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NEOLOGISMY V SOUČASNÉ ANGLIČITNĚ  
NEW WORDS in PRESENT- DAY ENGLISH

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### Abstract:

This thesis is to determine the word neologism as a term based on the present-day vocabulary point of view and furthermore, it tries to identify the formation processes based on which new words come to being. It also tries to analyze which of the formation processes dominate and which of them are no longer used.

This analysis further observes the spheres, where neologisms most frequently occur. In spite of the fact that it may seem that new words can appear everywhere, there are areas, where they are more frequent than elsewhere. Such areas may be the IT sphere, scientific field and, of course, the pop culture.

### Anotace:

Tato diplomová práce se zabývá neologismy v moderní angličtině, jejich výskytem a procesy, na základě kterých novotvary vznikají. Přestože z lexikologického hlediska existuje mnoho slovtvorných procesů, některé se v dnešní době při tvorbě nových slov vyskytují v menší míře než ostatní.

Podobná situace nastává v případě výskytu novotvarů. I zde je třeba brát v úvahu mnoho odvětví lidské činnosti, kde mohou neologismy vznikat a kde je jejich výskyt omezený. Naopak existují obory, kde je tvorba nových slov naprosto běžný jev a jsou tím pádem velmi časté.

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# 1. Introduction

Is this word a neologism or not? What criteria should be applied? Such questions have been keeping linguists busy for ages. This thesis maps the occurrence, formation processes and the meaning of a set of English neologisms collected from English newspapers, books, and the speech of native speakers in the period starting in 2007 until 2009. It deals with the criteria to be applied when deciding whether that specific word is a neologism or not. The never-ending process of any living language is fascinating and exciting. It can not be fully studied and filed in the period of one year, thus the work deserves a whole of life dedication, but even then not all neologisms would be properly classified.

Merriam-Webster in its online version gives a very simple definition of a neologism: “*a new word, usage or expression, or a meaningless word coined by a psychotic.*”<sup>1</sup> However, based on the research of some linguists such definition cannot be considered as complete because an ideal definition, which would include all the possible and necessary aspects does not exist yet.

Neologisms are a very controversial topic in modern linguistics. Some linguists favor them for they are closely connected with the language dynamism and prove the language to be still alive by adding a number of words to the existing vocabulary every year. Others are not so keen on seeing new words coming into being. They are a serious obstacle to translation and cause a lot of trouble for interpreters as well as for non-native speakers. However, there are whole groups of linguists who observe new words and deal with their classification, formation, occurrence or even frequency. Some of them may even be employed by

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/neologism>

lexicographic publishing houses to help them with their lexicons, dictionaries and corpora.

Linguists concentrate on neologisms for two main reasons. Firstly, new words widely used in a language should be paid some attention because of their possible inclusion in a formal dictionary in their updated versions to help the non-native speakers understand modern writing and, of course, enrich their vocabulary. Secondly, linguists make themselves busy with the analysis of neologisms as such in terms of their classification, declination, and derivation. Both of these studies require a thorough and longtime observation.

The aim of this thesis is to attempt to observe and study the dynamics of the English language from 2007 to 2009. By reading stocks of English newspapers, listening to endless radio programs, watching online videos for hours in search for the broadest variety of neologisms, I have written the account of my results. I have also thought about the process how the words have been coined and what might be the origin of the words. The origin of the word plays a very important role concerning its behavior and forms. A language is usually enriched by loan words and based on the assimilation into the language they can be identified based on different spelling or unnatural form principally in forming the plural. The loans are influenced by the process of language interaction.

Firstly, the practical part of the thesis deals with the word structure and the formation process the specific words have undergone. This includes the differentiation between the processes and evaluation which of the processes are more frequent than others as well as the possible stem words of which the final product has been derived. Secondly, I will try to differentiate the main spheres where neologisms occur most frequently as well as decipher the potential reasons



for such a situation. The percentage in which they occur in a specific domain is greatly influenced by the nature of the domain itself. Some use new technologies and innovations, others keep their proven techniques and principles and thus the use of neologisms is highly limited and rare.

In conclusion I will try to formulate some hypothesis based on my research as well as create a dictionary of the English neologisms studied.

## **2. Word stock**

English is from the genealogical point of view a West Germanic language, belonging into the biggest language group of the Indo-European languages. It can be divided into three different stages: the Old English Period, which lasted until the Norman Conquest in 1066. English in its most modern version was formed in the 16th century. The Middle English was further modified over the centuries and gradually the more modern variant of English came to life. This form is called the Modern English. The Old English had been characterized by a lot of suffixes and prefixes; in many regards resembling Czech grammar.

The Middle English underwent a great change concerning grammar. At this time came the transformation from a synthetic language into an analytical language. There were no gender marks with nouns, no adjectival concord with plural nouns, cases marked by suffixes and prefixes were suppressed. English adapted the system of a fixed word order to eliminate the necessity of cases, modal and auxiliary verbs came into usage.

How did new words come into being? There are many processes that words undergo during their creation. Native speakers do not really notice on which basis they create new words because for them it is a natural process. Nonce words, which are products of a momentary feeling or express the instant perception of a thing or

reality, are at the same time as neologisms just words made up to satisfy the person's needs at that specific moment.

The processes may be those mentioned before or completely different strategy, for example to borrow words from other languages. This phenomenon is not very common in English. English is usually the language, which serves as the source of borrowed words for other languages since it is one of the communicative languages in domains such as IT technology, marketing and other worldwide processes.

There are cases from the history when English was enriched by other languages that dominated the world communication at that time. Those had been German until 1066 when William the Conqueror introduced the French language. Each of them left their traces, which are visible even in modern English. There are marks in some words that directly hint the origin.

In modern times English is still enriched with new borrowed words. In this case it involves the element of fashion. Fashionable words of any language are used all over the world regardless the lack of understanding of such a word. Everybody uses the word so we will use it too. This is the case of all the Japanese gadgets such as *tamagochi*, *pokemon*, etc.

The occurrence of borrowed words is usually limited to their commercial sphere. Japanese words will be dominant in gadgets and new inventions. Chinese and Indian will be widely spread in food industry especially the typical dishes that will keep their original name and will be gradually accepted into English: delicacies such as *sushi* or *fugu* must have been considered as new few years ago. The fashion industry is strongly influenced by the French language: the word *couturier* is originally French but has been assimilated into English and is no longer

considered a foreign element. The borrowings are not predictable but quite common. It is a natural process to name a reality with a name everybody uses rather than creating a new word that nobody else understands.

This aspect is very strongly related to the cultural acceptance of such a word. As linguists have different opinions about neologisms, the actual users of the English language sometimes do not regard neologisms as a valuable part of a language. Such opponents say that a word for a specific new thing already exists in the language and there is no need to create a new one for it. Aitchinson puts it very clearly when speaking about the puritan point of view concerning neologisms in English (1981:4) “...*Large number of intelligent people condemn and resent language change, regarding alteration as due to unnecessary sloppiness, laziness or ignorance.*” The most important word in the phrase seems to be “intelligent people”. The prevailing feeling tends to be that common people with just elementary education usually opposed to changes but based on her argument this does not seem to be the case. Ordinary people are in favor of the change. It is easy and comfortable. Furthermore, another argument sometimes used by educated people, linguists are in majority against it is the conservatism of some Englishmen. They consider neologisms as ignorance of English and bastardization of such an already rich language as English without a doubt is. Why should we oppose change? It is always a sign of life. Only dead languages keep their vocabulary stable and unchanged. A living language resembles a living human being; the more it grows, the more it knows. The more inventions and new technologies there are, the more names and expressions come to life. However, some linguists still cling to their idea that: “*There is an absolute standard of correctness which should be maintained – has its origin in a natural nostalgic tendency. Purists behave as if*

*there was a vintage year when languages achieved a measure of excellence which we should all strive to maintain. In fact, there never was such a year.*” (Atchinson,1981:13). Any language will reach a perfect level any time. Due to its never-ending evolution it will always gain new words and people will always look forward to the final phase which never comes.

On the other hand, the proponents see neologisms as a way of enriching the language and very useful as a sign of language’s life and growth. *“The optimistic aim faces a number of problems involving language variation on the one hand and language fuzziness on the other.”*(Aitchinson,1981:39) The outcome of those debates then influences the acceptance of a neologism into a language. Sometimes it is delayed due to stronger arguments of the opposition. This demonstrates the reason why some of the neologisms never make their way into dictionaries and eventually die. Some, in spite of the great opposition of experts, continue to live in a word-of-mouth version and gradually become a valuable part of the language. The most difficult problem that troubles any linguist is how old the neologism in fact is. Due to the relative delay before the inclusion into a dictionary the identification can be slightly complicated by the fact that there is no evidence concerning the age of such a word. There are words in newspapers that are still written in quotation marks because updated dictionaries do not contain them but when another criterion is applied such as the internet explorer or the language corpus, the word might have existed for a few years already.

However, as it was said earlier, the English vocabulary can be traced back to two main substrates: Words of Germanic origin i.e. native and Romanic words i.e. French. The two substrates normally co-exist. There are usually equivalents of French words with words of a Germanic origin. The Germanic words tend to be

shorter and appear mainly, however, not necessarily in spoken language whereas words of French origin play a part mainly in official speeches and furthermore in a written form.

As any language in the world, English is constantly growing. The growing rate is around 25,000 words added to English every year based on the conclusion of Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Unabridged, published in 1961<sup>2</sup>. The difference between the Old English Period i.e. the 12<sup>th</sup> century and nowadays English in use is shocking: 50, 000 then to one million today. However, *an average educated person knows around 20, 000 words and uses up to 2,000 words a week.*<sup>3</sup>

The Mother Tongue gives the number 300 million people who spoke English all over the world in 1990 and states that about 200,000 words are used every day. J. Ayto gives very similar figures in his book( Ayto 1990:181): *“In January 1900 there were approximately 140 million native speakers in the world. A century later that figure has almost tripled to nearly 400 million.”* Together with the non-native speakers the outcome could give up to the 300 million people in the world. The number which seems huge permits linguists to study the language on a much wider level than for example Czech. *“In other words, every year on average 900 neologisms have come into existence which sooner or later make a sufficient mark to be considered as established in the language, and worthy of record in English’s largest dictionary.”* Those are naturally spread all over the wide spectrum of human domains.

The growth and, in general, the turnover of vocabulary corresponds to many changes. The geographical variants and differences have been mentioned earlier.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_English\\_Language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_English_Language)

<sup>3</sup> <http://hypertextbook.com/facts/2001/JohnnyLing.shtml>

There can be not only words but also whole perception of realities different among the versions of English. Thus it is not natural to study just one variant. The others are equally important.

## **2.1. Borrowings**

Besides the natural word-creation processes, which can be described as internal linguistics, such as the ones mentioned earlier, another source of neologisms comes from the coexistence of languages. As Saussure puts it (1966:189): *“Relations between linguistic phenomena and their geographical distribution involve entering the domain of external linguistics. The stability or instability of any language depends - on time alone. Geographical diversity is thus a secondary aspect.”* Since languages as well as societies cannot exist independently of one another, the mutual influence is logically unavoidable. Linguists distinguish three types of influence: substratum, adstratum, and superstratum influences.

### **SUBSTRATUM INFLUENCE**

If two languages with different power influence each other in a way that the non-dominant language plays the main role, it is characterized as substratum influence. For example the influence of Celtic language onto English can be observed in words such as London or Dover. This phenomenon is not widespread due to the fact that the expressions that originate from this influence are restricted to the area inhabited by the speakers of the language. Sometimes these words become widely used but usually do not gain much attention. Nowadays, the situation involves French as a source of neologisms in English. French expressions manifest themselves by their form as well as their pronunciation.

Another source of loan words in English is Arabic. Due to a rare, however, significant connection of the two languages especially after the 9/11 in the USA many neologisms have entered the word stock of everyday speech. Not only in the USA but in other countries of the world many Arabic expressions are used in connection with terrorism and fighting.

It is very difficult to observe any borrowed words in English because nowadays English represents the world superstratum language. It serves as a source of words that migrate to other languages not vice versa.

### **SUPERSTRATUM INFLUENCE**

It represents the exactly opposite process to the previous one. Superstratum is the dominant language in any area, which is a source of words that come to the less dominant neighboring language. An English example may be the French brought to the islands after the Norman Conquest, which was even magnified by the conquest itself where the French manifested their dominance over the English. Words in politics and especially in written contexts can be traced back to the French words even today. In some cases the English and the French coexist and since the generic terms for domestic animals are native English the meat processed from them is in original French words.

As the time goes, English has become a superstratum language and enriches French by hundreds of words every year, especially in the pop culture and the Internet vocabulary. This situation is not, of course, true only for French but all the other languages of the world.

## ADSTRATUM INFLUENCE

Adstratum is the case when none of the coexisting languages is in either way dominant or visibly stronger. This phenomenon manifests itself mainly in bilingual cities of countries with more than one official language. For speakers of both languages it is very difficult to identify a loan word from a native one.

Borrowed or loaned words are not very common in English because in most cases it plays the role of the superstratum language. Due to mass media and the Internet, English has spread all around the world. Some reasons might be simply the absence of the necessary word in a language or by the comfort such as loan provides. For either reason “*The Germans talk about **ein Image Problem** and **das Cashflow**, Italians program their computers with **il software**, French motorists going away for a **weekend break** pause for **les refueling stops**, Poles watch **telewizja**, Spaniards have a **flirt**, Austrians eat **Big Macks**, and the Japanese go on a **pikuniku**.*”<sup>4</sup>

However, English as other languages cannot stay completely isolated. As much as it lends its words to others, it also gains words from languages that surround it. Traditional food brings its name with it, typical examples of other languages become fashionable and later gain their place in English too.

### 3. Language changes

English as any living language in the world is a subject to certain changes.

These changes can be studied separately or as a whole with a certain aim as to classify and observe the principles for the creation and distribution of neologisms.

According to Saussure (1966:121, 168): *diachronic change originates in the social*

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<sup>4</sup> The Mother Tongue, Bill Bryson, 1990, p. 12



*activity of speech. Saussure says that nothing enters written language without having been tested in spoken language. Language is changed by the rearranging and reinterpreting of its units. A unit is a segment of the spoken chain that corresponds to a particular concept. Saussure explains that the units of language can have a synchronic or diachronic arrangement.*

Diachronic linguistics deals with such changes in particular with causes and processes. There are three main language changes that need to be taken into consideration: social, geographical, and historical.

### **Social changes**

Social changes in linguistics are due to social changes within society. Logically, language as a means of communication reflects the social changes too. Social changes include popularity and social status that keeps changing regularly with time. Every time period seems to be influenced by the prevailing feeling in the society or in the world. The 1900s are marked by the rapid development of the automotive industry and aviation thus the biggest growth in vocabulary refers to these specific domains. In the 1990s the popularity has shifted towards politics, the media and the Internet. During the time of this research i.e. 2007 – 2009 the biggest growth was registered in the domain of politics the main reason being the US presidential elections, the scientific research which continues to evolve and the Internet which seems to gain new vocabulary every year.

### **Geographical changes**

Geographical changes are very frequent and logical according to Aitchinson (1981:39): *the most obvious type is a geographical variation. Everybody is aware that people from different geographical areas are likely to display differences in their speech.*” This has become a very strong argument of the opponents of

language changes. It is inevitable that every variant of the English language has its own word stock and specific vocabulary that goes hand in hand with specific neologisms. People who are in favor of the change appreciate this phenomenon. It is natural that every kind of English goes its own way. Why should we prohibit any change? There is no hierarchy between English variants as to which one deserves to live and which one should be condemned to die. It is very interesting to learn new words not only for the non-native speakers as well as the native speakers, but principally it represents a vital material for linguists. It usually involves a lot of fun and very straightforward interpretation of neologisms even by non-native speakers.

### ***Historical changes***

The historical changes seem to be the most natural feature of the language dynamism. From the linguistic point of view the gradual evolution of any language is undisputable and essential. Every living language contains archaisms, words that have ceased to be used and their understanding may have become quite problematic. They naturally die out or disappear as they are replaced by a new generation of words and as a part of the natural system of aging they are substituted or run over by new expressions. Neologisms mark the evolution and necessary growth of the word stock related to the social, economical and cultural growth of the whole society.

### ***Causes***

There are several causes of language changes that occur naturally passing unnoticed by the speakers. The most basic division involves the external and the internal factors differentiating causes that do not encompass only the creation of neologisms but also changes in the language in general.

Internal causes involve a self regulation of grammar. Every individual has his/her own standard of language knowledge that reflects the amount of changes they make. This goes together with the education. Less educated people tend to modify the language to their abilities and needs and those changes are sometimes misinterpreted as new trends. The more education the individual has the more he accepts the standards and fewer changes occur in his speech and writing.

An internal change can be caused by a chain reaction. A slight mistake happens by accident and other more evident changes follow starting a process that can be perceived and catalogued by linguists that leaves a mark on the whole system. It may start as a unique vocabulary within a specific group of people and gradually spreads starting a chain reaction which may take years to stop.

External causes of language changes unlike the internal i.e. changes by individuals caused either intentionally or unintentionally are originated by the social needs and pressures. Neologisms come to being mainly due to this factor. The society's evolution demands new vocabulary to be used as well as new structures to be formulated for faster and more precise communication to satisfy all the needs.

Socio-political pressures involve the orthographic and politically standardized changes that decide about the use and non use of certain formulations within the language. There is no such institution for the English language as there is Academie Francaise in France or Ústav pro jazyk český in the Czech Republic. These institutions revise the use of different words and word structures. Linguists later decide which words should be included and which should be excluded from dictionaries. This work is done by the big dictionary publishing houses concerning English.

Socio-pragmatic is the last cause in the process of language changes. This cause is again visible on the individual bases. It involves the subjective distinction from others. Naturally the main principle that follows is the communicative function of any utterance that should be unique and interesting from the lexicological point of view. These changes do not have a long duration and are easily forgotten. Nonce words would fit in this category by their nature.

### **3.2 Mechanisms of change**

Changes do not occur as such. There are some general mechanisms to be applied by which new structures and words enrich the word stock. Even though the changes appear unintentional, there are some mechanisms based on which they can be classified. Even though, the changes are visible, they pass unnoticed and naturally.

#### **3.2.1 Analogy**

New structures come into being by analogy. The comparison works on the level of neighboring languages on the basis of substratum and adstratum influences. Structures are formed again with regard to their functions and as far as neologisms are concerned they give the description of any reality and object.

Analogy seems to be one of the easiest mechanisms in the language. It works on the famous principle of “copy and paste”, where no special skills are required to initiate a change.

#### **3.2.2 Borrowings**

Another mechanism involves borrowings. This phenomenon, however, is not as frequent in English as in other languages where English plays the role of a superstratum language. In spite of the dominant position English has kept over the last years, the world wide trends find their way into the language too.

### **3.2.3 Extinctions**

A very often forgotten mechanism involves the extinction of certain structures or words from the general word stock. This mechanism corresponds and supports the historical change which is responsible for a constant exchange of old structures for new ones. The most visible change involves words and archaic expressions slowly leaving the present vocabulary of every speaker. Gradually words and structures keep vanishing and leaving the space to new structures and thus enhances the necessary evolution of every living language. The extinction is a fully natural process and seems evident only during generational clashes where they complicate mutual understanding.

### **3.2.4 Simplification**

Language changes are likely to be misinterpreted as a mark of inefficient education. However, simplification besides the use as a vague excuse is a language mechanism which contributes to language economy, necessary for speaking, in particular.

