

## “PREDICTIONARIES” OR ENGLISH NEOGRAPHY TODAY

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The problem of creation and usage of new words has always been of interest for linguists but special actuality it has received this epoch when we observe a so-called “neological boom” in the English language. Extreme speed of society development in different spheres of life leads to creation of a vast number of neologisms.

In recent years appeared several dictionaries which present on their pages newly coined words and thus, recognize the impact of social media and new technologies in the English language.

The 12th edition of the Concise Oxford English Dictionary has included in the new edition 400 neologisms. Among the other words the Oxford Dictionary has got the word “*jeggins*”, that is a cross between *jeans and leggings*. Earlier this year, the Oxford dictionary included in the official list of English words abbreviations *OMG* (“*Oh my God*”) and *LOL* (“*laugh out loud*”), as well as a symbolic image of the heart made by the punctuation marks and numbers “<3”. Some other neologisms are “*retweet*” – *to copy messages in the micro blog Twitter*, “*cyberbullying*” – “*Internet harassment*” and “*sexting*” – *sending an SMS or obscene content*.

Now the Concise Oxford English Dictionary has 240,000 words.

In the meantime, the English language has no tendency to minimise its wordstock. Over the past years, English has lost only about a dozen words that are completely out of use in modern English-speaking society, according to a study conducted by a team of European reference book Collins Dictionary. Those words include “*airport*” and “*buggy*” (*four-wheeled open carriage with transverse seats in rows*).

Apart from the famous "Oxford English Dictionary", which every year announces verbal updates that appear in its next edition, his competitor – Publishing Collins – for the first time published a list of the words that come out of the British and everyday items are now considered “outlived its time.” These words are now only of historical interest, and as a result, they are excluded from the short version of the Dictionary of Contemporary English.

Another source of neologisms is an on-line International Dictionary of Neologisms which at present counts almost 3000 words and their definitions: “*allograph*” - *a certain written form of a particular letter*. And the biggest dictionary of neologisms for today is the Macquarie Dictionary (2012) which in its printed version contains 5000 new words. Its online version is constantly replenishing: “*guyliner*” - *eyeliner used by a man* and “*meggings*” - *leggings for men* are some words that feature in the fashion section.

The creative potential of a neologism is designed not only to fill gaps in language but also to generate new concepts and meanings. Another brilliant example of modern word experimenting is the book “PreDictionary: Experiments in Verbal Creativity” by Mikhail Epstein, which contains about 150 words filling blank spaces in language. It is a dictionary of would-be words that are designed to fill gaps in language and generate new concepts and meanings: “*happicle*” – *a particle of happiness*; “*lovedom*” – *kingdom of love*; “*cerebrity*” – *a famous person*; “*syntellect*” – *social intellect of humanity*; “*chronomania*” – *fair of the quick pace time*.

Such words are the result of one of the most unusual and complex word-formation process – blending of two or more clipped stems. Freshness, unexpectedness and harmony of a new word often create a humorous effect: “*adead*” – *being dead while still remaining a subject of constant speculation and attention*; “*dunch*” – *a meal between dinner and lunch*; “*hu*” – *from "human", gender neutral pronoun of the 3-d person singular in the meaning "he or she"*; “*agication*” – *cross between agitation and education*.

The desire of communicants to concise their speech, but at the same time make it more informative, explains extreme popularity of the units of this type in the media, advertising and speaking. The value of a new word, either fully or partially combines the values of all its structural components, as a perfect illustration of the principle of economy of language manifestations efforts.

In recent time, the English language is increasingly supplemented with words that reflect the rapid global development. They reflect new technological and cultural realities and concepts in all the fields of social relations.

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