Towards a taxonomy of "false friends": Faux amis for Hungarian users of English

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1 Introduction

1.1 Identifying the aims

This paper does not concern itself with three things: (a) it does not suggest ways for a more effective teaching the vocabulary of any L2. Neither do I wish to comment on the issue of whether the inductive methods that have been favoured over the past decades have helped the acquisition of vocabulary by discouraging recourse to L1 for meaning.[1] (b) I do not compare the bodies of data in the available lists of false friends, since I look at false friends/cognates in just one particular bilingual and unidirectional fashion, cataloguing English false friends for Hungarians. Ideally, it will be found that other language pairs show similar patterns, thus these findings can be applied to other situations. (c) I do not evaluate the available lists of false friends: these bodies of data do exhibit inconsistencies, but it must be borne in mind that there is a great risk of error involved in such compilation. Where, however, questions of principle are involved, I shall not refrain from making critical comments.

My aim in completing the work that has grown into this paper was twofold.

(i) a more practical one: to gather a sufficiently large collection of expressions that might come under some definition of "false friend," possibly

[1] In his *English faux amis for francophones learning English,* Sheen (1997) finds the principle underlying these approaches "of dubious validity, for it is impossible to prevent [especially beginning and intermediate] students equating what they experience in the L2 with their L1." He suggests, further, that it "makes more sense to exploit the L1 in a variety of ways in order to help students learn [...] vocabulary," one area where use of L1 is absolutely essential being teaching about faux amis.

for use in bilingual lexicography or language teaching (this is the False Friend Index in section **4**),

(ii) to establish some regularities, to provide an acceptable definition, and point out ways of classification.

Although going about (i) is intuitively difficult without some working definition of the kind of item being collected, the two tasks are still not impossible to separate, and (i) can actually be carried out before a more rigorous definition is arrived at in (ii); what is more, there is reason to hope that a greater wealth of data makes it possible to identify more patterns and thereby further fine-tune the definition.

The approach and the contribution that may be hoped the paper makes are mainly lexicographic. The psycholinguistic aspects, however interesting they may be, will be ignored. Accordingly, no distinction will be made either as to whether the false-friend-related lexical mistakes are made by learners (at any level), by non-professional users (clearly the widest circle of people), or by professionals (teachers, interpreters, translators); such persons will be abbreviated as HUE, Hungarian User(s) of English.

1.2 A preliminary definition

A rough approximation of the notion of "false friend" (or "faux ami," or "false cognate"), a notion which we may start with is as follows:

> for users of a language, a false friend/cognate is a word in another language which appears to be the translation equivalent of a word in their language but which in actual fact has a different meaning.

False friends/cognates are loosely called "false" because their use involves some difficulty for non-native users. Everybody who studies languages will probably know about them even if they have never heard the term itself. Thus, for example, most European learners of English sooner or later will have been warned that **actual** (which also appears in the definition in the preceding paragraph) does not mean 'timely', and so when such a meaning is to be expressed, words like **current, timely** or **topical** must be used.[2]

The phrase "translation equivalent" does not necessarily imply that there is, at any level, what may rightly be called "translating" done in the

[2] English words are in bold face; words of other languages in italics; in cases of exact equivalence of spelling between English and another language, bold italic is used. Senses are between single quotation marks. Wherever a source uses other conventions than these, they have been retained.

understanding/production of a foreign language—this may or may not be the case. If, however, what happens to (most, and especially beginning) speakers (most of the time) in the use of a foreign language is indeed translation, then false friends are clearly not a matter for professional translators.[3]

1.3 "False friend/cognate": technical terms?

It is odd that "false friend" and its loose synonyms should be called technical terms, since technical terms besides being (a) restricted in terms of occasion, use or field, and unintelligible outside a specialized area of knowledge, (b) have definitions, which ideally guarantees consistent use.[4] The three terms that seem to be used interchangeably, undoubtedly satisfy the first of these: none of them features in the three major EFL dictionaries (CCELD 1987, LDCE 1987, OALD 1995); none appears in such native-language dictionaries as the unabridged Random House (RHUED 1994); they do not appear even in the Oxford English Dictionary (OED 1992).[5] Neither do "falsche Freunde" or "faux ami" appear in the *Grosse Fremdwörterbuch* (GFWB 1982); the most reliable Hungarian collection of foreign expressions (ISZKK 1994 has no entry for "faux ami" either. "Faux ami" is scarcely attested in the major French dictionaries (van Campenhoudt 1997).[6] As for point (b), however, the expressions "false friend", "faux ami" and "false cognate"[7] clearly fall short of being "technical terms," since their available definitions (see section **2**) are too vague for rigorous classification. The linguistic literature contains scarcely any reference to false friends, and the existent ones are mainly in secondary sources such as (special and general) dictionaries (see section **2**). Paradoxically, then, this paper sets out to contribute to the study of false friends/cognates by "popularizing" the notion

[3] As, for example, the Russian variant — "the translator's false friends" — might suggest.

[4] That in most cases these compete and there is little uniformity is irrelevant here.

[5] The *Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture* (LDELC) contains **faux ami** (but not **false friend,** and it does not use the latter in its explanation of the former); see this definition in section **2.** The *Cambridge International Dictionary of English* (CIDE 1995), which specially treats the notion "false friend," obviously contains this expression (but again not "faux ami") as an entry as well.

[6] "... n'est guère attestée dans les grands dictionnaires du français contemporain, à l'exception du *Trésor de la langue française* et du *Nouveau Petit Robert*."

[7] Another synonym seems to be "deceptive cognate" (Robert & Collins 1990), quoted in (van Campenhoudt 1997).

and imposing upon it some kind of restriction in terminological terms, at the same time.

1.4 Sources

Two major (and a few minor) sources on English false friends/cognates have been published, some of them containing references to older titles: the first one is Hill's *A dictionary of false friends* (1982), while a quite recent source is the false friends sections of the *Cambridge International Dictionary of English* (CIDE 1995). Neither source (and none of the minor ones) contains a list of English false friends for HUE.

This, and the fact that the motives for/against the inclusion/exclusion of particular expressions were (very meagrely) accessible only in Hill 1982, have resulted in two things: (a) that the Hungarian–English False Friend Index had to be compiled without predecessors; and (b) that the two lists were not suitable as models or sources of ideas.

In addition, Országh's *Elements of English origin in the Hungarian word stock* (1977) and Bakos's *A desk dictionary of foreign words and phrases* (ISZKK 1994) as well as the *Hungarian–English pictorial dictionary* (MAKSZ 1994) have been an invaluable help in the compilation. For the definitions in this paper as well as the paraphrases and disambiguating expressions in the False Friend Index, I have adapted the definitions of the *Collins English Dictionary* (CED 1991).

2 Definitions

2.1 Restricting the term

2.1.1 False friends/cognates: also in the grammar?

According to a very broad definition of "false friend/cognate" as a word which appears to be the equivalent of a word in another language but which actually has a different meaning, any lexical expression wrongly used qualifies as such. Thus, a mistake in "deictic appropriacy" such as the verb **go** used instead of **come** in a situation where only the latter is possible semantically or pragmatically, is a false friend-related mistake. An error in irreversible binomials such as the use of **write and read** instead of **read and write** is likewise caused by some "false friend"; any lexical mistake (transfer-induced or otherwise) such as ***wait them** used without a preposition (based on the Hungarian transitive *vár* 'wait') is rightly termed "false friend/cognate," since to the HUE, these English expressions "appear to be the equivalents" of words in their language. While it must be recognized that the notion of "false friend" could be extended to errors such as these, in this paper it will be arbitrarily restricted to lexical phrases.[8]

Sheen (1997) indeed distinguishes grammatical false friends (allegedly few in number) from lexical ones: these involve cases where expressions in the two languages are similar in form and may have the same meaning, but: (a) the difficulty is caused by the "count vs. non-count" distinction, that is, English has a noncount noun where this is not expected (e.g., **information, research, toast**); (b) the English word belongs to a different part of speech (e.g., **inconvenient** is a noun in French but an adjective in English, while their meaning is the *same;* **tentative** is a noun in French, but again an adjective in English, this time with a *different* meaning); (c) there is a "syntactic" difficulty, which seems to be a general heading for errors in prepositional (non-)usage (e.g., the French equivalent of **operate on** is transitive).

There are several problems here. (i) Cases where the meanings are generally identical — such as types (a) and (c) — ought to be kept distinct from those where they may allegedly be different — type (b). (ii) When a word has what is claimed to be an "opposite number" in another language and it belongs to some other word class, the two cannot possibly have the same meaning. And, most seriously, (iii) whenever in the case of an existing false-friend-related difficulty, there is some attendant grammatical problem of the type which as a rule gets registered lexicographically, this obviously must be pointed out. When, however, there is similarity of form and identity of lexical meaning, as in (a) and (c) above, there is hardly any need to fall back upon "faux amis": these are purely grammatical problems, not worse than those caused, by their non-cognate synonyms. For example, while both **toast** and **bread** are (quite unpredictably) non-count, the fact that **toast** (which goes back to Old French, and as a result is a cognate in sense 2 in section **2.2.3** and thus) could, in principle, be a false friend is hardly relevant.

In this paper, then we will not recognize grammatical, only lexical false friends.

2.1.2 False friends: ubiquitous and fatal?

It is unchallengeably a lexical mistake when a HUE says, **Let me cook some coffee for you** rather than **make** by transfer from the Hungarian *kávét főz*

[8] But not to words, see **2.3.**

'cook/boil coffee': s/he must be using it because "it appears to be the equivalent of a word" in his/her language. Why s/he should select **cook** is obvious: exactly because it is the right word from the semantic point of view — it does *not* have a different meaning — it just is not suitable in terms of collocation. To take a more extreme example: in the very unlikely event of a HUE wishing to express the idea 'wooden plate' and translating it into English as **fatal,**[9] s/he would have done exactly this: chosen a word "which appears to be the exact equivalent of a word but in actual fact has a different meaning." Although the lexical mistakes exemplified above (**go** rather than **come; find out** instead of **make up; wait** without the preposition; **cook** for **make**) are undoubtedly common, they do not qualify as false friends/cognates, and their likes these do not occur in the two available collections of false friends, the sixteen lists in CIDE and Hill 1982. The type of **fatal,** however, does occur in the latter. The book warns German users of English that **when** does not mean 'if', based on transfer from German *wenn.* It warns Italians that a **sedan** is not a **celery;** French and German users that **a fee** $\neq$ **a fairy.**

The words **sheen** and **shin** are both entered in *A dictionary of false friends,* warning French speakers that these do not equal **China** French *Chine,* and reminding Germans that **sheen/shin** does not translate *Schiene* 'railway track/line'. The chances of a French learner of English believing that the word **shin** that s/he encounters while reading should mean the name of a country are very small, though admittedly greater in production/ encoding. It is not inconceivable that a German speaker of English should try using **shin** or **sheen** to denote what s/he calls *Schiene.* Hungarian speakers, by contrast, are almost unlikely to think that *sín* is "the same" in English. The explanation, in this case, is trivial: because the German origin of Hungarian *sín* is not common knowledge, there is no ground for the HUE to hope that English has the "same" word. But are Italian learners of English really supposed to think (as they must be according to Hill who cautions them) that **inn** means 'hymn' while reading an English text (decoding), where the **inn,** for example, of **The thieves spent the night at an inn** can hardly be mistaken for a word meaning 'hymn'?

One thing can safely be claimed: wherever the expression "false friend" appears, it amounts to a warning — "be careful, a particular word in your language (*Schiene*) does not have a similar-looking equivalent in a target

[9] A restaurant in downtown Budapest is named *Fatál.* This funny instance of namegiving shows that *fatál* does not even get associated with **fatal**—had the proprietors known better, they would probably have changed it for something less premonitory.

language (**sheen**). The same example for an English user of German, of course, works the opposite way: "**sheen** does not have a similar-looking equivalent in the target language: *Schiene.*"

2.2 False friends/cognates in different sources

2.2.1 The notion in EFL dictionaries

The two dictionaries mentioned here are the *Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture* (LDELC 1992) and the *Cambridge International Dictionary of English* (CIDE 1995). No special exactitude can be expected, and none is encountered. The former has the following:

> **faux ami** /fəʊzæˈmiː/ *n* **faux amis** *Fr* a word in one language that looks like a word in another but has a different meaning, e.g., the French word "actuel" means "current, present-day" in English and not "actually"

This identifies the basic features: similarity of form and difference in meaning, between two words, in two languages.[10] Note that which of **actual** and *actuel* is the false friend is not said: just because this is an English dictionary, where it is more likely for the French word to "have a different meaning", **actual** may also be a false friend for French speakers.

CIDE is special in having two definitions: one in the entry for **false friend** itself, and the other in its Language Portraits.[11] The former has the following:

> A false friend is a word which learners often confuse with a word in another language because the two words look or sound similar, but have different meanings.

This also identifies similarity of form and difference in meaning. This definition does not specify whether the native language of the learners (L1) must be different from the "another language" (L2), or even whether there are two foreign languages involved; it allows, for example, for a Turkish learner of English confusing an English word with a French one, or a Turkish word with an English one, in any combination/direction. The definition

[10] Ignoring the obvious error: "actually" should read "actual."

[11] The entry, incidentally, does not refer readers to the Language Portrait "False Friends", thus if they are not familiar with this CIDE feature, they will think this is all it has to say about them.

does not reveal whether it is the target language (L2) words that are the actual false friends, or those in the learner's (L1).

CIDE's definition in the Language Portraits is as follows:

> A false friend is a word in a foreign language which looks or sounds similar to a word in your own language but does not have exactly the same meaning. English has many words which are false friends for speakers of other languages.

