Structural-Semantic and Functional-Stylistic Characteristics of Vasily Aksenov’s New Coined Words in the 90’s (On the Material of the Collection of Stories «Negative of Positive Hero»)\(^1\)

*Alexandr Vladimirovich Spiridonov\(^2\) & Hossein Sheyki\(^3\)*

**Abstract**

In this scientific article, we study the individual author’s neologisms, extracted from the texts of the collection of short stories “The Positive Hero Negative”, written by V. Aksenov in the 90s. of the 20th century. The methods that the author uses to create these neologisms are established, a semantic characteristic of the named units is given, the functions that they perform are analyzed. In the course of the analysis, it is concluded that the writer constantly uses systemic and non-systemic methods of creating occasionalisms. The former includes prefixation, suffixation, fixation, and addition, while the latter include substitutional derivation and creation. Systemic methods are characterized by the presence of word-formation chains of occasionalisms, as well as a deviation from the language standard. Non-systemic methods are characterized by irregularity and singularity. The functional and stylistic characteristic testifies to the fulfillment of occasionalisms of nominative, interlinguistic, ideological, playful and emotionally expressive functions. The author emphasizes the constitutive nature of the last two for the creativity of V. Aksenov. In general, the study claims that the predominantly casual nature of the derivative structure of neologisms, as well as the playful, emotionally expressive, and ideological connotation of these units are explained by the view of V. Aksenov, an adult of the sixties in the 90s. in Russia, the fundamental changes in which he, after many years of emigration, can observe with his own eyes.

**Keywords:** Occasional Word Formation, Function, Semantics, Typology, V. Aksenov.

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\(^{2}\) Kazan Federal University, Kazan, Russia; aleshandro@mail.ru

\(^{3}\) Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.
1. Introduction

Occasional word-making has been the focus of attention of linguists from the second half of the twentieth century and continues to be actively studied by scientists in the twenty-first century (Brezník, 2013; Šomanová, 2017).

In the vast majority of cases, these units are not reflected in the language system, remaining dependent on the context of a particular work of art. This fact determines the interest of linguists in similar linguistic phenomena. The analysis of individual authors' neoplasms is characterized by multidimensionality, (Astafiev, 2007; Kostina, 2002), scientists study the style of one or several writers (Palekha et al., 2017; Shtyrlina et al., 2018; Bochina et al., 2016), including considering occasionalisms (Byshuk, 2008; Korshunova, 1999; Bahrami Rad & Hosseini (2016). This study belongs to the latter type of work.

The purpose of the article is to establish the structural-semantic and functional-stylistic features of V. Aksenov's occasionalisms of the 90s, compare them with the specifics of the neoplasms of the 70s and 80s, determine the place and significance in the language of the writer.

2. Materials and Methods

The material for the analysis was the texts of stories from the series “The Positive Hero Negative” (hereinafter - PHN), created by the writer in the 90s.

of the 20th century. To achieve this goal, we used the following methods of linguistic analysis: continuous sampling to identify occasional units in the text and subsequent extraction from it, semantic-word-formation analysis to determine the normal and irregular ways of creating neoplasms by the writer, functional analysis to determine the functions of these units.

3. Results and Discussion

We turn to the analysis of the material.

Consider the main methods used by V. Aksenov to create neoplasms. Let us dwell on the usual types.

1. Prefix. There are few occasionalisms created in this way in the texts of V. Aksenov’s works written in the 90s. As in the Uzus, nouns can be created this way, including and conversational: He was nevertheless no less than a railway compartment and even had a toilet crib with shower subcube (PHN).

Model: subcube (open) + sub- with the value of a part of the whole.

In some cases, not a prefix is used as a word-formation tool, but a prefixoid or a unit claiming its status: And the next day he took up innocent Virginia, ... he spoke violently in the manner of double-MKHATa, sometimes plunging his nose into the fringe of a woman ... (PHN). Model: double- + MKHAT.
By prefixing the author, occasional adjectives can also be created: The moment tries to block at the moment, but at the next moment the strange jubilant feeling (PHN) overwhelms it. Model: momentary + out of with the value of the attribute, which is characterized by being beyond what is called the motivating word, cf. since freelance.

2. **Suffix.** There are a lot of new formations created using the suffix in the writer's writings. Let's take a look at some of them. This is how occasionalisms-nouns form: Two tender Turkish athletes were waiting for her: red stub of the neck, shorts, ... antelope legs (PHN). Model: antelopist (iy)(conversational) + -st with the value of an abstract sign.

Adjectives and adverbs are created in this way, often forming word-formation chains:

Vot I lopasti plosko lopatiat lopast':
Stokopitnoletet' Jerebtzu!
Who sent me such an tokopitniy present,
Sam sebia b’ushiy vspishkami shpor? (PHN). Model: sto kopit + -n → stokopitn(iy) + -o → stokopitno.

