subject of the borrowings. This information can be found on the right panel in the “Advanced search results”, by selecting “Subject”. For a more detailed classification, we can select the subject, for instance “Crafts and Trade”. Once we have the results of that selection, we have to select “subject” again in order to find the subcategories.

Advanced search results
Showing 1-20 of 263 results in 263 entries

View as: [List](#) | [Timeline](#) Jump to alphabetical point: Sort by: [Entry](#) | [Frequency](#) | [Date](#)

1. [aiyah, int.](#) [View full entry](#) 1920
...Chiefly in Chinese contexts: used to express dismay, exasperation, surprise, etc....

2. [aiyoh, int.](#) [View full entry](#) 1937
...Chiefly in Chinese contexts: used to express distress, pain, surprise, etc....

3. [ang moh, n. and adj.](#) [View full entry](#) 1899
...A light-skinned person, esp. of Western origin or descent; a Caucasian....

4. [ang pow, n.](#) [View full entry](#) 1926
...A traditional Chinese good-luck gift of money. Also: the red envelope in which this gift is presented. Cf. *lucku moneuluckv. red backetred1ff(c)(i)*....

Your current search (entries):
Origin x
Central and Eastern Asian languages > Sino-Tibetan > Chinese

Save search
Refine search

Refine your search

- ▶ Subject
- ▶ Region
- ▶ Usage
- ▶ Part of Speech
- ▶ Date of First Citation
- ▶ First Cited in

Figure 11. Classifying words according to their subject using "Refine your search"

Refine your search

▼ **Subject**

- Agriculture and Horticulture (2) +
- Arts (34) +
- Consumables (27) +
- Crafts and Trades (32) +
- Drug use (4) +
- Economics and Commerce (10) +
- History (7) +
- Law (1) +
- Manufacturing and Industry (4) +
- Military (5) +
- Organizations (1) +
- Politics (7) +
- Religion and Belief (20) +
- Sciences (22) +
- Social Sciences (1) +
- Sport and Leisure (15) +
- Technology (5) +
- Transport (3) +

Figure 12. Categories of the Chinese borrowings according to their subjects

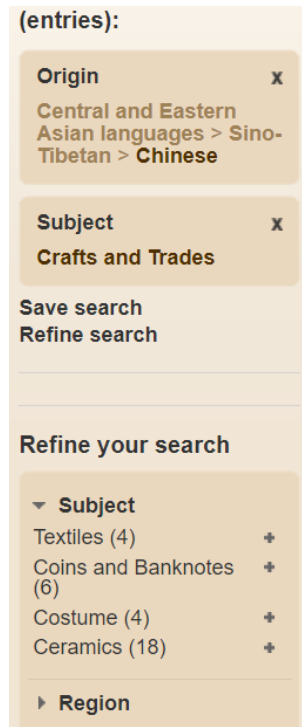


Figure 13. Subcategories of the Chinese borrowings

5.2. Analysis of the Chinese Borrowings

5.2.1. Dialect and Etymology

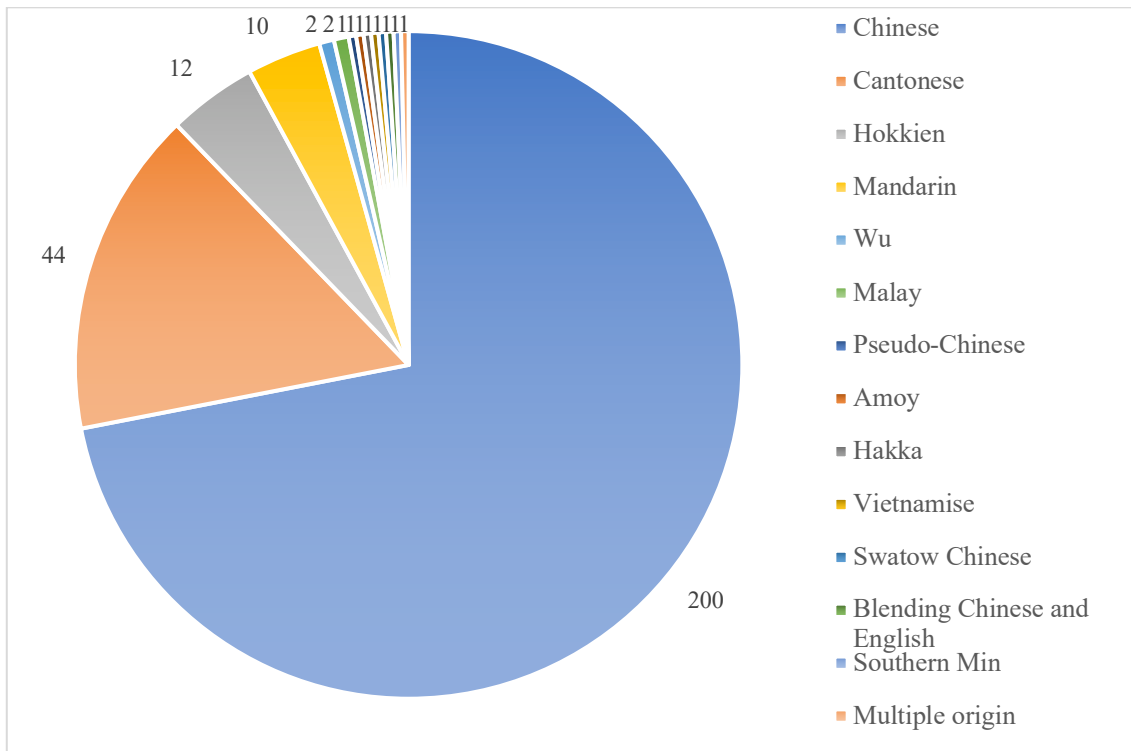


Figure 14. Number of Chinese borrowings according to their dialect of origin

In order to explain the relationship between the different origins identified in Figure 14, it is necessary to briefly introduce Chinese dialects.

According to Sun (30–33), the six main southern dialects in China are Wu, Xiang, Min, Yue (also known as Cantonese), Gan, and Kejia (also known as Hakka). Some of these dialects also have varieties. In Figure 14, we find that the dialects of Wu, Min, Yue, and Kejia are comparatively more relevant.

- A. The Wu 吴 dialect is prevalent in the “coastal regions and Yangtze River delta around the city of Shanghai”.
- B. The Min 闽 dialect can be found mainly in the “Fujian province,” but due to immigration, it can also be found in Taiwan, Hainan and Southeast Asian countries such as the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand. It also has varieties, including Fuzhou (Northern Min), Xiamen (Amoy, Southern Min) and Chaozhou (Southern Min). Another variety is the Chaoshan Min, with dialects such as the Swatow.
- C. The Yue 粤 dialect is spoken in Guangdong Province and in the Guangxi Autonomous Region. As already pointed out, it is also popularly known as Cantonese.
- D. The Kejia 客家 dialect, also known as Hakka, with its speaking communities scattered all over southern China, including Guangdong, Fujian, Taiwan, Guangxi, and Guizhou.

Figure 15 shows the relationship between these varieties:

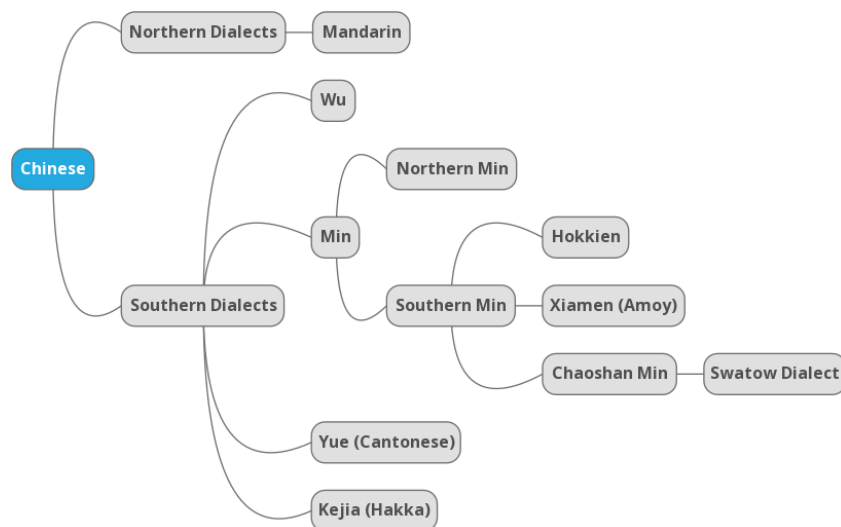


Figure 15. Relationship between different labels found in the OED

The *OED* has used different labels for the etymology of the borrowings. Some of them are labeled under the general name of “Chinese”, while others are identified more precisely, as with “Swatow Dialect”. This might be due to different reasons, such as a change of editor, the source from which the borrowing was retrieved, or the meaning of the word itself. For instance, the only example of Swatow dialect is the noun *Teochew* 潮州 ‘(A member of) a people of the Swatow district of Kwangtung in southern China; the dialect spoken by this people’, and the only example of the Xiamen (Amoy) dialect is the word *Hokkien* 福建, which can be either used as an adjective with the meaning ‘Of, relating to, or designating a dialect of Southern Min traditionally spoken in south-eastern China, and now one of the major Chinese dialects of Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, and the Philippines’ and ‘Of, relating to, or designating a member of a Chinese people traditionally inhabiting south-eastern China who speak a dialect of Southern Min, or their culture or cuisine; or it can be employed as a noun in the sense of ‘The Hokkien dialect of Southern Min’ and of ‘A member of the Hokkien people’.

It is noteworthy that some words such as *aiyah*, *int.* 哎呀 and *yen*, *n.3* 烟 have more than one label since they exist in different dialects, in this case Mandarin and Cantonese. Some other words have been labeled as being from multiple origins, Malay, and Vietnamese, such as *wah*, *int.* 哇, *ketchup*, *n.* 茄汁, and *Nung*, *adj.1* and *n.2* 侬 since their origin is not definite.

In general, as shown in Figure 14, the predominant source of Chinese borrowings is the Cantonese dialect, with a total of 44 entries. This is because Canton, as we have seen, was among the first places to open trade with foreign merchants, and remained for a long period as the only place where foreign trade was legal, so contact between English and Cantonese was, compared to other dialects, far more intensive. Furthermore, Cantonese is also widely spoken in Hong Kong, which was ceded to England after the First Opium War, and between the community of Chinese immigrants in English-speaking countries.

The second most influential dialect is the Min dialect (Southern Min, Hokkien, Amoy, Swatow), with a total of 16 entries. The entries thus labeled correspond mainly to words recorded in the 19th and 20th century, and most of them are documented in Singaporean sources, such as *bak kut teh*, *n.* 肉骨茶 (from *Straits Times* (Singapore)), *bak kwa*, *n.* 肉干 (from *Straits Times* (Singapore)), *kiasu*, *n.* and *adj.* 惊输 (from *Youth*

in Army, a book written by Leong Choon Cheong and published in Singapore). This is probably because of the large number of Min dialect speaker from Fujian who immigrated to Singapore.

Words recorded as coming from Mandarin are relatively scarce compared to southern dialects: there are only 10, as Figure 14 shows. This is largely because the English trade was mainly carried out in the south of China, and Mandarin was the predominant dialect of the north. Furthermore, it was not until the establishment of the Republic of China in 1912, when Mandarin was promoted as a common language.

Nevertheless, it is worth mentioning that this etymological analysis is limited, since some of the *OED* entries for Chinese borrowings are only classified as Chinese, which obscures information about specific dialectal origins that might affect the overall results.

