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Summary

The article is devoted to the study of the notion of experimental prose and definition of the periods of its formation. The notion of American postmodern experimental prose in the light of postmodern poetics has been grounded and its basic characteristics have been determined.

ABSTRACT NOUNS AND –*ING* DERIVATION

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The process of derivation and -*ing* deverbal naming units and their semantic differences are in the centre of the attention in the submitted paper. The paper deals with the results obtained by the analyses of -*ing* deverbal naming units as part of abstract vocabulary in current science language in English.

Generating -*ing* deverbal naming units is closely connected to **derivation** as the **process of word-formation.** "Derivation is the morphological process that results in the formation of new lexemes." [Lyons 1970:522] Matthews [1986:43] speaks of

derivation as a term meaning "that branch of lexical morphology which is concerned with formations other than those of compounds". Most linguists divide derivation into prefixation and suffixation, both generally covered by one term 'affixation'.

The **affix** as an element, a morpheme, is a bound form with no independent existence, carrying a highly generalized meaning relating to a whole class of objects. Affixes can feature very high productivity; they can be used for the coining of naming units. From the point of view of classification based on the onomasiological categories, prefixes fall under modificational onomasiological categories and suffixes are used within transpositional and mutational onomasiological categories. It follows that prefixes only modify the meaning of already existing naming units and suffixes can change the word class of naming units and provide them with new categorial meaning. Prefixes never occur as onomasiological bases. It follows that they cannot classify the denominated object in regard to a general class of objects. They only modify the basic lexical-semantic meaning of a naming unit. Hence, the suffix and the prefix belong to two different categories and the term **affix** is admissible only as to the formal aspect of word-formation. A **word-formative prefix**, as a part of a naming unit, modifies the meaning of a word- formative base, and a **suffix** is a part of a naming unit classifying it among the members of some general group or kind of objects or phenomena.

Bauer [1983] emphasizes the **class-maintaining** and **class-changing character** of derivation. The former is the derivation of new naming units, which are of the same part of speech as their bases, whereas class-changing derivation forms naming units belonging to different part of speech from their bases. Generally, prefixation is a type of class-maintaining derivation, and suffixation is a type of class-changing derivation in English.

-Ing derivation is a controversial matter in English word-formation. The suffix is originally the OE ending *-ung* which was added restrictedly to nouns to form abstract nouns, but the nominal stems to which it was attached were subsequently taken to be those of weak verbs corresponding in form to them. *-Ing* has developed a series of functions and meanings which place it within the sphere of words outside the scope of the action noun proper. The semantic shades with which *-ing* forms words have existed from the earliest periods of the language though the centre of semantic gravitation has considerably changed.

The suffix *-ing* is a highly productive noun-forming suffix; it can be used in different functions, and linguists distinguish it as the means for producing denominal nouns, verbal and deverbal nouns, gerunds and, in addition, it is a marker for making *-ing* participles. These terms are very often confusing and there is no coincidence in their definitions in linguistics.

Hans Marchand [1960] considers *-ing* nouns as being those words that denote generic act, fact, practice and specific instance of what the verbal idea implies: *liking, helping, blessing*, or naming units denoting something material connected with the verbal idea as an agent, instrument, result, belongings, or place: *binding, coating, covering, setting.* In groups like *a full human being, the American Chemical Society meeting* the character of the naming units in *-ing* is purely nominal, the former being synonymous with *person*, the latter with *event.* Deverbal *-ing* nouns are representatives

of a fairly productive process, and Quirk [1985:1546] introduces them as ". . . in commonest productive use".

The research presented in this paper deals with abstract deverbal nouns with the suffix *-ing* in present-day scientific English.

For the purpose of the analysis of this part of vocabulary, a special corpus covering approximately 5,000 deverbal naming units, was made.
As regard to high productivity and demand to denominate various activities and technical and technological processes, the analysed word-formation type presented as the formal structure: **verbal form +** ***ing*** **suffix/formant,** is widely used in present-day English. In general, the majority of abstract naming units generated according to this word-formation type are a) nomina actionis and those denoting b) technological processes: *assembling, charging,* c) manufacturing methods and technological procedures: *machining, drilling, stepping* and d) naming units denominating phenomena, results of action and technical data: *seasoning, jamming.*

The analysed corpus provided surprising results: it was the small number of abstract units generated by *–ing* type representing objectification of action in comparison with the overall amount of analysed naming units in the corpus. The number of *-ing* abstracts was assumed to be much higher in scientific language.

The analyses confirmed the fact that *–ing* suffix abstact nouns fall into various semantic groups, and they express the following meanings:
a) process of action: *attacking, computing, bleeding,bombarding, cloning, foaming, generating, growing, modeling, twisting;*
b) intelectual activity: *finding, reasoning, sensing, thinking, understanding;*
c) result of action: *bonding, destroying, meeting, poisoning, warning* (*safety warning*);
d) state of object or process: *thinning* (*the thinning of the ozone layer*), *unzipping* (*the DNA unzipping*);
e) work /technological procedure: *etching, fitting, fixing, flexing, riveting, welding;*
f) manufacture/industry field: *binding* (in case of *book binding*), *building, dry walling, flooring, engineering* (*mechanical engineering*), *marketing;*
g) ability of object denominated by a noun: *hearing* (*hearing of deaf people*);
h) place of action: *beginning.*

-Ing abstract nouns are shown to be the considerable group of units having influence on dynamic processes in abstract vocabulary, and generally, they represent the open system characterized by quantitative growth though the results of our analysis did not confirm that fact.

Word-formation, its processes, types and vocabulary system as such provide an unlimited amount of research material and their research has not been finished by far. The results of our analyses represent a tiny segment of all possibilities. The discussion and conclusions here represent neither general nor complete information concerning the aspects of word-formation, word-formation processes and word-formation types of a certain vocabulary sub-system in current scientific language. As the specific scientific language is one of the options of language expression, it is assumed, that the research of abstract nouns sub-system should contribute to extending its knowledge and its use in scientific language.

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Summary

-*Ing* abstract nouns are shown to be the considerable group of naming units having influence on dynamic processes in abstract vocabulary, and they represent the open and still investigated system in present-day scientific English. They fall into various semantic groups and, in general, most of them denominate either nomina actionis or technological processes, manufacturing methods and technological procedures and phenomena, results of action and technical data.

ON TRANSLATION OF *SHALL* IN EU's LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS

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The article focuses on the prescriptive constructions in parallel EU legislative texts in English and Slovak languages. It maps the frequency of the modal prescriptive "shall" constructions and further identifies and categorises their Slovak equivalent counterparts. First thirty pages of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provided a corpus for the present analysis.

Tomášek (1998) proposes the Slovak modal verb "musieť" as a counterpart for the English "shall" as a carrier of prescription (p.74). However, in cases of immediate formation of the prescribed reality, the author favours constructions in present simple or future tense. The analysis of the selected texts discovered 31 instances of the English modal predicative "shall" in the equivalent passive constructions.