

ADJECTIVIZATION AS A DERIVATIONAL PATTERN

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This article is an attempt to study an undeservedly neglected pattern coining deverbal adjectives homonymous with Participle I and Participle II (Ppl I → Adj, Ppl II → Adj). The pattern of adjectivization differs from other non-affixal derivational patterns in its base/motivating constituent which is a participle, a member of the verb paradigm, and not the citation form of the lexeme [1, 19]. This phenomenon is not typical of English word-formation, either affixal or non-affixal. Therefore the pattern of adjectivization deserves special attention. Moreover, the pattern is productive and its activity is unquestionable: the number of adjectives of this type presented in dictionaries [3; 4] is comparatively large (546), and new lexemes not included in dictionaries are being coined and are found in both fiction and non-fiction.

The factors determining the productivity and activity of the pattern are several and varied. First, the nature of the participle which combines both verbal and adjectival properties. Second, although suffixal patterns forming deverbal adjectives are numerous (11), the number of lexemes built in them is rather limited (655) and cannot satisfy the needs of the language. Moreover, most of the deverbal suffixal derivatives are stylistically marked [2, 120]. Third, the simplicity of the pattern enhances its productivity and activity: as no suffix is used,

no rules of phono-morphological and semantic combinability should be observed. Hence the semantic flexibility of the pattern. Last, the factor of linguistic analogy is presumably of some importance as well. Old French adjectives in -ant homonymous and semantically related to Participle I were borrowed into English and their homonymy might have served as a precedent for the pattern of adjectivization [2, 70].

Investigation of any derivational pattern presupposes the analysis of its constituent parts and their relations. Therefore morphological, derivational and semantic properties of the verb will be analysed first: the participle, being a member of the verb paradigm, possesses qualities identical to the citation form representing the lexeme.

The bulk of the motivating constituents of the two patterns are participles of derivationally simple regular transitive and polysemantic verbs of Romance origin (see table 1).

As seen from the table, the verb bases of Romance origin are more productive and that might speak in favour of linguistic analogy as one of the factors conditioning the existence of the pattern.

The motivated lexemes are mostly qualitative adjectives with a paradigm of their own, e. g. *determined, more determined, the most determined; embalming, more embalming, the*

1 Table

Properties of the Verb	Morphological				Derivational		Semantic		Origin	
	T*	I	Reg.	Ir.	S	D	M	P	R	G
Ppl I → Adj	167	103	244	26	204	66	80	190	176	94
Ppl II → Adj	205	71	263	13	213	63	84	192	237	39

* T – transitive, I – intransitive, Reg. – regular, Ir. – irregular, S – simple, D – derived, M – monosemantic, P – polysemantic, R – Romance, G – Germanic

most embalming; composed, more composed, the most composed; appalling, more appalling, the most appalling, etc.

The adjectives motivated by Participle I and Participle II retain the sense of process inherited from the vcrb, e. g. *worried* "experiencing worry; anxious", *interested* "showing curiosity or concern about sb or sth". The sense of process is even more evident in the adjectives

correlating with Participle I. They frequently have "that must/can do/be done", "that does sth", "showing /feeling sth" in their definitions which is also typical of suffixal deverbal derivatives, e. g. *disarming* "that disarms", *scorching* "that scorches", *admiring* "feeling /showing admiration", etc.; cf *confiscatory* "that confiscates", *deterrent* "that deters", *perfectible* "that can be perfected", etc.

2 Table

Properties	Semantic			Derivational				Collocability		
Adjectives	M*	P	S	-ly	-ness	un-	sub	I	C	H
Adj -ing	228	42	173	162	13	18	12	86	15	140
Adj -ed	205	71	133	69	20	34	17	110	153	147

* M – monosemantic, P – polysemantic, S – synonymous with suffixal/simple adjectives, -ly – forms the pattern Adj + -ly → Adv, -ness – forms the pattern Adj + -ness → N, un – forms the pattern un- + Adj → Adj, sub – forms the pattern of substantivization, I – collocates with intensifiers, C – used as a verb complement, H – used homogeneously with suffixal/simple adjectives

Another notable property of these adjectives is that they can stand in semantic paradigmatic relations with simple and suffixal adjectives by entering their synonymic sets, e.g. *fitting, suitable, appropriate, proper; sparing, frugal, thrifty, economical; removed, distant, remote*, etc. The collocability of lexemes coined in the pattern of adjectivization is similar to that of simple and suffixal adjectives:

– they collocate with such intensifiers as *very, most, quite, rather, too, so*, etc. e.g. *so refined, too overpowering, very restrained*, to mention but a few;

– they are used as complements to the verbs of becoming and being (except the verb *be*), e.g. *seem displeased, become estranged, feel humiliated, look relaxed*, etc;

– they are used as homogeneous attributes and complements with simple and suffixal adjectives to which they are joined by coordinative conjunctions, e.g. *exaggerated and accurate; clear and sparkling; black, lousy and stinking*, etc.

The derivational valency of these lexemes is similar to that of simple and suffixal adjectives, i. e. they take the suffixes -ly and -ness, the prefix un- and form the pattern of

substantivization, e. g. *alarmingly, contentedly; preparedness, willingness; unaccustomed, undemanding; the accused, the disabled, etc.*

Collocability, semantic and derivational properties of the adjectives in question are illustrated in the table 2.

Semantic relations between motivating verbs and motivated adjectives are so varied that they defy grouping into regular semantic patterns. Still one aspect of semantic relations conforms to the general laws of the derivational system: motivating verbs and motivated adjectives

have asymmetric semantic structures – in 293 pairs of patterned homonyms motivating verbs have a more developed semantic structure than motivated adjectives. Derived adjectives can develop their semantic structure by means of semantic change, e. g. *appalling*:

1. causing fear and hatred; terrible (based on the meaning of the monosemantic verb *appal* "fill with fear and hatred");

2. very bad (the result of generalization of meaning).

CONCLUSIONS

The pattern of adjectivization is a significant means of satisfying the need of the language for deverbal adjectives. Unlike other derivational patterns, it uses the participle and not the citation form of the verb as its nucleus. The result is a derivationally correlating pair of

homonyms with different collocability, different morphological properties and, in most cases, asymmetric semantic structures. These properties might serve as criteria for discriminating between patterned homonyms, i.e. motivating participles and motivated adjectives.

REFERENCES

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3. *Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture*. Longman, 1993.
4. *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*. Oxford University Press. 1989.

ADJEKTYVACIJA KAIP ŽODŽIŲ DARYBOS MODELIS

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Santrauka

Straipsnyje nagrinėjama adjektyvacija kaip žodžių darybos modelis, kurio motyvuojantis sandas, skirtingai nuo kitų derivacijos modelių, yra žodžio forma, o ne leksema. Nustatytos modelio atsiradimo ir produktyvumo prielaidos, apibūdintos modelio motyvuojančių ir motyvuotų sandų

morfoliginės ir semantinės savybės bei išvestinių būdvardžių junglumas ir derivacinis valentingumas, taip pat bandoma aptarti abiejų sandų semantinę koreliaciją ir kiek ji atitinka bendrus žodžių darybos dėsnius.

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