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THE SYSTEMIC-FUNCTIONAL APPROACH TO -ER, -EE, -OR NOMINALIZATIONS

Anotacija

Šio darbo objektas – transformaciniu ir semantiniu aspektais nagrinėjamos nominalizacijos, padarytos su priesagomis *-er*, *-ee*, *-or*. Darbo tikslas – išnagrinėti, kokias semantines funkcijas (arba vaidmenis) atlieka šios nominalizacijos. Tyrimas atliktas remiantis sisteminės-funkcinės lingvistikos teorija. Surinkti pavyzdžiai nagrinėjami pasitelkiant aprašomąjį, transformacinį ir aprašomosios statistikos metodus. Semantinis lygmuo yra labai reikšmingas apibrėžiant nominalizacijų semantinius vaidmenis. Nominalizacijų semantinis potencialas priklauso nuo pamatinio veiksmažodžio, iš kurio jos yra padarytos.

PAGRINDINIAI ŽODŽIAI: nominalizacija, semantinis vaidmuo, materialus, mentalinis, sakymo, agentyvinės, neagentyvinės.

Abstract

The present study is based on a transformational account of verb-based nominalizations that precede the suffixes *-er*, *-or*, *-ee*. The theoretical foundations of this study are rooted in systemic functional linguistics and generative semantics. The aim of the research is to investigate the functional potential of *-er*, *-or*, *-ee* nominalizations in English. This is an attempt to reveal what semantic functions the mentioned nominalizations may perform. To achieve the aim, the collected examples were analyzed by employing descriptive, transformational and descriptive statistics methods. The semantic level plays a crucial role in determining the semantic functions of the nominalizations. In its own turn the semantic

potential of the nominalizations is determined by the semantic properties of the underlying verb.

KEY WORDS: nominalization, semantic role, material, mental, verbal, agentive, non-agentive.

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Introductory observations

The communicative functions of language are central to the analysis of its structure. Nominalization (the transformation of a verb into an abstract or concrete noun) as a matter of great concern of linguistic research has been analyzed widely from different theoretical approaches. Each approach raises different questions of the data and gives results employing divergent classifications, generalizations, and argumentation. The present study is the continuation of the work started by Liesbet Heyvaert in her monograph “A Cognitive-Functional Approach to Nominalization in English” (2003). The author analyzes agentive, non-agentive, and instrumental *-er* nominalizations within the framework of functional-cognitive linguistics. In similar terms, Florian Schäfer (2008), finds not only agent and instrument *-er* nominalizations but also *-er* nominalizations denoting other types of external arguments such as causer (*defuse* → *defuser*, *level* → *leveller*), holder (*to hold* → *holder*, *to bear* → *bearer*), and experiencer (*admirer* → *admirer*, *love* → *lover*). In the present study an attempt is made to group the nominalizations into agentive and non-agentive nominalizations with the emphasis of the processes (verbs) the nominalizations are derived from. A preliminary investigation of the corpus allows to set up the following hypotheses: the derivation of agentive and non-agentive *-er*, *-ee*, *-or* nominalizations is an entirely productive derivational process and the semantic roles of nominalizations are determined by the verb they are derived from. Thus the aim of the present study is to analyze the derivational, transformational, and semantic peculiarities of *-er*, *-or*, and *-ee* nominalizations.

The scope of the present study is over 1500 verb-based nominalizations containing suffixes *-er*, *-or*, and *-ee*. The examples were selected from the “*Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*” (2003), henceforth (LDOCE). This dictionary was chosen for the analysis due to the reason that its strength lies in its unstinting concentration on living Eng-

lish. Furthermore, the new LDOCE is a significant trend of innovative energetic research together with computational techniques that are related to lexicographical skills. The examples are based on the Longman Corpus Network: an increasingly large database covering books, newspapers, magazines and spoken English. To help the reader interpret the *-er*, *-ee*, *-or* nominalizations correctly, the nominalizations are substantiated with the definitions, no examples are presented as the aim is to reveal the agnation of the nominalization to its source verb with the purpose to reveal the semantic potential of the nominalizations under investigation.

