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BLENDING AS A PROCESS OF CREATING NEOLOGISMS IN MODERN
ENGLISH: A STUDY BASED ON ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Bachelor's thesis

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PREFACE

Language may be compared to a living organism – in order to survive, it must evolve, recognise the changes and adapt to them in a timely manner. As a direct result of this evolution and changes, new words enter the lexicon of all languages, with English language being no exception. These “newcomers” are generally used to describe new concepts, technologies and their meaning to us. Language development can happen on different levels and by using different tools but for the purpose of this thesis the phenomenon of neologisms has been selected.

This paper shall look at the concept of neologism formation in modern English in general while particularly focusing on blending and then attempt to ascertain the frequency of blending as method used for neologism formation in electronic media. This paper is aimed at delivering research that might be of interest primarily to linguists and those individuals whose professional interests lie within studies of English. Understanding the nature and formation process of neologisms might also remove obstacles for translators struggling to find equivalent meaning of English neologisms in their languages. Moreover, those language learners who have reached the advanced level of their studies and inevitably encounter neologisms during their studies and extracurricular reading may also find the present work useful.

The present paper consists of Introduction, two main chapters and Conclusion. Introduction briefly familiarises readers with the notion of neologisms, reviews the existing research done on the process of formation of neologisms and briefly describes the source for research used to collect data for the present paper. Chapter I highlights the topicality of the chosen topic, provides in depth analysis of formation processes including blending (which is considered to be the major neologism word-formation process) while also focusing on affixation. The importance of neologisms and their impact on modern English will be observed as well. Chapter II involves detailed overview of recent neologisms found in electronic media and discusses the results of the conducted analysis. Research results, findings and observation along with the recommendations for further research are presented in Conclusion.

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INTRODUCTION

A community is known by the language it keeps, and its words chronicle the times. Every aspect of the life of a people is reflected in the words they use to talk about themselves and the world around them. As their world changes – through invention, discovery, revolution, evolution or personal transformation – so does their language. Like the growth rings of a tree, our vocabulary bears witness to our past.
(Algeo 1993: 1)

In this opening passage of his book the Professor Emeritus of English in the University of Georgia John Algeo has summarized, perhaps, the whole idea why the study of changes that every language inevitably undergoes as the decades and centuries pass is so appealing to linguists. Rise and fall of the empires, scientific discoveries, development of art and music, key political and social figures having the impact on the society have left the imprint on the language spoken in a community of any given area in the world. However, it is not only the past that sparks interest in the curious minds of linguists across the globe, it is also present language development and peculiarities that provide room for thought. Language can be compared to the mirror – it reflects the current state of the society, the problems it is facing, and the joy of achievements that have been made. One might suggest that the everlasting desire of scientists (including linguists) to look further in order to ensure that every aspect of human life, including communication skills and tools such as for instance neologisms, is observed from different angles and to its fullest ensures that the topicality of the studies of neologisms is maintained. Indeed, by learning the nature of neologisms, and in specific the reason and frequency of their occurrence, researchers can understand the topical currents in the society and the impact that some events have on it.

However, before any analysis and conclusion of any kind shall be made, it is crucial to observe the theoretical data in order to gain understanding of the term “neologism” itself, means of its formation, clarify the distinction between neologisms and other lexicological phenomena as well as observe the features of the electronic media as a chosen source for data collection for the present research. The introduction deals with these questions briefly, in-depth discussion is provided in Chapter I.

The Oxford Dictionary defines neologism as a newly coined word or expression; the coining or use of new words (this definition of neologism is not exclusive; others will be discussed in depth in Chapter I). The disciplines that study the process of

coinage, usage of these new words and subsequent incorporation of them into dictionaries are lexicology and lexicography.

The term 'lexicology' is composed of two Greek morphemes: *lexis* denoting 'word' and *logos* denoting 'learning'. Thus the literal meaning of the term 'lexicology' is 'the science of the word'. In modern linguistics lexicology is one of the branches of science dealing with different properties of words and the vocabulary of a language (Zykova 2008). Howard Jackson and Etienne Zé Amvela note (2000: 7) that:

Lexicology deals not only with simple words in all their aspects but also with complex and compound words, the meaningful units of language. Since these units must be analysed in respect of both their form and their meaning, lexicology relies on information derived from morphology, the study of the forms of words and their components, and semantics, the study of their meanings. A third field of particular interest in lexicological studies is etymology, the study of the origins of words. However, lexicology must not be confused with lexicography, the writing or compilation of dictionaries, which is a special technique rather than a level of language studies.

Lexicography is, in turn, is the applied study of the meaning, evolution, and function of the vocabulary units of a language for the purpose of compilation in book form — in short, the process of dictionary making (*The Free Dictionary*). Both lexicology and lexicography are derived from the Greek work *lexiko* (adjective from *lexis* meaning 'speech', or 'way of speaking' or 'word'). The common concern of both of them is 'word' or the lexical unit of a language. Lexicology is derived from *lexico* 'word' plus *logos* 'learning or science' i.e. the science of words. Lexicography is *lexico* 'word' plus *graph* 'writing' i.e. the writing of words. Lexicology is the science of the study of word, whereas lexicography is the writing of the word in some concrete form, i.e. in the form of a dictionary (The Central Institute of Indian Languages, chapter on Lexicology and Lexicography).

Jackson and Zé Amvela (2000) claim that lexicology is one possible level of language analysis along with phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics. Since lexicology interacts closely with other linguistic disciplines, it should not be isolated while studying language.

Studying neologisms is an inseparable part of the study of modern English. The study of neologisms is done with the help of the above mentioned disciplines as it involves both ascertaining the origin of a word, its form and components as well as observing the conditions of adding them to the dictionary and frequency of such additions. Linguists specialising in different branches of linguistics (morphology, semantics, lexicology, lexicography) have conducted numerous researches on the topic

of neologisms. The books written on the topic include John Algeo (1993) *Fifty Years Among the New Words*, Kerry Maxwell (2006) *From Al Desko to Zorbing – New Words for the 21st Century*, Howard Jackson (2000), Etienne Zé Amvela (2000) *Words, meaning and vocabulary: an introduction to modern English lexicology*. Moreover, the publishing house Berkley Pub Group regularly publishes *The Oxford Essential Dictionary of New Words*, where, according to its description, nearly 2,500 of the newest words of the English language are precisely defined and this guide offers additional information to put these new discoveries and concepts in context. It also includes online resources and real-life examples. The study of neologisms has also been the focus of theses of many university graduates: Julia Gontsarova from Narva College of the University of Tartu (2013), Michal Kadoch from University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice (2013), Kristýna Kubová from Masaryk University Faculty of Arts (2009), - they all examined the process of neologism formation in modern English, some focussing on the topic in general (Gontsarova, Kubová), while others limiting their research to printed media (Kadoch).

The aim of this thesis is to observe the phenomenon of neologism occurrence, their formation with a particular emphasis on blending as the formation process employed by the journalists in electronic media publications. Consequently, the sources for the research are several recent electronic media publications (from the period between 21 April 2013 - 31 January 2011, with some exclusion. The chosen sources will allow covering the variety of areas of life in which neologisms are used (from politics to beauty industry) and ensures the broad target groups (there is no gender/age or any other distinction) and, therefore, the results will reflect a true pattern of whether blending is frequent in neologisms formation.

The research has been narrowed down to studying the neologisms that appear in the electronic media and the underlying reason for this limitation is the role that e-resources play in the life of a modern person. The majority of printed newspapers and magazines have electronic versions available to approximately 3 billion internet users across the globe (*Internet Users in the World*). As will be seen in Chapter I, after being coined, neologisms invariably undergo scrutiny by the public and by linguists to determine their suitability to the language. It might be suggested that those neologisms that appear in a widely accessible and read sources, such as electronic media, have greater success in integration into the language and thus present more interest in terms of studying them.

The hypothesis that is to be tested is whether blending is the most frequently used word-formation process in creating neologisms as opposed to other word-formation devices. The data to the existing research will be collected by analysing the recently added neologisms to *Cambridge Online Dictionary* and their appearance in selected electronic media sources.

CHAPTER I. NEOLOGISMS. WORD-FORMATION PROCESSES

Of all the words that exist in any language only a bare minority are pure, unadulterated, original roots. The majority are "coined" words, forms that have been in one way or another created, augmented, cut down, combined, and recombined to convey new needed meanings. The language mint is more than a mint; it is a great manufacturing centre, where all sorts of productive activities go on unceasingly.

(Pei 1949: 28)

1.1. Definition of neologisms

Despite the fact that the term neologism is widely used nowadays and there are many textbooks, articles and research papers written on the phenomenon of neologisms in many different languages, one might be surprised that there is still no benchmark definition of the term itself.

To begin with, the etymology of the terms shall be considered. The term neologism is composed of two words of Ancient Greek origin - νέος (neos, "new") + λόγος (logos, "word"). The term neologism was coined in English in 1803. However, the English variant of this term was not innovative since in the previous 65 years French, Italian and German had invented their respective terms (*Oxford Dictionary of English* 2003).

Below are outlined some of the available definitions that are relied upon nowadays:

"neologisms are words that have appeared in a language in connection with new phenomena, new concepts but which have not yet entered into the active vocabularies of a significant portion of the native speakers of the language" (*Woodhouse Dictionary* 1972: 225)

A neologism is the term used to describe a word that has been made-up or invented by a speaker, which appears in a transcript of spontaneous speech dialogue. It can also be described as a word which does not appear in the dictionary of the primary spoken language (*Wiktionary, the free dictionary*).

According to *Collins English Language Dictionary* neologism is: a newly coined word, or a phrase or a familiar word used in a new sense (*Collins English Dictionary*).

Peter Newmark says that — neologisms can be defined as newly coined lexical units or existing lexical units that acquire a new sense (1988).

A more detailed definition of a term neologism has been provided by Ahmanova (1966: 263), she distinguished two kinds of neologisms. The first definition is as follows: “neologism is a word or phrase created for defining a new (unknown before) object or expressing a new notion”. The second one says that it is a “new word or expression that has not received the right for citizenship in the national language and thus is perceived as belonging to a specific, often substandard style of speech” (ibid).

The second definition refers to some kind of barbarism or xenism (the old meaning of neologism is synonymous with „barbarism”, „gallicism” (in English), „anglicism” (in French), and even „archaism” and is not appropriate in research of neologisms that are mainly relevant and in demand in a certain linguistic community.

Each one of the above definitions contains the word “new” which is not surprising due to the fact that the term neologism itself has the word “new” (*neo*) in it. But what kind of word can be classified as new?

According to John Algeo, a new word is a form or the use of a form not recorded in general dictionaries (1991: 2). There are different forms of the new words: it can either be spelled as a single word (guesstimate) or a compound (sandwich generation) or even an idiomatic phrase (out of the loop, go double platinum). Algeo also points out the issue of novelty of the word: its form can itself be novel, a shape that has not been seen or heard in English (flextime, phillumenist, ecotage) or the newness may lie in a novel use of the existing form (ibid). As Algeo goes on to remark, in the latter case the novelty may be in what the word refers to (turf as ‘a location, subject, or responsibility claimed as one's own’), the word's grammar ('looney tunes' developing from the name of an animated cartoon to an adjective 'erratic, absurd'), or even its relationship to those who use it (British 'toyboy' entering American use via supermarket tabloids). In his early editions of *Fifty Years Among the New Words* Algeo tried to include words that in his opinion were new in an absolute sense, that is the words that had come into use within a few years before their documentation in the column. However, as research was progressing the difficulty in establishing the date and time the word was actually first formed became apparent owing to the fact that some words had already had a long underground existence before having been reported. Then Algeo came up with an operational definition of new: a word is ‘new’ if it (or a particular use of it) does not appear in general dictionaries at the time it is included in the column (emphasis added). This paper shall employ the operational definition of new provided by Algeo when

observing the list of new words found in electronic media. By general dictionaries it shall be meant such dictionaries as *Oxford Dictionary*, *Cambridge Dictionary*, *Collins Dictionary*, *MacMillan Dictionary*, *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*.

Having examined various available definitions of the term 'neologism' and having outlined what is meant by a 'new word' for the purpose of the present paper, it is now possible to examine types of neologisms and various processes employed to create them.

1.1.1. Four classes of neologisms

April M. S. McMahon (1994) quotes the famous French linguist Louis Guilbert and his work *La creativite lexicale* (1975) who distinguished four classes of neologisms in French which, as McMahon claims, correspond to the four possible sources of new words in any language. They are semantic neologisms, or the assignment of novel meanings to existing lexical items; borrowing, or the attempted reproduction in one language of patterns previously found in another; phonological neologisms and morphosyntactic neologisms.

Phonological neologisms are formed by combining unique sounds, they are called artificial, e.g. rah-rah /a short skirt which is worn by girls during parades/, yeck/yuck which are interjections to express repulsion produced the adjective yucky/yecky. These are strong neologisms. Strong neologisms also include phonetic borrowings, such as perestroika /Russian/, solidarnost /Polish/, Berufsverbot /German/, dolce vita /Italian/ etc (Moskalyova 2007: 22).

The classification of neologisms by Guilbert is not the only one available. There are different viewpoints from which neologisms have been classified by scholars and academics. Perhaps the most thorough classification of neologisms is given by Newmark (1988). He admits that neologisms are probably non-literary and the professional translator's biggest problem (ibid). He then attempts to clarify the issue of neologisms and their translation by diving them into groups. According to Newmark, there are two existing lexical items with new senses and ten types of neologisms that are classified by their formation.

Two existing lexical items include *Words* and *Collocations*. Neologisms classified by their formation are *New coinages*, *Derived words (including blends)*, *Abbreviations*, *Collocations*, *Eponyms*, *Phrasal words*, *Transferred words (new and old referents)*, *Acronyms (new and old referents)*, *Pseudo- neologisms*, *Internationalisms*.

