

Occasional Derivation as the Result of Creativity of Language Personality (On the Example of Yu. Petukhov's Novel "The Angel of Retribution")¹

*Tatyana Alexandrovna Lukankina*², *Tatyana Yuvenalevna Shchuklina*³,
*Karina Muratovna Amirkhanova*³, & *Thilo Zinecker*⁴

Abstract

The article is devoted to study of word coinage of the Russian science-fiction writer Yu. Petukhov. The theoretical and methodological basis of the study were the work by Yu.N. Karaulov devoted to the theory of language personality; ideas of E.A. Zemskaya, scientists of Kazan Linguistic School, who present a description of Russian word-production mechanism. The purpose of the study is identifying ways of creating word-building occasionalisms in the novel "Angel of Retribution", which has not yet been a subject of a special study, and to present creativity as a product, process, ability and personality property. The study showed that word-building is an important component of Petukhov's idiosyncrasy whose neologisms play a significant sense-forming role, contribute to revealing linguistic consciousness type of the writer's personality, his values system. The novel presents the following productive ways of occasional derivation: semantic fusion, morphological addition, prefixation, clipping of the producing basis, affixoid word formation, substitutional derivation. The most common among the occasionalisms are composites created by words fusion and word stems addition. Occasional nouns are most often used in Petukhov's novel which, on the whole, correlates with general tendencies specific to occasional word formation. The main reason for occasionalisms creation is the need to give names to futuristic objects or phenomena. Their abundance proves that the writer's word-coinage is often experimental, his use of prototype-words and adherence to certain patterns testify to conscious nature of text-creation. The work is topical in terms of clarifying scientific ideas about occasional word formation as a phenomenon of linguistic personality its results contributing to solving problems of lexical derivatology, lexical semantics, neology, language stylistics. Work on the topic seems promising as a further study of word-formation aspects of fiction will allow us

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² Kazan Federal University; tatiana21@myrambler.ru

³ Kazan Federal University

⁴ Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg

to investigate the functional and pragmatic potential of the word-forming resources of modern Russian language.

Keywords: Word Coinage; Occasionalisms; Means of Occasional Derivation; Language Nomination; Language Personality.

1. Introduction

Occasional words have always been the focus of linguists' attention. Since the 60s of the XX century there emerged studies devoted to their broad and systematic analysis (N. Babenko, A. Lykov, V. Lopatin, N. Yanko-Trinitskaya, E. Zemskaya, V. Izotov, R. Namitokova, V. Panyushkin, R. Khanpira and others). Author's neologisms are considered in various aspects: Structural-semantic (Gorovaya, 2018; Spiridonov, 2017), functional-pragmatic (Puchnina, 2013; Timashova, 2011), cognitive (Denisova, 2008; Gorobets et al., 2016), psycholinguistic (Zalevskaya, 1988; Togoëva, 2000), methodical (Smirnova et al., 2014; Martyanov et al., 2016), etc., but the researchers pay special attention to word-building nature of coined words.

One of the main sources of word-formational occasionalisms is intensively developing science fiction. This work is devoted to word-formation of the little-studied science fiction writer Yuri Petukhov, whose works are especially distinguished by the abundance of occasionalisms whose texts are impossible to understand without interpreting. The research relevance is determined by both the "anthropological orientation" and special attention given to the "human factor", the language personality as a unique phenomenon and its role in the formation of the world's linguistic picture, which are characteristic of modern linguistics. The study of word-forming and semantic features of occasionalisms (speech coined words) in fiction helps reveal the features of the writer's ideostyle; it provides new opportunities for investigation of language system's specific laws; it makes it possible to determine changes in Russian word-formation system and to forecast trends in its development.

The aim of the work is to determine ways of creating word-formative occasionalisms in Petukhov's novel "The Angel of Retribution", which has not yet been the subject of a special study, and to present creativity as a product, process, ability and personality property.

The object of research are occasional words used in the novel.

The subject of the study is the process of word creation as a unique phenomenon of language personality aimed at creating a new lexical unit that meets the requirements of a certain communicative act.

The material for analysis was the novel by Petukhov "The Angel of Retribution" from which the author's neologisms were extracted (Escalera Chávez et al., 2019).

2. Methods and Methodology

The research is based on a functional-communicative approach the core of which is the theory of Karaulov's language personality. According to his concept, any text accumulates: a) a segment of the language picture of the writer's world (original lexicon, grammar units, semantic units); b) author's informational thesaurus, aesthetically completed; c) motivational sets of the text's creator.

The study also relies on the concept of active grammar, which implies an analysis of "living ways of creating words"; on scientific researches of O. Gabinskaya, I. Toroptseva, A. Lykova, R. Namitokova, G. Plotnikova, I. Ulukhanova, V. Lopatin, and others, which describe mechanism of the word-production process (Spiridonov, 2017).

The research methodology involves the use of method of linguistic description with elements of interpretation analysis of derived units, continuous sampling of lexical materials, the method of structural and semantic derivational analysis, the method of contextual analysis (in describing the functioning of coined words).