This definition is more adequate for it (i) explicitly states that a false friend is a foreign word; (ii) it identifies, however implicitly, L1 and L2; (iii) introduces the idea of there being false friends/cognates in one language specifically for speakers of another. (English is obviously not the only such language). The False Friends page also goes on to explain that there are two main reasons for this:

- English words often have the same origins as similar words in other languages but sometimes different meanings of the words have developed in the different languages. This is especially true for other European languages.[12]
- English words have been borrowed by other languages, and sometimes these have been given new or different meanings.[13]

This is followed by guidance on how to use the sixteen lists of false friends which "include important false friends that often cause confusion for learners of English." A whole page of well-laid-out explanation (containing the case **announce**–*annoncieren*–**advertise**) is provided.[14]

It is easy to not notice the wording "... include important false friends that often cause confusion"; the importance of this will be discussed in **3.2.4.**

2.2.2 The notion in specialized dictionaries

Here, more precision can be expected, and this is what is found. We quote the definitions and see how much they refine the picture obtained so far. The *Oxford Dictionary of English Grammar* (ODEG 1994) contains:

[12] The example of **sensible** is given, which "looks like *sensible* (French, Spanish) and *sensibel* (German, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish), but in fact does not mean the same: these words mean the same as the English word **sensitive**."

[13] The example is **super,** which has been borrowed by Japanese and Korean (where it means 'supermarket') and Thai ('leaded fuel').

[14] CIDE 1995 : 502.

> **false friend**
>
> A word that has the same or a similar form in two (or more) languages but different meanings in each. [...] For example, the French adjective *sympathique* (like Italian *simpatico*) often means 'nice', 'pleasant', or 'likeable', and is therefore a false friend to English *sympathetic.* [...] Sometimes also called *false cognate* and *faux ami.*

This definition, while it (a) oversimplifies—obviously no word can have either forms or meanings in *different languages,* whether these be identical or different; (b) it tries to capture too much when it mentions false friend-ship "chains" in more than two languages (are these all false friends/cognates of *one another*?); (c) again, it omits to mention directionality; (d) again, only implicitly does it answer the question for which user and of which language a particular word is a false friend.

The *Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching & Applied Linguistics* (LDLTAL 1992) has:

> **false cognate**
> also **faux amis, false friend**
> a word which has the same or very similar form in two languages, but which has a different meaning in each. The similarity may cause a second language learner to use the word wrongly. For example, the French word *expérience* means 'experiment' and not 'experience'. French learners of English might thus write or say: *Yesterday we performed an interesting experience in the laboratory.*

This definition is (a) in error again for the same reason as the ODEG definition; (b) it is more restrictive in terms of number of languages involved; (c) mentions "second language", implying thereby directionality.[15]

Summing up, it must be admitted that these definitions do not tinge the "non-technical" ones above in a very useful way.

A rather interesting contribution is that of van Campenhoudt's (1997). He quotes the *Dictionnaire de la linguistique* (Mounin et al. 1974), which refers to Koessler & Derocquigny (1928) as the first occurrence of the term "faux ami." It is odd that such an important aspect as the "partial vs. total" distinction in their definition should have been left out from all subsequent ones. According to them, "faux amis"[16] designates:

[15] The mistake **amis** for **ami** must be ignored again.

[16] "Les faux amis ou les trahisons du vocabulaire anglais." The latter has apparently dropped out of usage.

> "les mots d'étymologie et de forme semblable mais de sens partiellement ou totalement différents. Ex.: angl. *actual* = fr. *réel,* fr. *actuel* = angl. *present*"

Apart from the "partial vs. total" distinction, this short definition highlights another important aspect: false friends have "similar etymologies." Also made (unsaid but implied in the examples) is the crucial point that wherever there is a false friend/cognate in L1 (English **actual**) for (users of) L2 (in French $\neq$ *actuel* but = *réel*), there is bound to be another one (the similar word) in L2 (French *actuel*) for users of L1 (in English $\neq$ **actual** but = **present**). This may imply that there are always two false friends in situations such as this: "angl. *actual* = fr. *réel,* fr. *actuel* = angl. *present*"— both the L1 and the L2 word is a false friend.

2.2.3 The meaning of "cognate"

The term "cognate" has one broader sense: 1 'akin'; 'related', and a narrower one: 2 'descended from a common ancestor'. Of these two, the linguistic literature usually employs the latter (pertaining to words or languages). Since two expressions do not have to be cognates in sense 2 in order to be "false friends"[17]—borrowing may also result in "false pairs," and here, "false cognate" is only tenable in sense 1—"false cognate" and "false friend" should not be used synonymously. Either it should be made clear that the former is a subtype of the latter, or—more simply—because "friend" (unlike "cognate") is not bound by technical use—it might be more prudent to use "friend" as part of this technical term, to refer to one of the pair. Also, the term "false pair" can be used.

2.2.4 Summing up

We can now take an inventory of the notions that have come up thus far; the following fourteen points are to be considered:

(1) "False friend" may cover GRAMMATICAL as well as LEXICAL problems but this is not the approach that this paper has taken.

[17] They do, as we have just seen, according to the original definition in Koessler & Derocquigny (1928).

(2) The "false friend/cognate problem" emerges when at least TWO LANGUAGES are involved.[18]

(3) The entity involved is primarily the word. Bigger-than-word LEXICAL UNITS are also affected, but WORD is always suitable in the definitions.

(4) "FRIEND" (or "ami") and "COGNATE" are used synonymously but had better be kept DISTINCT.

(5) In any language there may be expressions similar to expressions in other languages which, however, have DIFFERENT MEANINGS.

(6) SOME of these expressions may CAUSE CONFUSION for their foreign users.

(7) These similarities are either in SPEECH or in WRITING, possibly both.

(8) The precise extent of these similarities — "HOW SIMILAR their FORMS must be" — is not specified.

(9) The precise extent of these differences—"HOW DIFFERENT their SENSES must be" — is not specified.

(10) This confusion is a potentiality both in PRODUCTION and RECEPTION.

(11) Where such confusion occurs, it is either the word in the SOURCE LANGUAGE or in the TARGET LANGUAGE that is "false." In this case, false friends come in FALSE PAIRS.

(12) The similarity between two such words is due either to BORROWING or COMMON ANCESTRY. The narrower meaning of "cognate" is only applicable to the latter case.

(13) Common ancestry of pairs containing an English word and a word in some other language is a typical source in the case of EUROPEAN languages.

(14) Whether common genealogy or borrowing, words develop NEW MEANINGS and thus false friends are born.

Thus there are important aspects covered only by the definitions in the French-language sources but not the English ones, such as directionality, the question of whether false friends are restricted to the lexicon (or are

[18] Van Campenhoudt (1997) mentions that following Colignon & Berthier (1985), "faux ami" could also be used in a monolingual context. This might, however, lead to its confusion with what is also termed a "mot-piège," which may include other lexical mistakes such as "les barbarismes, les pléonasmes", etc. To these may indeed be added "lapses," solecisms, malapropisms and any "misusage," and although their study by native language users may be interesting, it would clearly take us far afield.

also interpretable in grammar), and the "partial vs. total" overlap between the senses of false friends.

Most of these notions are taken up in **2.2.5–3.2.3,** and the definitions offered in **2.3** will take account of this information. Some of the questions, however, such as the precise extent to which the form of two expressions must be similar, and the precise extent to which their meaning must be different, as well as which of the false pairs cause the biggest trouble for learners, will remain unsettled, due to reasons that I hope will be forcefully presented.

2.2.5 User, process, medium, direction, and "warning message"

There are two types of situation/process when problems with such word pairs emerge: (a) encoding/production, and (b) decoding/comprehension. Consequently, there may be two kinds of warning to the language user: (a) not to use the similar looking target-language (L2, or simply foreign) word by transfer from the source-language (L1, or simply native) word — Hungarian *szimpatikus* is not **sympathetic;** (b) not to assume that the target-language word means what the source-language word — **sympathetic** is not *szimpatikus.* Which is the "false" one in these two cases? If in production it is the target-language word, as most of the non-technical definitions suggest, then surely in comprehension it is the source-language word? Alternatively, it could be argued that it is invariably the foreign-language word that turns out to be different from your expectations; then a false friend would, by definition, be an L2 word, both in process (a) and (b).

It must be stressed that the two processes are not on a par: for most people, due to the predominance of reading, decoding is a more frequent activity than encoding (which more often involves the spoken medium than writing), and here the L2 word is less of a challenge since it usually gets more contextual support.[19] (In encoding, the context is also there — it helps the partner disambiguate and "correct" — but it does not prevent the speaker from actually making the mistake.)

[19] A concordance search on **carpet** in written texts, which has yielded 73 occurrences of this word, has contexts that make the sense fully unambiguous in nearly half of the cases: "... they all went in a big parlor that had a new rag **carpet** on the floor..."; "A bed; and bedclothes; and a look'n-glass; and a piece of **carpet** on the floor..."; "There was a **carpet** on the floor, originally of rich texture..."; "... floor (which was unusual at that day) being covered with a **carpet,** so skilfully and richly wrought...."

In this way, it is not only with a view to easier look-up that it has seemed useful to think in terms of two separate indexes—one L1–L2 and one L2–L1 list—of "false friends" for any pair of languages, but there may be more principled reasons for this. The typical possibilities for "false friendship" will be summarized and illustrated with *kárpit*–**carpet** as follows:

USER	Hungarian user of English		English user of Hungarian	
PROCESS	Encoding (mostly spoken)	Decoding (mostly written)	Encoding (mostly spoken)	Decoding (mostly written)
DIRECTION	H → E *kárpit*	E → H **carpet**	E → H **carpet**	H → E *kárpit*
"WARNING MESSAGE"	Not → **carpet**	Meaning ≠ 'upholstery' but 'carpet'	Not → *kárpit*	Meaning ≠ 'floor rug' but 'upholstery'
ADVICE	Use **upholstery**		—	
			Use *szőnyeg*[20]	

2.3 The definitions used in this paper

For a proper definition of false friends/cognates, the questions in **2.2.4** that still wait to be and can be answered, must be.

Thus we

- use "friend" rather than "cognate" because the latter implies common ancestry of any pair of false friends and thus is too restrictive;
- recognize false friends only in the lexicon, excluding them from grammar;
- restrict false friends to situations involving two languages;
- do not limit the type of lexical unit involved to the word;
- recognize that false friends may exist either only in speech or only in writing.

An important qualification must also be introduced. Because (i) both the L1 and the L2 word of a pair of affected words can be termed a false friend; (ii) it would be difficult indeed to argue that words that do not exist can be false friends, and (iii) those pairs where the L2 word does not

[20] This information is not given in our False Friend Index.

exist[21] are among the most sensitive cases (witness the asterisked items in the False Friend Index), one of three options appears to be viable: in any false pair,

(a) define false friend as an expression of the target language, stipulating that it may be an assumed (conjectured, inferred) one
(b) define false friend as an expression of the source language, stipulating that the expression with which it is falsely associated may only be an assumed (conjectured, inferred) one
(c) define the false pair, allowing for a false friend to be either an expression of the source or the target language, making both stipulations above.

We first spell out (a), then (b), which we will accept, realizing that at this point, the arguments for (b) do not outweigh those for (a). These will not be discussed before **3.2.**

(a) would yield this definition:

> A False Friend for a *U*ser of a *S*ource *L*anguage is any *T*arget *L*anguage *W*ord (existent or inferred by the U_{SL}) whose (spoken and/or written form) makes this W_{TL} appear to be the equivalent (in both translating from and into this *SL*) of a W_{SL} in terms of meaning (and/or connotation and/or style), but which has (at least one) meaning that is (totally or partly) different from that of the W_{SL}.

(b) yields, then, the definition of "false friend" that this paper uses:

[21] This does not imply that these are the "most deceptive" in the sense that they impede communication most (cf. **3.2.4**). Words that are not in CED (1991) have been marked with an asterisk in the Indexes. This thus indicates extreme marginality. They are repeated here: **alcoholist, autogramme, °bagatellize, °calium, °cascader, °casino egg, chemic, claviature, conspiration, °curatorium, °delicates shop, °dissidate, °dopping (test), °drink bar, °gem clip, °gremium, hazarder, °hazard player, inventious, °kalium, °meteorologue, °pansion, °premier plan(e), °press caesar, °presso, °puplin, recensor, °routin(e)ous, °salo(o)n candy/sweet, sanate, °sport(ing) coupé, statist, °statistery, °Swedish table, °tastature, °tur(n)mix.** For accuracy, the ones that are not featured even in the OED (1992) are marked with a ° sign in this list.

A False Friend for a *U*ser of a *S*ource *L*anguage is a *S*ource *L*anguage *W*ord whose (spoken and/or written form) makes this W_{SL} appear to be the equivalent (in both translating from and into this *SL*) of a W_{TL} (existent or inferred by the U_{SL}) in terms of meaning (and/or connotation and/or style), but which has (at least one) meaning that is (totally or partly) different from that of the W_{TL}.

2.3.1 Causes of similarities and differences

The similarity between the forms of such expressions in any SL and TL may be caused by more factors than are usually recognized: (a) their common ancestry; (b) borrowing (in either direction); (c) borrowing by both SL and TL from a third language (including the borrowing of the so-called "internationalisms"); (d) may be accidental. When condition (a) or (b) or (c) obtains between entire languages (i.e., between cognate languages; between heavy borrowers from, and lenders to, one another; between languages extensively borrowing from a "third party"), the similarities will produce false pairs accordingly. These causes, in addition may overlap, such as when Language A, unrelated to Language B, borrows from it words which Language B genetically shares with a Language C.[22]

In cases (a)–(c) above, the differences between the meanings of such words in any SL and TL, whatever their magnitude, are caused by permanent lexico-semantic change; in the case of (d), they are trivial.

2.3.2 English—a "false language"?

Quite expectably, for Norwegian users of English, for instance, there will be more English false friends due to common ancestry than for Russian users; for Hungarian users of English there will be more English false friends due to borrowing by Hungarian than by English; for any pair of languages, there will be an unpredictable number due to coincidence; for speakers of Thai, for example, there will be no false pairs due to (a), quite many due to borrowing from English, and probably fewer or about the same number due to borrowing from third sources. English as a language has always

[22] E.g., when Hungarian borrows German words that have other Germanic, including English, cognates.

been both a heavy lender and borrower[23] of vocabulary, thus it will have many pairs motivated by each of (a), (b) and (c).