- **Old words with new sense** – old words that acquire new meaning. For instance a word ‘revoulement’ means ‘return of refugee’; it can be also used for ‘refusal of entry’ and ‘deportation’. In psychology this word denotes ‘repression’. Therefore, it is a loose term, the understanding of which depends on its context (Newmark 1988).
- **Collocations with new meanings** – collocations that eventually changed their meanings; the collocations which exist may be cultural as well as non-cultural. There is commonly a recognised translation if the concept is in the nowadays language. In case if the concept does not exist or people are not familiar with it yet, descriptive information has to be given. (E.g., 'tug-of-love') (ibid).
- **Abbreviation** – common type of pseudo-neologisms (ibid). The main feature of abbreviation is that we have to pronounce each letter individually. Examples: CD (compact disc or certificate of deposit), ER (emergency room), and PC (personal computer or politically correct).
- **Eponyms** – any words that were gained from proper names and also brand names (if they were derived from objects) that can be translated only when they are accepted and familiar to the people. When the word, from a proper name, directly refers to the person, we can easily understand and translate it, but if it refers to an object’s idea or quality we do not know an extra clarification has to be given in order to understand the meaning (ibid).
- **Transferred words** – words with the meaning that are to a lesser degree dependent on their contexts. They are used more in media or product concepts rather than in technological ones. Furthermore, transferred words may be common to different languages. Examples: newly imported foodstuffs, various brands of clothes ('Cagoule,' 'Adidas,' 'Sari,' 'Nike') (ibid).
- **Acronyms** – are an expanding common peculiarity of all non-literary texts. They tend to be short and euphonious; acronyms attract our attention and interest in case if we do not know the meaning. So, they make us find out what the letters stand for. Example: the word radar (radio detecting and ranging) is an acronym, due to the fact, that each of the letters of the word stands for a particular word. Once the original form of the acronym is forgotten by people it becomes new independent word in the language system (ibid).
- **New coinages** – mainly brand or trade names. For example: ‘Bistro’, ‘Bacardi’ ‘Schweppes’, ‘Revlon’ (ibid).

- **Derived words** – new words that are coined by adding one or more affixes to the stem. “The great majority of neologisms are words derived by analogy from ancient Greek (increasingly) and Latin morphemes usually with suffixes such as -ismo, -ismus, -ja, etc., naturalised in the appropriate language” (ibid: 143).
- **Collocations** – are widespread especially in the social sciences and in computer fields. Examples: ‘lead time’, ‘domino effect’, ‘acid rain’ (ibid). *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* defines collocation use of certain words together or a particular combination of words.
- **Phrasal words** – Newmark (1988: 141) notes that new ‘phrasal words’ are restricted to English’s facility in converting verbs to nouns (e.g. ‘work-out,’ ‘trade-off,’ ‘check-out,’ ‘thermal cut-out,’ ‘knock-on (domino) effect,’ ‘laid-back,’ ‘sit-in’). He goes on to add that phrasal verbs: a) are often more economical than their translation; b) usually occupy the peculiarly English register between ‘informal’ and ‘colloquial’, whilst their translations are more formal.
- **Pseudo-neologisms** - is “a generic word stands in for a specific word, e.g. longitudinaux (restarts longitudinaux) - ‘longitudinal springs’; humerale - ‘humeral artery’; la Charrue - ‘The Plough and the Stars’; la Trilateral - a private political commission with representatives from the USA, Western Europe and Japan.” (Newmark 1988: 148).
- **Internationalisms** – (in some cases can be ‘false interpreter’s friends’ since their meaning in the language from which it was borrowed greatly varies from the meaning in the language to which translation is being made) In linguistics, an internationalism or international word is a loan word that occurs in several languages with the same or at least similar meaning and etymology. These words exist in “several different languages as a result of simultaneous or successive borrowings from the ultimate source”. Pronunciation and orthography are similar so that the word is understandable between the different languages. e.g. the sport terms: football, baseball, cricket, and golf (*Internationalisms and “False interpreter friends” in the English language (in the examples from the texts on economy)*).

1.1.2. Cultural acceptance of neologisms

Newmark has indeed provided a very thorough classification of neologisms. But which words have the potential to fall under category of neologisms?

The future of a word as a neologism depends on what is called ‘cultural acceptance’. New words are formed every day for different purposes but some of them

stay in our lexicon while others pass quickly unnoticed. The reason for these different destinies of the new words is that not every new word passes a kind of ‘acceptance test’. Generally, the following stages in neologism acceptance are recognised:

- Unstable - extremely new, being proposed, or being used only by a small subculture (also known as protologisms)
- Diffused - having reached a significant frequency of use, but not yet having gained widespread acceptance
- Stable - having gained recognizable, being en vogue, and perhaps, gaining lasting acceptance
- Dated - the point where the word has ceased being novel, entered formal linguistic acceptance and, even may have passed into becoming a cliché.
- Passé - when a neologism becomes so culturally dated that the use of it is avoided because its use is seen as a stigma, a sign of being out of step with the norms of a changed cultural tradition, perhaps, with the neologism dropping from the lexicon altogether.

(Arunprs 2007)

It might be suggested that apart from the classification made by Newmark, neologisms can also be classified into five groups according to their status in the societal lexicon at the moment of speaking.

In answer to the question about the factors determining the chances of success of any appearing new word in terms of becoming an acknowledged and frequently used neologism one might quote Susie Dent (2007: 9) who states that “there are five primary contributors to the survival of a new word: usefulness, user-friendliness, exposure, the durability of the subject it describes, and its potential associations and extensions. If a new word fulfils these robust criteria it stands a very good chance of inclusion in the modern lexicon”.

Every neologism, acknowledged or ignored, has once been formed. Neologisms’ word-formation is, like word-formation of other words, governed by principles and rules and word-formation processes can also be divided into types. Below is the detailed discussion on this issue.

1.2. Word formation of morphological neologisms

Words are usually considered to be syntactic atoms, i.e. the smallest elements in sentence. They belong to certain syntactic classes (nouns, verbs, adjectives,

prepositions, etc.) which are called parts of speech, word classes, or syntactic categories. It is indeed impossible to establish the accurate number of words existing in the English language due to the fact that it is hard to decide what actually counts as a word (is 'dog' one word, or two - a noun meaning 'a kind of animal', and a verb meaning 'to follow persistently', (Oxford Dictionaries Online. *How many words are there in the English language?*) and distinguish between purely English words and the ones that are widely used in English but in fact originate in other languages (Latin words used in law, French words used in cooking, German words used in academic writing, Japanese words used in martial arts (ibid). The Second Edition of the 20-volume *Oxford English Dictionary* contains full entries for 171,476 words in current use, and 47,156 obsolete words and one might suggest that it is impossible to count the words they can be still classified and divided.

The ability to classify the words is especially topical in terms of word-formation since the latter is, according to Plag's (2005: 12) interpretation, "the ways in which new complex words are built on the basis of other words and morphemes". The basic scope and principles of word-formation are defined by Pavol Štekauer, Rochelle Liebe (2006: 212) as follows:

Word-formation deals with productive and rule-governed patterns (word-formation types and rules, and morphological types) used to generate motivated naming units in response to the specific naming needs of a particular speech community by making use of word-formation bases of bilateral naming units and affixes stores in the Lexical Component.

Moreover, Jackson and Ze Amvela (2000: 69) insist on the importance of studying word-formation and provide the following reasoning: since by 'word-formation' linguists mean the different devices which are used in English to build new words from existing ones, an understanding of word-formation processes is one way of studying the different types of words that exist in English. This is especially true in relation to neologisms: they are governed by the same word-formation rules as other words and one attempting to study neologisms should therefore start by analysing the basics of the subject of word-formation. Later in Chapter II the basics will enable to identify the processes used in forming the neologisms found in the electronic media.

Having said that, the present chapter shall focus on word-formation processes which involve words being built on the basis of other words (compounding, blending, acronyms, shortening) and morphemes (affixation) – the processes employed to form neologisms.

In linguistics, a morpheme is the smallest component of a word, or other linguistic unit, that has a semantic meaning. Morphemes do not occur as free standing forms but only as constituents of words, which does not prevent them from having meanings of their own. All morphemes are subdivided into two large classes: roots (or radicals) and affixes. The latter, in their turn, fall into prefixes which precede the root in the structure of the word (as in re-read, mis-pronounce, unwell) and suffixes which follow the root (as in teach-er, cur-able, diet-ate) (Antrushina 1999).

1.2.1. Word-formation: types

According to Antrushina (1999) *derivation*, *composition* and *conversion* are the three most productive word-formation types in Modern English. There are also some less productive types of word-formation. Each will be discussed below.

1.2.1.1. Composition

Composition, or as it also referred to, compounding is a type of word-formation which results in forming a fixed combination of two free forms, or words that have an otherwise independent existence, as in *frostbite*, *tape-measure*, *grass-green* (Adams 1973). Despite the fact that these items are clearly composed of two elements, they have the identifying characteristics of single words: their constituents may not be separated by other forms, and their order is fixed. If compared with derivation (discussed below) the obvious difference of a derived word from a compound word is that in a former, at least one element, the affix, is a bound form, with no independent existence. Compounding may be distinguished from derivation (the presence or absence of a bound form) and semantically (whether both element are 'lexical' or not) (ibid).

However, as Adams remarks (ibid) there are some words that have no free form (i.e. the words cannot be separated while each of the compound words has its original meaning and grammar form) and yet they seem best classified as compounds. Examples of such words include *bibliophile*, *telegraph*. These words are so-called neo-classical compounds – mostly of Latin and Greek origin and used in science. Neo-classical compounds are opposed to 'classical' compounds which are traditionally divided into: neutral, morphological and syntactic.

In neutral compounds the process of compounding is realised without any linking elements, by a mere juxtaposition of two stems (Antrushina 1999). Examples of neutral compounds include *cupcake*, *doughnut*, *earmuff*, *football*, etc. Antrushina (1999)

also writes about compounds which have affixes in their structure. These compounds are called derived or derivational compounds. Examples include: absent-mindedness, blue-eyed, golden-haired, etc.

Antrushina (1999) also outlines contracted compounds which are a subtype of neutral compounds. These words have a shortened (contracted) stem in their structure, such as TV-set (-program, -show, -canal, etc.), V-day (Victory day), etc.

Morphological compounds are joined together with a-vowel or a consonant as a linking element; examples include: gasometer, handicraft, electromotive, Anglo-Saxon, etc. While syntactic compounds (integrated phrases) are those which are the result of the process of semantic isolation (the word does not have its original meaning. i.e. highway – high does not mean *long*) and structural integration of free word-groups; examples include: blackboard (black board), highway (high way), forget-me-not, etc.

It has to be noted that compounds have to be distinguished from word-combinations. A *tall boy* is, for example, a word-combination but a *tallboy* is a compound which originated from the first one (Gontsarova 2013). In fact, these two words have different meanings: the former means either a young male person who is big in size while the latter expresses one concept – a piece of furniture.

1.2.1.2. Conversion

Conversion may be defined as a process by which a word belonging to one word class is transferred to another word class without any concomitant change of form, either in pronunciation or spelling. Jackson and Ze Amvela (2000: 86) list the major examples of conversion which include:

Noun → verb: *to bottle, to commission, to data-bank, to network*

Verb → noun: *a call, a command, a guess, a spy*

Adjective → verb: *to better, to dirty, to empty, to wrong*

Adjective → noun: such conversions are relatively rare and restricted

Sometimes even the whole phrase might undergo conversion and act as a noun → *forget-me-not, know-it-all, not-to be missed opportunity*.

Conversion has proved to be a highly prolific source of word production due to the absence of the restriction on the form that can undergo conversion in English (ibid). Antrushina, however, remarks (1999) that the question of conversion as type of formation process of new words has, for a long time, been a controversial one in several aspects. Thus, for example, the word-building potential of conversion has been treated

by a number of scholars with skepticism and it has been proposed that conversion is, in fact, a mere process of functional change of the word. For example, saying that the noun *hand* turns into the verb in the sentence *Hand me that book* is not completely correct since a noun here is used in verbal syntactical action and no new word has been produced. The functionality of this approach to conversion lies within the statement that conversion should be regarded as a specific feature of the English categories of parts of speech, the aim of it is to enable breaking through the rigid borderlines dividing one category from another and subsequently enriching the process of communication but not by creation of new words but from mere flexibility of the syntactic structures.

Although this point of view might be justified and supported by strong arguments, nowadays, as Antrushina points out (ibid), this theory find increasingly fewer supporters – it is rather accepted as one of the major ways of enriching English vocabulary with new words. The semantic change that frequently accompanies each instance of conversion (during which a word usually changes its syntactic meaning without any shift in lexical meaning) is one of the major argument in favour of the abovementioned approach to the conversion. This is especially visible if the following example is examined:

Both in *yellow leaves* and in *The leaves were turning yellow* the adjective denotes colour. Yet, in *The leaves yellowed* the converted unit no longer denotes colour, but the process of changing colour, so that there is an essential change in meaning (ibid).

The present paper recognises conversion as a word-formation device and in practical part in Chapter II words formed by transferring one word class into another word class without any concomitant change of form, if any of them appear, will be noted and classified as new words and added to the list of neologisms.

1.2.1.3. Blending

Jackson and Ze Amvela (2000) suggest that a blend may be defined as “a new lexeme built from part of two (or possibly more) words in such a way that a constituent parts are usually easily identifiable, though in some instances, only one of the elements may be identifiable”. The word part is called a *splinter*. Although a splinter is a clipping (discussed below), it cannot also occur as an independent word (Lehrer 2007).

As, for example, in *dramedy* (a comedy (as a film or television show) having dramatic moments, (*Merriam Webster Dictionary*), blending of *drama* + *comedy*) neither *dram-* not *edy* may be used alone as words.

However, there are examples of blending where one word is a clipping and can be used independently. In *infomercial* (a television program that is an extended advertisement often including a discussion or demonstration, *ibid*, blending of *information* + *commercial*) *info* is a clipping (from *information*) and can stand as an independent word, while *-mercial* has to be attached to something else – otherwise it would not mean sense.

Blending is not a novel word-formation type. Lehrer (2007) remarks that several blends were recorded as early as in the 15th century (*foolosopher* (OED 1592) *niversity* (OED 1590) and *knavigation* (OED 1613). These words are now obsolete. However, some blends that are actively used today and, namely, *brunch* (originally appeared in 1886, OED, MW) that is frequent in lexicon within fashion, beauty industry and celebrities along with socialites that are part of it. *Brunch* is a blend of *breakfast*+ *lunch* and it is a meal usually taken late in the morning that combines a late breakfast and an early lunch (MW). Another example of a frequently used word is *slanguage* (made by blending *slang* + *language*, language which predominately consists of slang words).