3. Results and Discussion

Word formation is an important component of the idiosyncrasy of the science-fiction writer Petukhov. The functioning of the individual author's neologisms determines uniqueness of his texts. Performing the role of new verbal images, they, together with other language tools, contribute to the interpretation of the work's artistic concept, to the perception of the type of linguistic consciousness of the writer's personality, his system of values. The nomination process is the mechanism of linguo-creative thinking allowing the linguistic personality to show his own understanding of the world through analysis and synthesis of the linguistic form.

Yuri Petukhov's attitude to the world is characterized by the opposition of Russia, the entire Russian ("our own") world to the Western ("alien") one. Word-building devices used by Petukhov are aimed at forming in the reader a certain attitude to the world of the author's desired angle of perception of the surrounding reality. This can be seen in the "Angel of Retribution" novel: this opposition is revealed as a confrontation between the planet Earth and the aliens from another universe.

In the depiction of earthly things, the author uses the language which is most often not coloured emotionally and contains minimum of occasional coined words. The image of Russia is filled with sacred meaning; it is Russia, untouched by the destructive technocratic influence of civilization even in the distant 25th century, where the author sees the last shelter of peace, harmony, the human's last hope to be protected from the destructive influence of the brutal supercivilization of another universe. Nevertheless, Petukhov in his works depicts rather high levels of science

and technology development of mankind (Russians). This progress, from the author's point of view, has not yet reached perfection, but considerably exceeds other nations' potential.

While depicting other peoples, a much larger number of authorial coined words are introduced, which demonstrates their high level of progress. Mostly, these are noun neologisms. The writer's desire to portray the world through the eyes of the twenty-fifth century man and the objectivization of reality led to his production of new words serving as names of the results of scientific and technological progress of future people's civilization.

The following ways of occasional word-formation were found out in Petukhov's novel "The Angel of Retribution":

3.1. The method of semantic fusion

In this way, compound words are formed. Occasionalisms, formed by merging the words of the basic phrase into one lexeme, are very common in the novel. Derived fusions are represented in the text by different groups of nominations, but the most frequent and numerous are:

1. The names of mechanisms and devices: *avtomat-transportnik*, *korabl'-kapsula*, *kapsula-katerok*, *yaitso-prevrashchatel'*, *priemnik-mnemograf*, etc.: *On chuvstvoval, kak yaitso-prevrashchatel' v karmane davit prjamo na pechen'* – about a device of the future, similar in shape to an egg and capable of transforming a person's body into any living creature nearby.
2. Words denoting extraterrestrial beings or inhabitants: *fantomy-upyri*, *drakon-pterodaktil'*, *lishainik-trupoed*, etc. The author calls them sub-human inhabitants of unfriendly planets and compares them with either fairy-tale creatures or dangerous and unattractive terrestrial animals and plants. In the novel's text they receive a negative assessment: *...gonyalsya s kameroy za fantomami-upyryami* (*fantom* - "ghoul", a dead man coming out of the grave and sucking the blood of living people, combined with the word *upir'* – "undead" a bizarre phenomenon, a ghost - creates an unattractive image of extraterrestrial beings).

3.2. The Method of Morphological Addition

In this way Petukhov creates a large number of linguistic nominations, among which are:

1. The names of realities of the military industry: *kosmocrejser*, *kosmolodochka*, *shlemofil'tr*, *koburoyachejki*, *kosmoletchik* and others:

2. "...- i poverx maski-respiratora natyanul prozrachnyj **shlemofil'tr** (*shlemofil'tr* is a part of the cosmonaut's equipment protecting it from penetration of harmful substances into the respiratory system).
3. Names of new organizations, enterprises, whose emergence is a result of scientific and technological progress and a new system of relations in society: *kosmoflot*, *kosmosovet*, *ridoriocentr*, *kosmolaboratoriya*, and others: ... *ezheli kakaya-nibud' lyagushka zaprygnet v reaktor vashikh dopotopnykh termoyadov ili v kakoi ridoriotsentr* (*ridoriocentr* is a centre of *ridorium* processing, a lexical unit, standing for valuable ore extracted in extraterrestrial mines).
4. Names of extraterrestrial beings (reasonable beings or creatures endowed with intellect), comparing them with terrestrial animal species. The new word mainly combines qualities or characteristics of two types: *ptitsekal'mar*, *sprutokrokodil*, *klyko-zhvaly*, *paukomonstr* and others: *Bryukhom paukomonstr napominal neveroyatno raz"evshuyusya gigantskuyu lichinku zhuka* (the coined word has a negative connotation, which reveals its nature: it is cunning, devoid of any humane feelings, with perfect hunting skills - the ideal opponent of the hero).

3.3. Affixoid Word Formation

Occasionalisms, formed by adding affixoids - morphological elements, developing in the direction from stems to affixes, in the novel serve to name various mechanisms, instruments, devices: *avtoannigilyator*, *biokiber*, *gravilet*, *luchemet*, *gravizashchita*, *gravipole*, *gravishchit* et al: *Ivan vzyal luchemet naizgotovku* ("luchemet" is a gun emitting beams).

