

## **The Evolution of the Derivational System in the Russian Language**

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**Abstract:** This article explores a section of linguistics - word formation. It provides a definition of word formation and discusses the factors contributing to the development of this field. It notes that word formation is a relatively young science, but mentions of derivation can be found in ancient sources. The article describes the stages of development of this field, as well as the scholars who have made significant contributions to the development of derivatology and their works.

**Keywords:** word formation, derivation, derivatology, lexical composition of language, linguistics, word, derived word, scholars.

Word formation is a branch of linguistics that deals with the process of creating new words, derivatives, based on root words or phrases by using formal methods in the language. These methods may include combining roots with affixes (for example, "стол-ик", "за-столь-н-ый"), combining multiple roots (for example, "узкоколейный", "громкоговоритель"), alternation within the root (for example, "глухой - глушь"), and others.

Word formation is an important source of enriching the vocabulary of a language and one of the main ways of forming terms. The study of word formation examines how words are created, how they are organized according to patterns and motivated, investigates derivative words in synchrony and diachrony, as well as their functioning in various aspects.

The complexity of word formation system is determined by several factors:

- 1) close connections with other levels of language, such as phonology, morphophonology, morphology, syntax, and grammar in general;
- 2) the flexibility of the system and the impossibility of drawing clear boundaries between its potentials and actual realization, as well as between word formation and inflection;
- 3) difficulty in distinguishing synchronous and diachronic aspects;
- 4) the large quantity and variety of units represented, ranging from the smallest word-forming morphemes (affixes) to word-forming categories and other combinations of derived words, requiring the use of multiple theoretical concepts for an adequate description of the system;
- 5) diversity and communicative significance of word-formation functions.

Depending on the formal means used, word formation is sometimes divided into affixation, compounding (when combining two full-fledged units), conversion (when changing words from one part of speech to another), abbreviation (when using abbreviations of original words), and so on.

Creating new words using formal means is sometimes called derivation, and derived and compound words as the results of the derivation process can be referred to by the general term "derivatives". In foreign linguistics, there is a tendency to consider word formation as part of

derivational morphology, which studies the formal properties of derivatives and their morphological structures.

The main concepts of word formation theory are motivation and word-forming productivity. Motivation implies the semantic conditioning of the meaning of a derivative or compound word by the meanings of its components. In the process of word formation, some units act as a source of motivation, while others, as a result, are considered motivated (for example, "он носит письма" and "письмоносец").

Word-formation productivity is based on the derivability of the properties of the derived word from the properties of the original units. This allows us to consider the derived word as a structure, the internal form of which corresponds to its content and is constructed as a two-member formation consisting of a referential part and a formant part. The referential part contains the base or bases of motivating words that refer to the source of motivation and maintain full-fledged units in the structure of the derivative (for example, "он учится в школе" and "школьнику", "он преподает" and "преподаватель"). The formant part, containing the formant used in the word-formation process, expresses a new meaning in the derivative compared to the motivating word (for example, -ник in "школьник", -тель in "преподаватель").

Word-formation is a relatively young direction. However, the first mentions of derivation and morphemics can be found in ancient sources. To this day, despite the fact that a considerable amount of work has been published in the field of Russian derivatology, the question of the history of word-formation development remains unresolved.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, word-formation was part of the etymological system. However, as research shows, scholars of that time (L. Zizaniy, M. Smotritskiy, F. Maksimov, etc.) developed a systematic structure of morphemics and word-formation, which was reflected in the structural characteristics of word spelling, their classification into simple, complex, supercomplex words, as well as in the division of all words into primitive and derived ones. Derived words were classified into categories (subtypes) based on several criteria: semantic (for example, отеческий (fatherly), отчеименный (patronymic), отечественный (patriotic), властный (authoritative), языческий (pagan)), morphological (for example, отыменной (nominal), отглагольный (verbal)), emotional-expressive (for example, умалительный (diminutive) and уничижительный (pejorative)). Importantly, during this period an attempt was made to comprehend and define the essence of the word-formation system.

M.V. Lomonosov, in his "Russian Grammar," was one of the first in linguistics to characterize the means of word-formation. The scientist compares the word-formation possibilities of different languages, and these studies laid the foundation for Russian derivatology.

M.V. Lomonosov, and following him A.A. Barsov, postulate the morphemic principle of Russian orthography.

During the 16th-18th centuries, several important tendencies for word formation were established:

1. Identification of word-formation types (M.V. Lomonosov).
2. Development of the concept of "word-formational meaning," especially in the study of verbal prefixes.
3. Understanding of word-formational means and methods, which was a step towards distinguishing between primitive and derived words.
4. Differentiation between synchronous and diachronic word formation.

Interest in morphemics and word formation intensified in the 18th century, starting with the works of N.G. Kurganov, who proposed to include a section on "Word Formation" in grammar. Thus, morphology began to be considered in word formation, which was an important step towards the formation of derivatology as an independent branch of linguistics.