While generally new blends are produced for a particular situation and their definition is given, more often, as Lehrer suggests (2007: 116) new blends are introduced in a context where the reader or is left to figure out the underlying compound which might lead a varied interpretation which will depend on the context. In ascertaining the meaning of a blend one might start with identifying the two source words. If one part of the blend consists of a whole word such as *oildraulic* or *deskercise*, the parse is fairly easy with the next task being to identify the source of the splinter (*-draulic* → hydraulic; *-ercise* → exercise). Frequently, the blend consists of two splinters and while there are some blends that do not present difficulties for those doing the parse (for example, *workaholic* – blend consisting of two easily identifiable splinters *work* and *alcoholic*) there are still some blends which parse might not be as obvious. For Lehrer those examples include *snizzle* (*snow* + *drizzle*) and *swacket* (*sweater* + *jacket*). Not only finding the source words presents problems but so does a plausible meaning that has to be made after the source words have been identified. Blends, however, are not the only ones that are problematic in this sense; the same problem exists in interpreting novel compounds, since usually blends are shortened forms of compounds.

Lehrer (2007) found that the commonest type of blend in a corpus composed by her is a full word followed by a splinter: *wintertainment* (*winter* + *entertainment*); *chatire* (*chat* + *satire*); *vodkatini* (*vodka* + *martini*). Blends can also begin with a

splinter which is then followed by a full word: *narcoma* (*narcotic* + *coma*); *cinemenace* (*cinema* + *menace*); *administrativia* (*administration* + *trivia*).

The blends consisting of two splinters are also common. There are two types of these blends:

- The beginning of one word is followed by the end of another: *psynergy* (*psychic* + *energy*); *hurricoon* (*hurricane* + *typhoon* or *monsoon*)
- Both splinters are the beginning of words: *sitcom* (*situation* + *comedy*); *cabsat* (*cable* + *satellite*)

Lastly, there is also a type of blend that is formed by complete overlap of one or one phonemes, often consisting of whole syllables. Some parts of the source words have to be counted twice since they belong to both words, for instance, in the case where English spelling requires deleting some letters like silent *e* or in other cases where minor spelling changes not affecting pronunciation occur. During the years of her research, Lehrer (2007) has found that the blend type in question has become increasingly popular and provides the following examples she has found: *sexploitation* (*sex* + *exploitation*); *netiquette* (*(Intert)net* + *etiquette*); *cinnamincredible* (*cinnamon* + *incredible*).

Following Lehrer's analysis of types of blend, those neologisms formed with blending which will be found during practical part of this research described in the Chapter II will be also briefly analysed in terms of source words and means of their blending.

1.2.1.4. Shortening: Clipping and Acronyms

Clipping

One of the features of blending is the element of reduction which is even more apparent in the process described as *clipping* (Yule 2010). Clipping takes place when a word of more than one syllable (*facsimile*) is reduced to a shorter form (*fax*), usually beginning in casual speech. Although the term *gasoline* is still used, most people prefer to use the clipped form *gas*. Yule provides the following examples of common clippings: *ad* (*advertisement*), *bra* (*brassiere*), *cab* (*cabriolet*), *condo* (*condominium*). Also speakers of different languages like to clip each other's names, in English these would be *Al*, *Ed*, *Liz*, *Mike*, *Ron*, *Sam*, *Sue* and *Tom*.

Acronyms

Acronyms are new words formed from the initial letters of a set of other words. While formation of acronym is identical to the one of alphabetism, Algeo (1991) states that acronyms are pronounced according to the normal rules of English orthography. Examples of alphabetism include: *compact disk or CD, video cassette recorder or VCR*. In these examples the pronunciation consists of saying each separate letter. Acronyms are typically pronounced as new single words (i.e. according to the normal rules of English orthography), as in *NATO, NASA or UNESCO*.

1.2.1.5. Reduplication

Antrushina (1999) describes reduplication as a process by which new words are made using a doubling stem. Stem can be doubled either without any phonetic changes (*blah-blah, knock-knock, night-night yum-yum*) or with a variation of the root-vowel or consonant (*ping-pong, chit-chat, itsy-bitsy, hokey-pokey, okey-dokey, teeny-weeny*). The latter is also called gradational reduplication.

1.2.1.6. Back-formation

One might find nothing international in a verb 'to beg' - it does not sound as foreign as many other borrowed words. However, this word has its origin in French - was formed from the French *beggar*. The type of word-formation that was used here is back-formation. *Oxford Dictionary* defines back-formation as a process during which 'a word that is formed from an existing word which looks as though it is a derivative, typically by removal of a suffix (e.g. edit from editor)'.

In Modern English the most productive type of back-formation is derivation of verbs from compounds that have such elements as: -er, -ing at the end. (Gontsarova 2013: 19 quoting I. V. Arnold (1986: 151) *Lexicology of Modern English*).

Examples include:

thought-read v ← thought-reader n ← thought-reading n;
air-condition v ← air-conditioner n ← air-conditioning n;
turbo-supercharge v ← turbo-supercharger n.

Other examples of back-formations from compounds are: *beachcomb, house-break, house-clean, house-keep, red-bait, tape-record*.

1.2.1.7. Affixation in word-formation

Affixation, also referred to as derivation, is a process of word-formation and, therefore, also of morphological neologisms formation which includes coining a new word by adding an affix or several affixes to some root morpheme and is often regarded as the core of English word-formation (Antrushina 1999).

Affixes include prefixes, suffixes and infixes. Prefixes occur in front of a root (or a base) and suffixes at the end (Kadoch 2013).

Infixes

Kadoch remarks that morphologists generally agree that in English there are no infixes, i.e. morphemes incorporated inside another word, and that infixes should be excluded from word-formation as such. Infixes are only used to form words in particular situations (2013). As Kate Burridge remarks (2004: 9) 'in English the only things that can be infixed are those expressive words which are used to intensify meaning. All of the seriously offensive intensifiers can be used this way (*Hallebloodylujah*, *Absogoddamnlytely!* – obviously used in fortuitous or aggravating circumstances by emotionally aroused English speakers), but there are plenty of neutral-sounding remodellings too like *flippin(g)*, *frigging(g)*, *freakin(g)* and *bloomin(g)*, as in *unbeflippinglybelievable* and *fanfrigginginstastic*. One of the most famous examples is, of course, Eliza Doolittle's "*absobloominlytely*".' (Yule 2010)

Kristin Denham and Anne Lobeck (2010: 152) make an interesting point that native speakers of English have intuitions about where in a word the infix is inserted. They go on to offer the reader to consider where their favourite expletive infix goes in these words: *fantastic*, *education*, *Massachusetts*, *Philadelphia*, *Stillaguamish*, *emancipation*, *absolutely*, *hydrangea*

Denham and Lobeck (2010: 148) claim that most speakers agree on these patterns, though there are some dialectal variations. They suggest that it is likely the reader found that the infix is inserted at the following points:

*fan-***-tastic*, *edu-***-cation*, *Massa-***-chusetts*, *Phila-***-delphia*,
*Stilla-***-guamish*, *emanci-***-pation*, *abso-***-lutely*, *hy-***-drangea*

They conclude that the infix gets inserted before the syllable that receives the most stress. And it cannot be inserted anywhere else in the word.

Suffixes

According to Antrushina (1999) in English suffixes can be classified into the same two large groups as words: native and borrowed.

Below are the examples of some native suffixes outlined by Antrushina:

Noun-forming: -er, -ness, -dom, -hood, -ship, -th.

Adjective-forming: -ful, -less, -y, -ish, -ly, -en, -some

Verb-forming: -en

Adverb-forming: -ly

Borrowed suffixes (predominantly Latin) are the following: -ion, -tion, ate [eit], ate [it], -ant, -ent, ute [ju:t], -ct, d(e), -or, -al, -ar, dis-, -able

Prefixes

Richard Nordquist provided the table of 35 Common Prefixes in English (Nordquist. *A List of 35 Common Prefixes in English*) (see Appendix 1). For the purpose of this paper only columns *Prefix* and *Meaning* were taken from the mentioned source, examples were researched independently.

If a word is formed by adding a prefix it does not necessarily mean that only one prefix can be added. Prefixes can also be combined, provided that they can attach to the same stem. Often, though, the semantics will prevent this (Lehrer 1995).

Examples include:

Pro-anti-government = ‘in favour of [being] anti-government’ as compared to anti-pro-government which is ‘against [being] pro-government.

Pseudo-anti-intellectual = ‘someone who pretends to be anti-intellectual’ as contrasted to anti-pseudo-intellectual = ‘against [being or someone who is] pseudo-intellectual’.

1.3. Attitudes to neologisms

Chapter I has dealt with classification of neologisms and methods used to form new words, which might also be considered applicable to formation of neologisms since neologism is itself a ‘new word’. Before the practical part of this paper is presented, it is necessary to examine another topical question about neologisms and namely whether their formation is justified at all.

It is generally accepted that language like perhaps anything in our world is gradually changing over the centuries. Indeed, as Jean Aitchinson remarks (2001: 4) “in a world where humans grow old, tadpoles change into frogs, and milk turns into cheese, it would be strange if language alone remained unaltered”. Changes in human life call for new words to describe them. Some new words are ephemeral, tied to cultural or technical concepts which fade in significance. Others stay the course, usually because

they represent concepts which have become permanent features of society (Kerry Maxwell April 2006).

A famous Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure once noted that “Time changes all things: there is no reason why language should escape this universal law” (2013: 77). However, de Saussure’s attitude was not shared by everyone, changes are still condemned and resented by large numbers of intelligent people who regard alterations as due to unnecessary sloppiness, laziness or ignorance (Aitchinson 2001). The following are some representative examples taken by Aitchison (2001) from English publications of between 1985-2001:

- The late 1960s: a columnist in a British newspaper complains about the ‘growing unintelligibility of spoken English’, and maintains that English used to be a language which foreigners couldn't pronounce but could often understand. Today it is rapidly becoming a language which the English can't pronounce and few foreigners can understand’.
- A reviewer discussing the 1978 edition of the Pocket Oxford Dictionary announced that his ‘only sadness is that the current editor seems prepared to bow to every slaphappy and slipshod change of meaning’.
- In 1980, the literary editor of The Times complained that the grammar of English ‘is becoming simpler and coarser’.
- In 1982, a newspaper article commented that ‘The standard of speech and pronunciation in England has declined so much ... that one is almost ashamed to let foreigners hear it’.
- In 1986, a letter written to an evening paper complained about ‘the abuse of our beautiful language by native-born English speakers ... We go out of our way to promulgate incessantly ... the very ugliest sounds and worst possible grammar’.

As can be seen from the quotes above, the neologisms were and are often met with sharp criticism and downright resentment. Meanwhile, there are a great number of proponents of neologisms. Mohsin Khan (2013: 374) states that “neologisms can be interestingly hilarious at times and that they can be creatively used in sitcoms and in everyday language”. For those people who do not see TV series as a reliable source for justification of the existence of neologisms an example of Lewis Carroll, can be cited. Carroll has been called "the king of neologistic poems" because of his poem, "Jabberwocky", which incorporated dozens of invented words. The early modern English prose writings of Sir Thomas Browne are also the source of many neologisms as recorded by the OED.” (*Identivos Glossary of Naming Terms*).

Another proponent of new words being added to the lexicon is one of the European social informatics pioneers Ingar Roggers, who point of view is the following (1996):

No new science is possible without neologisms, new words or new interpretations of old words to describe and explain reality in new ways. How could Aristotle have developed the logic of syllogisms or Newton the theory of dynamics without new vocabularies and definitions? They were neologists, and everybody wanting to contribute new knowledge must be. For new knowledge there is no way around the creation of new terms and concepts. To reject neologisms, often despicably, is to reject scientific development. No sign of scientific conservatism is so telling as the rejection of all but the established concepts of a school of thought. Neologisms are, however, relative to the terminological paradigm actually dominating a field of knowledge. It may be a radical renewal to introduce terms from a tradition believed to be outmoded.

Regardless of the attitude to them, neologisms appear and this process is continuous. This is especially true in relation to the Internet where every single day millions of users send millions of messages and to electronic media in particular where newsmakers and journalists publish hundreds of articles. The language in the world-wide-web lives its own life that is usually free from generalized rules and dogmas. Neologisms appear on the Internet as a direct result of the need to express the thoughts, rapidly react to the events happening in the world, there is no time to proofread, look for a suitable word or engage in lengthy discussions about whether the use of the any particular word is permissible – electronic media aims to deliver the publications to the readers quickly, without unnecessary delay. Moreover, headlines with neologisms can certainly catch readers' attention more efficiently. This view is supported by further research provided in Chapter II, which will show that using neologisms is not the luxury that only *tabloids* can afford – neologisms are also widely used by reputable newspapers and magazines.