5.2.2. Chronology

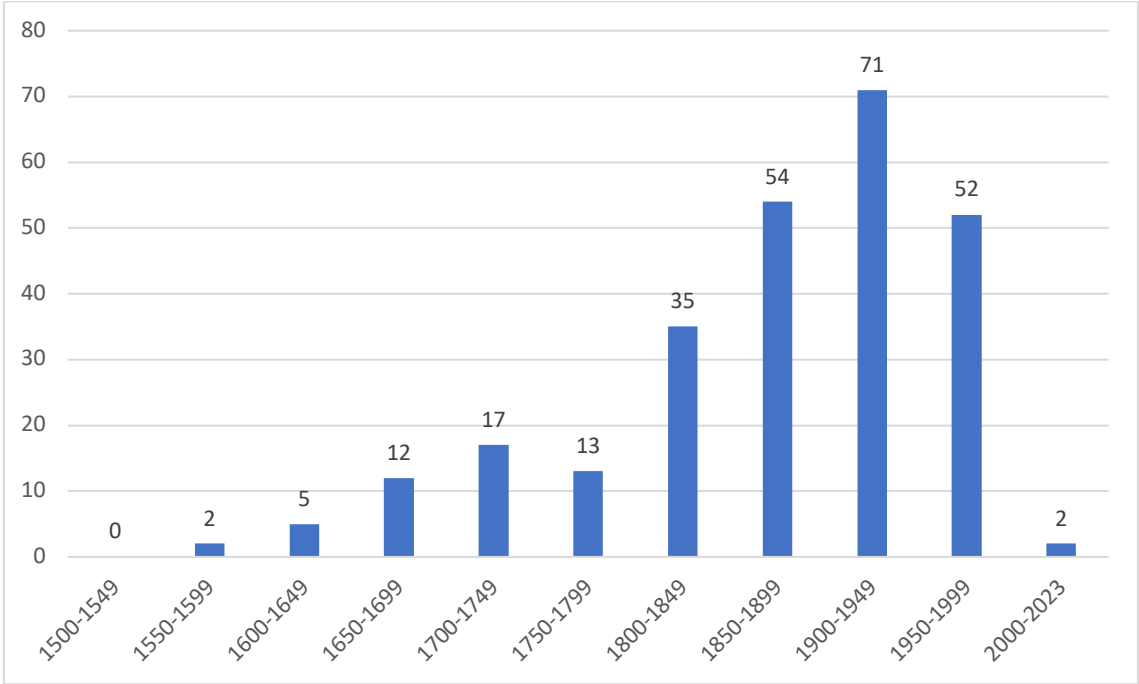


Figure 16. Number of Chinese borrowings per period

Borrowings before the mid-17th century were scarce since the English did not maintain a relatively stable contact with China. Between 1549 and 1599, there are only two borrowings recorded in *OED*, which are *li*, n.2 里 and *lychee*, n. 荔枝. These two borrowings were recorded in *Historia de las cosas más notables, ritos y costumbres del gran reyno de la China (The History of the Great and Mighty Kingdom of China and the Situation Thereof)*, written by the Spanish author Juan González de Mendoza (1545-1618)

and translated into English by Robert Parke (*fl.* 1588—1589) in 1588. Therefore, the early borrowings entered in English through indirect sources.

Between 1600 and 1649, contact between the two cultures was still scarce, which is shown in the 5 borrowings recorded. These 5 words are recorded in Samuel Purchas' (*bap.* 1577, *d.* 1626) *Purchas his pilgrimage; or, Relations of the world and the religions obserued in all ages and places discovered* (1613) and *Hakluytus Posthumus or, Purchas his Pilgrimes*, where we can find the words *tian*, *n.1* 天, *tutang*, *n.*, and *chin chin*, *int. and n.1* 请请. In Richard Cock's (*bap.* 1565, *d.* 1624) *Diary of Richard Cocks, cape-merchant in the English factory in Japan, 1615-1622* and *Diary in Japan*, we can find the words *sampan*, *n.1* 舢板, and *cha*, *n.* 茶. The borrowings from this period are still from indirect sources since Richard Cock was a merchant settled in Japan and Samuel Purchas was a geographical editor and compiler of travel stories.

From 1650 to 1699, the number of borrowings increased to 12, showing how the interest of the English in the Chinese market was starting to emerge. Some of the borrowings were registered in translated works from the Portuguese missionary Álvaro de Semedo's (1585 or 1586-1658) *The History of that Great and Renowned Monarchy of China* (e.g., *chen shu*, *n.* 真书, *longan*, *n.* 龙眼, and *lü*, *n.1* 芦) and in translations by John Ogilby (1600-1676) of works written in Dutch. Some others come from general works such as Samuel Clarke's *A geographical description of all the countries in the known world*, where *Song*, *n.2 and adj.* 宋 is documented. The only words coming into English via direct contact with Chinese are *chop-stick*, *n.* 筷子 and *kumquat*, *n.* 金桔, both of which are found in William Dampier's (1651–1715) *Voyages and descriptions* of 1699.

During the 18th century, borrowings further increased with the trade activities. Borrowings from this period were recorded from diverse sources. For instance, we can find the word *bohea* *adj. and n.* 武夷岩茶 from a 1703 comedy play *The Lying Lover* by Richard Steele (*bap.* 1672, *d.* 1729), the word *bing*, *n.2* 柄 from *Philosophical Transactions*, a scientific journal, and *pongee*, *n.* 平织 *and adj.* that is recorded in *An account of the trade in India: containing rules for good government in trade, price courants and tables* by Charles Lockyer (died 1752); this is a guidebook for trade practices. Later in the century, we can also find words such as *souchong*, *n.* 小种 and *paktong*, *n.* 白铜, both of which are recorded in *The Annual Register*. This widening diversity reflects the gaining influence of Chinese borrowings in England, probably due

to the increasing interest of the English for the exotic products that were traded during this time, as we have seen in Section 3.2.

In the 19th century, the number of Chinese borrowings increased by more than double with regard to previous periods, probably because the Chinese immigration to English-speaking countries further intensified the contact between Chinese and English. We may refer to borrowings reflecting the problem of opium, such as *yen*, *n.* 烟 ‘Opium’; *yen*, *n.* 癮 ‘1. The craving of a drug-addict for his drug (originally for opium)’; *suey pow*, *n.* 水泡 ‘A sponge or rag used to clean and cool an opium pipe’; and *yen-yen*, *n.* 烟癮 ‘A craving for opium, the ‘opium-habit’. There are also words expressing the political unrest such as *Tai-ping*, *n.* 太平 ‘The name given to the adherents of a great rebellion which arose in Southern China in 1850, under the leadership of Hung-siu-tsuen, styled *Tien-wang*, Heavenly Prince, and *T'ai-p'ing-wang*, Prince of great peace, who claimed a divine commission to overthrow the Manchu dynasty and establish one of native origin, to be called the *T'ai-p'ing Chao* or Great Peace Dynasty’. Borrowings reflecting the situation of Chinese immigrants in foreign places are *hoey*, *n.* 会 ‘A society of Chinese: esp. a secret society formed by them in English-speaking countries or colonies’; while words reflecting the racial conflict include *ang moh*, *n. and adj.* 红毛 ‘A light-skinned person, esp. of Western origin or descent; a Caucasian’ (usually derogatory), and *Chink*. *n.5 and adj.* ‘A person of Chinese birth or descent; (also more generally) a person of East or South-East Asian birth or descent’, which is marked as ‘(slang (originally Australian). Usually derogative and offensive)’.

As displayed in Figure 16, the 20th century was the period during which most of the borrowings were recorded. We can find borrowings related to the historical context of the Chinese Civil War, such as *splittism*, *n.*¹ 分离主义 ‘In Communist use: the pursuance of factional interests in opposition to official party policy’; *Kuomintang*, *n.* 国民党 ‘A nationalist radical party founded in China under Sun Yat-Sen in 1912, and led, after his death in 1925, by Chiang Kai-Shek, constituting the government before the Communist Party took power in October 1949, and subsequently forming the central administration of Taiwan’; *tangpu*, *n.* 党部 ‘The headquarters of the Kuomintang at the

¹ This is a loan translation formed by 分离 ‘split’ and the suffix *-ism*.

central, and various local, levels.’; and *Yenan*, *n.* 延安 ‘The name of a town in northern Shaanxi province, China, which was the headquarters of the Chinese Communist Party in the years 1936-49, used *attributively* to designate this period in the history of the Party, or to describe the principles and policies evolved by it at that time’.

From 2000 to 2023, we can find two borrowings, *boba*, *n.* 波霸 ‘A cold drink of Taiwanese origin which typically blends tea or a fruit-based drink with sweetener, flavouring, and tapioca pearls, shaken to a froth and usually served with a wide straw’ and *goji*, *n.* 枸杞 ‘The edible bright red berry of either of two species of wolfberry, *Lycium barbarum* and *L. chinense*, widely cultivated in China and supposed to contain high levels of certain vitamins’.

5.2.3. Subject

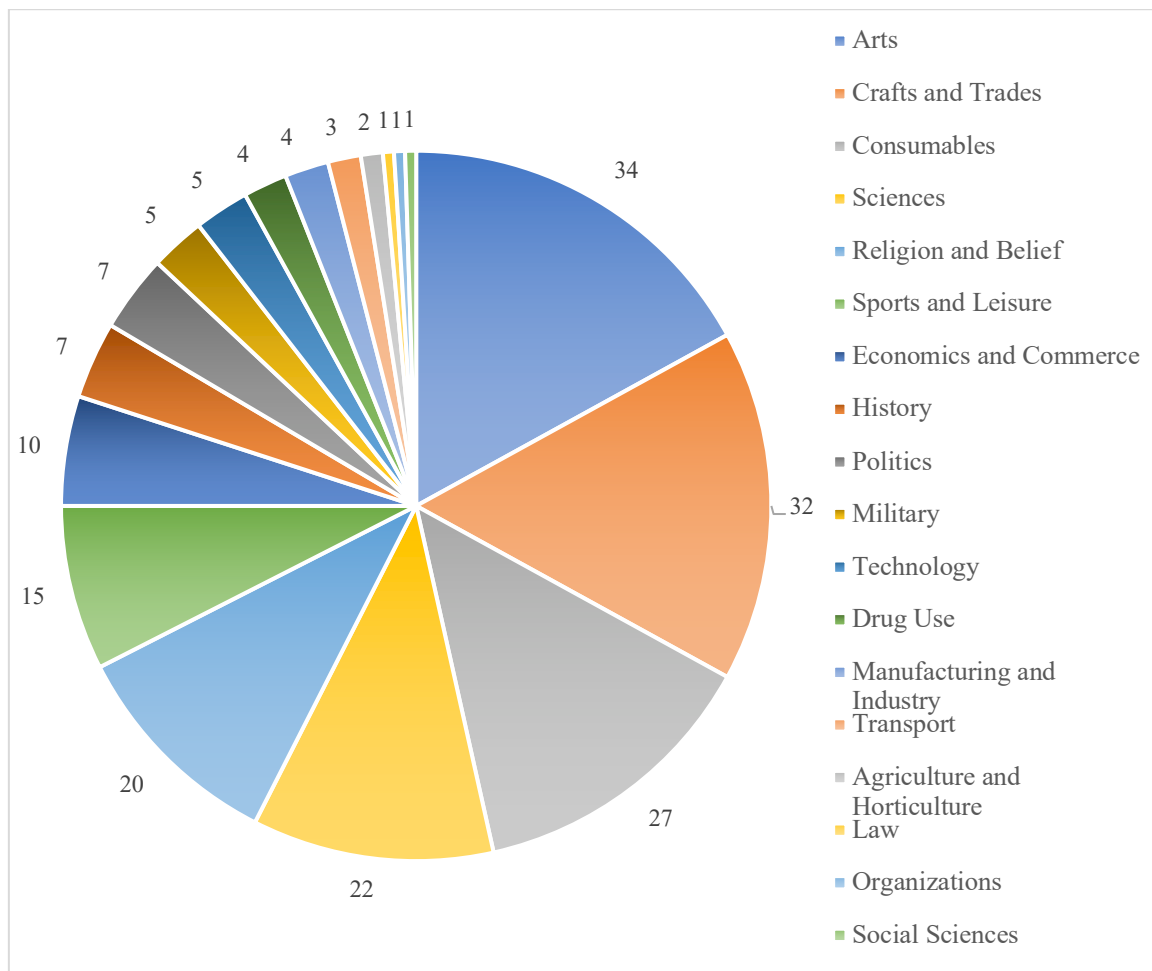


Figure 17. Number of Chinese borrowings according to their subject

It is worth noting that not all the 263 borrowings from Chinese recorded in *OED* have been classified in terms of subject, while some of them have been included in more

than one category. As Figure 17 shows, the labelled borrowings can be arranged into 18 different fields, as follows:

5.2.3.1. Arts

Under this category we can find the subcategories of Visual Arts, Literature, Performing Arts, Film, and Decorative Arts.