CIDE (1995), which is the first EFL dictionary to offer false friend information for sixteen languages,[24] provides lists for thirteen European ones, eight of which use **actual,** for example, in the non-English, "continental", way. This means that for users of these languages the word is a false friend. Indeed, Hill tells us about his "striking discovery" that often English has a meaning or use for a word which differs from that "of its cognates in most (if not all) of the other languages where it occurs" (1982 : i). In this sense, then, the most central English false friends (or the "pairs" to these) are those words which are deceptive for the largest number of other languages.

2.3.3 Sufficient similarity of form— sufficient difference of meaning

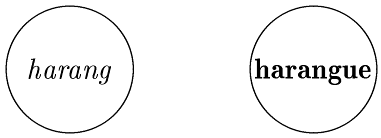
It is important to stress that these remarks about the causes of false pairs, and the etymological reference, do not mean that speakers have any of this information at their disposal. Similarity of form between two such expressions (as any similarity) is a relative matter; moreover, the propensity to perceive such similarity may vary from person to person, influenced by (i) his/her proficiency level in a language and general linguistic aptitude; (ii) the nature of the lexical items in question; and (iii) whether encoding or decoding is involved. All these are in an intricate balance when it comes to the question of what counts as a false friend to an individual. (In **2.1.2** the examples **fatal**–*fatál,* **when**–*wenn,* **fairy**–*fee,* **sheen/shin**–*Schiene* and **inn** were mentioned, and the importance of distinguishing between encoding and decoding was pointed out).

Limiting our attention to HUE, we will use the example of the pair **harangue** 'a loud, forceful, or angry speech' and Hungarian *harang* 'bell'. There seems to be a potential false pair here: a striking similarity of forms and a great difference between the senses. This case could be likened to that of **actual**–*aktuális,* **sympathetic**–*szimpatikus,* or **carpet**–*kárpit.* Still, because the average Hungarian speaker suspects that *harang* is neither a

[23] The multiple layers of borrowings from Latin, Greek and French have produced many doublets, many of which are a "hotbed" of false pairs: of French–English and English–French false friends through borrowing, but also of Hungarian–English and English–Hungarian ones owing to the fact that both these languages have borrowed from Latin, Greek and French.

[24] Czech, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Thai.

borrowing nor an internationalism that may possibly be used in English as well (cf. (i) above), and because the two words have never had any shared meaning, they have (cf. (ii) above), they will hardly use **harangue** for *harang,* especially not while decoding an English message (cf. (iii) above). This pair, then, is not a false pair. The situation may be likened to the "paradox of antonymy" where (whether put in componential terms or not) for two items to be antonymous, they must share some common dimension of meaning. Here, too, the case appears to be that (even a very high) similarity of forms does not produce false friends when their meanings are as dissociate as here. This type of situation, which most likely occurs where the similarity of forms is accidental, can reasonably be represented by non-intersecting Venn diagrams. Here, their non-intersection denotes not just complete difference of meaning, but also total dissociation and thus no "false friend potential." Later on such diagrams will be used in ways slightly different from this.



2.3.4 Activation of false friends

A compromise solution — an alternative to the claim above — would be to say that pairs such as **harangue**–*harang* are actually false friends, but only potentially, and they do not get "activated." (If lists of false friends were to be compiled accordingly, their sizes would obviously increase manyfold).

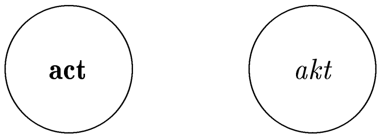
The activation of false friends, then, would depend on factors like (i) to (iii) above, which possibly also includes such factors (so far touched upon only in the definitions in **2.3**) as style and register. This will be illustrated with four words: the Hungarian *kóstol* 'try, taste' is a standard term; *koszt* 'food' is somewhat familiar; *steksz* 'bread, lolly [=money]' and *kraft* 'power' are (dated) slang. There exist potential English false friends for each of them: **cost, cost, stakes, craft,** respectively. While both *kóstol, koszt* and *kraft* are of German origin, *steksz* comes from English **stakes** (Országh 1977 : 34). No data from studies of the actual use of false friends by Hungarians are available, thus the inclusion/exclusion of certain types of false friend in our False Friend Index has been, if not unmotivated, necessarily arbitrary. Since beginners tend to use little slang, and because of the legitimate generalization that the more advanced the learner is, the less prone s/he is to be deceived by false friends, the more likely HUE are to use slang, the less they are bound to make false friend related mistakes. This has meant that the standard *kóstol* and *koszt* (and **cost**) have been included in the Index, *kraft* has not, and *steksz* only has because of its etymological relatedness to Hungarian. Because, however, the HUE is not familiar with this fact, such a decision in similar cases has also been arbitrary, albeit a motivated one. A defensible claim may be that other things being equal (and they rarely are, of course), the more central/core an item is, the more likely it is to be activated.

3 Aspects of classification

3.1 Meaning relations: absolute and partial false pairs

The simplest fashion to represent the meaning relations between false friends is the use of standard Venn diagrams representing the "semantic area" of words. Three cases — (i) to (iii) — may be distinguished.

(i) In the simplest case, when two words have no common meaning, they are in two disjoint disks:



These false friends may be called absolutes. Sheen's (1997) French–English examples include *libraire*–**library;** *agenda*–**agenda;** *lecture*–**lecture.**[25] Such absolutes constitute the majority of false friend in our False Friend Index.

Using **act** instead of *akt* is as grave an error as using *akt* instead of **act;** when a HUE uses **act** to mean 'nude', s/he will not be understood; when an English person uses *akt* to mean 'deed', s/he will have difficulty conveying his/her meaning. This holds for encoding as much as decoding. A table illustrates this on the **act**–*akt* pair.

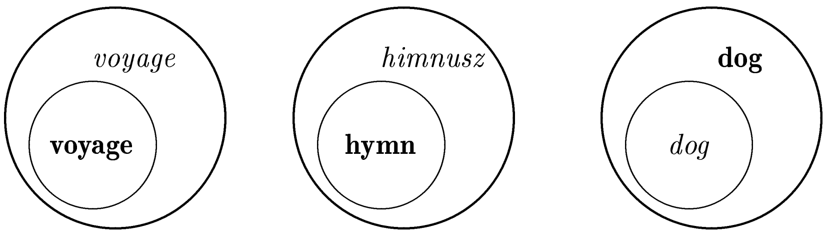
[25] The first false pair of the three exemplifies similarity of "sound and look", while the latter two show similarity of sound and identity of look. This question — the extent of similarity between false friends — will not be pursued further.

USER	Hungarian user of English		English user of Hungarian	
PROCESS	Encoding	Decoding	Encoding	Decoding
DIRECTION	H → E *akt*	E → H **act**	E → H **act**	H → E *akt*
"WARNING MESSAGE"	Not → **act**	Meaning ≠ 'nude' but 'deed'	Not → *akt*	Meaning ≠ 'deed' but 'nude'
ADVICE	Use **nude**		—	
			Use *tett* etc.[26]	

The other two types of false friends are subtypes of what may be termed partial. They include two cases:

(ii) One of the false pair has a broader meaning than the other, whose circle it thus includes. There are extremely few such English–Hungarian pairs in the Index. It must be noted that because there are different subtypes of semantic inclusion, even these few examples are heterogeneous. This is represented by disks in subset relation.

French *voyage* 'journey' vs. English **voyage,** (Sheen 1997) Hungarian *himnusz* 'anthem; hymn' vs. English **hymn** and Hungarian *dog* 'Great Dane' vs. English **dog** will serve as examples:



The sense relation of inclusion in its simplest formulation means that **voyage** is a kind of *voyage*; a **hymn,** a type of *himnusz*; a *dog,* a breed of **dog.**

Sheen (1997) claims that what makes this case peculiar is that the deceptive relationship is only one-way: only the one language has a false friend for speakers of the other. Thus, **voyage** 'trip by sea and in space' is a false friend for French speakers, while *voyage* 'journey' is not for English

[26] This information is not given in the Indexes of false friends in Section **4.**

speakers: whenever you make a **voyage** you must be making a *voyage,* but not vice versa. **Hymn** would thus be a false friend for HUE, since it cannot designate just any *himnusz,* but *himnusz* would not be a false friend for English speakers of Hungarian, ostensibly because one cannot be singing a **hymn** without therein singing a *himnusz,* but not the other way round. By contrast, the word *dog* would be a false friend for English speakers, since *dog* does not apply to all dogs, but **dog** would not be one for HUE, for whoever has a *dog* necessarily has a **dog.**

The generalisation, then, would be that in Venn diagrams only the word whose sense is broader is a false friend (for speakers in the smaller circle). If this is so, then whatever the situation might be, the English speaker cannot get it wrong if s/he chooses *voyage* or *himnusz,* and the Hungarian speaker will make himself/herself understood using **dog.**

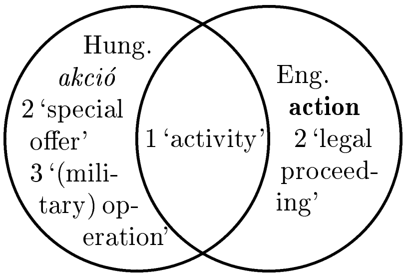
Accordingly, *voyage*–**voyage** and these two Hungarian–English false pairs would be tabulated thus:

USER	French user of English		English user of French	
PROCESS	Encoding	Decoding	Encoding	Decoding
DIRECTION	F → E *voyage*	E → F **voyage**	E → F **voyage**	F → E *voyage*
"WARNING"	Not → **voyage**	Meaning ≠ 'sea /space journey but 'journey'	"NOT A PROBLEM"	"NOT A PROBLEM"
ADVICE	Use **journey**			

USER	Hungarian user of English		English user of Hungarian	
PROCESS	Encoding	Decoding	Encoding	Decoding
DIRECTION	H → E	E → H	E → H	H → E
	himnusz	**hymn**	**hymn**	*himnusz*
"WARNING"	Not → **hymn**	Meaning ≠ 'anthem' but 'church song'	"NOT A PROBLEM"	"NOT A PROBLEM"
ADVICE	Use **anthem**			
	dog	**dog**	**dog**	*dog*
"WARNING"	"NOT A PROBLEM"	"NOT A PROBLEM"	Not → *dog*	Meaning ≠ 'canis' but 'Great Dane'
ADVICE				Use *kutya*

There is, I think, a serious confusion here. "Cannot get it wrong" in a situation is not the same as "get his/her meaning across", or "make himself/herself understood"—it is just "*not* make himself/herself misunderstood." It is one thing to use the general term and thereby avoid a positive error, and another to succeed in conveying the desired meaning. When an English person uses *voyage,* s/he is still misled by the false pair: s/he wrongly assumes that it means 'sea/space journey', so this word *is* a false friend again; when s/he uses *himnusz,* s/he is *not* using the word meaning 'anthem' (and only that); if a Hungarian used **dog** for 'Great Dane', s/he would *not* be using the right (specific) word.

(iii) The second type of partiality in the case of false friends means the type of overlap that both the L1 and the L2 word have at least one sense shared, and both words have at least one sense which the other does not have. The pair *akció*–**action** may serve as an example. This is represented by intersecting disks.



They have a set of shared meanings 'activity', 'events', 'plot', but *akció* has two senses that action does not have in English. The fact that **action** has meanings that *akció* does not, such as 'legal proceeding', is not relevant for the HUE, who wishes to find an English equivalent for one or the other sense of the Hungarian word, but it is relevant for English speakers of Hungarian. It is also irrelevant that **operation,** which is the equivalent of one of the senses of *akció,* has other meanings (such as 'medical operation').

The fact that it is the semantic structure of the source-language (and not the target-language) word is that is difficult to be adequately mapped by speakers of the source-language is the reason that it is not the target-language word but the source-language word — because of its semantic structure — that is a false friend: the wrongly associated target-language word, as it were, is "innocent." This is why the "source-language definiton" of false friends was adopted in **2.3.**

3.2 Refinements and further examples

Since it is not words but senses that exhibit different semantic relationships such as synonymy, hyponymy, antonymy etc., even if this may not be immediately obvious to learners, it is best to treat the behaviour of false friends not in words as unanalyzable units but as sense complexes. In many entries either the Hungarian or the English word of the False Friend Index is polysemous. Given its Hungarian → English direction in, the polysemy of the English item is never a problem, however: once the HUE picks the right English word (EW) for the required sense, it does not matter if that EW has other senses as well. Polysemy of a Hungarian expression, by contrast, is relevant both (a) where it has several senses, all of which are problematic — that is, the similar-looking English word is a false friend each of them — and (b) where the Hungarian expression has several senses but only one causes problems.

Case (a)

$$HW \begin{cases} \boxed{\text{sense}^1\ \text{FF}} \\ \boxed{\text{sense}^2\ \text{FF}} \end{cases} \neq \textbf{EW}$$

e.g., *abszolvál*

Case (b)

$$HW \begin{cases} \boxed{\text{sense}^1\ \text{FF}} \\ \text{sense}^2 \end{cases}$$

e.g., *akadémikus*

An example of Case (a) is *abszolvál,* which has both a more general sense — sense^1: 'complete; perform; accomplish', and a more specialized one — sense^2: 'complete a course'. In such cases the Hungarian word shape had to be entered twice, with the different senses.[27] Case (b) can be exemplified by *akadémikus,* which has a meaning 'of (purely) theoretical, speculative interest' — sense^1. In this meaning the English word **academic** is an appropriate equivalent. In its other meaning — sense^2: 'a member of an academy' — it is a false friend. In such cases the Hungarian word has been entered only with the problematic sense.

