pears in Lower Umpqua as lam, in Nootka as na·ma, neither of these languages possessing an r-sound, while Nootka also lacks l. Similarly, the Nootka word tloˈkwwːna "wolf ritual," though no doubt borrowed from Kwakiutl dloˈgwala, presents no phonetic characteristics that are untypical of Nootka, the un-Nootka sounds dl, gw, and l of the Kwakiutl original being respectively replaced by tl, kw, and n, the nearest Nootka correspondents.

It does sometimes happen, however, that sounds otherwise foreign to a language are preserved in certain words of demonstrably foreign origin and that, generalizing from these, it is possible to establish the alien provenience of other words involving the same sound. Thus, it can be shown in English that the voiced sibilant j (as in French jeu, âge) is never found in words of native origin but is restricted in its occurrence to foreign, chiefly French, Latin, and Greek words, in which it either goes back to an original j (as in rouge) or, more often, to an original zy (as in pleasure, erasure, aphasia).1 The value to English culture-history of these facts may be illustrated by reference to such a word as garage, in which both the j-sound and the place of the accent point to a foreign, specifically French, origin. The culture-historical inference that the automobile and garage are elements due to French influence can, of course, be made on more direct evidence, but it is none the less important from a methodological standpoint to realize that phonetic evidence alone strongly suggests it.

Not infrequently a sound, while of native origin in certain positions, occurs in certain other positions only in foreign words. Thus, while the sounds z and dj in medial and final position are common enough in native English words (e.g., as, fleas, chosen; edge, fledgling), initially they occur only in foreign, more particularly French, Latin, and Greek words (e.g., zeal, zoology; Jew, just, John). The culture-historical value of such distinctions comes out clearly in estimating the age of such words as judge, jury, and general and, to a certain extent, of the culture concepts

¹ In words like erasure and closure, j developed from sy, inasmuch as original Latin -sūra, via French -sure, i.e., -sūre, became -syure, -syure. In words like aphasia and cohesion, original intervocalic -si- became voiced non-syllabic -sy-. Native English -sy-, whence -j-, arises only optionally in sentence phonetics, e.g., diu from āg yu (i.e., as you).