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## THE PHENOMENON OF DERIVATION IN MODERN ENGLISH

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**Annotation:** *The main purpose of this article is to study the theoretical views on word formation in English and to analyze the derivation phenomenon in the current English language within the framework of the word formation system, the meaning of word formation, the means of word formation, and the methods of word formation.*

**Key words:** *word formation, linguistic feature, affixation, composition, Compound words, morphemes.*

**Аннотация:** *Основная цель данной статьи - изучить теоретические взгляды на словообразование в английском языке и проанализировать явление деривации в современном английском языке в рамках системы словообразования, значения словообразования, способов словообразования и способы словообразования.*

**Ключевые слова:** *словообразование, языковой признак, аффиксация, композиция, сложные слова, морфемы.*

**Introduction:** *Derivation, a fundamental aspect of linguistics, plays a crucial role in the evolution and expansion of languages. In the context of Modern English, derivation refers to the process of forming new words by adding affixes (prefixes and suffixes) to existing words, thereby altering their meaning or grammatical function. This phenomenon is ubiquitous in English and contributes significantly to its richness and versatility.*

One of the primary functions of derivation is to create new words from existing ones, often to express nuanced meanings or to adapt to changing contexts. For example, the addition of the suffix "-tion" to the verb "communicate" results in the noun "communication," indicating the act or process of conveying information. Similarly, the prefix "un-" added to "happy" forms "unhappy," conveying the opposite meaning.

Derivation also enables English speakers to form words belonging to different word classes, such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs, from a single base. This flexibility allows for greater expressiveness and precision in communication. Consider the word "teach," a verb, which can be transformed into the noun "teacher" by adding the suffix "-er," or into the adjective "teachable" by appending "-able."

Moreover, derivation facilitates the creation of neologisms, which are new words or expressions that emerge in response to evolving concepts, technologies, or cultural phenomena. Neologisms play a vital role in capturing and articulating contemporary realities, reflecting the dynamic nature of language. For instance, the blending of

"breakfast" and "lunch" gives rise to the term "brunch," describing a meal typically eaten late in the morning, bridging the gap between breakfast and lunch.

The process of derivation is not arbitrary but follows certain patterns and rules governed by the linguistic system. Prefixes and suffixes often have consistent meanings and functions, allowing speakers to predict the meaning of derived words based on their familiar components. However, English also exhibits variability and irregularity in derivation, with exceptions and idiosyncrasies that may defy conventional patterns.

Furthermore, derivation in Modern English is not confined to the addition of affixes but may also involve other morphological processes, such as compounding and conversion. Compounding entails combining two or more words to create a new one, as seen in "blackboard" or "sunflower." Conversion, on the other hand, involves changing the grammatical category of a word without altering its form, as in the conversion of the noun "hammer" into the verb "to hammer."

**Literature review.** Teachers of Cambridge University Mary Spratt [1], Alan Pulvernes [2], Melanie William [3] provide materials on the ways of acquiring language, focus on forms and tips for developing them in their textbook "Teachers' knowledge Test".

**Methodology of the research.** During this research, methods such as analysis and synthesis, systematic approach, logical and comparative analysis were effectively used.

**Analysis and results.** Within the system of word formation, the concepts of word formation base, word formation meaning, word formation tool, word formation method, word formation type, and word formation pattern are embodied. All these are necessary and important for the language. The formation of a new word through the addition of words, the formation of a word from one group to another group determines that word formation is a special system in language construction.

Each language has its own linguistic features in word formation, and their research has always become a topical issue from the point of view of synchronic and diachronic periods of language development. In this regard, studying the peculiarities of English word formation is very important in linguistics. While word formation is of great importance in the science of linguistics, it is closely related to lexicology - the science of the vocabulary of the language, phonetics and grammar, especially to the doctrine of formation and the syntax of word combinations. So, the issues of word formation are always studied together with the fields of lexicology, phonetics, and grammar in linguistics. Word formation is one of the most effective ways to enrich vocabulary. There are two types of word formation in modern English, the first method is productive. It is said that even today, new words are created through these methods, which include the following: 1) with the help of affixes (affixation); 2) conversion; 3) abbreviation (abbreviation); 4) composition (by adding words or bases) [4].