The principle of language economy demands simple structures promoting faster and more comfortable exchange in communication. The former bloomy sentences of the Victorian period i.e. the language of Shakespeare plays seems quite incomprehensible partly due to the extinction of archaic expressions and partly, and mainly, for the reason of complicated sentence structures that have fortunately been already simplified nowadays.

### **3.2.5 Lexicalization**

A very important mechanism and especially essential for this thesis is lexicalization. This process works on the basis of enriching the word stock rather than deleting old expressions it provides new expressions to the lexicon.

Lexicalization involves mainly structures on the lexicological level i.e. words and compounds. The syntax and semantics are not taken into consideration.

Through this process new words and paradigms are coined in every domain of life, adapting itself to the present needs of a language or a society. Thus it deserves a further and more thorough study.

## **4. Characteristics**

### **4.1 Neologisms**

It is important to take into consideration different approaches in the evaluation of neologisms. Based on the approach of Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, there are about four stages of neologisms in any language. *Unstable neologisms* are those which are used only by a specific group of people. Those which have just recently been made up and are not yet known to the wider public. They are sometimes called protologisms. A part of this category may be the scientific language, where new terminology is used only by a group of people involved in a special field of expertise.

Another stage before it enters a dictionary is *the diffused stage*. Such expressions have been used by the broader public but it has not been generally accepted as a new word. These can be names of new inventions or expressions used by the young generation. The main characteristic of this stage is not a determined life span of such a word.

A *stable stage* of a word is signified already by its name that if a word has reached this stage it is on the way to enter a lexicon within a few years. These neologisms have probably a long lasting life ahead. They already appear in literary works and are generally accepted by vast majority of speakers.

The last stage is *a dated stage*, which is the point where a neologism is no longer considered to be new and all the speakers of a given language can find an equivalent in a bilingual dictionary.<sup>5</sup>

Based on Aitchinson there are few causes for neologisms coming to life (1981:6): “*a slow decay and a slow evolution*”. The slow decay represents a very strong argument for all opponents of the idea. If the language needs more and more words it means that its vocabulary is not rich enough to satisfy its needs. Consequently, the language is deteriorating.

At the same time, the same argument could be used by the proponents of the neologisms theory. The inability of the language to cover all new realities is a sign that the need for new words is a constant part of the language dynamism.

This factor goes hand in hand with the other cause for neologisms – a slow evolution. All living components of a culture, namely the language, undergo constant changes required by the environment. As science and technology are in perpetual motion, the language naturally follows the trend. The evolution of the technological domain is necessary for the survival of any race. The same principle can be applied to linguistics and language evolution in particular. If the vocabulary does not evolve fast enough the question of language survival is at stake. Neologisms not only enrich any language vocabulary but enhance the chances for survival. If the language is not able to satisfy all the needs of the time, another language will take over as it is the case of Eire and other languages not spread enough to compete with more advanced languages.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neologisms>

## 4.2 Nonce words

Nonce words are a very specific phenomenon within the neologisms' category. The term nonce-word comes from the 16th-century phrase "for the nonce", which in Old English meant "for the once". As the phrase indicates its life span is far from long. The Century Dictionary online gives a very straightforward definition: "*A word coined and used only for the nonce, or for the particular occasion.*" *Nonce-words, suggested by the context arising out of momentary caprice, are numerous in England. They are usually indicated as such by the context. Some are admitted into this dictionary for historical or literary reasons, but most of them require or deserve no serious notice.*"<sup>6</sup>

They are created by native speakers mostly in a spoken language to describe one specific and momentary reality. Nonce-words are not meant to last a long time because even the creators of such "new words" do not remember them afterwards.

Thus, their short life makes nonce-words very rare and very difficult to collect because they are products of a moment.

Words from this category sometimes come from children's speech and in limited numbers in literature, particularly children's literature. This phenomenon can be seen especially in the work of Lewis Carroll. "*His Alice in Wonderland is full of nonce-words to name the realities in a fairy tale's world. The best source of nonce words or portmanteau words is his poem Jabberwocky*"<sup>7</sup>

Generally speaking, it is possible to conclude that nonce-words by their nature belong strictly into the domain of pop culture and spoken language. The written form usually talks about neologisms, however, the life span of some neologisms particularly those about the US President, such as the acronyms coined

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<sup>6</sup> <http://global-language.com/CENTURY/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jabberwocky>



of his name have the life span very similar to nonce words. Those were created for the purpose of a specific moment and due to the broad knowledge of his name will not last long. Based on this category, these acronyms deserve to be included among the newly coined neologisms in English.

### **4.3 Neologisms/ nonce words**

Based on their definitions, neologisms and nonce-words have some features in common, however, their main functions and characteristics are diametrically opposed. They are both new words created to name a reality speakers encounter every day. The process of their creation is also identical as far as the lexicological point of view is concerned.

However, the life span of neologisms and nonce-words are different. It would not be right to say that all neologisms are long-lasting because based on the different stages of their assimilation into a language it may happen that some of them do not make it all the way to the final stage and are forgotten as easily as nonce-words.

The word, which differentiates the two the most is “momentary caprice” meaning the life of such a word is determined by a moment whereas neologisms appear in newspapers, on TV and in the media become fashionable elements in a language.

Neologisms unlike nonce-words transcend their original context and still function within a language, whereas the latter never leave the context, in which they originated and are therefore very difficult to spot and classify.

Moreover, neologisms may share some common characteristics. There can be a division of neologisms into two main groups based on different criteria. The two groups: formal and informal neologisms could be, of course, subdivided into

yet smaller categories. The formal group would include scientific terminology and language of politics, business and words generally appearing in the newspapers.

Informal neologisms include expressions of pop culture, words from songs, films, the language of teenagers. These words hardly ever make their way into dictionaries and lexicons. Informal neologisms are very numerous; however, a majority of them are just nonce-words. Nonce words can thus exist in between the two groups because they can be both formal and informal. It is necessary to say, however, most of them appear as informal. This common feature clearly manifests the coherence in use and creation.

#### **4.4. Identification**

Formal identification is possible due to many lexicographic resources. In any language there are different kinds of dictionaries and thesauri, where the identification of a neologism is based on its absence. All the words that are not included in a dictionary should be considered as neologisms.

However, such criterion may not be applied on universal measures. Firstly, the edition of the dictionary used plays an important role. In older versions when compared to last-year editions one finds many entries missing. Every publishing house pays for studies of neologisms and conducts many experiments about the acquisition of new words in English, which are later published as appendixes. The situation with neologisms being classified in a dictionary has to take into consideration one very important fact and that are the different stages of neologisms and thus dictionary writers must monitor the word and wait until it completes all four stages. Wikipedia, an open encyclopedia, quotes earlier before the inclusion among other stable words. The question therefore is the spread of its meaning and

the amount of users who know and actively use the word otherwise dictionaries would be overwhelmed by mainly nonce words rather than neologisms which reach a certain percentage of usage in every day speech. When reading a dictionary there are words that have been around in usage for some time and they have been just recently included.

Secondly, specialized dictionaries should be taken into consideration as well. The absence of a word in a general dictionary does not automatically mean a neologism. Some of the words can be found in other dictionaries such as specialized dictionary of colloquial speech. When all these resources are checked and the word does not appear in either of them, then probably such a word is a neologism. There are many dictionaries that specialize in words in different domains. There is also an online dictionary: the Urban dictionary of Modern English and it is full of neologisms which are later rated by registered users if the word deserves more attention or should not move into general public consciousness. It is a best source of neologisms on the Internet, however, could not be used as a referential material for this thesis due to the fact that the credibility of the words and users cannot be proven.

However, even this argument is disputable. The dictionaries criterion is not only time consuming but can be wrong at the same time because the absence of a word in a dictionary does not define a neologism, it only identifies words that are not profoundly established in English to earn their entry in a dictionary. The reasons may be as follows: a low frequency of such a word, a very narrow specialization, a taboo word or just a victim of a busy lexicographer.

Furthermore, another problem arises with specific phenomena of English. Words such as *singularia tantum* or *pluralia tantum* may be mistaken for

neologisms. Dictionaries consider the word “*beer*” as uncountable, however, the form “*beers*” quite frequently appears in everyday speech. In such a case, “beers” is not a neologism, just a different use of the same word. This phenomenon could be classified as shift in the meaning towards broadening where the originally uncountable noun has gained a broader meaning following the present language trend.

Another means of identification of a neologism is a corpus approach. In order to decide whether a given word is a neologism or not, one can use two kinds of corpora: an external corpus, which should include all the known words up to a certain point or older issues of a specific newspaper that may serve the same purpose.

New words in such a corpus are marked with an asterisk next to them, however, even this identification process is not perfect. There are some peculiarities in any language, which would be marked with an asterisk and still they would not be neologisms. Such words would be typos, for instance. Newspapers as any other media are run by people and thus the occurrence of typos is justified. In spite of this it is not appropriate to consider a typo to be a neologism. The most known linguistic corpus is *The Bank of English*<sup>8</sup>, which has a free trial version available to all users.

Another sort of problems may be caused by abbreviations and proper names. All of these would be considered by a corpus to be neologisms but by their nature they may have existed for a long time already.

Another type of a constantly growing corpus is the Internet itself. Neologisms do not appear in any article if typed in any search button. This process

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<sup>8</sup> <http://www.collins.co.uk/corpus/CorpusSearch.aspx>

works well with nonce words and with neologisms collected from a spoken language because the language of newspapers would be found by the search engines.

In conclusion, it is important to say that both identification processes are helpful and necessary but must be used combined. Using just one as an ultimate source of justification is not enough because the aim when identifying new words is to eliminate all the possible distracters. Thus it is very difficult and time-consuming process which demands a lot of energy and patience. The reason why neologisms are not immediately included in a dictionary may be the long lasting process of observation because once included in a dictionary it would be difficult to erase it from the dictionary but to erase it from the public consciousness may take even longer.

## **4.5. Classification**

### **4.5.1 Occurrence point of view**

No phenomenon in a language can be stated as generally valid, furthermore if it concerns the word stock of a living language which keeps constantly growing and developing. The types of neologisms are very closely interconnected with the domains of life or culture, in which they most frequently occur. Based on this criterion it is possible to distinguish several kinds of neologisms in English:

1. *political neologisms* – words or whole phrases that relate to the current political situation as well as reacting to any political issue widely discussed. In the time of production of this thesis the presidential elections played a major role in the coinage of political neologisms being a source of countless number of neologisms, the majority of words in the whole American English group.

2. *scientific neologisms* – words used to name a new invention or scientific discovery. This field will never be short of neologisms because of the constant research done in different spheres. Those neologisms depend fully on the success of such a discovery or invention. In the period of writing this thesis, there were many words designing inventions recovered in specialized magazines and when compared with other more common media, there were many which did not even advance to the level of access to the broader public.

3. *pop culture neologisms* – words or phrases that appear mainly in a spoken language and may be regarded as a subgroup of a broader phenomenon known as slang. These are words that come from the media and everyday speech. They can also include the language of children and their simple versions of difficult words that are later widely used within families. They are difficult to classify and not very numerous in the thesis due to the lack of native speakers functioning as sources, however, from the lexical point of view these are the most interesting and the most challenging to work with.

4. *imported neologisms* - words generally known as loanwords. These originate in another language and are used to denote the same reality as in the original language. The names of meals, customs, etc belong into this category, which are in case of English not very common as it is visible in the reverse process where English is the source language.

5. *trademark neologisms* – usually just words that distinguish a specific product or process from the others. This process is sometimes even favored by the producers or owners of the specific trademark. However, it may take a lot of time to acknowledge such a word as a neologism due to trademarks policy. Thus, they firstly

appear in the spoken language only and the written evidence of their existence is to be found under the pressure of public forces that dictate the trends in language.

#### **4.4.2 Lexicological point of view**

Another criterion applied and there are more ways of distinguishing neologisms. From the lexicological point of view neologisms may be structured as follows:

1. *words* – just one single word that denotes a new invention or a discovery. These are mainly used as scientific and trademark neologisms. Expressions as words involve neologisms coined as derivatives, a very frequent process due to its relative simplicity since the number of suffixes and prefixes is given, back-formed words, converted words, and clipped words.

2. *compounds* – more words or even parts of words that undergo the process of blending, compounding and reduplicating. Set expressions could be sometimes included in this category, especially when they function as collocations or idiomatic expressions. These are very numerous in all domains. Compounds are numerous due to their relative simplicity partly for the ease with which they are formed and understood.

3. *acronyms/abbreviations* – name formed by using first letters or parts of words to shorten it and keep the meaning. They are not very common in written form but are widely used in the spoken language. Their use may appear as limited to specific domains with long tradition of acronym usage: the military and the pop culture. Those domains still play a dominant role concerning abbreviation and acronyms neologisms.

## 5. Word meaning

Neologisms not only appear as new words but sometimes just a new meaning is added to an already existing word. The meaning of every word can be influenced by many factors. Each of them plays a certain role in the future use of such a word. There are different kinds of meanings but the two main ones are connotative and denotative meaning.

### DENOTATION

When speaking about denotation we talk about the primary meaning of every word. It concerns the meaning listed in a dictionary. Denotation is closely related to the referent on Ogden – Richards Triangle. The denotation of a house covers all the possible referents to a house ignoring the state in which the building is at the moment. Some words have just this, such as the word *dictionary*, “*a reference source in print or electronic form containing words usually alphabetically arranged along with information about their forms, pronunciations, functions, etymologies, meanings, and syntactical and idiomatic uses*”<sup>9</sup>. It goes hand in hand with the meaning of a word but these two cannot be considered as one term. There are words that do not have a referent in the real world but cannot be said to be meaningless.

### CONNOTATION

On the other hand, there are words that carry more than one meaning, which is further context dependent. It involves the suggested power of words and we speak about their connotations. Dictionaries do not give all the connotative meanings in spite of them being very frequent phenomena. They are very powerful especially in

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<sup>9</sup> <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dictionary>



advertisements and the media industry. Such as : “*The cigarette that is springtime fresh.*”<sup>10</sup>

However, connotative meaning does not always concern the media. Its relation to our everyday life everybody of us has experienced. The word home may have many connotations those varying from one person to another. It may mean something for a person who commutes to work from home every day and it may have different connotations for a person on a one-year-mission in Iraq.

There are always words in any language that are neutral and have no connotative meaning and there are always words that carry many different connotations either pleasant or unpleasant. Such words are therefore used more for their emotional impact rather than their informational value. For this reason, every language is full of synonyms that can be used depending on the context.

Whether the emotional word is more appropriate than the bare informational word or not, this goes hand in hand with the context, in which such a word is used. Due to the fact that any language has more than one word for almost any reality to be described, it is crucial to decide which word to use in which context. The context is the environment, the surrounding for every word. Most often in the case of words the sentence context is the part to be looked at because it gives the word the necessary meaning by interaction with other words. Thus it is very difficult to decipher the meaning of a word without its context because the meaning can vary a lot.

This context dependency of words is not always the only means by which words receive new meanings. In many cases meanings undergo changes over the years of usage. Some words lose their original meaning form a broader one to a more specific one and vice versa. A very specific meaning may gradually become a

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<sup>10</sup> Words, words, words, Ludwig, Barrett, 1981, p. 73

generalized term for any reality sharing certain common traits. Sometimes it is possible to see a change in meaning from rather a neutral words towards rather a pejorative sense and vice versa.

### **5.1. Shifts in meaning**

Any language develops over centuries and this may be a reason why it is difficult to understand some older pieces of literature such as Shakespeare or Chaucer. It is not only a question of archaic verb forms and no longer used pronoun forms. The difficulties may be caused by the shift in word meaning. His choice of words may be confusing, such as the word “*closet*” when Hamlet goes to see his mother. *The Queen's closet*.<sup>11</sup>

These changes have been present in the language since the very beginning. The need to name new realities cannot be fully satisfied by borrowings and creation of brand new words. Some words undergo only very little changes, some do not change at all. This refers to the word “*fail*” which has always been used as a verb and no change was considered possible. However, with the spread of the Internet fail has gained a completely new role in the language and exists as a noun even though the meaning has remained more or less the same. The majority of words, however, changes as they are used in new contexts:

#### **GENERALISATION OF MEANING**

As the title suggests generalization is widening of the meaning. The shift tends to move from a more specific to a broader, more indefinite meaning such as the example of fabulous, originally used only in connection to fables. Nowadays it has the meaning of anything nice or incredible. In a way a certain weakness of the meaning can be observed as well.

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.online-literature.com/shakespeare/hamlet/12/>

A “*thing*” used to be connected to a public assembly and in these days it can mean practically anything and the meaning of it has broadened to such an extent that hardly anybody could guess the original meaning. The same situation can be applied to words such as business or paper, article, etc.

This process could be observed with the invention of the “*touchphone*”. Originally it referred to one brand of mobile phones only, but later other producers have learned to use the technology and gradually there are more mobile phone companies which have touchphones in their production.

### SPECIALIZATION OF MEANING

In order to specialize the meaning of a word it has to narrow its meaning. This is exactly the opposite to the generalization process. In the Middle English period some words used to have much more general meaning than they have now. For instance the word girl meant for Chaucer any young person of either sex – “*girles - noun young women, young people*”<sup>12</sup> Other examples may be words such as *science* – “*in Old English it meant knowledge gained by study, later it specialized to a particular branch of study and since the 18<sup>th</sup> century it concerns only technical, mathematical, non-arts studies*”.<sup>13</sup> The reason for such a process may be the need to specialize in case of too many words with a generally similar or even the same meaning. Logically, one of the words has to gain a more specific meaning or it risks being disused. It seems very popular to have many names for the most typical features described by the language. “*The Italians have over 500 names for different types of macaroni, the Eskimos distinguish about 50 names for snow,*” etc<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.librarius.com/cantales.htm>

<sup>13</sup> Dictionary of word origins, J. Ayto, Arcade, 1990

<sup>14</sup> The Mother Tongue, Bill Bryson, 1990, p.

## ELEVATION OF MEANING

Over the years it sometimes happens that words improve their reputation. Those that originally meant something pejorative gradually have changed or lost their bad reputation. They usually become more general and widely used. As an example we can use the word “*angel*” – in Anglo-Saxon texts it meant only a messenger comes from being used as translation of Hebrew *mal’akh* – messenger, or *shrewd* – meant in 16<sup>th</sup> century astute which came via cunning, later it changed into bad-tempered abusive complainer and finally it became a nagging woman, or *Yankee* – was originally a nickname for Dutchmen as a diminutive Dutch name Jan and finally established itself in New England in mid-18<sup>th</sup> century”<sup>15</sup>. All these and many others used to have a very derogatory connotation. These days they have either lost their bad significance or they have become so widely used that their original meaning has been forgotten.

A similar situation has been observed throughout the research with the word “*malus*”, which originally meant *apple trees; found throughout temperate zones of the northern hemisphere*.<sup>16</sup> However, another dictionary gives a completely different explanation of the word: *the return of performance-related compensation upon the discovery of deficient performance*.<sup>17</sup> This year’s economic situation has given the word, which has been around for a few years, a completely new shade of meaning. It is very interesting to observe how an “innocent” word designing a tree can be transformed into one of the most commonly used words in nowadays economy. From this point of view the word should be included in this category due not only to the shift in meaning but also due to the importance it has gained.

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<sup>15</sup> Dictionary of word origins, J. Ayto, Arcade, 1990

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/malus>

<sup>17</sup> <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/malus>

## DEGRADATION OF MEANING

This process is much more common than the opposite; elevation. Words widely used in the Middle English period now have gained derogatory meanings. Words such as *mistress* - "*female teacher, governess,*" from *O.Fr. maistresse, fem. of maistre "master. Sense of "a woman who employs others or has authority over servants" is from 1426. Sense of "kept woman of a married man" is from 1430.*<sup>18</sup> or *hussy* - 1530, "*mistress of a household, "housewife," alt. of M.E. husewif, from huse "house" + wif "wife." Gradually broadened to mean "any woman or girl," and by 1650 was being applied to "a woman or girl who shows casual or improper behavior," and a general derogatory sense had overtaken the word by 19c. "It is common to use housewife in a good, and huswife or hussy in a bad sense."* [Johnson]<sup>19</sup> have lost their neutrality and their meaning now describes rather bad qualities.

