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NEOLOGISMS AS A RESULT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE'S EVOLUTION

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Introduction

Language, just as a living organism is exposed to evolve; the process of which will never reaches its peak. Since the beginnings of languages-globalizing period, lexical system was the most liable to changes component: altering dynamically and with unable to control rhythm of growth, we got what we can observe today. Language, as a subject of culture, reflects the state of it, nor the emphasized periods of its evolving. That is the maintained idea of this article; which me, the author of it, going to explore and explain to you.

Should be mentioned the fact, that neologism, as a major is just getting more and more reliable in the terms of audience's reputation, just like it's main object – discovering new words. Simple instance: comparing the amount of created words close to the dawn of XX century, in 2002 and these days. The rupture is pretty much shocking, due to fact how English is intensive, when it comes to the growth. If in the end of XX century, scientists counted 12000 new words created by the whole year, which consists 365 days, in 2002 increment draw up to 10000 new words and collocations daily[1]. “Obviously, the number of new majors, spheres were probably doubled, what did you expected? Won't be shocked if statistics composing three times more words found daily.”, - you would say. Well, no, despite of the fact, that there are a lot of new areas discovered, humanity barely including 10000 words per year. But it's all the speculations with no direct evidences.

Interpretation of the concept of "neologism"

First of all, let us define the very notion that we will be using in this article. Thus, in the most general sense, neologisms in the lexicon are words or meanings of existing words that appeared in the language a relatively short time ago. Irina Retz, having studied the possible approaches of researchers to the interpretation of the term "neologism", which vary depending on the research objectives, identifies 5 main theoretical approaches: stylistic, denotative, structural, etymological and lexicographical. The stylistic approach treats a neologism as a word whose novelty is marked by its new stylistic use, for example, words

that move from jargon or metalanguage to everyday language (for example, the term *downtime* 'time when one is not working or active'). The denotational theory defines neologisms as words that occur to name new things and concepts and thus acquire new denotational meanings, such as *smartphone*, *selfie*, *e-book*. The structural approach defines neologisms as words that have a completely new linguistic and acoustic form and structure, such as Tolkien's *hobbit*. An etymological approach understands a neologism as a word that already exists in the language and has developed a new meaning: umbrella 1) 'device used as protection against rain'; 2) 'a protecting force or influence'. Finally, proponents of the lexicographical approach to neologisms imply, among other things, that the new word is not recorded in dictionaries, such as the linguistic unit *cinematherapy* 'using films as therapeutic tools', which has gathered 70,000 citations in a Google search engine, but has not yet been reflected in lexicographical editions [2].

The generalisation of these approaches leads to the conclusion that even the novelty factor, common to all definitions, is ambiguous and in many ways contradictory, because the researcher has to determine for himself whether a language unit is new to all members of society or only to a certain part of speakers, for a language of everyday communication or only for a certain sublanguage, metalanguage, etc. In this paper, we will define neologisms as words or phrases that are new in form and meaning at the current moment in time and have a new socio-cultural meaning. In other words, neologisms

We will include both words that are actually new in form and meaning, as well as units already in the nominative fund whose meaning has been transformed due to a change in discursive relevance.

The dynamics of word-formation. Patterns of neologisms

The creation of new linguistic units is influenced by various factors. For example, L. Gilbert identifies three such factors:

- 1) denominative (the need to designate a new object);
- 2) Stylistic (the need for expressive language);
- 3) The pressure of the linguistic system (formation of potentially possible words on the basis of existing models) (Gilbert 1975, cited in Gatsalova 2005). By their nature, neologisms in modern English arise from different principles. Many linguists point to the principle of linguistic economy as the predominant one at the present stage. The increasingly intense rhythm of life and, as a consequence, the increasingly acute shortage of time leads to a change in the perception of time in the 21st century, as noted by sociologists [3]. It is quite natural that language as a kind of mirror of social and cultural life changes along with society. At the same time, the changes affect the very nature of language, in particular, its word-formation patterns. The most popular are amalgamations, abbreviations and acronyms

that allow us to express an idea using a minimum of linguistic means and spending less time. Thus the words *MOOC* 'long-distance course', *vom* 'vomit', *hurry sickness* 'an urgent and persistent need to feel busy or productive', *sightjogging* 'visiting a foreign city by jogging around it' [4].

