

**МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
МУКАЧІВСЬКИЙ ДЕРЖАВНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ
ГУМАНІТАРНИЙ ФАКУЛЬТЕТ
КАФЕДРА АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ ФІЛОЛОГІЇ ТА МЕТОДИКИ
ВИКЛАДАННЯ ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ**

МАГІСТЕРСЬКА РОБОТА

**STRUCTURAL - SEMANTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF PREFIXAL
DERIVATIVES IN MODERN ENGLISH
СТРУКТУРНО - СЕМАНТИЧНІ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ
ПРЕФІКСАЛЬНИХ ПОХІДНИХ В СУЧАСНІЙ АНГЛІЙСЬКІЙ МОВІ**

Спеціальність «014 Середня освіта (Мова і література (англійська))»

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« ___ » _____ 2020 р.

Мукачєво – 2021

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Introduction

The principal directions in the study of language and speech mechanisms of the nominalization of the extra-lingual phenomena involve: the research on the derivational nomination in diachronic [10; 43; 53; 55] and synchronic perspectives [4; 7; 39; 28; 29], the investigation of different types of nomination from communicative - pragmatic angle [5; 16; 48], the study of nationally - cultural characteristics of nomination [9; 49], etc.

The scientists pay special attention to the structural and semantic peculiarities of the functioning of different word-creative units [8; 35; 38; 59], communicative aspects of word-formation [14; 23; 51], the formation, the perception and usage of derivatives in the text, word-formation in the aspect of speech activity [51; 52; 54; 58].

During the last several years we observe the active study of different types of secondary nomination [17; 45; 47], which is one of the most complicated as well the least investigated aspect of the theory of nomination. Linguists' special attention is concentrated on the research of derivational processes within a word. The multifaceted analysis of the word - forming system in general [21; 22; 27; 57] and its separate fields [11; 16; 32; 35; 36; 37] are the centres of attraction of the recent linguistic investigations.

The topicality of our master thesis: The topicality of the theme of our investigation is also called forth by the lack of the works that would enable us to observe the directions of the expansion of the prefixed derivatives in functional styles, particularly in publicist one.

The aim of the investigation is to ascertain and to describe the peculiarities of the derivatives within the bounds of the prefixal onomasiological categories from the point of view of their functioning in the texts of publicist style.

In order to achieve this aim we have to fulfill the following **tasks**:

- to select the prefixal inventory in the text under the investigation;

- classify the meanings of the English prefixes accordingly to the onomasiological categories;
- to describe the prefixal models of each of the prefixal onomasiological categories from the point of view of the productivity and frequency of usage in Modern English;
- to determine the specific weight of the prefixed derivatives and to illustrate the mechanisms of their realization from the point of view of their structure and semantics.

As the **material for our investigation** we have selected the texts of publicist style. As **the object** for the scientific analysis serves the selection of 620 derivative units from the texts of publicist style.

The subject of the analysis is the structural and semantic peculiarities of derivatives in the texts of publicist style within the bounds of the prefixal onomasiological categories.

The methods of our investigation are determined by the aim and the tasks of the work which is synchronic in character. According to the method of the componential analysis the prefixal onomasiological category is a specially organized and structured entity, the elements of which are closely correlated and determined by each other.

With the help of the method of contextual analysis we have selected the nominations from the texts. The statistical method helped us to determine the specific weight of the nominations and the frequency of their usage.

The novelty of the investigation lies in the fact that we have made an attempt to make a complex analysis of the prefixal categories represented by the derivatives in the texts of publicist style in Modern English.

The practical significance: The results of our investigation and the conclusions can be used in the theoretical course of lexicology and stylistics of the modern English language and the theory of speech communication. The methods of investigation proposed in our work will favour the further study of the functional peculiarities of the onomasiological categories, manifested in different ways of word-formation in synchronous as well as in diachronous approach. The general conclusions concerning

the functional peculiarities of the prefixal onomasiological category under investigation can be used in the educational process.

The structure of the investigation: Our work consists of the Introduction, Chapter I, Chapter II, the Conclusions and the List of the Literature used.