In linguistics, *-er* nominalizations have established the so called external argument generalization: *-er* nominalizations typically denote the external argument of the underlying verb (*Schäfer* 2008, Rappaport Hovav and Levin 1992, Ryder 1999, Heyvaert, 2003, Booij 1986 among others). *-Er* nominalizations in present day English may refer to persons (*village* → *village*, *teenage* → *teenager*), as well as objects (*tank* → *tanker*) and even to abstract entities (*remind* → *reminder*). Furthermore, they may be coined out from verbs (*love* → *lover*), nouns (*garden* → *gardener*), geographic names (*London* → *Londoner*), and other word categories, as, for instance, prepositions (*down* → *downer*, *up* → *upper*, *inside* → *insider*). *-Ee* derivations may be interpreted as ‘undergoers of the process’ (*to appoint* → *appointee*, *to deport* → *deportee*, *to pay* → *payee*, *to employ* → *employee*) and has been defined as ‘*patientive*’.

Theoretical prerequisites

Nominalizations demonstrate preconstructed, i.e. already existing notions. The major resource as far as the grammar creating participants is concerned is nominalization. Through this resource it is possible to turn a range of non-participant meanings into participant-like ones. Nominalizations are studied on two levels: on sentence level and word level. The study of nominalizations was commenced in the 1980’s by the work of functional grammarians. They introduced two divergent directions of the investigation of nominalizations: the first was more theoretical, proposed by Ray Jackendoff (1990), Simon C. Dik (1980), J. Lachlan Mackenzie (1998), and James McCawley (1999). These linguists concentrated on the study of nominalizing transformations. The second investigation

of nominalizations contained a less 'formalist' direction, which results in Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday's general theory of the phenomenon of nominalization, pointed out by him as 'grammatical metaphor' (1985). According to Halliday, a nominalization is the consequence of the metaphorization of the process. Nominalization is a linguistic mechanism whereby the process is perceived as an entity. The linguist identifies six types of process: material, mental, relational, behavioural, verbal, and existential (ibid., 102–143). These six process types represent different degrees of dynamism: ranging from material verb as the most dynamic to the least dynamic – existential.

When nominalized these verbs may perform the following semantic roles (i.e. semantic functions): the *Agent*, the *Senser*, the *Sayer*, the *Carrier*, the *Affected*, the *Effected*, the *Recipient*, the *Phenomenon*, the *Verbiage*, the *Instrument*, the *Container*, etc.¹ Such participants "have roles in the states of affairs, much the same way actors and props have roles in a play" (Van Valin and LaPolla, 2002, 4).

The semantic roles derived from material process verbs

To *Agentive* nominalizations (i.e. participants that carry out the actions themselves) belong *Agents*, *Sensers*, *Sayers*, and *Carriers*. Agentivity, as noted by Laimutis Valeika (1998, 20–21), should include the following features: volitive, effective, initiative and force, i.e. the use of one's own energy to bring about or cause an event or initiate a process.

By the *Agent* we mean any entity that is capable of operating itself or others, usually to bring about some change in the location or properties of itself or others. *Animate Agents* can be assorted into such groups: human beings (in some cases they may constitute collective nouns, e.g. companies), and animals. Consider examples with *Animate Agents* denoting human beings, that usually may imply the dynamic modality of ability:

(1) *attacker* 'a person who deliberately uses violence to hurt someone (LDOCE, 81)

(2) *hunter* 'a person who hunts wild animals' (LDOCE, 797)

¹ Any semantic classification is problematic. The semantic roles cannot be either exhaustive or uncontroversial. The semantic functions distinguished were mostly drawn from Halliday (1985) and Downing and Locke (1992).

(3) *hanger-on* ‘someone who spends a lot of time with a rich or important person, because they hope to get some advantage for themselves’ (LDOCE, 737)

(4) *hell-raiser* ‘a person who causes trouble by behaving loudly and often violently, especially when they have drunk too much alcohol’ (LDOCE, 759)

(5) *high-flyer* ‘someone who is extremely successful in their job or in school’ (LDOCE, 766)

(6) *pen-pusher* ‘someone who has a boring unimportant job in an office’ (LDOCE, 1217)

(7) *stroller* ‘a person who is enjoying a slow relaxed walk’ (LDOCE, 1648)

(8) *walker* ‘someone who walks for pleasure or exercise’ (LDOCE, 1851).

