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Word Spy's New English Words Coined between 2014 and 2018

A Case Study on Recent Word-formation Patterns, Frequency of Parts of Speech, and Conceptual Content

Abstract

Examining the vocabulary according to various criteria is an extremely complex task. It is made even more complex, if we intend to cover the issue of neologisms only, because it is not always possible to know exactly when a new word was coined. Using a really detailed online source of neologisms, Word Spy, which also includes the dates of the earliest use, I attempt to count the words coined between 2014 and 2018 and registered on Word Spy. My paper - which examines only that source of new words, and which is therefore a case study - also covers these words' word-formation patterns, the frequency of the parts of speech, and the conceptual contents. The ratio of the parts of speech offers us some insight into English native speakers' habits in terms of word formation.
Keywords: neologism, word formation, parts of speech, frequency

Introduction

My paper sets off to cover the intricate process of word formation to see the numerous factors contributing to the creation of new words. The framework of my analysis is a case study, which illustrates the process of word formation through four well-defined objectives.

The scope of my analysis in terms of space is the website Word Spy, where such words are registered; and in terms of time, the period commencing on January 1, 2014 and ending on October 31, 2018. The reason why I have selected this span of time is that I wish to examine a quite recent period regarding word-formation patterns, conceptual contents and frequency of parts of speech. As we will see later in my paper, only 56 words were coined between January 1, 2014 and October 31, 2018, which means a very small samples; therefore, no general quantitative judgements may be formed. Samples of so small number, however, may allow for case studies, when certain factors precisely define the basis of the paper.

The scope of my analysis in terms of content is comprised of 1) the exploration of the word-formation processes and 2) the frequency of the parts of speech of these 56 relatively new words. Bearing these main issues in mind, I aim to achieve the following four objectives.

1) counting the words coined between January 1, 2014 and October 31, 2018 and later uploaded on Word Spy, and providing their categories, i.e. parts of speech as indicated

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on Word Spy, ways of word formation, and the dates of their earliest use (performed in Section 1);

2) exploring the frequency of the parts of speech of the new words. Such distribution may facilitate the judgement of word-forming habits/tendencies defined by my scopes of space and time (completed in Section 2);

3) preparing a frequency list of the types of word formation, which may also help us in forming our judgement of word-forming habits (I address this issue in Section 3);

4) creating a table of the conceptual content of the new words, on the basis of which we may have an overall insight about the issues prompting language users to coin new words between January 1, 2014 and October 31, 2018 (the topic of Section 4).

Word Spy is comprised of newly coined words coming from miscellaneous topics, and each new word is filed under at least one conceptual content on this website. Therefore, the vocabulary analysed in my paper is heterogeneous in terms of content.

Such contents refer to rapidly developing fields of various branches of science, industry, medicine, etc. New items enter our life, which have to be named as Kadoch (2013: 13) explains, referring to Ayto (2007: 1), when he writes: "*Every year that passes throws up new ideas, experiences, and inventions for which no name has hitherto existed, and since names are indispensable cogs in the machinery of communication, our natural human propensity for coining them soon plugs most gaps.*"

At this point, we need to adopt a definition of neologism that we bear in mind throughout this paper. As Wei and Wenyu suggest, "*There is no common definition for neologism among linguistics. It can be defined as "those derivatives that were newly coined in a given period "(Plag,2000). However, a neologism does not only refer to a newly-created word but an old word with new meaning. The flux of words happens under certain contexts, such as the introduction of new ideas, new inventions, and new phenomena and so forth* (Wei and Wenyu 2014: 24)". Since my paper covers a precisely defined period of time and investigates some such old words with modified meaning, e.g. *sea-lion,* I find that Plag's and Wei-Wenyu's interpretations of neologisms are fit for the purposes of my paper.

Minya (2009) classifies Hungarian neologisms according to similar criteria I have referred to. His criteria are the following: 1) intention; 2) purpose of creation; 3) form of communication; 4) conceptual content; 5) way of creation; 6) part of speech.[1] Being concerned with mainly the morphological and syntactical aspects of recent English neologisms, the present study employs only four of these criteria as the basis of examining the newly coined words: conceptual content, way of creation, part of speech, and some mention will be made of their purpose of creation in the conclusion.

The contents of the above three paragraphs create the linguistic framework for my paper. This framework applies to the 56 words I analyse in my paper, because all of them must have been created to fit some need in life – in other words, as the language users' reaction to the reality they have experienced; in other words, changes in vocabulary are good indicators of various linguistic, political, social, etc. phenomena in the case of the language being examined (Minya 2009).

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[1] "*1. a szándékoltság szerint, 2. a létrejöttük célja szerint, 3. a kommunikáció formája szerint, 4. fogalmi tartalmuk szerint, 5. a létrejöttük módja szerint, 6. szófajuk szerint.*" (Minya 2009)

1 Counting the words coined between January 1, 2014 and October 31, 2018 and later uploaded on Word Spy

Dividing the words coined between January 1, 2014 and October 31, 2018 and later uploaded on Word Spy into parts of speech demanded an up-to-date and large online source. Therefore, I chose a valuable online resource, Word Spy, a website on which we can check the newly uploaded words and their meanings, etymologies, contexts, etc. New words can be searched by alphabetical order, date of uploading, and by categories. The words in Table 1 are from that site.