CHAPTER II. ANALYSIS OF NEOLOGISMS

2.1. Hypothesis: underlying reasons

The assumption made in the hypothesis (blending is a frequently used method for word-formation of neologisms) was highly influenced by two opposite points of views expressed by Laurie Bauer, a linguist whose professional interests lie in the area of morphology, in particular in word-formation (both derivation and compounding) and Professor Emerita Adrienne Lehrer. In his book *Watching English Change: An Introduction to the Study of Linguistic Change in Standard Englishes in Twentieth Century* Bauer conducted the research on the topic of word-formation processes used between 1880 and 1982. The results of his research are summarised in a table below (Bauer 1994: 38):

Table 2.2 Types for formation in new words, 1880–1982
(observed frequencies and percentages)

Formation type	1880–1913	1914–38	1939–82	Total
Abbreviations	2 0.4%	5 1.1%	13 2.5%	20 1.3%
Blends	7 1.2%	14 2.9%	16 3.1%	37 2.4%
Shortenings	13 2.3%	11 2.3%	17 3.3%	41 2.6%
Compounds	103 18.2%	80 16.8%	106 20.5%	289 18.5%
Prefixation	64 11.3%	62 13.0%	67 12.9%	193 12.4%
Suffixation	289 51.2%	228 47.9%	222 42.9%	739 47.4%
Names	17 3.0%	22 4.6%	23 4.4%	62 4.0%
Neo-classical compounds	29 5.1%	17 3.6%	12 2.3%	58 3.7%
Simultaneous prefix and suffix	2 0.4%	2 0.4%	2 0.4%	6 0.4%
Other	36 6.9%	33 7.4%	38 7.7%	114 7.3%
Total	565 100.0%	476 100.0%	518 100.0%	1559 100.0%

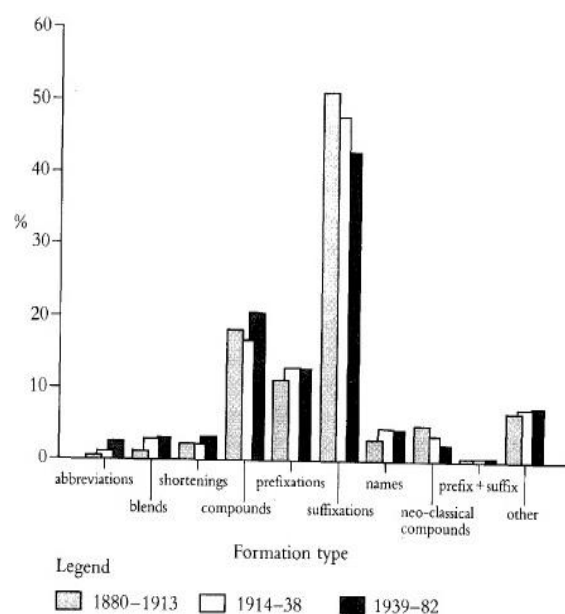


Figure 2.2 Processes of word-formation: changes over a century

Bauer explains the technical conditions of his research as follows (ibid):

These particular groupings were chosen to be linguistically justifiable, while at the same time providing large enough figures in each cell for the statistical processes to be meaningful. 'Abbreviations' comprise both abbreviations and acronyms; 'shortenings' comprise back-formations and clippings; 'other' comprises a large group of other types of formation, including corruptions, word-manufacture, reduplication, onomatopoeic words, phrases, and so on: none of these categories was very numerous. As before, the numbers in the various categories and the percentage that each category represents of the total words coined from English sources in that period is shown in Table 2.2, and presented diagrammatically in Figure 2.2.

So, taking into account Bauer's findings that derivation accounted for formation of more than a half of all new words while the number of the words formed by blending was insignificant, it would be possible to base the hypothesis on this assumption that derivation (affixation) contributes the most to the formation of neologisms in Modern English. These findings are consistent with the view shared by many linguists that blending along with clipping, back-formation, borrowing, reduplication, acronymy, sound interchange play minor role in word-formation process.

However, the remark Lehrer made 13 years later (2007: 132) that novel blends have become increasingly common and, in fact, so common that they should no longer be considered as a marginal word-forming cast a shadow of doubt on this common assumption. If one was to compare these two different points of views, he would immediately notice that the analysis made by Bauer referred to the period 1880-1982 and was not limited to the particular types of sources. Lehrer, in turn, pointed out that blends frequently occur in the printed media and advertisement (noted below) in order to make the publications or brand name more appealing and easy for readers to memorise. Research topics and findings of both academics were convincing and thought-provoking. It has subsequently been decided to test the statements (with the priority given to blending) but this time in different settings. While testing word-formation processes can be done on the basis of various aspects and it is true that studying dialects of a smaller communities is no less interesting and thought-provoking, the present work seeks to evaluate and examine the phenomenon of neologisms in modern English from a broader perspective. In order to do so, the influential and globally approachable source had to be found. It has to be noted that the analysis did not intend to include a century-long time period and it was also limited to the new words that have appeared recently. The results will be presented in charts.

2.2. Journalistic texts as a platform for testing

Journalism is frequently referred to as the "Fourth Estate". The term is believed to have been introduced by The Right Honourable Edmund Burke (1729-1797), Irish statesman, author, orator, political theorist and philosopher, in a parliamentary debate in 1787. While originally the "Fourth Estate" meant a group other than the usual powers, as the three estates of France, that wields influence in the politics of a country (Dictionary.com), it is more commonly used in relation the journalistic profession or its members. Since Stephen Bryan printed the first issue of Worcester Post-Man, which is believed to be world's oldest surviving newspaper, there have been some major changes

in printed media industry, including the form in which newspapers are delivered to the readers. Due to advancement of technology in the 21st century the majority of printed media is now just “one-click away” and thus is much more easily accessible by the population. The influential factor of the “Fourth Estate” coupled with accessibility makes electronic media a suitable source for data collection for a research into neologisms. Moreover, the possibility of neologisms’ occurrence was also mentioned by Lehrer (2007: 3) who writes that “many neologisms, including blends, occur in print–ads, newspaper and magazine articles etc.” They help to catch readers' attention and, especially in advertisements, they intend to be memorable. The speaker wants the hearer to remember the name of the product, process, or business establishment." (ibid)

2.3. What is electronic media?

Electronic media is usually defined as broadcast or storage media that take advantage of electronic technology. They may include television, radio, Internet, fax, CD-ROMs, DVD, and any other medium that requires electricity or digital encoding of information. The term 'electronic media' is often used in contrast with print media (Business Dictionary).

For the purposes of the present research the sources of electronic media were limited to newspapers published electronically on the Internet. The electronic media was chosen in favour of printed media due to the greater accessibility to the readers: thus, for example, a printed version of a British newspaper will unlikely have many overseas readers merely because it is not sold overseas while online version is easily accessible from any part of the world. Moreover, online newspapers are usually free of charge to read and that also may influence the number of people who read them daily.

2.4. Analysis stages and sources for data collection

2.4.1. Analysis stages

There are three stages of the analysis conducted during the course of the research: identifying the neologism and its meaning from an existing list of neologisms, searching the occurrence of the chosen neologisms in the articles of online newspapers and identifying the process that was used for its formation. Taking the neologism from the existing list of words rather than merely searching words in the articles ensures the word examined is indeed a neologism and not a nonce-formation (also referred to as occasionalism). A nonce word is one coined 'for the nonce' - made up for one occasion and not likely to be encountered again (Nordquist. *Grammar&Composition: Nonce word*).

An amusing example of a nonce-formation was created by Vasilij Utkin, a famous Russian sports announcer, who during the football match between long-term rivals Chelsea FC and Club Atlético de Madrid on 30 April 2014 commenting on the triumph of the latter rather emotionally exclaimed: “Well, Atlético definitely have Madridded Chealsea!” (have Madridded – отМадридили). Can this verb formed by conversion be called neologism? Hardly. There is no evidence that this word is used somewhere else and it was likely formed for and used in a particular occasion. It does not necessarily mean that it will not pass the test of cultural acceptance (discussed above) but for now it remains unclear whether it is a neologism and not a nonce-formation.

Journalists do not differ from sports announcers in this sense: they also may include their own coined words in order to catch the reader's attention. Using the existing list of the neologisms and especially the one that has been compiled and edited by the *Cambridge Dictionary* editorial team during the first stage of the analysis helps to avoid mistaking nonce-formation for neologisms. While it is true that a list containing 100 neologisms does not cover all the neologisms used in electronic publications and statistical data presented in this research will not be inclusive, but the purpose of this research is not to analyse all the available neologisms in all electronic newspapers. The aim is rather to analyse the word-formation of neologisms that have already passed the cultural acceptance test (and were included into the list of the well-known dictionary) and that are widely used by influential electronic sources (influential in terms of the number of readers and worldwide accessibility) and establish whether blending is used in creating neologisms more frequently than other tools.

2.4.2. Choosing the sources

The following dictionaries have been considered as possible sources for comprehensive compilation of recent neologisms:

Latest New Word Suggestions by *Collins Dictionary*

It was disregarded due to the following reasons: it contains submissions from users and the neologisms are added only once the investigation is completed. The main drawback is that it takes a while for them to be added. Thus, for example, the word *Dorididae* was submitted by DavedWachsman2 on 17 Sep 2013 and its status as of May 8, 2014 is still Pending Investigation (the meaning of the proposed neologism is *commonly called Sea Lemons are a group of dorid nudibranchs found in tropical waters worldwide*). Therefore, the up-to-date feature of this list is under question.

Merriam-Webster dictionary:

At first glance this dictionary provides an extensive list of neologisms but it should be noted that they are all listed under THE OPEN DICTIONARY heading. This means that the words are submitted by users not by editors. Interestingly, but if to take the word submitted by a user (for example genuinity (noun): the quality of being genuine: genuineness *I appreciate your genuinity*. Submitted by: Sonya Merchant from Florida on Apr. 16, 2014 16:51) and search it in the graph *Dictionary* the following appears: *The word you've entered isn't in the dictionary. Click on a spelling suggestion below or try again using the search bar above.* It leads to the assumption that the Main Online Dictionary and the Open Dictionary do not relate to each other. One might suggest that it is best not to consider these neologisms since test search has showed that some of them are nowhere to be found on the website that suggests them in the first place.

It has been therefore decided to choose between ***Oxford English Dictionary*** and ***Cambridge Online Dictionary***. The latter is updated weekly, the former quarterly and includes a list compiled by months in which the words were added. Both seem reliable sources, since there is no evidence that neologisms are purely submitted by users without any participation of the editorial team. On the contrary, all published neologisms both in *Oxford English Dictionary* and *Cambridge Online Dictionary* have been approved by the editors who also regularly publish letters to readers addressing the issues of neologisms. However, there were 2 major factors that spoke against choosing *Oxford English Dictionary's* list of neologisms:

- the list is a mere compilation of words without the meaning in context (as opposed to *Cambridge Online Dictionary*, where the meaning and the context is provided for every added neologism).
- It was again difficult to find the neologism from the list using Oxford English Dictionary search engine on the website. Thus, for example, there were no search results found for *booshway*, *bosonic*, words that were listed in December 2013 list. However, this does not apply to all neologisms. Thus, for example, searching *locavore* (a person whose diet consists only or principally of locally grown or produced food) did not present a problem. It appears that it is only possible to search the words that are listed in the quarter's update section where the hyperlink provided to the word. Meanwhile, some words from the compiled lists such as December 2013, June 2013 do not appear in the search results. Due to this inconsistency in searching possibility *Oxford English Dictionary* had to be disregarded as the source for neologisms list.

As a result of these findings, it was finally decided to choose *Cambridge Online Dictionary's* list of neologisms as a base for the practical part. The words added during the period from 21 April 2014 to 31 January 2011, some words belonging to this period were not included into the research since there is an existing published research provided by Julia Gontsarova (2013) that uses these words. *Cambridge Online Dictionary's* list of neologisms possesses all the qualities of a reliable source for the practical analysis: it is up-to-date, it is compiled by the editorial team, the words contained in it can be also found in *Cambridge Online Dictionary* itself, it gives the meaning of the neologisms in context. Therefore, it was considered rational to include one reliable source rather than to mix it with other sources.

The present research uses data collected from British newspapers and the reason for this is that the hypothesis of this research relates to establishing blending as a frequent method of word-formation of neologisms without any emphasis on cultural differences. Had the sources of British and American origin been chosen it would have resulted in a different hypothesis which would have been based on comparison of neologisms in two geographical regions. Since the aim of this research is not to see the difference in word-formation methods in different countries but to ascertain the frequency of one particular method, it only seemed logical to limit the sources used for data collection to online newspapers published in one country.

Newspapers are generally divided into two types: more serious-minded newspapers, usually referred to as broadsheets due to their large size, and sometimes collectively known as “the quality press” (emphasis here is on the content of the highest quality), and less serious newspapers, generally called tabloids, and collectively as “the popular press” (the content of which is full of celebrity coverage and human interest stories rather than political reporting or overseas news. The quality of such content is questioned). The tabloids, in turn, are divided into the more sensationalist mass market titles, or “red tops”, and the middle market papers (UK Newspaper guide).

The importance of the size in determining the “quality” of newspapers has, however, diminished (and one might rightfully remark that on the Internet the size of the newspaper does not matter – the Internet newspaper is not tangible). Thus, for example, both *The Independent* and *The Times* (which are undoubtedly considered to be the quality press or broadsheets) have switched in recent years to a compact format, not much bigger than that used by the tabloids. *The Guardian* switched in September 2005 to what is described as a "Berliner" format, just slightly larger than a compact (ibid).

The Guardian and *Dailymail* belong to different kinds of newspapers in terms of their content. The former belongs to the quality press while the latter is more of a middle market type of paper. For the purposes of this research it is presumed the *Dailymail* belongs to the popular press.

Other examples of British broadsheets include: *The Financial Times*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Independent*, *The Observer*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Times*.

Popular British tabloids are *The Daily Mirror*, *The Daily Star*, *The News of the World*, *The Sun*, *The Daily Express* (middle market tabloid).

The choice of one broadsheet and one tabloid newspaper was made in order to ensure the different content of published information and target audience are covered. The time period for data collection is limited to the dates between 21 April 2014 and 31 January 2011 and this limitation ensures the data are up-to-date.

2.5. Method of presenting the findings

Firstly, the neologism is identified along with the date when it was added to *Cambridge Online Dictionary*. Then, the definition is given (as provided in *Cambridge Online Dictionary*), after that it is ascertained whether it was used in *The Guardian*, *Dailymail* or in both of the electronic newspapers. It is followed by establishing the word-formation method used. On the basis of the findings the charts are made and the conclusions are provided.

It should be noted that should the neologism be formed by more than one word-formation process (for example *Gran-lit*; shortening gran(dmother) + lit(erature) and composition of gran+lit) then it will be presumed that it was formed by both shortening and composition and each, therefore, receive one point in statistical data used for later composition of diagrams. Also Bauer put affixation and suffixation as separate methods of word-formation processes but since suffixation is a process of affixation (affixes include suffixes, prefixes and infixes) no distinction shall be made and \emptyset neologisms formed by suffixes, prefixes and infixes would be regarded as formed by using only one method – affixation. Moreover, it has been decided to combine acronyms and abbreviations into the same category since they both use the first letters of several words in order to form the new word with the key difference in pronunciation (the former is pronounced according to phonological rules).

