

**Západo česká univerzita v Plzni**

**Fakulta pedagogická**

**Bakalářská práce**

**ANALÝZA ZPŮSOB ANGLICKÉ SLOVOTVORBY  
SE ZAMĚŘENÍM NA AFIXACI A KONVERZI**

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**Plzeň 2014**

**University of West Bohemia**

**Faculty of Education**

**Undergraduate Thesis**

**AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH  
WORD-FORMATION PROCESSES WITH FOCUS  
ON AFFIXATION AND CONVERSION**

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**Plzeň 2014**

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Jméno Příjmení

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank my supervisor, PhDr. Nad ěda Sta-ková, Ph.D., for the guidance and advice she provided throughout the work on this thesis.

## ABSTRACT

Petrovová, Lenka. University of West Bohemia. April, 2014. An Analysis of English Word-Formation Processes with Focus on Affixation and Conversion.

Supervisor: PhDr. Nad ěda Sta-ková, Ph.D.

This thesis deals with the description and analysis of word-formation processes in English. It focuses especially on two of the major processes - affixation and conversion. The aim of the work is to state the frequency of occurrence of these processes and their features in selected newspaper articles. Affixes were analysed from the formal, semantic and origin point of view; converted words were studied with respect to the direction of conversion. The analysis is accompanied by comments on the nature of the texts and words formed by other word-formation processes. The results proved that affixation appears more frequently than conversion, but not unconditionally, and that it mostly involves suffixation. Most of the prefixes in the examined texts are class-maintaining and originate in Latin, while majority of suffixes are class-changing and of native origin. Concerning their semantic meaning, prefixes usually denote location, whereas suffixes express manner. Most frequently appearing type of conversion is that from noun to adjective, which has been in almost all cases classified as partial. Larger representation of full conversion occurs in the opposite direction. Apart from major types of conversion, a number of conversions within other parts of speech have been found.

Key words: word-formation, affixation, derivation, prefix, suffix, conversion

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## INTRODUCTION

This work aims to analyse contemporary texts regarding word-formation processes, especially affixation and conversion. It begins with the theoretical part which provides background information about word-formation that is to be applied in the analysis. It explains terms which are essential for comprehension of given topic and subsequently describes individual word-formation processes and their features in detail. It is followed by the analysis, which examines words formed by the affixation and conversion processes in English texts and further classifies their components.

The research aims to give answers to several questions. One of the purposes is to determine how frequent the occurrence of affixation and conversion is in selected articles and if it may vary. The next purpose is to state how frequently components of affixation appear with regard to their semantic meaning, origin, form and other classifications outlined in the theoretical part. Concerning conversion, it should be discovered which of its types is the most frequent. As all of the selected texts have been written recently, we could endeavour to draw a conclusion based on the word-formation processes and their reflection in contemporary vocabulary of British English. Finally, the findings resulting from the analysis are to be compared with the general facts and viewpoints which were gained from publications and which are summarized in the next chapter to discover if they differ.

The expectations concerning results of the analysis are based on the information from the literature used. It is expected that words will be in most cases formed by affixation rather than conversion. Majority of the affixes would comprise of class-changing suffixes with Latin origin. Also prefixes are expected to be of Latin origin and mostly be classified as class-maintaining. The most frequent direction of conversion should be from verb to noun. Conversion between noun and adjective will be in most cases classified as partial, while full conversion will appear rarely.

The reason for choice of this topic was the interest in word-formation and desire to discover details about its processes, their principles and occurrence as well as to examine the character of present-day English texts from the word-formation point of view. As language reflects the reality, new words need to be created to express modern phenomena and it is interesting to observe how. Another motivation was to discover if the results will correspond with the knowledge attained during studies and research preceding the writing of this thesis.

## **THEORETICAL BACKGROUND**

The main purpose of the theoretical part of thesis is to present and explain terms and definitions concerning the topic of word-formation and its processes. It provides general characteristics and classification of these terms and continues with description of particular word-formation processes, focusing especially on the process of affixation and conversion. Furthermore, it offers an outline of another, very common word-formation process in English language, compounding, as well as brief definitions of less common types of word-formation processes. Also, it highlights some of the basic differences between Czech and English. Altogether, it serves as a basis for the second part of the thesis, the analysis of particular texts.

### **Word**

As this thesis deals with the processes of creating new words, it would be convenient to start with explanation of the notion of word itself. Peprník (2007) defines word as "a combination of sounds [...], or its representation in writing that symbolizes and communicates a meaning" (p. 8). However, with deeper analysis, the definition may be far more complicated. Plag (2002) begins his description of word with a statement that as words are used commonly on a daily basis, this notion seems to be clear, however, he regards it as rather problematic, as something that requires attention. According to Adams (1988), "word can only be defined with a respect to particular language" (p. 7). Trask (2007) offers only a general definition of a word, he regards it "a linguistic unit typically larger than a morpheme but smaller than a phrase" (p. 324). As well as Plag, he states that the term may seem straightforward and adds that there are in fact more ways to understand what a word is. Therefore, we have to focus on its concepts by which it is defined.

### **Concepts.**

One of the concepts of word is the orthographic word, which is regarded as a sequence of graphemes separated by spaces, as a unit of the writing system. However, this definition is unsatisfactory because there are lexical units which function as one element, but may consist of more orthographic words, such as compounds divided by space. Another concept regards word as a unit of speech, a phonological word, which consists of phonemes and is in spoken language pronounced as one unit, surrounded by pauses. Again, a problem occurs because spoken words are usually not pronounced separately with pauses before and after each word. Plag (2002) states that rather than by pauses we should define

phonological word by main stress because each word can have only one. To demonstrate the difference between orthographic and phonological words, he gives an example of a compound *travel agency* [ træv l e d ə ns ] which is according to the stress criterion considered as one word, but two in the case of orthography. Another difficulty with definition may appear owing to function words which do not possess stress whatsoever, and thus a new criterion needs to be set, that is the criterion of integrity.

The criterion of integrity signifies that word is a unit which does not allow insertion of other units. This rule, however, also has exceptions, because infixes, although rarely, can be inserted into the word. Also quotational compounds with nominal element violate this rule when they appear in plural, e.g. *mothers-in-law*. The next aspect that must be taken into consideration is therefore meaning. According to semantic definitions, word is a unit of meaning which expresses a semantic concept. Although it may be true in most cases, this aspect does not help with distinction between words and multi-word lexical units. The latter, also known as set expressions, consist of more words which do not necessarily have to possess meaning of their own, because they create a meaning when connected.

The last criterion is syntactic, which states that words are the smallest units in a sentence. According to Bloomfield, "word is the minimal free form" (as cited in Vogel, 2007, p. 15). Unlike morphemes, it can take different positions in a sentence and move relatively freely with respect to syntactic rules, which differ for individual word class. Thus, word has to fall in a certain word class and is defined by its rules.

Next concept of a word is known as the lexeme, also called the lexical item. It is a unit of lexical meaning which also includes its realizations, a set of word-forms. In its citation form, typically unmarked, it can be found in a dictionary, e.g. nouns appear in nominative case and singular number, verbs in infinitive form, adjectives and adverbs in the positive degree, etc.

Last concept concerning word is above mentioned word-form which is a grammatical variant of a lexeme, its inflected form, e.g. inflected forms *do, does, doing, did, done* are word-forms of the lexeme *do*. They form an inflectional paradigm and represent grammatical functions of a lexeme in different contexts.

It is apparent that the definition of word is not straightforward and rather than speaking of word in general, we should speak about its concepts and state which of them we have in mind in a particular situation. These concepts must be taken into account, because all of them define the word from a different point of view.

### **Classification.**

Peprník (2003) explains that words are divided into function and full words. Function words, also called grammatical, are elements of the structural system of language. The group of English grammatical words consist of determiners, pronouns, particles, auxiliary and copular verbs and conjunctions. Most of these words fall into a closed-class group, to which new lexical items are not added and thus they are irrelevant in studies of word-formation. Its subject are lexical words, or as mentioned above full words which possess lexical meaning.

Another classification divides words into simple, which consist of one unit, and complex, such as derivatives or compounds, which consist of more than one. To understand word-formation, it is necessary to learn more about these units ó morphemes.

### **Morpheme**

According to Katamba and Stonham (2006), morphemes are the smallest, indivisible units of meaning or grammatical function from which words are created. Du-ková (2006) states that together with words, they represent the basic element of morphology. Simple, i.e. monomorphemic words, are typical for English language and their occurrence is in comparison with Czech far more frequent. Complex, polymorphemic words, consist of several morphemes, either of native or foreign origin. Morphemes, as well as words, are divided into grammatical and lexical, and are further classified as bound or free. While free morphemes occur in isolation, bound morphemes cannot stand on their own. Bound grammatical morphemes, also known as inflectional, do not form new words, but merely create variations of words to fulfil different grammatical purposes, contrary to word-forming bound lexical morphemes. These derivational morphemes, as the term suggests, are the instrument of the word-formation process derivation. They comprise of roots, stems, bases and affixes, morphemes, which are added to them. The latter will be further described in the process of affixation.

### **Root, stem and base.**

Katamba and Stonham (2006) regard root as core of word which cannot be divided and although it may be modified, it is always present in different word-forms of a lexeme, e.g. *walk* is the root in word-forms *walk*, *walks*, *walking* and *walked*. It is a part which remains after removal of all derivational and inflectional affixes. Stem is a form which can be simple or it can consist of more than one derivational affix or root. It allows adding of

inflectional affixes. Base is a form to which any affixes can be added. Root and stem can be base at the same time. Plag (2002) claims, that root can be also termed base in situations when it is unimportant whether the form is divisible or not.

### **Word-Formation**

Word-formation, together with borrowing words from other languages, represents a way of enlarging the English vocabulary. It is the creation of words through word-formation processes. The most common ones are affixation, compounding and conversion, but there are also a number of other, less frequently used types. Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1991) speak of four main types of word-formation processes, dividing affixation into separate parts of prefixation and suffixation.

### **Affixation**

Affixation, also called derivation, is a word-formation process, in which affixes are added to a base. Affixes are divided into prefixes, which are added before the base, infixes, which are inserted into the base, and suffixes, which appear after the base. They represent a basis for processes of prefixation, infixation and suffixation. New words formed by these processes are termed derivatives.

Matthews (1997) claims that more accurate term for word-formation in case of affixation would be "lexeme-formation" and describes it as a branch of morphology which is concerned with the relations between monomorphemic and polymorphemic lexemes.

### **Prefixation.**

Prefixation is a process of forming new words by adding a prefix to the base. Prefixes are often referred to as "class-maintaining". Plag (2002) explains that majority of prefixes do not change part of speech of their base word and behave merely as modifiers. However, there are also a small number of prefixes that change the part of speech. Bauer (2000) mentions prefix *a-*, which usually forms predicative adjective, e.g. *ablaze*, *asleep* or *awash*; *be-*, which in most cases form transitive verbs from nouns, e.g. *befriend*, *bewitch*; and prefix *en-*, also used to form transitive verbs from nouns, e.g. *entomb*, *enslave*.

According to Crystal (1995), English includes only a small number of affixes, approximately 50 commonly used prefixes and less than 50 suffixes. Some prefixes, Marchand (1969) states, developed into independent words, such as *arch*, *counter* or *sub*. Several others developed from words by a clipping process, e.g. *mini-* from the word *miniature* or *micro-* from *microscope*.