The subcategory of Performing Arts has a total of 17 borrowings, in which we can find traditional Chinese instruments such as *chop-stick*, *n.2* 筷子, *dizi*, *n.* 笛子, *erhu*, *n.* 二胡, *lü*, *n.1* 芦, *paiban*, *n.* 拍板, *pipa*, *n.2* 琵琶, *qin*, *n.2* 琴, *sanxian*, *n.* 三弦, *se*, *n.2* 瑟, *sheng*, *n.1* 笙, *suona*, *n.* 唢呐, *yang ch'in*, *n.* 扬琴, and *yüeh ch'in*, *n.* 月琴; interpreters of Chinese drama or opera *sheng*, *n.2* 生 *tan*, *n.5* 旦; and a type of popular Chinese dance in the north of the country: *yang-ko*, *n.* 秧歌.

There are 10 borrowings related to Decorative Arts. Among them, we find words related to painting techniques on porcelain such as *doucai*, *n.* 斗彩, *san ts'ai*, *n.* 三彩 and *wu ts'ai*, *n.* 五彩; calligraphy arts such as *k'ai shu*, *n.* 楷书, *ta chuan*, *n.* 大庄 and *li shu*, *n.* 隶书; porcelain vessels such as *mei ping*, *n.* 梅瓶; and a Chinese mythological creature: *taotie*, *n.* 饕餮

The *OED* has recorded three borrowings denoting visual arts: *Song*, *n.2 and adj.* 宋, *Kuan*, *n.* 官, and *Wei*, *n.* 魏. They are used to designate works of art such as sculpture and pottery produced in the same historical period, such as *Kuan yao* 官窑 or *Kuan ware*.

In the subcategory of literature there are two borrowings, *pai-hua*, *n.* 白话, and *wên jên*, *n.* 文人

Finally, we find the word *wuxia* 武侠, which refers to a popular fiction genre in which the characters are often depicted as capable of superhuman feats.

5.2.3.2. Crafts and Trades

In Crafts and Trades there are a total of 32 entries, classified in four subcategories.

The subcategory of Ceramics is the one with the most entries, a total of 18. There are words referring to potteries such as *Dingyao*, *n.* 定窑, *Ko*, *n.2* 哥, *Kuan*, *n.* 官, *li*, *n.6* 利, *li ting*, *n.* 利鼎, *Ming*, *n.2 and adj.* 明, *san ts'ai*, *n.* 三彩, *Song*, *n.2 and adj.* 宋, *Tz'u Chou*, *n.* 磁州, *ying ching*, *n.* 影青, *Yuan*, *n.1.* 元; painting techniques on porcelain such as *doucai*, *n.* 斗彩, *petuntse*, *n.* 白墩子, *wu ts'ai*, *n.* 五彩; motifs in a work of art such as

kylin, *n.* 麒麟, *lei wên*, *n.* 雷纹, *lingzhi*, *n.* 灵芝; and a word to designate the period of manufacture of an object: *nien hao*, *n.* 年号.

In the subcategory of Coins and Banknotes there are 6 words. They are monetary units *jiao*, *n.* 角, *fen*, *n.* 4 分, *tiao*, *n.* 条, and *yuan*, *n.* 2 元; units of measure *li*, *n.* 3 釐; and a gambling game: *fan-tan*, *n.* 翻摊.

In the subcategory Costume we find Chinese traditional clothes such as *cheongsam*, *n.*², *qipao*, *n.* 旗袍, *samfu*, *n.* 衫裤; and a bamboo cane: *whangee*, *n.* 黄竹.

Finally, there are four words denoting textiles: *moc-main*, *n.* 木棉, *pongee*, *n.* and *adj.* 平织, *senshaw*, *n.*³, and *tsatlee*, *n.* 七里.

5.2.3.3. Consumables

In this category, we find 25 entries about Food and Cooking, which can be classified as traditional Chinese dishes such as *bak kut teh*, *n.* 肉骨茶, *bak kwa*, *n.* 肉干, *bao*, *n.* 包, *baozi*, *n.* 包子, *char kway teow*, *n.* 炒粿条, *chop suey*, *n.* 杂碎, *chow mein*, *n.* 炒面, *choy sum*, *n.* 菜心, *dim sum*, *n.* 点心, *jiaozi*, *n.* 饺子, *mee*, *n.*⁴, *mien*, *n.* 2 面, *moo goo gai pan*, *n.* 蘑菇鸡片, *moo shu*, *n.* 木樨, *shumai*, *n.* 烧卖, *siu mei*, *n.* 烧味; sauces such as *ketchup*, *n.* 茄汁, *hoisin*, *n.* 海鲜; and cooking utensils such as *li*, *n.* 6 利 and *li ting*, *n.* 立鼎.

Mao-tai, *n.* 茅台 and *Twankay*, *n.* 屯溪 refer to drinks.

5.2.3.4. Sciences

Borrowings belonging to this category can be arranged into the subcategories of Life Sciences, Medicine, and Mathematics.

In Life Sciences we find 15 entries related to the Chinese fauna and flora. They are *bok choy*, *n.* 白菜, *kaoliang*, *n.* 高粱, *kumquat*, *n.* 金桔, *ling*, *n.* 3 菱, *longan*, *n.* 龙眼,

² *Cheongsam* and *qipao* are the same type of dress, but *cheongsam* is a transcription from Cantonese, while *qipao* is the Mandarin transcription.

³ Probably 香云纱.

⁴ Cantonese transcription of *mien*.

loquat, *n.* 枇杷, *lychee*, *n.* 荔枝, *pela*, *n.* 白蜡, *pe-tsai*, *n.* 白菜⁵, *Shar-Pei*, *n.* 沙皮, *Shih Tzu*, *n.* 西施, *towcok*, *n.* 豆角, *tung*, *n.* 桐, *wampee*, *n.* 黄皮, and *wonk*, *n.* 汪.

Medicine techniques and ingredients of the Chinese medicine are *lingzhi*, *n.* 灵芝, *Nei kuan*, *n.* 内关, *qigong*, *n.* 气功, *qinghaosu*, *n.* 青蒿素, *tui na*, *n.* 推拿, and *tu-mo*, *n.* 督脉.

In the field of Mathematics, we find a Chinese abacus: *suan-pan*, *n.* 算盘.

5.2.3.5. Religion and Belief

This subject comprises three subcategories: Religion, Belief systems and practices, and Mythology.

There are 14 entries relating to Religion, in which there are borrowings denoting Buddhist concepts, Chinese philosophy elements, and ancient rituals. They are *Chan*, *n.* 禅, *Kuan*, *n.* 观, *li*, *n.* 5 礼, *Lohan*, *n.* 罗汉, *pi*, *n.* 2 璧, *p'o*, *n.* 4 魄, *po shan lu*, *n.* 博山炉, *qi*, *n.* 气, *tai chi*, *n.* 太极, *tao*, *n.* 道, *te*, *n.* 2 德, *wu-wei*, *n.* 无为, *yang*, *n.* 阳, and *yin*, *n.* 1 阴.

Mythological borrowings include four Chinese mythological animals: *fum*, *n.* 凤, *ho-ho*, *n.* 凤凰, *kylin*, *n.* 麒麟, and *taotie*, *n.* 饕餮.

Finally, in Belief systems and practices, we find *feng shui*, *n.* 风水 and *I Ching*, *n.* 易经.

5.2.3.6. Sports and Leisure

There are three subcategories in Sports and Leisure, which are Games, Sport, and Horses and Riding.

In Games, we find *fan-tan*, *n.* 番摊, *mah-jong*, *n.* 麻将, *pai gow*, *n.* 牌九, *pakapoo*, *n.* 白鸽票, *pung*, *n.* 4 (and int.) 碰, *pung*, *v.* 碰, *punging*, *n.* 2⁶, and *wei ch'i*, *n.* 围棋.

⁵ Although it shares the same characters in Chinese than *bok choy*, they are not the same kind of vegetable. *Pe-tsai* (Mandarin, *Brassica campestris pekinensis*) is usually larger in size, and is most consumed in the north of China, while *bok choy* (Cantonese, *Brassica rapa* subsp. *chinensis*) is smaller in size, and is more frequent in the south of China. They are usually differentiated with 大(big)白菜 and 小(small)白菜. This might be the reason why *bok choy* is from the Cantonese dialect, while *pe-tsai* is from Mandarin.

⁶ A loanblend formed by *pung* and *-ing*.

In Sport, we find *kung fu*, *n.* 功夫, *tai chi*, *n.* 太极, *Wing Chun*, *n.* 咏春, *wushu*, *n.* 武术, *wuxia*, *n.* 武侠, and *yulo*, *n.* 摇橹.

In Horses and Riding, we find *mafoo*, *n.* 马夫.

5.2.3.7. Economics and Commerce

In this category, there are 10 borrowings, one of which is related to the field of finance. It is *dim sum*, *n.* (dim sum bond *n.* *Finance* (a name for) a bond denominated in Chinese renminbi or yuan, but issued outside mainland China.)

The other 9 entries are *fen*, *n.* 4 分, *hong*, *n.* 行, *jiao*, *n.* 角, *liang*, *n.* 两, *likin*, *n.* 釐金, *renminbi*, *n.* 人民币, *sycee*, *n.* 细丝, *taipan*, *n.* 1 大班, and *yuan*, *n.* 2 元.

5.2.3.8. History

In History, all entries have been classified as belonging to the field of Archeology. We find borrowings such as *lei*, *n.* 2 壘, *p'an*, *n.* 6 盘, *pi*, *n.* 2 璧, *tsung*, *n.* 琮, *yu*, *n.* 卣, *yuan*, *n.* 2 圆, and *yüeh*, *n.* 4 钺.

5.2.3.9. Politics

In this category there is a total of 7 entries, amongst which we find *Kuomintang*, *n.* 国民党, *Sanfan*, *n.* 三反, *splittism*, *n.* 分裂主义, *Tai-ping*, *n.* 太平, *tangpu*, *n.* 党部, *Wufan*, *n.* 五反, *Yenan*, *n.* 延安.

5.2.3.10. Military

Two words belonging to this category have been classified as weaponry: *ko*, *n.* 3 戈 and *yüeh*, *n.* 4 钺. The rest of the words are *ganbu*, *n.* 干部, *tuchun*, *n.* 督军, *wuxia*, *n.* 武侠.

5.2.3.11. Technology

In Technology, all five words have been classified as Measurement. We find the words *li*, *n.* 2 里, *liang*, *n.* 两, *mou*, *n.* 2 亩, *shang*, *n.* 2 垧, and *tan*, *n.* 6 担.

5.2.3.12. Drug Use

There are four entries in this section, which are *gow*, *n.* 2 膏, *yen*, *n.* 2 癮, *yen*, *n.* 3 烟, and *yen-yen*, *n.* 烟癮.

5.2.3.13. Manufacturing and Industry

There are two words about manufacturing, which are *paitung*, *n.* 白铜 and *paktong*, *n.*⁷; a word about oil and gas industry, *tung*, *n.* 桐; and a word about building: *ting*, *n.*² 亭.

5.2.3.14. Transport

Borrowings relating to Transport have been arranged into the subcategories of nautical items (*sampan*, *n.* 舢板 and *Tanka*, *n.* 趸家); and aviation: *taikonaut*, *n.*⁸.

5.2.3.15. Agriculture and Horticulture

In this category there are two types of flowers, which are *moutan*, *n.* 牡丹 and *yulan*, *n.* 玉兰.

5.2.3.16. Law

There is only one word under this category, which is *taotai*, *n.* 道台.

5.2.3.17. Organizations

As in the case of organizations, the *OED* has recorded one borrowing belonging to this field: *Gormogon*, *n.*⁹.

5.2.3.18. Social Sciences

Only one word has been recorded, which is *tsu*, *n.* 子.

⁷ *Paitung* and *paktong* are the same word, but *paitung* is a transcription from Mandarin, while *paktong* is from Cantonese.

⁸ Loan-blend formed by *taikon* 太空 ‘space’ and *-naut*; it means astronaut.

⁹ According to *OED*, it is a pseudo-Chinese word that has been recorded in *Grand Mystery of Freemasons* (1725) with the following quotation: “The Venerable Order of Gormogons having been brought into England by a Chinese Mandarin.”