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Another scientist who made a significant contribution to the development of Russian word formation was N.I. Grech. The scholar actively studied word formation, especially in the context of verbs. In his work "Comprehensive Russian Grammar," he devoted considerable attention to analyzing the word-formational system of verbs, distinguishing between primitive and derived verbs. N.I. Grech explained that a primitive verb is formed directly from the verbal root, while a derived verb comes from other parts of speech.

In the works of A. Kh. Vostokov, attention is also paid to the word-formation system of the Russian language. The scholar noted that each word consists of primitive and derivative forms, having a root and an ending. He distinguishes between meaning-differentiating changes in endings, which convey different meanings, and sound-forming changes, which facilitate pronunciation. A. Kh. Vostokov identifies constant word-formation variables used in the formation of derivative words, and temporary variables used in declension and conjugation. Thus, he classifies modern suffixes and flexions as different types of word-formational changes.

V.G. Belinsky delved deeper into some word-formation questions in his work "Foundations of Russian Grammar for Initial Education." The scholar was the first to note that it is important to distinguish the prefix, root, and ending in a word.

Affixal word-formation was extensively studied by G.N. Pavsky in his work "Philological Observations on the Composition of the Russian Language." He examined the system of suffixal formation in practically all parts of speech, including interjections and particles. The scholar used a comparative research method, identifying old and new suffixes, and also conducted etymological analysis of some roots.

For example, he identified the suffix *-ядо* and the root *гов-* in the old Russian word "говядо" (Sanskrit "gava" - cow).

N.P. Nekrasov, in his work "On the Meaning of Forms of the Russian Verb," first used the term "suffix" and also noted the importance of applying this morpheme in forming verb forms.

Representatives of the Moscow and Kazan linguistic schools made a significant contribution to the development of Russian word-formation.

I. A. Boduen de Kurtene viewed word-formation as the doctrine of derivational affixes and bases, relating it to morphology. According to him, it is necessary to clearly distinguish between modern and historical word-formation and take into account derivational connections. The scholar introduced the term "morpheme," which he understood as the smallest, indivisible meaningful unit that is a component part of a word and encompasses the root and affixes.

F.F. Fortunatov formulated the requirement to differentiate between synchronous and diachronic approaches to word-formation.

N.V. Krushevsky was the first in Russian science to raise the question of the systematic nature of word-formation, noting that this phenomenon represents a multitude of systems that are not always visible upon superficial examination. He aimed to study both material and semantic connections between words containing common morphemes, as well as connections between morphemes within a word. This helped to identify morphemic elements of a word. In his work "On Analogy and Folk Etymology," N.V. Krushevsky points to the unity of analogy and folk etymology, noting that the difference between them lies in the fact that the former relates to serial grammatical facts, while the latter relates to lexically isolated facts.

The study of word-formation as a separate branch of linguistics began to take shape in the 1940s and 1950s thanks to the works of V.V. Vinogradov, G.O. Vinokur, and A.I. Smirnitsky. During this time, important issues of the general theory of synchronous word-formation started to be explored, including its place among other linguistic disciplines, problems of word structure, and principles of defining relationships between them.

A significant contribution to the study of Russian word-formation was made by E.A. Zemskaya, a student of V.V. Vinogradov. She taught courses on Russian word-formation at the philological faculty and wrote a corresponding section for the textbook "Modern Russian Language." Her works had a significant influence on the development of linguistic science in the field of word-formation.

Interest in word-formation significantly increased after the release of the academic "Grammar of the Russian Language" in 1952. At that time, numerous descriptions of various types of nominal and verbal word-formation were developed. The works of N.M. Shansky, E.A. Zemskaya, E.S. Kubryakova, B.N. Golovin, V.I. Maximov, and other scholars introduced important concepts of word-formation, such as word-formation type, word-formation category, word-formation model, word-formation nest, and others. As a result of the introduction of these concepts, word-formation began to acquire a certain system.

In the "Grammar of Modern Russian Literary Language" and the Academic "Russian Grammar," a comprehensive description of word-formation processes was conducted, revealing the hierarchical structure of this system with different levels of units (types, subtypes, general and specific word-formational meanings), as well as detailed examination of morphological features of motivating and motivated words.

The main principles of modern word-formation are based on systematicity and the necessity of analyzing the content plan and expression plan, allowing for the exploration of all formal-meaning relationships between base and derived words. Formal-meaning relationships between base and derived stems are complex and multi-layered. Often these relationships simultaneously have a historical character and reflect contemporary word-formational connections. Therefore, word-formation is both a process and the result of this process.

Thus, the word-formational system of the Russian language has undergone certain stages of development. Each period has made its own corrections to the word-formation system, refining the essence of the science and the methods of word formation.

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