2.6. List of 100 recently formed neologisms

The list is provided in the Appendix (see Appendix 2)

2.7. Analysis of the results

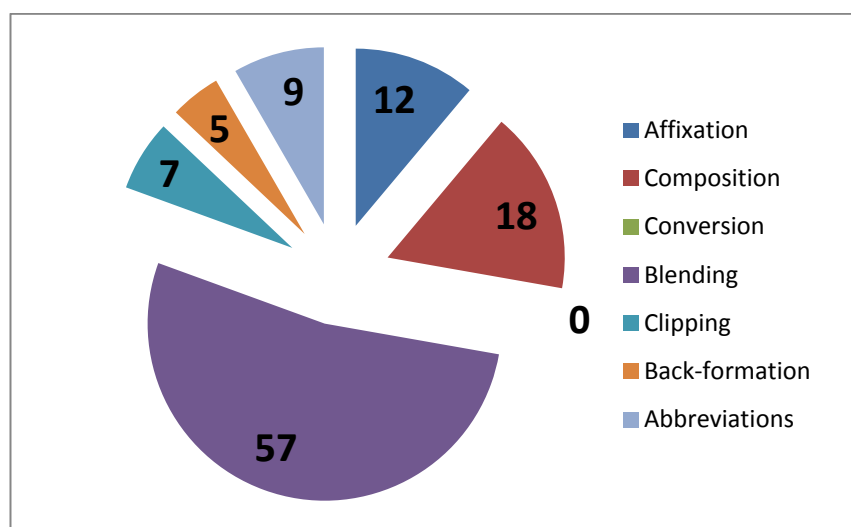


Figure 1. Neologisms. Word-formation processes

Figure 1 shows that out of 100 examined neologisms more than half of them were formed by blending. Composition and affixation are second and third most popular word-formation processes respectively. These findings differ from the Bauer's ones and the possible explanation for this difference might be that this analysis focused on electronically published materials intended for Internet users. Browsing through an article often happens during the work hours, people also use their phones or tablets to access online newspapers and surrounded by too many fact, figures and flashing advertisements Internet users seem to value simplicity and conciseness over long terms and names. Thus, for example entrepreneur working in the area of education turned into edupreneur – how simplified is that? Moreover, it might be suggested that conciseness of blends are beneficial for online newspapers because of where their publications are used apart from on their original websites. Both *Dailymail* and *The Guardian* have Twitter (popular social network) accounts. Twitter allows only the messages of no longer than 140 symbols to be published, so in attempt to inform the Twitter followers of their published articles electronic resources can take advantages of blends.

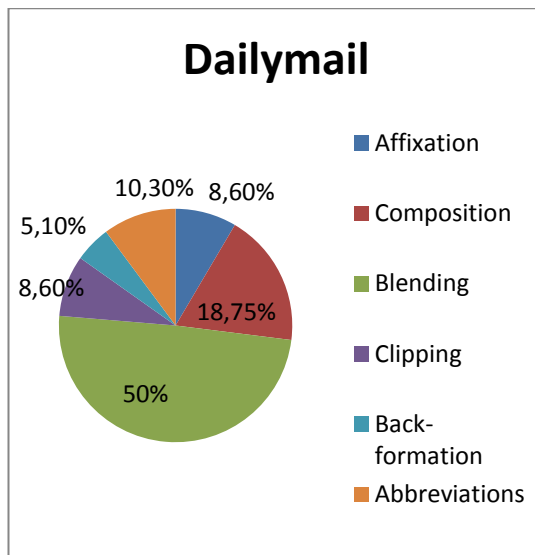


Figure 2. DailyMail. Neologisms formation processes

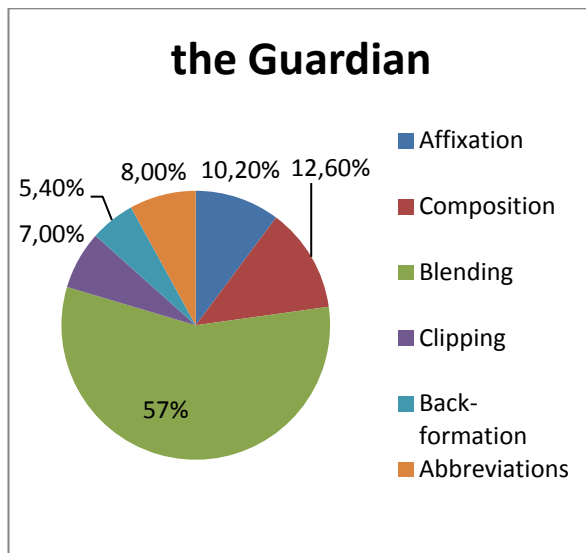


Figure 3. The Guardian. Neologisms formation processes

Figure 2 and Figure 3 show that journalists writing for both *Dailymail* and *The Guardian* use blending. Blended neologisms are used almost five times more than the ones formed by affixations. Interestingly, the name *Dailymail* is itself a compound formed by composition but that of course does not influence journalists when they are using neologisms in their articles – composition is on the second place in neologisms word-formation both in *Dailymail* and *The Guardian*.

Lastly, Table 1 shows that the usage of neologisms does not depend on the type of the online newspaper:

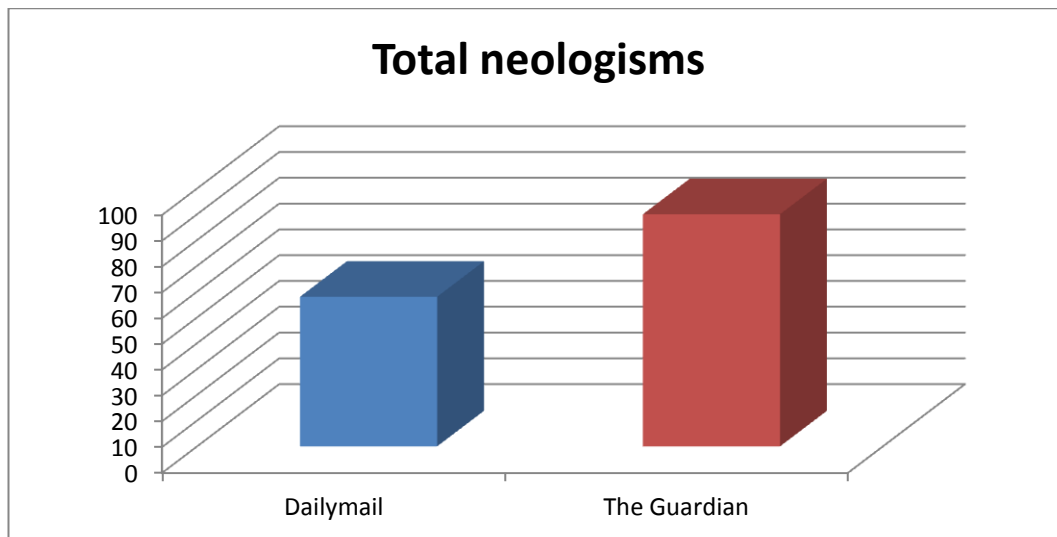


Table 1. The total number of neologisms both in *The Guardian* and *DailyMail*

There seems to be a minor difference in the amount of neologisms from the *Cambridge Online Dictionary* list used by *DailyMail* and *The Guardian*. One could have estimated that the leader in neologisms in publications would be a tabloid newspaper rather than a broadsheet. Generally, tabloids are known for their informal style of the presentation of information and their content does not usually include serious political, educational and health issues. Writing about celebrities, lifestyle, popular music and other non-specialised topics does not demand sophisticated language (well, at least that is the general perception about tabloids). Therefore, the high number of neologisms used by *DailyMail* hardly surprises. What is indeed unexpected that editors of the broadsheet *The Guardian* are keen to publish articles containing neologisms and, in fact, as this analysis of 100 recent neologisms shows *The Guardian* used more neologisms in its publication than *DailyMail*.

One of the possible explanations for this finding is that *The Guardian*, like *DailyMail*, publishes articles online and, consequently, the target audience consists of people who are frequently engaged in surfing the web. Since none of the mentioned newspapers is dedicated to in any of professional or specific area (finances, law, politics) but rather writes about general events in the society and world it might be assumed that the editors and journalists seek to avoid overloading articles with specific terms, complex syntax structures and formal words. Neologisms (including blends) do not stand out from this type of writing and delivering information and, thus, can be used generously.

Moreover, *The Guardian* in its PowerPoint Presentation *Meet our target audience: The Progressives* (The Guardian) states that their target audience include people who can be described as the Progressives and namely: “Forward-looking

individuals who are curious about the world and embrace change and technology”. Neologisms are also some sort of progressive trend: they appear rapidly, sometimes they are not easy to understand, sometimes they are rebel and on the verge of being daring (one might think of *twiterrape* – compound which means someone using a social network account without owner’s knowledge to post jokes) or even inappropriate in some situations (characterising the impressive painting at the exhibition using derivation *fan*bloody*tastic*). It takes open-mindedness and willingness to accept something new. Neologisms are definitely not for “language purists”. *The Guardian* being a broadsheet does not engage in publishing stories about drug addictions of Z-list celebrities (a person who considers themselves to be a celebrity when they really aren’t) (Urban Dictionary) but surely does not follow the formal style in writing. The rate at which neologisms were used in the publications analysed during the following research indicates that there is room for newly coined words in *The Guardian* material.

CONCLUSION

'Words I particularly detest are those Frankenwords ... that combine two others to make one horrific abomination ... Now we are treated to new monstrous creations, like: ... edutainment, my "favorite" frankenword, a cross-breeding of education and entertainment.'

(Maxwell 2004 quoting The Daily Beacon 1996)

Kerry Maxwell (2004), a long-term *MacMillan English Dictionary* (MED) Magazine contributor explained that the term *frankenword* was coined “in the mid-nineties in the context of humorous observation of the growing number of neologisms formed by cannibalising chunks of existing words” (emphasis added). She goes on to observe that frankenwords were appearing in all aspects of late twentieth century life with terms like *docudrama* and *docusoap* (documentary and drama/soap) occurring on television, *netiquette* (Internet and etiquette) in the virtual world, and *adultescent* (adult and adolescent) or *kidult* (kid and adult) in demographic description (ibid).

Frankenwords, as well as portmanteau words (the French word was first used to describe word-formation process by author Lewis Carroll in his classic novel *Alice Through the Looking Glass*, where it was used to describe the idea of blending two words together to make a novel word), are another way of naming blending in word-formation. Blended from Frankenstein + word – it definitely shows the creator’s attitude towards blended neologisms. But whether one likes it or not, nowadays blends look at us from the pages of electronic newspapers and slowly but steadily make their way into our vocabulary.

While blending is not novel in word-formation, its rise as word-forming device took place only in mid-nineties and now, in the 21st century we witness more and more blends occurring daily. Until then affixation has been, for a long time, the major process employed for coining new words. It would be incorrect to conclude that it is only blending that is used for formation of all neologisms because the present paper shows that neologisms formed by composition and affixation also appear frequently. However, it has to be borne in mind that the present conclusion relates only to electronic media as the research was limited to electronic sources deliberately from the beginning.

Digital information surrounds a modern person and has become, perhaps, an inseparable part of our life. Does it influence us? Does it help to broaden the horizon or prevent us from thinking for ourselves, form an independent opinion and finding information rather than being given what has been carefully chosen by the interested party? These questions trouble many sociologists and answers to them are yet to be

given. For linguists electronic media are also a challenging area for conducting research but from a different perspective: formation of the vocabulary of a modern person. Given the fact that electronic media are accessible, wide-spread and in high demand it is possible to conclude that the readers will eventually borrow the words from electronic publications, use them more or less actively for some period of time and perhaps incorporate them into their vocabulary. That is why it was thought-provoking to see which neologisms are likely to enter everyday conversations of an ordinary person. These predictions are not easy to make: some words stay and are actively used, others pass unnoticed.

The present research has shown that electronic newspapers are keen to “flavour” the articles with newly coined words. This noticeable interest in using particularly blended neologisms suggest that the notion of blended neologisms themselves is not a novel one for journalists; blends are suitable for their needs while writing about various topics and also consistent with a style and format of both tabloids and broadsheets. These observations led to further suggestion that journalists will continue to actively use blends. As a result of this persistent usage of blends, the likelihood that at least some of them invented by journalist will stay in our vocabulary, will increase. Indeed, one is likely to refer to a pile of cloths on the floor as a “floordrobe” after reading about it in several publications in various newspapers and magazines. And that is an example of a natural change that English language undergoes.

Language is not a constant. It changes - it always has and it always will. Even if a phrase: “I spent the evening sofalising with my tweethart about hairspiration and Madonna's blonarexia” might sound frightening at the beginning.

SUMMARY IN ESTONIAN

Keelt saab võrrelda elava organismiga – selleks, et ellu jääda, peab see arenema, ära tundma erinevad muudatused ning õigeaegselt neid kasutama. Eelnimetatud areng ja muudatused tekitavad keele rikastumise ning suur osa uutest sõnadest on uudissõnad. Tihti kasutatakse neid selleks, et kirjeldada midagi uut, mis ei olnud enne kasutusel. Näiteks uued tehnoloogilised avastused, sotsiaalsed ja kultuur sündmused jne.

Uudissõnade fenomen pakub huvi paljudele: nii sotsioloogidele, tõlkijatele, keeleteadlastele ja samuti ka keele õppijatele, kes on oma õpingutes edasijõudnud tasemel. Aga mitte ainult teadlased puutuvad kokku uudissõnadega – tänapäevases maailmas on uued sõnad kõikjal, mõned jäävad meie sõnavarasse, teised lähevad märkamatuks mööda. Uudissõnadega on seotud paljud küsimused: miks nad ilmuvad; kas nad mõjutavad meie keelt positiivselt või negatiivselt; kas uudissõnade kasutamine sõltub teatud faktoritest, jne. Käesolev bakalaureuse töös tahetakse leida vastus küsimusele: millised leksikaalseid vahendeid kasutatakse uudissõnade moodustamiseks ja kas *blending'u (segamine)* alusel tehakse seda kõige sagedamini.

Uurimistöö allikaid on briti ajalehed kajastanud elektrooniliselt.

Uurimistöö jooksul on leitud 100 uudissõna, mis olid hiljuti lisatud Cambridge Dictionary sõnaraamatusse. Selleks, et välja selgitada kasutatavust, millega ühte või teist sõnade moodustamise vahendit kasutatakse, on tehtud analüüs kuidas eelnimetatud sõnu moodustati ja kui tihti kasutati üht või teist leksikaalset vahendit.

Välja toodud uurimustöö tulemustes saab teha kokkuvõtte, mis on käesoleva töö lõpuosas.