While there are a number of foreign prefixes in English, native prefixes are rather rare. Marchand (1969) names prefixes *a-*, *be-*, *mid-*, partly *mis-*, and *un-*. Contrarily, there are a number of prefixes borrowed from Latin or Greek, used in scientific terminology or in learned words, such as *ante-*, *intra-*, *meta-*, *para-*, etc. However, it is not always apparent, if they can be classified as prefixes. Some seem to be closer to compounds, such as *multi-*, *omni-*, *hydro-* or *astro-*, and are frequently termed "combining forms". There are also similarly behaving suffixes, and both these forms are labelled "neo-classical compounds". Lieber (2005) claims that prefixes attach to native or Latin bases regardless of their origin (as cited in Tuckauer and Lieber, p. 389). She also explains that prefixes can often join other prefixes and mentions the possibility of occurrence of two identical prefixes in sequence, allowing the existence of words such as *repreheat*, *rereheat* or *prepreheat*. Katamba and Stonham (2006) give the example of *great-great-great-great grandson*, in which the same morpheme is used several times. Such forms are grammatically correct and could possibly consist of endless number of prefixes.

#### ***Classification of prefixes.***

Prefixes can be classified according to their semantic meaning. Plag (2002) divides prefixes into four groups: quantifying prefixes, e.g. *uni-*, *bi-*, *di-*, *multi-*, *poly-*, or *semi-*; locative, e.g. *counter-* meaning "against", *endo-* "internal", *inter-* "between", or *trans-* meaning "across"; temporal, e.g. *ante-*, *pre-* and *fore-* meaning "before", *post-* "after", or *neo-* "new"; and negative, e.g. *de-*, *dis-*, *non-*, or *un-*, but also states that there are other prefixes with various semantic meaning that do not fall to any of the categories. Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1991) use more detailed classification of prefixes. They divide them into negative *a-*, *dis-*, *in-*, *non-*, *un-*; reversative or privative which reverse the action ó *de-*, *dis-*, *un-*; pejorative *mal-*, *mis-*, *pseudo-*; prefixes of degree or size ó *arch-*, *co-*, *hyper-*, *mini-*, *out-*, *over-*, *sub-*, *super-*, *sur-*, *ultra-*, *under-*; prefixes of orientation and attitude ó *anti-*, *contra-*, *counter-*, *pro-*; locative ó *fore-*, *inter-*, *sub-*, *super-*, *trans-*; prefixes of time and order ó *ex-*, *fore-*, *post-*, *pre-*, *re-*; neoclassical prefixes of number ó *bi-*, *di-*, *poly-*, *multi-*, *semi-*, *demi-*, *hemi-*, *tri-*, *uni-*, *mono-*; miscellaneous neo-classical prefixes ó *auto-*, *extra-*, *neo-*, *paleo-*, *pan-*, *proto-*, *tele-* and *vice-*; and conversion prefixes, which are identical with those which Bauer (2000) designates as class-changing.

Bauer (2000) classifies prefixes according to which part of speech they attach to. Prefixes added to nouns and verbs include *fore-* as in *foreground*, *foretell*, *re-* as in *rearrangement* or *recycle*, and *mis-* in *misfortune*, *mislead*. Prefixes added to nouns and

adjectives comprise of *in-*, prefix, which can take different forms depending on the initial element of the base, e.g. convert to *il-* in *illegal* or *im-* in *impossible*; *mis-* as in *mid-November*, *mid-Victorian*; *ex-* as in *ex-president*, *exorbital*; and *un-*. He also mentions a rare category of prefixes added to verbs and adjectives, e.g. *circum-* as in *circumstellar*, and also a category of prefixes added exclusively to verbs, which includes for example prefix *de-* as in *deescalate*. Also, there is a group of prefixes used with adjectival base only, e.g. *a-* in *amoral*, *atypical*; rare prefix *cis-* meaning "on this side of"; and *extra-* as in *extrasensory*. Last group of prefixes comprises of those which can be attached to nouns, verbs and adjectives, such as *counter-* in *counterculture*, *counterdemonstrate* or *counterproductive*; *dis-* in *disinformation*, *disambiguate* or *disbound*; *co-* as in *co-author*, *co-articulate*, *co-equal*; *inter-* as in *interdependence*, *intermix* or *interdigital*; and prefix *sub-* as in *subwarden*, *sublet*, *subconscious*.

### **Infixation.**

Infix is a type of affix, which occurs inside the base. According to Du-ková (2006), infixes does not occur in English, but sometimes there can appear certain elements that may be considered infixes, such as element *n* in words *passenger* or *messenger*. Plag (2002) also states that morphological experts mostly agree that infixes cannot be found in English language, however, he admits that there are situations in which words allow insertion of another unit. In such situations, speaker expresses a strong negative attitude by an expletive, such as in word *abso-blooming-lutely*, where word *blooming* was inserted into word *absolutely*. Katamba and Stonham (2006) state that this phenomenon of inserting whole words is very common in present-day English. Plag admits that in these situations infixation may appear in English but states that there are no bound morphemes that could be regarded as infixes.

### **Suffixation.**

In the process of suffixation, a suffix is attached to the base. Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1991) describe the difference between their treatment of prefixes and suffixes, that is while prefixes were analysed from the semantic point of view, suffixes are rather treated on grammatical basis. They explain that prefixes modify the base semantically, while suffixes have in comparison only a minor semantic role. Their main function is to change the grammatical function of a word, for example to change its part of speech. Another difference between prefixes and suffixes, they state, is the fact that while

prefixes usually combine with bases of both native and foreign origin, some of the foreign suffixes can only join foreign bases, which leads to formation of pairs of formally distinct nouns and adjectives called "hybrids". Vogel (2007) calls this phenomenon dissociation, which signifies that semantically related words are not derived from the same base. One of the words is usually an English native stylistically neutral noun while the other is a loaned learned Latin adjective, e.g. *eye ó ocular*, *sun ó solar*, *dog ó canine*, etc. Bauer (2000) states that there are a large number of Latin, Greek or French bases, which are joined with suffixes in English, e.g. the word *terrestrial*, which was formed by using a Latin base and suffix *-al*, but the word itself does not appear in Latin. Du-ková (2006) states, that as well as prefixes, majority of the English suffixes are of foreign origin. She names native suffixes *-er*, *-y*, *-ing*, *-en*, *-fold*; the foreign are for example *-able*, *-ee*, *-ion*, *-ation*, *-ence*, *-ent* and *-cy*. Small number of native nouns, she claims, retained some features of older stage of language, in which suffixation was accompanied by alternation of a stem vowel, e.g. *long ó length*, *strong ó strength*, *broad ó breadth*, etc.

#### ***Classification of suffixes.***

Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1991) divide suffixes into groups according to the word class of the word they form and according to which word class they are often added. Noun suffixes are divided into group of denominal abstract nouns, i.e. group in which nouns become abstract nouns, these are suffixes *-age* as in *baggage*, *-ery/-ry* in *slavery*, *-ful* in *spoonful*, *-hood* in *brotherhood*, *-ing* in *tubing*, *-ism* in *idealism*, *-ocracy* in *democracy*, *-ship* in *friendship*; into denominal concrete nouns, such as *-eer* in *racketeer*, *-er* in *teenager*, *-ess* in *actress*, *-ette* in *kitchenette*, *-let* in *booklet*, *-ling* in *duckling*, *-ster* in *gangster*; deverbal suffixes forming concrete nouns, such as *-ant* in *inhabitant*, *-ee* in *employee*, *-er/-or* in *survivor*; deverbal suffixes forming abstract nouns, such as *-age* in *coverage*, *-al* in *revival*, *-ation* in *starvation*, *-ing* in *bulding*, *-ment* in *amazement*; suffixes of de-adjectival nouns such as *-ity* in *sanity* and *-ness* in *happiness*. Next category comprises of suffixes typical for both nouns and adjectives, such as *-ese* in *Portuguese*, *-(i)an* in *Glaswegian*, *-ist* in *socialist*, and *-ite* in *Chomskyite*. Adjectival suffixes include denominal and deverbal suffixes, the former are either of native origin, such as *-ed* in *blue-eyed*, *-ful* in *delightful*, *-ish* in *childish*, *-less* in *careless*, *-like* in *moneylike*, *-ly* in *deathly*, *-y* in *creamy*; or of foreign origin, such as *-al/-ial/-ical* in *accidental/editorial/psychological*, *-esque* in *Romanesque*, *-ic* in *heroic*, *-ous* in *virtuous*; the latter include two suffixes, i.e. *-able* in *washable* and *-ive* in *attractive*. Adverb suffixes



include *-ly* in *calmly*, *-ward(s)* in *onward(s)*, and *-wise* in *clockwise*. Last group is formed by verb suffixes, including *-ate* as in *orchestrate*, *-en* in *ripen*, *-ify/-fy* in *simplify*, and *-ize/-ise* in *legalize*.

According to Aronoff, only nouns, verbs, adverbs and adjectives can be the subject of the suffixation process; only these parts of speech can be formed and these only can be a basis for forming derivatives (as cited in Bauer, 2000, p. 225). Bauer (2000) argues that some marginal word classes can also become a basis, giving examples of words such as *iffy* or *uppity*, adjectives derived from conjunction in the case of the former word and from preposition in the latter. Plag (2002) also shows an opposite opinion on this subject, mentioning suffix *-ish*, which is remarkable due to its ability to attach to almost any word class. It appears with adjectives, such as *freeish*, *sharpish*; numerals, as in *forteenish*, adverbs - *soonish*, *uppish*; nouns - *monsterish*, and also in syntactic phrases, such as *out-of-the-wayish*.

Suffixes can often express more than one meaning. According to Lieber (2005), for example, suffix *-er* can denote agent, e.g. *writer*, instrument - *printer*, experiencer - *hearer*, stimulus - *thriller*, patient - *keeper*, measure - *fiver*, or location - *diner*. Although suffixes are often classified according to the part of speech they form, some of them can be divided according to their meaning. Suffixes forming feminine nouns include *-ess* and *-ine*; suffixes forming diminutives are *-let*, *-ette*, *-ky*, *-ie*; and agentive suffixes include *-or*, *-er*, *-ee*, *-ian*, *-ician*. Peprník (2003) mentions suffixes with negative or depreciative meaning, i.e. *-ard/-art* in *coward*, *drunkard*; and *-eer* in *racketeer*, *black-marketeer*.

## **Conversion**

Conversion is a process in which word changes its word class without changing its form. Yule (2006) describes it as a "category change" or "functional shift". The term conversion may be found rather problematic. Adams (1988) suggests using Jespersen's term "derivation by zero suffix". Plag (2002) mentions terms zero-suffixation and transposition. The terms zero-suffixation and derivation by zero suffix are used because conversion is a class-changing process and thus close to suffixation. Because no suffix is used, we speak of "zero suffix". Probably most common term for conversion is zero-derivation. The speculations concerning the term itself raise question about the classification of conversion. According to Bauer (2000), it is not clear where exactly conversion stands in word-formation. He states that some scholars, such as Lyons or

Marchand, regard conversion as a part of derivation process, while others, such as Koziol or Strang, consider it a separate word-formation process.

Bauer further states, that "conversion is an extremely productive way of producing new words in English" (p. 226). He explains that there do not seem to be morphological constraints that would limit which form can become a basis for conversion, naming derivatives, compounds, blends, clipped forms, acronyms and monomorphemic lexemes as suitable forms which can undergo this process. In the same way, almost all word classes can participate in conversion, and conversion is able to form a word of almost any of the word classes, especially those belonging to open-class group, i.e. nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. Furthermore, because words of various word classes often have the same form in English language, conversion is a very common phenomenon.

### **Classification.**

Conversion is classified according to directionality, i.e. we study which word class enters the process and to which it converts. The problem is that the direction may not be always evident. According to Plag (2002), there are four ways to determine it. One of them is to discover which member of the set of words possesses more meanings. He states that "the derived (i.e. converted) word should be semantically more complex than the base word from which it is derived" (p. 136). Another possible way is to discover which word appears more frequently in language. Essentially, base words occur more frequently in language than the derived words. He also states that history of language must be taken into consideration. As language develops, some words may be used more frequently in a different word class than they used to and it is thus necessary to study etymology of a particular set of words to determine which one appeared earlier in language. Last criterion is formal and concerns conversion between verbs and nouns. It demonstrates that forms with irregular inflection become the basis for regularly inflected forms, e.g. *to drink* with irregular inflectional forms *drank*, *drunk* converts to noun *drink*.