As it was mentioned, *Animate Agents* may denote not only human beings but also constitute collective nouns. Consider the following examples:

(9) *broadcaster* ‘a company which sends out television or radio programmes’ (LDOCE, 186)

(10) *caterer* ‘a person or company that provides and serves food and drinks at a party, meeting, etc.’ (LDOCE, 233)

(11) *conciliator* ‘a person or an organization that tries to make angry people calm so that they can discuss or solve their problems successfully’ (LDOCE, 319)

(12) *polluter* ‘a person or organization that causes pollution’ (LDOCE, 1266).

The last group of *Animate Agentive* nominalizations consists of words denoting animals, insects and birds. Consider the examples below:

(13) *bottom feeder* ‘a fish that feeds at the bottom of a river, lake or the sea’ (LDOCE, 581)

(14) *bloodsucker* ‘an animal or insect that sucks blood from people or animals’ (LDOCE, 1659)

(15) *feeder* ‘an animal or plant that eats a particular thing or eats in a particular way’ (LDOCE, 581)

(16) *roadrunner* ‘a small bird that runs very fast and lives mainly in deserts’ (LDOCE, 1423)

(17) *scavenger* ‘an animal, a bird or a person that scavenges’ (LDOCE, 1464)

(18) *yellow-hammer* ‘a small European bird with a yellow head’ (LDOCE, 1917).

The second subgroup of *Agentive* nominalizations consists of the *Inanimate Agents*. Generally speaking, *Agentive* participants are typically animate instigators of the action. However, to quote Valeika (1998, 20), “It seems that inanimate objects can, as it were, acquire a temporary ‘agentivity’ by virtue of their kinetic (or other energy)”. Thus, in the present study, an attempt is made to classify *Inanimate Agents* in explicit groups, such as abstract or concrete things: various materials, substances, machines, and household appliances, etc. Consider the examples below related to *Inanimate Agents* denoting abstract or concrete things:

(19) *contributor* ‘something that helps to cause something to happen’ (LDOCE, 341)

(20) *healer* ‘something that makes a bad experience seem less painful’ (LDOCE, 751)

(21) *killer* ‘something that is very difficult, tiring, or boring’ (LDOCE, 886)

(22) *life-saver* ‘something that prevents you from dying’ (LDOCE, 932)

(23) *reminder* ‘something that makes you notice, remember, or think about something’ (LDOCE, 1389)

(24) *stunner* ‘a situation or event that surprises you’ (LDOCE, 1652).

Inanimate Agents also may denote various substances. Consider the examples below:

(25) *binder* ‘a substance that makes things stick together’ (LDOCE, 137)

(26) *conductor* ‘something that allows electricity or heat to travel along it or through it’ (LDOCE, 322)

(27) *softener* ‘a substance that you add to water to make clothes feel soft after washing’ (LDOCE, 1572).

The examples below constitute the group denoting various technical appliances, vehicles or machines:

(28) *carpet sweeper* ‘a simple machine for sweeping carpets, which does not use electricity’ (LDOCE, 224)

(29) *lawn mower* 'a machine that you use to cut grass' (LDOCE, 910)

(30) *generator* 'a large machine that digs and moves earth and soil' (LDOCE, 538)

(31) *grinder* 'a machine for crushing coffee beans, peppercorns etc. into powder' (LDOCE, 712)

(32) *destroyer* 'a small fast military ship with guns' (LDOCE, 426)

(33) *steamroller* 'a heavy vehicle with very wide wheels that is driven over road surfaces to make them flat' (LDOCE, 1624).

The other participant derived from material process verbs is termed the *Carrier*. This semantic role can denote a person who owns some property, holds a thing, or carries things from one place to the other:

(34) *bearer* 'someone who carries something such as a flag or a stretcher' (LDOCE, 115)

(35) *cardholder* 'someone who has a credit card' (LDOCE, 221)

(36) *dispatch rider* 'someone whose job is to take messages or packages by motorcycle' (LDOCE, 450)

(37) *distributor* 'a company or person that supplies shops and companies with goods' (LDOCE, 455)

(38) *licensee* 'someone who has official permission to do something' (LDOCE, 929)

(39) *smuggler* 'someone who takes something illegally from one country to another' (LDOCE, 1563).