My method was as follows: I started collecting the newly coined words starting from January 2014, and went on month by month. During this manual process, the date of uploading was my clue for searching, because I assumed that the first newly coined words would appear first in January 2014. Table 1 includes only the earliest attestations, not the dates of uploading.

Table 1 shows all the 56 words uploaded on Word Spy. We can also see the parts of speech, a detailed list of types of word formation, and the final column marks the earliest attestations[2] taken from Word Spy. Searching these new words on Word Spy was carried out on November 3, 2018.

No.	Words	Categories as Seen on Word Spy	Morphological Phenomena (Types of Word Formation[3]), on the Basis of The Etymological Data of Word Spy	Earliest Attestations Indicated on Word Spy
1.	sneckdown	noun	Blending (adjective + noun)	January 1, 2014
2.	vortex-proof	adjective	Compounding (noun + adjective)	January 6, 2014
3.	silent traveler	noun	Compounding (adjective + noun)	January 6, 2014
4.	track-a-holism	noun	Derivation (verb + suffix)	January 9, 2014
5.	narcisstick	noun	Blending (adjective + noun)	January 11, 2014
6.	check box fiction	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	January 28, 2014
7.	drought shaming	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	February 14, 2014
8.	personal protection drone	noun	Compounding (adjective + noun + noun)	February 26, 2014
9.	infinity machine	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	March 6, 2014
10.	pollen vortex	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	March 18, 2014

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2   When we examine the dates of the earliest use, we must be aware of the potential that the sense of newly coined words usually becomes widespread long after the attestation, as Cook (2010: 100) also writes: "[…] the date of the earliest known usage of a word sense, which could be much earlier than the widespread use of that sense."

3   Throughout my paper, I use O'Grady's terminology (O'Grady 2007: 137–154)

11.	egotarian	adjective	Derivation (noun + suffix)	March 18, 2014
12.	connectivity aircraft	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	March 27, 2014
13.	fauxsumerism	noun	Blending (adjective + noun)	April 2, 2014
14.	hearable	noun	Derivation (verb + suffix)	April 3, 2014
15.	dronie	noun	Blending (noun + noun)	April 15, 2014
16.	nearable	noun	Derivation (verb + suffix)	April 17, 2014
17.	datakinesis	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	May 7, 2014
18.	whaling	present participle	Derivation (noun + suffix)	May 24, 2014
19.	hedge city	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	May 26, 2014
20.	insomnia identity	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	May 28, 2014
21.	reducetarian	noun	Derivation (verb + suffix)	June 13, 2014
22.	nanodegree	noun	Derivation (prefix + noun)	June 16, 2014
23.	pay-as-you-app	noun	Compounding (verb + conjunction + pronoun + verb)	June 24, 2014
24.	IRB laundering	present participle	Compounding (initialism + noun/verb)	June 29, 2014
25.	jerktech	noun	Compounding (adjective/noun + shortened noun)	July 3, 2014
26.	chumbox	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	July 11, 2014
27.	Ebolaphobia	noun	Derivation (noun + suffix)	July 31, 2014
28.	breastsleeping	noun	Blending (noun + noun)	August 1, 2014
29.	thumbstopper	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	August 2, 2014
30.	Ebolanoia	noun	Blending (noun + noun)	August 3, 2014
31.	subway desert	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	August 21, 2014
32.	sea-lion	verb	Conversion	September 21, 2014
33.	big nudging	noun	Blending (adjective + noun)	October 1, 2014
34.	biononymity	noun	Blending (adjective + noun)	October 23, 2014
35.	uni-moon	noun	Blending (prefix + noun)	October 27, 2014
36.	JeSuisCharlie	hashtag	Compounding (a French sentence in English usage)	January 7, 2015
37.	fracklog	noun	Blending (noun + noun)	March 5, 2015
38.	vanity capital	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	April 21, 2015

39.	herd misogyny	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	May 12, 2015
40.	unicorpse	noun	Blending (noun + noun)	July 18, 2015
41.	Kipsang number	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	August 24, 2015
42.	greyball	verb	Blending (adjective + noun)	September 2, 2015
43.	super flasher	noun	Compounding (adjective + noun)	October 6, 2015
44.	dudefussing	present participle	Compounding (noun + noun)	November 3, 2015
45.	legacyquel	noun	Blending (noun + noun)	November 23, 2015
46.	idea debt	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	December 6, 2015
47.	shadow flipping	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	February 6, 2016
48.	tunnel fur	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	March 6, 2016
49.	mathwash	verb	Blending (noun + verb)	May 9, 2016
50.	benching	present participle	Derivation (verb + suffix)	June 9, 2016
51.	ghost hotel	noun	Compounding (noun + noun)	July 6, 2016
52.	kittenfishing	present participle	Compounding[4] (noun + noun)	October 8, 2016
53.	begpacker	noun	Blending (noun + noun)	November 3, 2016
54.	neighbor spoofing	present participle	Compounding (noun + noun/verb)	December 5, 2016
55.	dopamine dressing	present participle	Compounding (noun + noun/verb)	January 17, 2017
56.	beach-spreading	present participle	Blending (noun + noun/verb)	July 19, 2017

Table 1. Word Spy's newly coined words (January1, 2014 – October 31, 2018)

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[4] Exocentric, see O'Grady et al. (2007: 149)