Du-ková (2006) states that in most cases, conversion takes place between verb and noun. She distinguishes three types of conversion between these two word classes: nouns converted to verbs, verbs converted to nouns and a third group in which it is difficult to state which of these word classes represents the basic component of conversion. In the first type noun is the basic component because it possesses more meanings than verb. These are for example words *average*, *bridge*, *class*, *corner*, *hand*, *master*, *motion*, *question*, *post*, *station*, *value*, *view*, etc. Occasionally, a word created by conversion can acquire new

contrasting meanings e.g. verb *dust* can mean "remove the dust" or have the sense of adding something in phrase *to dust a cake*. In cases where verb has more meanings than noun, verb is the basic component. Verbs converted into nouns include words *blow, blush, call, catch, call, drive, glance, pay, quote, talk, walk*, etc. Typically, these nouns appear in verb-nominal phrases, such as *have a wash, take a walk, make a move*. Third group includes words by which it is unclear if verb or noun is the basic component. These are *aid, help, cause, change, doubt, love, sleep, return, work*, etc.

Frequent is also conversion between nouns and adjectives, which is divided into full and partial. Full conversion is characterized by the converted word which takes all morphological features of the word class it converted to, e.g. nouns can form plural. In the case of full conversion, adjectives usually convert to nouns, e.g. *adult, criminal, female, native, savage*, etc. Many of these nouns appear in plural, some of them exclusively, e.g. *sweats, tights, valuables*. The other direction, conversion from noun to adjective, occurs less frequently, with words such as *chief, choice, or top*. Partial conversion appears more often than full and more often in cases when nouns convert to adjectives. Unlike full conversion, partial occurs purely on syntactic level. De-nominal adjectives usually precede nouns, de-adjectival nouns are preceded by an article, however, they both lack morphological features of the particular word class. *Mother tongue, traffic lights, or press conference* are examples of nouns functioning as adjectives, a very common phenomenon in English. However, Bauer (2000) argues that these expressions should be classified as compounds and mentions the suggestion of Quirk et al. to speak of conversion of adjectives in cases when the adjective can be used both in attributive and predicative position, e.g. *stone wall, the wall is stone* (as cited in Bauer, p. 228). Adjectives can also function as nouns, e.g. *the young, the rich, the injured*. While these denote groups of people, some can denote only one person, e.g. *the accused, the deceased*, or designate an abstract quality, such as *the beautiful, the good*.

Conversion also arises between adjectives and verbs, e.g. *warm ó to warm, calm ó to calm, dry ó to dry*; but affixation is more frequent between these two word classes, e.g. *deaf ó deafen, feeble ó to enfeeble*. Conversion occurs to a lesser extent in other parts of speech as well. Adverbs can become verbs, e.g. *down ó to down*, adjectives ó *the then Government*, or nouns ó *whys and hows*. Also conjunctions or modal verbs can transform into nouns, e.g. *ifs and buts, a must*.

According to Bauer (2000), in some cases it may be difficult to distinguish between conversion and a syntactic process. He gives an example of a process in which uncountable

nouns become countable ó *some tea, two teas*. Further, he states that intransitive verbs can become transitive, e.g. *to run a horse*, and non-gradable adjectives can function as gradable ó *She looks very French*.

## **Compounding**

Compounding, also termed composition, represents another major word-formation process in English. It produces compounds, which Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1991) define as "a lexical unit consisting of more than one base and functioning both grammatically and semantically as a single word" (p. 1567). They state that basically it can consist of infinite number of bases but in most cases English compounds comprise of two. Usually, the first element of a compound carries the stress. Plag (2002) claims that compounding is the most productive process out of all word-formation processes, but the most difficult one to analyse. Often it is complicated to distinguish between affixation and compounding or compounding and phrases.

Bauer (2000) classifies compounds according to their semantic meaning into endocentric, exocentric, appositional and copulative. Endocentric compounds consist of two elements, where the initial element modifies the final, the grammatical head, e.g. *armchair, beehive*. Such compound is then a hyponym of the head, i.e. *armchair* is a type of chair. Exocentric compounds, also called bahuvrihi compounds, have a metaphorical meaning and usually denote a type of person by his or her typical feature, e.g. *redhead, hunchback*. Appositional compounds consist of two elements, each being a possible head and the hyperonym of the whole compound, e.g. *maidservant* is both a type of maid and servant. The final category of copulative compounds, also termed dvandva, comprises of compounds with neither modifying relationship nor the relation of hyponymy. The two elements denote a union and typically consist of proper names, e.g. *Czechoslovakia, Hewlett-Packard*.

As far as the spelling of compounds is concerned, Du-ková (2006) demonstrates that they are most frequently written as one orthographic word, e.g. *airtight, bricklayer, drawbridge*. Apart from that, they can be written with a hyphen ó *taxi-driver, air-conditioning, self-esteem*, but there are also varieties that can be hyphenated or spelled as one word, e.g. *head-master* ó *headmaster, flash-light* ó *flashlight*. Some can be written separately, others separately or with a hyphen, e.g. *washing machine* ó *washing-machine, waiting room* ó *waiting-room*. Generally, speakers of British English prefer hyphenated

varieties, while in American English compounds are mostly written as one word or separately.

Compounds can be divided according to their word class. It is the head of the compound which determines its part of speech. According to Plag (2002), the head appears always on the right-hand side and carries most of semantic and morphological information, i.e. number, gender. Kavka and Tékauer (2006) divide compounds into nominal, e.g. *sunrise, blackbird, looking-glass*; adjectival, *trustworthy, dark-blue, evergreen*; verbal, *overlook, ill-treat, hearsay*; and others, which include examples of other word-formation processes, e.g. reduplication ó *ping-pong*, back-formation ó *housekeep*, conversion ó *waterproof*; multi-element compounds, including quotational compounds and collocations ó *forget-me-not, bread and butter*; and compounds of other parts of speech, *breakdown, twenty-two*.

### **Minor Word-formation Processes**

Apart from the major word-formation processes in English, affixation, compounding and conversion, there are also a number of other, less frequently used types. Some of them create new words by shortening, i.e. deleting a part of the base word, such as back-formation, clipping, blending and forming of acronyms; other types include reduplication, postposition or sound imitation.

#### **Back-formation.**

Back-formation, also called back-derivation, is a special type of reduction process reversed to suffixation. The base word which undergoes back-formation is a word with suffix or is interpreted as such, and the new word is coined by its deletion. According to Sta-ková (2012), this process mostly forms denominal verbs, the most productive process being the formation of verbs from action nouns, e.g. *Christmas-shop* < *Christmas-shopping*, *deconstruct* < *deconstruction* or *sun-bathe* < *sun-bathing*. Such nouns are by ordinary language users often incorrectly regarded as derivatives formed from verbs in the suffixation process but from the historical point of view, the nouns were created earlier. Apart from action nouns, formation of verbs from agent nouns is also common, e.g. *baby-sit* < *baby-sitter*, *comede* < *comedian* or *housepaint* < *housepainter*, although this type was reported by Sta-ková to have decreased in productivity. Adjectives, though rarely, can enter the process of back-formation as well.

### **Clipping.**

Clipping is a process in which a word is shortened while preserving the same semantic meaning and word class of the base word, e.g. *ad* < *advertisement*, *flu* < *influenza*, *phone* < *telephone*, etc. Typically, a word formed by clipping changes stylistic level becoming informal. Frequent are slang words used by groups of people of common interest, e.g. words concerning education - *exam*, *gym*, *math*, *lab*. Clipped forms are classified according to part of word which remains, most commonly it is the beginning of word, e.g. *info* < *information*, less commonly the final part, e.g. *burger* < *hamburger*, or middle part, e.g. *tec* < *detective*. Clipped forms are often created from names, e.g. *Liz* < *Elizabeth*, *Mike* < *Michael*. Yule (2006) describes a special type of clipping, popular particularly in Australian and British English, which forms words known as hypocorisms. This process involves clipping and additional suffixation by suffixes -y or -ie, e.g. *telly* < *television*, *bookie* < *bookmaker*, *hankie* < *handkerchief*. Clipping is a productive process used frequently nowadays. Fromkin, Rodman and Hyams (2003) give an example of recent words, adjective *rad* < *radical* and verb *dis* < *disrespect*, meaning "to show disrespect".

### **Blending.**

Blending is a process in which two words are combined to produce a new one. Such words are often called portmanteau and are regarded as compounds with deleted parts, consisting of the initial part of one word and final part of the other, e.g. *smoke* + *fog* = *smog*, *breakfast* + *lunch* = *brunch*, *helicopter* + *airport* = *heliport*. As far as meaning is concerned, the first word functions as a modifier to the second, i.e. *heliport* is a type of airport. The base words belong to the same word class and are typically nouns but there are exceptions, e.g. *guess* + *estimate* = *guestimate*. Occasionally, one of the base words can remain full in blend, either the first, e.g. *work* + *alcoholic* = *workaholic*, or the second, *miniature* + *skirt* = *miniskirt*. According to Crystal (1995), blending became increasingly popular in the 1980s when it was often used in advertisements and television, allowing the formation of words such as *swimsational*, *docufantasy*. Bauer (2000) also claims that blends are rich source of new words in modern English, both in fields of literature and science.

### **Acronyms.**

Forming acronyms is another example of a reduction process. In this process, words are formed from initial letters of a phrase, e.g. *NATO*, *NASA*, *UNESCO*, and unlike abbreviations, they are pronounced as a single word. They may appear in capital letters,

but not necessarily, e.g. *laser* ó light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation or *radar* ó radio detecting and ranging. These examples also demonstrate that the acronym can be adjusted for the purpose of the new word, i.e. prepositions may be omitted or more than the initial letter can be used. According to Yule (2006), acronyms are often created intentionally to form an existing word with a particular meaning, especially for names of organizations, e.g. *WAR* ó *women against rape*, *MADD* ó *mothers against drunk driving*, etc.

## METHODS

This chapter describes the procedure of working on the practical part of the thesis. It deals with description of materials chosen for the analysis, reasons for their selection and the characteristics of the individual texts. Further, it explains methods used in the actual analysis of words formed by affixation and conversion as well as particular features which were examined in connection with these two word-formation processes.

### Selection of the Texts

Three texts in total were selected for the analysis, each of them from different British newspaper, namely *London Evening Standard*, *The Guardian* and *The Independent*. The individual articles were chosen from section Comments and therefore represent examples of the newspaper commentary style. The reason for selection of texts written in this particular style was the fact that they comprise a rich variety of words, e.g. stylistically marked words, evaluating words, idioms and words of sub-standard language. All texts were written in 2013 and therefore reflect the contemporary usage of the English language. Some include neologisms coined in most recent years.

### Analysis of Words

For the purposes of analysis words formed by affixation and conversion were selected from each article. These words were written down in their base form devoid of inflectional suffixes in the order they appear in text and divided into derivatives and converted words. Some words appeared more than once in the text. In such case, the number of occurrences is stated in brackets in the entry and the words in analysis are regarded with respect to this number, i.e. if a word appears twice in the text, it is considered as two separate examples. Certain words underwent both derivation and conversion process and are therefore included in the list of derivatives as well as converted words. Identically, they are regarded as different examples of one word. Occasionally,

words formed by other word-formation processes, especially compounds, may appear on the list on condition that they also underwent one of the two examined processes.

