

## **PREFIXES AND THEIR ROLES IN WORD-FORMATION PROCESSES**

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Prefixes are called word-building morphemes that precede the root and change the lexical meaning of the formed word, while not changing its belonging to any lexico-grammatical class. Prefixes mis- (mistaken), un- (unfair), be- (become), out- (outside), up- (upheaval), under- (understudy), over- (overboard), with- (withdraw) and others are native, while dis- (disbar), in- (income), con- (connection), re- (retrace) and many others are borrowed from Latin and French.

M. M. Polyuzhin defines a prefix as “a prepositive, regularly repeating general service part of a series of words, performing a word-formation function in one of the acts of derivation, changing its semantic and nominative structures in the process of language development and participating in the formation of a number of onomasiological categories”. This definition especially emphasizes the important function of the prefix as a unit - the ability to build a word-formation series with a generalized meaning that can be modified at different stages of the history of the language.

If we classify prefixes in terms of semantics, then Ingo Plug distinguishes the following groups: 1) a large group that specifies the number of words, for example, "one" (uni-: unification), "twice" or "two" (bi-: bilateral), "many" (multi-: multipurpose, poly-: polysyllabic) , "little" (micro-: microwave), "with excess" (hyper-: hyperactive, over-: overtax), etc.; 2) locative prefixes with the meaning "around" (circum-: circumnavigate), "on", "above" (epi-: epiglottis), "between" (inter-: intergalactic), etc.; 3) temporary prefixes expressing the meaning "before" (ante-: antedate, pre-premedical, fore-: forefather), "after" (post-: postmodern) and "new" (neo-: neoclassical); 4) negative prefixes: a(n)- (amoral), de-

(demerit), dis(disbelief), in- (involuntary), non- (non-alcoholic), un- (unseen); nevertheless, they express such concepts as "falsehood" (mis-: misinterpret), "falsity" (pseudo-: pseudonym), "together", "together" (co-: co-operate), etc.

In neologisms related to different parts of speech, Greek and Romance prefixes are very productive in the modern language: anti- (anti-competitive), auto- (autoregulation), co- (co-manage), counter- (counterfoil), extra- (extraterritorial), inter- (interdepartmental), neo- (neoorthodoxy), post- (postgraduate), pre- (preschool), re- (retype), semi- (semisophisticated), sub- (subcommittee), ultra- (ultraviolet).

After reviewing the articles covering the policy of 2017-2018, the following data was obtained, which are displayed in the charts.

Diagram 1 shows which negative prefixes were found in the articles:

