

Analogy

Analogy: "... a process whereby one form of a language becomes more like another with which it has somehow associated." (Arlotto 1972)

(1) O.E. *sa:rig* > Mod. E. *sorry*, on analogy with *sorrow*

- For Neogrammarians, language changed through BORROWING, SOUND CHANGES, and ANALOGY. Analogy, under this view, became the wastebasket of changes.

1. Proportional analogy

(2) $a : b = c : x$

(3) *ride* : *rode* = *dive* : *x* $x = \text{dove} < \text{dived}$

(4) Old English *sprec / spræc / gesprecen* > Modern English *speak / spoke / spoken* (*break / broke / broken*)

(5) Finnish
lehden : *lehti* > *lahden* : *lahti* (< *laksi*)
 'leaf-gen.' 'leaf-nom' 'bay-gen' 'bay-nom'

(6) Standard Spanish Northern Castilian Spanish
 a. *Lo ví.* *La ví.* *Lo ví.* *La ví.*
 'I saw him.' 'I saw her.' 'I saw him.' 'I saw her.'
 b. *Le dí.* *Le dí.* *Le dí.* *La dí.*
 'I gave him (s.t.).' 'I gave her (s.t.).' 'I gave him (s.t.).' 'I gave her (s.t.).'

2. Analogical leveling

- A more common pattern replaces a less common one; PARADIGM UNIFORMITY

(7) English strong verbs level to weak verbs:
strive / strove / striven > *strive / strived / strived*

(8) Standard Spanish US Spanish
volar 'fly-inf' / *vuela* 'fly-3sg' *vuelar* / *vuela*

(9) *old / elder / eldest* > *old / older / oldest* (loss of umlaut through leveling)
 Note: *elder* remains with a specialized meaning; *eldest* is used in archaic language.

(10) *nigh / near / next* > *nigh / nearer / next* > *nigh / nearer / nearest* > *near / nearer / nearest*

3. Analogical extension

- A less common pattern replaces a more common one - rarer than Analogical Leveling

(11) a. *dive / dived* > *dive / dove* (weak > strong)
 b. *arrive / arrived* > *arrive / arrove* (non-standard)

(12) *aprender* 'learn-inf' / *aprendo* (1sg) > *aprender* / *apriendo* (non-standard)

4. Analogy and Sound Change

- *Sturtevant's Paradox*: "sound change is regular and causes irregularity; analogy is irregular and causes regularity"

(13) Umlaut is a regular sound change in the history of English:
brother / brother-en >_{umlaut} *brother / brethren* >_{analogy} *brother / brothers*

(14) O.E. *ʃe:osan / ʃe:as / kuron / koren* >_{analogy} *choose / chose / chose / chosen*

the s ~ r comes from two regular sound changes: *s > *z (Verner's Law) and *z > r (rhot)
 the ʃ ~ k comes from a regular palatalization rule - these lead to an irregular paradigm;
 analogy levels this and creates a regular paradigm

(15) Early Latin (before 400 BS)
honos 'honor-nom.sg' *hono:s-em* 'honor-acc.sg' *hono:s-is* 'honor-gen.sg'

Rhotacism (s > r / V __ V):

honos *hono:r-em* *hono:r-is*

Analogical Leveling (after 200 BC):

honor *hono:r-em* *hono:r-is*

Analogy eliminates root allomorphy

5. Immediate analogy

- Analogy involving paradigms is NON-IMMEDIATE - i.e., the forms usually don't occur together in discourse. IMMEDIATE analogy occurs when forms are often recited together - e.g., as a list.

(16) English months: *January, February, March, ...* [feb.ɹæ.ɹi] > [febu.æ.ɹi], on analogy with [dʒænu.æ.ɹi]

- (17) Most Spanish days of the week end in /s/:

lunes, martes, miércoles, jueves, viernes
originally, *lunes* and *miércoles* did not end in /s/:

Latin: *dies lunae, dies martis, dies mercur_ , dies jovis, dies veneris*

6. Other types of analogy

Hypercorrection

- (18) *tunar, Cubar, marijuanar* (some r-less dialects of English)

- (19) *for you and I*

- (20) *Bilbado, Pilás*

Folk Etymology

- (21) *Hamberg-er* > *ham-burger* (cf. *cheese-burger, fish-burger, gains-burger*)

- (22) *dictadura* (cf. *dicta-blanda*)

- (23) Nahuatl *kwawnawak* ‘near the trees’ > Spanish *Cuernavaca*

- (24) Caló *chorrí* ‘knife’ > Spanish *chorizo* ‘street thug/mugger’

Back Formation

- (25) *burgle* < *burglar*
orientate < *orientation*

- (26) Swahili *ki-tabu* ~ *vi-tabu* < Arabic *kitab-u*

Reanalysis

- (27) O.E. *a næ:ddre* > Mod.E. *an adder*
M.E. *a napron* (borrowed from French *naperon* ‘little cloth’) > Mod. E. *an apron*

Blends

- (28) *smog, brunch, telethon, Irangate, Camillagate, Spanglish*

- (29) Spanish *indio* (from *Cantiflas, El Portero*)