*Compound words.* Like all linguistic phenomena, there is a modern and historical approach to compound word formation. While the modern approach mainly focuses on the structural and semantic features of the compound word, the historical approach studies the changes that have occurred in compound words over time. When a compound word appears, it undergoes phonetic changes like all polysyllabic words in the English language. These phonetic changes, in turn, affect the morphological structure of the word.



Individual morphemes in the composition of a compound word may disappear, the structural meaning of the compound word may change or be completely forgotten. During this process, that is, the process of simplification, compound words can undergo such drastic changes that they become artificial or simple words.

An ordinary language user does not pay much attention to the factors that govern the process of the emergence of new words or their introduction into the language. In order to understand a word, it is not necessary to determine how it is formed, whether it is simple or complex, that is, it is not so important whether it can be divided into parts or not. We can learn a word that is new to us by looking at the concept or object it expresses. Some words are more transparent than others.

For example, in the word *indescribable*, we can see the structure "negative adverb + transitive verb + adjective adverb", which is familiar to us and many other words can be formed. Knowing this structure, we can easily derive its meaning: "cannot be described". However, we can also find words that have the same structure, but this analysis does not work: *Unfashionable*, *unfavorable*. With special emphasis on the importance of compound words in word formation, it is appropriate to highlight the methods and process of this phenomenon. The process of making compound words can take several forms:

1. Compound words appear simultaneously with productive formulas of a certain period. A formula that is productive for a certain period of time is likely to lose its ability one day. Based on this, the "verb + adverb" formula was very productive at a certain time, and a number of compound words were formed accordingly: *outgrow*, *overturn*, but today this structure is not considered productive, and the formation of words suspended.

2. Compound words are the result of the structural addition of free word combinations or the process of gradual semantic isolation. Examples of these are words such as *forget-me-not* - a small plant with blue flowers, *scarecrow* - guard made to scare birds, *pickpocket* - pickpocketing, *bridesmaid* [1]. These compound words were originally free word combinations and later became semantically and structurally isolated over time. The words that make up the above compound words have lost the meaning they once had, to which word group they belong, and the whole phrase is isolated, the meaning is specialized, and as a result, they have become inseparable compound words. There are also secondary word-formation methods in English linguistics, which are non-productive methods that used to form words in Old English, but have lost such features by today. They consist of: 1) *sound change*; 2) *accent change*; 3) *sound imitation*; 4) *harmonize*; 5) *restoration* [3].

Word formation is one of the independent branches of linguistics (like lexicology, grammar), which studies the formation of new words, methods of word formation, and phenomena related to word formation in general. The term word formation is applied to two types of phenomena: 1) in general, the phenomenon of word formation, word formation; 2) refers to the branch of linguistics that studies phenomena related to word formation [2].

In linguistics, serious attention has been paid to the study of language units that form language systems, their essence, and language phenomena related to the formation of language systems based on them, as well as their theoretical and practical issues. The study of the system of each level of the language begins with the definition of the

linguistic unit that forms this system. In this sense, it is necessary to study and research such concepts as artificial word, artificial unit, composition of artificial word, basis of word formation, phraseological formation [5].

In linguistic sources, lexicalization is the process of turning language elements or combinations of elements into a separate word or another lexical unit that is an alternative to it, the process of turning word combinations into stable elements of the language that act as a separate word alternative, a free word the transformation of a compound into a word that expresses a concept and functions as a part of a sentence, as well as the transformation of a syntactic unit (a phrase or a sentence) into a lexical unit (lexical unit), i.e. a word or a fixed phrase explained. In world linguistics, word formation, phraseological formation, their development in diachronic and synchronic aspects, lexicalization in the process of word formation, the essence of phraseologisation phenomena in the process of phraseological formation, researching the reasons for their occurrence, and explaining them based on new modern trends are also relevant.

In conclusion, the phenomenon of derivation plays a vital role in the dynamics and evolution of Modern English. By enabling the creation of new words, expanding vocabulary, and adapting to changing linguistic needs, derivation contributes to the richness, flexibility, and adaptability of the English language. Understanding the principles and mechanisms of derivation enhances language proficiency and fosters effective communication in diverse contexts.

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