## EUPHEMISMS

Humans generally tend to avoid talking about unpleasant things in life. Sometimes, however, one cannot avoid facing them and by consequence they have to be dealt with. Occasions such as death or aspects associated with it. Euphemisms are words that are used to talk about it in a more pleasant way. Instead of saying he died, one can say he passed away. Even the newspapers sometimes present accidents and casualties in rather foreign words that do not sound so solemn. This phenomenon is closely associated with the richness of a language. Some not very pleasant institutions prefer to take advantage of a euphemism rather than presenting the official purpose of their existence. A

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<sup>18</sup> <http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?search=mistress&searchmode=none>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?search=hussy&searchmode=none>

word such as perspiration sounds better than sweating or inebriated is more neutral than drunk.

The material for the thesis also includes a word found in one headline which said “*Court docs: Octomom inks showbiz deal for tots*“, where “*octomom*” sounds much better than a mother of eight children. The language of headlines is, of course, very specific and it does not only involve potential euphemisms but rather it fulfills the most obvious role of pulling the interest of the reader.

### **PROLIFERATION OF MEANING**

This process applies mainly to words that are the most difficult to learn for non-native speakers. Cases of words like “*face*” or “*court*” are clear examples<sup>20</sup>. These words accumulate numerous new meanings. The word face used to have originally only one meaning but over the years it has accumulated other tens of meanings.

Proliferation is one of the most used techniques of coining new words. Already existing words from the lexicon are taken from one context and transformed into another one where they gain a completely new significance. The word “*malus*” could belong in this category too. Gradually they are changed from univocal into equivocal words. This process is more frequent in written language rather than in spoken versions where authors prefer coining completely new expressions not giving more meanings to existing words.

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<sup>20</sup> Words, words, words, Lodwig, Barrett, 1981, p. 98

## 6. Word creation processes

English, as any language, functions on the basis of an eternally developing and growing system. It is very common to name a reality by borrowing a word from another language when it is required. Borrowing can not, however, satisfy the great demand for new words. Fortunately within the lexicological domain there are many processes one can use to get along without borrowings that words must undergo before their actual creation. As a matter of fact, even these processes are not equally present within the language. Some are more commonly used than others and some are no longer used. The process of word creation is so complicated that it happens very rarely that only one creation process would be applicable for a neologism determination. From the lexicological point of view, neologisms can be classified into ten separate groups.

### 6.1 *Blending*

Blends are products of combination of two words to create a new one, which would combine the meaning of both. Some of them may be formed as nonce words and be forgotten shortly after the moment passes, some may continue to be used as more people learn about them. Some may be created on purpose, some are momentary words. They are called telescoped words, portmanteau words or blends. Luis Carroll, who used to play with words created the word “*Chortle*”, a blend of chuckle and snort, to express a certain kind of laugh.

Blends are very common these days. They especially appear with the US President’s name in the biggest number. There could be a whole collection of blends containing his First name as well as his second name. Countless

combinations such as *Obamacan*, *Obameter*, *Baracktannica*, *Baracktail*, *Barackiavellian*, *Omamentum*, etc to fill not only pages in the newspapers but also magazines and websites like an avalanche. His name is “*Obamnipresent*“ all over the world. It has become such a phenomenon that new blends with his name keep appearing every hour, every day.

Another phenomenon that has been influencing the lives of common people all over the world consists of blends containing the word “*twitter*” or, at least, its parts. Over the years that twitter has been functioning it exceeded the significance and the influence of Facebook. It has become a permanent link on almost any website. Hand in hand with its popularity goes the creation of new blends coined out of the original word. The Internet is full of *Twittervision*, *Twiller*, *Twitterholic*, etc.

Besides these widely spread blends coined out of present day phenomena there are blended words that cannot be classified into any broader group such as *slanguage* (slang+language), *momager* (mom+ manager), etc.

Blending is very frequent due to a simple fact that blends are combinations of existing words and together with compounds thus become easily identified and understood. No special skill is required to create a blend and at the same time no huge knowledge of the language is required either because it is necessary to identify only the meaning of the original constituents.

The phenomenon of designating a couple by their first names has become very popular with the relationship of Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt when every newspaper headline introduced some “hot news” about *Brangelina*. The fans of a very popular TV series called One Tree Hill have nicknamed one of the couples *Nailey*, a blend of Nathan and Hailey.



## 6.2 Clipping

This method shortens or clips a word. First they coexist as synonyms and later they either substitute the word on a daily basis or they gain a new meaning of their own. Naturally the words most often used are clipped most often. Those may be : bus, fan, bike, gym, math,... Some linguists may object to this idea but clipped words tend to gain in popularity. There are different kinds of clipping such as final, when just the beginning remains, which is a very common practice. Medial clipping is also possible in certain cases and initial clipping, which is very rare. Clipped words require certain knowledge of the language and are not very frequent due to the fact that the general understanding would be affected by the momentary clipping. Before it gets into the consciousness of the broad public the use of it is limited. Once it becomes automatic and generally accepted it substitutes the original expression from which it was coined. In Britain these clipped words include “*non-doms* and *non-jobs*.” These two expressions seem to be understood on such a level that no further explanation is necessary. Non-doms refer to non-domicile workers in the UK and because it corresponds to language economy as well as it has entered the public’s consciousness no native speaker would use the original description.

Clipping is from the lexicological point of view a marginal category due to the fact that it demands long words in order to be clipped. Compared to other formation processes the use cannot be considered simply to a lack of words that would fulfill the two main criteria: to be widely and frequently used and to be polysyllabic. Generally speaking it is applicable for words that have more than one syllable in order to have something to take away.

They usually start in the spoken language because it is a natural process that colloquial speech, the language of teenagers or people on the streets, tends to shorten words based on the criterion of language economy. This feature draws clipping near slang words and argotic words. The element that differentiates clipped words from argotic ones is the fact that the most important factor for clipped words is to keep the meaning comprehensible whereas with argotic words; they are clipped in a way that the meaning stays completely unintelligible to the uninvolved public.

From the morphological point of view, clipping usually involves nouns. Words belonging to other categories are not very likely to be clipped. Based on the definition of nouns, there are clipped words designating objects, people, places, etc. The most numerous examples refer to language of prison, names for women, sex, and drug addiction. This formation process is evident in all semantic categories not only in that of simple words. Any word containing a suffix can be eventually subjected to clipping.

### **6.3 Back formation**

This process of word creation can be somewhat considered a subgroup of clipped words. Through back formation users of a language create a verb of a noun and vice versa. It was originally created from jargon and technology spheres. Those gain a lot of popularity due to TV shows dealing with espionage, crime and detective stories. The word to self-destruct came to being this way. Examples of back formed words appear widely in the newspapers on the first pages and in headlines. In spite of the fact that the creation of back formed words does not require any special skills, the number of words coined

by this process over the past few years has diminished. During the research no back formed word has been discovered and thus it is likely that this form of word creation processes has been abandoned. Based on the current knowledge of language dynamism, it would be inappropriate to state that this process has been completely relinquished. The popularity depends on the present trend in the language and to say that it will never be in practice again would be a false generalization.

#### **6.4 Acronyms**

Those are words created from the initials, which stand on their own for another word. They mainly come from politics and military. The most common may be: NASA, UNICEF, UN,.. Acronyms originally stood for words that meant something, however, nowadays many organizations tend to name themselves with the use of acronyms but they do not have any meaning. ACT stands for a civil rights organization.

Acronyms are a marginal word creation process. They are very numerous in pop culture where they serve the purpose of argotic language. They closely resemble abbreviations especially in language of SMS. Teenagers' speech is full of acronyms and abbreviations either to economize the language or to hide the true sense of words. Even fashionable phenomena such as the US President's name tend to be jokingly interpreted as acronyms e.g.

***OBAMA - Our Best Answer For Managing America,***

***OBAMA - Officially Bridging America Motivating Americans".***

However, acronyms are mainly used in everyday speech. Words such as ***KERS***, ***WAGS***, or ***IED*** may serve as manifestation of acronyms in 2008. Some of these i.e. ***WAGS*** are more recent, as a form of a natural process of all words,

coined as a word serving the purpose of a root for new coinages: **WAGS-ish** (adjective), or **WAGS-dom** (noun). If they become a vital element in the word stock they further evolve and pass from the category of protologisms to neologisms and later stay in the language and join the other widely used acronyms.

However, there are, of course, such as OBAMA that are very soon forgotten because they have not become so broadly used and the real meaning of the word already exists within the language. Unlike the WAGS, which is an acronym created out of independent words, OBAMA is an existing word. The supporters of the democratic candidate have created the acronym based on the hopes and ambitions they put in him. It does not belong into the category of a naturally coined acronym but it can be considered an artificially coined word. Thus, it is logical that this coinage has not survived for a long time. Furthermore, only a limited number of people can decipher the meaning when seeing the word because every native speaker as well as a non-native speaker can imagine any five words starting with those letters to form such an acronym.

### **6.5 Proper names**

These words were originally created from proper names of people or places. As they become generally accepted within the language, their origin is very difficult to trace. Furthermore, the popularity and denotative meaning will later carry the traits and opinions about the source name. The word **sandwich** was formed based on its creator the Earl of Sandwich, **diesel**, came from Mr. Diesel, **brodie** designs a comic strip character for a shy, timid man,... Names of places have been incorporated into a language as well. **Hamburger** comes from

Hamburg in Germany, bikinis come from an island where the atomic bomb was tested.

Proper names are sometimes called metaphorical neologisms. They are not very common these days. The situation may be caused by the lack of everyday inventions, which would demand more frequent use of the word. The more used the word is, the bigger the possibility to reach a standard by which users i.e. native speakers would name the process or reality by the innovation's name. Over the past years such cases were observed with **Xerox**, which gave birth to the verb to xerox something. This process is sometimes also referred to as verbalization; the creation of verbs out of nouns without any change.

The same phenomenon took place with the search engine – **Google**. Nowadays to google is widely used as a synonym to search anything on the Internet regardless the actual search engine used. In colloquial speech to google is a quite frequent expression. “*I googled the motel and found it was real.*”<sup>21</sup>”

A similar trend can be observed with the word “**to twitter**” for communication using this program. However, its use is still limited within and has not yet outgrown the borders of the program.

Occasionally, expressions such as a Xerox subsidy can be found in a specific field of expertise. To fedex is to send something by the means of **FedEx**. These are just marginal examples of proper names neologisms. Furthermore, referring to proper names, there is a new style in presenting a famous or a well known couple. The couple as such is designed by the combination, usually a blend of both first names. Very rarely this happens with

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<sup>21</sup> Supernatural, 2008, *All Hell breaks loose* episode

surnames too. In that case the bond between these two people is demonstrated by a hyphen.

By the use of this word formation technique, the words are principally coined from nouns into verbs, due to a process called verbalization.

To conclude, this process of word coinage seems to have been almost abandoned.

## **6.6 Compounding**

It is one of the most common and oldest processes to be used in any language to create a new word. These are mainly nouns, verbs, and adjectives. When any two words are put together, a compound is created. They cover all domains from scientific language to pop culture language. The percentage is naturally the highest amongst lifestyle neologisms and pop culture expressions.

*Motor porn*

*Chemical-war*

*Hyperwhite*

The preceding examples could also represent the three variants of English compounds.

There is no rule to follow in writing a compound. Some may be hyphenated, some written separately and some together as one word. The only way to find out the correct spelling and even then dictionaries may vary. Apart from writing, spelling is strictly influenced by the head and its modifiers. With adjective-noun compounds the stress is more prominent on the first one. The plural is rarely attached to the first part.

The neologisms created out of two independent words usually involve nouns and very rarely any other word class. The possible reason may be a

relative independence of the expression. Nouns usually demand an article standing before them and no other sign of belonging is necessary needs to use.

On the other hand, there might be an equivalent of the expression written differently. The form of hyphenated and non-hyphenated words is always fluctuating. The identical word can appear to be written in different forms based on a newspaper, where they are found.

The other group, hyphenated compounds, appears in majority among the English adjectives. Whereas the nouns fluctuate between independent and hyphenated words, adjectives mainly occur as hyphenated or written together. Furthermore, it does not involve only adjectives; there are many examples of nouns written in this form. However, nouns play only a marginal role in this structure.

The last group is compounds written together as one word. Out of the three, this writing structure is the least used. This trend may be rather new due to the fact that in the past compounds written together were quite numerous. During the time this research was being done full compounds were rare e.g. “*metamaterial*” could belong into this category if the prefix meta is referred to as a word due to Saussure’s definition of prefixes that exist in the language of origin as a morphological root and has passed to other languages as prefixes. In that case the paradigm can be considered a representative of this form of compounding otherwise it would represent word formation by the process of derivation where “meta” would serve as a prefix.

There are two kinds of compounds: exocentric and endocentric. Exocentric compounds are compounds when the meaning changes from the original meanings of the two components. Compared to the other kind,

exocentric ones are not very common. It is natural that the other type is easier to be formed and thus plays a dominant role from the compound point of view. The two constituents add together a meaning completely different and thus the number of such compounds is relatively low due to the fact that one needs very thorough understanding of the language and are very difficult to identify. Throughout the research there were no new exocentric compounds recently added into the spoken word stock.

Endocentric compounds refer to compounds when the concept is denoted by one of the constituents. Without knowing the meaning of the two constituents the final result is generally incomprehensible. These compounds are very favorable with everybody; the native speakers as well as the non-native speakers because their creation and later decoding is, compared to other neologisms, quite easy.

*Electrosmog* = electro(nic) + smog

*Recessionwear* = recession + wear

Furthermore, endocentric compounds have undergone an interesting trend lately. Many new compounds have recently been coined by the intrusion of the vowel “o” to form a hyphenated endocentric compound e.g. *sap-o-meter*, *interest-o-meter*, *hope-o-meter*, *Pander-o-meter*, *mom-o-meter* etc. It is generally known that examples of these compounds have been used mainly with the Anglo-Saxon expressions. The number of these structures has been gradually growing and it has reached a very interesting pace nowadays. They include in majority the word “meter” and another word ending with a consonant, which would, when pronounced, cause difficulties and prevents the fluency of the speech. The “o” is there thus inserted with the purpose to



promote better pronunciation. In addition, it has a very nice written form; it looks very esthetic and very English-like. Based on the collected data, a very simple equation can be established and following its principle countless neologisms could be coined.

#### **N(.....consonant pronounced) – o – meter**

Compounds are generally considered a major word builder. The US President is again regarded as the main source of neologisms even in the compounding sphere. One third of all compounds or even one second of them could be attributed to his name. to name just a few: *Obamaland*, *Obamajamas*, *Barackstar*, *Obamamania*, etc.

### **6.7 Conversion**

Another word for conversion is functional shift. It involves creating new words out of the already existing words in a different word category. Sometimes they are considered to be a subcategory of derivation. Thus it is called zero derivation. They later gain similar meaning and sometimes even completely different meaning. It very often involves single-morpheme words. An example of conversion over the last two years of study, the word “*fail*” has appeared as a representative. The formal use of fail was always limited to a verb. With the spread of the Internet, the expression has gradually been used as a noun. By the recent trend, “an error has occurred” a sign “a fail” keeps appearing on the screens. However, the frequency of such a conversion is not very high. It usually takes months for such a change to occur. This process needs a long time to be completed. Unlike typos or reduplication, conversion,

when it occurs, last a much longer time and the converted words usually become stable.

### **6.8 Reduplication**

This process is very limited with regards to the fact that the onomatopoeic words imitate sounds made by machines, animals and sometimes people. The reduplication involves words that repeat themselves in order to emphasize our speech. They name certain curiosities in a language. Such words as *willy nilly* and *hoity –toity* belong to this category. Due to the fact that this melody point of view approaches the speech of children, examples can be found mainly in children books and songs.

However, a few representatives are included in the newspapers too. Since the main function is to give a pleasant sound effect even unpleasant information and negative connotations are presented in a way that the subject of such invectives does not feel offended and insulted. “*Waity Katie*“ was a nickname used by the Dailymail to describe Prince William’s lover Kate Middleton who patiently waits for William’s proposal. In spite of the negative approach, its final effect does not disturb the reader’s impression.

Some children are called “*fancy-schmancy*” kids especially those who have rich parents. Such children are portrayed in famous TV series e.g. Beverly Hills 90210, O.C. Gossip Girl, etc. It describes the upper layers of society and due to those people getting richer, the middle class is growing smaller before it disappears completely.

“*Hokey-cokey*“ existence appeared in the Guardian newspaper last year to describe a scenery in Hale Purlieu, a place in the country. It evokes a very

pleasant atmosphere and the final impression from the article is relaxing. Thus it is important to say that reduplicatives not only design unpleasant realities to be presented in a more allusive way. It can present a pleasant reality in a relaxed way simply with the intention to sound relieved.

## **6.9 Derivation / affixation**

This process involves the most common and the most frequent way of creating new words. Affixation may demonstrate itself by the attachment of prefixes or suffixes to existing words creating new word groups as well as different meanings.<sup>22</sup> There are special suffixes added to verbs that form nouns such as –er, -or, etc. Derivations can be simple or complex. Simple derivation involves the stem and a suffix to form a new word. Complex derivations are created from a stem and more suffixes added in different layers.

### **6.9.1 Prefixation**

There are many examples of derivation by the use of prefixes, which is very common nowadays. Some years ago as well as these days, a very important prefix that has been appearing lately is “eco” due to the fact that protecting our planet has become an essential element in political campaigns and a major theme in political debates and discussions. Newspapers are full of eco-cars, eco-heating, eco-villages, etc. During the research, words such as “*eco-mansion* and *ecohacking*” have enriched this year’s word stock.

Other representatives of prefixes very often used these days are: un- with expressions such as “*un-Gonzo, unfriend, unfollow*”, etc. Un is used to be added mainly to nouns and adjectives, however, recent trend seems to show that

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<sup>22</sup> Words words words, Richard R. Lodwig and Eugene F. Barrett, 1981, Boyton,Cook publishers

it can be combined with a verb too. Re- in “*fashion reruns, re-icing, retweet, reread*” etc is also becoming much more frequent than in the past. Common prefixes are combined with stems that usually do not exist in such forms and seem unreal and not natural to the English language. In majority, these prefixes combine with verbs but this rule cannot be applied universally because there are examples of derivatives containing these prefixes that belong among nouns or adjectives.

The prefix “meta”- and “nano”- are also quite favorite nowadays. Nano- is frequent because it describes the present trait in scientific research and innovations. The technological progress tends to develop smaller and smaller inventions and structures that could be used further for new discoveries. It is necessary to say, however, that the popularity of nano technology has been much more apparent earlier and in spite of the continuous development in this scientific domain, nanotechnology does not contribute as many expressions as it used to do. “Meta” as another representative of scientific prefixes is very often added to non-scientific stems and appears in everyday speech more often than nano- for instance. Meta is one of the prefixes that created derivations of nouns and adjectives. Throughout the research there has been no verb derivative containing meta-. Expressions such as *metanarrative, metamaterial*, etc are just few representatives of this group. “Micro-“ is also a quite frequent prefix even though its popularity seemed to be lost some years ago. Recently it has gained a new trend and a number of derivatives with micro- can be found in the newspapers. *Microblogging, micro-donor*, etc keep the original meaning of micro referring to small quantities and small scale in general. “De-“ is the last prefix, which is represented in bigger number rather than in isolation.