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APPENDIX 1. TABLE OF 35 COMMON PREFIXES IN ENGLISH

Prefix	Meaning	Example
<i>a-, an-</i>	without	atypical
<i>ante-</i>	before	antecedent
<i>anti-</i>	against	antiterrorist
<i>auto-</i>	self	autobiography
<i>circum-</i>	around	circumvent
<i>co-</i>	with	co-worker
<i>com-, con-</i>	with	compile, contact
<i>contra-</i>	against	contradict
<i>de-</i>	off, away from	denominate
<i>dis-</i>	not	disapprove
<i>en-</i>	put into	enclose
<i>ex-</i>	out of, former	ex-wife
<i>extra-</i>	beyond, more than	extraterrestrial
<i>hetero-</i>	different	heterosexual
<i>homo-</i>	same	homophobic
<i>hyper-</i>	over, more	hyperthyroidism
<i>il-, im-, in-, ir-</i>	not, without	illiterate, impossible, inadequate, irrelevant
<i>in-</i>	into	insert
<i>inter-</i>	between	interaction
<i>intra-</i>	between	intravenous
<i>macro-</i>	large	macroeconomics
<i>micro-</i>	small	microscope
<i>mono-</i>	one	monogamous
<i>non-</i>	not, without	nonexistent
<i>omni-</i>	all, every	omnivore

<i>post-</i>	after	postmodernism
<i>pre-, pro-</i>	before, forward	precedent, proactive
<i>sub-</i>	under	subconscious
<i>syn-</i>	same time	synchronise
<i>trans-</i>	across	trans-Atlantic
<i>tri-</i>	three	tripod
<i>un-</i>	not	unreliable
<i>uni-</i>	one	unified

APPENDIX 2. LIST OF A 100 RECENTLY FORMED NEOLOGISMS

1. **gelfie** *noun, informal* - a selfie photograph taken at the gym

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 21 April 2014

Dailymail: *Introducing the GELFIE! Jessie J films herself in G-ym*, November 7th 2013

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: blending + (gym + selfie) + affixation (selfie -> self+ie)

2. **quietway** *noun* - a backstreet, cycle-dedicated road which cars are not allowed on.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 7 April 2014

Dailymail: *Barclays to end sponsorship of London 'Boris Bikes' to leave scheme £25million short of funding expected by Mayor: "Cycle hire will become part of a much wider and larger cycling sponsorship offer encompassing cycle hire and the major new commitments made in the Mayor's cycling vision - new flagship segregated routes through the heart of London, new Quietway backstreet routes, along with cycle training and potentially other forms of active travel."* 11 December 2013

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: composition

3. **anti-vaxxer** *noun* - a derogatory word for a person who refuses to have their child vaccinated for a particular disease.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 17 March 2014

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Deadly Choices: How the anti-vaccine movement threatens us all – review: "My review of the exposé that presents a reasoned and carefully documented argument about paranoid claims spouted by shrill "anti-vaxxers" - a powerful citizen misinformation activist movement."* 11 October 2011

Type of word-formation: affixation (prefix anti-) + back-formation with elements of intentional misspelling (vaccinate, vaccinator, vaxxer)

4. **GPU** *abbreviation* - graphics processing unit; a processor used primarily for 3D functions.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 10 March 2014

Dailymail: *MARKET REPORT: Imagination investors run for exit as Samsung decides to use ARM graphics in new chip: "Samsung's new Exynos 5 Octa chip will rely on ARM's Mali-T628 GPU, or graphics processing unit, while the previous version used Imagination's GPU."* 24 July 2013

The Guardian: *Xbox One: Microsoft upgrades GPU speed and graphics drivers.* 2

August 2013

Type of word-formation: abbreviations (alphabetism)

- 5. HDR abbreviation** - High Dynamic Range: a software system for photography that generates a single image incorporating the best light and focus from several consecutive photos of the same scene

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 10 March 2014

Dailymail: *Did photographer 'accidentally' capture UFO on film? Tourist spotted image of flying machine on her pictures of landmark Dutch castle: "She was using High Dynamic Range, or HDR, images, where three or more pictures are taken at the same time and then overlapped for a rich image with the full spectrum of light."* 10 June 2013

The Guardian: *Super-reality of Gaza funeral photo due to toning technique says contest winner: "This is known as a high dynamic range or HDR photograph. Put simply, the highlights are not too light and bleached-out and the shadows still have detail in them. It feels like another form of reality, because our eyes and brain make all sorts of exposure compensations when we view a scene."* May 14, 2013

Type of word-formation: abbreviations (alphabetism)

- 6. LAT abbreviation** - living apart together: the situation of two people in a relationship living in different homes

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 3 March 2014

Dailymail: no results.

The Guardian: *Living apart together: the cautious approach: "Figures released by the Office of National Statistics yesterday showed that the overall number of "living apart together" (LAT) couples, counting the students and teenagers, is now around the same as the number of cohabiting couples. Three in every 10 men and women who are neither married or cohabiting are LATs. Some are in same sex relationships. The ONS claims the LATs are a new social trend."* Dec 15, 2005

Type of word-formation: abbreviations (alphabetism)

- 7. smartwatch noun** - a watch that can be used as a computer or phone, with a small keyboard.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 24 February 2014

Dailymail: *Time to play! The twistable smartwatch that doubles up as a JOYSTICK.*

1 May 2014

The Guardian: *Sony Smartwatch 2 review: a second screen for your Android phone.*

17 October 2013

Type of word-formation: composition (smart + watch).

- 8. midcore** *adjective* - describes video games that are midway on the cline between hardcore and casual.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 24 February 2014

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Open battle: Nintendo, MS and Sony face new players in the console wars.* Jan 14, 2013

Type of word-formation: blending (mid(dle) + (hard)core)

- 9. legsie** *noun, informal* - a photograph of one's own legs.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 17 February 2014

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *How to survive the summer holidays: social-networking pitfalls:*

“Oversharers beware, not everyone wants constant updates on your summer break. Try to hold back from the selfies, the legsies and all those smug hashtags”. 31 July 2013

Type of word-formation: blending (legs + (self)ie) Note: selfie is another neologism formed by affixation: self + ie

- 10. nomophobia** *noun, informal* - fear of being without one's mobile phone.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 10 February 2014.

Dailymail: *Do you have a 60-a-day habit? Researchers claim using that many apps makes you a mobile phone ADDICT - and say the problem is worse in women: “More than half the population claims to suffer from 'nomophobia' - the fear of being without a mobile phone, a recent UK study suggests.”* 22 April 2014

The Guardian: *When less is more: can marketers learn digital restraint?: “Our Pavlovian behaviour has become so pervasive that there is a psychological term for the fear of being without one's smartphone: nomophobia.”* 13 January 2014

Type of word-formation: blending of 3 words: no +mo(bile) + phobia

- 11. biomechatronics** *noun* - the study and development of prosthetic devices that are controlled by signals from a person's nerves and muscles

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 3 February 2014

Dailymail: *Boston Marathon bombing survivor dances again: “Hugh Herr, director of biomechatronics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said at the online conference he started designing the bionic leg specifically for dancing after visiting Haslet-Davis in the hospital.”* 20 March 2014

The Guardian: *Tod Machover: how to crowdsource a symphony: “One cold morning, as I step into the bright modern building that houses the research groups collectively*

known as the MIT Media Lab, I get a taste of some of the ideas brewed here: in the foyer is an exhibition featuring prosthetic running blades used by Paralympians, developed by the lab's biomechatronics group; there are visualisations of bikes that somehow appear to combine urban transportation with online dating.” 19 March 2013

Type of word-formation: clipping (or shortening) (bio(logical) + mecha(nics)+(electr)onics with subsequent blending of 3 words

12. bioprinting *noun* - the process of printing layers of cells to create tissue

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 3 February 2014

Dailymail: *3D printed human hearts could be a reality within 10 YEARS, scientist claims: “Dr Williams told the website: ‘Final construction will be achieved by bioprinting and strategic placement of the valves and big vessels.’”* 22 November 2013

The Guardian: *3D printers create a blueprint for future of sustainable design and production: “It is focused on companies such as Stratasys, which designs and manufactures 3D printers used primarily for prototyping and those such as Organova which sits on the cutting edge of implementation, using bioprinting technology to generate functional human tissues.”* 21 March 2014

Type of word-formation: clipping (or shortening) (bio(logical) with subsequent blending of 2 words

13. lifelogging *noun* - the recording on video of one’s daily activities, usually with the use of wearable technology

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 27 January 2014.

Dailymail: *From emotion-tracking wristbands to headphones that monitor your heartbeat: MailOnline reveals how fitness in 2014 is about to get futuristic: “Among the devices ushering in this new era of wellbeing and lifelogging include Sony's SmartBand and Core - which track your physical activity, as well as your mood.”* 8 January 2014

The Guardian: *10 things you need to know about – lifelogging.* 9 February 2014

Type of word-formation: back-formation (log *verb* – to record information to *noun* logging) + composition

14. oversharer *noun* - someone who gives away too much information about themselves, in a way that is embarrassing or boring.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 27 January 2014.

Dailymail: *Forget Facebook's 10th birthday - the concept was invented in 1902! Archives reveal reference to time-wasting game called the FACE-BOOK: “FACEBOOK AND THE OVERSHARER”.* 4 February 2014

The Guardian: *Have your parents ever embarrassed you on Facebook?: "Is your mum a chronic oversharer, or has your dad proved hilariously useless with internet slang?"*
Apr 16, 2014

Type of word-formation: back-formation (share *verb* – to record information to *noun* sharer) + affixation (prefix *over*)

15. infobesity *noun* - information overload

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 27 January 2014

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *We are in danger of infobesity - more informed than ever but more confused. We have to think about the responsibilities we have when we put information out into the world.* 4 July 2008

Type of word-formation: blending info + (o)besity

16. carbicide *noun* - humorousthe act of eating too many carbs

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 20 January 2014

Dailymail: *He's Shore doing well! Vinny Guadagnino reveals toned chest after three week cleanse and resisting 'carbicide'.* 6 November 2013

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: blending or words carb(ohydrate) + (homi)cide

17. fatberg *noun* - a huge lump of cooking fat mixed with other non-food waste, discovered in the sewers of London

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 20 January 2014

Dailymail: *Huge 'fatberg' grows to the size of THREE blue whales as yet more grease is added to the 15-ton blockage in London's sewers.* 11 September 2013

The Guardian: *The day London defeated a fatberg.* 18 August 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of two words fat +(ice)berg

18. haloodie *noun, informal* - a foodie who only eats halal food

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 20 January 2014

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Haloodie heaven: the Halal Food Festival opens in London.* 27 September 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of words hal(al) and (f)oodie. Note foodie is itself a neologism formed by affixation: food+ ie

19. floordrobe *noun, informal* - a pile of clothes on the floor rather than in a wardrobe

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 30 December 2013

Dailymail: *Beware the perfectly-made bed and steer clear of the dimmer switch: The unlikely warning signs in a single man's apartment: "Morse admits that a 'floordrobe' - a tangled mass of clothes that have never seen a hanger - is a sign of laziness."* 3 July 2013

The Guardian: *Student accommodation: Where's the dishwasher?: "We nicknamed her room the floordrobe because she never hangs any of her clothes up."* 19 August 2010

Type of word-formation: blending of floor + (ward)robe

20. avozilla *noun, informal* - a very large avocado

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 16 December 2013

Dailymail: *Holy guacamole! World's largest avocado to go on sale at Tesco - Avozilla is five times the size of standard variety.* 30 August 2013

The Guardian: *Avozilla: world's largest avocado goes on sale.* 30 August 2013

Type of word-formation: blending avo(cado) + (God)zilla

21. SSB *abbreviation* - sugar-sweetened beverage

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 16 December 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *The demon drink: war on sugar: "More than 30 state and city legislatures, from Hawaii to New York, have discussed or proposed curbs on sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs) ranging from bans in schools to cuts in portion sizes and a sales tax."* 4 August 2013

Type of word-formation: abbreviation (alphabetism)

22. TomTato *noun* - a plant that produces both potatoes and tomatoes

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 16 December 2013

Dailymail: *The TomTato... or how you can make ketchup AND chips from the same plant!* 25 September 2013

The Guardian: *The TomTato.* Sep 25, 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of tom(ato) and (po)tato

23. Poshitis *noun, informal* - back pain as a result of carrying a big bag fashionably, in the crook of the arm

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 25 November 2013

Dailymail: *Do you suffer from regular backache? Do you own a lot of large handbags? Then you might have 'Poshitis': Doctors blame Victoria Beckham for list of ailments.* 4 June 2013

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: blending of proper noun Posh (Victoria Beckham was referred to as Posh Spice in the past) and (arthr)itis

24. listicle *noun, informal* - an article that is based on a list of points

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 18 November 2013

Dailymail: *Could these three words stop your children nagging forever? LORRAINE CANDY plans to try a new technique with her four in 2014: "Our favourite new word at home is 'listicle'. In the real world it's used to refer to the lists of funny facts which seem to populate every website my kids love."* 26 December 2013

The Guardian: *5 ways the listicle is changing journalism.* Aug 12, 2013

Type of word-formation: blending list + (art)icle

25. WikiCell *noun* - a type of edible food packaging

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 11 November 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Edible packaging: fancy a wrap?: "He has now turned his attention to WikiCells - an edible membrane made from a biodegradable polymer and food particles - that can imitate "bottles" found in nature, such as grape skins."* Apr 16, 2012

Type of word-formation: blending of Wiki(pedia) + cell(phone)

26. zenware *noun* - software designed to have a calming effect

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 11 November 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Conscious computing: how to take control of your life online: "Their inventions so far include wearable sensors that deliver rewards ("calm points") for breathing well while you work, developed by Stanford University's calming technology laboratory; iPad apps to help you meditate yourself into a state of super-focused concentration; software that lets friends decide collectively to disable their smartphones for the duration of a restaurant meal; and scores of pieces of "zenware" designed to block distractions, with names such as Isolator and StayFocusd and Shroud and Turn Off The Lights."* 10 May 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of Zen (a Japanese form of Buddhism) + (soft)ware

27. naysayer *noun* someone who refuses to accept a belief or opinion that is held by most other people

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 11 November 2013

Dailymail: *Ted Cruz finally ends his 21 HOUR faux filibuster against Obamacare: "But cloture can be stopped if a single senator objects, and it requires a supermajority of three-fifths, or 60 votes, to override any naysayer."* 24 September 2013

The Guardian: *Forget the naysayers, development policy should be rooted in human rights*. 2 May 2014

Type of word-formation: back-formation (say *verb* to a noun *sayer*) + composition of *nay* ((old use or dialect meaning no) and *sayer*)