Statistical data also confirm this phenomenon. According to V.I. Zobotkina, in the 60-70s affixation prevailed over word formation, giving it up only in the 80s. At the end of the 20th century, some of the most productive proper linguistic ways of forming new vocabulary in English were word formation (29.5% of the entire corpus of neologisms), affixation (24%) and conversion (3%). In 2014 some researchers put abbreviations (fusions, abbreviations, acronyms) in the second place in terms of frequency [2], while a few years earlier Canadian researcher Paul Cook in his doctoral dissertation of 2010, analysing 1186 of the most frequent neologisms, noted that 43% of new words were formed by the principle of blending [5]. It should be noted that in 1991 John Algeo, studying the dynamics of word formation patterns of neologisms, claimed that blending accounted for only 5% of new words [1].

Research on neologisms: spheres of operation

There are dozens of works by domestic and foreign scholars devoted to word formation models of English neologisms. Therefore, there is no point in dwelling on them in detail in this article. The main purpose of the study, as mentioned at the beginning, is to identify the specifics of popular neologisms.

The language of English and its actualisation in everyday communication among speakers of English.

The material is based on neologisms included in the Oxford Online Vocabulary since 2010. The total volume of words and expressions analysed was 77. The words were selected according to the principle, as it seemed at the initial stage of the study, of the most frequent use by native speakers. Thus, most of the vocabulary units under consideration were included in the word lists of the Oxford dictionary year, which are formed on the basis of statistical data on the frequency of their use in a particular year.

The study comprised two stages: an analytical stage, consisting of a selection and lexical analysis of neologisms, and an interactive stage, consisting of interviewing informants.

The results of this study will begin with a lexical analysis of the new nominative units. The group of words under consideration includes 58% nouns, 25% verbs, 13% adjectives and 4% abbreviations, which are followed by more compositionally complex, extended word combinations. Thus, the structural and infrequent analysis indicates a predominance of single-word language units expressed in nouns, which in turn indicates a greater need for native speakers to name newly appeared phenomena or situations. It should be noted that 49% of the words under consideration are formed by blending,

which fully confirms the observations of the theoretical part concerning the principle of linguistic economy in the context of the accelerating rhythm of life in the 21st century [6].

Semantically, 5 generalised thematic groups/spheres of operation can be distinguished:

social and everyday life, including names of various recent phenomena, habits, everyday objects, etc. (39%): *wine o'clock* 'an appropriate time of day for starting to drink wine'; *cidery* 'a place where cider is made'; to *binge-watch* 'to watch multiple episodes of a television programme in rapid succession'; *fandom* 'the state of being a fan of someone or something'; *showrooming* 'the practice of visiting a shop or shops in order to examine a product before buying it online at a lower price'; *omnishambles* 'a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged'; *sodcasting* 'the practice of playing music through the loudspeaker of a mobile phone while in a public place'; to *mansplain* 'when a man explains something to a woman in a manner regarded as condescending or patronizing';

- computer technology and social media (21%): *selfie* 'a self-portrait photograph'; to *rage-quit* 'to angrily abandon an activity that has become frustrating'; *AFK* (*away from the keyboard*); *second screening* 'the practice of watching television while simultaneously using a smartphone, tablet computer, laptop, or other screen device'; *webisode* 'an episode of a series distributed as web television'; to *pocket dial* 'accidental placement of a phone call while a person's mobile phone is in the owner's pocket or handbag';
- socio-economic (12%): *bedroom tax* 'a reduction in the amount of housing benefit if the property has more bedrooms than is necessary for the number of people in the household'; *Eurogeddon* 'the catastrophic potential financial collapse in the Eurozone'; *squeezed middle* 'the section of society regarded as particularly affected by inflation, wage freezes, and cuts in public spending'; *crowdsourcing* 'the practice whereby an organisation enlists a variety of freelancers, paid or unpaid, to work on a specific task or problem';
- Socio-political vocabulary (9%): *Brexit* 'potential withdrawal of the UK from the European Union'; *occupy* 'an international movement protesting against perceived economic injustice by occupying buildings or public places and staying there for an extended period of time'; *hacktivism* 'the subversive use of computers and computer networks to promote a political agenda'; *slacktivism* 'actions performed via the Internet in support of a political or social cause but regarded as requiring little time or involvement'; *indyref* 'independence referendum held in Scotland';