Derivatives like *deconstruction* and *dehumanizing* stand as examples of this process. Other prefixes such as pre-, hyper-, retro-, semi-, etc also play a role but the frequency of their use is not very high and there are one or two derivatives coined by one of those. Their popularity is not at its peak nowadays.

### 6.9.2 Suffixation

Derivation by the means of suffixes plays an equally important role as the word formation with the help of prefixes. From the lexicological point of view it is very interesting to observe the behavior of derivatives when containing suffixes. The suffix causes the word to change not only its form but also its word class due to the fact that English belong among the analytical languages, the transfer between two word classes can be done by conversion or zero derivation, where no change to the word structure occurs, or by suffixation, where by adding a proper suffix to any stem, the word changes its linguistic qualities and it belongs to a different part of speech.

The shift from Nouns to Adjectives is caused by the use of the suffix -ish, many neologisms created during the research period contain this suffix. They are all adjectives following the rule that -ish refers to origin, nature or resemblance: *cartoonish*, *blokeish*, *WAG-ish* are a few examples of the great use. Even relatively young, however, stable neologisms can be further used as stems for more neologisms. “*Wags*” referring to wives and girlfriends of sportsmen has been added to the dictionaries recently, even though it existed for a long time already. Immediately it served as a stem for more words to come to being such as *WAG-ish* or *WAG-ren*.

Nouns in general have some suffixes that they take to change not from the lexicological point of view but rather from the morphological one. Most

common suffixes include: -dom, -ness, -ism, -ment, -ion, and -ing which stands for a gerund used as a noun. These suffixes are frequently added to stems of either everyday words or even neologisms. There can be many neologisms coined from other neologisms by the means of suffixes.

The suffix –er, -or that signify the actor of any action or activity are not very common nowadays. During the research only one example of a noun derivative was coined with the suffix –er i.e. “*staycationer*” again a stem being a neologism itself. These suffixes should be used with neologisms because they profit from the popularity of the origin and in case the origin is forgotten or not widely used. This process is very natural in any language because it seems inevitable that if neologisms cease to be, all its derivatives are taken with it. There may be, of course, cases when a derivative survives within a language whereas the original word is forgotten or it has never spread far enough to be known.

Another suffix worth mentioning is –ism or –isms. This one is very common because it refers to system, manner or a condition. Words containing –ism appear in everyday newspaper regularly and were already very common during the era of the former US President George W. Bush. His unsuccessful remarks and comments fill the Youtube server with videos featuring his funny moments universally called *Bushisms*. Recently the Presidential elections in the USA any wrong comment or inappropriate remark of Barack Obama is referred to as *Obama-isms* and this trend similarly to the system of compounding mentioned earlier could lead to the establishment of an equation based on which any inappropriate reaction of a politician will be regarded as a form of –isms.

### **Wrong comment of a politician = his/her name + isms**

Having the knowledge of how English works, it is natural to suppose that not only the politicians but anybody famous for his or her “funny” comments would have a collection of “isms.” However, logically since the political people are most often seen and heard, these would be most frequently recorded but every one can have a set of private isms. At the moment there are *Obama-isms, Bidenisms, 08-isms* etc.

Barack Obama has become such an influential figure not only in the USA but also worldwide and his name has been coined with any suffix existing in English. There is *Barackronism, Obama-isms, Obamafied*, etc.

### **6. 10 Typos / errors**

These are sometimes called ghost words. They came to being by mistake and eventually make their way to dictionaries and it is very difficult to erase them from normal usage. In *The Mother Tongue* the authors mention the First Supplement of the OED, where the number of these ghost words counts up to 350. The most famous example comes from Merriam-Webster International Dictionary, which included the word **dard** as a synonym for density. “1934, a ghost word printed in *Webster's New International Dictionary* and defined as a noun used by physicists and chemists, meaning “density.” In sorting out and separating abbreviations from words in preparing the dictionary's second edition, a card marked “D or d” meaning “density” somehow migrated from the “abbreviations” stack to the “words” stack. The “D or d” entry ended up being

*typeset as a word, dord, and defined as a synonym for density. The mistake was discovered in 1939*<sup>23</sup>.

Errors stay hidden to an inexperienced eye because they behave as neologisms. If they occur in a colloquial speech they are easily identified partly due to the ability of the speaker to correct him/herself immediately and partly by the ability to explain the use of that specific word they have said. In case of a written version of an error, a typo, the consequences may follow the example of “dard” in the extract above. As always there are two options how to identify it. With regard to the general knowledge of any language, the native speakers do not have many difficulties to detect a typo whereas non-native speakers usually have very limited possibilities. One way of identifying a typo is when any article or written extract is copied and pasted to a Word document; the automatic correction underlines the word as unknown.

If the document is not copied and pasted, the only way to detect a typo is based on the general knowledge of any individual how much he/she knows and on the size of their vocabulary. Throughout the research one typo has been detected among the hundreds of articles in reputable newspapers. A very famous song by Cher Believe was transformed into ***Brieleve***. It hits the eyes of any reader who has, at least, a minor knowledge of English songs.

Compared to the rest of neologisms, typos and errors worth mentioning and studying are in such small numbers that they do not influence the process of word creation, or they are so easily detected that no further use follows.

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<sup>23</sup> <http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?search=dord&searchmode=none>



## 6.11 Borrowings

English, based on the fact that it has become a superstratum language, does not experience the boom of loan words in every domain of life. However, there are areas where neologisms do appear in English. The two dominant languages serving as sources of borrowings are French and Arabic. The American English demonstrates certain loans from Spanish due to its close proximity to Mexico.

French seems to be dominant in areas where English seems vulgar to use. It provides the necessary vocabulary for documents and presentation speeches. *Passé*, *auct-ennui* represent only a small amount of French borrowings in English for the period studied.

Arabic languages, as a source of terrorist vocabulary, enter English frequently based on the conflict that is happening at the specific time period. The biggest increase in number came after the 9/11 and it keeps constantly growing. Last year, the Arabic name of a “*sticky bomb*” *obwah lasica* was registered in a newspaper assuming that the general public would know.

A very small percentage of loans from Spanish, compared to others, they limit their occurrence to American territory only. Their importance does not seem so evident that through AE they would be transferred to the rest of the world. An expression “*Obambbrero*” has appeared in the word stock referring to an Obama supporter in Mexico.

## 6.12 Conclusion

The word creation processes involve many types from the lexicological point of view. One of the aims of this thesis was to monitor the ways of creation and the ratio in which they occur within English nowadays. It is evident that

some are more common than others and this research concentrated on the distribution of individual processes in word creation over the last two years. The best means to demonstrate the significance of each is to study a pie chart that is divided based on the percentage of the occurrence of different types. For a chart of lexicological distribution of neologisms see Appendix 1, p.73.

## **7. Spheres of occurrence**

### **7.1 Politics**

The key element in creation of neologisms seems to be the Presidential elections in the USA. Barack Obama has given a great number of words. There were coined words of his name coming into being every day during the electoral period. Due to the big change in the US history, the campaign and later the elections were endless sources of neologisms. New words mainly center around the President, however, other participants of the elections such as Sarah Palin and Hillary Clinton contributed some examples to the political word stock.

After the elections the newly coined words can be divided into two groups: Obama supporters who coin expressions such as *Obamanation*, *Obamajamas*, etc which spring with positive emotions and enthusiasm. On the other hand there is Obama's opposition, where words such as *Obamination*, *Obamatopia*, *Obamalicious*, etc where the negative and rather pessimist approaches are evident.

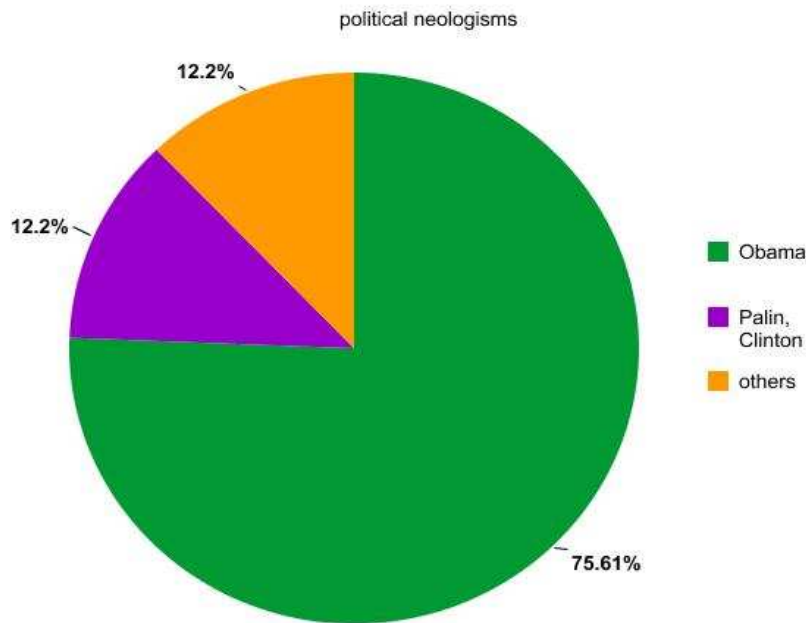
Sarah Palin, being a very controversial figure of the Republican Party has gained a lot more attention than the head leader. Some expressions she has coined herself in her never-ending flow of ideas such as *hockey mom*, which

gave rise to countless others moms and others are coined by the public e.g. *caribou Barbie, Palinthusiasm*, etc.

Barack Obama is said to be the author of a very famous expression *a lipstick on a pig* which he used in reference to Palin and the green tax that became the key point of his politics.

However, politics is not only election but also many expressions associated with government and society organization. Words such as *pizza parliament*, and *politainment* together with *kindergarchy* serve as examples in this field see graph 1.

What concerns the lexicological point of view the political neologisms use mainly derivation and blending. Derivation in most cases involves the President Obama words and blending can be found in many other new political words. There are some set expressions which could be classified into compounds category. No clipped words in politics were found during the research. What concerns reduplication or typos, not even those were discovered, however, even some acronyms have been coined in this domain again due to Mr. Obama. Naturally such processes would not be even considered appropriate to this domain. It represents a formal category and such word formation processes fit more into rather informal categories and domains. This again proves that the American politics has shifted towards common people and it has thus become more influential and informal what concerns the attitude of officials and ordinary Americans. Without the elections there would not be not only many neologisms less but also the processes in practice would be much limited to classic compounds and blends.



Graph 1 political neologisms in 2008

## 7.2 Sport events

A world wide event such as the Olympics has contributed some neologisms to English. Michael Phelps became a swimming phenomenon thus there are words to describe his master achievements such as *Phelpsian*, an adjective describing something enormous and the Urban dictionary.com has a vast database of expressions coined out of his name and endless amount of compounds with smaller or bigger popularity<sup>24</sup>. On the other hand, visitors to China were greatly surprised by the view of Beijing under the smog and nicknamed it *Greyjing*.

Neologisms in sport vocabulary were influenced by a few individuals namely M. Phelps. Due to this phenomenon, blending has played the most important role in coinage of new words. There are some compounds associated with sport; however, their number as well as the other word forming techniques is sporadic.

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Phelps>

### **7.3 Science**

The scientific language has grown richer by several names concerning the health and biology in general as well as physics, where scientists work on the new nanotechnology. Words such as *metamaterial*, *quantum computer*, *memristor* and *nanochemistry* are just a glimpse of many neologisms representing this field of expertise.

Scientific language has been influenced mainly by blending, due to the fact that inventions are usually a combination of something new and something already known. At the same time compounds have appeared in bigger numbers in this domain rather than in other domains. The reason for this seems rather obvious: the need for the common people to understand new technologies and inventions and to let them associate the new technology with something they already know and are familiar with. Other word formation process may not be so easy to decode and decipher the meaning. Blending and compounding are the easiest possibility to produce comprehensible neologisms and thus, these two processes are most suitable for the domain of science.

### **7.4 Information technology**

The IT sphere, as usual, has grown componential over the past year. It involves words designing new technologies such as the *Blue-ray discs*, *e-waste*, and *w00t*. The Internet is usually considered a part of the IT sphere. For the purposes of this thesis, the Internet should be studied separately. The worldwide web has gained a number of words. The growth is logically linked to easier and faster access to the internet all over the world. People want to be in

contact with others no matter the distance separating them from each other. Naturally, programs such as nowadays well established Facebook keep appearing. Last year phenomenon has got the name *Twitter*. As every new and greatly favored elements in any society aka President Obama twitter has marked an onset of countless new words associated with it e.g. to tweet, twi-. The noun tweet has become as popular as Facebook last year. These programs have created all universes around the world. People, who are added every day by many unknown users are called *Facebook whales*. Similarly, to erase somebody from your contact is to *unfriend* somebody.

Other words in the IT sphere can be assigned to the most common search engine Google. The verb to google something has been around for quite a long time compared to *googleganger* which has appeared recently. *Hero ad* is again sometimes visible on MySpace in the form of a big graphic ad but does not exist with it only.

Lexicological processes involved in the Internet and IT domains resemble the spoken language and thus, even the processes cannot be strictly set for this category as it encompasses many levels of familiarity with the Internet and new technologies concerning software and hardware, etc. The IT covers and spreads to wide that the processes correspond to different layers; from colloquial expressions referring to the Internet usage up to professional technological research and development. There are words coined as acronyms, compounds, blends, even by derivation and conversion. However, reduplication has not been discovered among these neologisms and logically it is due to the nature of the process: it expresses a certain degree of play with the language and play is not appropriate to technological domains. Derivation plays the

prevailing part here due to the invention of the word “twitter” because it has initiated a chain reaction of words with the same stem that have followed in great numbers.

## **7.5 Lifestyle**

New trends in lifestyle go hand in hand with new word creations. The year 2008 is marked by disorders such as *pregorexia* and *fashorexia*, which deal with sacrifice of food to be still able get hold of expensive and fashionable wardrobes. These mental disorders are further enhanced by the economical situation nowadays. The recession has brought up expressions such as *recessionwear*, *credit crunch*, *Crunchmas*, and *staycation*, a new phenomenon of staying at home for one’s holiday due to lack of finances.

The younger generation has definitely experienced *silent disco*, where a group of people meet in one place and all of them are listening to their I pods, mp3 players, etc and they are enjoying each one their own private disco. An adrenalin sport may be the new fashion of *DWT*, which stands for driving while texting, especially favorite with the younger population.

A reconstruction is a well known process of rebuilding a house. However, these days a new trend has appeared – a *deconstruction* which involves disassembling a house piece by piece manually.

The lifestyle domain together with its complexity cannot be limited to one or two formation processes. It embraces such a vast amount of things that appear in the spoken as well as in the written form that no regulations what concerns new words could be defined. There are compounds, blends, derivatives, even reduplicative compounds because this is the category which seems to be most suitable for them. Acronyms have flourished in this domain

due to the fact that majority of neologisms come from the spoken language. Generally speaking this category is usually the one with the biggest amount of neologisms and rather nonce words that later pass on to other domains.

### 7.5.1 Family

Family relationships are richer for countless moms thanks to Sarah Palin and her *hockey mom*, gradually *Wal-Mart mom* has appeared and many others. *Slammy mummy* identifies a woman, who spends all her time with taking care of her children. Sometimes the organization of a family depends on the needs and wants of children and such type of government within a family is referred to as *kindergarchy*. Those who like big families include also their friends and neighbours and last year has given such tendencies a name – *framily*, a blend of friends and family.

### 7.5.2 Pop culture

The language of songs and films is sometimes referred to as the pop culture. Expressions that are a great challenge for older generations seem to be in constant favor with the young. The generation gap is mostly visible in the language used. Whereas the parents usually try to keep up with the speech of their children the grandparents – grandchildren communication is very often influenced by mutual misunderstanding not only in English but in any living language. The songs are seasoned with words such as *zub zub* or *baby batter*, metaphors for sexual intercourse. The Ice Age film has contributed with *skadoosh*, which has become frequently used. These words are designed to entertain or attract people's attention. If they are not immediately registered they easily vanish and are never used again. Their life depends solely on the popularity of the authors. Pop culture may also include everyday nonce words



created by native speakers which pass unnoticed and quickly disappear from the language because they have never been part of it.

## **7.6 The Army**

As always, new words appear in the Army every year. It involves new technologies used in fighting and also investigation methods such as waterboarding, where the interrogated people experience the feeling of drowning. This practice vastly used for prisoners in Guantanamo fortress. George W. Bush has coined the term *extraordinary rendition* that accounts for a member of investigating methods. Other neologisms in the Army language may be *IED*, *next-war-ities*, etc.

The Army vocabulary has always been special what concerns the processes used to coin new words. This is the most appropriate place for acronyms and abbreviations, however, compounds and blends are also present in remarkable numbers. The military vocabulary seems to exclude reduplicative compounds and conversion, which are either too primitive or too intellectual for it.

## **7.7 Work departments**

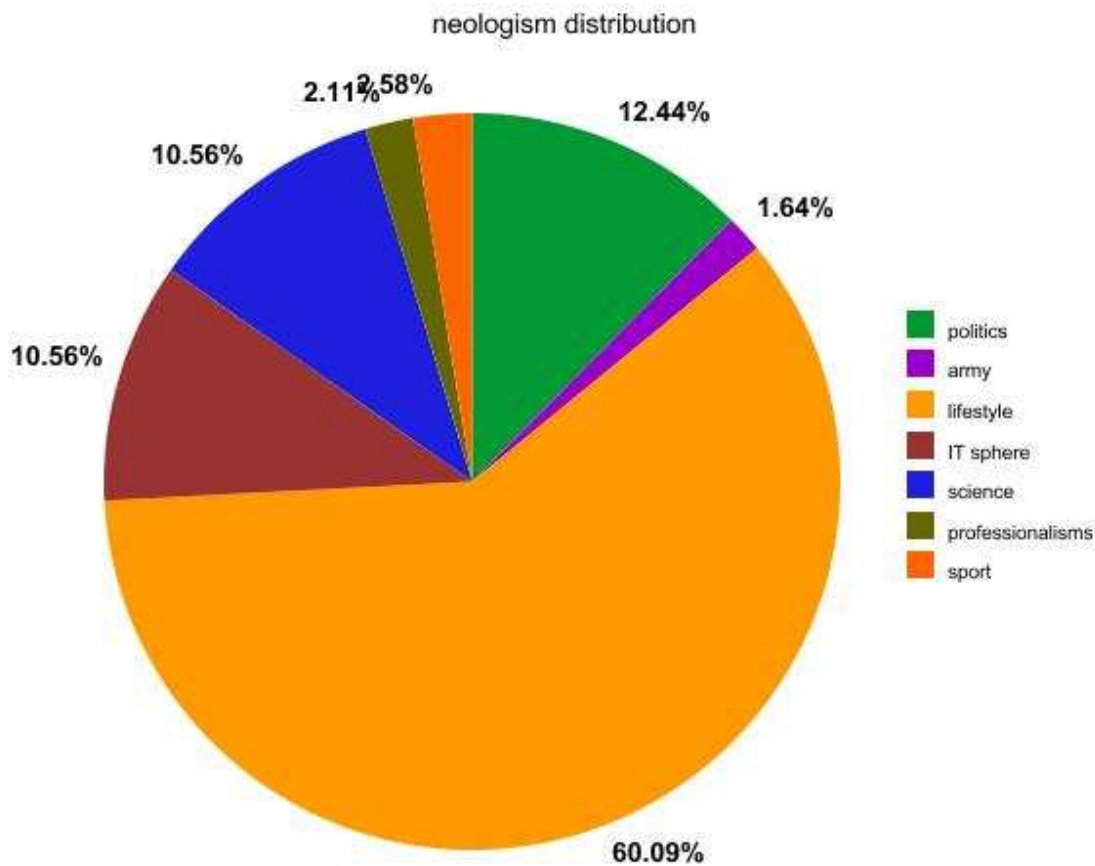
People working together in one branch of industry or service spheres usually share a certain amount of words that signify a special reality relative to their everyday work. These expressions can be considered as a professional argotic language. On the one hand it fulfills the function of communication within a group of individuals who share the same knowledge and thus understand even the hidden significance; on the other hand it lacks the function of hiding the exact meaning from other accidental listeners. The point is not to hide the meaning but to use an expression that is largely understood without

thinking about the connotative meaning of the words. These argots can be found in any department, office, teachers lounge, trashcan men society etc. Every one will have the hidden language of its own. In the teachers launch, expressions such as *treeware* are very common. The office workers will talk about somebody being *uninstalled* i. e. made redundant. The IT department people talk about *being 404*, etc.