Words of both processes were analysed with regard to the character of each process as it is described in the theoretical background. Concerning the process of affixation, following aspects were examined:

1. Part of speech of the word
2. Base word and its part of speech
3. Affixes
4. Origin of the affixes
5. Part of speech that the affixes usually form or attach to
6. Meaning of the affixes

In some cases multiple affixation can be found, therefore there can appear more than one base in each entry. The analysis comprises of bases that are analysable in English, i.e. they can function as separate words, although there were also a great number of words which apparently include affixes, however, their base is of foreign origin which is often difficult to determine. Prefixes, suffixes and possibly infixes are described in the order they are connected to the base. If there are affixes which can vary in form the variant is stated. Their origin is determined: native, Latin, French or Greek. For the determination of affixes, bases and origin, internet dictionaries were used, the main source being *Dictionary.com*. Prefixes and suffixes are divided into groups according to the classification described in the theoretical part of the thesis. Prefixes are classified according the word class they attach to and if possible, they are categorized according to Plag's classification of semantic meaning. Suffixes are followed by description of the part of speech of the base they attach to and also part of speech they usually form, for which Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik's classification was used. The last aspect that was examined was the meaning of affixes - their semantic function. In some cases, there are comments on the meaning of the word and explanations of possible changes in meaning. Additional information stated was found in both *Dictionary.com* and another rich source, Marchand's description of affixes (Marchand, 1969).

Converted words were examined with regard to the direction of conversion, i.e. the part of speech of the base word and the converted word is stated. If the process occurred in relation between noun and adjective, division into partial or full conversion is included. To determine the basic component of conversion, the earlier appearance of the part of speech



was taken into consideration as well as the larger scope of meanings of the word. The direction of conversion may not be always clear and therefore there can appear information about etymology as well as other comments on the directionality and meaning of the words. For this analysis the source used was the *Online Etymology Dictionary*.

## ANALYSIS

This part contains an analysis of three articles with focus on affixation and conversion process. Each article is followed by partial results with illustrative tables and comments on the analysis, character of the text, analysed words and word-formation processes in general.

### Article 1

First article is titled "If you're reading this, then you've been shafted by your colleagues" and was written by Nick Curtis. It was published in *London Evening Standard* on August 13, 2013. The full reading of the article is to be found in Appendix A as Article 1.

#### Derivatives.

**chained:** 1. adjective 2. chain (n) 3. -ed 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun

**only (3x):** 1. adverb 2. one (n) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. suffix denotes "to be like", the word means "unique, solitary", literary "one-like"

**prisoner (6x):** 1. noun 2. prison (n) 3. -er 4. native 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. designates persons from their abode or location

**cramped:** 1. adjective 2. cramp (n) 3. -ed 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun

**transport:** 1. verb (noun in the text) 2. port (n) 3. trans- 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. meaning "across" or "through", locative

**simply (2x):** 1. adverb 2. simple (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. having the nature or qualities of the base word

**express:** 1. verb 2. press (v) 3. ex- 4. Latin 5. verbal prefix 6. denoting direction "out of" or "outside"

**commiseration:** 1. noun 2. commiserate (v) 3. -ation 4. Latin 5. deverbal abstract noun suffix 6. denoting action of the verb

**lifer:** 1. noun 2. life (n) 3. -er 4. native 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. designates persons from a special characteristic

**doggy:** 1. adjective 2. dog (n) 3. -y 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the nature or qualities of the base word; in this case it has probably the sense of "spectacular"

**so-called:** 1. adjective 2. call (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. quality denoted by the verb

**abroad:** 1. adverb 2. broad (adj) 3. a- 4. native 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. reduced form of a preposition *on*

**behalf:** 1. noun 2. half (n) 3. be- 4. native 5. noun prefix 6. meaning "by", originated as prepositional phrase *bi halve* meaning "on one side"

**outrank:** 1. verb 2. rank (v) 3. out- 4. native 5. verb prefix 6. designates surpassing, going beyond

**outmanoeuvre:** 1. verb 2. manoeuvre (v) 3. out- 4. native 5. verb prefix 6. designates surpassing, going beyond

**outwit:** 1. verb 2. wit (v) 3. out- 4. native 5. verb prefix 6. designates surpassing, going beyond

**outgun:** 1. verb 2. gun (v) 3. out- 4. native 5. verb prefix 6. designates surpassing, going beyond

**procreation:** 1. noun 2. create (v) 3. pro-, -ion (-ation) 4. Greek, Latin 5. verb prefix, deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. advancing forward, denoting action of the base

**acutely:** 1. adverb 2. acute (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the base word

**fellow-worker:** 1. noun 2. work (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbial concrete noun suffix 6. agentive

**beginning:** 1. noun 2. begin (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. expresses the action of verb

**wall-planner:** 1. noun 2. plan (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbial concrete noun suffix 6. instrument

**Christian:** 1. adjective 2. Christ (n) 3. -ian 4. Latin 5. denominal adjective suffix, attaches to proper nouns 6. adhering to or following

**enjoy:** 1. verb 2. joy (v) 3. en- 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. verb prefix 6. to cause a person to be in a condition of

**easy:** 1. adjective 2. ease (n) 3. -y 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the noun

**martyrdom:** 1. noun 2. martyr (n) 3. -dom 4. native 5. denominal abstract noun suffix 6. general condition or state

**usually:** 1. adverb 2. usual (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**amass:** 1. verb 2. mass (n) 3. a- 4. French (from Latin) 5. noun prefix 6. denotes "to, towards" or increase, addition

**amount:** 1. noun 2. mount (v) 3. a- 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. increase, addition

**brownie:** 1. noun 2. brown (adj) 3. -ie 4. native 5. de-adjectival noun suffix 6. in this case denoting a person - Brownie or a toady person (from *brown-nose*)

**grateful:** 1. adjective 2. grate (adj) - from *gratus* - obsolete Latin word meaning *pleasing* 3. -ful 4. native 5. usually denominal adjective suffix, adjective bases are rare 6. meaning "full of"

**hellish:** 1. adjective 2. hell (n) 3. -ish 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun

**precious:** 1. adjective 2. price (n) 3. -ous 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. possessing, full of a given quality

**vacation:** 1. noun 2. vacate (v) - from Latin meaning "freedom from something" 3. -ation 4. Latin 5. deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. denoting action of the base

**allowance:** 1. noun 2. allow (v) 3. -ance 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. indicating an action of the verb

**inside:** 1. adverb 2. side (n) 3. in- 4. native 5. adverb suffix, also forms nouns and verbs 6. represents preposition *in*

**elderly:** 1. adjective 2. elder (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. usually denominal adjective suffix, formerly also attached to adjectives 6. indicating quality implied by the adjective

**different:** 1. adjective 2. differ (v) 3. -ent 4. Latin 5. denominal and deverbial adjective suffix 6. describes the action of the verb

**occasionally:** 1. adverb 2. occasion (n), occasional (adj) 3. -al, -ly 4. Latin, native 5. deverbial abstract noun or denominal adjective suffix, adverb suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun, in a manner of the adjective

**strengthen:** 1. verb 2. strong (adj), strength (n) 3. -th, -en 4. native, native 5. de-adjectival or deverbial noun suffix, verb suffix 6. denoting quality, denoting action of the noun

**hallowed:** 1. adjective 2. hallow (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. indicates a condition resulting from the action of the verb

**recount:** 1. verb 2. count (v) 3. re- 4. Latin 5. verb prefix 6. indicating return to a previous condition

**bereavement:** 1. noun 2. reave (v), bereave (v) 3. be-, -ment 4. native, French (from Latin) 5. verb prefix, deverbal abstract noun suffix 6. causing, denoting resulting state

**kiddie-card:** 1. noun 2. kid (n) 3. -ie 4. native 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. diminutive, showing affection

**politics:** 1. noun 2. politic (adj) 3. -ics 4. Latin, Greek 5. de-adjectival noun suffix 6. denotes a field of study

**trying:** 1. adjective 2. try (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbal adjective suffix 6. shift in meaning, denotes a difficult or annoying situation

**away (4x):** 1. adverb 2. way (n) 3. a- 4. native 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. denotes preposition *on*

**inevitably:** 1. adverb 2. evite (v) - archaic, meaning "to avoid"; evitable (adj), inevitable (adj) 3. -able, in-, -ly 4. Old French (from Latin), Latin, native 5. deverbal adjective suffix, noun/adjective/verb prefix, adverb suffix 6. capable of; negative; in a manner of the adjective

**irksome:** 1. adjective 2. irk (v) 3. -some 4. native 5. formerly denominal adjective suffix, currently deverbal 6. indicating quality of the verb

**upgrade:** 1. verb 2. grade (v) 3. up- 4. native 5. noun/verb prefix 6. indicating increase

**drilling:** 1. noun 2. drill (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbal abstract noun suffix 6. indicating the process of the verb

**surround:** 1. verb 2. round (v) 3. sur- 4. Old French (from Latin *super-*) 5. verb prefix 6. meaning "over"

**builder:** 1. noun 2. build (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbal concrete noun suffix 6. agentive

**pharmaceutical** 1. adjective 2. pharmaceuticals (n) 3. -al 4. Latin 5. deverbal abstract noun or denominal adjective suffix 6. having the character of the noun

**tanned:** 1. adjective 2. tan (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbal adjective suffix 6. result of the action

**relaxed:** 1. adjective 2. relax (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbal adjective suffix 6. result of the action

**discover:** 1. verb 2. cover (v) 3. dis- 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. reversative action, negative

**steady:** 1. adjective 2. stead (n) - rare word, used to denote *place* or word *standing* 3. -y 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the noun

**torturing:** 1. adjective 2. torture (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the verb

**Instagrammed:** 1. adjective 2. Instagram (n) 3. -ed 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. in this case denotes the nature of pictures uploaded to social network Instagram

**selfie:** 1. noun 2. self (n) 3. -ie 4. native 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. diminutive, denoting a photograph of a person taken by himself/herself

**sunlounger** 1. noun 2. lounge (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbial concrete noun suffix 6. instrument used for action denoted by the verb, a type of long chair used for sunbathing

**endless:** 1. adjective 2. end (n) 3. -less 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. devoid of the state denoted by the noun

**consolation:** 1. noun 2. console (v) 3. -ation 4. Latin 5. deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. denotes state indicated by the verb

**frankly:** 1. adverb 2. frank (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**bloody:** 1. adverb 2. blood (n) 3. -y 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. shift in meaning - slang word used as an intensifier

**childless:** 1. adjective 2. child (n) 3. -less 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. not possessing, without

**lawyer:** 1. noun 2. law (n) 3. -ier 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. indicates a person who does an activity connected with the noun

**expensive:** 1. adjective 2. expense (n) 3. -ive 4. Latin 5. usually denominal adjective suffix, also deverbial 6. characterized by the noun

**wiggly:** 1. adjective 2. wriggle (v) 3. -y 4. native 5. usually denominal adjective suffix, also deverbial 6. characterized by the verb

**pleasure:** 1. noun 2. please (v) 3. -ure 4. French (from Latin) 5. deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. result of the verb

**delayed:** 1. adjective 2. delay (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. result of the action

**anticipated:** 1. adjective 2. anticipate (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. characterized by the verb

**autumnal:** 1. adjective 2. autumn (n) 3. -al 4. Latin 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun

**sucker:** 1. noun 2. suck (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbial concrete noun suffix 6. person characterized by the resulting action of the verb

### Converted words.

**Instagram (pic):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**holiday (pic/politics):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**office (prisoner/politics/move):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**shaft:** 1. noun > verb 2. the verb means "to treat someone unfairly" and first appeared in 1950s, it was probably converted from noun

**transport:** 1. verb > noun 2. verb - 14<sup>th</sup> century, noun - 17<sup>th</sup> century

**fist-bump:** 1. verb (bump) > noun

**jailyard (salute):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**salute:** 1. verb > noun

**August (prisoner) (5x):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**shackle:** 1. noun > verb

**swan off:** 1. noun > verb 2. the verb means "to wander idly or aimlessly" and first appeared in 1940s, the meaning is probably based on the movement of the bird

**procreation (front):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**school (holiday):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**blockbook:** 1. noun (book) > verb

**(First World) War (cemetery):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**litter:** 1. noun > verb

**brownie (point):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion 2. probably from noun *Brownie* (girl Scout)

**vacation (allowance):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**relative:** 1. adjective > noun - full conversion

**hint:** 1. noun > verb

**bid:** 1. verb > noun

**summer (slot/jaunt):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**milestone (anniversary):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**job (change):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**car (accident):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**top:** 1. noun > adjective - full conversion

**schedule:** 1. noun > verb

**move:** 1. verb > noun

**system (upgrade):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**upgrade:** 1. verb > noun

**watch (battery):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**Facebook (like):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**like:** 1. verb > noun

**sunset (cocktail):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**release:** 1. verb > noun 2. the verb appeared in 13<sup>th</sup> century, the noun in 14<sup>th</sup> century

**force:** 1. noun > verb 2. noun - 13<sup>th</sup> century, sense of the verb "to compel" appeared in 14<sup>th</sup> century

**the clever:** 1. adjective > noun - partial conversion

### **Results.**

The first article contained 836 words, from which 86 were formed by affixation and 45 by conversion. In total, the article therefore contained 131 analysable words.