In the corpus under investigation, the semantic roles of *Carrier* that may denote not human beings were found as well.

(40) *carrier* 'a military vehicle or ship used to move soldiers, weapons, etc.' (LDOCE, 224)

(41) *conveyor* 'a conveyor belt' (LDOCE, 345)

(42) *dumb waiter* 'a small lift used to move food, plates etc. from one level in a restaurant, hotel etc. to another' (LDOCE, 487)

(43) *escalator* 'a set of moving stairs that take people to different levels in a building' (LDOCE, 529).

The *Affected Patient* means one that 'suffers', or 'undergoes' the process. The semantic functions of *Affected Patients* may be classified into such groups: words denoting food and drink and words denoting human

beings. Consider the examples, which constitute the nominalizations related to so called 'cooking verbs':

(44) *banger* 'a sausage' (LDOCE, 102)

(45) *broiler* 'a chicken that is suitable to be cooked by broiling' (LDOCE, 187)

(46) *cracker* 'a hard dry type of bread in small flat shapes, that is often eaten with cheese' (LDOCE, 365)

(47) *fryer* 'a chicken that has been specially bred to be fried' (LDOCE, 651)

(48) *sucker* 'lollipop' (LDOCE, 1659).

Other semantic roles of non-animate *Affected Patients* were also found in the corpus under investigation. Consider:

(49) *recliner* 'a chair in which you can lean back at different angles' (LDOCE, 1371)

(50) *wrapper* 'the piece of paper or plastic that covers something when it is sold' (LDOCE, 1910).

(51) *moisturizer* 'cream that you put on your skin to make it less dry' (LDOCE, 1060).

As it was already mentioned, the other group of the *Affected* nominalizations may denote human beings who are affected by some type of process. Consider:

(52) *sufferer* 'someone who suffers, especially from a particular illness' (LDOCE, 1660)

(53) *internee* 'someone who is put into prison during a war or for political reasons, without having had a trial' (LDOCE, 851)

(54) *deportee* 'someone who has been deported or is going to be deported' (LDOCE, 421)

(55) *detainee* 'someone who is officially kept in a prison, usually because of their political views' (LDOCE, 426).

The semantic role of the *Effected* is what is traditionally called the *Object of Result*. Halliday (1985, 104) calls this process 'creative' and the participant that results from it is called the *Goal*. The nominalizations under investigation are related to the words that express something connected with reading or film production. For example:

(56) *best-seller* ‘a popular product, especially a book, which many people buy’ (LDOCE, 130)

(57) *blockbuster* ‘a book or film that is very good or successful’ (LDOCE, 148)

(58) *potboiler* ‘a book or film that is produced quickly to make money and which is not of very high quality, especially one that is exciting or romantic’ (LDOCE, 1277)

(59) *sleeper* ‘a film, book etc. which is successful, even though people did not expect it to be’ (LDOCE, 1553)

(60) *tearjerker* ‘a film, book, or story that is very sad and makes you cry’ (LDOCE, 1702).

There were cases of *Effected* participants denoting other phenomena related to the results as well:

(61) *blooper* ‘an embarrassing mistake that you make in front of other people’ (LDOCE, 151)

(62) *clanger* ‘a silly or embarrassing mistake’ (LDOCE, 268)

(63) *clinker* ‘a bad note in a musical performance’ (LDOCE, 277)

(64) *smacker* ‘a loud kiss’ (LDOCE, 1559).

One further participant, which may occur when derived from material verbs, is the *Beneficiary*, which is of two kinds: “a Recipient (the one to whom something is given), and a Client (the one for whom something is done)” (Eggins 1994, 233). They may be animate and inanimate as well. Consider:

(65) *addressee* ‘the person a letter, package etc. is addressed to’ (LDOCE, 19)

(66) *inheritor* ‘someone who receives money, property etc. from someone who has just died’ (LDOCE, 835)

(67) *receiver* ‘a radio or television, or other equipment which receives signals’ (LDOCE, 1369)

(68) *payee* ‘the person or organization to whom money, especially a cheque, must be paid’ (LDOCE, 1209).

