

**Cristina Flores Moreno**  
**University of La Rioja, Spain**  
**Yuliia Lysanets Poltava State Medical**  
**University, Ukraine** **THE FUNCTIONS**  
**OF LOANWORDS IN TRAVEL**  
**WRITING**

*The paper discusses the functions of loanwords in travel writing, which range from linguistic to cultural ones. In travel narratives, the primary function of loanwords is to create a sense of place, capturing the essence of the location and conveying it to the reader. Lexical borrowings serve to add local flavor to the text, transmit the writer's cultural experiences, and introduce unfamiliar concepts. By incorporating loanwords, writers can create a more immersive and engaging experience for their readers, promoting cultural awareness and understanding a foreign context, making travel writing a powerful tool for bridging cultural divides. Further studies are needed to examine these and other functions of loanwords in different pieces of travel writing in world literature.*

**Key words:** *loanwords, travel writing, intercultural communication, receptive potential, cultural awareness.*

*У статті розглянуто функції лексичних запозичень у метажанрі подорожі. Показано, що спектр функцій досліджуваного явища варіює від суто лінгвістичних до загальнокультурних. Лексичні запозичення надають тексту місцевого колориту і знайомлять читача з новими іноземними поняттями. Запозичені лексеми сприяють конструюванню автентичного місця оповіді й передають культурний досвід письменника. Використання лексичних запозичень забезпечує створення глибшого і яскравішого читачького досвіду, сприяючи розвитку його культурної обізнаності та розумінню іншомовного контексту, що робить метажанр подорожі*

потужним виховним інструментом подолання культурних бар'єрів. Перспективи досліджень полягають у подальшому вивченні цих та інших функцій лексичних запозичень у творах різних представників метажанру подорожі у світовій літературі.

**Ключові слова:** лексичне запозичення, метажанр подорожі, міжкультурна комунікація, рецензивний потенціал, культурна обізнаність.

Travel writing is an ancient genre that has evolved over time. Its roots can be traced back to Pausanias' travel memoirs *Description of Greece* in the 2nd century AD. As time progressed, James Boswell's *Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides* (1786) played a significant role in shaping travel memoirs as a genre during the modern period. Colbert (2012) defines travel writing as a genre that combines factual reporting with fictional techniques, scientific detail with poetic allusion, and verbal description with visual illustration [3]. The scholar observes that during the Romantic period, the extensive and varied nature of travel writing was a reflection of a broader culture of travel that was deeply ingrained in the arts, literature, and sciences [3]. As grand tourism, which was once reserved for the privileged few, gave way to mass tourism in the mid-nineteenth century, travel writing continued to play a vital role. Ultimately, this genre became essential in shaping a cultural consciousness and development of understanding of the surrounding world [3]. The appeal of travel writing lies in its ability to offer readers a glimpse into diverse cultures and places, enabling them to experience the world vicariously through the traveler's eyes. To this day, travel writing continues to captivate and educate readers, providing valuable insights into the lives and customs of far-off lands and peoples.

In recent studies, there has been a growing emphasis on the importance of considering the cultural context of travel writing [1; 2]. In this regard, it is relevant to examine the functions of lexical borrowings that can be encountered in this genre. The objectives of this paper are to explore the various functions of

loanwords in travel writing, discuss how they enrich the reader's experience and cultural awareness, and thus open a prospect for further studies.

The use of loanwords in travel writing serves a multitude of functions, ranging from linguistic to cultural ones. One of the primary functions of loanwords in travel writing is to create a sense of place. As writers explore new regions, they encounter unique languages, dialects, and cultures, and loanwords contribute to a vivid picture of the location they are describing. Lexical borrowings help approximate the reader to the foreign location, allowing them to experience the sights, sounds, and flavors of the place. Hence, incorporating loanwords into their writing allows the authors to capture the essence of the location and convey it to the reader.

Another important function of loanwords in travel writing is to provide a deeper understanding of the writer's personal experiences of cultural immersion, demonstrating their appreciation for and familiarity with the local context, and fostering a deeper understanding of cultural differences in the readers. Furthermore, loanwords also serve a practical function in travel writing by introducing unfamiliar concepts to the readers, e.g., unique practices, traditions, and customs that have no equivalents in their mother tongue. By using loanwords, writers can introduce these concepts in a clear and concise manner.

Moreover, loanwords can also provide a historical context to the writing. In many cases, loanwords in travel writing have a rich history behind them, which can add depth to the text. For instance, if a writer is describing the architecture in Spain, they might use loanwords like "mudéjar" or "Mozarabic" to describe the unique artistic style. These loanwords not only add authenticity to the writing but also provide the reader with a glimpse into the region's complex history. In addition, loanwords enrich and animate the discourse of characters who are native speakers of other languages, making their dialogue more authentic and engaging, creating a natural and relaxed atmosphere of communication between the characters, as well as authentic speech portraits of the heroes.

Thus, the use of loanwords in travel writing is a valuable tool that can enhance the richness and authenticity of the narrative. Using loanwords in travel writing can add significant value to the portrayal of foreign cultures, providing a more authentic and accurate depiction of the society being explored. Lexical borrowings can serve as a means of adding a local flavor to the text, conveying the writer's cultural experiences, and introducing unfamiliar concepts to the reader. By incorporating foreign words and phrases into their travel accounts, writers can offer a more immersive and engaging experience for the reader, allowing them to better understand the nuances and subtleties of the foreign culture. They also promote cultural awareness and understanding, making travel writing a powerful tool for bridging cultural divides. Further studies are needed to examine these and other functions of loanwords in different pieces of travel writing in world literature.

## REFERENCES

1. Alù G, Hill SP. The travelling eye: reading the visual in travel narratives. *Studies in Travel Writing*. 2018;22(1):1-15, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13645145.2018.1470073>
2. Antosa S. *Frances Elliot and Italy: Writing Travel, Writing the Self*. Milan: Mimesis, 2018.
3. Colbert B. Travel Narrative. In: Burwick F, editor. *The Encyclopedia of Romantic Literature*. 2012. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118300916.wberlt014>.