### ***Affixation.***

Out of 86 words, 22 were formed by prefixation. Two words with prefixes also included suffix, one word had two suffixes attached.

Most of the prefixes belong to the class that maintains part of speech (14), e.g. *out-* in *outrank*, *pro-* in *procreate* or *re-* and *recount*. 8 were class-changing. Other aspects were also examined. Concerning the occurrence of particular prefixes, the most frequent was the occurrence of prefix *a-* (7x), followed by *out-* (4x) and *be-* (2x). Following prefixes appeared only once: *trans-*, *ex-*, *pro-*, *en-*, *re-*, *in-*, *up-*, *sur-*, *dis-*. Majority of prefixes denoted location or direction of some kind (17x), prefixes with other meanings appeared rarely: two indicated cause, the same number expressed negation and one prefix addition. Concerning the origin of prefixes, most of them were classified as native (12x), followed by Latin (6x), French from Latin (3x) and one of them was Greek (*pro-*). Most of the prefixes attached to verb base (14x), followed by noun (7x) and adjective (1x).

Altogether, 67 words included a suffix. Two of them, *strengthen* and *occasionally*, were formed by adding two suffixes. The word which includes the largest number of affixes was *inevitably* (3). Suffixes were mostly class-changing (58), e.g. *-al* in word *autumnal* forming an adjective from noun. Most frequent suffix was *-er*, denoting persons, e.g. *prisoner*, *builder*, which appeared 12 times, followed by *-ly* (11x), *-ed* (9x), *-y* (5x). Suffixes *-ing* and *-ation* appeared 4 times each, the representation of other suffixes was not significant.

Table 1

*Origin of Suffixes in Article 1*

<u>origin</u>	<u>occurrence</u>
native	52
Latin	10
French (from Latin)	7
Greek	1

As demonstrated in Table 1, suffixes occurring in the text were mostly of native origin, followed by Latin. One was classified as Greek (-ics).

***Conversion.***

In this article there were discovered 45 words which were formed by conversion. Majority of them, 27 words, were nouns functioning as adjectives, i.e. modifiers in noun phrases. Only one of them represents full conversion, namely word *top*, which in the article appears in phrase "the top trump". The position in front of the noun indicates partial conversion, but in this case, the word can function fully as an adjective, i.e. can be graded, as in *topmost*. The opposite direction, conversion from adjective to noun occurred 2 times, from which one example was classified as full conversion, i.e. word *relative*. In the article it can be found in phrase "elderly relatives" in plural form, which is a proof of full conversion. The number of words formed by conversion between nouns and verbs was 8 in each direction. In the text, these main four types of direction were found, less frequent types of direction does not appear in this article.

Table 2

*Conversion in Article 1*

<u>direction</u>	<u>occurrence</u>	<u>partial/full</u>
noun > adjective	27	26/1
adjective > noun	2	1/1
verb > noun	8	-
noun > verb	8	-

Some words which apparently undergo conversion could not have been classified. They fall into the category of nouns and verbs described in the theoretical part, which Du-ková (2006) regards as a category in which the direction cannot be distinguished. Such words appearing in text are *change*, *work*, or *pain*.

The word *fist-bump* is included in analysis although it represents a compound to demonstrate a typical English phenomenon previously described, the frequent usage of



verbonominal phrases, in the article appearing in a phrase *to give a fist-bump*. If there should be mentioned a noteworthy example of conversion, it would be the verb *to swan off*, which converted from noun and is in an interesting way based on the resemblance of the movement of a swan.

### **Comments on the text.**

In the article the author expresses dissatisfaction with his obligation to work in the course of summer and it is therefore filled with a great number of stylistically coloured words, mostly describing the author's hardships - *torturing, hellish, irksome*, etc. Such words typically include suffixes and are therefore suitable for the analysis of affixation. The text presents a wide range of various types of vocabulary and abounds in features characteristic to commentary style. It is written in informal style and contains slang words, e.g. *bloody, sucker*. Also, it includes a number of words coined in recent years, such as *Facebook* or *Instagram*, which represent modern social networks, or other examples of latest words such as *selfie* or *sunlounger* which are hardly to be found in dictionaries. The text also comprises of words formed by some of the minor word-formation processes, clipping, back-formation or sound imitation. A representation of the clipping process is the word *pic*, shortened form of *picture*. In the text, it appears in a word-form *pix*, using a slang form of plural suffix based on the pronunciation of the plural form *pics*. Another type, back-formation, is represented in the word *firefight*.

### **Article 2**

The second article carries a name "No time for tea? How Britain became a nation of coffee drinkers." It appeared in *The Guardian* and was posted by Emma Sturgess on December 19, 2013. The full text is introduced in Appendix B as Article 2.

### **Derivatives.**

**become:** 1. verb 2. come (v) 3. be- 4. native 5. verb prefix 6. causes sth to be

**drinker (3x):** 1. noun 2. drink (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbal concrete noun suffix 6. agentive

**builder (2x):** 1. noun 2. build (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbal concrete noun suffix 6. agentive

**popularity:** 1. noun 2. popular (adj) 3. -ity 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. de-adjectival noun suffix 6. expresses a state

**easy (2x):** 1. adjective 2. ease (n) 3. -y 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the noun

**research:** 1. noun 2. search (v) 3. re- 4. Latin 5. verb prefix 6. indicates repetition of the action stated by the verb

**supermarket:** 1. noun 2. market (n) 3. super- 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. indicates great size

**willing (2x):** 1. adjective 2. will (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. describes the action of the verb

**milky (2x):** 1. adjective 2. milk (n) 3. -y 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the noun

**depth:** 1. noun 2. deep (adj) 3. -th 4. native 5. de-adjectival noun suffix 6. denotes quality

**American:** 1. adjective 2. America (n) 3. -an 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective suffix 6. denotes provenance

**eventually:** 1. adverb 2. event (n), eventual (adj) 3. -al, -ly 4. Latin, native 5. denominal adjective suffix, adverb suffix 6. having the characteristics of the noun, in a manner of the adjective

**different (4x):** 1. adjective 2. differ (v) 3. -ent 4. Latin 5. denominal and deverbial adjective suffix 6. describes the action of the verb

**indoors:** 1. adverb 2. door (n) 3. in- 4. native 5. noun prefix 6. inside, "within the doors"

**drinks-making:** 1. noun 2. make (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. denoting the process

**gingerbread-flavoured:** 1. adjective 2. flavour (n) 3. -ed 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. denotes possession, "having"

**cream-topped:** 1. adjective 2. top (n) 3. -ed 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. denotes possession, "having"

**nonsense:** 1. noun 2. sense (n) 3. non- 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective prefix 6. negative

**Antipodean:** 1. noun 2. antipode (n) 3. -ean (-an) 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective suffix 6. a person living at that place

**expensive:** 1. adjective 2. expense (n) 3. -ive 4. Latin, French 5. usually denominal adjective suffix, also deverbial 6. characterized by the noun

**embrace:** 1. verb (noun in the text) 2. brace (n) - from Old French meaning "hands" 3. em- (en-) 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. verb prefix 6. meaning "on all sides"

**exacting:** 1. adjective 2. exact (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. describes the action

**British:** 1. adjective 2. Britain (n) 3. -ish 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. meaning "belonging to"

**possession:** 1. noun 2. possess (v) 3. -ion 4. Latin 5. deverbal abstract noun suffix 6. denotes a state indicated by the verb

**ideal:** 1. adjective 2. idea (n) 3. -al 4. Latin 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun; the word used to mean "pertaining to an archetype", later appeared the sense of "perfect"

**entrust:** 1. verb 2. trust (n) 3. en- 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. verb prefix 6. to put the trust in sb

**half-awake:** 1. adjective 2. wake (v) 3. a- 4. native 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. denoting preposition *on*

**barista:** 1. noun 2. bar (n) 3. -ista 4. Italian 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. agentive, denotes person that works in a coffee shop

**Hottie:** 1. noun 2. hot (adj) 3. -ie 4. native 5. de-adjectival noun suffix 6. denotes a quality

**towards (2x):** 1. adverb 2. to (prep) 3. -wards 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. denotes a direction

**necessarily:** 1. adverb 2. necessary (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**mainly:** 1. adverb 2. main (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**herbal (2x):** 1. adjective 2. herb (n) 3. -al 4. Latin 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun

**offering:** 1. noun 2. offer (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbal abstract noun suffix 6. the process denoted by the verb

**widen:** 1. verb 2. wide (adj) 3. -en 4. native 5. verb suffix 6. to make sth wide

**frankly:** 1. adverb 2. frank (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**foolish:** 1. adjective 2. fool (n) 3. -ish 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the characteristic of the noun

**enjoy:** 1. verb 2. joy (v) 3. en- 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. verb prefix 6. to cause a person to be in a condition of

**strength:** 1. verb 2. strong (adj) 3. -th 4. native 5. de-adjectival or deverbal noun suffix 6. denoting quality

### Converted words.

- coffee (drinker 2x/sale/system/culture/habit/chain):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- tea (sale 2x/drinker/market 2x/company):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- down (2x):** 1. adverb > adjective
- instant (coffee) (2x):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- up:** 1. adverb > adjective
- favour:** 1. noun > verb
- dash:** 1. verb > noun
- volume (sale) (2x):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- shop (tea):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- supermarket (sale):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- Nescafé (sale):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- home (coffee/front):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- restaurant (menu):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- drink (2x):** 1. verb > noun
- Jing (teapot):** 1. noun (Jing - a company selling tea and teaware) > adjective - partial conversion
- takeaway (coffee):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- embrace:** 1. verb > noun 2. verb - 14<sup>th</sup> century, noun - 16<sup>th</sup> century
- perfect:** 1. adjective > verb
- couple:** 1. verb > noun
- paper (cup):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- shudder:** 1. verb > noun
- Peanut (Hottie):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- Yorkshire (Tea):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- buck:** 1. noun > verb 2. the verb means "oppose" or "resist", the meaning is based on the typical behaviour of bucks - striking with horns
- trend:** 1. verb > noun 2. the verb originally meant "to run in a certain direction" and developed into noun denoting "tendency"
- increase:** 1. verb > noun 2. verb - early 14<sup>th</sup> century, noun - late 14<sup>th</sup> century
- down:** 1. adverb > verb 2. the verb means "to be caused by a particular person"
- parent (company):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion
- standard (market) (2x):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**cafe (culture):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**left:** 1. adjective > adverb 2. adjective - 12<sup>th</sup> century, adverb - 14<sup>th</sup> century

**right:** 1. adjective > adverb

**centre:** 1. noun > adverb 2. in this case used as an adverb in idiom *left, right and centre*

**waft:** 1. verb > noun

**chamomile (powder):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**coffee (powder):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

### **Results.**

This article contained 588 words, from which 103 words were suitable for the analysis of derivatives and converted words. Affixation was detected in 50 words.