As it is known, in the ostrich, with the help of the suffix from the verb, participles are formed. We also find confirmation in the work of V. Aksenov. Often this process is complicated by intermittent word-formation: Poirot disappeared, merged with monstrous music that has nothing to do with the past or the present, but only with the terrible, obezsviatoslavlennomu budushemu de-blessed future (PHN). Model: Svyatoslav + obez- -t(f') with the meaning to deprive of what is called the motivating word → * obezsviatoslavit' + -enn.

3. **Commitment.** There are a lot of neoplasms created in this way.

They are occasional verbs. The producing basis in this case may be the same, but the semantics are different: “Da ti vsia posinela, mamochka! - Muse Borisovna put a bowl of hot fat in front of Palmer. - Razbulion’siadear!” (PHN).

Model: bouillon (colloquial) - siatimes with the value to discover what is called the motivating word, cf. with another example of V. Aksenov: It turns out that the main sponsor himself has become stooped, collapsed, zabul'ionilsia in both nostrils of (PHN). Model: bul'ionit' (colloquial) za- -sia.

Note that the production base is often characterized by colloquial connotation: Once, from behind a hillock, four interceptors appeared directly above our heads and instantly dispersed in pairs, zareaktivilis' in the sky (PHN). Model: reactivit' (colloquialza- -sia with the value of the beginning of the action.

In some cases, the confix has an atypical meaning (Habibulina, 2015; Sulistyaningsih, et al, (2019). as in the following section of text: So, it’s mine, and let one nut button be missing .., and let the cuff and floors slightly zavel'vetilis', and let, and let ! (PHN). Model: velvetit' (colloquial za- -sia with the value of
incompleteness, with the usual zabegat'sia with the value of bringing the action to extremes.

4. **Addition.** In the process of creating occasionalisms, the writer uses pure addition, so nouns can be created: V avtomat-dal'nozor a soaring abstraction is visible, like a bird with broken wings, a monument to the dead parachute landing party in 1967 (PHN). Model: Avtomat + dal'nozor → avtomat-dal'nozor in the meaning of "stationary binoculars". Consider another example where the adjective name is created in a similar way: What people and, in particular, men take for kindness, in fact, can only be samoskroennoymaskoy (PHN). Model: samo + skroen(niy → samoskroenniy in the meaning of "homemade".

Addition can be complicated by truncation: Tamoshnie problems, gentlemen, mainly related to the distribution of food, covered by blablabludom on the historical greatness (PHN). Model: blah - blah – blah (colloquialblud.

In some cases, there is an addition with interfixation: On that day, podleishiy martovskiy sliakoden', I wandered into the commission room on the Ring (PHN).

Model: sliakot' + -o- + den' Finally, addition can be complicated by transfection: Snachala bol'shevichki, sverdlovchane, Trotskogradzi, the Kirghiz-like fronzeniata I kotovichki-voroshili iavilis' ogromnoiy parovoznoiy gopoiy (PHN).

Model: Trotsk (city) + city + -o- -ets, s leningradets.

Let us turn to unsuccessful methods.

1. Substitutional derivation: Piterkie virshenostsi then constantly looked for themselves the classic parallels (PHN). Model: orujenoset → [weapon / virsh] → virshenostsi in the meaning the one who wears verses, i.e. one who writes bad poems.

2. Creation. We met only one occasionalism created in this way: For a local girl, an invitation to the castle of the kings miasomolochnogo business was tantamount to some opro-ivonno-vannomu embodiment of the dream (PHN).

It is not clear what the word means, perhaps it replaces an invective expression.

Let us turn to the consideration of the functions performed by individual-copyright neoplasms.

1. **Nominative function.** As already mentioned above, V. Aksenov's occasionalisms can form word-formation chains. So in the following context, the author came up with a relative adjective based on the name Shenandoah Valley: ... ceramic beads constantly reflecting on her chest reflecting the centuries-old culture shenandoaskogo Indian tribe (PHN). Model: Shenandoah + -sk.

In the same way, another adjective name was created (from the name Chuvakin): Jenka je chuvakinskaia , Smaragda ili kak ee tam, bila iz litovskikh karaimov, tak chto vpolne mogla soiyti za puertorikanku (PHN).
Occasionalism, naming doctrines and social movements, can fulfill a naming function: Ekaiya gogoliana, ustalo dumal Misha Belosel'sko-Belozerskiy, ekoe utomitel'noe kafkianstvo, ekaia mamleevshina, ekiyisorokinism! (PHN). Model: Sorokin + -ism.

Vladimir Sorokin is one of the most popular post-modern Russian writers, respectively, *sorokinism is Aksenov's synonym for this literary trend.

The surname of a fictional character can also serve as a production basis: Kakaia - to gnsneishaia k tomu je chichikovshina tut v khodu! Kakoi-to gadvchiyagagachism protsvetaet! (PHN). Model: Vlad Gagachi (character of the story)-ism.

2. **Game function.** This function is significant not only for writers, but also for philosophers (Kopytko, 2007), and for V. Aksenov’s creation of words it has a character that determines throughout the work, including in the 90s.