6. Conclusion

This thesis has explained what lexical borrowings are, the types of lexical borrowings, and the motivations why a language takes words from another language in order to study the case of Chinese and English. To better understand why English has taken borrowings from Chinese, I have explored the history of contact between the two languages. In analyzing this historical contact, we have seen that before the 17th century, language contact between these two languages was scarce. Nevertheless, by the late-17th century, England's interest in trading with China became the turning point to an increasingly more active contact. This contact was further intensified during the 18th century when the English became more interested in the exotic products imported from China. In the 19th century, the Opium Wars forced the Chinese to open its market and cede Hong Kong to Britain, while a massive immigration of Chinese population, mainly from Canton and Fujian, to English-speaking countries or English colonies such as the United States, Canada, and Singapore, increased the possibilities of contact between Chinese and English. This contact, however, was influenced by the anti-Chinese sentiments until the 20th century, when this sentiment was softened. In the 20th century, the political unrest derived from the Sino-Japanese war and the Chinese Civil war left the Chinese market devastated, but the Chinese diaspora in foreign countries kept the contact between the two languages.

To study the Chinese borrowings in English, I have decided to use the online version of the *OED*. Although *OED* was not inclusive with regard to foreign borrowings when its compilation started, its policies have changed radically, and it is now a reliable source to study Chinese borrowings. It is also a useful tool, since it offers a search engine that facilitates the process of retrieving Chinese borrowings in English, as well as classifying them according to different criteria.

In this last regard, I have been able to analyze Chinese borrowings in English according to their chronology, dialect, and subject. In analyzing the chronology, I have found that the more intense the contact was between Chinese and English, the more borrowings the latter took from the former, which is most evident in the number of borrowings recorded in 20th century after the expansion of the Chinese diaspora in English-speaking countries. In analyzing dialect, I have found that the Chinese dialect that has most influenced English is Cantonese, which is closely related to the historical reasons behind contact between both languages: on the one hand, Canton was the only legal port until the Opium Wars; on the other, we may refer to the large proportion of

Cantonese immigrants in the United States and Canada. Another influential dialect is the Min dialect, which is also closely related to the Chinese immigration, since those who immigrated to Singapore were mainly from Fujian and spoke the Min dialect. Finally, in analyzing their subject, I have found that the categories with most borrowings were those related commerce (e.g. tea, porcelain, textiles, units of currency, weight measure) and Chinese culture (e.g. philosophy, instruments, food, mythology), reflecting the relationship between the cultures.

As it has been previously mentioned, the study of the Chinese borrowings in *OED* is limited, since not all words have a detailed information about their dialectal origin and not all of them have been assigned a subject. Further research is needed to fill the gaps in *OED* in order to enrich the analysis and to provide more precise results. For instance, the analysis of the phonology of the Chinese borrowings in *OED* would be of great contribution to future studies, since it would reveal etymological information lacking in *OED*. In order to facilitate this kind of analysis, I have included the Chinese transcription of the borrowings in *OED*, since it helps to establish connection between the borrowings and the original word.

The present paper is thus an attempt to make sense of the Chinese borrowings in English by providing some historical context of the contact between Chinese and English, since the historical context that has contributed to the process of borrowing is often overlooked. By setting the historical context, this work attempts to facilitate future work on this area.

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Appendix

Glossary of Chinese Borrowings in English

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
aiyah, <i>int.</i>	1920	Cantonese, Mandarin	<i>OED3</i>		Chiefly in Chinese contexts: used to express dismay, exasperation, surprise, etc.
aiyoh, <i>int</i>	1937	Mandarin	<i>OED3</i>		Chiefly in Chinese contexts: used to express distress, pain, surprise, etc.
ang moh, <i>n.</i> and <i>adj.</i>	1899	Hokkien	<i>OED3</i>		A. <i>n.</i> A light-skinned person, esp. of Western origin or descent; a Caucasian. B. <i>adj.</i> Light-skinned, Caucasian; Western in behaviour.
ang pow, <i>n.</i>	1926	Hokkien	<i>OED3</i>		A traditional Chinese good-luck gift of money. Also: the red envelope in which this gift is presented.
bak kut teh, <i>n.</i>	1969	Hokkien	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In Malaysian and Singaporean cookery: a dish consisting of pork ribs in a broth seasoned with herbs and spices.
bak kwa, <i>n.</i>	1960	Hokkien	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In Chinese cookery: meat, esp. pork, that has been cured with spices, sugar, salt, and soy sauce and dried, popular in Singapore and Malaysia and traditionally eaten during Chinese New Year
bao, <i>n.</i>	1971	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In Chinese cookery: a steamed bread roll with a savoury or sweet filling; = <i>baozi n.</i>
baozi, <i>n.</i>	1927	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In Chinese cookery: a steamed bread roll with a savoury or sweet filling.
bing, <i>n.</i> ²	1702	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		A kind of tea
boba, <i>n.</i>	2000	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>		A cold drink of Taiwanese origin which typically blends tea or a fruit-based drink with sweetener, flavouring, and tapioca pearls, shaken to a froth and usually served with a wide straw; = <i>bubble tea n.</i> at <i>bubble n. and adj.</i> Compounds 2. Often more fully <i>boba tea</i> .
Bohea, <i>adj.</i> and <i>n.</i>	1702	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		A. <i>adj.</i> Of the Wu-i hills, whence black tea was first brought to England; applied also to tea of similar quality grown elsewhere. B. <i>n.</i> 1. <i>Bohea tea</i> . The name was given in the beginning of the 18th cent. to the finest kinds of black tea; but the quality now known as 'Bohea' is the lowest, being the last crop of the season. 2. An infusion of this tea taken as a beverage.
bok choy, <i>n.</i>	1847	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, Volume III (1982)</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	A kind of edible Chinese cabbage, <i>Brassica rapa</i> (Chinensis group), having broad, smooth-edged leaves which taper into succulent broad white petioles.
campoi, <i>n.</i>	1842	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary (1933)</i>		A fired variety of Congou tea.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
cha, <i>n.</i>	1616	Mandarin	<i>OED1</i>		The name of <u>tea n.¹</u> in the Mandarin dialect of Chinese, which was occasionally used in English at the first introduction of the beverage. (Some subsequently applied it as a name to the special form of rolled tea used in central Asia.) Now used <i>slang</i> for 'tea'; cf. <u>chai n.²</u> , <u>char n.⁶</u>
Chan, <i>n.</i>	1876	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Religion and Belief	A Chinese school of Mahayana Buddhism which emphasizes the value of meditation as a means of finding spiritual insight and enlightenment, and which gave rise to the development of Zen (<u>Zen n. 1</u>) in Japan; the discipline or practice of this. Frequently, and in earliest use, <i>attributive</i> , esp. in <i>Chan Buddhism</i> .
char kway teow, <i>n.</i>	1973	Hokkien	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	Chiefly in Malaysian and Singaporean cookery: a dish consisting of flat rice noodles stir-fried in soy sauce and shrimp paste with whole prawns, cockles, and bean sprouts.
char siu, <i>n.</i>	1952	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>		In Cantonese cookery: roast pork marinated in a sweet and savoury sauce, typically served sliced into thin strips. Frequently <i>attributive</i> , esp. in <i>char siu bun</i> , <i>char siu pork</i> , <i>char siu rice</i> .
chen shu, <i>n.</i>	1655	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>		= <u>k'ai shu n.</u>
cheongsam, <i>n.</i>	1957	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, Volume I (1972)</i>	Crafts and Trades (Costume)	A garment worn by Chinese women
chin chin, <i>int.</i> and <i>n.¹</i>	1625	Cantonese, Mandarin	<i>OED1</i>		A. <i>int.</i> 1. Expressing a respectful greeting or valediction, originally as said when making the traditional Chinese gesture of greeting or valediction. 2. Used as a toast or salutation before drinking. B. <i>n.¹</i> A traditional gesture of greeting or valediction used in China, made by clasping the hands together in front of the chest, shaking them gently, and bowing, often with the use of the accompanying words 'chin-chin' (see sense A. 1). Obsolete.
Chink, <i>n.⁵</i> and <i>adj.</i>	1880	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary (1933)</i>		A. <i>n.⁵</i> A person of Chinese birth or descent; (also more generally) a person of East or South-East Asian birth or descent. B. <i>adj.</i> (in attributive use). Chinese; (also more generally) East or South-East Asian.
chop suey, <i>n.</i>	1888	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary (1933)</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	A Chinese-style dish of meat or chicken, rice, onions, etc., fried in sesame-oil.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
chop-stick, <i>n.</i> ²	1699	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>plural</i>. The two small sticks or slips of bone, wood, ivory, or the like, held between the thumb and fingers of one hand by the Chinese in place of a fork for conveying food to the mouth. Occasionally in <i>singular</i>. <i>plural</i>. A quick tune for the piano played with the forefinger of each hand.
chow mein, <i>n.</i>	1903	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, Volume I (1972)</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	Fried noodles served with a thick sauce or stew composed of chopped meat, vegetables, etc.
choy sum, <i>n.</i>	1939	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	A kind of Chinese cabbage, <i>Brassica rapa</i> (Parachinensis group), with soft rounded mild-tasting leaves and small edible yellow flowers. Also (in Chinese cooking): the tender heart and flowering stems of some similar vegetables such as bok choy (Chinensis group), turnip rape (Oleifera group), and spinach mustard (Pervirdidis group)
congou, <i>n.</i>	1725	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		A kind of black tea imported from China.
dai pai dong, <i>n.</i>	1983	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>		A traditional licensed street stall, typically with a small seating area, selling cooked food at low prices; (now more generally) any food stall of this type.
dazibao, <i>n.</i>	1960	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		In the People's Republic of China, a wall poster written in large characters that expresses a (political) opinion or other message.
dim sum, <i>n.</i>	1894	Cantonese	<i>OED2</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking) Economics and Commerce	In Chinese cuisine (as a mass noun): a light meal or dish consisting of a selection of small, usually savoury, steamed or fried filled dumplings, steamed buns, pieces of cooked meat, etc.; food of this type. Also (and in earliest use) as a count noun: one of the small dumplings, buns, etc., served in this way.
ding, <i>n.</i> ⁵	1904	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		A Chinese vessel or cauldron, esp. of bronze, having three or four legs and two loop-shaped handles; <i>spec.</i> a round vessel of this type with three legs
Dingyao, <i>n.</i>	1857	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	Chinese ceramics of a type produced in the Dingzhou prefecture from the 8th cent. until the 14th cent., typically having a thin, white porcelain (or porcelain-like) body and an ivory-tinted transparent glaze; Ding ware.
dizi, <i>n.</i>	1874	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A type of Chinese transverse flute, typically made from bamboo.
doucai, <i>n.</i>	1953	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Decorative Arts) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	Used <i>attributively</i> and <i>absol.</i> of a kind of enamel painting on Chinese porcelain, developed in the reign of Ch'êng Hua (1465–87), and of (pieces of) porcelain so decorated.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
erhu, <i>n.</i>	1908	Chinese	<i>OED2</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese two-stringed fiddle
fan-tan, <i>n.</i>	1878	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Crafts and Trades (Coins and Banknotes) Sports and Leisure (Games)	A Chinese gambling game, in which a number of small coins are placed under a bowl and the players then bet as to what will be the remainder when the pile has been divided by four.
fen, <i>n.</i> ⁴	1852	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 2 (1993)</i>	Crafts and Trades (Coins and Banknotes) Economics and Commerce	A Chinese monetary unit equivalent to one hundredth of a yuan or one tenth of a jiao; formerly, a candareen. Also, a coin of this value.
feng shui, <i>n.</i>	1797	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary (1933)</i>	Religion and Belief	In Chinese mythology, a system of spirit influences, good and evil, which inhabit the natural features of landscapes; hence, a kind of geomancy for dealing with these influences in determining sites for houses and graves.
foo yung, <i>n.</i>	1917	Cantonese	<i>OED2</i>		In Chinese cuisine: a preparation of eggs cooked with a variety of other ingredients. Frequently as <i>egg foo yung</i> .
fum, <i>n.</i>	1820	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Religion and Belief	A fabulous bird (by Europeans commonly called the phoenix), one of the symbols of the imperial dignity in China.
Gan, <i>n.</i> ² (and <i>adj.</i>)	1943	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>		The Chinese dialect spoken in the Jiangxi province and in south-eastern areas of Hubei province. Also <i>attributive</i> or as <i>adj.</i>
ganbei, <i>int., n., and v.</i>	1940	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>		A Chinese drinking-toast, a call to drain one's glass. Also as <i>v. intransitive and transitive</i> , to drink (as) a toast.
ganbu, <i>n.</i>	1956	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>	Military	In the People's Republic of China, an officeholder in an (esp. Party or military) organization; a cadre.
goji, <i>n.</i>	2002	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		In full goji berry. The edible bright red berry of either of two species of wolfberry, <i>Lycium barbarum</i> and <i>L. chinense</i> , widely cultivated in China and supposed to contain high levels of certain vitamins.
† Gormogon, <i>n.</i>	1725	pseudo-Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Organizations	A member of a society imitating the Freemasons, founded early in the 18th cent.
gow, <i>n.</i> ²	1922	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume I (1972)</i>	Drug use	A drug; <i>spec.</i> opium
guanxi, <i>n.</i>	1979	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		In Chinese contexts: a network of personal connections and social relationships one can use for professional or other advantage.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
gung ho, <i>n.</i>	1942	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume I (1972)		A slogan adopted in the war of 1939–1945 by the United States Marines under General E. Carlson (1896–1947); hence as <i>adj.</i> : enthusiastic, eager, zealous.
Hakka, <i>adj.</i> and <i>n.</i>	1847	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary</i> (1933)		A. <i>adj.</i> Of or relating to a people belonging to the Han Chinese group, living esp. in parts of south-eastern China, including Guangdong, Fujian, Jiangxi, and Hong Kong, and on the island of Taiwan. Also: of or relating to the language of this people. B. <i>n.</i> 1. A member of the Hakka people. 2. The variety of Chinese spoken by the Hakka people.
hien hsien, <i>n.</i>	1837	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary</i> (1933)		An administrative division of a fu or department, or of an independent chow or district; also, the seat of government of such a division.
hoey, <i>n.</i>	1865	Mandarin	<i>OED1</i>		A society of Chinese: esp. a secret society formed by them in English-speaking countries or colonies.
ho-ho, <i>n.</i>	1901	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume II (1976)	Religion and Belief	ho-ho bird , a mythical bird of pheasant-like appearance used frequently as an emblem of courage.
hoisin, <i>n.</i>	1957	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	More fully hoisin sauce . A rich, sweet, dark sauce made from soya beans, garlic, vegetable extracts, and spices, widely used in Chinese cookery.
Hokkien, <i>adj.</i> and <i>n.</i>	1832	Amoy	<i>OED3</i>		A. <i>adj. (attributive)</i> . 1. Of, relating to, or designating a dialect of Southern Min traditionally spoken in south-eastern China, and now one of the major Chinese dialects of Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, and the Philippines. 2. Of, relating to, or designating a member of a Chinese people traditionally inhabiting south-eastern China who speak a dialect of Southern Min, or their culture or cuisine. B. <i>n.</i> 1. The Hokkien dialect of Southern Min. 2. A member of the Hokkien people.
hong, <i>n.</i>	1726	Cantonese, Mandarin	<i>OED1</i>	Economics and Commerce	1. China: a complex of rooms or buildings used as a warehouse, commercial establishment, etc.; spec. any of thirteen of such complexes outside the city of Canton (Guangzhou) used as accommodation and trading posts for foreign merchants, constituting the only place where foreign trade was permitted in China from the late 17th cent. to the First Opium War (1839–42). Now historical. 2. A Chinese merchant permitted to engage in foreign trade; <i>spec.</i> any of the Chinese merchants at Canton (Guangzhou) having the monopoly of trade with Europeans from the later 17th