The corpus has been analyzed along these lines only to the extent that in those cases where the Hungarian word has more than one sense of which just one is problematic — that is, the similar-looking English word is a false friend only for one of them — the sense specification has been provided either by (i) a paraphrase following an equation mark in square brackets, or (ii) some other qualifying expression in square brackets.

The last three lines of the False Friend Index in **4.2** also illustrate the case when the Hungarian word is polysemous and only one of its meanings

[27] Nowhere more than two with the exception of *patron*–**patron.**

is problematic. (Recall from **3.1** that this is why the source-language word is the false friend, due to its semantic structure). Thus, the English **visit** may translate the Hungarian *vizit* in its (general) sense 'visit' (in which the latter is less frequently used), but not in its (narrower—and more frequent) sense 'the staff's daily routine check-up on the inpatients at a hospital department' (this time, the sense relations are represented by circles below). Similarly, *vagon* may be translated by **wagon** whenever it means 'wagon' but not when it denotes a carriage (see the circles). The last example involves a trademark: **winchester** (possibly capitalized) can only be the equivalent of Hungarian *vincseszter* when a particular type of hard disk with this brand name[28] is meant, but not when rigid disks in general are being referred to—when the general sense of the Hungarian word is involved.

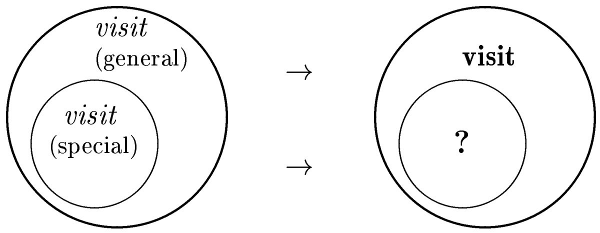
It will also be apparent that although some undefined "general vs. special" contrast is present in the *vizit*–**visit,** *vagon*–**wagon** and *vincseszter*–**winchester** examples alike, this relation is of different kinds in these three cases. In the first case, it may be argued that 'the staff's daily routine check-up on the inpatients' are a kind of "visit" in both English and Hungarian. In the second case, English **wagon** is not a kind of **railway carriage** (the nearest superordinate term for the two is **vehicle,** but this clearly has other subordinates as well), while the Hungarian *vagon* is unspecified for this "freight vs. passengers" difference.[29] In the third case, **winchester** may be *a kind of* hard disk that users must feel is a trademark, but Hungarian *vincseszter* will be familiar to most native users as a noun that has lost its trade mark status. The diagram containing *vincseszter*–**winchester** simplifies on this point when it represents the case of **winchester** exactly as that of **wagon** that precedes it.

The large question marks represent the false friend-related problems.

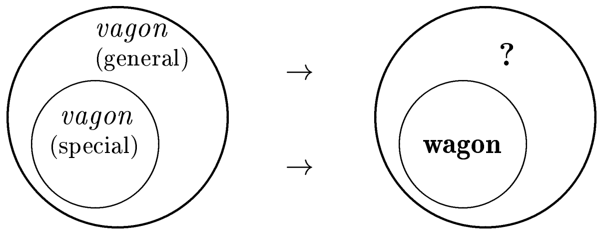
[28] Winchester disks were a type of hard disk named after the 3030 Winchester rifle, because originally they would have had 3030 as their IBM number (CED 1991).

[29] Hungarian uses *vagon* as the genus proxima for **(railway) wagon** and **(railway) carriage.**

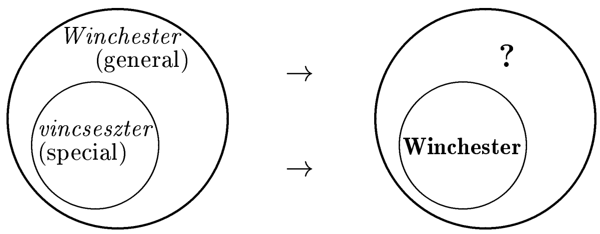
Sense relations of Hungarian *vizit* and English **visit**



Sense relations of Hungarian *vagon* and English **wagon**



Sense relations of Hung. *vincseszter/Winchester*[30] and Eng. **winchester**



3.2.1 Idioms

False friends within idioms do not appear to be a typical problem: the only relevant instance in our Indexes is the Hungarian expression *evidenciában tart.* Since *evidencia* is a false friend in two of its senses, ideally, both should be provided with paraphrases. Because, however, its second use is restricted to *evidenciában tart* (literally: 'keep in evidence') is a (rather donnish) way of saying 'make a mental note of, remember' — the noun

[30] The (otherwise optional) capitalization here does not imply anything about the that users only suggests the (possible) trademark (proper name) status of these items.

item in itself cannot be glossed. The False Friend Index thus contains and provides a gloss for the idiom as a whole, thus:

evidence	*evidencia [=nyilvánvalóság]*	**obviousness, obvious truth**
evidence: keep in evidence	*evidenciában tart*	**make a mental note of, remember**

3.2.2 "Core vs. non-core" vocabulary

Using some makeshift notion of "core" vocabulary, it can be stated that Hungarian expressions which are infrequent/marginal, either because they belong to the special vocabulary, are obsolete, or because of their marked style, have not been included as not belonging to this core.

The case of *bagatell*–**bagatelle** will illustrate how considerations of frequency and style have affected inclusion and exclusion of expressions. At first sight it may seem that the pair *bagatell*–**bagatelle** need not be included: they both have the same two senses (ignoring the "board game" meaning of **bagatelle**). The Hungarian *bagatell,* however has one specialized sense — sense^1 below: 'short light piece of (especially instrumental) music', in which sense this word is rare and thus "non-core." *Bagatell* has another, non-specialized sense: 'something of little value or significance'. English **bagatelle,** by contrast, is non-core in both of its senses and this is what warrants its inclusion: using **bagatelle** in pragmatic situations where *bagatell* is appropriate is an error.

In such cases, then, only the one sense the English-Hungarian pair has been entered in the Indexes where there is a clash between "core vs. non-core" use. In the other sense, the English word—**bagatelle** in this case—is a safe translation equivalent of the Hungarian item. This is shown below:

bagatell	sense^1 NON-CORE	=	**bagatelle**	sense^1 NON-CORE
	sense^2 **CORE**	"≠"		sense^2 NON-CORE

3.2.3 Sources of "falsity"

As we have argued in **2.3.1,** the similarity of form between false friends may be caused by (a) common ancestry, (b) borrowing (between them), (c) borrowing from a third language, and (d) it may be accidental. Hungarian and English being genetically unrelated, it is safe to say that the False Friend Index contains no cognates in the narrow sense.

Borrowing by English from Hungarian is a negligible source of false pairs; only two English words of Hungarian origin commonly used—that is, not specifically referring to Hungarian reality (such as ***cimbalom,*** *csákó*–**shako,** *csárdás*–***czardas, fillér, forint, furmint, haiduk*** (and variants), ***komondor, lekvár,*** *pandúr*–**pandour,** ***pengő, puli,*** *sujtás*–**soutache,** *szablya*–**sable,** ***vizsla***)—have shifted their meanings: **coach** and **goulash,** however, mean different things from *kocsi* and *gulyás.* The word ***paprika*** has remained intact.[31]

The False Friend Index for HUE, then, contains

- no cases of (a)
- relatively many cases of (b) such that Hungarian is the borrower
- just one case of (b) such that English is the borrower (**goulash**)[32]
- a large number of cases of (c), most of them such that the "third party" which the borrowing is from is Latin or Greek
- relatively many cases of (b) and (c) combined, i.e., pairs where the Hungarian word comes from a third language which, however, is genetically related to English: such a language is German
- a few (largely) irrelevant cases of (d).

Apart from the establishment of these tendencies, there is no space here to provide lists of English–Hungarian false pairs broken down by "source of similarity." If only because of the overlaps and uncertainties of etymology, these would not substantially contribute to an understanding of the issue.

The tendencies identified above may nevertheless help explain why collections of English false friends (such as Hill 1982) contain items for Germans/Norwegians, for example, which a comparable Hungarian dictionary should (and indeed our False Friend Index does) not contain. Whichever level of English proficiency a speaker of some other Germanic language is at, s/he can hardly help being aware that the two languages are cognate: thus the "default" for any English word resembling a word in his/her own language will be semantic similarity. (Many of these, then, will turn out to be false pairs). For a HUE, by contrast, the "default" is for a Hungarian word not to have the same meaning as the identical-looking English one—unless there is reason to suppose that it is foreign (including, of course, the case that it is a borrowing from English).

[31] The information and the spelling forms are from OED (1992).

[32] **Coach** has not been entered in the Indexes as it has not been judged to be a potential false friend. It could also be argued that *gulyás*–**goulash** do not constitute a genuine false pair.

To (over)simplify: any foreign word in Hungarian (or one so perceived) that resembles an English word is a potential false friend for a Hungarian speaker of English, while any native word resembling an English word is potentially a false friend for speakers of Germanic languages.

3.2.4 Results of "falsity"

If the sources of the emergence of false pairs are varied, the types of error that they give rise to are even more diverse. Errors may manifest themselves in encoding as well as decoding, but the false friend-related difficulties in the latter case (as has been mentioned) are more tempered by the context. Since our Indexes are for HUE, we will confine our attention to a tentative grading of errors made by HUE in the production process. The question, then, is how grave an error it is when someone uses the English word on the left instead of the word on the right.

The first 14 entries of the English-Hungarian False Friend Index will illustrate this.

abstinent ☹	*absztinens*	**teetotaller**
academic ☹	*akadémikus*	**academician**
accord ☹	*akkord*	**chord**
accumulator ☹☹	*akku(mulátor)*	**car battery**
accurate ☹	*akkurátus*	**meticulous, fastidious, particular**
act ☹☹☹	*akt*	**nude**
action ☹☹	*akció [=kedvezmény]*	**special offer (on sale)**
action ☹	*akció [=művelet]*	**operation**
active and passive ☹☹	*aktívum és passzívum*	**assets and liabilities**
actual ☹☹	*aktuális*	**current, topical, timely**
adjunct ☹☹☹	*adjunktus*	**(senior) lecturer**
agitate ☹	*agitál*	**persuade; campaign**
aggregator ☹☹☹	*aggregator*	**(small) generator**
***alcoholist** ☹	*alkoholista*	**alcoholic**

Those instances where the differences in meaning between the members of the false pair are the greatest (for whatever reason, but most probably in cases of purely incidental similarity of form) are the sources of the most serious errors of HUE. (Rather than risk a definition of "gravity" of errors, one such error will be claimed to be greater than another if, under circumstances of equal contextual — verbal and non-verbal — support, the "message does not get conveyed"). The importance of the "contextual" qualification may be illustrated with the first pair: if **abstinent** is used for *absztinens* in any (extra)linguistic setting which may give some clue as to alcohol being involved, then the similarity of **abstinent** to the words **abstain,**

abstemious, abstention or the like will save the situation. With this word, and in the case of many others, the interlocutor may actually be familiar with that particular (possibly rare, or literary) sense in which it is a proper equivalent of the Hungarian word—*absztinens* in this case. Which the case may be will greatly depend on the richness of this person's vocabulary.

One fact that may be believed to surely have an obvious impact on such failures of communication—a kind of "maximum falsity"—is the non-existence of an expression. Yet this is more complicated: the obvious form (the transparency of the meaning of both root and suffix) of the nearly non-existent **alcoholist,** for example, will always salvage the message—it is hard to imagine a situation where it "did not do" instead of **alcoholic.**

Rather than continue searching for means of grading errors, in this sample we have tentatively introduced three grades—one to three ☹ signs—from the least to the most serious.

3.2.5 Trade follows the flag; language follows trade

This saying has been borrowed[33] to comment on some of the rapid changes in English-Hungarian borrowing that have occurred over the past decades.

Hill writes (1982 : i) that he remembers noticing "how the meaning of certain English words was repeatedly misunderstood [. . .] words like **sympathetic, smoking** or **control** meant something quite different in English from the similar word in other languages." If there were a comparable collection of false friends for Hungarian from 1982, it would obviously contain **control, smoking, sympathetic,** and the greater part of the list would be identical to that today; out of these words, however, the status of **control** has changed. In Hungary since then, the prestige of English has (further) increased, and its lexical influence multiplied. Some of this has left an impact on such a false friend list as well. In this section we shall look at three of these, which might be representative: *akció, kontroll(ál)* and *szanál.* The relevant entries are copied here from the False Friend Index:

akció [=kedvezmény]	**action**	**special offer (on sale)**
akció [=művelet]	**action**	**operation**
kontroll [=ellenőrzés]	**control**	**inspection, supervision, checking**
kontrollál [=ellenőriz]	**control**	**check, test**
szanál [=csődből kisegít]	***sanate**	**rescue financially**
szanál [=lebont]	***sanate**	**raze, demolish**

[33] Országh 1977 : 115.

Akció (see also **3.1**) has become a "more deceptive/difficult" word, for it is a false friend in both of its senses; of the two, the 'sale' meaning (from German) is a relatively new development. Although this sense must have existed since the 1980s, it is not yet attested in ISZKK (1994). Also, *akció* is now also widely used in the sense that has to do with the pictures (e.g., *akciófilm*) but here is not a false friend.

The change of status of **control** does not increase its "falsity" for HUE, but still changes the overall picture. Thirty years ago, the Hungarian verb *ellenőriz* (meaning 'check', at this time, and the nominal variant *ellenőrzés* 'checking') were not likely to be used to translate the English **control.** However, the use of **control** in sentences like **The guerrillas now *control* the northern part of the city** was quite frequent in English journalese, and this **control** came to be translated by what must have appeared the most straightforward word for it, *ellenőriz.* Today, the Hungarian *ellenőriz* and it nominal variant, as loan translations of **control,** also have the meaning 'command', 'rule', thus a new, "non-deceptive" meaning has appeared in addition to the false one. It would be interesting to see whether a similar change has occurred in other European languages that have also been incluenced by English.