Conversion was even more frequent, this process occurred in 53 words.

### ***Affixation.***

Out of 50 words, 9 were formed by prefixation and 41 by suffixation. One word, i.e. word *eventually*, included two suffixes.

Most of the prefixes fall into the class-maintaining group (8), e.g. *non-* in *nonsense* or *super-* in *supermarket*. One was class-changing, i.e. *in-* in word *indoor*, which in this case formed an adjective when it connected with noun base *door*. Prefix which occurred most frequently was prefix *en-*, or its variant *em-* (3x). Other prefixes were represented by one example each, these were *be-*, *re-*, *super-*, *in-*, *non-*, *a-*. Concerning the semantic meaning of prefixes, in most cases they denoted location (3x), e.g. *in-* in *indoors* or *en-* (*em-*) in *embrace* meaning "on all sides"; and cause (3x), e.g. *en-* in *entrust*. The rest indicated repetition, size or negation. Each of these categories of meaning included one prefix. From the origin point of view, prefixes were classified equally into group of native (3x), Latin (3x) and French (3x) prefixes. Mostly, they attached to verb bases (5x), the rest to noun bases (4x).

Suffixes were mostly class-changing (40), only 2 retained part of speech, i.e. *-an* in *Antipodean* and *-ista* in *barista*. Most frequently occurring suffixes were suffixes *-er* as in *drinker*, *builder*, and *-ing* as in *willing*, *offering*, appearing by 5 examples each, also suffixes *-y*, *-al*, *-ly* and *-ent* were frequent, each appearing 4 times. Concerning origin of suffixes, Table 3 shows that most of them were of native origin, followed by Latin. One Italian suffix was found, i.e. above mentioned suffix *-ista*.

Table 3

*Origin of Suffixes in Article 2*

<u>origin</u>	<u>occurrence</u>
native	28
Latin	11
French (from Latin)	2
Italian	1

***Conversion.***

In the second article there were found 53 converted words. Most frequent direction of conversion occurred by words converted from noun to adjective. All these words were classified as partial conversion, e.g. *restaurant menu*, *paper cup*. The opposite direction, from adjective to noun, did not occur in the text. Second most frequent direction of conversion was from verb to noun, which appeared 9 times, e.g. noun *dash* which appears in the text in phrase *dash of milk*. Apart from typical types of conversion, several other minor types were found, mostly involving adverbs, as shows Table 4 below.

Table 4

*Conversion in Article 2*

<u>direction</u>	<u>occurrence</u>	<u>partial/full</u>
noun > adjective	34	34/0
adjective > noun	0	0
verb > noun	9	-
noun > verb	2	-
adverb > adjective	3	-
adjective > adverb	2	-
noun > adverb	2	-
adjective > verb	1	-

Again, there were nouns and verbs by which direction of conversion could not have been determined, e.g. *love*, *delight*, *reproach*. An interesting example of conversion is represented by verb *buck*, which was converted from noun and reflects the typical characteristic of the animal buck. One of the examples of minor type of conversion is word *perfect* which represents conversion from adjective to verb. Another example is conversion from adverb to adjective, by words *up* and *down*. The latter word appeared three times in the text, twice as an adjective and once as a verb, which demonstrates the productivity of conversion.

### Comments on the text.

The article concerned the nature of tea and coffee drinking habits in Britain, which is why it contained a great number of partially converted adjectives connected with these drinks, e.g. *coffee culture*, *coffee drinker*, *tea market*, etc. Its informal tone provided the occurrence of several informal words formed by minor types of word-formation processes, e.g. an example of clipping, word *stats*, a shortened form of *statistics*. Another example is the word *expat* which was shortened from word *expatriate*. A type of a reduced form is represented by a slang word *cuppa*, denoting a cup of tea. Blended forms were also found, e.g. *Nescafé*, from *Nestlé* and *café*, and *Nespresso*, formed from words *Nestlé* and *espresso*. The word *musty* first appeared to be a word formed by suffixation, however, it was discovered that it probably serves as a base for back-formed word *must* denoting mold.

### Article 3

The last article is titled "Coming to America? If it's a Sunday, get ready to queue." It was written by Simon Kelner and selected from *The Independent* where it was posted on July 30, 2013. The whole text is placed in Appendix C as Article 3.

### Derivatives.

**chaotic (2x):** 1. adjective 2. chaos (n) 3. -tic (-ic) 4. Greek 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the noun

**franked (2x):** 1. adjective 2. frank (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the verb

**surprising:** 1. adjective 2. surprise (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbal adjective suffix 6. describes the action

**suppose:** 1. verb 2. pose (v) 3. sup- (sub-) 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. locative, combination of prefix meaning "under" and verb *pose* meaning "to put, to place"; similar to Czech *p edpokládat*

**journalist:** 1. noun 2. journal (n) 3. -ist 4. Greek 5. noun and adjective suffix 6. denotes a person creating journals

**understand:** 1. verb 2. stand (v) 3. under- 4. native 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. in this case, *under* does not mean "below" but expresses Old English meaning i.e. "among, between"; understand thus probably means "stand in the midst of"

**queuing:** 1. noun 2. queue (v) 3. -ing 4. native 5. deverbal abstract noun suffix 6. expresses a process indicated by the verb

**editor:** 1. noun 2. edit (v) 3. -or 4. Latin 5. deverbil concrete noun suffix 6. agentive

**Chinese:** 1. adjective 2. China (n) 3. -ese 4. Italian (from Latin) 5. noun/adjective suffix 6. belonging to

**ago:** 1. adverb 2. go (v) 3. a- 4. native 5. verb prefix 6. point-action prefix, denoting a beginning - "before"

**simply:** 1. adverb 2. simple (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**orderly:** 1. adjective 2. order (n) 3. -ly 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. having the quality of the noun

**eventually (2x):** 1. adverb 2. event (n), eventual (adj) 3. -al, -ly 4. Latin, native 5. denominal adjective suffix, adverb suffix 6. having the characteristics of the noun, in a manner of the adjective

**seated:** 1. adjective 2. seat (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbil adjective suffix 6. resulting quality of the verb

**waiter (2x):** 1. noun 2. wait (v) 3. -er 4. native 5. deverbil concrete noun suffix 6. original meaning of the noun was "attendant", developed into current "attendant who waits at tables"; patient

**laden:** 1. adjective 2. lade (v) 3. -en 4. native 5. deverbil adjective suffix 6. resulting quality of the verb

**increasingly:** 1. adverb 2. increase (v), increasing (adj) 3. -ing, -ly 4. native, native 5. deverbil adjective suffix, adverb suffix 6. performing the action, in the manner of the adjective

**plaintive:** 1. adjective 2. plaint (n) 3. -ive 4. Latin 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the noun

**repeated:** 1. adjective 2. repeat (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbil adjective suffix 6. characterized by the verb

**enquiry:** 1. noun 2. inquire (v) 3. -y 4. Latin 5. deverbil abstract noun suffix 6. result of the action

**only (3x):** 1. adverb 2. one (n) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. suffix denotes "to be like", the word means "unique, solitary", literary "one-like"

**immigration:** 1. noun 2. migrate (v), immigrate (v) 3. im- (in-), -ation 4. Latin, Latin 5. noun/verb prefix, deverbil abstract noun suffix 6. represents preposition *in*, denotes action of the verb



**huddled:** 1. adjective 2. huddle (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. describing the verb

**around:** 1. adverb 2. round (n) 3. a- 4. native 5. noun/adjective/verb prefix 6. denotes preposition *on*

**barely:** 1. adverb 2. bare (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in the manner of the adjective; shift in meaning of the word - means "hardly"

**official (2x):** 1. adjective (noun in the text) 2. office (n) 3. -ial (-al) 4. Latin 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. pertaining to the noun

**firmly:** 1. adverb 2. firm (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**officer:** 1. noun 2. office (n) 3. -er 4. native 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. designates a person from a special characteristic, connected with *office* in the sense of "duty"

**ostensibly:** 1. adverb 2. ostensible (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**advanced:** 1. adjective 2. advance (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. describing the verb

**prosperous:** 1. adjective 2. prosper (v) 3. -ous 4. Old French (from Latin) 5. deverbial adjective suffix 6. describing the verb

**outward-looking:** 1. adverb 2. out (prep) 3. -ward 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. denotes a direction

**British:** 1. adjective 2. Britain (n) 3. -ish 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. meaning "belonging to"

**passenger:** 1. noun 2. passage (n) 3. -n-, -er 4. native 5. denominal concrete noun suffix 6. from *passager*, infix added in 15<sup>th</sup> century; designates person from a special characteristic; used to mean *traveller*, developed into "person travelling in a vehicle"

**phlegmatic:** 1. adjective 2. phlegm (n) 3. -atic 4. Greek 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. characterized by the noun

**tension:** 1. noun 2. tense (adj) 3. -ion 4. Latin 5. de-adjectival noun and deverbial abstract noun suffix 6. denotes a state of being tense

**really:** 1. adverb 2. real (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**short staffed:** 1. adjective 2. staff (n) 3. -ed 4. native 5. denominal adjective suffix 6. "having" (staff with insufficient number of workers)

**morning:** 1. noun 2. morn (n) 3. -ing 4. native 5. denominal abstract noun suffix 6. the noun used to mean "dawn", *morning* thus denotes the process of dawning

**American:** 1. adjective 2. America (n) 3. -an 4. Latin 5. noun/adjective suffix 6. denotes provenance

**impression:** 1. noun 2. press (v), impress (v) 3. im- (in-), -ion 4. Latin, Latin 5. noun/verb prefix, deverbal abstract noun suffix 6. prefix denotes preposition *in*, literary means "press into", denotes "having a strong effect on mind or heart"; suffix denotes a state of being impressed

**utterly:** 1. adverb 2. utter (adj) 3. -ly 4. native 5. adverb suffix 6. in a manner of the adjective

**employee:** 1. noun 2. employ (v) 3. -ee 4. French (from Latin) 5. deverbal concrete noun suffix 6. denotes person who is the object of the action, beneficiar

**visitor:** 1. noun 2. visit (v) 3. -or 4. Latin 5. deverbal concrete noun suffix 6. agentive

**intensify:** 1. verb 2. intense (adj) 3. -ify 4. French (from Latin) 5. verb suffix 6. to make, cause to be

**United:** 1. adjective 2. unite (v) 3. -ed 4. native 5. deverbal adjective suffix 6. denotes quality indicated by the verb

### Converted words.

**queue:** 1. noun > verb

**wait (2x):** 1. verb > noun

**frank (2x):** 1. adjective > verb 2. probably conversion from adjective of obsolete meaning "free, liberal" to verb meaning "to free a letter to carriage", current meaning is "to mark, enable to pass freely"

**journalist (gene):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**book:** 1. noun > verb

**bustle:** 1. verb > noun

**seat:** 1. noun > verb

**immigration (control):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**control:** 1. verb > noun

**Washington (airport):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**snake:** 1. noun > verb 2. the meaning of the verb is based on the movement of a snake, means "to twist, wind"; first appeared in 1875

**way (2x):** 1. noun > adverb 2. denotes a manner in which sth occurs

**official (2x):** 1. adjective > noun - full conversion

**customs (officer):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**process:** 1. noun > verb

**jumbo:** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion 2. means "very large", started to be used in 1880s as a reference to *Jumbo*, London Zoo's elephant

**jet:** 1. verb > noun 2. probably converted from verb meaning "spurt" into noun meaning "stream", developed into "nozzle for emitting water or fuel", later into "jet engine" and subsequently started to be used to denote "airplane driven by jet engine"

**land:** 1. noun > verb

**(British) Airways (flight):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**face:** 1. noun > verb

**sense:** 1. noun > verb

**demand:** 1. noun > verb 2. the noun appeared in 13<sup>th</sup> century, the verb in 14<sup>th</sup> century

**Sunday (night):** 1. noun > adjective - partial conversion

**broke:** 1. verb > adjective 2. from obsolete past participle of *break*

### **Results.**

In the third article, which consists of 580 words, were found 81 analysable words. Majority of them, 53 words, were formed by affixation, 28 words represent an example of conversion.

