

# BLEND COMPOUNDS IN MODERN ENGLISH WORD-FORMATION

Liudmyla Chumak (Zhytomyr, Ukraine)

There is a widely spread process in modern English in which a morpheme being originally free, takes the form and the functions of an affix. In the formation of a number of neologisms like *foodoholic*, *workaholic*, *sexaholic*, we speak about such a word element *-(a)holic* that focuses the characteristics of lexical morphemes and derivational morphemes.

The example of a very productive suffix *-(a)holic*, results in a blending with *alcoholic*. This suffix has a more specific, narrow and stylistically marked lexical meaning that deviates from that of a free morpheme. *-(A)holic* denotes a person addicted to something. It also takes a function of a derivational morpheme, and thus leads to the process of productivity: *bakeaholic*, *blogaholic*, *bookaholic*, *designaholic*, *dogaholic*, *fashionaholic*, *fitaholic*, *foodoholic*, *learnaholic*, *passionaholic*, *sketchaholic*, *skillaholic*, *shoeaholic*, *shopaholic*, *smokeaholic*, *speedaholic*, *sportsaholic*, *textaholic*, *talkaholic*, etc.

The words with neoclassical elements like *-(a)holic*, *-line*, *-friendly*, *-lect*, *Euro-*, *eco-*, *bio-* are created on the base of the combined mechanisms of word-formation – blending and compounding, and are known as blend combinations [1: 161-196]. It means that components of blends are regarded as the affix-like part of one of their word elements. These blend components are understood as shortenings and are compound with other bases.

In existing studies of word-formation, a compound is generally defined as the combination of free lexical morphemes, while a derivative is said to be composed of at least one free lexical morpheme and a bound derivational morpheme [2: 22]. In case of blend combinations, the process of word-formation involves the combination of one free morpheme and the element that is considered to be between the two poles of the affix and the lexical morpheme.

## References

1. Adams, V. (1973) *An introduction to Modern English Word-formation*<sup>1</sup>. – London: Longman, 1973. – 370 p.

2. Roswitha, Fischer (1998) Lexical Change in Present-day English: A Corpus-based Study of the motivation, institutionalization, and productivity of creative neologisms / Roswitha, Fischer. – Tübingen: Narr, 1998. – 215 p.