The word *szanál,* which was especially frequent in the 1970s and 80s, has always been polysemous (even with senses that seem rather conflicting) is now becoming rarer. Because there is no ***sanate** (or a verb **sane**), an asterisk indicates a non-existent English word — these may obviously only cause problems during the encoding process.

3.2.6 Hungarian nouns in *-us* denoting profession

A separate group of Latinate Hungarian nouns denoting profession/rank and ending in *-us* must be mentioned. Not wishing to fall into the trap of treating all lexical difficulties false friends (after all, for the HUE to know what the English equivalent of *patikus* 'chemist' is and what is not, is as difficult as with any other word, just *patikus* is not a false friend since **apothecary** is not readily associated with it). The items that have been included are highly unpredictable. While some *-óg(us)* nouns that do not denote professions, for example, end in **-ue** in English (e.g., *katalógus*–**catalogue;** *monológ*–**monologue;** *dialóg(us)*–**dialogue;** *epilógus*–**epilogue;** *prológus*–**prologue**), those that denote professions never do. Some less-used false pairs such as *aneszteziológus*–**an(a)esthesiologist** and *morfológus*–**morphologist** are not included. (Also contributing to the confusion in this area we find such pairs as *kolléga*–**colleague;** *demagóg*–**demagogue;** *eklóga*–**eclogue;** *zsinagóga*–**synagogue**). The profession words in question are listed here:

HUNGARIAN	FALSE FRIEND	ACTUAL EQUIVALENT
adjunkt-us	**adjunct**	**(senior) lecturer**
akadémik-us	**academic**	**academician**
biológ-us	***biologue**	**biologist**
fizik-us	**physic**	**physicist**
grafik-us	**graphic**	**graphic artist/designer**
kandidát-us	**candidate**	[approx.] **holder of a PhD**
kémik-us	***chemic, chemical**	**chemist**
kibernetik-us	**cybernetic**	**cyberneticist**
komik-us	**comic**	**comedian**
logik-us	**logic**	**logician**
matematik-us	**mathematic(al)**	**mathematician**
ökológ-us	***ecologue**	**ecologist**
medik-us	**medical**	**medic(al student)**
meteorológ-us	***meteorologue**	**meteorologist, weatherman**
pedagóg-us	**pedagogue**	**educator, teacher**
technik-us	**technic(al)**	**technician**

3.2.7 A bi-directional list of H–E and E–H word pairs

Because both False Friend Indexes are targeted at the HUE, the information in the bottom line the table in **2.2.5** (a portion of which is repeated here) is not provided.

Hungarian user of English		English user of Hungarian	
H → E	E → H	E → H	H → E
kárpit	**carpet**	**carpet**	*kárpit*
Use **upholstery**		—	
		Use *szőnyeg*	

Similarly, the English user of Hungarian will be able to find that **carpeted** is not to be expressed as *kárpitozott* but not what its actual equivalent is; s/he will find that **cakes** is not translated by *keksz* but not what its translation is. A short sample of what such a bi-directional False Friend Index would look like is shown below: it hopefully suggests something of the greater complexity involved.

Hungarian–English and English–Hungarian pairs—“false friends” for HUE and EUH. Alphabetical order of the HUNGARIAN words.

COLUMN **1**	COLUMN **2**	COLUMN **3**	COLUMN **4**
Hungarian words—These do not translate those in Column 2	English words—These do NOT translate those in Column 1	ACTUAL equivalents of the Hungarian words in Column 1	ACTUAL equivalents of the English words in Column 2
kárpit	**carpet**	**upholstery**	*szőnyeg*
kárpitozott	**carpeted**	**upholstered**	*szőnyeggel borított*
keksz	**cakes**	**biscuits**	*torták, sütemények*
kemping, camping	**camping**	**camp(ing) site, caravan site**	*kempingezés*
kémikus	***chemic, chemical**	**chemist, chemical engineer**	*kémiai*

Hungarian–English and English–Hungarian pairs—“false friends” for HUE and EUH. Alphabetical order of the ENGLISH words.

COLUMN **1**	COLUMN **2**	COLUMN **3**	COLUMN **4**
English words—These do NOT translate those in Column 2	Hungarian words—These do not translate those in Column 1	ACTUAL equivalents of the Hungarian words in Column 2	ACTUAL equivalents of the English words in Column 1
carpet	*kárpit*	**upholstery**	*szőnyeg*
carpeted	*kárpitozott*	**upholstered**	*szőnyeggel borított*
carton	*karton*	**cardboard**	*kartondoboz*
***cascader**	*kaszkadőr*	**stunt man/woman**	—
***casino egg**	*kaszinótojás*	**egg mayonnaise**	—

The sections not contained in the Indexes are boxed here.

4 The False Friend Indexes

- The two False Friend Indexes contain identical information, rearranged to facilitate look-up (cf. **2.2.5**).
- No part-of-speech information is offered.
- The inclusion in the Indexes of an item does not imply that the error in its usage is an attested or especially common one; there is no grading of errors, say, from "most dangerous" to "least dangerous" (cf. **3.2.4**).
- The asterisked words (or combinations) do not exist or are extremely marginal (see footnote 21).
- Meaning is only given in cases of polysemy of Hungarian expressions; only the Hungarian expressions are disambiguated for polysemy, by a paraphrase or other explanation in square brackets (**3.2**).
- Variants such as *revü∼rövü, speaker∼szpíker* have been entered separately wherever they are not placed contiguously.

A more proper closing than Samuel Johnson's words in the Foreword to his Dictionary[34] can hardly be found for these pages: *In this work, when it shall be found that much is omitted, let it not be forgotten that much likewise is performed.*

[34] Quoted by Országh (1977 : 133), warding off "criticism from those who only notice the faulty."

4.1 English false friends for HUE in Hungarian alphabetical order

COLUMN **1**	COLUMN **2**	COLUMN **3**
The problematic Hungarian words Accented characters follow unaccented ones	These items do NOT translate those in Column 1	The ACTUAL equivalents of the Hungarian words
abortusz	**abort**	**abortion**
abszolvál [elvégez]	**absolve**	**accomplish**
abszolvál [kurzust elvégez]	**absolve**	**complete (a course)**
abszolutórium	**absolutory**	⟨transcript certifying completion of all credits at a university⟩
absztinens	**abstinent**	**teetotaller**
adjunktus	**adjunct**	**(senior) lecturer**
aggregator	**aggregator**	**(small) generator**
agitál	**agitate**	**persuade; campaign**
akadémikus [tudós]	**academic**	**academician**
akció [=kedvezmény]	**action**	**special offer (on sale)**
akció [=művelet]	**action**	**operation**
akkord	**accord**	**chord**
akku(mulátor)	**accumulator**	**car battery**
akkurátus	**accurate**	**meticulous, fastidious, particular**
akt	**act**	**nude**
aktívum és passzívum	**active and passive**	**assets and liabilities**
aktuális	**actual**	**current, topical, timely**
alkoholista	***alcoholist**	**alcoholic**
allűr	**allure**	**affectation, mannerism**
ambulancia	**ambulance**	**outpatients' department**
antenna	**antenna**	**aerial** (GB); **antenna** (US)
apartment, apartman	**apartment**	**suite (of rooms); flat to let out**
armatúra	**armature**	**lamp fitting**
artista	**artist**	**circus performer, acrobat**
aspiráns	**aspirant**	⟨postgraduate student doing research⟩
audiencia	**audience**	**hearing (at a royal court)**
autogramm	***autogramme**	**autograph**
automata [pénzbedobós]	**automat(e)**	**(slot/vending) machine**
autó	**auto**	**car, automobile**
autós [=vezető]	***autoist**	**motorist, automobilist, driver**
baba [játék]	**baby**	**doll**
bagatell [=apróság]	**bagatelle**	**trifle, small matter**
bagetellizál	**bagatellize**	**play down, underplay**
barakk	**barracks**	**hut, shanty cabin**
bár [szórakozóhely]	**bar**	**night-club**
bástya [sakkban]	**bastion**	**castle, rook**
benzin	**benzene**	**petrol, gas(oline)**
biléta	**billet**	**ticket, token**
billió	**billion**	**a million million, 10^{12}**
bio-	**bio-**	**organic**
biológus	***biologue**	**biologist**
blanketta	**blanket**	**form [to be filled in]**
blokk [=számla]	**block**	**receipt**
blokk [füzet]	**block**	**writing pad**
bojler, boyler	**boiler**	**water heater**
boksz [cipőtisztító]	**box**	**shoe polish**

bokszer [szerszám]	**boxer**	**knuckle-duster**
bólé	**bowl**	**punch**
camping, kemping	**camping**	**camp(ing) site, caravan site**
centrifuga	**centrifugue**	**spin drier**
cenzúra	**censure**	**censorship**
(-)cézár	**caesar**	**mogul**
chips, csipsz	**chips**	**potato crisps**
cilinder [kalap]	**cylinder**	**top hat**
city	**city**	**business area of a city**
civil	**civil**	**civilian**
dáma [=hölgy]	**dame**	**lady**
dáma [kártyában]	**dame**	**queen**
dátum	**datum**	**date**
decens	**decent**	**plain, quiet, unobtrusive**
defekt	**defect**	**flat tyre, puncture**
dekád	**decade**	⟨period of 10 days⟩
dekorátor [kirakatrendező]	**decorator**	**window dresser**
delikátesz [üzlet]	***delicates shop**	**delicatessen/delicacies shop**
deviza	**device, devise**	**foreign currency**
diploma	**diploma**	**degree**
direkt [szándékkal]	**direct(ly)**	**on/specifically for some purpose**
disszidál	***dissidate**	**defect, desert one's country**
disszidens	**dissident**	**defector**
dívány	**divan**	**couch, sofa**
dog [=dán dog]	**dog**	**Great Dane**
doppingol	***dopping**	**use dope/drugs**
doppingteszt	***dopping test**	**dope test**
doppingszer	***dopping**	**dope, drug**
dotál [=támogat]	**dote**	**subsidize**
dotál [=díjaz, fizet]	**dote**	**recompense, remunerate**
dóm	**dome**	**cathedral**
dresszúra	**dressing**	**taiming, training**
drinkbár	***drink bar**	**nightclub, bar**
dublőr	**doubler**	**stunt man/woman**
dzseki	***jackie**	⟨light, thin casual jacket⟩
dzsoli	**jolly**	**joker**
eszpresszó	**espresso**	**bar, cafe**
evidencia [=nyilvánvalóság]	**evidence**	**obviousness, obvious truth**
evidenciában tart	**evidence*keep in evidence**	**make a mental note of, remember**
etikett [=címke]	**etiquette**	**label, sticker, tag**
expedíció [=szállítmányozás]	**expedition**	**forwarding, shipping**
extra	**extra**	**first-rate, outstanding**
extravagáns	**extravagant**	**eccentric, outlandish**
fagott	**faggot**	**bassoon**
fakultatív	**facultative**	**optional**
fantázia	**fantasy**	**imagination, fancy**
farmer [nadrág]	**farmer**	**jeans**
fáma	**fame**	**rumour**
fejes saláta	**salad**	**lettuce**
filiálé	**filial**	**branch (office)**
filmcézár	**film caesar**	**film/movie mogul**
filozofál [=elmélkedik]	**philosophize**	**contemplate, deliberate, meditate**
fix	**fix**	**stable, fixed**
fizika	**physic, physique**	**physics**
fizikus	**physic(ian)**	**physicist**
flipper	**flipper**	**pinball**
fólia	**folia**	**foil**

frakció	**fraction**	**faction**
frakk	**frock (coat)**	**tail coat, swallow-tailed coat**
frázis	**phrase**	**cliché, hackneyed phrase**
fuga	**fugue**	**pointing** [=finishing the joints between tiles with cement]
fugáz	**fugue**	**point** [=finish the joints between tiles with cement]
garnitúra	**garniture**	**kit, set**
gázsi	**gage**	**fee**
geg	***geg**	**gag**
gemkapocs, gémkapocs	***gem clip**	**paperclip**
gesztus	**jest**	**gesture**
géz	**gaze**	**(medical) gauze**
gimnázium	**gymnasium**	**grammar school**
gipsz [orvosi]	**gypsum**	**plaster**
glossza [írásmű]	**gloss**	**short (ironic) writing**
grafikus [rajzoló]	**graphic**	**graphic artist/designer**
grádics [lépcsőfok]	**grade**	**step**
grémium	***gremium**	**board, committee, advisory group**
grund	**ground**	⟨building site (used for sports)⟩
gulyás(leves)	**goulash**	⟨soup containing potato and beef or pork, highly seasoned with paprika⟩
hakni	**hackney**	⟨a tour putting on the same play/show⟩
haknizik	**hackney**	⟨to tour putting on the same play/show ⟩
hall [helyiség]	**hall**	⟨small windowless room⟩
harmonika	**harmonica**	**accordion**
hazardíroz	**hazard**	**(take a) risk**
hazardőr	***hazarder**	**gambler**
hazárd	**hazard**	**risky**
hazárdjátékos	***hazard player**	**gambler**
himnusz [országé]	**hymn**	**national anthem**
história [=történet]	**history**	**fable, story, tale**
honorál [=díjaz, megfizet]	**honour**	**recompense, remunerate**
humán [tárgyak]	**human**	**arts [subjects]**
humánus	**human**	**humane**
illuminált	**illumin(at)ed**	**intoxicated**
imposztor	**impostor**	**rascal, rogue**
impregnál	**impregnate**	**waterproof**
impregnált	**impregnated**	**waterproof(ed)**
impresszárió	**impresario**	**manager**
index [=leckekönyv]	**index**	**markbook**
index [gépkocsin]	**index**	**indicator light**
indexel	**index**	**signal**
inkonzekvens	**inconsequential**	**inconsistent**
instancia [hatóság, bíróság]	**instance**	**authority, court**
instancia [kérvény]	**instance**	**appeal, application**
instanciáz	**instance**	**appeal (repeatedly)**
interpretál [zeneművet]	**interpret**	**perform**
invenciózus	***inventious**	**creative, inventive, resourceful**
jackie	***jackie**	⟨light, thin casual jacket⟩
jolly	**jolly**	**joker**
kabin [pl. öltöző]	**cabin**	**cubicle**
kamion	**camion**	**heavy lorry, truck**
kandidátus	**candidate**	[approx.] **holder of a PhD**