2 Exploring the Frequency of the Parts of Speech of the New Words

Categories as Seen on Word Spy	Number of Instances of Neologisms
noun	42 (75 %)
verb	3 (5.35 %)
adjective	2 (3.57 %)
present participle	8 (14.28 %)
hashtag	1 (1.78 %)
Total	56 (100 %)

Table 2. Categories in Word Spy

Words ending in -*ing* taken from Word Spy	Category used on Word Spy	Verbal form suggested on Word Spy?
drought shaming	n	drought shame
whaling	pp	no
IRB-laundering	pp	no
breastsleeping	n	breastsleep
big nudging	n	no
dudefussing	pp	no
shadow flipping	n	no
benching	pp	bench
kittenfishing	pp	kittenfish
neighbor spoofing	pp	no
dopamine dressing	pp	no
beach-spreading	pp	no

Table 3. The 12 words ending in –ing

Parts of Speech	Number of Instances (Neologisms)
noun	38 (67.85 %)
verb	3 (5.35 %)
adjective	2 (3.57 %)
noun (-*ing* words)	12 (21.42 %)
other	1 (1.78%)
Total	56 (100 %)

Table 4. Parts of speech with - ing nouns

Parts of Speech	Number of Instances (Neologisms)
noun	38 (86.36 %)
verb	3 (6.81 %)
adjective	2 (4.54 %)
other	1 (2.27 %)
Total	44 (100 %)

Table 5. Parts of speech without -ing nouns

Tables 2, 4 and 5 provide an overview about a total of 56 newly coined words in terms of categories and parts of speech, respectively. Table 2 shows the categories as seen on Word Spy. The word category is deliberately retained in Table 2, because the categories do not indicate parts of speech exclusively. Tables 4 and 5, however, present the number of instances in terms of parts of speech, but we must make a distinction due to the dual function as nouns and verbs of 12 words ending in -*ing* (see Table 3).

The reason for this distinction is as follows: Unfortunately, Word Spy labels its lexical elements ending in -*ing* as nouns or participle forms regardless of the existence of other verbal forms. As Table 3 shows, there are 12 words ending in –*ing,* which can theoretically also have the other forms of any English verb, i.e. the base, -s form, -ed form, -en form. Word Spy, however, shows that there are only 4 words from Table 3 that actually have verbal use (*drought shame, breastsleep, bench*, *kittenfish).* In other words, these 4 words ending in –*ing* can function as nouns and verbs as well. Since Word Spy does not indicate that other verbal forms exist for the remaining 8 words, I re-classify these 8 words as nouns in Table 4 within the category of noun (-*ing* words).

When Word Spy gives attested verbal forms other than the -*ing* form, the -*ing* could be verbal or nominal.[5] I classify these 4 words ending in -*ing* as nouns because it is the -*ing* form of all these words that are the headwords on Word Spy, not the base form of the verb, and I also present two statistical tables in addition to Word Spy's original: Table 4, where all the -*ing* forms are included as nouns, and Table 5, where they are excluded. Similarly, the statistics about word-formation types in Tables 6 and 7 will also be presented once with and once without the -*ing* forms, respectively.

Regarding the most numerous group in every table, it is definitely the noun category: 42 (75 %), 38 (67.85 %), and 38 (86.36 %) words have been assigned to it, respectively. The adjective has 2 (3.57 %) and 2 (4.54 %) words; the verb has 3 (5.35 %) and 3 (6.81 %) words in all tables.

Table 2 has a category, hashtag, with a single word (*JeSuisCharlie*) – which is actually a sentence in French. It is categorised as "other" in Table 4 and 5, because it is not a single word, therefore it may not be labelled as any part of speech.

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[5]   To determine the word formation processes of the newly coined words seen on Word Spy, we would need to know whether the verb was coined first (*drought shame*), or the -*ing* form (*drought shaming*). If the -*ing* was first, it was the result of compounding (*drought + shaming*) and the verbal -*ing* form is later formed through forming a verb (*drought shame*) from the noun (*drought shaming*) by backformation and then using that verb in the -*ing* form. If the verb was created first, it was created by compounding (*drought* n + *shame* v) and the -*ing* form could be converted into noun. Since no such dates of attestation are provided on Word Spy, ascertaining this kind of priority is not possible using Word Spy.

3   Preparing a Frequency List of the Types of Word Formation

Before presenting my data regarding the frequency of the types of word formation, I also present what Bauer (1994) has attained, in Figure 1, taken from Kadoch (2013: 58):

Formation type	1880-1913	1914-38	1939-82	Total
Abbreviations	2	5	13	20
	0.4 %	1.1 %	2.5 %	1.3 %
Blends	7	14	16	37
	1.2 %	2.9 %	3.1 %	2.4 %
Shortenings	13	11	17	41
	2.3 %	2.3 %	3.3 %	2.6 %
Compounds	132	97	118	347
	23.3 %	20.4 %	22.8 %	22.2 %
Derivation	355	292	291	938
	62.9 %	61.3 %	56.2 %	60.2 %
Other	53	55	61	169
	9.9 %	12.0 %	12.1 %	11.3 %
Total	562	474	518	1552
	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %

Figure 1

Bauer's (1994) table, which is based on the results of research covering a century, shows that the most frequent formation type is derivation (938 instances in total, 60.2 %), and compounds come in second place only (347 instances altogether, 22.2 %). My findings are rather different, although I analysed only a few years. Table 6 shows that compounding as a formation type has the highest number (30 instances, 53.57 %), and blending is the second most frequent one (16 instances, 28.57 %). Still, both Figure 1 and Table 6 show that compounding is a really frequent way of forming new words.

