### Lecture 2



# Categories and types of neologisms

## Plan



- Features of a process of nomination;
- Categories of neologisms;
- Neologisms by their formation mechanisms;
- Productive models of neologisms.

### Changes in the process of nomination (Gak,1980)

- Usage of a well-known sign for reference to a new object;
- Usage of a new sign for reference to an object which already has the name;
- Usage of a new sign for reference to a new object;
- The sign is out of use due to the object being not relevant any more.

#### **Categories of neologisms**

- 'Proper neologisms' the new form is combined with a new concept (blog, interferon, clogs, thought-processor, telework);
- 'Transnominations'-the new form is combined with an already existing concept (laid-back, hands-on, dragged-out, turned-on);
- 'Semantic innovations' new concept takes the name of a from already active in language (vegetable, cool, drag, wicked, thick).

#### **Semantic innovations**



old word changes its meaning completely



one more variant
in semantic structure
of the word emerges,
the previous meanings
stay relevant

# Classification of neologisms by their formation mechanisms

- Phonological neologisms
- Borrowings
- Syntactic (subdivided into morphological and phraseological)
- Semantic neologisms

### Phonological neologisms

New configurations of sounds can be

- Combined with morphemes of Greek or Latin origin (perfol, acryl)
- □ From interjections –(zizz, to zap, sis-boombah, to whee, qwerty, yuck)
- ✓ Novelty and innovative form

#### **Borrowings**

- Cultural sphere (cinematheque, anti-roman)
- Political sphere (ayatollah)
- Everyday life (petit dejeuner)
- Scientific sphere (biogeocoenosis)

Borrowings

Assimilated (nudge, schlep, glitch)

Not assimilated (dolce vita, gonzo, gyro, zazen)

Stylistical colouring of the words change, homonymic relationships are formed, higher vocabulary variability

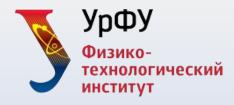
#### Morphological neologisms

- By affixes (victimologist, yuppie, yampy)
- Complex words (muffin choker, glass-ceiling, couch potato)
- By conversion (a rip off, to carpool)
- Mergers (workaholic, podcast, compunicate)
- ☐ Shortenings (imho, lol, asap, detox)
- Analogy and typisation as a basis for this type of neologisms creation

#### Active elements in morphological neologisms

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Abbreviations, acronyms, numerals (B-chromosome,
ara A, Day-1, catch-22);
Shortenings (slimnastics, infotainment);
Semi-affixes (labor-intensive, user-friendly,
industry-wide);
Semi-suffixes (bookoholic, skatergate, guilt-free,
stressbusters)
Higher degree of motivation in this type of neologisms,
demonstrate the tendency for rationalisation and
economy
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# Scientists and their works



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# Conclusions



- The issue of correlation of conventialization and creativity in formation of the words needs to be addressed: not all new words are creative
- Nomination is not only semantic process (reflecting a link between a sign and a referent), but pragmatic process as well (reflecting a correlation between a sign and its users)

## Thanks for Your attention!

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