### **7.8 Conclusion**

The distribution of neologisms within a language is always influenced by the momentary atmosphere among the speakers of the given language. The elections in the USA have caused a significant increase in new words in this sphere. This fact has played a very important role in the creation of neologisms. Lifestyle is a very broad topic which includes different sub categories such as living and fashion. I also included the family expressions because these branches of life are interconnected.

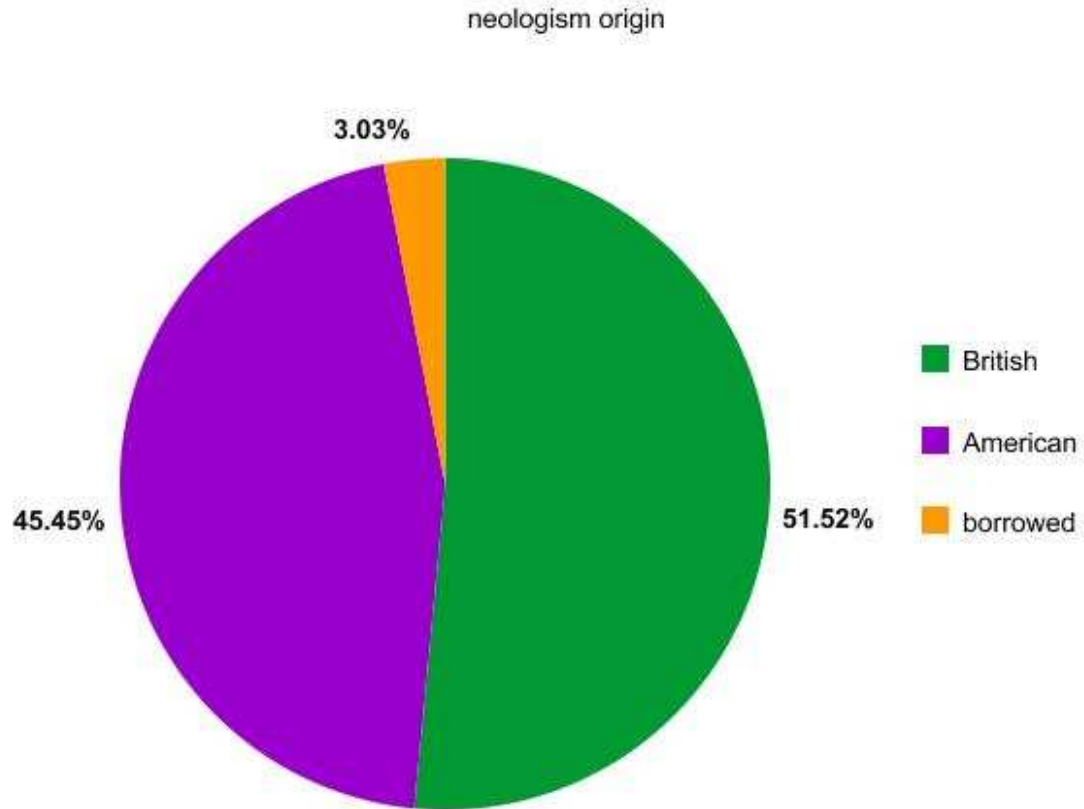
Generally, a clear boundary cannot be set between the spheres due to the fact that some expressions belong to several spheres at the same time i.e. *kindergarchy* may be placed among political neologisms as a kind of government but at the same time it can be counted as a representative of family neologisms as a system of family organization. Similarly, the word *twitter* should definitely be included in the group of IT new words but on the other hand, it has become so popular that it would not be a mistake if it was counted within the lifestyle group.



Graph 2. neologisms distribution in 2008 sorted by occurrence

Neologisms can be also classified based on their origin. The main distinction within the English language lies in different cultures of Great Britain and the USA. These two variants of one language are so distinct that I have decided to observe the also the origin of neologisms because there have been expressions commonly used in British English and completely unknown in American English. The neologisms in American English have been influenced by the Presidential elections whereas no political change has occurred in Great Britain. However, such an event has been discussed all around the world thus some neologisms, especially, coined off the President Obama's name can be discovered in any newspaper around the world.

Based on my research of the referential material, I have tried to differentiate the origin of studied neologisms. Other sources were considered by the origin of the author. As a common practice in any language and English is a great example, the author is not always the best source of reference. The newspaper plays a more trustworthy role in the origin identification. By the everyday contact with other people from other nations, words migrate together with ideas. The source of neologisms is therefore based on the nationality of the native speakers and the newspapers origin. The best source to look for neologisms is the Guardian, British newspaper which represents endless number of such words every day. The New York Times is widely used and favorite with many people but the amount is slightly smaller and more difficult to find. Some expressions are also borrowed and their origin is therefore difficult to guess. Thus, borrowings have their own category in the chart.



## 8. Conclusion

Neologisms are, based on my research, an indivisible constituent of every living language due to the fact that they function as a mark of life of the language. Only dead languages cannot grow and develop. It is a fully functioning mechanism in constant motion with its momentum which no one can cease since no authority can prevent speakers to play with their language and scientists to stop inventing new devices and technologies that enhance the development of the whole humankind. Language as well as many others is the sign of a culture; it is one of the key features when differentiating nations from one another. It is so strongly intertwined with culture and society that to stop

the progress in language would mean influencing the whole society which in case of English would include the whole world partly because of the number of people, for whom English is a mother tongue, and partly due to many factors it has become a world language in many domains and people of different cultures usually choose English as language of common communication.

As this thesis aim was to monitor and classify neologisms it has covered the most domains in which they can possibly occur. The result of the biggest increase in new coined words could have been forecast long before the actual research mainly due to the US presidential elections. It is natural that every election brings with it certain amount of neologisms coined as a tribute to the candidates. However, this election seemed exceptional right from the beginning considering the fact that in any case the inhabitant of the White House would be a woman or an Afro-American. This fact has caused a blast of neologisms which I dare to say was exceptional even for the Americans themselves because there are books being published that contain only neologisms coined of Mr. Obama' s name. Other people involved in the elections have tried to match him but the action was so spontaneous that there were countless new words appearing every day.

By consequence, other domains seem to lose their popularity or influence. This statement could be challenged by the amount of new inventions which have been made during the time of this research; however the public consciousness has not absorbed them as much as the political ones. The domains such as family and pop culture in general have brought many neologisms which by their nature could be prophesied much longer duration than others.

On the other hand, pop culture is full of nonce words which, unlike neologisms that have already been adopted into newspapers and thus await a longer life, tend to multiply in every song, find their way into movies and literature and still are doomed. Nonce words being very numerous in the spoken language disappear so quickly that they pass unnoticed and thus this thesis contains only a small portion of them.

Generally speaking it is evident that neologisms when studied from the point of view of domain occurrence strongly depend on the prevailing feeling in a society. Logically, speakers as sources of most of them dictate the trends as well as momentary popularity or discontent.

What concerns the lexicological point of view, they are more equally distributed. Of course, there are more numerous categories than others; however, no category seems to be missing completely.

Overall, it is possible to claim that the categories of blends and compounds are the prevailing types native speakers use when coining new words. Logically speaking they are the easiest word formation processes thus their vast number.

Despite the negative approach of many linguists who perceive neologisms as no valid phenomenon within a language, I have found not only great number of words coined recently which prove the English language to be alive but also the enrichment of the present day vocabulary seem to be a very important step not only towards the title of a world language but also an ability of the language to name any new reality that appears and furthermore, it demonstrates the great potential of English unlike any other language that it is able to form neologisms out of its own word stock. In those cases other

languages usually reach out to English and the new reality describe with a loanword. Not only the potential but also dynamism is visible in English. Dynamism may be visible in the fact that it does not last long for a word to appear following closely the new reality. Any trend will soon receive a name which spreads even faster.

Secondly the dynamism is visible in the amount of derivatives that appear shortly after the neologism comes to existence. Within a year time the neologisms has two or even more derived words that function on their own. This phenomenon greatly depends on the popularity of such a word. There is *staycation* with one derivative and, on the other hand, there is *Twitter* with twenty derivatives in the same time period.

Based on the collected data I incline to be on the side of proponents due to the fact that it not only enriched my vocabulary but also fascinated me with the amount of words that appear in the language every year. It is evident that I have not been able to discover all neologisms that have come to existence; however, the vast amount proves the great potential the English language possesses. Logically, I conclude that these changes are inevitable and will definitely continue appearing throughout the language and with regard to the research I have conducted I would propose the following development of neologisms in the future: there are going to be more and more words in the political and scientific domains. Political neologisms are usually triggered by any political affairs or planned changes i.e. elections, parliamentary affairs, government decisions, etc. the scientific domain will grow according to the amount and popularity of the inventions and upgrades among ordinary people.



Otherwise these words are limited to the extent of number of people involved and familiar with the specific discovery.

Another group which is very likely to grow in respect to neologisms is the pop culture domain or the lifestyle category in general. This group is not influenced by any external factor due to the fact that it involves mainly nonce words and those are not very often seen as neologisms because of their short life expectancy. However, I would dare to say that the amount of words in this category grows exponentially compared to the growth in other categories. Of course, certain role is again attributed to popularity which seems to be a very influential factor in the occurrence point of view. This domain seems to raise the biggest concern because it is the center of attention for those who are for as well as those who are against this development. The words that come to existence are so various that some linguists have expressed their worries about the standards of English, which seem to be deteriorating.

Hand in hand with the lifestyle category goes the IT sphere. Here is the place for the biggest growth what concerns the amount of neologisms coined every year. The nonce words are not very likely to appear in this group so the word stock of this domain will enlarge visibly. The Internet is referred to as infinite and thus the potential of its vocabulary does not seem to decrease in speed.

The Army vocabulary is relatively poorer in comparison to other groups. Due to the fact that there is no great chance of any new military weapons or fighting techniques yet to be put to practice. This category is, on the other hand, very likely to be enriched by loanwords due to constant contact with Arabic languages in particular.

A very similar situation could be observed in other specific spheres such as the working environment I have chosen to study. These are very limited what concerns the range of audience able to understand. Neologisms in this category would be considered nonce words very often.

Overall, in spite of the fact that there are neologisms in practically any domain of life there are categories more numerous than the others. This development seems to be natural in any language nowadays. Either way it is never possible to stop it or forbid it because languages do not respect any rules or boundaries and this is especially true for English.

## 9. Resumé

Vybrala jsem si téma Neologismy v moderní angličtině, neboť mě tato problematika velice zajímá. Původně jsem se chtěla soustředit pouze na hovorové výrazy v Americké angličtině, avšak po konzultaci s mojí vedoucí práce jsem se rozhodla pokusit se postihnout více sfér, ve kterých se novotvary vyskytují na úkor hloubkové analýzy v jednom sektoru. Jelikož mě velice fascinoval dynamismus v jazyce jako takovém a v angličtině obzvláště, zabývat se jakým způsobem se exponenciálně rozrůstá její slovní zásoba, bylo od samého počátku velmi zajímavé. Jelikož čeština se velmi často uchyluje k výpůjčkám, zajímalo mne, zda lze podobné procesy najít také v angličtině. Na rozdíl od češtiny, která není a zřejmě ani nikdy nebude světovým jazykem, angličtina svou superstrátovou povahou nemá zapotřebí slova si vypůjčovat, ale pomocí slovotvorných procesů si je tvoří sama.

Nejprve bylo potřeba nastudovat teoretický materiál týkající se dané problematiky. Díky teoretickým podkladům se dalo přistoupit k odhalování neologismů v běžném textu.

Tím přišla na řadu ta nejobtížnější a časově nejnáročnější část celé práce a to sbírání excerptů v novinách a televizních programech převážně na internetu. Některé výrazy nebylo moc obtížné odhalit, jelikož jsou dosti často označeny převážně uvozovkami, po některých dokonce následuje i vysvětlení. Nakonec se podařilo nashromáždit téměř 500 novotvarů, které jsou všechny uvedeny v příloze.

S některými výrazy byla situace daleko obtížnější, neboť je pro nerodilého mluvčího velmi obtížné rozpoznat v plynulém textu novotvar, který není nijak graficky odlišen. Tento problém se dal řešit pouze konzultací

s rodilými mluvčími; kolegy z jazykových škol či přáteli, kteří ochotně pomáhali se seznamem. Některé výrazy posílali emailem, ať už je sami někde použili nebo slyšeli od svých známých.

Někteří zasílali odkazy na internetové stránky, kde se poté novotvary vyhledávaly. Tato část byla nejobtížnější, neboť bylo třeba u všech výrazů určit, zda se opravdu jedná o novotvar či jde pouze o výraz, který některému z mluvčích přišel jako neznámý. Pro jistotu bylo nutné každý výraz vyhledat buď v online slovnících typu merriam-webster či slovníky novotvarů od vydavatelství Oxford či Longman.

Po dostatečném množství výrazů, bylo možné přikročit k samotné analýze. Nejprve bylo potřeba rozlišit původ novotvarů. Některé, ačkoliv byly nalezeny v britských článcích, odkazují na situaci ve Spojených Státech a tím pádem logicky patří k americkým výrazům.

Následovalo rozdělení do sfér, do kterých spadají jak svým užitím, tak významem. Tato část byla z celé katalogizace nejzajímavější.

Nakonec bylo třeba určit, jakým způsobem byly novotvary vytvořeny. Snažila jsem se, dle zadání, rozpoznat, který slovtvorný proces převažuje a který naopak ztrácí na popularitě nebo dokonce chybí. Po důsledném zaevidování veškerých poznatků a materiálů potřebných k vypracování práce se vše zaznamenalo i včetně vlastní interpretace důvodů, které mohou být příčinou některých překvapivých výsledků.

V závěru jsou shrnuty a shodnoceny všechny poznatky. Stejně tak jsem vyjádřila určitá svá přesvědčení o situaci v tomto sektoru a možný vývoj. Je ovšem velice obtížné formulovat možný vývoj na základě dvouletého výzkumu.

## 10. List of abbreviations used in this text

Abb	Abbreviation
Acc	Accronym
Adj	Adjective
Adv	Adverb
AE	American English
AUSE	Australian English
BE	British English
Blend	Blended word
Borr	Borrowed word
Comp	Compound
Conv	Converted word
Der	Derived word
Int	Interjection
Met	Metaphor
Part	Participle
Set expr	Set expression
V	Verb

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<<http://www.collins.co.uk/corpus/CorpusSearch.aspx>>

## 12. List of Native Speakers consulted

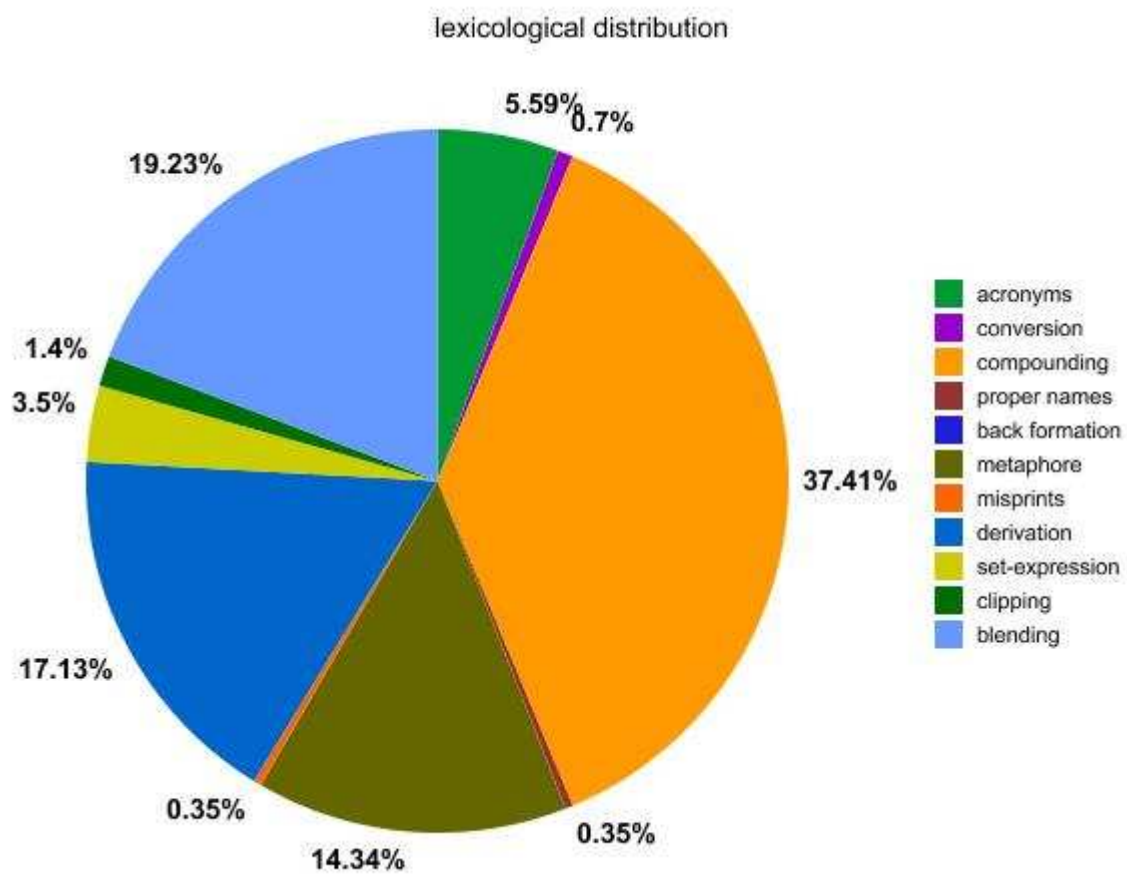
- [JD] Jason Dean 25, university graduate, Edinburgh, Scotland
- [MP] Martina Pickering 46, high school teacher, London, England
- [JT] Jeffrey Thimm 25, university graduate Austin, TX, the USA
- [RT] Ryan Thomas 34, English teacher, Baltimore, the USA



### **13. APPENDICES:**

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# 1. Distribution of neologisms



## 2. Glossary

### Politics

**Bad boys of statedom**, AE, idiom

Florida and Michigan, who put their primaries ahead of others

<http://campaignstops.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/02/03/super-tuesday-its-all-about-the-name/>

**Baracklamation**, AE, N, blend

Executive orders issued by President Obama

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Baracknophobia**, AE, N, blend

Negative feelings about U.S. presidential candidate Barack Obama, particularly those based on racism or unfounded rumors

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2008/jun/19/jabs-from-anti-obama-pin-leave-texas-gop-smarting/>