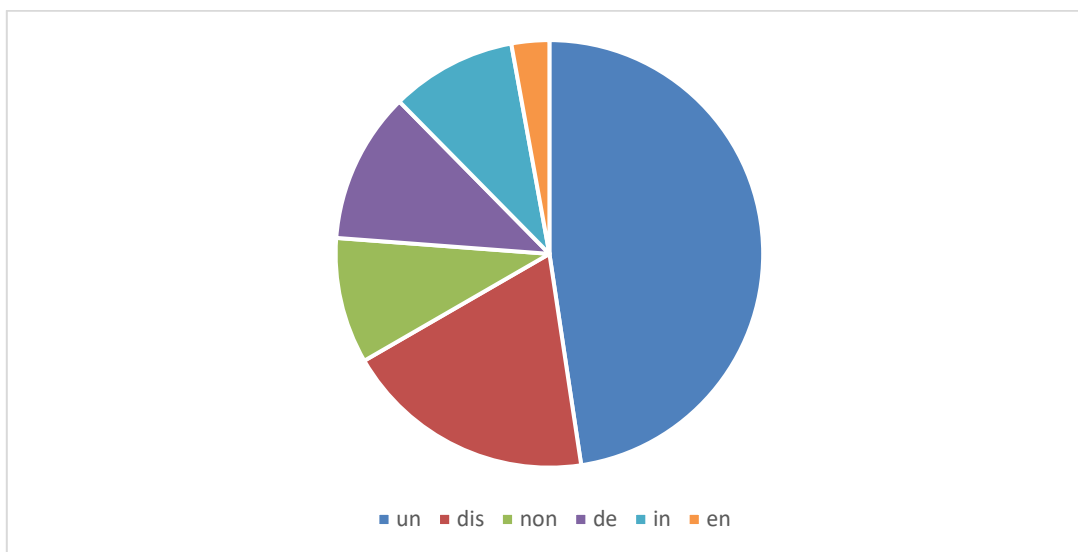


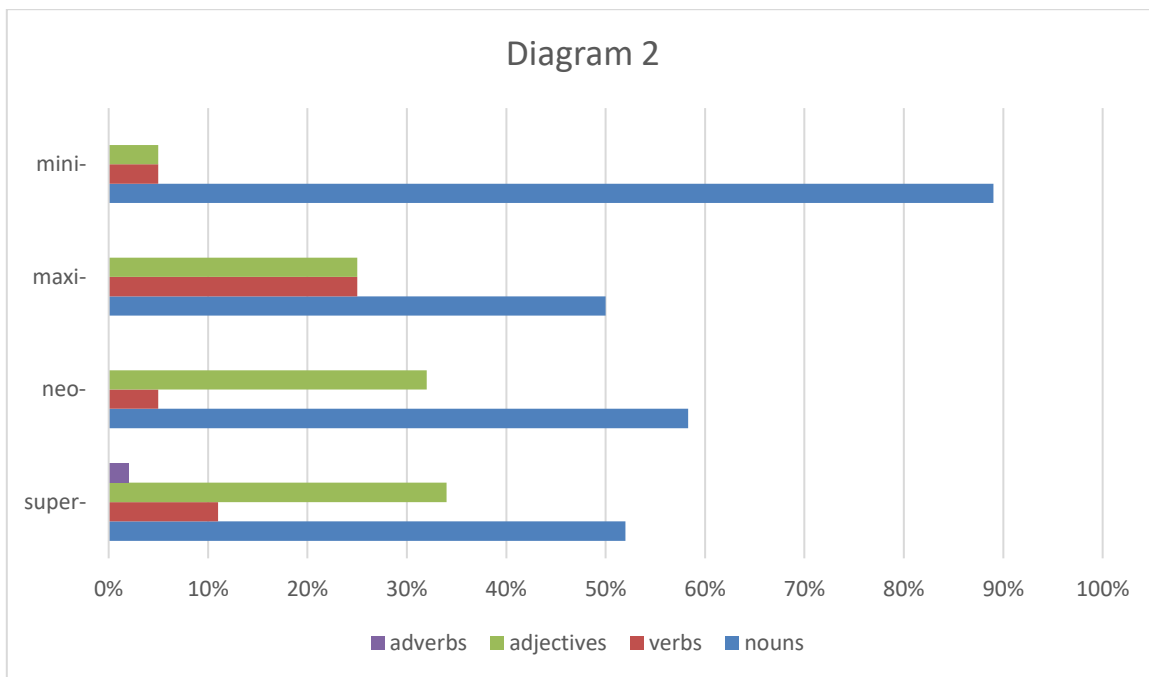
Diagram 1

Thus, the negative prefix un- is most often found in articles, while the prefixes en- and il- are most rare.

When observing the use of other prefixes in various articles, most of the words with super, neo, maxi, mini were identified. But most of all, words with super were used.

In order to find out what grammatical classes of words are represented in the process of making new words, I decided to choose the prefixes super-, neo-, maxi-, mini- and observe the tendency in dictionaries.

Diagram 2 shows what parts of speech are words with super-, maxi-, mini-, neo- prefixes:



According to this diagram, we can conclude that words with super-, maxi-, mini- prefixes are infrequently nouns and less often adverbs. In the course of the work, the most common dictionaries of the English language were researched and analyzed.

According to research and statistics, 52% of words with super- in English word formation were nouns, 34% were adjectives, 11% were verbs, and only 2% were adverbs. The same trend is observed in the words mini-, maxi-, neo-. Accordingly, the noun is 88.2%, 50% 58.3%. The adverb is completely absent. Despite the presence of adjectives and verbs, nouns predominate.