The semantic functions of *Instruments* may carry a process themselves (*agent-like* participants) and letting others carry it out (*non-agentives*). The nominalizations under investigation may denote various tools and devices. Consider the examples:

(69) *calculator* ‘a small electronic machine that can add, multiply, etc.’ (LDOCE, 208)

(70) *beater* ‘an object that is designed to beat something’ (LDOCE, 117)

(71) *bottle-opener* ‘a small tool used for removing the metal lids from bottles’ (LDOCE, 167)

(72) *chopper* ‘a large heavy knife that you use for cutting large pieces of meat’ (LDOCE, 261)

(73) *scraper* ‘a tool used to remove something from a surface by rubbing’ (LDOCE, 1470)

(74) *screwdriver* ‘a tool with a narrow blade at one end that you use for turning screws’ (LDOCE, 1472)

(75) *shaver* ‘a small piece of electrical equipment used for shaving’ (LDOCE, 1511)

(76) *cutter* ‘a tool that is used for cutting something’ (LDOCE, 390).

The semantic function of the *Container* (holder) agnates to material process verbs as well. The nominalizations under investigation fell into two types: the nominalizations denoting ‘clothing verbs’ and locative nominalizations denoting ‘facilities’ that may contain something. Consider:

(77) *bathers* ‘a swimsuit’ (LDOCE, 111)

(78) *waders* ‘high rubber boots that you wear for walking in deep water, usually when fishing’ (LDOCE, 1848)

(79) *wind-cheater* ‘a type of coat that protects you from the wind’ (LDOCE, 1890).

The examples below constitute the group denoting various household appliances:

(80) *boiler* ‘a container for boiling water that is part of a steam engine, or is used to provide heating in a house’ (LDOCE, 158)

(81) *cooker* ‘a large piece of equipment for cooking food on or in’ (LDOCE, 346)

(82) *dispenser* ‘a machine which provides a particular amount of a product or substance when you press a button or put money into it’ (LDOCE, 450)

(83) *dryer* ‘a machine that dries things, especially clothes’ (LDOCE, 485)

(84) *cooler* ‘a container in which something, especially drinks, is cooled or kept cold’ (LDOCE, 346)

(85) *wringer* ‘a machine with two parts that roll over each other and press on wet clothes to remove water’ (LDOCE, 1911).

The analyzed examples proved that the nominalizations derived from material verbs yield the semantic functions that are related to the semantics of the underlying verb, i.e. when ‘unscrambled’ they denote the process of doing.

The semantic roles derived from mental process verbs

Mental verbs (e.g. *to love, to feel, to know, to admire*, etc.) form a conceptual semantic category: there is a clear boundary between something that goes on in the external world and something that goes on in the internal world of the mind. Mental verbs involve the processes of feeling, thinking and perceiving. Halliday (1985, 107) labels the three subtypes as processes of perception, cognition, and affection. Derived from mental verbs, the nominalizations play the semantic function of the *Senser*, or the *Recipient Experiencer*, that perceives, knows, likes, etc. The semantic role of the *Senser* belongs to the *agentive* group of nominalizations that derives from mental verbs. Consider:

(86) *assessor* ‘someone who decides how well someone has done in an examination’ (LDOCE, 76)

(87) *believer* ‘someone who believes in a particular god, religion, or system of beliefs’ (LDOCE, 125)

(88) *bird-watcher* ‘someone who watches wild birds and tries to recognize different types’ (LDOCE, 139)

(89) *devotee* ‘someone who enjoys or admires someone or something very much’ (LDOCE, 429)

(90) *hearer* ‘someone who hears something’ (LDOCE, 752)

(91) *listener* ‘someone who listens to the radio or someone who listens carefully and sympathetically to other people’ (LDOCE, 944)

(92) *mind-reader* ‘someone who knows what someone else is thinking without being told’ (LDOCE, 1046)

(93) *spectator* ‘someone who is watching an event or game’ (LDOCE, 1589)

(94) *thinker* ‘someone who thinks carefully about important subjects such as science or philosophy, especially someone who is famous for thinking of new ideas’ (LDOCE, 1725)