Table 6 shows the frequency of the types of word formation on the basis of my search on Word Spy and of my morphological examination. Moreover, Table 6 includes the types of word formation relating to the 12 words ending in –*ing.* As seen in this table, I have sorted the types of word formation according to the parts of speech of their constituents.

As I point out in Section 2, I present Table 7 as well, which excludes words with *-ing* ending. The types of word formation concerned by this exclusion are italicised to make the comparison with Table 6 easier.

Types of Word Formation	Number of Instances (Neologisms)
Compounding (noun + noun)	20 (66.66 %)[6]
Compounding (adjective + noun)	2 (6.66 %)
Compounding (noun + noun/verb)	2 (6.66 %)
Compounding (a French sentence in English usage)	1 (3.33 %)
Compounding (adjective + noun + noun)	1 (3.33 %)
Compounding (adjective/noun + shortened noun)	1 (3.33 %)
Compounding (initialism + noun/verb)	1 (3.33 %)
Compounding (noun + adjective)	1 (3.33 %)
Compounding (verb + conjunction + pronoun + verb)	11 (3.33 %)
Total Number of Instances of Compounding	**30 (53.57 %)**
Blending (noun + noun)	7 (43.75 %)
Blending (adjective + noun)	6 (37.5 %)
Blending (noun + noun/verb)	1 (6.25 %)
Blending (noun + verb)	1 (6.25 %)
Blending (prefix + noun)	1 (6.25 %)
Total Number of Instances of Blending	**16 (28.57 %)**
Derivation (verb + suffix)	5 (55.55 %)
Derivation (noun + suffix)	3 (33.33 %)
Derivation (prefix + noun)	1 (11.11 %)
Total Number of Instances of Derivation	**9 (16.07 %)**
Total Number of Instances of Conversion	**1 (1.78 %)**
Total	**56 (100 %)**

Table 6. Word-formation types with words ending in –ing

Types of Word Formation	Number of Instances (Neologisms)
Compounding (noun + noun)	*16 (69.56 %)*
Compounding (adjective + noun)	2 (8.69 %)
Compounding (noun + noun/verb)	*0 (0 %)*
Compounding (a French sentence in English usage)	1 (4.34 %)
Compounding (adjective + noun + noun)	1 (4.34 %)
Compounding (adjective/noun + shortened noun)	1 (4.34 %)
Compounding (initialism + noun/verb)	*0 (0 %)*
Compounding (noun + adjective)	1 (4.34 %)
Compounding (verb + conjunction + pronoun + verb)	1 (4.34 %)

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[6] Percentage values not typed in bold indicate the percentage distribution of the more specific types of word formation within the more general categories typed in bold, e.g. **Total Number of Instances of Compounding.** This remark applies to Table 7 as well.

Total Number of Instances of Compounding	**23 (52. 27 %)**
Blending (noun + noun)	*6 (46.15 %)*
Blending (adjective + noun)	*5 (38.46 %)*
Blending (noun + noun/verb)	*0 (0 %)*
Blending (noun + verb)	1 (7.69 %)
Blending (prefix + noun)	1 (7.69 %)
Total Number of Instances of Blending	**13 (29.54 %)**
Derivation (verb + suffix)	*4 (57.14 %)*
Derivation (noun + suffix)	*2 (28.57 %)*
Derivation (prefix + noun)	1 (14.28 %)
Total Number of Instances of Derivation	**7 (15.9 %)**
Total Number of Instances of Conversion	**1 (2.27 %)**
Total	**44 (100 %)**

Table 7. Word-formation types without words ending in –ing

As we can see in Table 7, the exclusion of words ending in *–ing* affected the following types of word formation (the numbers in brackets indicate the number of occurrences after the exclusion):

- Compounding (noun + noun)   (16) 36.36 %[7]
- Compounding (noun + noun/verb) (0) 0 %
- Compounding (initialism + noun/verb)   (0) 0 %
- Blending (noun + noun)   (6) 13.63 %
- Blending (adjective + noun)   (5) 11.36 %
- Blending (noun + noun/verb)   (0) 0 %
- Derivation (verb + suffix)   (3) 6.81 %
- Derivation (noun + suffix)   (2) 4.54 %

Since compounding is the most numerous type of word formation, this is the type which lost the most instances after the exclusion: now, there are 7 instances less than in Table 6, which means a decrease of 23.34 %. Blending lost 3 instances (a decrease of 18.75 %); derivation only 2 (a decrease of 22.22 %). As I mention in Section 2, the determination of the word formation process is closely related to the existence of the verbal use of words ending in *–ing*.

Judging from Tables 6 and 7, the most frequent type of word formation is compounding.[8] Compounds comprise slightly more than half of the total, 30 (53.57 %) and 23 (52. 27 %), respectively; I found 16 (28.57 %) and 13 (29.54 %) instances of blending; derivation has 9 (16.07 %) and 7 (15.9 %) instances; conversion has only 1 instance (1.78 % and (2.27 %, respectively) in each table. Considering the above data again: there seems to be a sequence of these categories in terms of difficulty – which varies, obviously, from one language user to another one.