General Conclusions

Derivational onomasiology studies the realization of the nominative or representative function. In our investigation we classify the nominative units belonging to the concrete prefixal onomasiological categories. These categories are the source of the ready-made units chosen by a speaker for the expression of his or her thought. There are the following nine onomasiological categories in the system of the English prefixation: locativity; value; phase; sociativity; causativity; rank; contrariety; negation; partitativity.

The word-forming structure of the pattern allows to investigate the systemic regulations of the combination of derivational prefixes, which serve for the expression of the meaning of each prefixal onomasiological category with different types of stems.

On the first stage of our investigation all prefixal derivatives were analyzed, the stems of the derivatives were distinguished, the character of the combinations of each prefix with different types of stems were determined. A special attention was paid to the determination of the quantitative characteristics of the usage of the stem in the combination with the prefixes.

The basic parameters we operate in the process of investigation are: the frequency of use; the productivity. Prefixal morphemes in investigation are classified into highly productive, productive and unproductive. In our investigation we established the thresholds of productivity as well.

The structural –semantic peculiarities of prefixal derivatives used in the texts of publicist style have been investigated on the material of 620 prefixal derivative units taken from English newspapers and magazines. The results of the analysis are represented in Table 2.1.

As it is clear from the table the frequency of usage of prefixal derivatives within different categories is not equal. The prefixal nominative space of the publicist text is presented by 4 representative prefixal onomasiological categories: negation, evaluation,

locativity, and phase. Low productive are the categories of quantitativity, contrariety, sociativity, partitativity and causativity in the text under consideration. The least representative is the category of rank. The aim of semantic analysis of prefixal nominative units is to determine semantic groups occupying the central place within each category.

Our research has showed that the onomasiological category of negation occupies the first place according to its representativeness in the texts under analysis. It makes up 174 prefixal derivatives. The texts under analysis are characterized by the functioning of 4 prefixal morphemes: *un-*, *in-* (*im-*, *ir-*), *dis-*, *non-*. The first place according to the frequency of use belongs to prefix *un-*. The given morpheme has been used in the texts under analysis 82 times. The prefix is mostly found in the combination with the non-finite forms of the verb belonging to the LSG “actions of people and objects”, “actions with objects” and “actions leading to the acquiring of new qualities”. The nominal stems found in the combination with the prefix *un-* belong to the LSG “names of abstract notions”. The adjectival stems belong to the LSG denoting “spacious and time relations, belonging, size, shape”, “necessity, ability, possibility, willingness”, the adjectives of general value, adjectives of conformity /non-conformity.

The second place is occupied by prefix *in-*, which is represented by its allomorphes *il -/ im -/ ir -*. They have occurred in the newspaper and magazine texts 56 times. The most frequent derivatives used in the texts of the publicist style are the combinations of the prefix with the secondary adjectival stems and with the primary adjectival stems. The adjectives with the meaning of “necessity, ability, possibility, willingness” are the most active in the combination with the prefix *in-*. The texts also abounds in the adjectives of general evaluation, adjectives of conformity / non-conformity .The nominal stems found in the combination with the prefix *in-* belong to the LSG “names of abstract notions”.

The prefix *dis-* is the least representative among the prefixes of negation found in 12 derivatives. It combines with the nominal source bases meaning “abstract actions”, “qualities, characteristics of a person”. The prefix *dis-* combines also with the verbal source bases “actions of people and objects”

The onomasiological category of evaluation occupies the second place among the other categories in the texts under analysis (128 derivatives). The prefix *mis-* is found in 22 derivatives making up 17, 2% of all the examples. It combines mainly with verbal stems denoting “actions with objects”, “psycho-physical state, “actions of people and objects” as well as with the secondary nominal stems denoting names of actions and abstract notions. The prefix is also found attached to the non-finite forms of the verb.

The prefix *over-* occurs in 20 derivatives. It mostly combines with verbal stems belonging to the LSG “actions of people and objects” and “actions with objects”. It is also found attached to the non-finite forms of the verb and nominal stems. The prefixes *sub-* and *ab-* occur only in one derivative each being the least productive and representative prefixes within the category of value.