One more participant derived from mental verbs is called the *Phenomenon*: something or somebody that may be perceived, known, liked, etc. To quote Eggins (1994, 242) “The Phenomenon is that which is thought, felt or perceived by the conscious Senser”. It can denote a fact, a process or an entire situation. Consider:

(95) *brain-teaser* ‘a difficult problem that is fun trying to solve’ (LDOCE, 173)

(96) *cliffhanger* ‘a situation in a story, film, or competition that makes you feel very excited or nervous because you do not know what will happen or have to wait a long time to see how it will end’ (LDOCE, 276)

(97) *clincher* ‘a fact, action, or remark that finally persuades someone to do something, or ends an argument, discussion, or competition’ (LDOCE, 276)

(98) *looker* ‘someone who is attractive, usually a woman’ (LDOCE, 957)

(99) *poser* ‘a difficult question’ (LDOCE, 1272)

(100) *prayer* ‘a wish or hope that something will happen’ (LDOCE, 1283)

(101) *teaser* ‘a very difficult question that you have to answer as part of a game or competition’ (LDOCE, 1703).

The examples prove that the semantic roles of *Senser* are realized by animate participants while the semantic roles of *Phenomenon* may be realized by both animate and non-animate participants.

The semantic roles derived from verbal process verbs

Verbal processes are processes of saying and communicating: *tell, announce, ask, report, inquire, suggest, mention, state*, etc. The participants derived from verbs of saying or communicating are called the *Sayers*. The *Sayer* is a kind of *Agent* who is responsible for putting out a signal (Halliday 1985, 129). Unlike mental processes, verbal processes do not neces-

sarily require a conscious participant, i.e. the *Sayer* is not necessarily human. However, in the corpus under investigation, only the semantic roles of *Sayers* denoting the human beings were found. Consider:

(102) *announcer* ‘someone who reads news or information on the television or radio’ (LDOCE, 51)

(103) *back seat driver* ‘a passenger in the back of a car who gives unwanted advice to the driver about how to drive’ (LDOCE, 94)

(104) *barker* ‘in the past, someone who stood outside a place where there was a circus or fair shouting to people to come in’ (LDOCE, 106)

(105) *communicator* ‘someone who is able to express ideas or their feelings clearly to other people’ (LDOCE, 308)

(106) *town crier* ‘someone employed in the past to walk around the streets of town, shouting news, warnings, etc.’ (LDOCE, 1758)

(107) *doom-sayer* ‘someone who says that bad things are going to happen’ (LDOCE, 464)

(108) *fortune-teller* ‘someone who uses cards or looks at people’s hands in order to tell them what is supposed to happen to them in the future’ (LDOCE, 635)

(109) *narrator* ‘the person who describes or explains what is happening in a film or television programme but who is not seen’ (LDOCE, 1092)

(110) *speller* ‘someone who is good or bad at spelling words correctly’ (LDOCE, 1591)

(111) *preacher* ‘someone who talks about a religious subject in a public place, especially at a church’ (LDOCE, 1284).

The information being conveyed is called the *Verbiage*. As noted by Eggins (1988, 252), “The Verbiage is a nominalized statement of the verbal process: a noun expressing some kind of verbal behaviour (e.g. statement, questions, retort, answer, story)”. For instance:

(112) *bleeder* ‘very offensive word for a person, especially a man that you dislike’ (LDOCE, 146)

(113) *buster* ‘used to speak to a man who is annoying you or who you do not respect’ (LDOCE, 201)

(114) *disclaimer* ‘a statement that you are not responsible for or involved with something, or that you do not know about it – used especially in advertising or legal agreements’ (LDOCE, 444)

(115) *ice-breaker* ‘something that you say or do to make people less nervous when they first meet’ (LDOCE, 802)

(116) *prayer* ‘words that you say when praying to God or gods’ (LDOCE, 1283)

(117) *tongue-twister* ‘word or phrase that is difficult to say quickly’ (LDOCE, 1749).