28. yolo *abbreviation* - abbreviation for “you only live once” (used to justify doing something that is expensive or not sensible, or to encourage someone to do something)

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 11 November 2013

Dailymail: *She turns up in a plaid shirt and biker jacket, but whoops with delight at the rainbow of designer delights laid on for her by the stylist. ‘I want to wear more colour on red carpets. It’s fun when you’re young, why not? You won’t be able to wear these colours in a few years’ time, so why not do it now? Yolo [you only live once]!* 30 March 2014

The Guardian: *The UK was grappling with twerking, yolo and Zumba this year, according to Google’s analysis of the country’s top trending and most-searched-for terms for 2013*. 17 December 2013

Type of word-formation: acronym (**you only live once**), pronounced in accordance with phonological rules

29. Cronut *noun* - a cross between a doughnut and a croissant, being ring-shaped like a doughnut, but composed of buttery, croissant-like dough

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 14 October 2013

Dailymail: *It ‘ain’t all sunshine and rainbows’: New York cronut bakery shuttered by mouse infestation reopens fighting ‘malicious attacks’ and debuts ‘Rocky’ cronut* 9 April 2014

The Guardian: *The Cronut – the US pastry sensation that must cross the Atlantic. These blends between croissants and doughnuts are all the rage in New York, but have yet to make it to the UK. So can you replicate them in your own kitchen?* 5 June 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of cro(issant) and (dough)nut

30. ladybro *noun, slang* - a female friend (usually of another woman)

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 23 September 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Where was Vicky Pryce’s ladybro when she needed one? And Rihanna, get with your girlfriends – respect female friendship* 12 March 2013

Type of word-formation: blending lady + bro(ther)

31. demitarian *noun* - someone who restricts by half or to a marked degree, the amount of meat and animal products that they consume, usually in order to reduce the environmental impact of their diet.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 16 September 2013

Dailymail: ne results

The Guardian: *People in the rich world should become "demitarians" – eating half as much meat as usual, while stopping short of giving it up – in order to avoid severe environmental damage, scientists have urged, in the clearest picture yet of how farming practices are destroying the natural world.* 18 February 2013

Type of word-formation: blending + affixation demi (*prefix* half) + (veget)arian

32. deskfast *noun* - breakfast eaten at one's desk at work

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 16 September 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *'Deskfast': terrible name, not such a terrible idea. Breakfast cereal makers blame falling sales on workers eating at their desk. That may be better than a bowl of salty, sugary junk* 15 August 2012

Type of word-formation: blending of desk + (break)fast

33. dryathlon *noun* - a prolonged period of abstinence from alcohol, usually undertaken for charity

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 12 August 2013

Dailymail: *Oh, of course, I know our annual month of eating dangerously is a tough habit to crack, but going cold turkey is not advisable in my opinion — a gradual withdrawal is much more sensible than this January 'dryathlon' malarkey.* 1 January 2014

The Guardian: *Health charities encourage drinkers to abstain from alcohol in January. Alcohol Concern's Dry January campaign targets social drinkers, while Cancer Research says its Dryathlon is a test of willpower* 30 December 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of dry + (tri)athlon

34. pawdicure *noun* - a pedicure for a dog

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 15 July 2013

Dailymail: *She gave reality star's Jessica Wright's Yorkshire Terrier Bella had a 'Queen of Reem Fur-Jazzle' using Swarovski crystals from America, and a 'pawdicure'.* 17 March 2014

The Guardian: *The shop offers luxury accessories such as collars, bowls and carriers for both small and large dogs and the spa offers treatments such as the popular*

"pawdicure" while the bakery has one menu for owners and another for their dogs.

Shopping Directory section, published 8 December 2007

Type of word-formation: blending paw + (pe)dicure

35. catfishing (or catfish) *noun, informal* - the practice of lying about yourself in an online environment in order to impress others, especially to lure someone into a relationship

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 24 June 2013

Dailymail: *Teen admits elaborate catfishing scheme that ended in an international search for the woman who he claimed had been kidnapped in Bulgaria.* 21 March 2014

The Guardian: *Chris 'Birdman' Andersen victim of internet catfish scheme.* 19 September 2013

Type of word-formation: composition

36. boatel *noun* - a boat that is a hotel

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 10 June 2013

Dailymail: *Ahoy there! Revealed, the world's best 'boatels' which allow you to stay beside the sea without getting your feet wet* 13 March 2013

The Guardian: *At newly hip Rockaway Beach, an hour by train from Manhattan, the Boatel, a floating hotel of old cruisers, is drawing crowds* 27 January 2012

Type of word-formation: blending boat + (hot)el

37. kitchenalgia *noun* - nostalgia for the homespun domesticity of the 1950s as evinced by the success of craft stores and retro retailers such as Cath Kidston.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 22 April 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Sales and profits have jumped more than 60% at Cath Kidston, the purveyor of "kitchenalgia" that has become as much a part of the (chintzy) fabric of British life as the late Laura Ashley.* 9 August 2009

Type of word-formation: blending kitchen+ (nost)algia

38. meat fruit *noun* - a meat dish that is constructed to resemble a piece of fruit

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 22 April 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Which is why he is trying to show me how to make Meat Fruit, a canapé that goes well beyond the standard fare of cheese and pineapple on cocktail sticks.* 2

December 2010

Type of word-formation: composition of meat and fruit

39. co-opetition *noun* - cooperative competition; an element of working together for mutual benefit between avowed corporate rivals

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 25 March 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Gaming principles can be setting goals, achievements and co-opetition*
23 March 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of co(operation) + (c)o(m)petition

40. bankster *noun, informal* - a banker whose actions are illegal

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 14 January 2013

Dailymail: *Financial penalties SEC imposed were 'tollbooths on the bankster turnpike'*
April 2014

The Guardian: *Tyrie report: now lock up the banksters. Commission claims senior individuals at failed and unscrupulous banks escaped punishment via 'accountability firewall'*
19 June 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of bank + (gang)ster

41. smack-talk *noun, slang* - the use of insults to goad someone in a competitive situation, usually a game

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 7 January 2013

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Queen's Celtic boss Neil Lennon is not having any of this pre-match smack talk. None of it.* 19 June 2013

Type of word-formation: composition of smack + talk

42. CRASBO *abbreviation* - a criminal anti-social behaviour order; an order made on the back of a criminal conviction

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 27 August 2012

Dailymail: *Harris, of Worcester, has now been handed a CRASBO for the offences in January this year, banning her from entering two retail parks, two garden centres and two supermarkets in Warndon, a small parish town.* 14 April 2014

The Guardian: *Crime prevention injunctions: Also replacing asbos, crasbos, ISOs and IOs.* 7 February 2011

Type of word-formation: abbreviation **Criminal Anti-Social Behaviour Order**

43. eurogeddon *noun* total economic meltdown in Europe

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 27 August 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: Debt crisis: In our competitive decadence, we face eurogeddon and dollargeddon 20 July 2011

Type of word-formation: blending of Euro + (Arma)geddon

44. underbrag *noun* a boast which consists of openly admitting to failings in a way that proves you are confident enough not to care what others think of you

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 16 August 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *I'd never boast about it, but I'm a master of the new art of underbragging* 15 August 2012

Type of word-formation: affixation – prefix under + brag

45. humblebrag *noun* - the practice of saying something apparently modest which is really intended as a boast, or an example of this

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 13 August 2012

Dailymail: *Mitt Romney's son Josh faces backlash over 'humblebrag' tweet after rescuing four people from crash on Thanksgiving* 2 December 2013

The Guardian: *Barack Obama and the fine art of the political humblebrag* 13 July 2013

Type of word-formation: composition of humble + brag

46. Grexit *noun* - the (as yet hypothetical) Greek exit from the Eurozone

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 13 August 2012

Dailymail: *Even the boldest europhile would have balked at predicting such a seemingly rosy outcome in the dark days of 2012, when all the talk was of a 'Grexit' or Greek departure from the single currency, possibly followed by the disintegration of the entire euro project.* 11 April 2014

The Guardian: *Greek impasse raise fears of 'Grexit'. Citigroup has said the chances of Grexit – or a Greek exit from the eurozone – is now 50%* 7 February 2012

Type of word-formation: blending of Gre(ek) + (e)xit

47. phablet *noun* - a hybrid device that is halfway between a smartphone and a tablet computer

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 20 August 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Phablets to make a splash in Asia - but appeal in Europe is 'limited'* 24 January 2014

Type of word-formation: blending of ph(one) + (t)ablet

48. thrifter *noun* - a person who shops only at discount stores and thrift shops selling secondhandgoods

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 6 August 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *She is Portobello-Road-bohemian and fashionable (a dedicated thrifter who doesn't 'own a single new thing, everything's second-hand, all my favourite shops are a bit scary and smell funny, and I know the precise location of every decent flea market in the world',) a touch grungy, a touch princessy.* 2 January 2005

Type of word-formation: affixation thrift+er

49. woopies *plural, noun informal* - well-off older people

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 6 August 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *'Woopies' turn to the stars for inspiration. Older generation snaps up new range of cheaper, user-friendly telescopes to keep an eye on the heavens.* 11 January 2014

Type of word-formation: abbreviations well-off older people

50. pass-agg *adjective* - passive-aggressive

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 30 July 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Has there ever been a more gag-inducing phrase than "celebrate your curves"? It is the apotheosis of its particular genre: poisonous, simpering, pass-agg tabloidese.* 11 November 2012

Type of word-formation: clipping pas(sive) and agg(ressive)

51. Janopause *noun* - the practice of abstaining from alcohol for the month of January

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 23 July 2012

Dailymail: *Gulp! 'Janopause' really DOES work... giving up alcohol for a month makes you thinner, fitter and helps you sleep* 4 January 2014

The Guardian: *Are you a fan of the 'Janopause' detox? The British Liver Trust has poured cold water on the practice of giving up alcohol for January.* 2 January 2012

Type of word-formation: blending Jan(uary) + pause

52. chatterboxing *noun* - the activity of using a medium such as Twitter to comment on what you are watching on TV

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 2 July 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Pass notes, No 3,143: Chatterboxing. No, not vocal sparring but the act of tweeting while watching a generally moronic TV programme* 18 March 2012

Type of word-formation: back-formation chatterbox + ing

53. eco-bot *noun* - a robot with an ecologically beneficial function

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 2 July 2012

Dailymail: *They claim it could be the first step on the way to a new generation of 'eco bots' that may even need their own toilets* 10 February 2012

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation:eco(logical) + ro(bot)

54. babymoon *noun* - a vacation taken by a couple who are expecting their first child

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 28 May 2012

Dailymail: *Billie Faiers reveals tiny baby bump in red bikini as she enjoys luxury babymoon with boyfriend Greg Shepherd in the Maldives* 31 January 2014

The Guardian: *Expectant mums offered 'babymoon' hotel breaks* 29 December 2006

Type of word-formation: blending baby + (honey)moon

55. doga *noun* - yoga for dogs

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 28 May 2012

Dailymail: *Yoga with dogs? How barking is that? It's the latest daft fitness craze. JILLY JOHNSON tries 'doga' - with her 14st Great Dane Hugo* 29 October 2013

The Guardian: *I've been aware of the existence of "doga"- yoga for dogs - for some months now, but I've been hoping that it will go away if I ignore it. Apparently, it won't, so let's get it over with.* 31 January 2004

Type of word-formation: blending of do(g) and (yo)ga

56. negawatt *noun* - a notional unit of power which represents the amount of energy saved through a particular measure

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 14 May 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Negawatt (energy saving) incentives for business and homes could be scaled up to reduce demand on power stations.* 14 March 2014

Type of word-formation: blending of nega(tive) + watt

57. alcolock *noun* - a device which, when fitted to a car, causes the engine to lock if the driver has drunk too much alcohol

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 26 March 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *The alco-lock is claimed to foil drink-drivers. Then the man from the Guardian had a go ...* 5 August 2004

Type of word-formation: blending of alco(hol) + lock

58. frankenshoes *plural, noun* - ostentatiously ugly shoes

Added to Cambridge dictionary:

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *"It doesn't matter that they're ugly and not sexy, because they're Prada," explained Lauren Sherman, fashion writer for Fashionista.com, of spring/summer's unisex Frankenshoes*" 2 October 2011

Type of word-formation: blending of a proper name Franken(stein) and shoes

59. dog-shaming *noun* - the practice of taking a picture of your dog with a sign

(usually around its neck) explaining its misdemeanour and then posting it on the Internet

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 24 March 2014

Dailymail: *Internet 'dog-shaming' craze undermines pets' dignity, say vets who claim unfortunate canines look terrified in online photos.* 8 November 2013

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: composition dog + shaming

60. K-pop *noun* - pop music from Korea

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 19 March 2012

Dailymail: *K-pop group managed by Jackie Chan debuting album* 11 March 2014

The Guardian: *K-pop stars: the lowdown on South Korean pop* 28 September 2012

Type of word-formation: clipping K(orean) and pop(ular music) and subsequent blending

61. automagically *adverb* - independently, without effort and as if by magic

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 9 April 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Spinvox: Does it really work auto-magically?* 6 August 2009

Type of word-formation: blending of auto(matic) + magically

62. gastrosexual *noun* - a man who enjoys cooking, especially as a form of seduction

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 5 March 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Welcome to the world of the gastrosexual — a place where people aren't afraid to take on recipes from anywhere in the world, using their culinary prowess to impress friends, and seduce potential partners.* Advertisement feature

Type of word-formation: blending gastro(nomy) + sexual

63. greycation *noun* - a holiday in which several generations of a family, including elderly members, holiday together.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 30 January 2012

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *You know what I'm thinking after watching this? I'm thinking Cornwall.*

Greycation next year. 11 October 2012

Type of word-formation: blending of grey + (va)cation

64. LGBTQ *abbreviation* - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 30 January 2012

Dailymail: *Sherer, who photographed each young participant before a plain white background, said she didn't have any trouble finding subjects for the projects, even though living openly as a LGBTQ person can be difficult in Alabama — like many other places.* 23 April 2014

The Guardian: *Nevins and Kaminer will take your questions on a spectrum of topics related to workplace discrimination including: LGBTQ employment rights, the controversial ENDA act, the future of gay employment rights and what to do if you're a victim of discrimination.* 8 May 2012