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
					cent. to the First Opium War (1839–42). Also: a corporation of those merchants. Now <i>historical</i> . 3. Originally: a foreign company trading in China, <i>spec.</i> one trading out of one of the thirteen hongts (sense 1); now chiefly <i>historical</i> . Later also: any successful East Asian company, esp. in Hong Kong.
hongbao, <i>n.</i>	1980	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		A traditional Chinese good luck gift of money. Also: the red envelope in which this gift is presented.
hutung, <i>n.</i>	1922	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>		In northern Chinese cities: a narrow side-street, an alley.
hyson, <i>n.</i>	1740	Chinese, Cantonese	<i>OED1</i>		A species of green tea from China.
I Ching, <i>n.</i>	1876	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Religion and Belief	The name of an ancient Chinese divination manual, based on symbols known as the eight trigrams and sixty-four hexagrams.
jiao, <i>n.</i>	1949	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Crafts and Trades (Coins and Banknotes) Economics and Commerce	A unit of currency and coin of China.
jiaozi, <i>n.</i>	1978	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In Chinese cookery: a crescent-shaped dumpling of thin pastry dough, stuffed with a finely minced paste (typically made of pork, cabbage, and garlic chives), and steam-fried, deep-fried, grilled, or boiled.
kaifong, <i>n.</i>	1857	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>		An association formed to promote and protect the interests of a neighbourhood (later more fully <i>kaifong welfare association</i>). Also: a member of such an association, in early use <i>esp.</i> a leader or senior figure in the community.
k'ai shu, <i>n.</i>	1876	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>	Art (Decorative Arts)	The standard calligraphic script used for the Chinese language, developed during the Later Han dynasty (a.d. 23–220) as a simplified form of the official <i>li-shu</i> script. Also as <i>chen shu n.</i>
kang, <i>n.</i>	1772	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		A kind of stove for warming rooms used by the Chinese; also, a brick or wooden erection for sleeping upon, warmed by a fire placed underneath.
kaoliang, <i>n.</i>	1904	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary (1933)</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	The Indian millet, <i>Sorghum vulgare</i> .

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
ketchup, <i>n.</i>	1682	Hokkien, Malay	<i>OED1</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In early use: a type of piquant sauce produced in southeast Asia, probably made from fermented soybeans or fish. Later: a sauce made in imitation of this, typically made from the juice or pulp of a fruit, vegetable, or other foodstuff, combined with vinegar or wine and spices, and used as an ingredient or condiment (frequently with modifying word indicating the main ingredient). Now usually: a thick red sauce made chiefly from tomatoes, vinegar, and sugar, and used as a condiment or relish
Kiangsi, <i>n.</i>	1937	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>		<i>attributive</i> . Designating or pertaining to the period of communist rule in this province from 1929 to 1934, <i>esp.</i> the independent soviet republic established by Mao Zedong in 1931.
kiasu, <i>n.</i> and <i>adj.</i>	1978	Hokkien	<i>OED3</i>		A. <i>n.</i> A person governed by self-interest, typically manifesting as a selfish, grasping attitude arising from a fear of missing out on something. Also: such an attitude. B. <i>adj.</i> Chiefly of a person: characterized by a grasping or selfish attitude arising from a fear of missing out on something.
Ko, <i>n.</i> ²	1882	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	In full, <i>Ko iú or yao</i> [Chinese, = ware], <i>Ko ware</i> . A crackled Sung ware closely related to Southern Kuan; also, a name for other crackled porcelains.
ko, <i>n.</i> ³	1923	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>	Military	A weapon that can be used as both a dagger and an axe; a halberd.
kongsi, <i>n.</i>	1839	Chinese, Hokkien	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>		In Malaysia, an association or partnership, <i>esp.</i> an association of Chinese people.
kopitiam, <i>n.</i>	1979	Malay, Hokkien	<i>OED3</i>		A coffee-house or informal restaurant serving traditional Malay and Chinese fare.
kowtow, <i>n.</i>	1804	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>		a. The Chinese custom of touching the ground with the forehead in the act of prostrating oneself, as an expression of extreme respect, submission, or worship. b. <i>figurative</i> . An act of obsequious respect.
Kuan, <i>n.</i>	1814	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Art (Visual Arts) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics) Religion and Belief	Used to denote imperial patronage or official usage in China. 1. Kuan Hua <i>n.</i> /hwa:/ [language, speech] = <u>mandarin</u> 2. Kuan Yin <i>n.</i> /jin/ [Lord of Mercy] a goddess of Chinese Buddhism, to whom intercession for aid or protection is made; a representation in sculpture of this deity. 3. In full, Kuan ware, Kuan yao /jao/ [jade]. A type of thickly glazed celadon made in predominantly

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
					greyish colours at Hangchow during the Sung dynasty; similar pottery (as the <i>Kuan jar</i>) produced elsewhere in China in later centuries.
kuei, <i>n.</i>	1935	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume II (1976)		A Chinese bronze food-vessel.
kumquat, <i>n.</i>	1699	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary</i> (1933)	Sciences (Life Sciences)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A small, orange-like citrus fruit from a tree of the genus <i>Fortunella</i>, native to southern China and Malaysia. 2. <i>Australian</i>. A very small native citrus fruit, <i>Eremocitrus glauca</i>, or the tree producing it.
kung fu, <i>n.</i>	1842	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume II (1976)	Sports and Leisure (Sports)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A form of physical exercise practised in China involving the placing of the body in specific positions and modification of the breathing intended to prevent or cure illness. Now <i>historical</i>. 2. Any of various forms of Chinese martial art which may include armed and unarmed elements and are characterized in particular by quick, fluid movements.
Kuomintang, <i>n.</i>	1912	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary</i> (1933)	Politics	A nationalist radical party founded in China under Sun Yat-Sen in 1912, and led, after his death in 1925, by Chiang Kai-Shek, constituting the government before the Communist Party took power in October 1949, and subsequently forming the central administration of Taiwan.
Kuo-yü, <i>n.</i>	1932	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume II (1976)		The name given to the Chinese 'national tongue', a form of Mandarin adopted for official use.
kwai-lo, <i>n.</i>	1969	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume II (1976)		'Foreign devil', a name given by the Chinese to foreigners.
kylin, <i>n.</i>	1857	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Art (Decorative Arts) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics) Religion and Belief	A fabulous animal of composite form, commonly figured on Chinese and Japanese pottery.
Latinxua, <i>n.</i>	1937	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 3 (1997)		A system of romanization for Chinese characters introduced in China in 1931 and widely popularized until superseded by Pinyin. Also in fuller form <i>Latinxua Sin Wenz</i> (lit. 'latinized new script').
lei, <i>n.</i> ²	1929	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> ,	History (Archaeol.)	An urn-shaped Chinese bronze wine-vessel of the Shang to Middle Chou period (c1500–249 b.c.).

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
			volume 3 (1997)		
lei wên, <i>n.</i>	1922	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 3 (1997)	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	A spiral fret motif often used to form a background or decorative filler on ancient Chinese bronze or ceramic wares.
li, <i>n.</i> ²	1588	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Technology (Measurement)	The ordinary Chinese itinerary measure
li, <i>n.</i> ³	1771	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Crafts and Trades (Coins and Banknotes)	A Chinese weight, one-thousandth part of a liang.
li, <i>n.</i> ⁵	1912	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume II (1976)	Religion and Belief	<i>Li</i> , reason; law; the rational principle. This is the basic concept of modern Chinese philosophy.
li, <i>n.</i> ⁶	1945	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 3 (1997)	Consumables (Food and Cooking) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	An ancient Chinese cooking vessel of bronze or pottery with usually three hollow legs.
liang, <i>n.</i>	1827	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Economics and Commerce Technology (Measurement)	A Chinese weight, about 1½ oz. avoirdupois; this weight in silver as a money of account. Also called <i>tael</i> .
likin, <i>n.</i>	1862	Mandarin	<i>OEDI</i>	Economics and Commerce	A tax levied in China, between 1853 and 1931, on the movement of goods and on the sale of goods in shops.
ling, <i>n.</i> ³	1860	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	The water-chestnut of China, <i>Trapa bicornis</i> , the seeds of which are much eaten as food.
lingzhi, <i>n.</i>	1904	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 3 (1997)	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics) Sciences (Medicine)	The fungus <i>Ganoderma lucidum</i> , believed in China to confer longevity and used as a symbol of this on Chinese ceramic ware.
li shu, <i>n.</i>	1824	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 3 (1997)	Art (Decorative Arts)	An ancient Chinese calligraphic script developed during the Han dynasty (206 b.c.– a.d. 200) and widely adopted for official and educational purposes.
li ting, <i>n.</i>	1958	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 3 (1997)	Consumables (Food and Cooking) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	An ancient (usually tripodal) Chinese bronze or pottery cooking vessel with solid legs
Lohan, <i>n.</i>	1878	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume II (1976)	Religion and Belief	= <i>Arhat n.</i> , <i>Arhat n.</i> (<i>Buddhism</i> . A being who, having achieved enlightenment, will attain nirvana at death and will not be reborn.)
longan, <i>n.</i>	1655	Cantonese	<i>OEDI</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	The fruit of a South-East Asian evergreen tree, <i>Dimocarpus longan</i> (family Sapindaceae), having a yellowish skin and sweet white flesh. Also: the tree itself.

