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DIFFERENT PURPOSES OF WORD-FORMATION
Сөздөрдүн жасалышынын ар түрдүү максаттары
Разные цели словообразования

Abstract. The present article dwells on the analysis of the two aims of word-formation. There is every reason to believe that productive models of language are used to build neologisms, that is, words which have been produced to denote new concepts or things resulting from the development of the social life of the speech community in question, on the one hand. On the other hand, absolutely productive affixes are used to coin lexical units, which are aimed to produce different aesthetic effects. These formations are called potential words.

Аннотация. Берилген макала сөз жасоонун эки максатынын кыскача анализине арналган. Өндүрүмдүү моделдер тилде неологизмдерди пайда кылууда колдонулат, башкача айтканда, бул бир жагынан, коомдук турмуштун өнүгүшү менен байланыштуу пайда болгон жаңы түшүнүктөр, буюмдарды же көрүнүштөрдү сүрөттөө үчүн жаралган сөздөр болсо, ал эми экинчи жагынан, лексикалык бирдиктерди жаратуу үчүн колдонулган абсолюттук өндүрүмдүү аффикстер. Булар болсо өз кезегинде кандайдыр бир эстетикалык эффекти пайда кылып, мындай бирдиктер потенциалдуу түрдө сөздөр деп эсептелинет.

Аннотация. Настоящая статья посвящена краткому анализу двух целей словообразования. Продуктивные модели языка используются для образования неологизмов, т.е. слов, которые были созданы для обозначения новых понятий, предметов или явлений, возникших благодаря развитию социальной жизни общества, с одной стороны. С другой стороны, абсолютно продуктивные аффиксы используются для образования лексических единиц, которые направлены на производство определенного эстетического эффекта. Такие единицы называются потенциальными словами.

Key words: word- formation; productive models of language; neologisms; new concepts; aesthetic effects; potential words.

Урунттуу сөздөр: сөз жасоо, тилдеги моделдердин өндүрүмдүүлүгү, неологизмдер, жаны түшүнүктөр, эстетикалык эффект, потенциалдык сөздөр.

Ключевые слова: словообразование; продуктивные модели языка; неологизмы; новые понятия; эстетический эффект; потенциальные слова.

One of the tenets of Russian and Soviet linguistics has always been the assumption that the basic unit of natural human language is the word. It must be brought into prominence over and over again V.V. Vinogradov [4], L.V. Scerba [7], A.I. Smirnitsky [5], O.S. Akhmanova [1], and other Soviet philologists spared no effort to create the theory of the word. There is every reason to believe that one of the most important problems of the word is the principles of what is usually described as word-formation. Otherwise stated, how do people set about making new words?

In the Introduction to the Oxford Dictionary of Modern English there is a list of suffixes which are claimed to be absolutely productive in the sense that they can be used to build an

unlimited number of new words. It is generally assumed that the suffixes '-ly', '-ness', '-er' (doer), '-er' and '-est' (degrees of comparison), '-ish', '-able', '-less' and '-like' can be attached to any stem of corresponding parts of speech [11, pp. 11-12].

As can be seen from this list, English productive suffixes are enumerated indiscriminately and no difference between grammatical and lexical (or derivational) morphologies is observed. It should be noted in passing that investigations in the field of lexical morphology [10, p. 67] have conclusively shown that among them three varieties can be established:

1. grammatical suffixes '-er' and '-est' of the comparative and superlative degrees of the adjective;
2. quasi-grammatical suffixes '-able', '-ly' and '-er';
3. lexical or derivational suffixes proper '-ness', '-less' and '-like'.

In the present article we shall concentrate on subdivision 3 which requires close consideration. It should be mentioned from the very outset that the absolutely productive suffixes '-less', '-like' and '-ness' are characterized by such an obvious lexical separability and semantic independence that there can be no question whatsoever of their nature. In the case of these suffixes we concern ourselves with word-building affixes which constitute a specific branch of lexicology – word-formation.

It is necessary to make a clear distinction between the two aims of word-formation [9, pp. 45-58]. On the one hand, productive models of language are used to coin neologisms, that is, words which have been produced to denote new concepts or things resulting from the development of the social life of the speech community in question. There are plenty of dictionaries of English neologisms which provide us with all the necessary information as to how many new words appeared and were assimilated by the language at a certain period of time [8, p.32].

On the other hand, absolutely productive suffixes are used to coin lexical units, which are aimed not merely at conveying information pure and simple. The lexical meaning of such formations requires special attention. They are formed by a writer or a speaker in order to produce different aesthetic effects [3, p. 15]. These formations are called potential words [10, p. 66].

It appears, then, that people with a fine sense of the language, possessing great linguistic and literary flair, build new formations with the help of absolutely productive suffixes for stylistic purposes. The following example will suffice to illustrate the point: 'I don't like Sunday evenings: I feel so Mondayish'. Thus, a potential word is a derived or a compound word, which does not actually exist (that is, has not appeared in any text) but which can be produced at any moment according to the productive word-building patterns of this or that language [2, p. 343].

Both neologisms and potential words serve as conclusive evidence to prove the existence of lexical morphological categories which are defined as "those categories of the most general character which are realized in the semantic opposition according to a certain distinctive feature of two or more words on condition that the same opposition is observed in other pairs or even larger groups of words and find systematic expression" [6, p. 205].