**Barackronism**, AE, N, blend

An Obama statement that is not in its correct historical or chronological time

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Barackstar**, AE, N, comp

The fact that Barack Obama has become a star

<http://teresacentric.com/2008/02/barackstar/>

**Baracktail**, AE, N, blend

A mix of cheap liquor and Kool-Aid served during Baracktoberfest

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Baracktiavellian**, AE, Adj, blend

Describing a political strategy based on a recurring emphasis on unity and hope, as first laid out in Machiavelli's The Obama

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Baracktannica**, AE, N, blend

A form of encyclopedia consisting of words coined only off the US President's name

<http://www.slate.com/id/2184502/>

**Baracktoberfest**, AE, N, blend

An Oktoberfest event with Mr. Obama

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Barackturne**, AE, N, blend

A sleepy, elegant song consisting of Barack Obama's voice accompanied by strings

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Bearack Obama**, BE, N, blend

A bear

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/lostinshowbiz/2008/nov/18/barack-obama-strange-products>

**Bidenisms**, AE, N, der

Expressions originating from the speeches of J. Biden

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duhGJOrkP2Q>

**Blairites**, BE, N, der

The supporters of the former British Prime Minister

Weekly Telegraph 10-16.1.2007

**Bradley effect**, AE, N, idiom

A possible misleading of pollsters by voters explored in this space in September

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?_r=2)

**Broccoli Obama**, BE, N, idiom

Frozen vegetables

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/lostinshowbiz/2008/nov/18/barack-obama-strange-products>

**Buffett-effect**, AE, N, idiom

Black voters telling they will vote for a white guy and then voting for Obama

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/05/opinion/05friedman.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/05/opinion/05friedman.html?_r=1)

**Bush Depression**, AE, N, idiom

Seven and a half years of lax financial oversight and American over-consumption

<http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/12/11/open-market-name-that-crisis/>

**Butfeminism**, AE, N, der

Honoring of men more as warriors, actors, cowboys, athletes and killers than for skilled labor, company loyalty, civic duty, etc  
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html>

**Caribou Barbie**, AE, N, comp

A nickname of a vice President candidate for the Republican Party  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/05/opinion/05dowd.html>

**Denveropolis**, AE, N, comp

Denver city during the electoral campaign  
Provided by [RT]

**Euro-zone**, BE, N, idiom

European countries which use Euro currency  
[Weekly telegraph 10-17.1.2007](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/10-17-2007/)

**Femocracy**, AE, N, blend

A government of women  
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html>

**Futarchy**, AE, N, blend

A form of government enhanced by prediction markets  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/09/technology/techspecial/09predict.html>

**Generation O**, AE, N, idiom

The generation of people approximately 18 to 35 years old who voted for or supported Barack Obama in the 2008 U.S. presidential election  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/09/fashion/09boomers.html>

**Gergeloin**, AE, N, misprint

Coined by J. Biden, no meaning known  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duhGJOrkP2Q>

**Maverick**, AE, N, proper name

A nickname for Mc Cain, given by S. Palin  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NrzXLYA\\_e6E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NrzXLYA_e6E)

**OBAMA**, BE, N, acc

Officially Bridging America Motivating Americans"  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/lostinshowbiz/2008/nov/18/barack-obama-strange-products>

**OBAMA**, BE, N, acc

Our Best Answer For Managing America

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/lostinshowbiz/2008/nov/18/barack-obama-strange-products>

**Obamacan**, AE, N, der

Supporter of Barack Obama

<http://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/05/12/gop-vet-in-moveon-ad-contest>

**Obamafied**, AE, Adj, blend

A combination of Obama and classified

<http://www.slate.com/id/2184502/>

**Obama – isms**, AE, N, der

Funny expressions like the ones of George Bush

<http://thecaucus.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/11/07/about-those-seances/>

**Obamajamas**, BE, N, blend

Pajamas

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/lostinshowbiz/2008/nov/18/barack-obama-strange-products>

**Obamamania**, AE, N, comp

The general excitement that B. Obama has caused during the presidential campaign

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theguardian/2009/jan/12/george-bush-satire-rory-bremner>

**Obamaland**, AE, N, blend

A company establishing itself to flog "educational publications and guides"

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/lostinshowbiz/2008/nov/18/barack-obama-strange-products>

**Obama nation**, AE, N, comp

The feeling of nationalism caused by B. Obama's election

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLe30PMtL4>

**Obamaton**, AE, N, blend

A mechanical supporter acting as if it is his own motivation

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbz9sVw4QsM>

**Obambrero**, AE, N, blend

A broad-brimmed hat of straw or felt affixed with campaign paraphernalia

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Obameter**, AE, N, blend

A measurement coined off B.O. name

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2008/08/20/DI2008082002627.html>

**Obamination**, AE, N, blend

Term of disgust, often used to describe a potential Hillary Clinton nomination

<http://apps.facebook.com/baracktannica/page>

**Obamnipresent**, AE, Adj, blend

Pertaining to Barack Obama's ubiquity in discussions overheard in restaurants, subways, bookstores, newsrooms

<http://www.slate.com/id/2194517/>

**Omentum**, AE, N, blend

The recent momentum gathered by Democratic Senator Barack Obama

<http://themoderatevoice.com/17733/tuesday-potomac-primaries-more-barack-obama-omentum-and-end-huckabee-miracle-dream/>

**Philantrocipitalism**, AE, N, comp

Philanthropy that uses the principles, models, and techniques of capitalism

<http://www.nysun.com/arts/the-new-face-of-philanthropy/86649/>

**Pin-gate**, AE, N, blend

An affair with a pin sold during a Republican Party in Houston, being similar to the Watergate affair

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2008/jun/19/jabs-from-anti-obama-pin-leave-texas-gop-smarting/>

**Pizza Parliament**, AE, N, comp

A situation in a parliament where there is no majority

<http://www.nytimes.com/2000/11/27/world/canadians-voting-today-in-a-close-race.html>

**Politainment**, BE, N, blend

A blend of politics and entertainment, making politics appear as stars

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2007/jan/18/usa.leadersandreply>

**Post-racial**, AE, Adj, der

The fact that black politicians distance themselves from old civil rights movements and fail to understand the real needs of black Americans

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/nov/08/barack-obama-us-elections20082>

**Punditariat**, AE, N, blend

The collection of pundits

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?_r=2)

**Rapper names**, AE, N, met

Higher profile primaries, given exciting new titles

<http://campaignstops.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/02/03/super-tuesday-its-all-about-the-name/>

**Red machine**, BE, N, idiom

A left parliament party

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/nov/24/venezuela-regional-elections>

**Reset button**, AE, n, met

Starting over, a redo a second chance

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/25/opinion/25iht-edarielcohen.1.20423782.html?scp=7>

**Sarah mania**, AE, N, comp

General excitement caused by S. Palin

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NrzXLYA\\_e6E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NrzXLYA_e6E)

**Spendulus**, BE, N, blend

A combination of spend and stimulus used to describe Obama's economic stimulus package

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/tvandradioblog/2007/nov/01/tvmatterspoliakoff>

**Terrorist fist jab**, AE, N, met

The greeting of black Americans, in gangs, used by Obama and his wife

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cit-XeYs9dw&feature=related>

## Sport

**Grayjing**, AE, N, blend

New name for Beijing covered in smog

Provided by [JT]

**Hockey-mum** , AE, N, met

Mothers with rough-and-tough image when they spend all days waiting at the ring and listening to rough language and music

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCDxXJSucF4>

**Hope-o-meter**, AE, N, comp

A measurement of how much hope there can be

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2008/08/20/DI2008082002627.html>

**Inner organs**, BE, N, idiom

Organs inside the body which need to be trained too in order to make big achievements

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2008/jun/29/olympicgames>

**Omega ambassador**, AE, N, proper name

Phelps is a spokesman for Omega, the official timekeeper of the event

<http://olympics.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/08/16/the-phelps-cavic-photo-finish/>



**Phelpsian breakfast**, BE, N, idiom

A full English breakfast with a lot of calories

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2008/aug/17/olympics2008.rebeccaadlington>

**Phelpsian proportions** , AE, N, idiom

Huge muscular body compared to the one of M. Phelps

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/17/weekinreview/17keller.html>

**Phelpsing**, AE, N, proper name

swimming

[http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=27521490043&\\_fb\\_noscript=1](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=27521490043&_fb_noscript=1)

**Sap-o-meter** , AE, N, comp

Amount of sap any sport event can bring

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2008/08/20/DI2008082002627.html>

**Stick-to-it-ive-ness**, AE, N, der

A word coined by reporters during a sport event

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2008/08/20/DI2008082002627.html>

**Soccer -mum**, AE, N, comp

A typical mother who sacrifices her life for the hobbies of her children

Karin Slaughter, Fractured

## Science

**APS**, AE, N, acc

active protection system

**Asdrows**, AE, N, proper name

tiny elemental particles

National Geographic March 2008 , p.97

**Blue-ray**, AE, N, comp

a blue laser used to read and write discs

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/30/technology/personaltech/30bluray.html>

**Carbo-V**, BE, N, blend

biomass conversion

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/sep/18/cleantech100biofuels.cleantechology1001>

**CC's**, AE, N, abb

Credit crunch and current climate

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/howaboutthat/4592268/The-two-CCs---credit-crunch-and-current-climate---enter-office-jargon.html>

**Cordon pierreux**, AE, N, borrr

Long lines of stones that make the water stay a while and percolate, a technique used in Sahel

[National geographic September 2008 , p.97](#)

**Deep linking**, AE, N, idiom

A share of mitochondrial DNA with people of European descend

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/09/magazine/09zygoti.html? r=1>

**Dehumanize**, AE, V, der

To lose the feeling of a human

<http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/tech/OMG-The-Evils-of-Texting-and-Facebook-52311862.html>

**Dynamic tower**, AE, N, idiom

the world's first moving, rotating, skyscraper

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**E-waste**, AE, N, blend

high-tech trash

[National Geographic January 2008](#)

**Electrosmog**, AE, V, comp

Exposure to the invisible cloud of energy

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/23/business/worldbusiness/23iht-wirelessbox.1.7604608.html? r=1>

**Flocking**, BE, N, met

spraypainting the camera's shiny interior matt black to minimise internal reflection, owners of Holga cameras

<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/art/features/the-cult-of-holga-the-sixties-camera-makes-a-comeback-797582.html>

**Ghandian engineering**, AE, Adj, proper name

Indian export could combine irreverence for conventional ways of thinking with a frugality born of scarcity

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/08/business/worldbusiness/08indiacar.html? r=1>

**Global Seed Vault**, AE, N, idiom

The vault for seeds to preserve them for future generations

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**Green crude**, AE, N, idiom

Raising of algae to turn into a carbon neutral biofuel that would be virtually identical to gasoline

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**H5N1**, AE, N, acc

Bird flu

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2007/may/29/birdflu.medicalresearch>

**Half-haemophiliac**, BE, N, der

Having partial characteristics of a haemophiliac

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2008/jun/29/olympicgames>

**Health halo**, Ae, N, comp

Effect when people tend to eat more of low caloric food just because it is low caloric

<http://tierneylab.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/12/04/good-karma-is-fatty/?scp=109>

**Heckuva**, AE, N, proper name

Microscopic particle

National Geographic March 2008 p. 69

**Higgs**, AE, N, proper name

elemental particles

National Geographic March 2008 , p.100

**Horrid eco-box**, BE,N, blend

A car sensitive to the environment

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2008/jun/29/television.bbc>

**Huckeboom**, AE, N, proper name

**Ilimb**, AE, N, blend

A Biotic arm which is multi-articulating, meaning each finger has its own motor

[http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1852747\\_1854195\\_1854132,00.html](http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1852747_1854195_1854132,00.html)

**KERS**, AE, N, abb

the kinetic energy recovery system used in Formula 1

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2008/jan/22/motorsports>

**Large Hadron Collider**, AE, N, proper name

The world's biggest particle accelerator

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**Levoleucovorin**, AE, N, proper name

A drug approved in 2009 in injections

<http://www.drugs.com/newdrugs/fda-approves-new-application-levoleucovorin-spectrum-s-first-proprietary-oncology-drug-888.html>

**Lovacorumism**, AE, N, blend

A trend to eat only home grown food

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/12/magazine/12wwIn-safire-t.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/12/magazine/12wwIn-safire-t.html?_r=1)

**Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter**, AE, N, idiom

The first unmanned moonship in 11 years

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**Memristor**, AE, N, blend

A small circuit element that can imitate biological functions

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/01/technology/01hp-Web.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/01/technology/01hp-Web.html?_r=1)

**Metamaterial**, AE, N, der

Light entering a material with a negative index of refraction would take a sharp turn, almost as if it had bounced off the imaginary perpendicular line

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/12/science/12ligh.html>

**Nanochemistry**, AE, N, der

Chemistry dealing with substances in microscopic amount

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/blog/2009/aug/07/dna-nanotechnology-machine-components>

**Nexi, MDS**, AE, N, abb

mobile, dexterous, social robot

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**Oco**, BE, N, abb

Orbiting Carbon Observatory

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/feb/24/oco-satellite-nasa>

**Orbiter Internet**, AE, N, idiom

A new protocol being developed to relay an image of the Cape of Good Hope back to Earth

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**Oritavancin**, AE, N, proper name

the intravenous antibiotic for the treatment of complicated skin and skin structure infections caused by gram-positive organisms, including methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus

[http://www.drugs.com/nda/oritavancin\\_080409.html](http://www.drugs.com/nda/oritavancin_080409.html)

**Orthorexia**, AE, N, blend

An obsession with what is perceived as healthy food — eliminating fats and preservatives

[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/09/magazine/09zygotic.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/09/magazine/09zygotic.html?_r=1)

**Quake-lake**, AE, N, blend

drain water from a fast-rising reservoir created by an avalanche of rock and mud that spilled into the Bai He River during the earthquake

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/28/world/asia/28iht-quake.4.13284928.html>

**Quantum computer**, AE, N, comp

a sort of black arts backwater of the computing field full of promise but thin on near-term practicality

<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/12/22/d-wave-arms-smoking-gun-proof-of-quantum-computer/>

**Re-icing**, BE, N, der

To re ice the Arctic using 8,000 giant floating platforms that would draw salty water from the ocean and spray it on to winter ice, dramatically increasing its thickness.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2008/may/29/greentech.geoengineering>

**Roadrunner**, AE, N, comp

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**Space headache**, AE, N, idiom

Headache astronomers experience in the outer space

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/8078477.stm>

**SunDiesel**, BE, N, met

fuel produced by biomass

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/sep/18/cleantech100biofuels.cleantechology1001>

**Team dynamo**, AE, N, comp

Machine which produces electricity from combined human power

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/25/fashion/25gym.html?scp=1>

**Touchphone**, AE, N, comp

A telephone operated by touching its screen

<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/22/why-att-wants-to-keep-the-iphone-away-from-verizon/>

**Wallet-neuropathy**, AE, N, comp

A pain in the lower back caused by men sitting on their wallets in the back pocket

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-1196381/Why-marrying-younger-woman-save-life-sends-HER-early-grave.html#ixzz0UCcAcWVL>

## Information technology

**404, be**, AE, Adj, met

Be clueless

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7775013.stm>

**Botnet**, AE, N, blend

a string of up to 35,000 hacked computers

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2008/oct/16/spam-usa>

**Cliff effect**, AE, N, comp

The digital signal stays uniformly crisp until the signal gets weak; then the picture suddenly drops out

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/24/technology/personaltech/24basics.html?scp=4>

**Cloud-computing**, BE, N, comp

Unlimited place for storing your data

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/blog/2008/jul/25/aolsaysitwillsunsetxdrive>

**Code 35, be**, BE, V, met

Penniless, like in London Underground

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7775013.stm>

**Cyberhipness**, AE, N, der

The quality of the cyber space

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/29/business/yourmoney/29stream.html?scp=1>

**DDO\$,** AE, N, acc

(Distributed Denial of Dollars attack) Brainchild of the Pirate Bay, founder Gottfrid Svartholm.

[http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/12/pirate\\_bay\\_ddos\\_ploy/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/12/pirate_bay_ddos_ploy/)

**Digital virus**, AE, N, comp

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/jul/05/saturdayreviewsfeatres.guardianreview>

**Discomgoogolation**, AE, N, blend

stress if you can't get online, Internet dependency provided by [JD]

**Dwdlr**, BE, N, abb

takes the spirit of Twitter and the archness of PostSecret and it's basically a postal-based status updater: very slow, ultimately pointless

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/blog/2007/jun/01/iheartspooftw>

**Fail**, AE, N, conv

Any page that does not work

**Followers**, AE, N, met

Strangers who can also choose to receive the tweets of people they find interesting  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Googleganger**, AE, N, comp

someone who shares your name and turns up when you Google yourself  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2008/jan/07/languagepastitsusebydate>

**Hulu.com**, AE, N, idiom

Free video provider like YouTube  
<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/completelist/0,,1852747,00.html>

**Hyperwhite**, AE, Adj, comp

describes nerd way of acting in particular  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/29/magazine/29wwln-idealab-t.html>

**I tunes**, AE, N, blend

Apple music database

**Microblogging**, AE, N, der

personal revelations on services such as Jaiku  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Nerdcore**, AE, Adj, comp

Rappers who wear pocket protectors and write paeans to computer routing devices, are in vogue  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/29/magazine/29wwln-idealab-t.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/29/magazine/29wwln-idealab-t.html?_r=1)

**N00b**, BE,N, clip

A short word for newbie, in gaming which is used as inexperienced, inept beginner, usually with a strong negative connotation  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8092549.stm>

**Newb**, AE, N, clip

A short word referring to a beginner willing to learn to play  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/11/technology/11video.html>

**Obvious**, AE, N, met

A Twitter, a heady mixture of messaging; social networking of the sort associated with Web sites like MySpace  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Pnw**,AE,V, misprint

Originally a misprint, nowadays used in gaming as the verb own  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/29/business/yourmoney/29stream.html>

**Pownce**, BE, N, met

Similar page to Facebook and Twitter, usually used by gamers

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/pda/2007/jul/04/warnersonypushrussianmarke>

**Presence**, AE, N, clip

shorthand for the idea that people should enjoy an “always on” virtual omnipresence

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Public timeline**, AE, N, idiom

official homepage of Twitter

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Retweet**, AE, V, der

Repeat very fast

<http://www.politicsdaily.com/2009/07/02/michael-jackson-is-really-dead-britney-spears-is-only-twitterde/>

**Slow blogging**, AE, N, idiom

A rejection of immediacy, an affirmation that not all things worth reading are written quickly

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/23/fashion/23slowblog.html?emc=eta1>

**Sporkk**, BE, N, met

A domain which skewers (or sporks) the bubble-headed atmosphere that's pervading the dotcom industry at the moment.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/blog/2007/jun/01/iheartspooofw>

**Sunsetting**, BE, part, met

To put an end to something, used in the IT sphere

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/blog/2008/jul/25/aolsaysitwillsunsetxdrive>

**Tweet**, AE, N, der

short message sent on Twitter

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Tweet-peats**, AE, N, red comp

On-screen twitter feeds on Fox TV

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/showtracker/2009/08/fox-goes-tweet-tweet-tweet-on-your-tv-screen-during-reruns-of-fringe-and-gee.html>

**Twiller**, AE, N, blend

using Twitter to write a real-time thriller

<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/08/29/introducing-the-twiller/>

**Twitchhiking**, AE, N, blend

Traveling using transport and accommodation provided by fellow Twitterers.

