

WORD-FORMATION MODELS IN O. HENRY'S STORIES

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the study of word-formation patterns in O. Henry's stories. The main methods of word formation, such as word composition, affixation, and conversion, are analyzed.

Special attention is paid to how O. Henry plays with linguistic norms, creating accidents and ironic constructions that become a key element of his unique style.

Key words: affixation, English, occasionalism, comic effect, derived word.

In English, words can be simple, derived, or complex. Simple words consist of a root, to which morphological inflections (endings) can be added. For example, the words tree and cat are simple because they have not been subjected to any word-formation processes. Simple words are basic vocabulary units that can be used independently or serve as the basis for creating more complex words [1].

Derived words are formed as a result of word-formation processes such as affixation or conversion. For example, teacher = teach+er is suffix -er, and happiness = happy + ness is using the suffix -ness.

Compound words are created by combining two or more bases.

For example, sunflower = sun +flower, while notebook = note+book.

Such words often have a unique meaning that is not always directly related to their components [2].

Compound words are complex words that additionally undergo word-formation processes.

For example, first-nighter is formed from the complex base of first night with the addition of the suffix -er.

Although such words have two bases, from the point of view of word formation they are analyzed in the same way as single-compound derivatives.

For example, Londoner and first-nighter are both formed using the -er suffix, despite the difference in the structure of their bases.

Modern English has a minimal number of inflectional inflections. For example:

- s is used to form the plural of nouns (cats)
- 's is for the possessive case (cat's),
- s is for the 3rd person singular of verbs in the present tense (he runs).

This makes the morphological structure of English words relatively simple. The root of a word often coincides with its base, which simplifies analysis and understanding. In addition, many English words are monosyllabic, which also makes them easier to use and remember [1].

1. *His name is Scudder, he is 45 years old, he takes piano lessons and extracts 15,000 barrels of oil per day from his wells* [6].

Word formation: Barrels is a suffix formation from barrel + -s (plural). Wells is a suffix formation from well + -s (plural).

2. *In the morning, Turpin took bromine-camphor, took change from under his watch, put on a hat, did not have breakfast and went to the office* [6].

Word formation occurs with the help of:

bromine-camphor is a complex word formed by adding the basics.

Departure is a suffix formation from depart + -ure.

3. *The Peaviners took me by surprise, and Bill was grabbed by the bridle and started a conversation that was not completely divorced from the topic of fruit trees.*[5].

Word formation using: **Peaviners** is a suffix formation from Peavine + -er (denotes inhabitants). Conversation is a suffix formation from converse + -ation.

In the works of O. Henry, accidents are often found, which serve as one of the most expressive means of creating a comic effect. These author's neologisms, endowed with a special meaning, can violate grammatical norms and break language rules. Such elements require special attention when reading and translating, which not only forms the unique style of the writer, but also adds a certain complexity to the text.

1. *Helen Grimes, chaparralish as she can be, is goaded beyond imprudence* [4].

In this example, the author uses the occasional chaparralish, an adjective derived from the word **chaparral** ("thickets of shrubby oak") with the addition of the postfix -ish. Chaparral is a thorny shrub, so derived word **chaparralish** occasionalism metaphorically conveys the "prickly", sharp character of the heroine.

2. *Nevertheless, if I may be allowed, I will tell you of an Indian Territory feud of which I was press-agent, camp-follower, and inaccessory during the fact* [6].

The occasional accessory is used here, formed from the noun accessory using the negative prefix in-. The probable meaning of occasionalism is "not being an accomplice." The comic effect is due to the ironic use of a pseudoscientific term instead of the expected accessory during the fact ("accomplice in the event of a crime").

3. *'Well,' says I, 'maybe you've really got kleptopigia'* [5].

In this example, the author creates the occasionalism **kleptopigia** by combining elements of the word's kleptomania (from the Greek kleptes — "thief" and mania — "madness") and pig. The probable meaning is "morbid attraction to pig theft." This derived word was created using the prefix -klepto, where the root word is pig and the suffix -ia is added.

Thus, in the works of O. Henry, one can see his own and unique style of comic effect, using a large number of elements of word formation to convey his own author's meaning.

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