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[7]   The percentage values in this list indicate the percentage distribution of the types of word formation seen in Table 7. The basis of the calculation is the total value of 44 seen in Table 7.

[8]   Algeo (1991: 7) has a similar observation: "Compounds […] are the most numerous type of combination."

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I briefly explain each process to introduce my reasoning. Compounding is the process of creating two-word words, both constituents of which being already existing words. Blending is the merging of two words; this will result, however, in a single word only. Derivation means adding to the base[9] an affix.

In my opinion, creating brand-new two-word words by using existing ones is easier than blending or deriving words. Thus, as the overwhelmingly big proportion of compounding also shows, this category is really frequent.

4   Conceptual Contents of the New Words

After studying Figure 2 taken from Kadoch (2013: 63), we may come to the conclusion that there are similarities between Ayto's (2007) and my findings in terms of the conceptual contents in the most recent decade. There are, however, significant differences between Ayto's (2007) and Word Spy's method of grouping the conceptual contents. Ayto's (2007) fields are listed according to decades; those of Word Spy relate to 56 new words coined between 2014 and 2018. Figure 2 "summarizes the semantic fields which grew most rapidly in the succeeding decades of the 20th century." (Ayto 2006: 2).[10] This implies that the list of the semantic fields does not include all the other fields that can be associated with the neologisms in a certain decade.

In each chapter, Ayto (2006) gives an introductory text about the decade in question, including several neologisms being typical of the era in the body of the text. This is followed by an alphabetical order and detailed explanations of the neologisms - but no grouping according to semantic fields follows. This means that Ayto (2006) did not group the neologisms according to semantic fields; the basis of grouping was decades.

To make the comparison easier, I present a categorisation in Table 9 which is similar to Ayto's (2007) table. I emphasize here that Ayto's (2007) and Word Spy's conceptual fields are compared not in terms of time, but of similarity in meaning.

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[9]   O'Grady uses the term *base* (O'Grady 2007: 135) but it is referred to as *stem* by Quirk et al. (1985: 1519) In my paper, I use *base.*

[10]   As Kadoch (2013: 13) also emphasizes in a footnote, John Ayto's 2006 book *Movers and Shakers: A Chronology of Words that Shaped our Age* is the same as his 2007 volume *A Century of New Words.* Oxford: University Press.

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1900s: cars, aviation, radio, film, psychology

1910s: war, aviation, film, psychology

1920s: clothes/dance/youth, transport, radio, film

1930s: war/build-up to war, transport, film/entertainment

1940s: war, post-war society/international affairs, nuclear power, computers, science

1950s: media, nuclear power, space, computers, youth culture

1960s: computers, space, youth culture/music, media, drugs

1970s: computers, media, business, environment, political correctness

1980s: media, computers, finance/money, environment, political correctness, youth
       culture/music

1990s & 2000s: politics, media, Internet and other electronic communication
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Figure 2

The conceptual fields of the new words (see Table 8) indicate which conceptual content yielded how many words, which may help us in judging the language users' tendency in terms of coining new expressions. We must bear in mind that the conceptual fields seen in Table 8 are those used on Word Spy, and a word may belong to more than one field, e.g. *dopamine dressing* is filed under APPEARANCE, CLOTHING, PSYCHOLOGY.

Conceptual Content	Neologisms
INSULTS	infinity machine, jerktech, chumbox, sea-lion, herd misogyny, dudefussing, mathwash, begpacker, (8)
DEVICES	silent traveler, track-a-holism, narcisstick, infinity machine, hearable, nearable, thumbstopper (7)
PSYCHOLOGY	track-a-holism, ebolaphobia, thumbstopper, ebolanoia, big nudging, idea debt, dopamine dressing (7)
CELL PHONES	silent traveler, infinity machine, pay-as-you-app, thumbstopper, neighbor spoofing (5)
DATA	track-a-holism, nearable, datakinesis, big nudging (4)
DISEASES AND SYNDROMES	track-a-holism, insomnia identity, ebolaphobia, ebolanoia (4)
HASHTAG	sneckdown, dronie, jerktech, jesuischarlie (4)
MEN AND WOMEN	check box fiction, herd misogyny, super flasher, dudefussing (4)
SOCIAL NETWORKING	drought shaming, dronie, thumbstopper, jesuischarlie (4)
TRAVEL AND TOURISM	silent traveler, uni-moon, ghost hotel, begpacker (4)
ACTIVISM	reducetarian, biononymity, jesuischarlie (3)
AVIATION	personal protection drone, connectivity aircraft, dronie (3)
CRIME	whaling, herd misogyny, neighbor spoofing (3)
ECONOMICS	pay-as-you-app, big nudging, vanity capital (3)
INTERNET	connectivity aircraft, whaling, chumbox (3)

MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIPS	uni-moon, benching, kittenfishing (3)
MEDICINE	ebolaphobia, ebolanoia, super flasher (3)
MONEY	hedge city, fracklog, vanity capital (3)
PEOPLE	silent traveler, reducetarian, begpacker (3)
PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE	datakinesis, pay-as-you-app, jerktech (3)
SECURITY	personal protection drone, datakinesis, whaling (3)
URBANISM	sneckdown, hedge city, subway desert (3)
WEATHER	sneckdown, vortex-proof, pollen vortex (3)
AGING AND DEATH	hedge city, super flasher (2)
BIOLOGY	pollen vortex, biononymity (2)
BUZZWORDS	fauxsumerism, unicorpse (2)
CLOTHING	vortex-proof, dopamine dressing (2)
COMPANIES	jerktech, unicorpse (2)
FILM	dronie, legacyquel (2)
FOOD AND DRINK	egotarian, reducetarian (2)
HARDWARE	hearable, nearable (2)
HEALTH	track-a-holism, super flasher (2)
HOUSING	shadow flipping, ghost hotel (2)
IDIOMS	jesuischarlie, greyball (2)
LIFESTYLES	fauxsumerism, vanity capital (2)
OTHER TRANSPORTATION	subway desert, tunnel fur (2)
PHOTOGRAPHY	narcisstick, dronie (2)
SCIENCE	IRB-laundering, mathwash (2)
TECHNOLOGY	silent traveler, jerktech (2)
VERBED NOUNS	sea-lion, benching (2)
WRITING	check box fiction, idea debt (2)
ADVERTISING	chumbox (1)
ANGER AND ANXIETY	drought shaming (1)
APPEARANCE	dopamine dressing (1)
ART AND DESIGN	idea debt (1)
BOOKS AND MAGAZINES	check box fiction (1)
CARS	sneckdown (1)
COMPUTERS	hearable (1)
CORPORATE CULTURE	jerktech (1)
CULTURE	sea-lion (1)
EDUCATION	nanodegree (1)
EMAIL	whaling (1)
ENVIRONMENT	drought shaming (1)
EUPHEMISMS	tunnel fur (1)
GEOGRAPHY	fracklog (1)

GOVERNMENT	big nudging (1)
INVESTING	unicorpse (1)
LEISURE	beach-spreading (1)
MAKING	idea debt (1)
MARKETING	thumbstopper (1)
MUSIC	idea debt (1)
NETWORKING	connectivity aircraft (1)
PLANTS AND GARDENING	pollen vortex (1)
PREGNANCY AND PARENTING	breastsleeping (1)
PRIVACY	biononymity (1)
RACE	check box fiction (1)
RETAIL	fauxsumerism (1)
RUNNING	Kipsang number (1)
SLEEPING	insomnia identity (1)
SPAM	whaling (1)
SPORTS AND RECREATION	Kipsang number (1)
SURVEILLANCE	biononymity (1)
TELEPHONES	neighbor spoofing (1)
TIME	Kipsang number (1)
WALKING	sneckdown (1)

Table 8. Conceptual fields taken from Word Spy

Table 8 indicates the 75 conceptual contents into which the 56 words uploaded on Word Spy were categorised. The number in brackets shows how many words are classified into each of these contents, e.g. the most numerous conceptual content, INSULTS, has 8 words. Barely lagging behind are DEVICES and PSYCHOLOGY, each having 7 words. The content standing in third place is CELL PHONES, with 5 words.

These conceptual contents reveal the most productive fields providing the majority of the newly uploaded words on Word Spy. The words on Word Spy – and therefore, in my table as well - are unproportionally distributed among the conceptual contents, i.e. there are contents with only one word (e.g. CARS includes *sneckdown* only), but there are ones with even 4 words (e.g. TRAVEL AND TOURISM has *silent traveler, uni-moon, ghost hotel, begpacker*. Associated with 75 conceptual contents, these words show how complex, witty and ingenious the processes of word formation could be.

Table 9 shows a comparison of Ayto's (2007) and Word Spy's categories in alphabetical order. Obviously, this is not the only possible way to assign these categories to each other. For the sake of easy comparison, first I conflated both Ayto's (2007) and Word Spy's conceptually related categories, then I assigned the newly grouped categories to each other. There are categories from both taxonomies which have no counterparts: these are indicated by a dash. The total numbers typed in bold mark the numbers of the neologisms without repetition in each (sometimes conflated) set of Ayto's (2007) and Word Spy's categories. My classification creates a fine continuation for Ayto's (2007) table for two reasons: 1) I continue

where Ayto (2007) stopped: the newly coined words from the 2010s, and 2) I also offer several words for electronical devices. These words are closely connected to the field of internet, which virtually controls our life.

Ayto (2007)	Word Spy's categories	Words from Word Spy
AVIATION	AVIATION	personal protection drone, connectivity aircraft, dronie (3)
		Total: 3
BUSINESS, FINANCE/MONEY	ADVERTISING	chumbox (1)
	COMPANIES	jerktech, unicorpse (2)
	CORPORATE CULTURE	jerktech (1)
	ECONOMICS	pay-as-you-app, big nudging, vanity capital (3)
	INVESTING	unicorpse (1)
	MAKING	idea debt (1)
	MARKETING	thumbstopper (1)
	MONEY	hedge city, fracklog, vanity capital (3)
	RETAIL	fauxsumerism (1)
		Total: 11
CARS	CARS	sneckdown (1)
		Total: 1
CLOTHES/DANCE/YOUTH, YOUTH CULTURE/MUSIC	ACTIVISM	reducetarian, biononymity, jesuischarlie (3)
	APPEARANCE	dopamine dressing (1)
	CLOTHING	vortex-proof, dopamine dressing (2)
	CULTURE	sea-lion (1)
	EDUCATION	nanodegree (1)
	LEISURE	beach-spreading (1)
	LIFESTYLES	fauxsumerism, vanity capital (2)
	MUSIC	idea debt (1)
		Total:11
—	CRIME	whaling, herd misogyny, neighbor spoofing (3)
		Total: 3
DRUGS	—	—
	ENVIRONMENT	drought shaming (1)
	GEOGRAPHY	fracklog (1)
	PLANTS AND GARDENING	pollen vortex (1)