Let us dwell at some length on the lexical morphological category of caritivity which is constituted by the opposition of the unmarked (zero) form – a noun, and the marked form – an adjective in '-less'. Caritive adjectives denote the absence of some quality. The reaction of a speaker to this fact depends on whether this quality is compulsory or not in the society in question. For instance, in the following extracts words in '-less' express relations existing in extralinguistic reality. The absence of the quality expressed by the adjectival stem is not only possible but also fairly usual for the English society. Thus, for example:

"He could not, like the poet, thank whatever gods there be for his unconquerable soul, for his soul was licked to a splinter. He felt alone and <u>friendless</u> in a rotten world". (Wodehouse, P.G.)

"He remembered her birthday well – he had always observed it religiously, even that last birthday so soon before she left him, when he was almost certain she was <u>faithless</u>". (Galsworthy, J.)

"The far-away blue hills, the harvests whitening on the slopes of the ridge along which his road led him, the <u>treeless</u> sky-lines that changed as he moved – yes, they were all good". (Huxley, A.)

Not infrequently we are faced with people who have no friends or faith; sky-lines are not always decorated, as it were, with trees, etc. These cases and the like can be easily understood and interpreted. The above realizations of the lexical morphological category of caritivity function, as can be seen, on the semantic level, that is, the level on which the given expression stands for the given content.

But there are situations when the absence of some quality is regarded by a speaker as something unnatural. Here the violation of the presumption of existence comes to the fore. Thus, for example, the word-combination 'platformless station' for the English is something which does not correspond to generally accepted norms because stations usually do have platforms. In this case we deal with the violation of the presumption of existence. The same is true with the following word-combinations: 'mirrorless dressing-table', 'tobaccoless cigarettes', 'coffeeless coffee', etc. [10, pp.60-62].

It should be emphasized in connection with the lexical morphological category in question that sociolinguistic factors play a very important role in-so-far as words in '-less' are concerned. The thing is that possibility or necessity of presence of this or that quality is always sociolinguistically determined. Thus, for instance, if for English people the word-combination 'waterless well' is unnatural, it is quite usual in deserts. Let us concentrate on the following extract to illustrate the point:

"A story was undoubtedly told that he had paid his duty call to Aunts Ann, Juley, and Hester, in a soft grey hat – a soft grey hat, not even a new one – a dusty thing with a <u>shapeless</u> crown". (Galsworthy, J.)

It goes without saying that a hat can be shapeless. But it is obvious from the context that the word-combination under consideration is sociolinguistically coloured. As we know from the extended context, the Forsytes treat Bosinney as an intruder from quite another world who has dared to enter their circle not in a conventional bowler but in a soft 'dusty thing with a shapeless crown'.

So much, then, for the lexical morphological category of caritivity. Let us turn to the lexical morphological category of simulation, whose marked categorial form is expressed by words in '-like'. The category in question, as well as the previous one, is sociolinguistically conditioned. Thus, for example:

"Within its setting of light brown hair her face had a pretty regularity that was almost <u>doll-like</u>". (Huxley, A.)

"Slightly reassured, he raised his eyes to the young man's face. It had rather <u>fawn-like</u> ears, a laughing mouth, with half a toothbrush growing out of it on each side, and small lively eyes, above a normally dressed appearance". (Galsworthy, J.)

Thus, in order to compare a regularity of a girl's face with that of a doll or ears with that of a fawn, for example, it is necessary to be aware of a regular association of these objects together as resembling in extralinguistic reality. It should be noted that the productive suffix '-like' differs from other absolutely productive suffixes in the sense that formations in '-like' are rather seldom lexicalized. The evidence of the above statement can be supported by the fact that the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English has registered only 22 words in '-like', whereas there are 259 units in '-er'. Obviously, it is accounted for by the point that words in '-like' represent a specific kind of syntagmatic sequences where two full-fledged, independent stems are united and, at the same time, are divided.

Now let us analyse the lexical morphological category of quality which is constituted by the opposition of the substantival (marked) and the adjectival (unmarked) representations of quality, for example: black – blackness, kind – kindness, happy – happiness, etc.

It is important to note that oppositions of this kind are regularly reproduced in speech, the resulting complexes being entirely lexical in character. There are no morphonological constraints imposed on the category in question. Otherwise stated, as far as the expression plane is concerned it can be freely realized in speech. When we turn to the content plane of the category under discussion we find that different stems can indiscriminately serve as the basis of the process under consideration: root-morphemes (sadness, brightness), derived adjectives (heartlessness, childlikeness), compound adjectives (school-girlishness), form of degrees of comparison (betterness, nearestness), predicative adjectives (aloneness), past participle (unexpectedness), ing-stems (astonishingness), etc.

It should be underlined in this connection that side by side with traditional actual neutral derivatives (dark – darkness, sad – sadness, bright –brightness) - i.e., words formed by means of this suffix some time ago and now forming part and parcel of the English vocabulary - there frequently occur potential words which are coined for stylistic purposes: go-aheadness, *fedupness, foolproofness, other-worldness, up-to-dateness,* and so on, and so forth.

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