3.4. Clipping

In the novel, there are some cases of derivative words clipping (*vizor*, *kiber*): ... *to li iz syuzhetov fil'mov i postanovok vizorov* (*vizor* is an invention of the future technology in the writer's fantasy works; the name of the modern invention - TV - was a motivating word for *vizors*).

3.5. Prefixing

A notable feature in the use of Petukhov's using this method is that by depicting extraterrestrial civilization he reflects his ambivalent attitude toward other nations: on the one hand, it is respect for advanced human technologies, high level of scientific and technical progress, on the other - a negative assessment of all non-Russian, through the demonstration of degeneration, almost extinction of another

universe's inhabitants, through the cruel use of these achievements of technology against less developed neighbors. The writer reveals the falsity and ostensibility of achievements of the supercivilization of the neighboring universe: the development of alien science is wholly directed at resolving military occupation tasks. This dualism in the derivational aspect is revealed in the use of derivatives in conjunction with elements *kvazi-*, *psevdo-* (*kvazioblasti*, *kvaziyarusy*, *kvazitsentr*, *kvaziurovni*, *pseudosneg*, *pseudosvet*, etc.) and *sverkh-*, *super-*, *mega-* (*sverkhsivilizatsiya*, *sverkhprostranstvo*, *sverkhreal'nost'*, *superskafandr*, *superkreiser*, *megaannigilyator*, etc.)

The author emphasizes extraterrestrial civilizations' hostile attitude towards mankind with the help of coined words with a prefix *ne-* which is occasional in the book's context: *nezemlyane*, *negumanoid*, *neagressivnost'*: *A pro vas pogovarivayut, chto vy vlezli v dela, gde zameshany nezemlyane; Negumanoid podoshel k nemu...*

3.6. Substitutional derivation

To produce words denoting living beings, Petukhov resorts to such an unusual method of word-formation as substitutional derivation: *zveronoid*, *khomozavr*, *ekskavazavr*, etc.: *Khomozavry byli chudovishchno strashny...* (*Khomozavry* are extraterrestrials of huge size, like dinosaurs, at the same time, endowed with reason, equal in mind to homo sapiens).

4. Summary

Authorial neologisms in Petukhov's novel "The Angel of Retribution" are a phenomenon of the writer's idiosyncrasy. They play a significant semantic role, help a reader to understand the author's concept, take special vision of the writer's world, allow us appreciate his skill in choosing the means for the linguistic framing of content.

Among productive ways of occasional derivation were found out the following methods: semantic fusion, morphological addition, prefixation, clipping of the producing basis, affixoid word formation, substitutional derivation. But the most frequent are occasional composites created by means of fusion and addition.

Most often occasional nouns are used by Petukhov in his novel's text. On the whole, this fact is correlated with the general tendencies peculiar to occasional word formation. The reasons for production of occasional words are: the desire to create a vivid and unusual image, an attempt to convey the character's feelings, his speech features or psychophysiological states. But still the main reason is the need to give names to science fiction (futuristic) objects or phenomena.

The abundance of occasionalisms in Petukhov's novel "The Angel of Retribution" allows us to assert that the writer's writing is often of an experimental nature, and the author's use of prototype-words and adherence to certain patterns

indicate not spontaneous, but a conscientious character of his word creation, which is based on the writer's sense of style and inner convictions. The writer's word-creation process became an expression of his immediate reaction to everything happening around him, and a desire to draw the attention of others to him. However, although the new words are connected with social factors, they are subjective and express a bright personal nature. Specific features of Petukhov's coined words are determined by peculiarity of the world picture which prevails in the author's individual consciousness.

5. Conclusions

Occasional word formation is one of the most important effective and rapidly developing mechanisms of Russian derivational system. Occasionalisms demonstrate the word-formation potential of the language, predicting the semantics and structure of linguistic innovations (neologisms), which may appear under the influence of extralinguistic reasons, and give an idea of the writer's creative style and peculiarities of his idiosyncrasy.

Wordformation of a linguistic personality is a verbalized manifestation of the occasionality of the thought process, which is capable of influencing the personality's behavior and nature of its perception by others. Occasional word is an indicator reflecting the degree of person's interest in any given phenomenon, as well as the significance of this phenomenon in person's values system.

The study of the occasionalisms of science fiction is of interest both within the framework of a general study of occasionality phenomenon and for the study of artistic features of science fiction works in general and the creative manner of each of the science fiction writers in particular.

The practical significance of the work lies in the fact that the results of the research can be used in teaching the courses "Linguistic analysis of the text", "Stylistics", in the development of special courses on topical problems of neology and word formation.

Work on the stated topic seems promising. Activation of occasional word-formation in the near future will require further study of the word-building aspects of fiction texts that allow us to explore the functional and pragmatic potential of the word-formation resources of the modern Russian language.

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