The analysis of the semantic roles derived from verbal process verbs indicates that the *Sayers* are realized by animate participants while *Verbiages* being typically inanimate. The relative frequency of semantic roles realized by *-er, -ee, -or* nominalizations is presented in Table 1 below:

Table 1

The relative frequency of semantic functions (roles)

Semantic function (role)	Process (verb) type	Frequency in the corpus of 1500 <i>-er, -ee, -or</i> nominalizations
<i>Animate Agent</i>	Material process verbs	724
<i>Inanimate Agent</i>		104
<i>Carrier</i>		61
<i>Affected Patient</i>		167
<i>Effected</i>		28
<i>Beneficiary</i>		18
<i>Instrument</i>		156
<i>Container</i>		115
<i>Senser</i>	Mental process verbs	38
<i>Phenomenon</i>		16
<i>Sayer</i>	Verbal process verbs	48
<i>Verbiage</i>		25

Concluding remarks

The pivotal aim of this research was to present a rarely discussed type of *-er, -ee, -or* nominalizations in English from systemic functional point of view. The analysis proved that the nominalizations under investigation in present-day English show a wide scope of morphological and semantic features. The analysis has proved the raised hypothesis that the derivation of agentive and non-agentive *-er, -ee, -or* nominalizations is an entirely

productive derivational process and the semantic roles of nominalizations are determined by the verb they are derived from.

The semantic roles derived from material process verbs contain the large group of the semantic participants: the *Agents* denote the doers of action, the *Affected* usually denotes food and drink, also persons who are affected by other people, the *Effected* participants are related to the words denoting some kind of reading or films, the *Beneficiary* denotes human beings who receive money or goods, the *Instrument* describes various household tools and devices, *Containers* denote clothing and footwear also facilities, household appliances. The semantic roles derived from mental process verbs are the *Senser* and the *Phenomenon*. The former denotes a participant who may feel, perceive, like, etc. while the latter denotes the entities that may be felt, loved, understood, etc. The semantic roles of the *Sayer* and *Verbiage* as the names imply derive from the verbal process verbs. The *Sayer* denotes the one that may put out a communicative signal, while the *Verbiage* is the content of saying.

The nominalization was studied within the framework of semantic syntax and functional linguistics. It can be studied from different points of view, within different theoretical frameworks, e.g. from point of view of Cognitive Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, translation, etc.

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Source

LDOCE – Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English. Longman, 2003.

Solveiga Sušinskienė

SISTEMINIS-FUNKCINIS POŽIŪRIS Į PRIESAGŲ -ER, -EE, -OR NOMINALIZACIJAS

Santrauka

Kalba yra lanksti sistema. Ši ypatybė leidžia jos vienetams (žodžiams) geriau prisitaikyti prie besikeičiančių kalbos poreikių ir įgyti naujų funkcijų – semantinių, sintaksinių ir informacinių-pragmatinių. Įgydami naujų funkcijų, kalbos elementai patiria tam tikrų modifikacijų, t. y. transpozicijų. Šiame darbe laikomasi nuomonės, kad nominalizacija – tai veiksmožodžio transformacija į daiktavardį. Nominalizacinio proceso tyrimus anglų kalbotyroje paskatino M. A. K. Halliday'aus (1985) darbai, kuriuose kalbininkas pateikė naują gramatinės metaforos koncepciją. Nominalizacija pradėta traktuoti kaip proceso metaforizacija. Procesas suvokiamas ne kaip autonomiška struktūra, bet kaip struktūra, susijusi su proceso dalyviais ir cirkumstantais. Todėl nominalizacija gali apimti arba visą propoziciją, arba tik procesą, t. y. centrinę propozicijos dalį, kuri išreiškiama veiksmožodžiu. Šiame darbe nagrinėjamos tos nominalizacijos, kurios yra išvestos iš veiksmožodžių pridėjus priesagas *-er, -ee, -or*. Tokia veiksmožodinė nominalizacija – tai procesas, kurio metu veiksmožodis pereina į daiktavardžių kategoriją.