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loquat, <i>n.</i>	1820	Cantonese	<i>OEDI</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	a. The fruit of <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> , a native of China and Japan, introduced into southern Europe, India, and Australia. b. The tree itself. Also <i>loquat tree</i> .
lü, <i>n.</i> ¹	1655	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	In ancient Chinese musical theory, a fundamental pitch; any of the twelve pitches in an untempered chromatic scale; also used <i>attributively</i> to refer to (each of) a series of bamboo pipes used to produce these pitches.
lychee, <i>n.</i>	1588	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	The fruit of an evergreen tree, <i>Litchi chinensis</i> , of the family Sapindaceae, native to southern China but widely cultivated in tropical countries elsewhere; the fruit is a large berry with a rough, brown skin and sweet, white flesh, which is eaten fresh or preserved.
mafoo, <i>n.</i>	1863	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Sports and Leisure (Horses and Riding)	A Chinese groom, stable boy, or coachman.
mah-jong, <i>n.</i>	1921	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary (1933)</i>	Sports and Leisure (Games)	A game for four (of modern Chinese origin, and introduced into Europe and North America in the early 1920s), normally played with 136 tiles divided into five or six suits representing various natural and mythological entities (such as winds, dragons, bamboos, etc.). Also: the achievement of a winning hand in the game.
mantou, <i>n.</i>	1955	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		Steamed wheat bread rolls, a staple food in northern China.
Mao-tai, <i>n.</i>	1962	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Consumables (Drink)	A strong alcoholic drink traditionally made in south-western China by distillation in a pot still of a fermented mixture of wheat and sorghum.
mee, <i>n.</i>	1935	Hokkien	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	Chinese-style noodles. Also in compounds with a word denoting the other ingredients or method of cooking: a Chinese dish popular esp. in Malaysia and Singapore, consisting of noodles with various other ingredients.
mei ping, <i>n.</i>	1915	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Art (Decorative Arts)	A Chinese porcelain vase with a narrow neck designed to hold a single spray of flowers. Frequently <i>attributive</i> .
Miao, <i>adj.</i> and <i>n.</i>	1834	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>		A. <i>adj.</i> Of, relating to, or designating a people of the mountains of southern China and Indo-China or their languages. B. <i>n.</i> 1. A member of the Miao people. 2. Any of a group of related Hmong-Mien languages spoken by the Miao; the group as a whole.
Miaotse, <i>n.</i> and <i>adj.</i>	1810	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>		A. <i>n.</i> = <u>Miao n. 1</u> . B. <i>adj.</i> Designating or relating to the Miao or their languages.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
mien, <i>n.</i> ²	1890	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	Chinese noodles made with flour.
Mien, <i>n.</i> ³ and <i>adj.</i>	1902	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		A. <i>n.</i> ³ 1. A mountain-dwelling people of Vietnam; = <i>Yao n.</i> ¹ 1. 2. The language of the Yao people of Vietnam; = <i>Yao n.</i> ¹ 2. B. <i>adj.</i> = <i>Yao adj.</i> ¹
Min, <i>adj.</i> ³ and <i>n.</i> ⁵	1902	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		A. <i>adj.</i> ³ Of or relating to the district of Min in Fujian province in south-eastern China or to the group of Chinese dialects spoken there. B. <i>n.</i> ⁵ The Min group of Chinese dialects; (also) any of these.
Ming, <i>n.</i> ² and <i>adj.</i>	1795	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	A. <i>n.</i> ² 1. (The name of) a dynasty founded by Zhu Yuanzhang (1328–98) which ruled in China from 1368 until 1644, between the Yuan and the Qing (Ch'ing) dynasties; a ruler belonging to this dynasty. 2. Ming porcelain B. <i>adj.</i> (<i>attributive</i>). 1. Designating or relating to the Ming dynasty or its rulers. 2. Designating porcelain ware made in China during the Ming dynasty and characterized by elaborate designs and vivid colours. 3. Of a colour: characteristic of Ming porcelain, as <i>Ming blue</i> , <i>Ming green</i> , etc.
ming, <i>n.</i> ⁴	1937	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		Fate, destiny; divine providence.
ming chi, <i>n.</i>	1958	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		In China: tomb furnishings; objects buried with the dead, funerary goods.
Min Yuen, <i>n.</i>	1951	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>		An underground communist supply organization formed in Malaya during the Emergency (1948–60).
† moc-main, <i>n.</i>	1857	Hakka (Hokkien)	<i>OED1</i>	Crafts and Trades (Textiles)	A silky elastic fibre derived from the seed pods of the Indian silk-cotton tree, <i>Bombax ceiba</i> ; (also) the tree itself.
moo goo gai pan, <i>n.</i>	1902	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	A Chinese dish consisting of stir-fried strips of chicken with mushrooms and assorted vegetables.
moo shu, <i>n.</i>	1962	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	A Chinese dish consisting of strips of meat (usually pork) stir-fried with assorted vegetables and folded or rolled in thin pancakes.
mou, <i>n.</i> ²	1836	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume II (1976)</i>	Technology (Measurem.)	A Chinese unit of area, varying according to locality but usually equivalent to about 670 square metres (approx. 800 square yards).
moutan, <i>n.</i>	1808	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English</i>	Agriculture and Horticulture (Horticult.)	The tree peony <i>Paeonia suffruticosa</i> , a large shrub bearing white or pink magenta blotched flowers, which is native to China and Bhutan and from which are derived many cultivated varieties, producing single

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
			<i>Dictionary</i> (1933)		or double flowers in many colours. Also <i>moutan peony</i> .
Nanyang, <i>n.</i>	1946	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		The Chinese name for: South-East Asia; the seas around this region.
Nei Kuan, <i>n.</i>	1959	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Sciences (Medicine)	An acupuncture point situated between the central tendons on the inner surface of the forearm, approximately five centimetres from the wrist.
nien hao, <i>n.</i>	1820	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	A title given to the reign, or part of the reign, of a Chinese emperor, used in imperial China as a system of dating. Hence: a mark (signifying a particular imperial reign-period) used on Chinese porcelain to indicate an object's period of manufacture.
Nung, <i>adj.</i> ¹ and <i>n.</i> ²	1887	Vietnamese, Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		A. <i>adj.</i> ¹ Designating a Tai people living primarily in the Cao Bang and Lang Son provinces of northern Vietnam; of or relating to this people or their language. B. <i>n.</i> ² A member of the Nung people. Also: the language spoken by this people.
oolong, <i>n.</i>	1845	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		A variety of dark-coloured China tea. Also <i>oolong tea</i> .
oopack, <i>n.</i>	1855	Cantonese	<i>OED1</i>		A variety of black China tea.
paiban, <i>n.</i>	1884	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese percussion instrument
pai gow, <i>n.</i>	1906	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>	Sports and Leisure (Games)	A Chinese gambling game played with dominoes
pai-hua, <i>n.</i>	1923	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Art (Literature)	The standard written form of modern Chinese, based on the northern dialects, esp. that of Beijing (Peking); the vernacular literary style.
pailou, <i>n.</i>	1836	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)		In China: an elaborate commemorative or ornamental archway.
paitung, <i>n.</i>	1736	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Manufacturing and Industry	A silver-coloured Chinese alloy of copper and nickel, with arsenic or (later) zinc added as a whitening agent.
pakapoo, <i>n.</i>	1866	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Sports and Leisure (Games)	A Chinese form of lottery involving the marking of a number of characters on a ticket.
pak pai, <i>n.</i>	1972	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)		In Hong Kong: a car used illegally as a taxi.
paktong, <i>n.</i>	1776	Cantonese	<i>OED1</i>	Manufacturing and Industry	A silver-coloured cupro-nickel alloy, either the Chinese alloy paitung (<i>paitung n.</i>), or a European imitation of this, used esp. in the manufacture of 18th-cent. fireplace furniture.
pan, <i>n.</i> ⁵	1874	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese percussion instrument used for beating time, made of a number of wedge-shaped pieces of wood connected by a cord, one of which is struck against the others by flicking the wrist.

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p'an, <i>n.</i> ⁶	1904	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	History (Archaeol.)	A wide shallow bowl, made of bronze and usually having two handles, formerly used in China chiefly as a wash-bowl.
pao-chia, <i>n.</i>	1931	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)		In China: a system of local government in which households are organized into groups, each group being responsible collectively for the actions of its members.
pekoe, <i>n.</i>	1713	Southern Min	<i>OED1</i>		A high-quality black tea, made from leaves picked young with the down still on them.
pela, <i>n.</i>	1754	Mandarin	<i>OED1</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	A white wax obtained from the secretions of a Chinese scale insect, <i>Ericerus pela</i> (family Coccidae); also called <i>Chinese wax</i> .
pe-tsai, <i>n.</i>	1788	Mandarin	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Sciences (Life Sciences)	A kind of Chinese cabbage, <i>Brassica rapa</i> var. <i>pekinensis</i> , with whitish-green leaves forming a tight head. Also called <i>Chinese leaf</i> .
petuntse, <i>n.</i>	1728	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	A white earth prepared (originally in China) by pulverizing a kaolinized granite, and used with kaolin in the manufacture of porcelain to obtain transparency. Also: the material from which this earth is prepared, china stone.
pi, <i>n.</i> ²	1871	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	History (Archaeol.) Religion and Belief	A flat jade disc with a small hole in the middle, used in ancient China for symbolic or ritual purposes. Frequently <i>attributive</i> , as <i>pi disk</i> .
Pinyin, <i>n.</i>	1963	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)		The standard system of romanized spelling for transliterating the Chinese language, adopted officially by the People's Republic of China in 1979 and based on the pronunciation of the Peking (now Beijing) dialect of Mandarin Chinese.
pipa, <i>n.</i> ²	1839	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese stringed instrument resembling a lute.
p'o, <i>n.</i> ⁴	1850	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Religion and Belief	In early Chinese thought: the more 'earthly' of the two incorporeal souls of a human being, associated with the body and with the principle of yin.
pongee, <i>n.</i> and <i>adj.</i>	1711	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Crafts and Trades (Textiles)	A. <i>n.</i> A soft, usually unbleached kind of Chinese silk fabric, woven from uneven threads of raw silk; (also) any fabric resembling this. B. <i>adj.</i> Made of this fabric.
po shan lu, <i>n.</i>	1915	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Religion and Belief	A type of Chinese bronze censer, made during the Han dynasty and having the form of a mythical mountain of immortality.
pung, <i>n.</i> ⁴ (and <i>int.</i>)	1923	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Sports and Leisure (Games)	A set of three identical tiles; the action of completing such a set in one's hand. Also occasionally as <i>int.</i> : announcing this action to other players.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
pung, <i>v.</i>	1923	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Sports and Leisure (Games)	<i>intransitive</i> . To take a discarded tile to complete a set of three identical tiles. Also <i>transitive</i> : to pick up (a discarded tile) to make a set of three.
punging, <i>n.</i> ²	1922	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Sports and Leisure (Games)	The action of completing a set of three identical tiles.
putonghua, <i>n.</i>	1950	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)		The standard spoken form of modern Chinese, based on the northern dialects (esp. that of Beijing).
qi, <i>n.</i>	1850	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Religion and Belief	The circulating physical life-force whose existence and properties are the basis of much Chinese philosophy and medicine; the material principle postulated by certain Chinese philosophers.
qigong, <i>n.</i>	1966	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Sciences (Medicine)	A system of techniques originating in Chinese philosophy as a means to focus and strengthen qi, involving breathing exercises, meditation, and hand and arm movements, used in alternative medicine and as a basis for training in martial arts.
Qin, <i>n.</i> ¹ and <i>adj.</i>	1790	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		A. <i>n.</i> ¹ A Chinese dynasty, founded by Qin Shi Huang (259–210 b.c.), which was the first to establish rule over a united China; the era of this dynasty's rule, from 221 to 206 b.c. B. <i>adj.</i> Of or designating the Qin.
qin, <i>n.</i> ²	1839	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese seven-stringed zither, played by plucking.
Qing, <i>n.</i> and <i>adj.</i>	1790	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		A. <i>n.</i> A Chinese dynasty of Manchu emperors which ruled from 1644 until 1912, when it was overthrown by the Chinese Revolution; the era of this dynasty's rule. B. <i>adj.</i> Of or designating the Qing.
qinghaosu, <i>n.</i>	1979	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 1 (1993)	Sciences (Medicine)	A sesquiterpene lactone, originally isolated in China from the annual mugwort (<i>Artemisia annua</i>), and used in the treatment of malaria
qipao, <i>n.</i>	1955	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Crafts and Trades (Costume)	A type of dress traditionally worn by Chinese women, typically having a high mandarin collar, a split skirt, and a fitted bodice with an asymmetrical closure extending from the neck to the right underarm
renminbi, <i>n.</i>	1957	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Economics and Commerce	1. (The name of) the system of currency of the People's Republic of China, introduced in 1948 and having the yuan as its principal unit. Abbreviated <i>RMB</i> . 2. The principal unit of this currency; the yuan.
samfu, <i>n.</i>	1955	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume III (1982)	Crafts and Trades (Costume)	A suit consisting of jacket and trousers worn by Chinese women, particularly in Hong Kong and Malaysia; also worn by men. Frequently <i>attributive</i> , as <i>samfu jacket</i> , <i>samfu trousers</i> .

