Exercise 4.2 Identifying analogical changes

Determine what kind of analogical change is involved in the following examples. Name the kind of change, and attempt to explain how it came about, if you can.

1. In some dialects of English, the pattern bring/brought/brought has become bring/brang/brung.

2. Where Standard English has drag/dragged, some varieties of English have drag/drug. It appears in this case that the Standard English pattern is older.

3. Old Spanish sinistro ‘left’ changed from Latin sinister ‘on the left’ to take on ie under the influence of the antonym diestro ‘right’, since diestro and sinistro frequently occurred together.

4. In many Spanish dialects, an intervocalic d is regularly lost, as in mercado > mercao ‘market’; in some instances, however, there are changes of the following sort: dialect bacalado < Standard bacalao ‘codfish’; dialect Bilbado < Standard Bilbao (a place name).

5. In the Dominican Republic, forms such as Standard Spanish atras ‘behind’ become astras; in this variety of Spanish, preconsonantal s is often lost, as in ata < asta (spelled hasta) ‘until’.

6. English Jerusalem artichoke (a kind of sunflower, with some similarities to an artichoke) is in origin from Italian girasóle articiocco, where Italian girasole / jirasóle/ contains gira- ‘turn around, revolve, rotate’ + sole ‘sun’, and articiocco ‘artichoke’, with nothing associated with Jerusalem; originally.

7. In English, Key West (in Florida) comes from the Spanish name cayo hueso, where cayo is ‘key, small island’ and hueso is ‘bone’.

8. English heliport < helicopter + airport; snazzy < snappy + jazzy; jumble < jump + tumble.

9. Colloquial and regional varieties of Spanish have haiga where Standard Spanish has haya (subjunctive, ‘there may be’) and vaiga where Standard Spanish has vaya (subjunctive, ‘may go’). These have been influenced by Standard Spanish verb forms such as traiga (subjunctive of traer ‘to bring’, ‘may bring’) and caiga (subjunctive of caer ‘to fall’, ‘may fall’).

10. Middle English had help- ‘present tense’, holp ‘past tense’; Modern English has help, helped for these.

11. English to emote is derived from emotion; to enthuse is derived from enthusiastic.

12. Many varieties of English have a new verb to liaise based on liaison.

13. English to diagnose is derived from diagnosis.

14. Finnish rohtia ‘to dare’ resulted from both rohjeta ‘to be bold enough, to dare’ and tohtia ‘to dare’.