

## **The review by Professor Magdalena Bator (WSB Merito University Poznan)**

In her eleven-page review of Ms Joanna Ryszka's doctoral thesis "The Impact of the British-Japanese Relations on British English: A Diachronic Sociolinguistic Study", Professor Magdalena Bator pointed to several advantages and disadvantages of the work in question:

### Advantages of the work:

- The organisation of the analyses into three identical subsections which enhances the clarity of the work;
- The thorough explanation of the terminology used in regards to the United Kingdom and Japan and the suggestion to unify it ensuring the lack of additional confusion;
- The acknowledgement of the corpora's limitations in the theoretical background and in the analyses;
- The use of figures to demonstrate the frequency of borrowings;
- The decision to also include the analysis of the 2000-2020 period despite the suggested problems with finding sources;
- The research questions asked at the beginning of the work are clearly addressed in the last chapter;
- Broad review of literature.

### Disadvantages of the work:

- The too-minimalistic structure of the work, i.e., the division of work into only three chapters, which are titled too generally;
- The work does not present the differences between Japanese and English in the first chapter;
- The work does not discuss types of assimilation/adaptation in the first chapter;
- The work does not take into consideration loan shifts and loan blends and focuses just on the loanwords;
- Vague distinction between contaminations and contributions;
- Lack of definitions of some of the used terms, e.g. endonym, exonym, text type, and genre;
- Slightly vague selection criteria for the source texts;
- Lack of the list of sources used for the analysis;
- Vague criteria for the selection of reliable sources for dating the first attestation of the loanwords in case of discrepancies between the primary sources;

- Lack of discussion on some of the used figures;
- No further explanation of why some of the discussed events resulted in a much more significant influx of borrowings than others;
- Unclear division of the references into 'sources' and 'bibliography';
- Editorial mistakes and missing references.

Professor Magdalena Bator concludes her review by stating that:

*[...] the deficiencies and shortcomings present in the dissertation submitted for review, demonstrated and discussed in detail in the preceding pages, do not diminish the contribution of Ms Ryszka's work and the substantive value of the dissertation presented. The monograph is a valuable contribution to the study of language contacts, and also opens the field for further research; therefore, despite the comments mentioned in the review, it deserves a positive evaluation. I conclude that the dissertation meets the statutory requirements for doctoral dissertations (Article 187 paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Law of July 20, 2018 - Law on Higher Education and Science; Journal of Laws from 2023, item 212, as amended), in view of which I request that Ms Joanna Ryszka be admitted to the further stages of the doctoral dissertation.*

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