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
sampan, <i>n.</i> ¹	1620	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Transport (Nautical)	1. A Chinese word meaning 'boat', applied by Europeans in the China seas to any small boat of Chinese pattern. 2. <i>U.S.</i>
Sanfan, <i>n.</i>	1956	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume III (1982)</i>	Politics	Used <i>attributively</i> to designate an official campaign conducted in China in 1951–2 against corruption, waste, and bureaucratism in State affairs.
san ts'ai, <i>n.</i>	1901	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume III (1982)</i>	Art (Decorative Arts) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	Chinese pottery, esp. of the Tang dynasty, decorated in three colours; decoration in three enamel colours applied to pottery and porcelain. Also <i>attributive</i> .
saxian, <i>n.</i>	1839	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume III (1982)</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese three-stringed plucked instrument with a long neck and oval-shaped body.
se, <i>n.</i> ²	1874	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A twenty-five-stringed plucked musical instrument, somewhat similar to the zither.
† senshaw, <i>n.</i>	1817	Wu	<i>OED1</i>	Crafts and Trades (Textiles)	A Chinese gauze-like silk fabric. Also <i>attributive</i> , as <i>senshaw silk</i> .
Shang, <i>n.</i> ¹	1669	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		The name of a dynasty which ruled China during part of the second millennium b.c., probably from the 16th to the 11th century b.c. Also <i>attributive</i> or as <i>adj.</i> Also called Shang-Yin <i>n.</i> [<i><</i> the place-name <i>Yin</i> in Honan Province, the dynasty's final capital]
shang, <i>n.</i> ²	1887	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 1 (1993)</i>	Technology (Measur.)	A unit of land measurement in China, equivalent to approximately 15 <i>mu</i> in most areas of the northeast, and 3 or 5 <i>mu</i> in the northwest (1 <i>mu</i> = 0.0667 hectares).
Shar-Pei, <i>n.</i>	1976	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 3 (1997)</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	A breed of compact, squarely built dogs of Chinese origin, with a characteristic loose, deeply wrinkled skin and a short, bristly coat of a cream, fawn, red, or black colour; a dog of this breed.
shen, <i>n.</i>	1847	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		In Chinese philosophy: a god, person of supernatural power, or the spirit of a dead person.
sheng, <i>n.</i> ¹	1795	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese wind instrument consisting of a set of reed pipes.
sheng, <i>n.</i> ²	1886	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	The principal male character in a Chinese opera. Also <i>attributive</i> .
Shih Tzu, <i>n.</i>	1921	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED,</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	A small long-coated dog of the breed so called, originally developed in China, often tan or grey and white in colour, with long

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
			volume IV (1986)		ears and a tail curling over the back. Also <i>attributive</i> .
shumai, <i>n.</i>	1951	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In East Asian cookery: a snack consisting of small steamed dumplings, typically stuffed with meat or seafood and vegetables.
siu mei, <i>n.</i>	1960	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In Cantonese cookery: marinated meat roasted on a spit over an open fire or in a wood-burning rotisserie oven. Originally and frequently <i>attributive</i> .
Song, <i>n.</i> ² and <i>adj.</i>	1657	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Visual Arts) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	A. <i>n.</i> ² 1. A dynasty that ruled in China from 960 to 1279; a ruler belonging to this dynasty. Also: the period of this dynasty's rule. 2. Porcelain ware made in China in this period. B. <i>adj. (attributive)</i> . 1. Designating this dynasty or its rulers; of or relating to the period of Chinese history during which the Song ruled. 2. Designating art, design, and technology produced or developed in China during the Song dynasty.
souchong, <i>n.</i>	1761	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		One of the finer varieties of black tea. Also <i>attributive</i> .
splittism, <i>n.</i>	1962	translating Chinese <i>fēnlǐ zhūyì</i>	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Politics	In Communist use: the pursuance of factional interests in opposition to official party policy. Also <i>transferred</i> .
suan-pan, <i>n.</i>	1736	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Sciences (Mathemat.)	The Chinese abacus.
subgum, <i>n.</i>	1902	Cantonese	<i>OED Additions Series, volume 2 (1993)</i>	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	In Chinese cuisine: a dish consisting of a mixture of vegetables, such as water chestnuts, broccoli, mushrooms, bean sprouts, etc., and sometimes also including meat or sea food.
suey pow, <i>n.</i>	1886	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		A sponge or rag used to clean and cool an opium pipe.
Sui, <i>n.</i> ¹ and <i>adj.</i>	1736	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		A. <i>n.</i> ¹ A dynasty which ruled over a united China from 589 to 618, following a period of divided rule by the Northern and Southern dynasties. B. <i>adj.</i> Designating a dynasty which ruled over a united China from 589 to 618 (see sense <u>A</u>); of or relating to this dynasty.
suona, <i>n.</i>	1881	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese wind instrument with a reed mouthpiece.
sycee, <i>n.</i>	1711	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Economics and Commerce	Fine uncoined silver in the form of lumps of various sizes, usually having a banker's or assayer's seal stamped on them, formerly used by the Chinese as a medium of exchange. Also <i>sycee silver</i> .

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
Szechuan, <i>n.</i>	1920	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	The name of a province in south-western China, used <i>attributively</i> (with reversed stress) to designate the distinctively spicy cuisine originating there. Also in combinations, as <i>Szechuan-style</i> adj. Also <i>transferred</i> .
Sze Yap, <i>n.</i>	1964	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		The name of an area made up of four countries in the south of Guangdong Province in China (see quot. 1973 ¹) used <i>attributively</i> and <i>absol.</i> to designate the Chinese dialect spoken there.
ta chuan, <i>n.</i>	1894	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Decorative Arts)	In Chinese calligraphy, an early form of script used during the Chou dynasty (c1028–221 b.c.); ‘large seal script’.
tai chi, <i>n.</i>	1736	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Religion and Belief Sports and Leisure (Sports)	1. In Taoism and Neo-Confucianism, the Supreme Ultimate (see quot. 1955). Also, the symbol which represents this. 2. In full <i>t'ai chi ch'uan</i> [Chinese <i>quán</i> fist], a Chinese martial art, believed to have been devised by a Taoist priest in the Sung dynasty (960–1279), promoting meditative as well as physical proficiency.
taikonaut, <i>n.</i>	1998	Blending Chinese and English	<i>OED3</i>	Transport (Aviation)	A Chinese astronaut.
taipan, <i>n.</i> ¹	1834	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Economics and Commerce	1. A foreign merchant or businessman in China. 2. The (foreign) manager or head of a firm in China, esp. Hong Kong. Also <i>figurative</i> .
Tai-ping, <i>n.</i>	1853	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Politics	The name given to the adherents of a great rebellion which arose in Southern China in 1850, under the leadership of Hung-siu-tuen, styled <i>Tien-wang</i> , Heavenly Prince, and <i>T'ai-p'ing-wang</i> , Prince of great peace, who claimed a divine commission to overthrow the Manchu dynasty and establish one of native origin, to be called the <i>T'ai-p'ing Chao</i> or Great Peace Dynasty. Also <i>attributive</i> .
tan, <i>n.</i> ⁵	1886	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Art (Performing Arts)	A female character in a Chinese drama or opera; an actor of such a role.
tan, <i>n.</i> ⁶	1911	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Technology (Measur.)	A Chinese unit of weight equivalent to approximately 110 lb. or 50 kg. (formerly approximately 133 lb., 60 kg.).
Tang, <i>n.</i> ⁵	1669	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		a. The name of a dynasty which ruled in China from a.d. 618 to c906; a ruler belonging to this dynasty. b. <i>attributive</i> or as <i>adj.</i> Frequently used to designate artefacts, etc., of this period.
tangpu, <i>n.</i>	1941	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Politics	The headquarters of the Kuomintang at the central, and various local, levels.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
Tanka, <i>n.</i> ¹	1839	Cantonese	<i>OEDI</i>	Transport (Nautical)	The boat-population of Canton, who live entirely on the boats by which they earn their living: they are descendants of a tribe of which <i>Tan</i> was apparently the name. Tanka boat , a boat of the kind in which these people live.
tao, <i>n.</i>	1704	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Religion and Belief	1. a. In Taoism, an absolute entity which is the source of the universe; the way in which this absolute entity functions. b. = Taoism <i>n.</i>, Taoist <i>n. b.</i> (A system of religion, founded upon the doctrine of the ancient Chinese philosopher Laotze (or Lao-tzū), born 604 b.c., set forth in the work <i>Tao tē king</i> , ‘Book of reason and virtue’, attributed to him. It ranks with Confucianism and Buddhism as one of the three religions of China.) 2. In Confucianism and in extended uses, the way to be followed, the right conduct; doctrine or method.
taotai, <i>n.</i>	1747	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English Dictionary (1933)</i>	Law	The title given to the Chinese provincial officer responsible for the civil and military affairs of a district, abolished shortly after the establishment of the Republic in 1911.
taotie, <i>n.</i>	1915	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Art (Decorative Arts) Religion and Belief	The name of a mythical monster, or a mask-design showing its face, found esp. on metalware of the Chou period (1122–221 b.c.). Frequently <i>attributive</i> .
te, <i>n.</i> ²	1895	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Religion and Belief	a. In Taoism: the essence of Tao inherent in all beings. b. In Confucianism and in extended use: moral virtue.
Teochew, <i>n.</i>	1893	Swatow Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		(A member of) a people of the Swatow district of Kwangtung in southern China; the dialect spoken by this people. Also <i>attributive</i> .
tian, <i>n.</i> ¹	1613	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		In Chinese thought: Heaven; the Deity.
tiao, <i>n.</i>	1883	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Crafts and Trades (Coins and Banknotes)	A string of Chinese ‘cash’ (perforated copper coins).
ting, <i>n.</i> ²	1853	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>	Manufacturing and Industry	In traditional Chinese architecture: an open pavilion, usually relatively small or of light construction; <i>esp.</i> one erected to provide shade and a place to rest in a location which affords a pleasant or impressive view, as in a park or garden, or on top of a hill.
tong, <i>n.</i> ²	1883	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED, volume IV (1986)</i>		An association or secret society of Chinese in the U.S., originally formed as a benevolent or protective society but frequently associated with underworld criminal activity.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
tou, <i>n.</i>	1899	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		A hemispherical pedestalled bowl with a lid of similar shape, used as a container for food.
towcok, <i>n.</i>	1866	Cantonese	<i>OEDI</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	The Cow-pea, <i>Vigna (Dolichos) sinensis</i> ; in India called <i>chowlee</i> .
ts'ao shu, <i>n.</i>	1876	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Decorative Arts)	In Chinese calligraphy, a cursive script developed during the Han dynasty (206 b.c.–a.d. 220) from the 'official' script.
tsatlee, <i>n.</i>	1848	Cantonese	<i>OEDI</i>	Crafts and Trades (Textiles)	A very superior kind of white native-reeled raw silk, produced for the foreign market.
tsu, <i>n.</i>	1939	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Social Sciences	A patrilineal kinship group in pre-revolutionary China (see quot. 1939).
tsun, <i>n.</i>	1958	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		A style of Chinese vessel, either wide-mouthed or animal-shaped (see quot. 1974). Also <i>attributive</i> .
tsung, <i>n.</i>	1904	Chinese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 2 (1993)	History (Archaeol.)	A ritual artefact (usually made of a single piece of jade) consisting of rectangular block with a central cylindrical hollow, found esp. in graves of the Shang-Zhou period (16–11th cent. b.c.), and regarded as a symbol of, or sacrificial offering to, the Earth.
tuchun, <i>n.</i>	1917	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Military	In China at the time of the Three Kingdoms: the title of a military leader; (later, in the early years of the Republic of China) the highest military leader in a province; a warlord.
tui na, <i>n.</i>	1979	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Sciences (Medicine)	In traditional Chinese medicine: a type of therapeutic massage, incorporating the principles of acupressure and qigong, used to treat muscle or joint pain and other ailments.
tu-mo, <i>n.</i>	1972	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Sciences (Medicine)	In Chinese medical theory, the chief passage through which the vital energy circulates, located within the spine; <i>spec.</i> in acupuncture.
tung, <i>n.</i>	1788	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Manufacturing and Industry Sciences (Life Sciences)	a. Any of three trees of the genus <i>Aleurites</i> or <i>Vernicia</i> (family Euphorbiaceae), <i>A. fordii</i> , <i>A. cordata</i> , and <i>A. montana</i> , which are native to China and Japan and are cultivated there and elsewhere for the oil from their seeds. So tung tree . b. The oil extracted from seeds of the tung tree, used chiefly in the manufacture of inks, paints, and varnishes
tupan, <i>n.</i>	1925	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the New English</i>		The civil governor of a Chinese province under the Republican regime.

