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**SHORTENING AS A PRODUCTIVE WAY OF WORD FORMATION  
IN MODERN ENGLISH**

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Language is the system that is constantly in the process of development because it reflects changes in life. New phenomena or things appear in everyday life, so new words are created to denote them.

But the process of increasing of word stock is not chaotic. There are certain rules, patterns and ways of word formation.

As process of integration and globalization takes place in modern world community, different international organizations are created.

In most cases abbreviated forms of the names of these organizations are used.

Practice points out that the meaning of the new shortened words is not always clear. This explains the necessity of investigation of the main ways and patterns of shortening, their arrangement and classification, application in teaching and correct usage in every-day speech.

We'll give more detailed analysis of shortening as one of the ways of word formation.

Shortening is a productive and active way of word-formation in Modern English.

It may be defined as significant subtraction, in which part of the original word or word-group is taken away. It is subdivided into:

- clipping
- abbreviation
- blending

Clipping. Arnold I.V. points out that shortening of spoken words (clipping or curtailment) consists in the reduction of a word to one of its parts (whether or not this

part has previously been a morpheme), as a result of which the new form acquires some linguistic value of its own [2].

The linguists stress that in most cases it is either the first or the stressed part of the word that conserves to represent the whole. Arnold I. V. refers to explanation by M.M. Segal, who quotes the results of several experimental investigations dealing with informativeness of parts of words.

The psychologists carried out the experiments and they have proved that the initial components of words are imprinted in the mind and memory more readily than the final parts [3].

In most cases, clipping keeps the syllabic principle of word division. It creates new words in the same part of speech. The bulk of curtailed words is formed of nouns. As for verbs, they are rarely shortened: e.g. *rev* from to revolve. Adjectives that are shortened are not so many and in most cases reveal a combined effect of shortening and suffixation: e.g. *comfy* from comfortable, *imposs* from impossible. As an example of shortened interjection: *Shun!* from Attention, the word of command can be mentioned.

Another type of shortenings are blends or blendings, fusions, telescopic words or portmanteau words.

Zabotkina V.I. and Bortnichuk E.M. define them as telescopic words. The process of formation is also called telescoping, because the words seem to slide into one another like sections of a telescope.

They may be defined as formations that combine two words and include the letters or sounds they have in common as a connecting element: e.g. *binary digit* > *bit*, *slim gymnastics* > *slimnastics* [1].

Depending upon the prototype phrases with which they can be correlated, two types of blends can be distinguished: additive, restrictive.

Both involve the sliding together not only of the sound but the meaning as well.

The semantic relations which are at work are different. The first, i.e. additive type, is transformable into a phrase consisting of the respective complete stems combined by the conjunction «and»: e.g. *smog* < *smoke and fog*.

The elements may be synonymous, belong to the same semantic field or at least be members of the same lexico-semantic class of words: e.g. *French + English* > *Frenglish* [1].

The restrictive type is transformable into an attributive phrase where the first element serves as a modifier for the second: e.g. *cinematographic panorama* > *cinerama*, *medical care* > *medicare*.

As a rule, blendings consists of two elements, but also we can see three-element structures: e.g. *Eurailpass* < *European + rail + pass*, *Bosnywash* < *Boston + New York + Washington*, *Benelux* < *Belgium + Netherlands + Luxemburg*.

The last group of shortenings constitutes abbreviations. These are words formed from the initial letter or letters of each of the successive parts of a phrasal term.

They have two possible types of orthoepic correlation between written and spoken forms.

1) If the abbreviated written form lends itself to be read as though it was an ordinary English word and sounds like an English word, it will be read like one. Thus, the words that formed are called acronyms.

This way of forming new words is becoming more and more popular in almost all fields of human activity, and especially in political and technical vocabulary: e.g. *UNO* or *U.N.O.* – *United Nations Organization*, *SALT* – *Strategic Arms Limitation*) [1].

2) The other subgroup consists of initial abbreviations with the alphabetical reading retained, i.e. pronounced as a series of letters. They also retain correlation with prototypes: e.g. *B.B.C.* [*bi: bi: si:*] – *The British Broadcasting Corporation*, *M.P.* [*e m pi:*] – *Member of Parliament*.

3) The term abbreviation may be also used for a shortened form of a written word or phrase used in a text in place of a whole for economy of place and effort [1].

Sometimes it may be difficult to define whether the new word is an acronym or a blending, e.g. *Linac* < *Linear Accelerator*, *Cogas* < *coal – oil – gas* [2].

Peculiarities of usage of shortened words in modern English.

The problem of shortening attracts linguists because it has a great practical value for the development of language. They try to investigate what are the main reasons for such a rapid development of word-formation and at the same time what are the problems, difficulties and peculiarities of their usage in speech.

The correlation of a curtailed word with its prototype is of great interest. The two possible developments should be noted:

1) The curtailed form may be regarded as a variant or synonym differing from the full form quantitatively stylistically and sometimes emotionally, the prototype being stylistically and emotionally neutral: e.g. *doc* < *doctor*, *exam* < *examination*. Also in proper names: e.g. *Becky* < *Rebecca*, *Japs* < *the Japanese*.

2) On the opposite extreme case the connection can be established only etymologically. The denotative or lexico-grammatical meaning or both may have changed so much that the clipping becomes a separate word. Consequently a pair of etymological doublets comes into being: e.g. *fan-* a devotee (enthusiastic) < *fanatic* [2]. The relationship between curtailed forms and prototypes in this second group is irrelevant to the present-day vocabulary system. It is a matter of historic, i.e. diachronic study. It is typically of the curtailed words to render only one of the secondary meanings of a polysemantic word.

The carried out study of the investigated problem, theoretical substantiations and practical research with linguistic analysis, the results of which have been generalized, allow us to make the following conclusions:

1. The problem of shortening as a productive way of a word formation in the English language has been investigated by many linguists, but it still requires deeper study for teaching and learning purposes.

2. Shortening is a productive and active way of word-formation in the English language. There are three main types of shortened words: clippings, abbreviations and blendings, abbreviations which are commonly used.

3. The wide usage of shortened words can be explained by ever-increasing tempo of every-day life and by the law of economy of time and space that works at the present-day stage of language development.

4. Shortenings are characteristic to all spheres of human activity, but are best reflected in various types of slang, in mass media and in the language of science and technique.

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### **МІЖКУЛЬТУРНІ АСПЕКТИ ПЕРЕКЛАДУ В УМОВАХ ГЛОБАЛІЗАЦІЇ**

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Прискорена глобалізація усіх процесів життєдіяльності суспільства та зближення мовних культур різних народів розвинули інтерес багатьох дослідників та мовознавців до проблем міжкультурної комунікації.

Відповідно до цих процесів, у сучасних лінгвістичних та перекладознавчих дослідженнях у сфері міжкультурної взаємодії мова почала розглядатися вже не лише як засіб комунікації, але і як засіб категоризації досвіду певного етносу, його соціальної й культурної взаємодії, як розкриття його самобутньої культури та бачення навколишнього світу.

Вагомим фактором у досягненні успішної міжкультурної взаємодії є переклад, оскільки він постає перед нами в ролі своєрідного провідника між мовними кодами різних етносів, що допомагає нам переносити реалії вихідного тексту за допомогою лексичного складу мови перекладу з одного мовленнєвого та культурного середовища до іншого.

Тому дослідження та пошуки шляхів досягнення успішної взаємодії між представниками різних лінгвокультурних середовищ є одним із найбільш актуальних питань в теперішні дні.

Міжкультурна комунікація в сучасному світі являє собою багатоаспектну і багатофункціональну систему взаємодії представників різних культур –