<http://schott.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/06/twitchhiking/>



**Twitter**, AE, N, der

free communications service

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**TwitterDead**, AE, Adj, comp

the fact that a famous person is dead in a tweet and it is repeated so often that people believe it

<http://www.politicsdaily.com/2009/07/02/michael-jackson-is-really-dead-britney-spears-is-only-twitterde/>

**Twitterati**, AE, N, der

the most powerful twiterers  
provided by [JT]

**Twitterers**, AE, N, der

twitter users

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Twitterholic**, AE, N, blend

the tracking site

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Twitterature**, AE, N, blend

Writing literature by using Twitter

**Twittervision**, AE, N, blend

Web site called Twittervision that superimposes this public timeline on a Google map. Every few seconds, a tweet appears and vanishes somewhere on the globe

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Twitturgy**, AE, N, blend

Religious Tweeting, writing the shortest devotion possible

<http://www.churchsolutionsmag.com/articles/twitturgy-a-liturgy-in-140-characters.html>

**Unfriend**, AE, V, der

To erase somebody from your facebook page

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/07/fashion/07Cyber.html>

**Un-follow**, AE, V, der

To stop following somebody on twitter, not to add new friends

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2008/dec/22/netbytes-twitter>

**Widget**, AE, N, blend

small program that does one thing

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2007/sep/17/mondaymediasection.technology>

**Woot**, AE, int, acc

an online gaming expression of joy

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2008/jan/07/languagepastitsusebydate>

## Lifestyle

**143**, AE, phrase, met

I love you

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7775013.stm>

**08isms**, AE, N, der

Expressions that come to life in 2008

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?_r=2)

**AfPak**, AE, N, blend

**Af**ghanistan and **Pak**istan is used to refer to both countries

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/08/weekinreview/08COOPER.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/08/weekinreview/08COOPER.html?_r=1)

**Alkinize**, BE, V, der

To use a lot of acidic drinks which are good against ageing

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2007/dec/09/biography.features1>

**Alpha geeks**, AE, N, comp

Men like Stephen Tomlin, the chief executive and founder of Chumby Industries

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/22/magazine/22wwln-consumed-t.html>

**Alpha-plus-male-status**, BE, N, comp

Pompous, the number one masters of what they do, referring to U2's film

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/film/2008/feb/22/u2.musicdocumentary>

**Altermodern**, BE, Adj, comp

An exhibition with the fight for autonomy but also the possibility of producing singularities in a more and more standardised World

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/2008/sep/10/television>

**Anarcho-punker**, BE, N, comp

A combination of an anarchist and a punker, who refuse the classical Christmas tradition and enjoy themselves with a glass of beer listening to some rebel music

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/musicblog/2008/dec/22/punk-christmas>

**Angelica Button and the Teacup of terror**, AE, N, met

Parody of Harry Potter in the Simpsons

"Smoke on the Daughter," 3/30/08

**Anglocentrics** , BE, N, blend

English people who put England in the center of everything

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2008/oct/19/cricket-australiacricketteam>

**Antifreeze**, BE, N, der

skin lotions

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2008/jan/03/sciencenews.pseudoscience>

**Apatown**, AE, N, blend

a Hollywood nickname for filmmaker Judd Apatow's pals and regular working partners

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/22/fashion/22fempire.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/22/fashion/22fempire.html?_r=1)

**Asbo**, AE, N, acc

anti-social behavior order, a law-enforcement tool

[Weekly telegraph 3.1.2007 p.15](#)

**Auct ennui**, BE, N, borrr

The frisson of regret that overcomes us when we see something on eBay we owned as a child.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/blog/2009/jan/08/harry-redknapp-jermain-defoe>

**Authenticitude**, BE, N, blend

authenticity-lite peddled by the corporations.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/blog/2008/nov/25/steven-wells-extreme-sports-nike-snowboarding-skateboarding>

**Baby batter** , AE, N, comp

Ejaculate

<http://www.elyrics.net/read/e/ellen-page-lyrics/zub-zub-lyrics.html>

**Balladeering**, BE, part, blend

Type of music combining electronic and human part of it

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/sep/01/james.yuill>

**Balladisco**, BE, N, blend

A type of new generation music combination of organic and electronic

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/sep/01/james.yuill>

**Barty**, BE, N, blend

A party thrown in a bar

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Bass-walk** , BE, N, comp

The finger movement when playing the gitar

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/feb/22/jazz.shopping1>

**Ben**, AE, N, met  
Cannabis

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/02/garden/02biloxi.html?pagewanted=2>

**Bevvie**, AE, N, clip  
Boyfriend

<http://runway.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/06/26/paris-boys-town/?scp=1>

**Blamestorming**, AE, part, blend

Colleagues debating why a deadline was missed and who was to blame

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/1576877/Blamestorming-and-new-office-buzzwords.html>

**Bleepadour**, BE, N, blend

A combination of organic and synthetic music

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/sep/01/james.yuill>

**Bleisure**, BE, N, blend

The blurring between business and leisure

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/features/-Can-trendy-neologisms-put.4872099.jp>

**Blokeish**, BE, Adj, der

Man like, usually referring to the speech of the Top Gear program

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2008/jun/29/television.bbc>

**Blox**, BE, N, met  
extasy

<http://www.gotateenager.org.uk/default.aspx?page=jargonbuster>

**Blue-collar mill town**, AE, N, set expr

a nickname for suburban Towson, a city of M. Phelps

Provided by [RT]

**Body con**, BE, N, clip

'body con' style (aka tight to an 80s degree) and shoulder pads, both resurrected on the catwalks, favorite with Victoria Beckham

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2007/dec/29/features.fashion>

**Bolt-ones**, BE, N, comp

[Weekly telegraph 17.23.2007](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2007/12/23/bolt-ones/)

**Bon-bon**, BE, V, met

bomb the land with Cannes

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/jul/31/israelandthepalestinians.middleeast>

**Booker obsession**, BE, N, comp

An obsession with reading the authors and the books that have won the Booker Prize  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/oct/19/booker-prize>

**Branded entertainment**, AE, N, comp

a trend to find new methods to reach consumers of video and films via the Internet  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/24/business/media/24adco.html>

**Brangelina**, AE, N, blend

A famous couple of Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/01/fashion/01gossips.html>

**British disease**, AE, N, comp

A description of drunk Frenchmen, especially off-hand drinking  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/aug/27/foodanddrink.france>

**Brievive**, BE, V, misprint

Misprint standing for Cher's song Believe  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/nov/17/comment-lists-tv-internet-books>

**Bromance**, AE, N, blend

a strong relationship between two heterosexual men  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/23/weekinreview/23buzzwords.html?scp=1>

**Buffling**, AE, part, blend

Business waffling, jumped up management types or office staff keen to impress  
<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/money/article1965348.ece#ixzz0UUTikJdP>

**Bungalowed**, BE, Adj, met

Completely drunk in the speech of teenagers  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Bungalow novel**, BE, N, comp

A novel including just one chapter  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/sep/17/comment.bookscomment>

**Burb tank**, AE, N, comp

A big SUV  
provided by [JT]

**Burrowing**, AE, part, met

when favored political appointees are transformed into civil servants and granted instant tenure on the federal payroll  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/23/opinion/23sun2-2.html>

**Carbon-neutral**, AE, Adj, comp

The Campaign of the U.S. President to start living an ecological life

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/22/business/yourmoney/22stream.html>

**Carbon-thirsty**, BE, N, comp

Bottled water which needs a lot of carbon dioxide which is one of the greenhouse Gases

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/dec/23/carbon-emissions-parliament>

**Carlmania**, BE, N, comp

A society mania about Carla Bruni, the wife of French president

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/mar/28/nicolassarkozy.pressandpublishing>

**Carpocalypse**, AE, N, blend

An automotive industry crisis in Detroit

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9>

**Carrot mobbing**, BE, part, comp

An organized group of consumers causing a big bargain power

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/sep/18/activists.carrotmobbing>

**Cartoonish**, AE, Adj, der

the drawings look like people

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/27/AR2008032701202.html>

**Cash for clunkers**, AE, N, comp

A program which gets \$2B refill

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us\\_cash\\_for\\_clunkers](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_cash_for_clunkers)

**Catharsis hypothesis**, BE, N, comp

You will be doing violence to a pillow or punching-bag so that you can stop doing violence to yourself by holding in poisonous anger

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/jan/26/healthandwellbeing.features>

**Chiconomic**, BE, Adj, blend

For the style-conscious

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/features/-Can-trendy-neologisms-put.4872099.jp>

**Cliff effect**, AE, N, comp

the digital signal stays uniformly crisp until the signal gets weak; then the picture suddenly drops out

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/24/technology/personaltech/24basics.html>

**C3 numbers**, AE, N, comp

Commercial ratings measured only first three days

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/14/business/media/14ratings.html?scp=2>

**Comere** , BE, N, borrr  
French word for business

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/stage/2008/oct/19/frankmcguinness-theatre>

**Comfort culture**, BE, N, comp

An increase of watching preferences of TV series and programs easy to understand and follow

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/dec/03/comment-credit-crunch-food-culture>

**Comfort food**, AE, N, comp

Food to feel comfort or alleviate stress rather than to receive nutrition

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/03/business/media/03ratings.htm>

**Cool beans**, BE, N, met

something is great

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Co-rumination**, BE, N, der

study focusing on teenage girls concluded that the obsessive discussion of worries exacerbated negative emotions

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/jan/26/healthandwellbeing.features>

**Critic-artists**, BE, N, comp

Artists who should be elected in the Art Council, a fact which used to be incompatible

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/stage/theatreblog/2008/jan/18/isatattenational>

**Croat**, AE, N, clip

A clipped word of a Croatoan, an alive zombie

Supernatural, 5X10

**Crunchmas**, BE, N, blend

Christmas affected by the financial crisis, by the credit lunch

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/dec/22/christmas-shopping>

**Diabulimia**, AE, N, blend

Diabetics who avoid taking insulin, which can cause weight gain, in order to control their weight, without vomiting

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/02/fashion/02drunk.html?scp=1>

**Dance-brat**, BE, N, comp

Young dancer, a girl

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/stage/2008/mar/30/dance>

**Dean the teacher**, AE, N, comp

An ordinary American during the elections

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duhGJOrkP2Q>

**Deconstruction**, AE, part, der

disassembling this house by hand

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/28/magazine/28house-t.html?scp=1>

**Dehumanize**, AE, V, der

to lose his/her human characteristics by using Facebook

<http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/tech/OMG-The-Evils-of-Texting-and-Facebook-52311862.html>

**Devo**, BE, Adj, clip

Teenagers' expression for devastated

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Drunk dial**, BE, V, comp

Phoning/texting while under the influence in Teenglish

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Drunkorexia**, AE, N, blend

Substitution of booze for food in an ill-advised quest for thinness

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/02/fashion/02drunk.html?scp=1>

**DUIcycle**, BE, N, acc

bicykle for drunkards

provided by [RT]

**D.W.T.**, AE, part, acc

Driving while texting

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/12/technology/12text.html>

**Ecohacking**, BE, part, der

Geo-engineering

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2008/may/29/greentech.geoengineering>

**Eco-mansion**, BE, N, der

Environment friendly residences recently being built in Malibu

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/ethicallivingblog/2009/may/06/u2-edge-ecohome-malibu>

**Eco-warrior**, AE, N, der

An ecological activist in Iceland

**Enormo-dome**, BE, N, der

A huge hall U2 used for their koncert

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/film/2008/feb/22/u2.musicdocumentary>



**Evil genes** , AE, N,met

the gauntlet

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2008/jan/03/sciencenews.pseudoscience>

**Exit greeter** , AE, N, met

the guy on the way out who makes sure you're not stealing stuff, in Wal Mart

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/magazine/02wwln-safire-t.html?_r=2)

**Fail whale**, AE, N, set expr

corporate logo, far more exaggerated than others

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/15/magazine/15wwln\\_consumed-t.htm](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/15/magazine/15wwln_consumed-t.htm)

**Fancy-schmancy**, AE, Adj, comp

Having enough money to live comfortable life of fashionable clothes and everything else

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/04/arts/television/04gossip.html>

**Fashion reruns**, AE, N, set expr

same clothes again and again, when styles repeat over some time

[http://www.nydailynews.com/lifestyle/fashion/2009/05/13/2009-05-13\\_famous\\_recessionistas\\_michelle\\_obama\\_cher\\_and\\_the\\_lohans\\_wear\\_fashion\\_reruns.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/lifestyle/fashion/2009/05/13/2009-05-13_famous_recessionistas_michelle_obama_cher_and_the_lohans_wear_fashion_reruns.html)

**Fashorexics**, BE, N, blend

women whose approach to the credit crunch is to skimp on food so they can still afford their designer wardrobes.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/oct/19/comment-consumeraffairs-creditcrunch>

**Fempire**, AE, n, blend

A company of women, usually concerning fashion

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/22/fashion/22fempire.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/22/fashion/22fempire.html?_r=1)

**Five-finger discount** , AE, N, comp

The fact of stealing

[http://www.mspot.com/song/choking\\_victim/5\\_finger\\_discount](http://www.mspot.com/song/choking_victim/5_finger_discount)

**Food deserts**, AE, N, comp

An old fashioned way of food in American supermarkets

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2007/dec/09/tesco.supermarkets1>

**Food miles** , AE, N, set expr

The distance food has traveled before you buy it

[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/06/opinion/06mcwilliams.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/06/opinion/06mcwilliams.html?_r=1)

**Framily**, AE, N, blend

A family which includes all your friends too, men and women search for another support network after they have moved away from their real family

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1059236/Friends-increasingly-family-search-support-network.html#ixzz0UCWglqVC>

**Frenemy**, AE, N, blend

Friend and enemy in one person

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/14/business/media/14ratings.html?scp=2>

**Frequency illusion**, AE, N, comp

The feeling that when a word is heard so often that it seems to be everywhere

[http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/ideas/articles/2009/06/28/the\\_issue\\_with\\_issue/](http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/ideas/articles/2009/06/28/the_issue_with_issue/)

**Frosy**, BE, N, blend

those very cold, very sunny days we love

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2008/feb/25/shirleydent>

**Frugalista**, AE, N, der

A woman committed to staying fashionable even though her means have become limited provided by [RT]

**Fudge**, AE, N, met

An idiot

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Gay-marry**, AE, V, comp

To marry someone of the same sex

provided by [JT]

**Ghost generation of HIV**, BE, N, set expr

Children outlived by their older women in Tanzania

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/journalismcompetition/old-women>

**Glut**, AE, N, proper name

the equal and opposite seasonal phenomenon of the hungry gap period

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2007/aug/11/features.weekend>

**Glyde**, BE, N, proper name

electro-acoustic offbeat beat-pop

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2007/oct/12/popandrock5>

**Gonzo-journalism**, BE, N, comp

unexpected blend of fact and fiction

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/film/filmblog/2008/dec/22/hunter-s-thompson-gonzo-and-better-forgotten>

**Green dynamo**, AE, N, set expr

Machine to make electricity

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/25/fashion/25gym.html>

**Green microgym**, AE, N, set expr

the power of human exercise as a source of electricity

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/25/fashion/25gym.html>

**Greenwash**, AE, N, blend

A lie designed to manipulate and co-opt an unsuspecting public

National geographic March 2008 p. 82

**Grown-up-style**, BE, Adj, comp

Tailored suiting, structured cocktail dresses and high heels coming back to the catwalks.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2007/dec/29/features.fashion>

**Guerilla-benching**, AE, part, met

installing own wooden benches on sidewalks

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/08/magazine/08guerrilla-t.html>

**Have and have mores**, AE, Adj, conv

New distinction of American citizens, rich and richer ones

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/sep/06/television.usa>

**Hero ad**, AE, N, comp

giant graphic on MySpace

<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/11/13/why-facebook-likes-small-ads-despite-the-small-dollars/>

**Hippy-crites**, AE, N, comp

celebrity ecological hypocrite

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-564215/You-hippy-crites-When-comes-saving-planet-celebrities-practise-preach.html>

**Hokey-cokey**, BE, Adj, comp

Easy existence

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2008/aug/02/ruralaffairs>

**Homedulging**, BE, part, blend

socialising at home and indulging ourselves on a smaller scale

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/features/-Can-trendy-neologisms-put.4872099.jp>

**Homerica**, AE, N, blend

Imaginary America in the Simpsons series

05/10/2009 Coming to Homerica

**Horrorism**, BE, N, blend

A word describing the horrors of Islamic terrorism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/jan/13/politics.martinamis>

**House-porn**, BE, N, comp

A way of presenting a house as beautiful and full of expensive furniture in a way to please people in the world of fear nowadays

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/sep/06/television.usa>

**Hungry – gap**, BE, N, comp

that elusive period of early spring during which you can't quite understand why there's nothing but brassicas in the garden

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2007/aug/11/features.weekend>

**Third hand smoke**, AE, N comp

Chemicals found in infants and babies as a posed risk of parent smoking

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/03/health/research/03smoke.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/03/health/research/03smoke.html?_r=1)

**Hypermedia permaculture eco-village**, AE, N, set expr

sustainable farm where they and other like-minded individuals could create art and music

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/20/travel/20frugal.html>

**Hystericize**, AE, V, der

To act in a hysteric way

<http://runway.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/06/26/paris-boys-town/?scp=1>

**IM-ing**, BE, V, abb

talk to friends online via instant messaging

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Infomercial**, AE, N, blend

information and commercial, which Obama used for his campaign

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081029/ap\\_on\\_el\\_pr/obama](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081029/ap_on_el_pr/obama)

**Intersectional**, BE, Adj, der

the idea that social change emerges at the crossroads of race, class, gender, sexuality, ability

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/mar/13/aretheythinkingwhatwerethinking>

**IPlayer**, BE, N, blend

A BBC's program that works on the barcodes and gives information about the product and the manufacturer

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/dec/27/culture-review-of-the-noughties>

**Irritainment**, AE, N, der

sort of relentless horseplay

<http://theater.nytimes.com/2008/07/27/books/review/Schillinger-t.html>

**Islamophobia**, BE, N, comp

the fear of the Islam religion

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/feb/14/mindlessvandalism>

**Joe the Plumber**, AE, NP, comp

a nickname for Palins husband, representative of ordinary Americans

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCDxXJSucF4>

**Kindergarchy**, AE, N, blend

A type of home government where the main role play the kids

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2007/11/21/a-scrooges-thanksgiving/>

**Kleenex art**, BE, N, comp

A new name for gimmick art, concerning the placing of a statute commemorating the defeat of the Nazi in GB

<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/art/news/boris-and-benn-form-an-unlikely-plinth-alliance-793146.html>

**Kvarsittare**, BE, N, met

Our institutions of learning are drowning in a sea of waffle

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2007/nov/27/schools.uk2>

**Laugh-crazed**, BE, Adj, comp

Reaction of people preferred by the authors in the theaters

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/stage/theatreblog/2008/may/29/michaelbillingtontheatremerc>

**Laptop troubadours**, BE, N, set expr

Young generation of song writers using their laptop computers to compose their songs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/sep/01/james.yuill>

**LGBTQQI**, BE, N, acc

A meeting for lesbian and gay, bisexuals, transsexuals, queer, questioning and the intersex people

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/nov/08/lesbianism>

**Lesbian-shaped**, BE, Adj, comp

Having the shape which would be preferred by lesbian women

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/may/29/television1>

**Lobsterpolitan**, AE, N, blend

"the fanciest drink you got", which is asked for by Homer in the Simpsons

Midnight Towboy," 10/7/07

**Maggie' heels**, BE, N, set expr

Extremely high heels, uncomfortable to wear yet very favorite with Victoria Beckham, ETA

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-1248118/Kelly-Brook-looks-Posh-pair-killer-heels--confesses-struggles-walk-them.html>

**Manger chic**, BE, N, comp

panicked mums and dads snapping up brand new expensive ivory white bridesmaid dresses, to transform their little girls into angels

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/mortarboard/2009/dec/03/manger-chic-nativity-plays>

**Manorexia**, AE, N, blend

the male version of anorexia

[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/09/magazine/09zygotic.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/09/magazine/09zygotic.html?_r=1)

**McMansion**, BE, N, der

Ugly big residences, far from being environment-friendly

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/ethicallivingblog/2009/may/06/u2-edge-ecohome-malibu>

**Memory drawings**, AE, N, set expr

third-, fourth- and fifth-generation versions of the original

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/27/AR2008032701202.html>

**Merdle**, BE, V, met

to defraud investors

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theguardian/2008/dec/18/guardian-letters>

**Meta-narrative**, BE, Adj, der

A divine purpose to write for one Anglican priest

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/sep/20/religion.evolution>

**Microdonor**, AE, N, der

A person who donates a small amount of money to a political campaign or other cause

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/sweet/1015950,CST-NWS-sweet20.article>

**Micro leaves**, BE, N, der

the veg du jour, largely thanks to their popularity among leading chefs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2007/dec/08/foodanddrink.gardens>

**Millionaire-dom**, BE, N, der

The quality of being a millionaire

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/money/blog/2009/feb/10/wags-cut-back-spending-habits>

**Minisode**, BE, N, blend

short shards of drama shaped for downloading

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/tvandradioblog/2007/nov/01/tvmatterspoliakoff>

**Misery memoires**, BE, N, set exp

Memoires that seem to offer a spectacle that is against nature - surely mothers and fathers love their children

[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/books/article5288447.ece](http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/article5288447.ece)

**Mobysode**, BE, N, blend

short shards of drama shaped for downloading

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/tvandradioblog/2007/nov/01/tvmatterspoliakoff>

**Momager**, AE, N, blend

Mother who serves as a manager to her own kids, keeps their schedule, packs their bags.