One of the central problems associated with the study of word formation in the English language is the ambiguous morphological status of a number of elements, which makes it difficult to classify word formation processes. Neoclassical formants, or elements borrowed from classical languages, are widely used in modern English word formation. It is impossible to imagine a scientific terminology that does not use the lexical and morphological elements of Greek and Latin. As you know, for several centuries until the Renaissance, the Latin language played the role of an international scientific language, and Latin and (often Latinized) Greek vocabulary for a long time was the only source of replenishment of international terminology in all areas of science and technology.

It is known that the main condition for borrowing a foreign word-building formant and systematic use of the corresponding word-building model in the receptor language is the borrowing from the source language of a number of words united by this formant. Therefore, in scientific terminology, both lexemes directly borrowed from classical languages and neoclassical formations created in English using Greek and Latin morphological material are common.

It is not always possible to unambiguously establish whether these elements are affixes or stems: depending on the specific use, they can act as a prefix, one of the stems of a compound word (including an unstable type), a postfix, or play a role that is not always possible accurately define. Laurie Bauer notes that "there are a number of elements in English word formation which, while functioning as affixes in some cases, differ from affixes in their other manifestations."

Like prefixes and suffixes, these elements are attached to stems (for example, Bauer gives examples such as anelectric, photoelectric, musical, where the elements an-, photo-, -al and -ology act as affixes). However, the scientist also argues that such reasoning can lead to the "dangerous

conclusion" that "some lexemes consist entirely of affixes", "of a prefix and a suffix without a root", such as galvanoscope, electrophile, or protogen.

The variety of meanings of borrowed elements is associated both with their original semantics and with the meanings they acquired in the recipient language. Thus, it was only in the New English period that the prefix non- acquired a countermeasure in addition to a negative one [Polyuzhin 1992a:266]. In a similar way, already in New English the prefix sub- developed the meaning of partivity, and the prefixes arch-, semi- and super- acquired the phase meaning of antecedence (precedence) [Polyuzhin 1992: 219]. The prefixes that became part of the language in the Early New English period are noteworthy in that most of them mainly take part in terminological word formation [Polyuzhin 1992: 415]. It can be said that the borrowing of word-building units in the Early New English period often serves a specific purpose: the creation of terminologies that adequately correspond to the level of development of scientific thought in the 16th-17th centuries. M. M. Polyuzhin identifies 21 elements that entered the language at this time: a2-, ab-, ana-, ante-, cis-, contra-, epi-, extra-, hyper-, hypo-, infra-, intra- / intro-, meta-, multi-, pan-, para-, peri-, preter-, proto-, retro-, ultra. A number of prefixes were borrowed in the New English period proper: apo-, ando-, exo-, juxta-, meso-/mes-, mono-, tri-, penta-, deca-, deci-, hecto-, kilo-, mega-, macro-, maxi-, per-, micro-, mini-, proto-. It can be noticed that the tradition of borrowing quantitative elements, which first arose in the Middle English period, was especially widespread in the New English language. Since the language at that time had long possessed the usual means of conveying quantitative values, this pattern can only be explained by the "terminological", scientific role of Latin and Greek elements, which began to be associated with a certain – academic – sphere of use. Thus, it can be argued that the system of English prefixation itself was formed under the influence of emerging scientific traditions. Briefly, the English prefix system is a complex, heterogeneous phenomenon. Its distinguishing features are the predominance of borrowed prefix elements over native English ones, as well as the simultaneous coexistence of semantically close units that enter into variant relationships. The question of the quantitative composition of its inventory cannot be unambiguously resolved due to a number of features - the ambiguous morphological status of many borrowed units, the low productivity of native English elements, and the genetic similarity of some prefixes (for example, super- and supra-, dating back to the Latin super). However, it is extremely important that the prefixes borrowed in the Early New English and New English periods are an integral part of the vocabulary of English-language scientific texts - it is impossible to overestimate the importance of their role in scientific discourse.

Thus, the important role that prefixation plays in English term formation is largely related to the very nature of scientific discourse and its close connection with classical languages. Unlike English suffixes, which can change the part of speech of a word when attached to a stem, prefixes in English rarely play this role.

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