ENVIRONMENT	TRAVEL AND TOURISM	silent traveler, uni-moon, ghost hotel, begpacker (4)
	WEATHER	sneckdown, vortex-proof, pollen vortex (3)
		Total: 9
FILM, FILM/ENTERTAINMENT	FILM	dronie, legacyquel (2)
		Total: 2
INTERNET AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION, COMPUTERS	COMPUTERS	hearable (1)
	DATA	track-a-holism, nearable, datakinesis, big nudging (4)
	DEVICES	silent traveler, track-a-holism, narcisstick, infinity machine, hearable, nearable, thumbstopper (7)
	EMAIL	whaling (1)
	HARDWARE	hearable, nearable (2)
	HASHTAG	sneckdown, dronie, jerktech, jesuischarlie (4)
	INTERNET	connectivity aircraft, whaling, chumbox (3)
	NETWORKING	connectivity aircraft (1)
	PRIVACY	biononymity (1)
	PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE	datakinesis, pay-as-you-app, jerktech (3)
	SOCIAL NETWORKING	drought shaming, dronie, thumbstopper, jesuischarlie (4)
	SECURITY	personal protection drone, datakinesis, whaling (3)
	SPAM	whaling (1)
	SURVEILLANCE	biononymity (1)
		Total: 20
	BOOKS AND MAGAZINES	check box fiction (1)
	CELL PHONES	silent traveler, infinity machine, pay-as-you-

MEDIA, RADIO		app, thumbstopper, neighbor spoofing (5)
	PHOTOGRAPHY	narcisstick, dronie (2)
	TELEPHONES	neighbor spoofing (1)
	WRITING	check box fiction, idea debt (2)
		Total: 8
POLITICAL CORRECTNESS, POLITICS	GOVERNMENT	big nudging (1)
	RACE	check box fiction (1)
		Total: 2
PSYCHOLOGY	ANGER AND ANXIETY	drought shaming (1)
	PSYCHOLOGY	track-a-holism, ebolaphobia, thumbstopper, ebolanoia, big nudging, idea debt, dopamine dressing (7)
		Total: 8
SCIENCE	ART AND DESIGN	idea debt (1)
	BIOLOGY	pollen vortex, biononymity (2)
	SCIENCE	IRB-laundering, mathwash (2)
	TECHNOLOGY	silent traveler, jerktech (2)
	TIME	Kipsang number (1)
		Total: 8
SPACE	—	—
TRANSPORT	URBANISM	sneckdown, hedge city, subway desert (3)
	OTHER TRANSPORTATION	subway desert, tunnel fur (2)
		Total: 4
—	DISEASES AND SYNDROMES	track-a-holism, insomnia identity, ebolaphobia, ebolanoia (4)
	FOOD AND DRINK	egotarian, reducetarian (2)
	HEALTH	track-a-holism, super flasher (2)
	MEDICINE	ebolaphobia, ebolanoia, super flasher (3)
	RUNNING	Kipsang number (1)

	SLEEPING	insomnia identity (1)
	SPORTS AND RECREATION	Kipsang number (1)
	WALKING	sneckdown (1)
		Total: 9
WAR, WAR/BUILD-UP TO WAR, NUCLEAR POWER, POST-WAR SOCIETY/INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	—	—
	AGING AND DEATH	hedge city, super flasher (2)
	HOUSING	shadow flipping, ghost hotel (2)
—	MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIPS	uni-moon, benching, kittenfishing (3)
	MEN AND WOMEN	check box fiction, herd misogyny, super flasher, dudefussing (4)
	PEOPLE	silent traveler, reducetarian, begpacker (3)
	PREGNANCY AND PARENTING	breastsleeping (1)
		Total: 14

Table 9. A comparison of Ayto's (2007) and Word Spy's categories

Before discussing Table 9, I must draw attention to Table 10, which shows five categories from Word Spy: INSULTS, BUZZWORDS, EUPHEMISMS, IDIOMS, and VERBED NOUNS. We must not include them in Table 9, because these categories can be assigned to any conceptual field depending on the meaning of the words or expressions that are euphemisms, buzzwords, idioms or verbed nouns. Therefore, including them into Table 9 would be misleading for the following reasons as well:

- INSULTS refers to the words' pragmatic function, not their meanings;
- BUZZWORDS and EUPHEMISMS refer to the words' stylistic feature, not their meanings;
- IDIOMS is a descriptive term based on the difference between the literal and figurative meanings, but not on the conceptual field of the figurative meaning;
- VERBED NOUNS do not refer to a lexical or conceptual field such as the others.