kantin	**canteen**	**mess (hall)**
karton [papír]	**carton**	**cardboard**
kaszinótojás	***casino egg**	**egg mayonnaise**
kaszkadőr	***cascader**	**stunt man/woman**
kassza	***cassa/*casse**	**cash desk**
katalógus [előadáson]	**catalog(ue)**	⟨roll call before a lecture⟩
kaució	**caution**	**deposit**
kálium	***calium/*kalium**	**potassium**
kánon [ének]	**canon**	**round**
kárpit	**carpet**	**upholstery**
kárpitozott	**carpeted**	**upholstered**
keksz	**cakes**	**biscuits**
kemping, camping	**camping**	**camp(ing) site, caravan site**
kémikus	***chemic, chemical**	**chemist, chemical engineer**
kibernetikus	**cybernetic**	**cyberneticist**
klaviatúra	***claviature**	**keyboard; clavier**
klimax	**climax**	**climacteric, menopause**
klimaxos	***climactic**	**living through climacteric/menopause**
klozet	**closet**	**loo, toilet**
koffer	**coffer**	**suitcase**
koksz	**cokes**	**coke**
kolléga	**college**	**colleague**
kollégium [szállás]	**college**	**student hostel**
kollokvium [vizsga]	**colloquium, colloquy**	**examination**
kombi (személygépkocsi)	**combine**	**estate car, station wagon**
kombiné	**combine**	**slip**
komikus (színész)	**comic(al)**	**comedian**
kommunális	**communal**	**municipal**
koncepció	**concept**	**plan, design, vision**
koncepciós per	***conception(al) trial**	**show trial**
konfekció	**confectionery**	**ready-made garment, clothing industry**
konkrétan [=azazhogy]	**concretely**	**in particular, namely**
konkurál	**concur**	**compete**
konkurencia	**concurrence**	**competition, competitors**
konkurens	**concurrent**	**competing, rival**
konnektor	**connector**	**electric socket**
konspiráció	***conspiration**	**conspiracy**
konstruál	**construe**	**construct**
konstruktőr	**constructor**	**designer, designing engineer**
kontingens	**contingent**	**quota**
kontroll [=ellenőrzés]	**control**	**inspection, supervision, checking**
kontrollál [=ellenőriz]	**control**	**check, test**
konzekvens(en)	**consequent(ly)**	**consistent(ly)**
konzekvensség	**consequence**	**consistency**
konzerv	**conserve**	**can(ned food)**
kord	**cord**	**corduroy**
korrektor	**corrector**	**proofreader**
korrektúra	**correction**	**proofreading; the proofs**
kóstol	**cost**	**try**
koton	**cotton**	**condom**
kórus	**chorus**	**choir**
koszt	**cost**	**fare, food**
kredenc	**credence**	**sideboard**
krimi	**crime**	**detective story, thriller**
kultivál [=kedvel]	**cultivate**	**be fond of, be into**
kupé [vasúti]	**coupé**	**railway compartment**
kuratórium	***curatorium**	**supervising board/committee/council**
kurrens	**current**	**saleable, marketable**

kúrál	**cure**	**treat**
labor	**labo(u)r**	**lab(oratory)**
laboráns	**labo(u)rer**	**laboratory technician**
lakk	**lack, laque**	**varnish**
lakmusz (papír)	***lac(k)mus (paper)**	**litmus paper**
láger	**lager**	**(detention/concentration) camp**
lektűr	**lecture**	**trash, cheap reading**
lemberdzsek	***lemberjack**	**lumber jacket, lumberjack**
lexikon	**lexicon**	**encyclop(a)edia**
líra [költészet]	**lyre, lyrics**	**lyrical poetry**
logikus [=logika művelője]	**logical**	**logician**
lokál	**local**	**café, nightclub**
löncs(hús)	***lunch meat**	**(tinned) luncheon meat**
luxus	**lux(e)**	**luxury**
mappa	**map**	**folder, briefcase**
masiniszta	**machinist**	**engine driver**
maskara	**mascara**	**mask, disguise**
matematikus	**mathematic(al)**	**mathematician**
matrica	**matrix**	**sticker**
maximalista	**maximalist**	**perfectionist**
maximalizmus	**maximalism**	**perfectionism**
márka [=típus]	**mark**	**make**
medikus, medika	**medical**	**medic(al student)**
megideologizál	**ideologize**	**rationalize**
menü	**menu**	**tourist menu, set course**
meteorológus	***meteorologue**	**meteorologist, weatherman**
mikszer, mixer [bárban]	**mixer**	**barman**
mikszer, mixer [gép]	**mixer**	**blender, liquidizer**
milliárd	**milliard**	**billion, a thousand million, 10^9**
mimika	**mimic**	**facial expression**
mixer, mikszer [bárban]	**mixer**	**barman**
mixer, mikszer [gép]	**mixer**	**blender, liquidizer**
molesztál	**molest**	**annoy, vex**
monstre	**monstrous, monster**	**mammoth, gigantic, colossal**
monstrum	**monster**	**behemoth, colossus, giant**
motor [jármű]	**motor**	**motorcycle**
motoros [=motorbiciklista]	**motorist**	**motorcyclist**
mód	**mode**	**way, manner, fashion**
muníció	**munition**	**ammunition**
nacionálé	**national**	**personal particulars**
néger [=illegális munkát más neve alatt végző személy]	**Negro**	⟨person doing illegal work under someone else's name⟩; **ghost writer**
néger [=fekete]	**Negro**	**black**
nekrológ	**necrology**	**obituary**
neszeszer	**necessary**	**vanity bag/box**
notesz	**notes**	**notebook**
novella	**novel**	**short story**
novellista	**novelist**	**short story writer**
nulla	**null**	**nought, zero**
okkázió	**occasion**	**bargain**
ordenáré	**ordinary**	**base, obscene, vulgar**
orgánum [=hang]	**organ**	**voice**
orgona [virág]	**organ**	**lilac**
ökológus	**ecologue**	**ecologist**
pacsuli	**patchouli**	⟨low quality perfume/scent⟩
pamflet	**pamphlet**	**lampoon**

panel [házé]	**panel**	⟨prefabricated concrete slab⟩
panel(ház)	**panel**	⟨prefabricated concrete block⟩
pantomim	**pantomime**	**mime show**
panzió, penzió	**pension**	**boarding house, hotel**
panoptikum	**panoptic**	**waxworks**
paragrafus [jogban]	**paragraph**	**clause [in law]**
parcella [=földdarab]	**parcel**	**plot of land**
parcella [temetőben]	**parcel**	**(burial) plot**
parola	**parole**	**handshake**
paroláz	**parole**	**shake hands**
paroli	**parole**	**(branch) insignia**
parti [játék]	**party**	**game**
parti [házasságnál]	**party**	**match**
paszta	**pasta**	**paste**
patent	**patent**	**popper, press stud; snap**
patetikus	**pathetic**	**emotional, dramatic, passionate, solemn**
patron [töltény; toll]	**patron**	**cartridge**
patron [szifon]	**patron**	⟨metal tube containing CO_2 in siphon bottles⟩
patron [=sablon, séma]	**patron**	**cliché, stereotype**
patt	**pat**	**stalemate**
pásztor [marháké]	**pastor**	**herder, herdsman**
pásztor [birkáké]	**pastor**	**shepherd**
pátosz	**pathos**	**solemnity; theatricality**
pedagógus	**pedagogue**	**educator, teacher**
pedáns	**pedant(ic)**	**conscientious, meticulous**
penzió, panzió	**pension**	**boarding house, hotel**
perspektíva [=kilátás]	**perspective**	**prospects**
pestis	**pest**	**plague**
petróleum	**petrol**	**oil, petroleum**
pikoló [űrmérték]	**piccolo**	⟨half a pint⟩
pikk, pique	**pick, pique**	**spades**
piti	**pity**	**petty, no-account, small-time**
plakát	**placate**	**placard, banner, poster**
pléd	**plaid**	**blanket**
pont [írásjel]	**point**	**full stop; period** (US)
porta	**port**	**porter's lodge**
póló [trikó]	**polo**	**casual shirt, T-shirt**
praktika	**practice**	**artifice, stratagem, trick**
pregnáns	**pregnant**	**momentous, significant, weighty**
pregnánsan	**pregnantly**	**momentously, significantly, weightily**
premier	**premier**	**premiere**
premier plán	***premier plan(e)**	**close-up**
presszó	**(es)presso**	**bar, cafe**
prédikál [szentbeszédet mond]	**predict/predicate**	**orate, preach**
prédikál [papol]	**predict/predicate**	**lecture, preach**
prémium	**premium**	**bonus (payment)**
primor	**primer**	**early vegetable**
prizma [gépkocsin]	**prism**	**cat's eyes**
príma	**prim(e)**	**excellent, first-class**
program [=csatorna]	**program(me)**	**channel**
propagál	**propagate**	**advertise, promote**
propaganda	**propaganda**	**publicity, PR**
prospektus	**prospect**	**brochure, leaflet, prospectus**
protekció	**protection**	**patronage, favouritism**
próbál [=megkísérel]	**probe**	**try**
próbál [színdarabot]	**probe**	**rehearse**
próba [=kísérlet]	**probe**	**experiment**

próba [színdarabé]	**probe**	**rehearsal**
publikum	**public**	**audience, spectators**
puding	**pudding**	**blancmange, custard**
puff [ülőke]	**puff**	**pouf(fe)**
puplin	***puplin**	**poplin**
ráció	**ratio**	**reason, rationality**
rafinált	**refined**	**artful, calculating, crafty**
reál [tárgyak]	**real**	**science [subjects]**
recenzens	***recensor**	**reviewer**
recenzió	**recension**	**(book) review**
recept [főzési]	**receipt**	**recipe**
recept [orvosi]	**receipt**	**prescription**
referál	**refer**	**report, give an account**
referátum [beszámoló]	***referatum**	**report, account**
referátum [iskolai]	***referatum**	**presentation**
reflektor	**reflector**	**headlights**
református	**reformat(ed)**	**reformed**
reklamáció	**reclamation**	**(lodging a) complaint**
reklamál	**reclaim**	**complain, lodge a complaint**
reklám	**reclaim**	**advertise, promote**
reklámoz	**reclaim**	**advertise, promote**
rekorder	**recorder**	**record holder**
rekvirál	**require**	**requisition**
rentábilis	**rentable**	**profitable, lucrative**
repeta	**repeat**	**seconds, second helping**
replika	**replica**	**rejoinder**
reprezentatív [=elegáns]	**representative**	**elegant, luxury**
reszort	**resort**	**area, concern, responsibility**
reverenda	**reverend**	**cassock**
revízió	**revision**	**audit**
revizor	**revisor**	**auditor**
revü	**review**	**variety show, revue**
rezidens	**resident**	**head of bureau/office abroad**
robber	**robber**	**rubber [in cards]**
roller	**roller**	**scooter**
román [stílus]	**Roman(ian)**	**Romanesque, Norman**
román [nyelv stb.]	**Roman**	**Ro(u)manian, Rumanian**
rövü	**review**	**variety show, revue**
rubrika	**rubric**	**column**
rutin	**routine**	**experience, skill**
rutinos	***routineous**	**experienced, skilled, trained**
rúzs	**rouge**	**lipstick**
saláta [fejes]	**salad**	**lettuce**
sajtócézár	**press caesar**	**press mogul**
séma	**scheme**	**pattern, schema**
sematikus [ábrázolás]	**schematic**	**one-sided, flat**
silabizál	**syllabize/syllabify**	**read with difficulty, (try to) make out**
sillabusz	**syllabus**	**summary, outline, index**
skót [=fösvény]	**Scottish**	**stingy, mean**
slájm	**slime**	**mucus, phlegm**
sofőr	**chauffeur**	**driver**
speaker [=bemondó]	**speaker**	**announcer**
spekuláns	**speculator, speculant**	**profiteer**
sportkupé	***sport(ing) coupé**	**(fixed-head) coupé; (two-seater) coupé**
sportos [ruha]	**sportive, sporty**	**casual**
spotlámpa	***spot lamp**	**spot light**
spórol	**spare**	**save, economize**

statiszta	*statist	extra
statisztál	*statist	be an extra, play bit parts
statisztéria	*statistery	the extras [in a film]
stáb	stab	staff, crew, team
stáblista	staff list	(list of) credits
státusz [=álláshely]	status	position, full time job
steksz	stakes	bread, lolly [=money]
stencil(ezés)	stencilling	mimeography
stencilez	stencil	mimeograph
stílus	stylus	style
stopper	stopper	stop-watch
stoppol [idot]	stop	time
stoppol [autót]	stop	hitch (a lift/ride)
stoppol [harisnyát]	stop	darn
stoppos	stopper	hitch-hiker
strand	strand	open-air swimming pool
strófa	strophe	verse, stanza
svédasztal	*Swedish table	smorgasbord, buffet (meal)
szablya	sable	sabre
szaft	soft	gravy
szaharin [=édesítőszer]	saccharin(e)	sweetener
szalon	saloon	drawing room, salon
szaloncukor	*saloon candy/sweet	⟨Christmas fondant⟩
szanál [=csődből kisegít]	*sanate	rescue financially
szanál [=lebont]	*sanate	raze, demolish
szankcionál	sanction	penalize, impose a sanction
szecesszió	secession	Art Nouveau, Jugendstil
szecessziós	secessionist	Art Nouveau, Jugendstil
szemafor	semaphore	railway (stop) signal
szentencia	sentence	maxim, aphorism
szerpentin [dísz]	serpentine	(paper) streamer
szerpentin [út]	serpentine	winding mountain road
szerva	*serva, serve	service
szervíz	service	servicing; repair shop
szett [=alátét]	set	place mat
szifon	siphon	siphon bottle
szimpatikus	sympathetic	nice, likeable
szinkronizál	synchronize	dub
színusz, sinus	sinus	sine
szmoking	smoking	dinner jacket; tuxedo
szociális [=társadalmi helyzeten alapuló]	social	needs-based
szociális [=jóléti]	social	welfare
szolíd	solid	decent, sound, respectable
szóda	soda	soda water
szpíker [=bemondó]	speaker	announcer
szuggesztív	suggestive	forceful, convincing
tabló	tableau	group photograph (usu of students in the same class)
talon	talon	stock [in a game of cards]
tankol	tank	tank up, fuel
tapper	tapper	blotter
tasztatúra	*tastature	keyboard
teátrális	theatrical	histrionic
technika [=műszaki tudomány]	technic(s), technique	engineering technology
technikus	technic(al)	technician
terminus [=határidő]	terminus	deadline