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
			<i>Dictionary</i> (1933)		
tutang, <i>n.</i>	1613	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>		One of several designations applied familiarly to a Chinese viceroy.
Twankay, <i>n.</i>	1840	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Consumables (Drink)	a. A variety of green tea (in full <i>Twankay tea</i>), properly that from the place so called (see above), but also applied to blends of this with other growths. b. <i>slang</i> . (See quot. 1900.)
Tz'u Chou, <i>n.</i>	1910	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	Pottery made at Tz'u Chou, or in similar styles elsewhere, from the Sui dynasty onwards.
ve-tsin, <i>n.</i>	1927	Wu: Shanghai	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 2 (1993)		Monosodium glutamate, as used in Chinese cookery.
wah, <i>int.</i>	1828	Probably multiple origin: Urdu, Persina, Chinese	<i>OED3</i>		Used (esp. at the beginning of a sentence) to express admiration, encouragement, delight, surprise, etc.
wampee, <i>n.</i>	1830	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Sciences (Life Sciences)	1. The fruit of an Asiatic tree <i>Clausena Wampi</i> , also the tree itself. 2. In the southern U.S. = <u>pickereel weed n. 2.</u> [? A different word.]
Wei, <i>n.</i>	1894	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Visual Arts)	The name of a Chinese dynasty, esp. one of the partial dynasties ruling (in the north of China) from the mid-4th to the mid-6th cent. a.d. Also used <i>attributively</i> and <i>absol.</i> to designate works of art, esp. sculpture and pottery, produced in the period.
wei ch'i, <i>n.</i>	1871	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Sports and Leisure (Games)	A traditional Chinese board game of territorial possession, equivalent to <u>go n. 2</u>
wên jên, <i>n.</i>	1958	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Literature)	Chinese men of letters.
wen li, <i>n.</i>	1887	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		= <u>wenyan n.</u>
wenyan, <i>n.</i>	1936	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		The traditional literary language or style of China, superseded in the twentieth century by <u>pai-hua n.</u>
whangee, <i>n.</i>	1776	Chinese	<i>OEDI</i>	Crafts and Trades (Costume)	A yellow knobbed cane made from the stem of any of several Chinese and Japanese bamboos of the genus <i>Phyllostachys</i> , esp. <i>P. nigra</i> ; (also) the material of which these stems are made, which has also been used to make umbrella handles, tobacco pipes, etc. Also more fully <i>whangee cane</i> .

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
Wing Chun, <i>n.</i>	1967	Cantonese	<i>OED Additions Series</i> , volume 2 (1993)	Sports and Leisure (Sports)	A simplified form of kung-fu used principally as a system of self-defence.
wok, <i>n.</i>	1952	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	A bowl-shaped pan used in Chinese cookery.
wonk, <i>n.</i> ¹	1900	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Sciences (Life Sciences)	In China, a dog. Also <i>wonk dog</i> .
wonton, <i>n.</i>	1948	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	A small round roll or pocket of dough containing a savoury filling, eaten alone (after being deep-fried) or boiled in soup (<i>wonton soup</i>).
Wu, <i>n.</i>	1908	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		Used <i>attributively</i> of a group of Chinese dialects spoken in Shanghai, the south of Jiangsu province, and most parts of Zhejiang province, China. Also <i>absol.</i>
Wufan, <i>n.</i>	1956	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Politics	Used <i>attributively</i> to designate an official campaign launched in China in 1952 against bribery, tax evasion, theft of state property, skimping on work and cheating on materials, and theft of state economic information.
wushu, <i>n.</i>	1973	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Sports and Leisure (Sports)	The Chinese martial arts.
wu ts'ai, <i>n.</i>	1904	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Decorative Arts) Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	Polychrome; polychrome decoration in enamels applied to porcelain; porcelain with polychrome decoration esp. of the Ming and Qing dynasties.
wu-wei, <i>n.</i>	1859	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Religion and Belief	1. The Taoist doctrine of letting things follow their own course. 2. <i>Historical</i> . In China: the name of a minor sect.
wuxia, <i>n.</i>	1963	Chinese	<i>OED3</i>	Art (Film) Military Sports and Leisure (Sports)	An itinerant swordsman or warrior of ancient China. Frequently <i>attributive</i> , esp. designating a genre of Chinese historical fiction or martial arts films featuring such warriors, who are often depicted as capable of superhuman feats. Hence also simply: this genre of fiction or film.
yamun yamen, <i>n.</i>	1747	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>		The office or official residence of a Chinese mandarin; hence, any department of the Chinese public service, as the <i>tsung li yamun</i> or Chinese 'foreign office', established in 1860.
yang, <i>n.</i>	1671	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> ,	Religion and Belief	1. In Chinese philosophy, the masculine or positive principle (characterized by light, warmth, dryness, activity, etc.) of the two opposing cosmic forces into

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
			volume IV (1986)		which creative energy divides and whose fusion in physical matter brings the phenomenal world into being. Also <i>attributive</i> or as <i>adj.</i> 2. yang-yin <i>n.</i> = <i>yin-yang n.</i> at <i>yin n.</i> ¹ Compounds.
yang ch'in, <i>n.</i>	1876	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese musical instrument similar to the dulcimer.
yang-ko, <i>n.</i>	1954	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Performing Arts)	A type of folk-dance popular in northern China.
Yao, <i>adj.</i> ¹ and <i>n.</i> ¹	1834	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		A. <i>adj.</i> ¹ Of, pertaining to, or designating a mountain-dwelling people of the Guangxi, Hunan, Yunnan, Guangdong, and Guizhou provinces of China and northern parts of Vietnam. B. <i>n.</i> ¹ 1. The Yao people. 2. The language of the Yao.
yen, <i>n.</i> ²	1876	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Drug use	1. The craving of a drug-addict for his drug (originally for opium). 2. <i>gen.</i> A craving, a yearning or longing.
yen, <i>n.</i> ³	1882	Cantonese, Mandarin	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Drug use	Opium.
Yenan, <i>n.</i>	1949	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Politics	The name of a town in northern Shaanxi province, China, which was the headquarters of the Chinese Communist Party in the years 1936–49, used <i>attributively</i> to designate this period in the history of the Party, or to describe the principles and policies evolved by it at that time.
yen-yen, <i>n.</i>	1886	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Drug use	A craving for opium, the 'opium-habit'.
Yi, <i>n.</i>	1960	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		The name of a minority nationality in China, distributed over Yunnan, Sichuan, and Guizhou; = <i>Lolo n.</i> ¹ Also, the language of this people. Also <i>attributive</i> or as <i>adj.</i>
yin, <i>n.</i> ¹	1671	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Religion and Belief	In Chinese philosophy, the feminine or negative principle (characterized by dark, wetness, cold, passivity, disintegration, etc.) of the two opposing cosmic forces into which creative energy divides and whose fusion in physical matter brings the phenomenal world into being. Also <i>attributive</i> or as <i>adj.</i> , and <i>transferred</i> . Cf. <i>yang n.</i>
Yin, <i>n.</i> ² (and <i>adj.</i>)	1846	Chinese	<i>OED Additions</i>		The name of the Shang dynasty of China, <i>esp.</i> with reference to its final phase,

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
			<i>Series</i> , volume 2 (1993)		after the capital had moved to the city of Yin in about 1300 b.c. Usually <i>attributive</i> or as <i>adj.</i>
ying ch'ing, <i>n.</i>	1922	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	A type of glazed porcelain produced in Jiangxi and other provinces, chiefly during the Song dynasty. Frequently <i>attributive</i> .
yu, <i>n.</i>	1904	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	History (Archaeol.)	An ancient Chinese wine vessel in the form of a small metal pail with a swing handle and a decorative cover, popular in the Shang and Early Zhou periods.
Yuan, <i>n.</i> ¹	1673	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Crafts and Trades (Ceramics)	a. The name of the Mongol dynasty established as rulers of all China by Kublai Khan in 1279 and in power until 1368. b. Used <i>attributively</i> and <i>absol.</i> of the art and porcelain of the Yuan period.
yuan, <i>n.</i> ²	1912	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Crafts and Trades (Coins and Banknotes) Economics and Commerce History (Archaeol.)	1. A Chinese unit of currency introduced in 1914, equal to 10 <i>jiao</i> ; a coin of this value. 2. <i>Chinese Archaeology</i> . A flat ring or perforated disc made of jade, widely circulated from the Shang period to the Han dynasty.
yuan, <i>n.</i> ³	1928	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		Each of several government institutions (e.g. <i>guo wu yuan</i> the State Council, <i>waiyuxueyuan</i> a foreign languages institute) in China.
yuan hsiao, <i>n.</i>	1945	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Consumables (Food and Cooking)	A sweet rice-flour dumpling made for the Chinese Lantern Festival (15 January in the lunar calendar).
Yüeh, <i>n.</i> ²	1901	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		(A member of) a group of peoples originally living in the coastal provinces of southern China, who expanded into south-east Asia during the third century b.c.
Yüeh, <i>n.</i> ³	1954	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		A Chinese dialect spoken in parts of the provinces of Guangdong and Guangxi. Frequently <i>attributive</i> .
yüeh, <i>n.</i> ⁴	1956	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	History (Archaeol.) Military	A bronze battle-axe or halberd, esp. one of the Shang period.
yüeh ch'in, <i>n.</i>	1839	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Art (Performing Arts)	A Chinese lute with four strings and a flat, circular body.
yulan, <i>n.</i>	1822	Chinese	<i>OED1</i>	Agriculture and	A Chinese species of magnolia, <i>M. conspicua</i> (<i>M. Yulan</i>).

Borrowing	Chronology	Dialect	First incorporated in	Subject	Meaning
				Horticulture (Horticult.)	
yulo, <i>n.</i>	1878	Cantonese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)	Sports and Leisure (Sports)	A Chinese sculling oar (see quot. 1899). So also as <i>v. intransitive</i> to scull a boat with such an oar.
yum cha, <i>n.</i>	1936	Cantonese	<i>OED3</i>		In Chinese contexts: a meal eaten in the morning or early afternoon, typically consisting of dim sum and hot tea.
zhuyin zimu, <i>n.</i>	1938	Chinese	<i>A Supplement to the OED</i> , volume IV (1986)		The national phonetic alphabet of China made up of symbols based on Chinese characters, first adopted in 1918. Also <i>elliptical</i> as zhuyin .