- anthropocentric characterising nominations describing people and their needs, mental qualities, attitudes and beliefs, style, etc. (19%): *moblivious* 'staring at your phone while walking or driving and oblivious of your surroundings'; *sapiosexual* 'a sapiosexual is a person who finds intelligence a sexually attractive quality in others'; *adorkable* 'unfashionable or socially awkward in a way seen as appealing or cute'; *hangry* 'being so hungry that the lack of food causes a person to become angry and frustrated'; *on fleek* 'extremely good, attractive, or stylish'; normcore 'a trend in which ordinary, unfashionable clothing is worn as a deliberate fashion statement'; *lumbersexual* 'a young urban man who cultivates an appearance and style of dress suggestive of a rugged outdoor lifestyle'.

We acknowledge the conventionality of this grouping and of the names of the thematic groups themselves (see figure). This is due to a number of reasons, above all the presence of semes in a single word which allow it to be classified in several domains at once.

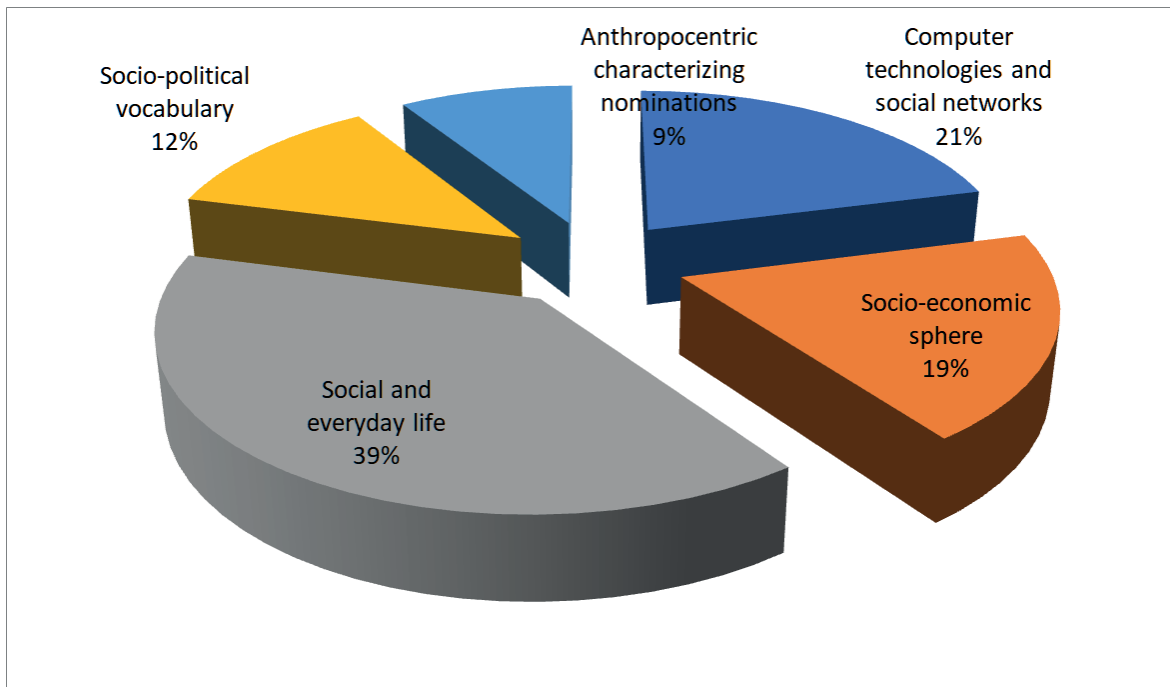


Fig. Thematic groups of neologisms

As a percentage of neologisms, the most productive is the sphere of social and everyday life

39%, followed by the fast-developing field of new technologies, the internet and social media

21% and then a rather diverse group, which we have defined as anthropocentric nominations describing people and their needs, abilities, manners and style, etc., which constitute 19% of the total number of words analysed.

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