Most often, the author uses neoplasms with game connotations in order to characterize one or another character, for example, to indicate poor knowledge of the Russian language: Palmer wanted to say hello normally in Russian, but she said something awkward in excitement: "Zdравевич!" (PHN). Model: hello + -евич (i).

The ludic function may be present in occasionalisms created for the purpose of playing for the sake of the game itself: Verlibrom vertelos' blajnoe Verbludo, bludiaverituti bananom na blude, ne tak li?! (PHN). The presence of alliteration and rhyme also indicate the playful character of this word.

1. **Interlinguistic function.** It assumes the presence of borrowed elements in the structure of occasionalism. Basically, the donor is English. This situation is observed not only in Russian, but also in other languages (Kurki, 2012).

In one case, we are dealing with a fully adapted borrowing: He is not to blame, it is a tradition, this is such a true nation, rashenes, a etot mujchina ne vinovat, ne nado pridirat' sia (PHN). Model: Russians (English) → rushenes.

In another case, only one of the elements is borrowed: Flash, flash, fotooppor'tuniti! Yes, here, it turns out, the leading press is present! (PHN). Model: photo + oppor'tunity (from English opportunity) → fotooppor'tunity meaning a good opportunity to take a photo.

2. **Ideological function.** Neoplasms with this connotation are characterized by diversity. With their help, the writer shows his attitude to ideology: Abulfazl Fazal preferred not to mention his mother at all, although she also did not return from that mossadiko-pekhchlevostskoi peredelki (PHN). Model: Mossadyk (Iranian Prime Minister from 1951 to 1953) + Pahlavi (dynasty of Iranian shahs) + -stsk.

More often, these lexical units characterize the situation in the USSR and Russia, which is explained by V. Aksenov’s interest in life in his country.

For example, the writer is rather ambiguous about the era of Gorbachev’s rule: Finally, “gorbovism” begins, dizzying opportunities open up in the world of
international trade in edibles and fertilizers (PHN). In accordance with the word-building model, the author was supposed to create the word “Gorbachevism”, however, V. Aksenov uses another option, deliberately hinting at the “hump” element in the structure of the neoplasm. A similar situation is observed in relation to the era of "perestroika": Where else can the action of the play of the 90s take place?

“Flowers of Evil”, as the then leading philologist of post-Sovietism put it, flourished even on the desks of professional apologists for good (PHN).

Model: sovkism colloquialpost- with a value after what is called a motivating word.

3. Emotionally expressive function. Along with the game, this connotation is one of the main in the structure of neoplasms of the writer. Expression is created using different methods. For example, the producing base may be emotionally colored: Fasal prikril ladoshkoii malen'kiy sharikopodshpinik ukcha, prinadlejashego schwarzenegger-like person: Kesha, na menia naesjauit” (PHN).

Model: Schwarzenegger + -o- + vid(n)yi. Expression can be created by deliberately belittling the Russian word in comparison with a foreign synonym: U nas tut podobnogochetiriechkholesiahere, anyway, but taking only one thing - alas! - not the Russian word SAAREMAA, we pull out of it four of the good pyramids and drive off in memories twenty-seven years ago (PHN). Model: chetire + koles(о) + -ij with collective value. One of the elements of the production basis can be characterized by colloquial and even reduced connotation: Nyman and I looked at each other. It was almost inostranno-obleteraturenny kchutor (PHN). Model: inostrann(iy) + obliteraturen(iy) (colloquial (undecreased.).

Occasionalisms belonging to this group can also be characterized by a certain elevation, belonging to a high style, which is, rather, an exception: Before he could come to his senses, Lev Obnag found himself with the crowd of “istsersantscev” on the stage of the theater ..., whose zenith is hidden underground military-industrial complex at this hour released its poison (PHN). Model: tortured (ti) + -anese meaning martyr.

4. Summary

Thus, occasional creation of Vasily Aksenov of the 90s. characterized by a call to systemic (prefixation, suffixation, fixation, addition) and non-systemic (substitutional derivation and creation) derivational methods.

The former is characterized by the presence of word-formation chains (suffixation), the atypical meaning of individual affixes (confixation), and the variety of word-formation models (addition).

Non-systemic methods are characterized by irregularity and singularity.

The writer's neoplasms perform nominative, interlinguistic, ideological, playful and emotionally expressive functions.
The last two continue to play a decisive role in the creation of V. Aksenov in the 90s.

At the same time, neoplasms with political connotation are becoming increasingly important, which is explained by the importance of this sphere of life for the author.

5. Conclusions

In general, it can be argued that in the texts of the stories of the 90s. V. Aksenov's unique style is embodied: a language game, the use of emotional, expressive and imaginative language means, increased attention to politics and ideology.

This is the style of the matured sixties, who found his place in life, became a famous author, finally got the opportunity to return to Russia and not only observe the ongoing social changes in his country, but also try to influence them by the power of the artistic word.

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References