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INSULTS	infinity machine, jerktech, chumbox, sea-lion, herd misogyny, dudefussing, mathwash, begpacker, (8)
BUZZWORDS	fauxsumerism, unicorpse (2)
EUPHEMISMS	tunnel fur (1)
IDIOMS	jesuischarlie, greyball (2)
VERBED NOUNS	sea-lion, benching (2)

Table 10. Word Spy's five categories not included in Table 9

According to Table 9, the most numerous set of conceptual contents is INTERNET AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION, COMPUTERS (Ayto 2007) with 20 neologisms, these are categorised into COMPUTERS, DATA, DEVICES, EMAIL, HARDWARE, HASHTAG, INTERNET, NETWORKING, PRIVACY, PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE, SOCIAL NETWORKING, SECURITY, SPAM, SURVEILLANCE (Word Spy). The second most numerous set of categories has 14 neologisms, this set is the result of the conflating of Word Spy's categories: AGING AND DEATH, HOUSING, MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIPS, MEN AND WOMEN, PEOPLE, PREGNANCY AND PARENTING. Oddly enough, none of Ayto's (2007) categories fits into this big set of neologisms. The third place is shared by two conflated sets of Ayto's (2007) categories, each having 11 neologisms. The first set includes BUSINESS, FINANCE/MONEY (Ayto 2007), and ADVERTISING, COMPANIES, CORPORATE CULTURE, ECONOMICS, INVESTING, MAKING, MARKETING, MONEY, RETAIL (Word Spy); in the second, we can see Ayto's (2007) CLOTHES/DANCE/YOUTH, YOUTH CULTURE/MUSIC, and Word Spy's ACTIVISM, APPEARANCE, CLOTHING, CULTURE, EDUCATION, LEISURE, LIFESTYLES, MUSIC. These four large sets bring forth the potential of high numbers of new words, as these generic fields include more specific ones.

We can see that the most productive fields were those fields that are closely related to electronic communication and everyday life (e.g. social relations, clothing, and financial issues). As I mentioned above, the similarity between Ayto's (2007) findings and these results are remarkable especially in large sets like INTERNET AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION, COMPUTERS (Ayto 2007) with 20 words, and BUSINESS, FINANCE/MONEY (Ayto 2007) with 11 words.

As we can see, there are several empty boxes in Table 9. This is due 1) to these categories' grouping I offer in Table 9: other ways of their grouping might have resulted in fewer empty boxes, and 2) to categories referring to different historical periods, and to sometimes utterly different meanings, e.g. Ayto's (2007) WAR, NUCLEAR POWER, etc. According to my grouping, Ayto's (2007) following categories have no corresponding categories on Word Spy: DRUGS, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS, SPACE, WAR, WAR/BUILD-UP TO WAR, NUCLEAR POWER, POST-WAR SOCIETY/INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. These categories refer mainly to the Cold War era.

Similarly, the following Word Spy categories (24 words altogether) have no corresponding categories in Ayto's (2007) table: CRIME, DISEASES AND SYNDROMES, FOOD AND DRINK, HEALTH, MEDICINE, RUNNING, SLEEPING, SPORTS AND RECREATION, WALKING; AGING AND DEATH, HOUSING, MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIPS,

MEN AND WOMEN, PEOPLE, PREGNANCY AND PARENTING. Apart from CRIME, the first list includes health-related categories; the second shows categories referring to issues of everyday life, and imply correlation with the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Conclusion

To sum up, my search addressing almost five years' set of newly uploaded words on Word Spy has explored the origin, formation and various distributions of these words. My analysis has revealed the following results:

1) During my search, I found 56 new words on Word Spy, but that does not mean at all that this is the total number of newly coined words. In addition, parts of speech, word formation, and the first attestations were also provided in Section 1.

2) Section 2 reveals that the most numerous group was the noun during my search. In my opinion, language users wanted to name new phenomena which mainly fit the category of nouns (c*f* Ayto [2007: 1]).

3) Preparing a frequency list of the types of word formation (Tables 6 and 7), which was the issue in Section 3, revealed that compounding was the most frequent type of word formation[11]. Bauer's (1994) Figure 1, and Tables 6 and 7 show that compounding is a widespread word formation process. Bauer's (1994) data revealed that the most frequent formation type was derivation, and compounds had only the second highest number, and other types of word formation were the most frequent ones. Figure 1 shows that blending had the second lowest frequency, and this implies that it was quite infrequent between 1880 and 1982 according to Bauer (1994). My observations remarkably differ from those of Bauer (1994): Table 6 shows that derivation comes in third place, blending is the second most frequent type of word formation, and compounding is the most frequent one. Regarding recent times, we may see a significant rise in the use of blending.

4) The analysis of the conceptual contents revealed that, generally, those fields yield the most new words that are related to electronic communication, internet, especially information technology, devices, internet, and issues of daily routine. Ayto's (2007) table, see Figure 2, also supports the results seen in Tables 8 and 9.

In addition to the previous points, my case study reveals how complex and multifaceted word formation, word-coining, language users' resourcefulness and their ceaseless need for new expressions are. After having completed these four tasks, I can describe these phenomena in a more detailed way.

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[11] Minya has come to a similar conclusion regarding Hungarian*: „A leggyakoribb szóalkotási mód a szóösszetétel, azon belül a jelentéssűrítő összetétel''* (the most frequent method of word creation is compounding, namely the one whose meaning can be parapharsed with a phrase), (Minya 2009) [translation mine].

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