terminus [=szakkifejezés]	**terminus**	**(technical) term**
toalett [=öltözék]	**toilet**	**woman's dress/costume/clothes**
ton(hal)	**ton**	**tuna**
totál [kamerabeállítás]	**total**	**long shot**
trafik	**traffic**	**tobacconist's**
traktus	**tract**	**section/wing of a building**
trampolin	**trampoline**	**springboard, diving board**
transzparens [=feliratos tábla]	**transparent**	**banner**
transzparens [=fényreklám]	**transparent**	**neon sign**
tréning(ruha)	**training**	**tracksuit, running suit**
tribün	**tribune**	**grandstand**
turmix	***tur(n)mix**	**(milk) shake**
unszimpatikus	**unsympathetic**	**disagreeable, unpleasant**
urna [szavazásnál]	**urn**	**ballot (box)**
vagon [személyvonatban]	**wagon**	**railway carriage/coach**
valuta	**valuta**	**(foreign) currency**
ventilátor	**ventilator**	**electric fan**
vers	**verse**	**poem**
véna [=tehetség]	**vein**	**aptitude/disposition/talent for**
vignetta, vinyetta	**vignette**	**label, sticker, tag**
vincseszter, winchester	**winchester**	**hard disk**
virtuóz [mesteri]	**virtuous**	**virtuosic**
virtuóz [=személy]	**virtuous**	**virtuoso**
vizit [orvosi]	**visit**	⟨the staff's daily routine checkup on all the inpatients at a hospital department⟩
zseni	**genie**	**genius, ingenuity**
zseniális	**genial**	**brilliant, inspired, ingenious**
zsenialitás	**geniality**	**genious**
zsilett	**Gillette**	**razor blade**
zsoli	**jolly**	**joker**
zsűri	**jury**	**board, panel**

4.2 English false friends for HUE in English alphabetical order

COLUMN **1**	COLUMN **2**	COLUMN **3**
These items do NOT translate those in Column 2	The problematic Hungarian words	The ACTUAL equivalents of the Hungarian words
abort	*abortusz*	**abortion**
absolve	*abszolvál [elvégez]*	**accomplish**
absolve	*abszolvál [kurzust elvégez]*	**complete (a course)**
absolutory	*abszolutórium*	⟨transcript certifying completion of all credits at a university⟩
abstinent	*absztinens*	**teetotaller**
academic	*akadémikus [tudós]*	**academician**
accord	*akkord*	**chord**
accumulator	*akku(mulátor)*	**car battery**
accurate	*akkurátus*	**meticulous, fastidious, particular**
act	*akt*	**nude**
action	*akció [=kedvezmény]*	**special offer (on sale)**
action	*akció [=művelet]*	**operation**

active and passive	*aktívum és passzívum*	**assets and liabilities**
actual	*aktuális*	**current, topical, timely**
adjunct	*adjunktus*	**(senior) lecturer**
agitate	*agitál*	**persuade; campaign**
aggregator	*aggregátor*	**(small) generator**
***alcoholist**	*alkoholista*	**alcoholic**
allure	*allűr*	**affectation, mannerism**
ambulance	*ambulancia*	**outpatients' department**
antenna	*antenna*	**aerial** (GB); **antenna** (US)
apartment	*apartment, apartman*	**suite (of rooms); flat to let out**
armature	*armatúra*	**lamp fitting, fixture**
artist	*artista*	**circus performer, acrobat**
aspirant	*aspiráns*	⟨postgraduate student doing research⟩
audience	*audiencia*	**hearing (at a royal court)**
***autogramme**	*autógramm*	**autograph**
automat(e)	*automata [pénzbedobós]*	**(slot/vending) machine**
auto	*autó*	**car, automobile**
***autoist**	*autós [=vezető]*	**motorist, automobilist, driver**
baby	*baba [játék]*	**doll**
bagatelle	*bagatell [apróság]*	**trifle, small matter**
***bagatellize**	*bagetellizál*	**play down, underplay**
bar	*bár [szórakozóhely]*	**night-club**
barracks	*barakk*	**hut, shanty cabin**
bastion	*bástya [sakkban]*	**castle, rook**
benzene	*benzin*	**petrol, gas(oline)**
billet	*biléta*	**ticket, token**
billion	*billió*	**a million million, 10^{12}**
bio-	*bio-*	**organic**
***biologue**	*biológus*	**biologist**
blanket	*blanketta*	**form** [to be filled in]
block	*blokk [=számla]*	**receipt**
block	*blokk [füzet]*	**writing pad**
boiler, boyler	*bojler, boyler*	**water heater**
box	*boksz [cipőtisztító]*	**shoe polish**
boxer	*bokszer [szerszám]*	**knuckle-duster**
cabin	*kabin [pl. öltöző]*	**cubicle**
caesar	*(-)cézár*	**mogul**
cakes	*keksz*	**biscuits**
***calium**	*kálium*	**potassium**
camion	*kamion*	**heavy lorry, truck**
camping	*camping, kemping*	**camp(ing) site, caravan site**
candidate	*kandidátus*	[approx.] **holder of a PhD**
canon	*kánon [ének]*	**round**
canteen	*kantin*	**mess (hall)**
carpet	*kárpit*	**upholstery**
carpeted	*kárpitozott*	**upholstered**
carton	*karton [papír]*	**cardboard**
***cascader**	*kaszkadőr*	**stunt man/woman**
***casino egg**	*kaszinótojás*	**egg mayonnaise**
***cassa/*casse**	*kassza*	**cash desk**
catalog(ue)	*katalógus [előadáson]*	⟨roll call before a lecture⟩
caution	*kaució*	**deposit; caution money; guarantee**
censure	*cenzúra*	**censorship**
centrifuge	*centrifuga*	**spin drier**
chauffeur	*sofőr*	**driver**
***chemic, chemical**	*kémikus*	**chemist, chemical engineer**
chips	*chips, csipsz*	**potato crisps**

chorus	*kórus*	**choir**
city	*city*	**business area of a city**
civil	*civil*	**civilian**
***claviature**	*klaviatúra*	**keyboard; clavier**
climactic	*klimaxos*	**living through climacteric/menopause**
climax	*klimax*	**climacteric, menopause**
closet	*klozet*	**loo, toilet**
coffer	*koffer*	**suitcase**
cokes	*koksz*	**coke**
college	*kollégium [szállás]*	**student hostel**
college	*kolléga*	**colleague**
colloquium, colloquy	*kollokvium [vizsga]*	**examination**
combine	*kombiné*	**slip**
combine	*kombi (gépkocsi)*	**estate car, station wagon**
communal	*kommunális*	**municipal**
comic(al)	*komikus (színész)*	**comedian**
concept	*koncepció*	**plan, design, vision**
***conception(al) trial**	*koncepciós [per]*	**show trial**
concretely	*konkrétan [=azazhogy]*	**in particular, namely**
concur	*konkurál*	**compete**
concurrence	*konkurencia*	**competition, competitors**
concurrent	*konkurens*	**competing, rival**
confectionery	*konfekció*	**ready-made garment, clothing industry**
connector	*konnektor*	**electric socket**
consequence	*konzekvensség*	**consistency**
consequent(ly)	*konzekvens(en)*	**consistent(ly)**
conserve	*konzerv*	**can(ned food)**
***conspiration**	*konspiráció*	**conspiracy**
constructor	*konstruktőr*	**designer, designing engineer**
construe	*konstruál*	**construct**
contingent	*kontingens*	**quota**
control	*kontroll [=ellenőrzés]*	**inspection, supervision, checking**
control	*kontrollál [=ellenőriz]*	**check, test**
cord	*kord*	**corduroy**
correction	*korrektúra*	**proofreading; the proofs**
corrector	*korrektor*	**proof-reader**
cost	*kóstol*	**try**
cost	*koszt*	**fare, food**
cotton	*koton*	**condom**
coupé	*kupé [vasúti]*	**railway compartment**
credence	*kredenc*	**sideboard**
crime	*krimi*	**detective story, thriller**
cultivate	*kultivál [=kedvel]*	**be fond of, be into**
***curatorium**	*kuratórium*	**supervising board/committee/council**
cure	*kúrál*	**treat**
current	*kurrens*	**saleable, marketable**
cybernetic	*kibernetikus*	**cyberneticist**
cylinder	*cilinder [kalap]*	**top hat**
dame	*dáma [=hölgy]*	**lady**
dame	*dáma [kártyában]*	**queen**
datum	*dátum*	**date**
decade	*dekád*	⟨period of 10 days⟩
decent	*decens*	**plain, quiet, unobtrusive**
decorator	*dekorátor [kirakatrendező]*	**window dresser**
defect	*defekt*	**flat tyre, puncture**
***delicates shop**	*delikátesz [üzlet]*	**delicatessen/delicacies shop**
device, devise	*deviza*	**foreign currency**
diploma	*diploma*	**degree**

direct(ly)	*direkt [szándékkal]*	**on/specifically for some purpose**
***dissidate**	*disszidál*	**defect, desert one's country**
dissident	*disszidens*	**defector**
divan	*dívány*	**couch, sofa**
dog	*dog [=dán dog]*	**Great Dane**
dome	*dóm*	**cathedral**
***dopping**	*doppingol*	**use dope/drugs**
***dopping test**	*doppingteszt*	**dope test**
***dopping**	*doppingszer*	**dope, drug**
dote	*dotál [=támogat]*	**recompense, subsidize**
dote	*dotál [=díjaz, fizet]*	**remunerate**
doubler	*dublőr*	**stunt man/woman**
dressing	*dresszúra*	**taiming, training**
***drink bar**	*drinkbár*	**night-club, bar**
ecologue	*ökológus*	**ecologist**
espresso	*eszpresszó*	**bar, cafe**
etiquette	*etikett [=címke]*	**label, sticker**
evidence	*evidencia [=nyilvánvalóság]*	**obviousness, obvious truth**
evidence*keep in evidence	*evidenciában tart*	**make a mental note of, remember**
expedition	*expedíció [=szállítmányozás]*	**forwarding, shipping**
extra	*extra*	**first-rate, outstanding**
extravagant	*extravagáns*	**eccentric, outlandish**
facultative	*fakultatív*	**optional**
faggot	*fagott*	**bassoon**
fame	*fáma*	**rumour**
fantasy	*fantázia*	**imagination, fancy**
farmer	*farmer [nadrág]*	**jeans**
film caesar	*filmcézár*	**film/movie mogul**
fix	*fix*	**stable, fixed**
flipper	*flipper*	**pinball**
folia	*fólia*	**foil**
fraction	*frakció*	**faction**
frock (coat)	*frakk*	**tail coat, swallow-tailed coat**
fugue	*fuga*	**pointing** [=finishing the joints between tiles with cement]
fugue	*fugáz*	**point** [=finish the joints between tiles with cement]
gage	*gázsi*	**fee**
garniture	*garnitúra*	**kit, set**
gaze	*géz*	**(medical) gauze**
***geg**	*geg*	**gag**
***gem clip**	*gemkapocs, gémkapocs*	**paperclip**
genial	*zseniális*	**brilliant, inspired, ingenious**
geniality	*zsenilitás*	**genius, ingenuity**
genie	*zseni*	**genius**
Gillette	*zsilett*	**razor blade**
gloss	*glossza [írásmű]*	**short (ironic) writing**
goulash	*gulyás(leves)*	⟨soup containing potato and beef or pork, highly seasoned with paprika⟩
graphic	*grafikus [rajzoló]*	**graphic artist/designer**
grade	*grádics [=lépcsőfok]*	**step**
***gremium**	*grémium*	**board, committee, advisory group**
ground	*grund*	⟨building site (used for sports)⟩
gymnasium	*gimnázium*	**grammar school**
gypsum	*gipsz [orvosi]*	**plaster**
hackney	*hakni*	⟨a tour with the same play/show⟩
hackney	*haknizik*	⟨to tour with the same play/show⟩

