

Introduction to English Linguistics

10: Languages in Contact

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Maldon



Figure: (c) Google Maps

Maldon



Figure: (c) Google Maps

Maldon



Figure: (c) Google Maps

The Battle of Maldon

- 25 þa stod on stæðe, stiðlice clypode
 wicinga ar, wordum mælde,
 se on beot abead brimliþendra
 ærænde to þam eorle, þær he on ofre stod:
 “Me sendon to þe sæmen snelle,
30 heton ðe secgan þæt þu most sendan raðe
 beagas wið gebeorge; and eow betere is
 þæt ge þisne garræs mid gafole forgyldon,
 þon we swa hearde hilde dælon.

The Battle of Maldon

- Ne þurfe we us spillan, gif ge spedað to þam;
35 We willað wið þam golde grið fæstnian.
Gyf þu þat gerædest, þe her ricost eart,
þæt þu þine leoda lysan wille,
syllan sæmannum on hyra sylfra dom
feoh wið freode, and niman frið æt us,
40 we willað mid þam sceattum us to scype gangan,
on flot feran, and eow friþes healdan.”
Byrhtnoð mapelode, bord hafenode,
wand wacne æsc, wordum mælde,
yrre and anræd ageaf him andsware:

The Battle of Maldon

- 45 “Gehyrst þu, sælida, hwæt þis folc segeð?
 Hi willað eow to gafole garas syllan,
 ættrynne ord and ealde swurd,
 þa heregeatu þe eow æt hilde ne deah.
 Brimmanna boda, abeod eft ongear,
50 sege þinum leodum miccle laþre spell,
 þæt her stynt unforcuð eorl mid his werode,
 þe wile gealgean eþel þysne,
 Æþelredes eard, ealdres mines,
 folc and foldan. Feallan sceolon
55 hæþene æt hilde. To heanlic me þinceð
 þæt ge mid urum sceattum to scype gangon
 unbefohtene, nu ge þus feor hider
 on urne eard in becomon.
 Ne sceole ge swa softe sinc gegangan;
60 us sceal ord and ecg ær geseman,
 grim guðplega, ær we gofol syllon.”

When Languages Meet



Figure: *The Story of English* (© PBS; excerpt on [YouTube](#))

Monolingual Speakers?

Creolization?

Borrowing and Imposition

Borrowing

- ▶ Introduced by a native speaker of the recipient language
- ▶ Tends to preserve the phonology of the recipient language

Imposition

- ▶ Introduced by a native speaker of the source language
- ▶ Tends to preserve the phonology of the source language

Modified Loans

Semantic Loan

An existing word receives a new meaning from a source language

- ▶ Old English *dryhten* (from Latin *dominus*)

False Borrowing

Coinage using elements from another language but which does not exist with the same form or meaning in the source language

- ▶ German *Handy*
- ▶ French *parking*