Type of word-formation: abbreviation **L**esbian, **G**ay, **B**isexual, **T**ransgendered, **Q**ueer

65. skort *noun* - a skirt with integral shorts underneath

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 16 January 2012

Dailymail: *Spanx even includes a mysterious item called the 'skort', which, for the uninitiated, is a pair of shorts with a skirt over the top. The benefit being that if your dress or skirt rides up, you look like you're wearing a slip rather than a pair of control pants.* 7 August 2013

The Guardian: *Hockeysmith: the sisters who gave up skorts for shoegaze* 28 February 2014

Type of word-formation: blending sk(irt) + (sh)ort

66. headdesk *verb* - to hit your head on your desk as an expression of frustration or annoyance

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 26 December 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Tell us about your typical week Tell us about where you're at this week (bad week, good week, rewarding week, soul destroying *headdesk* kind of week?)* 27 March 2012

Type of word-formation: composition of head + desk

67. photobombing *noun* - spoiling a photograph by jumping into the picture just as it is being taken

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 26 December 2011

Dailymail: *He's behind you, Honey: Jessica Alba is unaware Jackass' Johnny Knoxville is photobombing her at MTV Movie Awards* 14 April 2014

The Guardian: *Since then, it's been chaos: after photobombing Sarah Jessica Parker at the Met Ball last year, Jennifer Lawrence gleefully photobombed Taylor Swift at the Globes this year and threatened to push her down the stairs ("That's so funny," Swift growled)* 4 February

Type of word-formation: composition photo + bombing

68. mankle *noun* - the male ankle, especially as revealed by currently fashionable short trousers

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 12 December 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *A pair of raw denim jeans – Topman's are a steal at £38 – cuffed to show a bit of mankle (still the most fetishised male body part).* 23 September 2013

Type of word-formation: blending m(ale) + ankle

69. 4G *adjective* - describes the fourth generation of wireless technology, for instance for broadband connections

Added to Cambridge dictionary:

Dailymail: *Superfast 4G internet helps mobile operator EE to best quarterly sign-ups taking customer total to 2.9million* 28 April 2014

The Guardian: *Three announces superfast 4G rollout plans for 47 UK cities* 12 September 2013

Type of word-formation: Clipping 4thg(eneration)

70. trashion *noun* - fashion items made from recycled materials

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 21 November 2011

Dailymail: *It apparently took her 400 hours to finish the made-to-measure 'Trashion' range and she used 1.4 kilometres of black, red and white fabric in the process.* 25 June 2013

The Guardian: *In Belfast, look out for woollen "tags" wrapped around public property, or join the yarnbombers with their guerrilla knitting. Street pianos printed with "Play me, I'm yours" will find their way into spots like Cotton Court and Wellington Square, while workshops giving craft a cooler edge include Portadown's Va Va Voom to create retro couture and a Trashion jewellery day in Armagh.* 7 August 2010

Type of word-formation: blending trash + (fa)shion

71. Eurabia *noun* - a term used to describe the supposed domination of Europe by Islamic people and customs

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 24 October 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *These two grand conspiracies are linked by the "Eurabia" conspiracy theory, which holds that EU bureaucrats have struck a secret deal to hand over Europe to Islam in exchange for oil.* 24 July 2011

Type of word-formation: blending Eur(ope) + modified Arabic in order to form a noun

72. nativism *noun* - the political view that people born in a country should be favoured over immigrants

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 24 October 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *What is nonetheless clear is that a strong far right movement has re-emerged, and what unites it is the age-old American doctrine of nativism, born out of fear of some dark outsider sneaking in to steal the white man's homeland and his hegemony.* 24 March 2011

Type of word-formation: affixation native(e)+ism

73. flatforms *plural, noun* - shoes which have a high platform sole but no higher heel part, so the foot itself is flat

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 17 October 2011

Dailymail: The collection is given a festival feel with beading, tassels, feathers and raffia, jazzing up flatforms, box bags and knotted headbands. 10 March 2014

The Guardian: *And the flat shoes they wear to kick on and off between shows have changed: a velvet gentleman's club slipper – possibly studded, ideally Christian Louboutin – for the androgynous types and a thick-soled "flatform" trainer or sandal for those under the influence of the 90s.* 17 April 2012

Type of word-formation: composition of flat +form

74. mandals *noun* - a men's summer shoe, that consists of black or brown leather that covers more than 50% of the foot, buckles and a thick sole.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 17 October 2011

Dailymail: *The rise of the 'mandal': Sandals for men are hot summer trend - but should blokes ever show off their feet?* 16 August 2013

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: blending of man and (san)dal

75. FOMO *abbreviation* - fear of missing out; a Facebook acronym to describe a feeling of anxiety and dissatisfaction induced by the conviction that other people are doing more exciting things than you are

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 3 October 2011

Dailymail: *Only five per cent said 'FOMO' - fear of missing out - on social activities is something they hate about the social networking website.* 18 February 2014

The Guardian: *Fear Of Missing Out (#Fomo) takes on a whole new level at Christmas* 22 December 2013

Type of word-formation: abbreviation (alphabettism) **Fear OfMissing Out**

76. cheapskating *noun* - an approach to dressing in which someone dresses mainly in cheap, high-street clothes with the odd luxe item thrown in

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 21 November 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Cheapskating", as Deidre Fernand referred to it in the Sunday Times, is the "art of blending luxury with low-cost items, or sometimes just low-end with yet more low-end".* 20 July 2005

Type of word-formation: composition of cheap and skating

77. blondarexia *noun* - an extreme dedication to bleaching one's hair

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 26 September 2011

Dailymail: *And Mena Suvari displayed all the signs of a blondarexia sufferer as she walked around Beverly Hills this week.* 3 June 2011

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: blending of blond + (an)orexia

78. celebrealty *adjective* - of or relating to reality TV shows that feature celebrities rather than ordinary people

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 19 September 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Of course, no previous celeb-reality specimen - and remember we're discussing a genre that has made room for both Paris Hilton and Tara Reid - has ever had to deal with anything approaching the elephantine ego of Danny Bonaduce.* 22 October 2005

Type of word-formation: blending of celeb(rity) + reality

79. SAHM *abbreviation* stay at home mother

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 12 September 2011

Dailymail: *Stay-At-Home Mum is always the most welcoming, but, God knows, I wouldn't want to add anything extra to her to-do list. (Plus, SAHMs are wild - I'd be safer on a night out with Lindsay Lohan than a SAHM)* 16 January 2014

The Guardian: *That woman is more likely to be imaged as a "welfare queen", not the maternal ideal or a trend-piece mommy-blogging "SAHM" (stay-at-home mom).* 6 June 2013

Type of word-formation: abbreviation **Stay At Home Mother**

80. glampsite *noun* - a campsite where luxurious camping takes place

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 29 August 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Children will love the chance to help out on the farm while parents will appreciate the home comforts of their cosy canvas cottages at this new 'glampsite'.* 18 June 2011

Type of word-formation: blending of gl(amour) + (c)ampsite

81. tatt *noun, informal* - a tattoo

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 15 August 2011

Dailymail: *She's got a tatt or two! Heavily inked models bare all in new book that celebrates female body art* 5 May 2014

The Guardian: *Zap the tatt. Think you're hard enough to endure tattoo removal?* 3 December 2006

Type of word-formation: Clipping tatt(oo)

82. dumbphone *noun* - a mobile that is not a smart phone

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 18 July 2011

Dailymail: *The 1stFone which has been dubbed the 'dumbphone for smart parents' is the size of a credit card and weighs 40g.* 9 May 2013

The Guardian: *So let's assume that the selling prices of its smartphones and dumbphones are being reduced by 10% to persuade the carriers to take them on, but it's still selling the same number.* 1 June 2011

Type of word-formation: composition of dumb + phone

83. crowdfunding *noun* - a method of funding something by asking many people to contribute, often in an online campaign

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 11 July 2011

Dailymail: *The 28-year-old from North Carolina and her husband Chris launched a crowdfunding campaign last month in a bid to raise money for the procedure.* 5 May 2014

The Guardian: *We built this city: the smartest urban crowdfunding projects – in pictures.* 28 April 2014

Type of word-formation: compositing of crowd+funding

84. fan-funded *adjective* - describes projects such as movies or albums that have been paid for by their fans

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 11 July 2011

Dailymail: *Life on (Veronica) Mars: Kristen Bell commences filming fan-funded TV classic for big screen update* 18 June 2013

The Guardian: *The fan-funded revival of Rob Thomas's much-loved teen-P! series proves more footnote than fresh start.* 13 March 2014

Type of word-formation: composition of fan + funded/funding

85. femiman *adjective* refers to a man with very feminine looks

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 20 June 2011

Dailymail: *But it may come as a surprise to the audience that the French designer's new muse – a male model – also featured in his menswear show a week earlier.*

Serbian-born Andrej Pejic is part of the new wave of 'femiman' models. 28 January 2011

The Guardian: *Last week saw "femiman" supermodel Andrej Pejic close Jean Paul Gaultier's James Bond-inspired catwalk show in a fur waistcoat, high heels, stockings and luscious long blond hair.* 23 January 2011

Type of word-formation: blending femi(nine) + man

86. granny-chic *adjective* - denotes a fashion style which consists of old-fashioned items worn in a stylish way

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 20 June 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Frumpy cardigans, floral tea dresses and quasi-orthopedic shoes ... there's a new look at large on high street. Hadley Freeman on the rise of 'granny chic'* 18 January 2008

Type of word-formation: composition of granny + chic

87. jorts *plural, noun* - shorts made of denim

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 20 June 2011

Dailymail: *Even her friend got in on the fancy dress, donning a cropped black T-shirt and denim jorts beneath an ombre bleached studded denim shirt and black ankle boots.* 21 July 2013

The Guardian: *At least as deputy prime minister he can't actually do anything. If we cut him free from Westminster it's surely only a matter of time until he turns up on the M4 in a pair of jorts driving a truck into oncoming traffic* 24 September 2013

Type of word-formation: blending j(eans) + (sh)orts

88. astro-fertility *noun* - the use of astrological charts in the planning of conception

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 13 June 2011

Dailymail: *It sounds loopy but many couples claim 'astro-fertility' succeeded when all else failed.* 20 January 2011

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: composition of astro+ fertility

89. quintastic *noun, informal* - a very glamorous and youthful (usually celebrity) fifty-year old

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 30 May 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Turning fifty: the rise of the 'quintastic'. For some it's a chance to unleash their inner party animal; for others it's the age at which they start to creak.* 23 January 2011

Type of word-formation: blending of quinta(five – Italian) + (fanta)stic

90. cost-per-action *adjective* - refers to a pricing policy for online services whereby an advertiser pays for agreed actions such as a purchase

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 9 May 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Kullar says Like ourselves is backed by the potential for cost-per-action advertising, but also says businesses will pay for a custom service with enhanced features.* 18 October 2010

Type of word-formation: composition of cost + per+ action

91. hacktivist *noun* - someone who hacks into computer data as a form of activism

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 25 April 2011

Dailymail: *Hacktivist was raided by FBI last April and could face 25 years jail while one rapist is free and the other could be released next year.* 4 April 2014

The Guardian: *Hacktivist anger over US government's 'ludicrous' cyber crackdown* 24 January 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of hack(er) + (act)ivist

92. slacktivist *noun, informal* - someone whose activist activities are confined to signing online petitions, etc.

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 25 April 2011

Dailymail: *Are YOU a 'slacktivist'? People who declare support for charities on social networking sites are less likely to donate money* 8 November 2013

The Guardian: *Mainly using the internet, slacktivists challenge corporate-dominated, global culture and monitor how this prevailing culture increases global poverty and ecological strains.* 6 March 2005

Type of word-formation: blending of slack ((dis)approving) not putting enough care, attention or energy into something and so not doing it well enough) + (act)ivist

93. hairspiration *noun, informal* - the inspiration behind a new haircut

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 18 April 2011

Dailymail: *Getting ready for the @Beyoncé show tonight so I'm putting in my #weave in honor of #QueenB my #hairspiration for tonight is #WondaWoodward #crybaby.* 4 December 2013

The Guardian: *Was Jill Biden's fringe Michelle's hairspiration? It can't be easy living in Michelle Obama's shadow, but Dr Biden is no style slouch (no slouch, period. Check those upper arms).* 22 January 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of hair + (ins)piration

94. edupreneur *noun* - someone working as an entrepreneur in an area of education

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 4 April 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Switching sides: prominent educationists now working as 'edupreneurs'.* 26 October 2010

Type of word-formation: blending of edu(cation) + (entre)preneur

95. cashless *adjective* - not using or allowing the use of cash payments

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 21 March 2011

Dailymail: *One in five of us prefers to go cashless: Study finds more than a third are interested in using mobile phones to make payments* 30 January 2014

The Guardian: *There are also trials involving Stagecoach buses in Liverpool and black cabs in London, while several UK music festivals are expected to go cashless next summer.* 2 October 2010

Type of word-formation: affixation cash + less

96. contactless *adjective* - refers to a system of debit or credit cards which are waved over a sensor and do not require pin numbers

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 21 March 2011

Dailymail: *New ways to pay: Transfer money with a text message or simply pay with a wave as contactless card transactions top £100m* 3 May 2014

The Guardian: *Contactless cards have been hyped as the next big thing in banking and retail because they let people pay for less costly items (£15 or less) without having to key in a pin number or scrabble around for cash.* 2 October 2010

Type of word-formation: affixation contact+ less

97. funemployment *noun* - enjoyable unemployment

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 21 March 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *It's time to clamp down on 'funemployment'* 15 May 2011

Type of word-formation: composition fun + employment

98. sofalise *verb* - to stay in and communicate with family and friends via electronic devices

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 7 March 2011

Dailymail: *Why socialise when you can just stay home and 'sofalise'?* 8 November 2010

The Guardian: no results

Type of word-formation: blending

99. tweetheart *noun* - a friend or lover that you communicate with via Twitter

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 11 February 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *Twitter and Telegraph hacks, no longer tweethearts?* 19 March 2013

Type of word-formation: blending of tw(itter) + (sw)eethart

100. obvs abbreviation UK informal obviously

Added to Cambridge dictionary: 31 January 2011

Dailymail: no results

The Guardian: *SS13 colour names NYC gave us birch, waterlily, taxi, mystic sea, and our favourite for obvs reasons, newspaper beige.*

Type of word-formation: clipping **obvious**

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