### ***Affixation.***

Affixation was ascertained in 53 words, from which only 9 contained prefix. Two words, *immigration* and *impression*, possessed both prefix and suffix.

Most of prefixes were classified as class-maintaining (4), 2 fall into the class-changing group. The most frequent prefixes were *in-* or its variant *im-* (2x) as well as prefix *a-* which also occurred two times; prefixes *sub-* and *under-* appeared in one word each. Majority of prefixes denoted location or direction (5x), e.g. prefix *in-* (*im-*) in *immigration* or in *impress*; only one indicated time, i.e. *a-* in word *ago*, meaning "before". Mostly, prefixes were of Latin origin (4x), 2 were native. They attached to verb bases (5x), only one prefix attached to base belonging into the category of nouns.

If we take into consideration Du-ková's presumption (2006) that certain elements may be considered infixes in English, one example was discovered in word *passanger*. The base for suffixation was the word *passage*, which during the development of language also gained infix *-n-*.

Suffixes were attached to 47 words, 3 of them possessed two suffixes. Most of the suffixes were class-changing (48), e.g. *-ese* in *Chinese*, *-or* in *editor*; 4 were class-maintaining, e.g. *-ist* in *journalist*, *-er* in *officer*. Suffix with most frequent representation was adverb suffix *-ly* (13x), as in *utterly*, *firmly*; followed by *-ed* (8x), as in *advanced*, *repeated*. Suffixes *-ing*, *-er* and *-al* appeared 4 times each, other representations were minor. As shown in Table 5, most of suffixes were of native origin; second most frequent were suffixes of Latin origin.

Table 5

*Origin of Suffixes in Article 3*

<u>origin</u>	<u>occurrence</u>
native	30
Latin	14
Greek	4
French (from Latin)	3
Italian (from Latin)	1

***Conversion.***

The most frequent direction of conversion was from noun to verb, which appeared in 8 cases, e.g. *land* in "jets have landed", followed by conversion from noun to adjective which appeared in 7 words, e.g. *Sunday night*. Full conversion was not discovered in this direction, but appeared in the opposite direction, from adjective to noun, i.e. noun *official*, appearing in the text in clause "one of the officials responded". Some less frequent types were also found, e.g. by verb *frank*, which converted from adjective, or word *broke*, which represents very rare type of conversion from verb to adjective.

Table 6

*Conversion in Article 3*

<u>direction</u>	<u>occurrence</u>	<u>partial/full</u>
noun > adjective	7	7/0
adjective > noun	2	0/2
verb > noun	5	-
noun > verb	8	-
adjective > verb	2	-
noun > adverb	2	-
verb > adjective	1	-

Verbs and nouns that could not have been classified according to directionality involved *work*, *ache*, *end*, *surprise*. Although the conversion from verb to noun is generally more frequent, it appeared in more cases in the opposite direction. Several words

are worth mentioning concerning their etymology, e.g. *jumbo*, based on the name of actual animal, *jet*, an airplane which originally denoted spurting water, or verb *snake*, which is based on the movement of the animal.

### Comments on the text.

This text contained fewer varied types of vocabulary with respect to stylistic colouring. The number of words formed by affixation is still considerable; however, the occurrence of conversion was not frequent. Informal language is represented by word *OK*, a word often used nowadays. It is an abbreviation probably formed by jocular misspelling of "all correct" as "oll korrekt", which originated in Boston slang in 1830s, and later attained new meanings. Also, due to conversion it can function as different parts of speech, i.e. adjective, adverb, noun or verb. Another word which appeared in the text, *titbit*, represents a compound denoting "small piece of news or interesting information". Both of its components indicate a small size, but the origin of the formation is unclear.

## COMPLETE RESULTS

This chapter provides complete results which emerged from results of analyses of the individual articles. It also involves description of problematic issues which arose during the analysing procedure, and results in chapter Conclusion which gives answers to the research questions stated in Introduction.

Figure 1 below illustrates the total proportion of words created by affixation and conversion based on the analysis of the three articles. Affixation process prevails over the conversion process, however, in Article 2, the total number of converted words was higher than the number of derivatives. In total, there were discovered 189 words formed by affixation and 126 words which were formed by conversion.

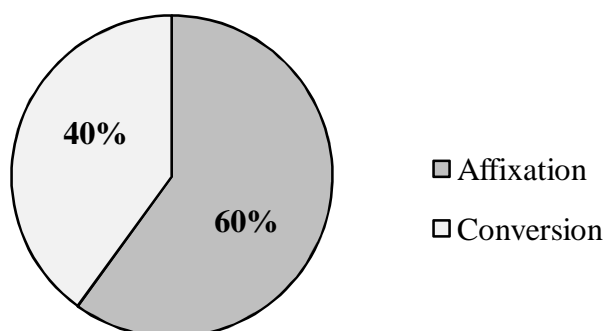


Figure 1. Total proportion of derived and converted words in the texts.

## Affixation

The total number of affixes classified is 202, from which 164 constitute suffixes and 37 prefixes. Furthermore, an infix was detected in word *passanger*. The proportion of prefixes and suffixes is illustrated in Figure 2:

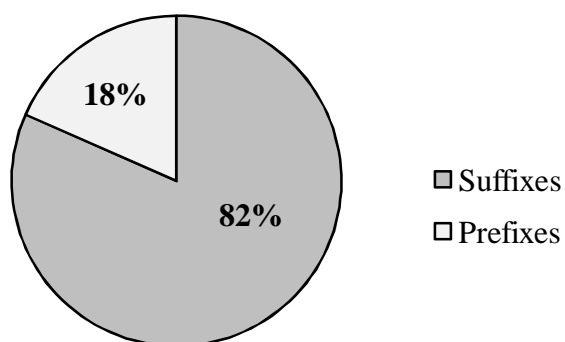


Figure 2. Total proportion of suffixes and prefixes in the texts.

Majority of prefixes were classified as class-maintaining (26), while 11 was class-changing. Prefix which appeared most frequently was prefix *a-* (10x) and in most cases denoted location (7x), followed by *out-*, *in-* and *en-* which appeared each by 4 examples, *be-* (3x) and *re-* (2x). Others were represented by one example. The most frequent were prefixes denoting location (25), cause (5) and negation (3), prefixes with other meanings appeared rarely. Concerning origin, most prefixes were Latin (13), followed by native (7). Latin prefixes that entered English from French appeared in 6 cases, 1 prefix was identified as Greek. In most cases, prefixes attached to verbs (24x) and nouns (12x), only one to an adjective.

Suffixes were in most cases class-changing (146), 18 retained part of speech of the base word. Most frequently occurring suffixes were adverb suffixes *-ly* (28x), followed by *-er* (21x), *-ed* (19x), *-ing* (13x), *-al* (11x) and *-y* (10x). Unlike prefixes, most of the suffixes were of native origin, followed by those which were borrowed from Latin. Suffixes which originated in other languages were also discovered, namely suffixes from French, Greek and Italian. Detailed numbers are to be found in Table 7 below:

Table 7

*Complete Results of Origin of Suffixes*

<u>origin</u>	<u>occurrence</u>
native	110
Latin	35
French (from Latin)	12
Greek	5
Italian (from Latin)	1
Italian	1

**Conversion**

Altogether, 126 words were formed by conversion. Majority of them, 68 words, represent adjectives formed from nouns, from which were almost all classified as partial conversion with only one exception of full conversion. In the opposite direction, conversion process appeared only in 4 cases, but unlike in the previous case, most of the analysed words underwent full conversion. Largely represented was also conversion between noun and verb in both directions. Conversion between other parts of speech appeared only small in number, but it was represented by various types of word classes. Detailed numbers of occurrence of individual directions of conversion are further illustrated in Table 8:

Table 8

*Complete Results of Conversion*

<u>direction</u>	<u>occurrence</u>	<u>partial/full</u>
noun > adjective	68	67/1
adjective > noun	4	1/3
verb > noun	23	-
noun > verb	18	-
noun > adverb	4	-
adverb > adjective	3	-
adjective > verb	3	-
adjective > adverb	2	-
verb > adjective	1	-

**Comments on the Texts**

All articles were rich in terms of stylistically coloured words, comprised number of slang words and varied similes. The first one included probably the most creative vocabulary, while the third was the least varied. During the analysis of words in the texts, a number of examples of words formed by other word-formation processes were discovered,

which demonstrates the creative use of words in chosen articles as well as nature of word-formation processes in contemporary vocabulary.

### **Problematic Issues**

During the analysing process a number of problems were encountered. Concerning affixation, difficulties arose in connection with classification of affixes in different aspects. When analysing prefixes from semantic point of view, Plag's classification appeared to be rather insufficient as it was discovered that most of the prefixes do not fall into stated categories. The reason for this is that they can express a wide range of meanings; therefore it is difficult to determine all categories of their possible meanings. Also, the categories stated in publications include rather marginal meanings of words instead of the meanings of frequently occurring prefixes. Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik's classification of suffixes according to word class they attach to and word class they form also did not cover all suffixes that were discovered in texts; therefore additional sources had to be used for their classification.

In some cases, there were problems with determination of components of words. As was described in the theoretical part, the border between affixation and compounding is not always evident; therefore it may be problematic to decide if a certain component represents affix or a component of compound. An example of such word is *aeroplane*, discovered in Article 3. In this work, it was decided to regard these forms as compounds. Another problem arose with determination of bases. Some words, such as *detriment* or *Antipode* apparently include affix, however, their bases are of foreign origin which can be difficult to state, as they developed and took different forms in languages from which they entered English. Also, the part of speech of some bases may not be determined correctly because due to frequent occurrence of conversion in English, they may appear in various parts of speech. The part of speech of base is evident when it appears with suffix which can only be attached to a certain word class, however, in other cases the part of speech may differ from the one which is stated in the analysis.

In case of conversion, it was mentioned that some words could not have been classified. These words, specifically nouns and verbs, were impossible to classify according to their directionality, as it was unclear which member of the set appeared first. Another problem arose because some converted words, especially those used in slang or words recently coined, e.g. *swan off* or *bang up*, did not appear in dictionaries and if they did, they usually did not correspond with the meaning of the words from the chosen



articles. It was therefore complicated to determine their origin and the base word they developed from. The same problem was encountered also in connection with affixation. E.g. word *doggy*, which occurred in Article 1 in phrase "the doggiest days of summer", was found in dictionary only as an adjective referring to an animal, but it is certain that in this case it indicates different meaning.

## CONCLUSION

As was expected, the process of affixation was more frequent than conversion. However, it was proved that it does not have to be a general rule, as in one of the analysed articles the number of converted words was higher than the number of derivatives, and the occurrence of these word-processes can therefore vary in different texts. Concerning affixation, it was proved that suffixation process appears in English more often than prefixation. After further examination of these processes and their components, it was found that prefixation can be regarded largely as a class-maintaining process, while suffixation is in overwhelming majority of cases a process which changes the part of speech of the base. One of the tasks of the research was to state the frequency of occurrence of affixes with respect to their origin and semantic meaning. It was found that prefixes in English are mostly of Latin origin and in conducted analysis in most cases denoted location or direction. Suffixes were also expected to be of Latin origin; however, the number of native suffixes was considerably higher. The reason for that may lie in the fact that bases of foreign origin were not taken into consideration in the analysis. In the opposite case the representation of Latin suffixes would be at any rate more significant. Mostly, suffixes denoted manner, as majority of them constituted of adverb suffixes.