<http://tv.nytimes.com/2008/01/22/arts/television/22mart.html?scp=2>

**Mom-o-meter**, AE, N, comp

accurate a portrayal of the varying levels of sentimentality

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2008/08/20/DI2008082002627.html>

**Mook mart**, AE, N, met

convenience store in the Simpsons, a parody of Wal Mart  
Midnight Towboy," 10/07/07

**Mosley**, AE, V, proper name

The act of receiving sexual gratification by beating a woman with a stick while speaking German  
provided by [JD]

**Motor-porn** , BE, N, comp

Motor show taking place at the Goodwood Festival of Speed.  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2008/jun/29/1>

**Murketing**, AE, N, blend

the ad industry has adopted an underground method of selling that depends on our complicit embrace of brands.  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/27/books/review/Manjoo-t.html>

**Naily**, AE, N, blend

A couple in One Tree Hill show Nathan and Haily  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IoBP40yidY>

**Neek**, BE, N blend

Hybrid of nerd and geek  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTjGU2lr>

**Nerdcore**, AE, N, blend

rappers, who wear pocket protectors and write paeans to computer routing devices, are in vogue  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/29/magazine/29wwln-idealab-t.html>

**Night-out** , AE, N, conv

S person who parties all night and sleeps all day  
Supernatural 2X03

**Netflix divorce**, AE, N, proper name

A couple gave up on trying to share a queue and instead created two accounts on the Netflix video database  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/29/fashion/29netflix.html?pagewanted=2>



**New consumer**, AE, N, set exp

shoppers hopped up on YouTube and TiVo who are said to have developed a strange “immunity” to advertising

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/27/books/review/Manjoo-t.html>

**Non-doms**, BE, N, clip

Non-domicile workers in Britain

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global/2008/oct/03/labour.gordonbrown1>

**Non-exec**, BE, N, comp

Weekly telegraph 17-23.1.2007

**Non-jobs**, BE, N, comp

People who have no jobs

Weekly telegraph 3.1.2007 p.8

**Obesogenic society**, BE, N, blend

involuntary exposure to an unhealthy modern lifestyle

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2008/jul/24/alanjohnson.health>

**Octomum**, AE, N, blend

A mother of eight children

<http://omg.yahoo.com/news/court-docs-octomom-inks-showbiz-deal-for-tots/25663>

**Oligart**, BE, N, blend

Billionaire Russian oligarchs snapping the world most desired pieces of art

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/2008/sep/10/television>

**Ozploitation**, BE, N, blend

love of the grittier low-budget end of Australian cinema

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/film/2008/oct/24/horror>

**P2P-ers**, BE, N, abb

Government representatives angry about the Internet pirate bay

[http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/12/pirate\\_bay\\_ddos\\_ploy/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/05/12/pirate_bay_ddos_ploy/)

**Pander-o-meter**, AE, N, comp

Expressing the felling of pander in the American politics

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2008/08/20/DI2008082002627.html>

**Passé**, AE, N, borrr

Old fashioned way of doing something

<http://www.churchsolutionsmag.com/articles/twitturgy-a-liturgy-in-140-characters.html>

**People-spot**, BE, N, comp

Place where people meet for enjoyment

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2008/jun/29/golf1>

**Pest Bye**, AE, N, comp

pest-control store in the Simpsons

Gone Maggie Gone," 3/15/09

**Pixelated**, AE, Adj, der

Being watched on the screen with the possibility to adjust the size

<http://www.nextreads.com/display2.aspx?recid=2044911&FC=1>

**Pleat-front**, BE, Adj, comp

A type of trousers fashionable in 2008 especially with men

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/jun/29/fashion>

**Plural city**, BE, N, set expr

A city where no ethnic group will form a majority

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2007/sep/11/communities.politics>

**Ponzi scheme**, BE, N, set expr

Words like con artist, financial predator, flim flam artist, trickster.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2008/dec/23/bernard-madoff-jewish-charities>

**Pre-gaming**, AE, V, der

Bingeing on alcohol at home before going out for the evening, particularly to a place where alcohol is expensive or not available

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/education/edlife/alcohol.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/education/edlife/alcohol.html?_r=2)

**Pregorexia**, AE, N, blend

pregnant women starving themselves to avoid gaining weight.

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/06/02/starving-for-two/>

**Premium heartland**, AE, N, comp

A response to tightening budgets of people during recession, a company will sell cheaper food

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2008/nov/12/sainsburys-ant-dec-tesco-pension>

**PUR**, AE, N, acc

It stands for Price Upon Request, when credit designs are never produced for sale, less and less runway fashion is produced

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/06/fashion/06PRICE.html>

**Quad-rilogy**, AE, N, comp

A study featuring Simpsonized versions of history and popular cinema and literature

[http://www.tv.com/the-simpsons/four-great-women-and-a-manicure/episode/1227769/summary.html?tag=ep\\_guide;summar](http://www.tv.com/the-simpsons/four-great-women-and-a-manicure/episode/1227769/summary.html?tag=ep_guide;summar)

**R.C.S.E.**, AE, N, abb

( Relationship Contingent Self-Esteem) A psychological state when one's self is determined by a relationship

<http://schott.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/12/11/rcse/>

**Recession flu**, AE, N, comp

Maladies caused by the economic crisis

<http://schott.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/06/recession-flu/>

**Recessionista**, AE, N, der

Person who can dress in fancy clothes but can find a good deal to shop

<http://www.nydailynews.com/lifestyle/2008/07/13/2008-07-13-frugal-fashion-new-yorkers-learn-to-look.html#ixzz0Sa1by1jB>

**Recession resistant**, AE, Adj, comp

An approach of Google to fight a recession is to come up with a new program

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3dZJ\\_bC4Dsk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3dZJ_bC4Dsk)

**Recessionwear**, BE, N, comp

dull suits, half-hearted presentations and a general air of caution caused by the credit crunch

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/jun/29/fashion>

**Rents**, BE, N, clip

Parents, who provide rent free accommodation

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Re-read**, BE, V, der

A cover version of a spoken word

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/may/29/television1>

**Retronovation**, BE, N, comp

Coming back to the original product way in order to attract nostalgic customers

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/tvandradioblog/2007/nov/01/tvmatterspoliakoff>

**Retro-rumor**, BE, N, comp

a synthetic, anachronistic theory that, while untrue, sounds true to the type of person who could be persuaded that a new record called Buona Serra, Meinen Herren: Andrea Bocelli Sings Kraftwerk had just arrived in stores.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/feb/22/vinylword.joequeenan>

**Safe**, BE, Adj, met

Cool

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Scat-jam**, BE, N, comp

the Ella Fitzgerald element other artists use in their music

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/feb/22/jazz.shopping1>

**Skullcrushing**, BE, part, comp

A quality of something with great effect on people

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/jan/18/popandrock.shopping2>

**Self-besplatement**, BE, N, comp

The fact of constant reincarnation of an Islamic terrorism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/jan/13/politics.martinamis>

**Semi-entertaining**, BE, part, der

Half way between funny and stupid

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/nov/17/comment-lists-tv-internet-books>

**Semi-immortality**, BE, N, der

The life expectancy growing higher but still not enough for many who seek immortality

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theobserver/2007/sep/09/features.review177>

**Schluff**, BE, V, borr

A verb referring to the to temporarily dismount and kind of half-straddle, half-push the bike

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/tvandradioblog/2007/nov/01/tvmatterspoliakoff>

**Schmancier**, AE, Adj, der

Being even more well off than before

**Shockvertizing**, AE, part, blend

Advertizing in a way to shock people and make them react

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2008/jul/28/advertising.television>

**Schoolteacher-ly**, BE, Adv, der

Speaking in a way teachers do at school

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2007/dec/09/popandrock.radiohead3>

**Shopingest**, AE, Adj, der

A society which does shopping very often in large quantities

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/27/books/review/Manjoo-t.html>

**Shovel-ready**, AE, Adj, comp

Relating to a construction site or project that can be used or started right away

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/07/business/economy/07spend.html>

**Skadoosh**, AE, Adj, met

An expression coined in KungFu panda film

Kug-fu Panda

**Slanguage**, BE, N, blend

A combination of slang and language used to refer to the language of text messaging

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/jul/05/saturdayreviewsfeatres.guardianreview>

**Slummy**, BE, N, blend

A mother in the same social level as a yummy mummy but can not afford all the expensive things they have

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2008/dec/23/slummy-yummy-mummy-fiction>

**Songtronica** , BE, N, blend

A new type of music combining the organic and electronic music elements

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/sep/01/james.yuill>

**Soz**, BE, int, clip

Sorry

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Stressurized**, AE, N, blend

Feeling a combination of being under pressure and stress at the same time

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/howaboutthat/4592268/The-two-CCs---credit-crunch-and-current-climate---enter-office-jargon.html>

**Sucking season**, BE, N, comp

professional women aged 20 to 40 targeted in raids for their mobiles, iPods, cash, laptops and credit cards.

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/2419243/Mass-mugging-gang-locked-up.html#ixzz0eTv4FSWY>

**Supersizing**, BE, part, der

making more out of less

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/29/arts/television/29webi.html?scp=1>

**Stag-flation**, AE, N, blend

Combination of stagnation and inflation the USA experienced in 2008 based on the model from Japan

<http://krugman.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/12/16/zirp/>

**Staycation**, AE, N, blend

Staying at home for one's holiday

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/sep/06/television.usa>

**Staycationers**, AE, N, der

People who stay at home for their holiday

<http://www.cnn.com/2008/LIVING/worklife/06/12/balance.staycation/>

**Stealth fashion**, BE, Adj, met

A sale when rich customers have become reluctant to buy expensive clothes publicly in the economic crisis

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/retailandconsumer/3629958/Jimmy-Choo-boss-opens-living-room-to-luxury-shoppers.html>

**Subprime**, AE, V, comp

It is, essentially, a euphemism for reckless lending at high interest to people who are unlikely to manage their payments.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2008/jan/28/subprimeisalowvalueexpress>

**Swissness** AE, N, der

A watch having the quality of the real Swiss watches

<http://www.nextreads.com/display2.aspx?recid=2044911&FC=1>

**Swottishness**, BE, N, der

A feeling one can experience when reading an interesting book

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/oct/19/booker-prize>

**Synther-songwriter**, BE, N, comp

Modern song writer who uses his laptop to compose his songs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/sep/01/james.yuill>

**Teenglish**, BE, N, blend

The English language used by teenagers

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Teenglish-speaking randomer**, BE, N, set exp

an outsider to your social group

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Tesla roadster**, AE, N, comp

Sexy electric cars environmentally friendly, quiet, and clean

[http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1852747\\_1854195\\_1854114,00.html](http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,1852747_1854195_1854114,00.html)

**Texter**, BE, N, der

People, usually teenagers, who write text messages all the time

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Textese**, AUSE, V, der

text messaging in Australia

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7775013.stm>

**Textiquette**, BE, N, blend

The use of institutional messages in the cyberspace, consisting mainly of abbreviations  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/jul/05/saturdayreviewsfeates.guardianreview>

**Thriftifarian**, BE, N, blend

Everybody cautious about money during the Recession period, combination of drift and rastafarian  
<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/features/-Can-trendy-neologisms-put.4872099.jp>

**Tristanning**, BE, part, proper name

A trend to name babies by strange old names  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/2008/aug/15/edinburgh.festival.alex.horne>

**Tuition Academy**, AE, N, met

no scholarship school in the Simpsons  
[Lisa the Drama Queen," 1/25/09](http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/2008/aug/15/edinburgh.festival.alex.horne)

**Twenties-era**, BE, Adj, der

wide-leg, pleat-front trousers fashionable this season  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/jun/29/fashion>

**Twoc**, BE, V, acc

Take without owner's consent  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Uberbrat Pack**, BE, N, der

very short skirts, cutesy vintage dresses and, most important of all, celebrity patente  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2008/nov/25/fashion-celebrity>

**Uber-domestic**, BE, Adj, der

the slummy mummy's unspoken but obsessive preoccupation  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2008/dec/23/slummy-yummy-mummy-fiction>

**Übergeek**, BE, N, der

the image you project is paramount; in effect, he has made himself, superficially at least, into a brand.  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/nov/23/outliers-story-success-malcolm-gladwell>



**Umbrella trend**, BE, N, comp

The effect of choosing really the necessary things, limiting the spendthrift of a society  
<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/features/-Can-trendy-neologisms-put.4872099.jp>

**Un-Gonzo** , BE, Adj, der

Lacking the characteristics of Gonzo journalism such as objektivity  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/film/filmblog/2008/dec/22/hunter-s-thompson-gonzo-and-better-forgotten>

**Vamoosh**, BE, V, borr

A hybrid of a Spanish word and English suffix meaning to go  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Verdant cladding**, BE, N, met

panels of plants that insulate buildings, filter the air and provide habitats for insects  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/may/20/gardens>

**Vomage**, BE, N, blend

physical homage to a night on the lash  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/booksblog/2008/feb/25/shirleydent>

**Wag-ish** , BE, Adj, der

having the quality of a WAG  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/organgrinder/2008/aug/18/post93>

**Wag-ren**, BE, N, blend

A blend of WAGS and the old suffix –ren, which appears in brethren  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/blog/2008/dec/31/marina-hyde-premier-league-new-years-resolutions>

**Wagwan**, BE, phrase, met

What's going on  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Waity –Kaitie**, BE, N, comp

A nickname given to Kate Middleton, prince William's fiance who is apparently happy to hang on until William proposes  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-1084113/Waity-Katie-wobble-Prince-William-commits-seven-years-RAF.html#ixzz0UUnOCcRb>

**Wal Mart- mum**, AE, N, met

breezy, straight-talking style is hailed by admirers as a key to unlocking the vital support of the latest fad in polling demographics, used by S. Palin

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/sep/14/uselections2008.sarahpalin>

**Wal Mart of UK**, AE, N, met

Fresh & Easy, a small supermarket recently opened in UK, opposite the TESCO stores

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2007/dec/09/tesco.supermarkets1>

**Waverly Hills 9-0-2-1-D'oh**, AE, N, met

The Simpson parody of a late popular series

[Waverly Hills 9-0-2-1-D'oh05/03/2009](http://www.guardian.co.uk/television/2009/03/05/waverly-hills-9-0-2-1-d-oh)

**Whack job**, AE, N, set expr

Criticism of Palin's campaign, pronounced by McCain

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/06/us/politics/06mccain.html>

**Whoopi**, AE, N, met

Any crazy person you meet

[Stargate 9X... Merlin's....](http://www.guardian.co.uk/television/2009/03/05/waverly-hills-9-0-2-1-d-oh)

**Wingnut-fed**, BE, Adj, comp

Characteristic of a world of media presenting useless information to the audience

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2008/dec/22/george-bush-dick-chene-torture>

**Wikipedia kids**, BE, N, met

High school graduates skilled in copy and paste technique

<http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storycode=6014006>

**Woo-woo**, AE, N, borr

Something unclear, this does not make sense

[Stone Money, Jeffrey Deaver, p. 157](http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2008/12/16/zirp/)

**ZIRP**, AE, N, acc

Zero interest rate policy the USA started last year following a Japanese model

<http://krugman.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/12/16/zirp/>

**Zoned out**, BE, v, met

Day dreaming

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1213626/Teenglish-From-Frape-Neek-words-used-teenagers-baffle-adults.html#ixzz0eTj1BCJL>

**Zub zub**, AE, V, met

make love

<http://www.elyrics.net/read/e/ellen-page-lyrics/zub-zub-lyrics.html>

## **Army**

**Blue on blue**, BE, V, met

firing at your own soldiers

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2007/aug/25/military.iraq>

**Extraordinary rendition**, BE, N, new meaning

aggravated kidnapping

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/jun/03/theincrediblehulks>

**Friendly fire**, BE, N, met

firing at your own soldiers

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2007/aug/25/military.iraq>

**IED**, BE, N, abb

improvised explosive devices

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/jul/17/afghanistan>

**Next-war-it is**, AE, N, comp

a military disorder

<http://articles.latimes.com/2008/jul/21/nation/na-nextwar21>

**Obwah lasica**, N, borr

A sticky bomb, light, portable and easy to lay, tucked quickly under the bumper of a car or into a chink in a blast wall.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/14/world/middleeast/14stickybombs.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/14/world/middleeast/14stickybombs.html?_r=2)

**Sticky bomb**, AE, N, met

Light, portable and easy to lay, tucked quickly under the bumper of a car or into a chink in a blast wall.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/14/world/middleeast/14stickybombs.html>

## **Work departments**

**4D operating framework**, BE, N, idiom

Define, discover, design, deploy, economical approach to the marketplace

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/inspire-innovate/vox-pop>

**Boss spasming**, AE, N, idiom

means suddenly looking busy as a manager enters the room

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/1576877/Blamestorming-and-new-office-buzzwords.html>

**Elevator team**, BE, N, met

always going up and down between the divisions, somebody pushing the B button for basement

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2007/dec/10/europeanfootball.sport1>

**GOOD job**, AE, Adj, abb

Get Out Of Debt, the kind of job that many of the cash-strapped formerly employed may be on the lookout for

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7775013.stm>

**Institutional racism**, BE, N, comp

an accusation of the police, in case of a brutal racial murder in respectable suburbs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/feb/14/mindlessvandalism>

**Inter-departmental liaison facilitation**, AE, N, idiom

lunch

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/1576877/Blamestorming-and-new-office-buzzwords.html>

**Malus**, AE, N, new meaning

if the bank subsequently makes losses or if the employee misses performance targets

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/18/business/18views.html>

**Strategic staircase**, BE, N, met

a plan for the future

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/howaboutthat/4592268/The-two-CCs---credit-crunch-and-current-climate---enter-office-jargon.html>

**Treeware**, BE, N, comp

The paper necessary for office work when documents are written in hand

Provided by [JD]