

## Vocabulary Classification and Word Formation in Russian Language Lexicology

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**Abstract.** *This article explores the intricate processes of vocabulary classification and word formation within the lexicology of the Russian language. It examines various methods of categorizing vocabulary, including classifications by parts of speech, semantic fields, origin, style and register, frequency, and functionality. The study highlights the significance of understanding these classifications in relation to the structure and usage of the language. Additionally, the article delves into the mechanisms of word formation, such as derivation, compounding, and borrowing, illustrating how new words emerge and evolve within the linguistic landscape. By analyzing these processes, the paper aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic nature of Russian vocabulary and its implications for language learners, educators, and linguists.*

**Key words:** *vocabulary classification, word formation, the lexicology, the Russian language, comprehensive understanding, derivation, compounding, borrowing, the linguistic.*

### **Introduction.**

Lexicology is the branch of linguistics that studies the vocabulary of a language, its nature, structure, and meaning. In the context of the Russian language, lexicology encompasses several key aspects:

- **Native Words:** These are words that have originated from the early stages of the Russian language, often of Slavic origin.
- **Borrowed Words:** Russian has absorbed a significant number of words from other languages (e.g., French, German, English), especially during periods of cultural exchange.
- **Neologisms:** New words and expressions that emerge due to technological advances, cultural changes, or social trends.

In Russian lexicology, vocabulary classification is essential for understanding how words function within the language. Here are the main categories used to classify vocabulary:

#### **1. By Parts of Speech (Части речи)**

- **Nouns (Существительные):** Names of objects, people, places, etc. (e.g., "стол" - table).
- **Verbs (Глаголы):** Words that express actions or states (e.g., "бежать" - to run).
- **Adjectives (Прилагательные):** Descriptive words that modify nouns (e.g., "красивый" - beautiful).
- **Adverbs (Наречия):** Modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs (e.g., "быстро" - quickly).
- **Pronouns (Местоимения):** Replace nouns (e.g., "я" - I).

- Prepositions (Предлоги): Show relationships between words (e.g., "в" - in).
- Conjunctions (Союзы): Connect words or phrases (e.g., "и" - and).
- Interjections (Восклицания): Express emotions or reactions (e.g., "ура!" - hooray).

## 2. By Semantic Fields (Семантические поля)

- Concrete Vocabulary (Конкретная лексика): Refers to tangible objects and phenomena (e.g., "дерево" - tree).
- Abstract Vocabulary (Абстрактная лексика): Pertains to ideas, concepts, or qualities (e.g., "свобода" - freedom).
- Technical Vocabulary (Техническая лексика): Specialized terms used in specific fields (e.g., "инженерия" - engineering).

## 3. By Origin (Происхождение)

- Native Vocabulary (Коренная лексика): Words of Slavic origin (e.g., "мать" - mother).
- Borrowed Vocabulary (Заемствованная лексика): Words borrowed from other languages (e.g., "ресторан" from French).
- International Vocabulary (Международная лексика): Words commonly used across multiple languages (e.g., "телефон" - telephone).

## 4. By Style and Register (Стиль и регистр)

- Literary Vocabulary (Литературная лексика): Used in formal writing and literature.
- Colloquial Vocabulary (Разговорная лексика): Everyday language used in informal contexts.
- Slang (Сленг): Informal language often specific to certain groups or subcultures.
- Jargon (Жаргон): Specialized language used by particular professions or groups.

## 5. By Frequency and Usage (Частотность и употребление)

- Active Vocabulary (Активная лексика): Words regularly used in speech and writing.
- Passive Vocabulary (Пассивная лексика): Words understood but not commonly used.

## 6. By Functionality (Функциональная лексика)

- Functional Vocabulary (Функциональная лексика): Words that serve a specific grammatical purpose.
- Content Vocabulary (Содержательная лексика): Words that carry meaning and contribute to the content of communication.

**Word Formation** in lexicology refers to the processes by which new words are created in a language. Understanding these processes is crucial for studying how vocabulary evolves and expands. Here are the main methods of word formation:

1. Derivation. The process of creating new words by adding prefixes, suffixes, or changing the root.

- Affixation: Adding prefixes or suffixes to a base word to create a new word. For example:
  - Prefix: "не-" (not) + "счастливый" (happy) = "несчастливый" (unhappy).
  - Suffix: "учитель" (teacher) + "-ство" = "учительство" (teaching).

2. Compounding: Combining two or more independent words to form a new word. For example: - "студентка" – (female student).

- "дом" (house) + "работа" (work) = "домработница" (housekeeper).
- "вода" (water) + "провод" (conductor) = "водопровод" (water supply).

3. Conversion. Changing the grammatical category of a word without altering its form. For example:

- The noun "долг" (debt) can also function as a verb meaning "to owe."
  - The adjective "красивый" (beautiful) can be used as a noun in some contexts.
4. Blending. Merging parts of two words to create a new one, often retaining sounds and meanings from both. For example:
- "мотор" (motor) + "hotel" = "мотель" (motel).
  - "интернет" + "сериал" = "интерсериал."
5. Acronymy. Forming a new word by taking the initial letters of a phrase. For example:
- "ГосДУ" (Государственная Дума) translates to "State Duma."
  - "NASA" for National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
6. Clipping. Shortening a longer word to create a new, abbreviated form. For example:
- "автомобиль" (automobile) becomes "авто."
  - "фотоаппарат" (camera) becomes "фото."
7. Back-formation. Creating a new word by removing an affix from an existing word, often leading to a change in grammatical category. For example:
- From "редактор" (editor), one can derive "редактировать" (to edit).
  - From "бегун" (runner), one can derive "бегать" (to run).
8. Borrowing. Adopting words from other languages, which can sometimes lead to changes in form or meaning. For example:
- "ресторан" from French.
  - "компьютер" from English.
9. Onomatopoeia. Creating words that phonetically imitate sounds associated with the objects or actions they refer to. For example:
- "гудеть" (to buzz) mimics the sound of buzzing.

### **Conclusion.**

Word formation processes are fundamental to the dynamic nature of language, allowing it to adapt and grow over time. Understanding these processes helps linguists and language learners appreciate how vocabulary reflects cultural and social changes. Classifying vocabulary in Russian helps in understanding the structure, usage, and evolution of the language. Each classification provides insights into how words relate to each other and their roles in communication. This framework is crucial for linguists, language learners, and educators alike. Understanding the lexicology of the Russian language provides valuable insights into its structure, evolution, and cultural significance. It highlights how language reflects societal changes and influences communication among speakers.

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