In case of conversion, the results are to a certain extent contrary to the prior expectations. It was expected, based on the sources used, that conversion would most likely occur in direction from verb to noun, however, this presumption was disproved as the most frequent direction was from noun to adjective. Nevertheless, it was expected that majority of words formed by this type of direction would represent partial conversion, which was confirmed in all analysed word with one exception of full conversion. In the other direction, there were only a small number of words; however, full conversion prevailed over the partial within this type. Apart from common conversion between noun and verb and noun and adjective, examples of conversion between other parts of speech were found, which demonstrates great productivity of conversion in English.

In addition to the two word-formation processes which were the main focus of this work, other word-formation processes were identified during the analysing process. These processes were commented on and the words they formed were further examined with regard to their meaning and form to demonstrate the nature of present-day English. During the analysis of the texts, several problems were also encountered, emerging from different points of view which can be taken on individual features of word-formation and classification of words. Not all of them could have been solved, but the work attempted to describe them and provide explanations of their cause.

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## Appendix A

### **Article 1: "If you're reading this, then you've been shafted by your colleagues"**

Chained to your desk and the only one left as 'work-mates' Instagram holiday pix from exotic shores? Yup, we feel your pain. Nick Curtis on the anguish of August's office prisoners

If you are reading this on cramped, fetid public transport on the way home from a hectic day's toil, firefighting on all fronts to cover for the five or six people who simply aren't there, I want you to imagine my hand extending from the page or the screen to give you a solemn fist-bump expressing equal parts respect and commiseration, like a lifer's jailyard salute. Because, brother, sister, I feel your pain. We are the August prisoners, locked down in London, banged up in our cubicles, shackled to our keyboards through the doggiest days of summer while our so-called workmates swan off abroad or to a little place in the country.

Worst of all, we're innocent, serving time in the hotbox on behalf of others. We've been outranked, outmanoeuvred, outwitted or simply outgunned on the procreation front by our colleagues.

For me, it's the latter case. I don't have children, but I am always acutely aware of the dates of school holidays, as my fecund fellow-workers blockbook them as holiday at the beginning of the year. By the first week of January, the wall-planner looks like a First World War cemetery, littered with ordered battalions of crosses.

The major Christian festivals of Easter and Christmas are no problem — indeed, in the days when the Standard used to publish between Christmas and New Year, I enjoyed the easy martyrdom of offering to work. There was usually nothing to write about so the days were spent shopping, going to lunch and amassing huge amounts of brownie points from grateful colleagues who didn't click that I was having quite a nice time while they were spending nine whole, hellish days of their precious vacation allowance stuck inside with their children and elderly relatives. But summer? Summer is different.

Occasionally, I'll hint that it might be nice if I could go on holiday with my wife in July or August. Sometimes I will strengthen my bid to take time off in the hallowed summer slot by mentioning a milestone anniversary reached, or recounting some horror (job change, car accident, bereavement) for which a holiday would be a balm or salve.

Wham! Down comes the kiddie-card, the top trump in the game of office holiday politics. We're taking little Olli skiing for the first time, Nick! If we don't take these specific weeks off, Cressida and Rose won't be able to meet up again with the little friends they made in Umbria last year, Nick! Jemima's Mandarin tutor can only come with us to Mexico in August, Nick!

And so, once again, here I am.

It's not just the torpid heat that makes life as an August prisoner so trying. You are deluged with work because so many people are away but you can never get anything done because... well, because the people you need to speak to are all away. Bosses inevitably schedule irksome events — a major office move or system upgrade, anything involving long, loud, sustained drilling — for the weeks when they'll be on the beach in Bali or in the cottage in Cornwall.

"I'm surrounded by builders and all my bosses are away," says my friend Sarah, who works for a pharmaceutical company. "Last week, I only managed to get out of the office once, to get a watch battery, and when I got back there were 45 new emails waiting for me."

As with so much of life, the internet has made things worse. It used to be bad enough knowing that a tanned, relaxed workmate would soon walk through the door, bearing tales of watersports or a little restaurant discovered in Arles. Today, August prisoners are treated to a steady and torturing drip-drip-drip of Instagrammed selfies from the sunlounger or Facebook likes for the phrase "sunset cocktails on the terrace :-)".

As we slog on through the endless days, August prisoners cling to the scant but genuine crumbs of consolation, one of which is release from the hell of other families. "Frankly, I think it's bloody brilliant that all the people I would least like to share an aeroplane, beach or hotel with are forced to go on holiday with each other," says Greg, a single, childless lawyer. "And it's more expensive for them too!"

There is also the wriggly twin pleasure of delayed gratification and anticipated Schadenfreude. Because, when the summer jaunts of the bosses and the parents and the clever ones are over, and the grim autumnal weight of work slams down again in front of them, that's when we get to go away. In September, the August prisoners are set free. Me, I'm off to Portugal. See you in October, suckers.

## Appendix B

### **Article 2: "No time for tea? How Britain became a nation of coffee drinkers"**

Tea sales are down ó instant coffee sales are up. But when did we start to favour a latte over a proper cuppa?

Cut me and I bleed tea. Strong builder's, dash of milk, no sugar. So the news that tea sales are in hot water, while Nescafé ó Nescafé, for the love of all that is holy ó is growing in popularity is not easy to swallow.

Research by the Grocer shows that volume sales of shop tea are down by 6% in the past 12 months, while supermarket Nescafé sales have increased by 6.3%. Every year, home coffee systems such as Nespresso gain more willing disciples. We are in danger of becoming a nation of coffee drinkers. Some think we have been seduced by the sweet, milky depths of American coffee culture, and it's easy to see how. Exotica from restaurant menus eventually filter through to the home front ó why should drinks be different?

If our out-of-home habits do have an influence on what we choose to brew indoors, the reason for tea's decline seems as clear as a Jing teapot. Having never had a culture of domestic milky drinks-making (cocoa doesn't count), our coffee habits have been shaped by the pints of cappuccino and calorie-dense gingerbread-flavoured cream-topped nonsense peddled by the big coffee chains. It's almost all we've ever known: for takeaway coffee ó we have always been in the hands of chains such as Costa. Judging by their success we are (connoisseurs and expat Antipodeans excluded) prepared to stay in their expensive embrace. We will drink whatever they make us, and be glad of the chance.

Tea is a different matter. We have more exacting standards. Every British tea drinker who is in possession of both hands and a kettle has spent years perfecting their ideal method. Couples can spend a decade learning how to brew for their mutual delight. Tea is best made by you or someone you have trained. It's not the kind of thing I'm willing to entrust to a half-awake barista with a paper cup and a heavy plastic jug of ó shudder - full-fat milk; I'd rather drink a coffee or (almost) a Peanut Hottie.

But not all tea has suffered the same fate. One brand, Yorkshire Tea, has bucked the trend; their stats show a 6.8% increase in volume sales, which can't all be down to Russell Crowe. Sam Ward, of parent company Taylors of Harrogate agrees that the standard black tea market is in decline. But she says it's not coffee that's to blame. "We're moving more towards a cafe culture, but I don't think that coffee is necessarily affecting the market to the

detriment of tea ó people are just buying different types of tea. The standard black tea market is in decline mainly because people are putting different things, like green and herbal tea, into their baskets. Tea companies are increasing their offerings left, right and centre ó they're looking to widen their nets."

Frankly, if you are foolish enough to enjoy the musty waft of herbal tea, then you're welcome to it. The same goes for the bitter reproach of instant coffee. For each person who walks past the builder's towards the chamomile or the coffee powder, there's one more box of bags on the shelf for those of us who know the true strength of tea. Will you raise your mug to that?



## Appendix C

### **Article 3: "Coming to America? If it's a Sunday, get ready to queue"**

A chaotic wait to have my passport franked threw up a surprising titbit

I am a patient man. Oh, OK then, I'm not a patient man. I suppose it's built into the journalist gene: we want things to happen, and we want them to happen NOW. But at least I understand the practice and etiquette of queuing.

Which is more than can be said for an old friend of mine, an editor of some eminence, whom I was with in a very popular Chinese restaurant in Leeds some years ago. You couldn't book a table, and it was simply a case of waiting in an orderly line until one came free. The restaurant was all noise and bustle, but most of us could work out what was happening: as people left, you'd move up the queue and eventually you would be seated.

This was not good enough for my friend, who, every time a particular waiter rushed past with a tray laden with food, would ask, in increasingly plaintive tones: "Any joy?" Eventually, this repeated enquiry was too much for the waiter, who smashed down the tray he was carrying on a table and, as the restaurant fell silent, screamed at my friend: "Look, I've only got one pair of hands!"

This incident came to mind when I arrived at immigration control at Washington airport the other day. As I stood there for two hours among the huddled masses in a queue that snaked this way and that around the barriers, and barely moved, I ached to ask the officials: "Any joy?" They might have responded, firmly: "Look, we've only got three customs officers!" That's right. This is the capital city of ostensibly the most advanced, most prosperous, most outward-looking country on earth, and they keep people waiting for hours on end to get their passport checked because they haven't got enough people to process them.

It's not as if they were taken by surprise. "Oh my God, three jumbo jets have landed at our airport! Why didn't anyone tell us?" Those from my British Airways flight waited, as you may imagine, with dignity and patience. The passengers who arrived in the hall after us, and faced an even longer wait, were rather less phlegmatic, and you could sense the tension rising. Someone demanded to know why it was so chaotic. "It's always like this on a Sunday night," one of the officials responded.

*What?* Was that really what she was saying? Don't come to America on a Sunday. We're a little bit short staffed. We've got a few people on holiday, and then, guess what,

two others called in sick this morning. What kind of country is this? I will tell you what kind of country it is. It's where they like to tell the rest of the world how to conduct their affairs, and why the American way is the best. And yet your first impression of the place is that it's so utterly broke that they can't afford to pay for a few more public employees so that visitors wouldn't have to stand for hours on end to get their passport franked. However, the joy of getting through the ordeal is only intensified when you hear the words: "Welcome to the United States." Never fails to thrill.

## SUMMARY IN CZECH

Tato bakalářská práce se zabývá popisem a analýzou anglických slovtvorných procesů. Zaměřuje se zejména na dva z hlavních procesů – afixaci a konverzi. Cílem práce je určit četnost výskytu těchto procesů a jejich dalších znaků ve vybraných novinových textech. Afixy byly analyzovány z hlediska formálního, sémantického a z hlediska původu, u slovtvorných konverzí byl zkoumán její směr. Analýzu doprovází komentáře týkající se povahy textů a komentována jsou také slova, která vznikla jinými slovtvornými procesy. Výsledky potvrdily, že afixace se objevuje i u nekonverze, ale ne bezvýhradně, a že tento proces sestává zejména ze sufixace. Zatímco v *-ina* prefix pochází z Latiny a zachovává slovní druh báze, v *-ina* sufix je původu domácího a slovní druh báze mění. Významové prefixy nejvíce vyjadřují místo, naproti tomu sufixy označují způsob. Nejčastěji – *-ím* typem konverze je konverze ze substantiva v adjektivum, která byla téměř ve všech případech klasifikována jako *zájmená*. Úplná konverze pak byla zastoupena především v opačném směru. Kromě hlavních typů konverze bylo nalezeno i množství příkladů konverze mezi dalšími slovními druhy.

Klíčová slova: slovtvorba, afixace, derivace, prefix, sufix, konverze