In the linguistically and culturally pluralistic Indian subcontinent English is used as the Second Language (L2), which is acquired after one has learnt the First Language (L1). This co-existence... result in interference from one’s First Language in the Second Language. Through a large-scale socio-cultural interaction with regional contexts English becomes Indianised. A variety of English albeit non-native, lexically, morphologically, syntactically, stylistically, and socio-linguistically, different from the Standard British form has come to be known as Indian variety of English... English, as a link language in India, carries the weight of different experiences in different contexts/ surroundings. English is essentially malleable in nature, adapting its form to suit cultural contexts... In the case of literary Indian English,
loan translations or word borrowings from the regional language of the subcontinent are embedded in the English text, as markers pointing out a cultural distinctiveness. The writers of Indian writings in English often refuse to gloss untranslated words/expressions to be true to their respective roots. Lexical openness is a trademark of Indian English canon.

The term “Indian English” refers to the variety of English which is learnt and used by a large number of educated (in the conventional sense, someone who has undergone an intellectual and moral training) Indians as a second Language…Indian English has the status of an Indian Language, serves the international role of communication with the global community of nations and intraregional roles of link language among people of diverse linguistic background.

Stress will also be laid on the presence in IWE texts of potential translation difficulties for the translator of such texts into European/Western language other than English. I shall adopt an essentially descriptive and lexical approach. Talking into account the nature of Indian English as divisible into a number of lexical strands, considering both who uses a given word, expression or acronym, and when and why (the socio-linguistic perspective), and the origins and connotation of the terms.

Keywords

Indian English, Loan Translations, Local and Global Approach, Lexical Openness, Connotations of the terms.