hall	*hall [helyiség]*	⟨small windowless room⟩
harmonica	*harmonika*	**accordion**
hazard	*hazárd*	**risky**
hazard	*hazardíroz*	**(take a) risk**
***hazarder**	*hazardőr*	**gambler**
***hazard player**	*hazárdjátékos*	**gambler**
history	*história [=történet]*	**fable, story, tale**
honour	*honorál [=díjaz, megfizet]*	**recompense, remunerate**
human	*humán [tárgyak]*	**arts [subjects]**
human	*humánus*	**humane**
hymn	*himnusz [országé]*	**national anthem**
ideologize	*megideologizál*	**rationalize**
illumin(at)ed	*illuminált*	**intoxicated**
impostor	*imposztor*	**rascal, rogue**
impregnate	*impregnál*	**waterproof**
impregnated	*impregnált*	**waterproof(ed)**
impresario	*impresszárió*	**manager**
index	*index [=leckekönyv]*	**markbook**
index	*index [gépkocsin]*	**indicator light**
index	*indexel*	**signal**
inconsequential	*inkonzekvens*	**inconsistent**
instance	*instancia [hatóság, bíróság]*	**authority, court**
instance	*instancia [kérvény]*	**appeal, application**
instance	*instanciáz*	**appeal (repeatedly)**
interpret	*interpretál [zeneművet]*	**perform**
***inventious**	*invenciózus*	**creative, inventive, resourceful**
***jackie**	*jackie, dzseki*	**light casual jacket**
jest	*gesztus*	**gesture**
jolly	*jolly, (d)zsoli*	**joker**
jury	*zsűri*	**board, panel**
***kalium**	*kálium*	**potassium**
labo(u)r	*labor*	**lab(oratory)**
labo(u)rer	*laboráns*	**laboratory technician**
lack, laque	*lakk*	**varnish**
lac(k)mus (paper)	*lakmusz (papír)*	**litmus paper**
lager	*láger*	**(detention/concentration) camp**
lecture	*lektűr*	**trash, cheap reading**
lemberjack	*lemberdzsek*	**lumber jacket, lumberjack**
lexicon	*lexikon*	**encyclop(a)edia**
logical	*logikus [=logika művelője]*	**logician**
local	*lokál*	**bar, café, night-club**
***lunch meat**	*löncs(hogyús)*	**(tinned) luncheon meat**
lux(e)	*luxus*	**luxury**
lyre, lyrics	*líra [költészet]*	**lyrical poetry**
map	*mappa*	**folder, briefcase**
mascara	*maskara*	**mask, disguise**
machinist	*masiniszta*	**engine driver**
mark	*márka [=típus]*	**make**
mathematic(al)	*matematikus*	**mathematician**
matrix	*matrica*	**sticker**
maximalism	*maximalizmus*	**perfectionism**
maximalist	*maximalista*	**perfectionist**
medical	*medikus, medika*	**medic(al student)**
menu	*menü*	**tourist menu, set course**
***meteorologue**	*meteorológus*	**meteorologist, weatherman**
milliard	*milliárd*	**billion, a thousand million, 10^9**

mimic	*mimika*	**facial expression**
mixer	*mikszer, mixer [bárban]*	**barman**
mixer	*mikszer, mixer [gép]*	**blender, liquidizer**
mode	*mód*	**way, manner, fashion**
molest	*molesztál*	**annoy, vex**
monster	*monstrum*	**behemoth, colossus, giant**
monstrous, monster	*monstre*	**mammoth, gigantic, colossal**
motor	*motor [jármű]*	**motorcycle**
motorist	*motoros [=motorbiciklista]*	**motorcyclist**
munition	*muníció*	**ammunition**
national	*nacionálé*	**personal particulars**
necessary	*neszeszer*	**vanity bag/box**
necrology	*nekrológ*	**obituary**
Negro	*néger [=illegális munkát más neve alatt végző személy]*	⟨person doing illegal work under someone else's name⟩; **ghost writer**
Negro	*néger [=fekete]*	**black**
notes	*notesz*	**notebook**
novel	*novella*	**short story**
novelist	*novellista*	**short story writer**
null	*nulla*	**nought, zero**
occasion	*okkázió*	**bargain**
ordinary	*ordenáré*	**base, obscene, vulgar**
organ	*orgánum [=hang]*	**voice**
organ	*orgona [virág]*	**lilac**
pamphlet	*pamflet*	**lampoon**
panel	*panel [házé]*	⟨prefabricated concrete slab⟩
panel	*panel(ház)*	⟨prefabricated concrete block⟩
panoptic	*panoptikum*	**waxworks**
*__pansion__	*panzió*	**boarding house, hotel**
pantomime	*pantomim*	**mime show**
paragraph	*paragrafus [jogban]*	**clause** [in law]
parcel	*parcella [=földdarab]*	**plot of land**
parcel	*parcella [temetőben]*	**(burial) plot**
parole	*paroláz*	**shake hands**
parole	*parola*	**handshake**
parole	*paroli*	**(branch) insignia**
party	*parti*	**game (of cards)**
pasta	*paszta*	**paste**
pastor	*pásztor [marháké]*	**herder, herdsman**
pastor	*pásztor [birkáké]*	**shepherd**
pat	*patt*	**stalemate**
patchouli	*pacsuli*	⟨low quality perfume/scent⟩
patent	*patent*	**popper, press stud; snap**
pathetic	*patetikus*	**emotional, dramatic, passionate, solemn**
pathos	*pátosz*	**solemnity; theatricality**
patron	*patron [töltény; toll]*	**cartridge**
patron	*patron [szifon]*	⟨metal tube containing CO_2 in siphon bottles⟩
patron	*patron [=sablon, séma]*	**cliché, stereotype**
pedagogue	*pedagógus*	**educator, teacher**
pedant(ic)	*pedáns*	**conscientious, meticulous**
pension	*panzió, penzió*	**boarding house, hotel**
perspective	*perspektíva [=kilátás]*	**prospects**
pest	*pestis*	**plague**
petrol	*petróleum*	**petroleum**
philosophize	*filozofál [=elmélkedik]*	**contemplate, deliberate, meditate**
phrase	*frázis*	**cliché, hackneyed phrase**

physic, physique	*fizika*	**physics**
physic(ian)	*fizikus*	**physicist**
piccolo	*pikoló [űrmérték]*	⟨half a pint⟩
pick, pique	*pikk, pique*	**spades**
pity	*piti*	**petty, no-account, small-time**
placate	*plakát*	**placard, banner, poster**
plaid	*pléd*	**blanket**
point	*pont [írásjel]*	**full stop; period** (US)
polo	*póló [trikó]*	**casual shirt, T-shirt**
port	*porta*	**porter's lodge**
practice	*praktika*	**artifice, stratagem, trick**
predict/predicate	*prédikál [szentbeszédet mond]*	**orate, preach**
predict/predicate	*prédikál [papol]*	**lecture, preach**
pregnant	*pregnáns*	**momentous, significant, weighty**
pregnantly	*pregnánsan*	**momentously, significantly, weightily**
premier	*premier*	**premiere**
*__premier plan(e)__	*premier plán*	**close-up**
premium	*prémium*	**bonus (payment)**
*__press caesar__	*sajtócézár*	**press mogul**
*__presso__	*presszó*	**bar, cafe**
prim(e)	*príma*	**excellent, first-class**
primer	*primor*	**early vegetable**
prism	*prizma [gépkocsin]*	**reflector**
probe	*próbál [=megkísérel]*	**try**
probe	*próbál [színdarabot]*	**rehearse**
probe	*próba [=kísérlet]*	**experiment**
probe	*próba [színdarabé]*	**rehearsal**
program(me)	*program [=csatorna]*	**channel**
propaganda	*propaganda*	**publicity, PR**
propagate	*propagál*	**advertise, promote**
prospect	*prospektus*	**brochure, leaflet, prospectus**
protection	*protekció*	**patronage, favouritism**
public	*publikum*	**audience, spectators**
pudding	*puding*	**blancmange, custard**
puff	*puff [ülőke]*	**pouf(fe)**
*__puplin__	*puplin*	**poplin**
ratio	*ráció*	**reason, rationality**
real	*reál [tárgyak]*	**science [subjects]**
receipt	*recept [orvosi]*	**prescription**
receipt	*recept [főzési]*	**recipe**
recension	*recenzió*	**(book) review**
*__recensor__	*recenzens*	**reviewer**
reclaim	*reklám*	**advertisement, promotion**
reclaim	*reklamál*	**complain, lodge a complaint**
reclaim	*reklámoz*	**advertise, promote**
reclamation	*reklamáció*	**(lodging a) complaint**
recorder	*rekorder*	**record holder**
refer	*referál*	**report, give an account**
*__referatum__	*referátum [beszámoló]*	**report, account**
*__referatum__	*referátum [iskolai]*	**presentation**
refined	*rafinált*	**artful, calculating, crafty**
reflector	*reflektor*	**headlights**
reformat(ed)	*református*	**reformed**
rentable	*rentábilis*	**profitable, lucrative**
repeat	*repeta*	**seconds, second helping**
replica	*replika*	**rejoinder**
representative	*reprezentatív [=elegáns]*	**elegant, luxury**
require	*rekvirál*	**requisition**

resident	*rezidens*	**head of bureau/office abroad**
resort	*reszort*	**area, concern, responsibility**
revision	*revízió*	**audit**
revisor	*revizor*	**auditor**
reverend	*reverenda*	**cassock**
review	*revü/rövü*	**variety show, revue**
robber	*robber*	**rubber [in cards]**
roller	*roller*	**roller skates**
Roman(ian)	*román [stílus]*	**Romanesque, Norman**
Roman	*román [nyelv stb.]*	**Ro(u)manian, Rumanian**
rouge	*rúzs*	**lipstick**
routine	*rutin*	**experience, skill**
***routin(e)ous**	*rutinos*	**experienced, skilled, trained**
rubric	*rubrika*	**column**
sable	*szablya*	**sabre**
saccharin(e)	*szaharin [=édesítőszer]*	**sweetener**
salad	*(fejes) saláta*	**lettuce**
saloon	*szalon*	**drawing room, salon**
***saloon candy/sweet**	*szaloncukor*	⟨Christmas fondant⟩
***sanate**	*szanál [=csődből kisegít]*	**rescue financially**
***sanate**	*szanál [=lebont]*	**raze, demolish**
sanction	*szankcionál*	**penalize, impose a sanction**
schematic	*sematikus [ábrázolás]*	**one-sided, flat**
scheme	*séma*	**pattern, schema**
Scottish	*skót [=fösvény]*	**stingy, mean**
secession	*szecesszió*	**Art Nouveau, Jugendstil**
secessionist	*szecessziós*	**Art Nouveau, Jugendstil**
semaphore	*szemafor*	**railway (stop) signal**
sentence	*szentencia*	**maxim, aphorism**
serpentine	*szerpentin [dísz]*	**(paper) streamer**
serpentine	*szerpentin [út]*	**winding mountain road**
***serva, serve**	*szerva*	**service**
service	*szervíz*	**servicing; repair shop**
set	*szett [=alátét]*	**place mat**
sinus	*színusz, sinus*	**sine**
siphon	*szifon*	**siphon bottle**
slime	*slájm*	**mucus, phlegm**
smoking	*szmoking*	**dinner jacket; tuxedo**
social	*szociális [=társadalmi helyzeten alapuló]*	**needs-based**
social	*szociális [=jóléti]*	**welfare**
soda	*szóda*	**soda water**
soft	*szaft*	**gravy**
solid	*szolíd*	**decent, sound, respectable**
spare	*spórol*	**save, economize**
speaker	*speaker, szpíker [=bemondó]*	**announcer**
speculator, speculant	*spekuláns*	**profiteer**
sportive, sporty	*sportos [ruha]*	**casual**
***sport(ing) coupé**	*sportkupé*	**(fixed-head) coupé; (two-seater) coupé**
***spot lamp**	*spotlámpa*	**spot light**
stab	*stáb*	**staff, crew, team**
staff list	*stáblista*	**(list of) credits**
stakes	*steksz*	**bread, lolly** [=money]
***statist**	*statiszta*	**extra**
***statist**	*statisztál*	**be an extra, play bit parts**
***statistery**	*statisztéria*	**the extras [in a film]**
status	*státusz [=álláshely]*	**position, full time job**
stencil	*stencilez*	**mimeograph**

stencilling	*stencil(ezés)*	**mimeography**
stop	*stoppol [idot]*	**time**
stop	*stoppol [autót]*	**hitch (a lift/ride)**
stop	*stoppol [harisnyát]*	**darn**
stopper	*stoppos*	**hitch-hiker**
stopper	*stopper*	**stop-watch**
strand	*strand*	**open-air swimming pool, lido**
strophe	*strófa*	**verse, stanza**
stylus	*stílus*	**style**
suggestive	*szuggesztív*	**forceful, convincing**
***Swedish table**	*svédasztal*	**smorgasbord, buffet (meal)**
syllabize/syllabify	*silabizál*	**read with difficulty, (try to) make out**
syllabus	*sillabusz*	**summary, outline, index**
sympathetic	*szimpatikus*	**nice, likeable**
synchronize	*szinkronizál*	**dub**
tableau	*tabló*	**group photograph (usu of students in the same class)**
talon	*talon*	**stock [in a game of cards]**
tank	*tankol*	**tank up, fuel**
tapper	*tapper*	**blotter**
***tastature**	*tasztatúra*	**keyboard**
technic(al)	*technikus*	**technician**
technic(s), technique	*technika [=műszaki tudomány]*	**enigeering, technology**
terminus	*terminus [=határidő]*	**deadline**
terminus	*terminus [=szakkifejezés]*	**(technical) term**
theatrical	*teátrális*	**histrionic**
toilet	*toalett [=öltözék]*	**woman's dress/costume/clothes**
ton	*ton(hal)*	**tuna**
total	*totál [kamerabeállítás]*	**long shot**
tract	*traktus*	**section/wing of a building**
traffic	*trafik*	**tobacconist's**
training	*tréning(ruha)*	**tracksuit, running suit**
trampoline	*trampolin*	**springboard, diving board**
transparent	*transzparens [=feliratos tábla]*	**banner**
transparent	*transzparens [=fényreklám]*	**neon sign**
tribune	*tribün*	**grandstand**
***tur(n)mix**	*turmix*	**(milk) shake**
unsympathetic	*unszimpatikus*	**disagreeable, unpleasant**
urn	*urna [szavazásnál]*	**ballot (box)**
valuta	*valuta*	**(foreign) currency**
vein	*véna [=tehetség]*	**aptitude/disposition/talent for**
ventilator	*ventilátor*	**electric fan**
verse	*vers*	**poem**
vignette	*vignetta, vinyetta*	**label, sticker, tag**
visit	*vizit [orvosi]*	⟨the staff's daily routine checkup on all the inpatients at a hospital department⟩
wagon	*vagon [személy-vonatban]*	**railway carriage/coach**
winchester	*vincseszter, winchester*	**hard disk**

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