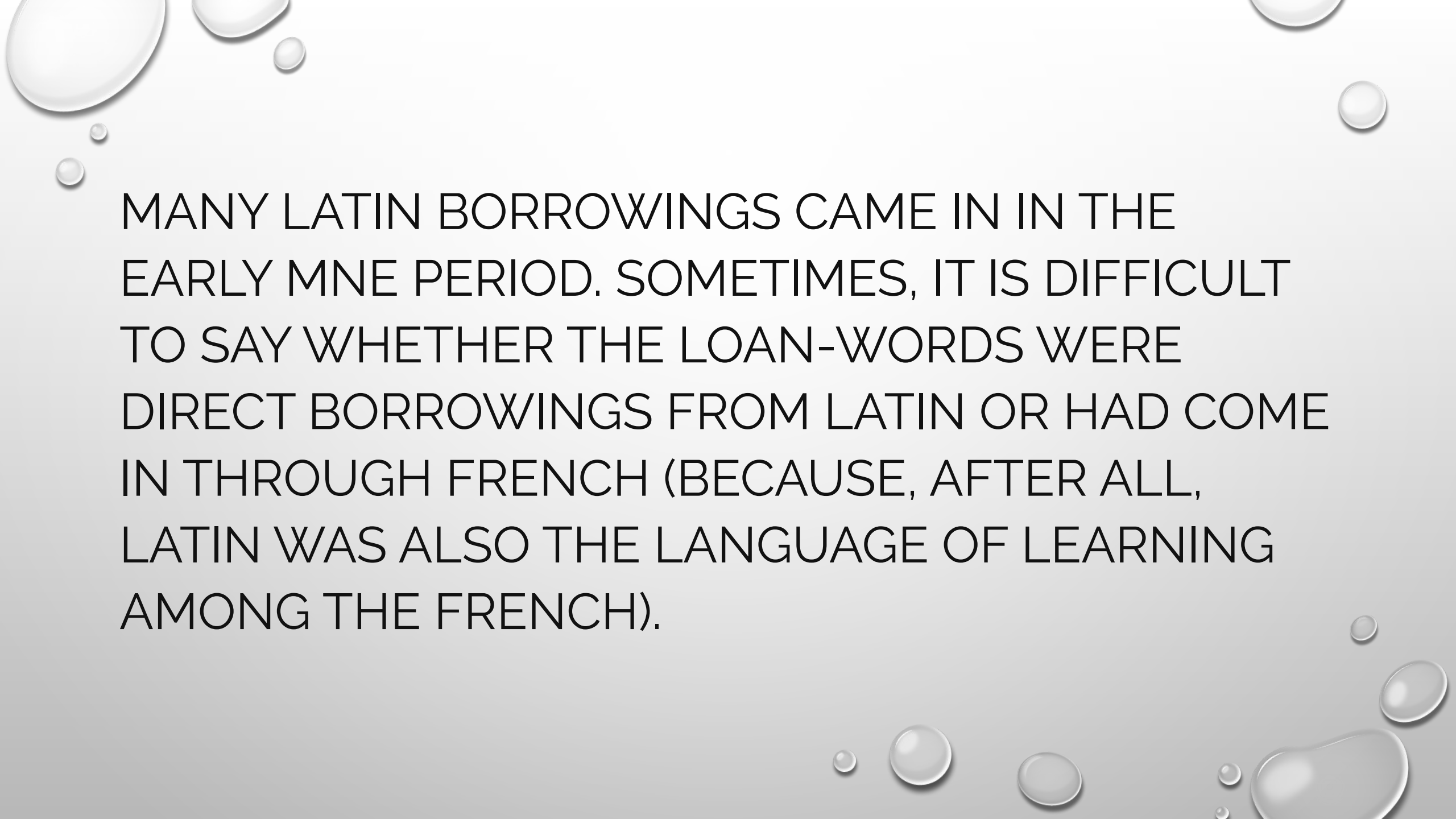


LATIN BORROWINGS

LATIN LOANWORDS REFLECTED THE SUPERIOR MATERIAL CULTURE OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, WHICH HAD SPREAD ACROSS EUROPE: STREET, WALL, CANDLE, CHALK, INCH, POUND, PORT, CAMP. THE NATIVE CELTS HAD ALSO LEARNT SOME LATIN, AND SOME OF THESE WERE BORROWED BY THE ANGLO-SAXONS IN BRITAIN: SIGN, PEARL, ANCHOR, OIL, CHEST, PEAR, LETTUCE.

LATIN WAS ALSO THE LANGUAGE OF CHRISTIANITY,
SO A LOT OF TERMS IN RELIGION WERE BORROWED:
POPE, BISHOP, MONK, NUN, CLERIC, DEMON,
DISCIPLE, MASS, PRIEST, SHRINE. CHRISTIANITY ALSO
BROUGHT WITH IT LEARNING: CIRCUL, NOT (NOTE),
PAPER, SCOL (SCHOOL), EPISTOL. CLASSICAL
BORROWINGS CONTINUE TO APPEAR IN MODERN
ENGLISH AS WELL. MOSTLY THEY ARE WORDS
FORMED WITH THE HELP OF LATIN AND GREEK
MORPHEMES. THERE ARE QUITE A LOT OF THEM
IN: MEDICINE (APPENDICITIS, ASPIRIN).

- LATIN WAS ALSO THE LANGUAGE OF CHRISTIANITY, AND ST AUGUSTINE ARRIVED IN BRITAIN IN AD 597 TO CHRISTIANISE THE NATION. TERMS IN RELIGION WERE BORROWED: POPE, BISHOP, MONK, NUN, CLERIC, DEMON, DISCIPLE, MASS, PRIEST, SHRINE. CHRISTIANITY ALSO BROUGHT WITH IT LEARNING: CIRCUL, NOT (NOTE), PAPER, SCOL (SCHOOL), EPISTOL.



MANY LATIN BORROWINGS CAME IN IN THE
EARLY MNE PERIOD. SOMETIMES, IT IS DIFFICULT
TO SAY WHETHER THE LOAN-WORDS WERE
DIRECT BORROWINGS FROM LATIN OR HAD COME
IN THROUGH FRENCH (BECAUSE, AFTER ALL,
LATIN WAS ALSO THE LANGUAGE OF LEARNING
AMONG THE FRENCH).

- ONE GREAT MOTIVATION FOR THE BORROWINGS WAS THE CHANGE IN SOCIAL ORDER, WHERE SCIENTIFIC AND PHILOSOPHICAL EMPIRICISM WAS BEGINNING TO BE VALUED. MANY OF THE NEW WORDS ARE ACADEMIC IN NATURE THEREFORE: AFFIDAVIT, APPARATUS, CAVEAT, CORPUSCLE, COMPENDIUM, EQUILIBRIUM, EQUINOX, FORMULA, INERTIA, INCUBATE, MOMENTUM, MOLECULE, PENDULUM, PREMIUM, STIMULUS, SUBTRACT, VACCINATE, VACUUM. THIS RESULTED IN THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN LEARNED AND POPULAR VOCABULARY IN ENGLISH.

Thanks

For your attention