Šio darbo objektas – transformaciniu ir semantiniu aspektais nagrinėjamos nominalizacijos, padarytos su priesagomis *-er, -ee, -or*. Darbo tikslas – išnagrinėti, kokias semantines funkcijas (arba vaidmenis) atlieka šios nominalizacijos. Tyrimas atliktas remiantis sisteminės funkcinės lingvistikos teorija. Pavyzdžiai buvo renkami iš *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (2003). Surinkta ir išnagrinėta per 1500 pavyzdžių. Darbe taikomi aprašomasis, transformacinis ir statistinis metodai. Empirinėje dalyje pateikiamos nominalizacijos ir jų reikšmės aiškinimai, paimti iš minėto žodyno. Taip bandoma geriau atskleisti semantinę nominalizacijos funkciją. Taip pat dėmesys sutelkiamas į nominalizacijų transformacinį potencialą, t. y. į tai, kaip ir koks procesas (veiksmažodis) nulemia semantinę nominalizacijos funkciją.

Atlikus tyrimą paaiškėjo, kad nagrinėjamos nominalizacijos siejamos su materialiniais, mentaliniais ir verbaliniais procesais. Didžiausią potencialą turi materialinės ir mentalinės nominalizacijos. Aprašomos nominalizacijos sudaro dvi grupes: agentyvinės nominalizacijos ir neagentyvinės nominalizacijos. Agentyvinės nominalizacijos, padarytos iš materialių veiksmažodžių, gali atlikti agento funkciją (*to attack – attacker, to hunt – hunter, to act – actor* ir t. t.). Be to, tokio tipo nominalizacijos gali būti skirstomos į žodžius, pavadinančius gyvus agentus (*to teach – teacher, to stir – stirrer, to drive – back-seat driver* ir t. t.), kolektyvinius daiktavardžius (*to broadcast – broadcaster, to make – toolmaker, to write – underwriter* ir t. t.), žodžius, pavadinančius gyvūnus (*to suck – bloodsucker, to feed – bottom feeder, to run – roadrunner* ir t. t.), negyvus agentus (*to contribute – contributor, to save – life-saver, to remind – reminder* ir t. t.), įvairias medžiagas (*to bind – binder, to conduct – superconductor, to inhabit – inhabitator*), įvairias technines, buitines elektrines priemones (*to sweep – carpet sweeper, to move – earth mover, to trim – trimmer* ir t. t.). Nominalizacijos, padarytos iš mentalinių veiksmažodžių, gali atlikti patyrėjo semantines funkcijas (*to admire – admirer, to read – reader, to look – on-looker* ir t. t.). Nominalizacijos, padarytos iš kalbėjimo veiksmažodžių, gali atlikti sakytojo semantinius vaidmenis (*to say – doom-sayer, to rouse – rabble-rouser, to cry – town crier* ir t. t.).

Neagentyvinės nominalizacijos, kurios kildinamos iš materialių veiksmažodžių, gali atlikti patiento semantines funkcijas. Patiento funkcijos smulkiau dar gali būti skirstomos į nominalizacijas, pavadinančias maistą ar gėrimus (*to bang – banger, to broil – broiler, to fry – fryer*), gyvas būty-

bes, kurios paveiktos tam tikro veiksmo (*to appoint – appointee, to deport – deportee, to intern – internee* ir t. t.), instrumento (*to grind – grinder, to open – bottle-opener, to screw – screwdriver* ir t. t.), konteinerio (talpos), gali nusakyti aprangos detales (*to bathe – bathes, to wade – waders, to cheat – wind-cheater*), namų buities daiktus (*to boil – boiler, to cook – cooker, to dispense – dispenser*). Taip pat tokio tipo nominalizacijos dar gali išreikšti rezultato semantines funkcijas, kurios savo ruožtu sudaro nominalizacijas, pavadinančias tai, kas skaitoma, ar filmus (*to sell – best-seller, to bust – blockbuster, to boil – potboiler* ir t. t.), recipientus (*to address – addressee, to inherit – inheritor, to receive – receiver* ir t. t.). Nominalizacijos, padarytos iš kalbėjimo veiksmažodžių, gali atlikti pasakymo turinio semantinius vaidmenis (*to tease – teaser, to slap – slapper, to wank – wanker* ir t. t.).

Apibendrinant galima teigti, kad šis sąrašas nėra baigtinis. Tokio tipo nominalizacijas galima nagrinėti įvairiais aspektais, pasitelkiant skirtingus lingvistinius požiūrius ir metodikas.