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**Course Title:** Types of Borrowing

Borrowing is one of the most salient outcomes of language contact. It refers to the activity of lending a give linguistic item (generally lexical ones) but with the attention of accrediting these items to its linguistic origins. Hoffer (2005) advocates that “one of the most easily observable results of intercultural contact and communication is the set of loanwords that is imported into the vocabulary of each language involved” (p.53). Borrowing occurs for different reasons and therefore gives different types.

* **Cultural borrowing:** includes labels of objects which are not originally existing in the host community; the insertion of the ‘new’ object into the recipient culture requires bringing a new ‘lexical entry’ into its language (e.g. Pizza)
* **Core borrowing:** occurs when the recipient language already possesses the linguistic item but still brings its equivalent from the donor language as in media.

It is worth mentioning that despite the fact that borrowing and code switching rely on other languages in addition to the mother tongue (or the spoken language), it is necessary to show the distinction between the two phenomena. For this purpose, two main criteria need to be discussed: first, the degree of item integration in the host language and second, the degree of item use by monolingual speakers. If we check those two principles, we can make the distinction between what is an instance of borrowing or a code-switch utterance. The frequency of use has also been mentioned as a criterion of difference in the sense that if the lexical item appears very frequently (as part of the language) in the speech community’s performance, then it is considered as a loanword; however, if it appears only occasionally in the speech of certain individuals, then there is code switching.