Within the category of locativity, which occupies the third place, the first place according to the frequency of use belongs to the prefix *a-*, which has been fixed in the texts 17 times. The prefix *a-* combines mostly with nominal source bases of the LSGs “names of populated areas, roads, units of territorial and administrative division”, “geometrical notions”, the nominal source bases meaning “names of objects, surface forms”, “parts of human body, body of animals, birds and insects”. The most active adjectival source bases in the texts belong to the LSG of “size, shape, etc.”

The prefix *over-* is found in the combination with the nominal stems meaning “names of objects, surface forms”, “parts of human body, body of animals, birds and insects” and verbal stems meaning “actions of people and objects”.

The next prefix is *under-* which is attached to the nominal stems denoting “names of objects, surface forms”, “names of liquids” and “parts of human body, body of animals, birds and insects”.

The prefix *en-* is the least representative attaching to the secondary nominal and verbal stems.

The inventory of the prefixes expressing the notion of phase includes 11 prefixes in the text of publicist style. The category of phasality is represented by 84 derivatives in the texts of publicist style.

The prefixal word-forming type with the prefix *re-* is the only highly productive means of nomination within the category. It combines with the verbal stems denoting “actions of people and objects”, “actions leading to the acquiring of new qualities by an object” and “the influence upon a person, interrelations in society”. It is also found in derivatives formed by being added to the nominal stems denoting “names of actions, processes, states”.

The next representative prefix of phase is *pre-* which is found in the combination with the nominal stems denoting “abstract actions, states, processes”, “feelings, events, movements” and the verbal stems “actions leading to the change of position”.

The following prefixes possess a low degree of productivity and representativity: *after-*, *fore-* and *proto-*. They are attached mainly to the nominal and adjectival stems. The prefixes *inter-*, *retro-* and *semi-* are the least representative prefixes within the category of phase actualizing mainly in the structural patterns with primary and secondary nominal stems as well as adjectival stems.

The category of quantitativity is represented by 11 prepositive morphemes found in 36 derivatives. The most productive prepositive morpheme within this category is *one-* attached to the nominal stems denoting “lifeless objects and phenomena” and “time, season, etc.”

The prepositive morpheme *multi-* is the second representative unit occurring in the texts of publicist style. It is found in derivatives which are formed by the combinations with nominal stems “time, season, etc.”, “names of groups of people connected by certain common ideas, interests, etc.”, “abstract notions” as well as the adjectival stems denoting “belonging to a group of people” and “belonging to abstract notions”.

The prepositive morphemes *five-*, *poly-* and *tri-* are the least representative within the category.

The category of contrariety is represented by 31 derivatives formed with the help of three prefixes *counter-*, *anti-* and *un-*. The most representative prefix is counter- followed immediately by the prefix anti-. *Counter-* is found in the combinations with

the nominal stems denoting “names of medication, medicine”, “names of groups of people connected by certain common ideas, interests, etc.”, “abstract notions”.

The prefix *anti-* is characterized by approximately the same degree of representativity and productivity. It is attached to the nominal stems belonging to the following LSGs: “names of groups of people connected by certain common ideas, interests, etc.”, “abstract notions” as well as to the adjectival stems.

The category of sociativity is represented only by two prefixes which are found in 27 derivatives in the text of publicist style. The prefix *inter-* is found in the combinations with different nominal, adjectival and verbal stems belonging mainly to the LSGs “names of people”, “lifeless objects and phenomena”, “abstract notions”, “emotions, moods, spiritual condition” and “actions of people and objects”. The prefix *co-* is actualized in 12 derivatives attached to the nominal stems denoting “names of people”, “lifeless objects and phenomena” and “abstract notions”.

The category of partitativity possesses two prefixes which are actualized in almost the same number of derivatives. The peculiarity of the prefix *mid-* lies in the fact that it is only attached to the nominal stems denoting “time, season, etc.”

The prefix *semi-* is found in 10 derivative units formed by the combinations with the nominal stems “abstract actions” as well as adjectival stems.

The category of causativity belongs to one of the least representative categories in the texts of publicist style as far as it is actualized by only one prefix *en-* found in 15 derivative units. It is mainly attached to the verbal stems denoting “actions of people and objects” and “actions leading to the acquiring of new qualities by an object”.



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