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**Аннотация**

к выпускной квалификационной работе

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на тему: Когнитивные механизмы формирования сложных существительных в современном английском языке СМИ

*Key words*: conceptual integration,conceptual integration network, blend, mental spaces, frame, cognitive mechanism, metaphor, metonymy, and metaphtonymy.

The present thesis is devoted to the study of cognitive mechanisms of forming compound nouns in modern Mass Media English. A review of the traditional studies of the processes of compounding in the English language shows that a more extensive study of the subject is needed, as compounding is one of the most productive means of word formation that is actively engaged in shaping the modern lexicon of the English language. In addition, advancements in cognitive linguistics require that this subject be studied within the paradigm of the cognitive approach. Cognitive methods prove to be an effective tool for a more thorough analysis of the mechanisms involved in the process of creation of compound words. Thus, the relevance of this study is determined by the need of further developments of the cognitive methods of studying and analysing the process of English compounding, specifically the development of the Theory of Conceptual Integration applied to the analysis of the process of nominal compounding in English.

*The structure* of this thesis includes an introduction, a Literature Review section, which provides an overview of the traditional approaches to the study of the process of compounding in the English language and contains information on the peculiarities of modern Mass Media English; a Methodology section, which outlines the key aspects of the Theory of Conceptual Integration with relevance to this research and considers the conceptual mechanisms that underlie the process of nominal compounding in English; a Results section, which supplies an analysis of compound nouns retrieved from news texts in quality British newspapers with regard to the cognitive mechanisms that are activated in the process of their creation, a discussion of the results, a conclusion, and a bibliography.

Therefore, the *subject* of this research is cognitive mechanisms that underlie the process of creation of compound nouns in modern Mass Media English. The *object* of this research is the compound nouns used in modern Mass Media English on the example of texts from the sections News (UK, World) in on-line versions of the British quality broadsheet newspapers ‘The Independent’, ‘The Guardian’, and ‘The Telegraph’. *The main aim* of the present paper is to analyse the cognitive mechanisms that are activated in the process of creation of compound nouns in modern Mass Media English, in particular those of metaphor, metonymy and metaphtonymy. To achieve this aim, the following research *methods* were applied: the method of conceptual and frame analysis, the method of word formation analysis, the definitional analysis based on the lexicographic sources of the on-line version of the Oxford Dictionary and on the Cambridge Dictionaries Online.

Conclusion: The study of the sample material provided evidence for the main subdivision of compound nouns into non-idiomatic and idiomatic according to the cognitive processes involved in their creation. It was established that the majority of compound nouns used in the analysed texts can be identified as non-idiomatic due to the constraints of accessibility and comprehensibility imposed by the text genre (e.g. *ceasefire, self defense*). Idiomatic compound nouns, which presuppose the activation of the cognitive mechanisms of metaphor, metonymy or metaphtonymy in the process of their creation, are less numerous in the given type of texts. Metaphor proved to be the most productive cognitive mechanism of compounding in English (e.g. *dog-whistle tactic, revolving door, toehold strategy*), followed by metonymy as the second most productive mechanism (e.g. *palace coup, health tourism*); metaphtonymy proved to be the least productive mechanism activated in the process of creation of compound nouns used in the analysed texts (e.g. *brain drain, green rush*). Two levels of operation of the cognitive mechanisms of metaphor and metonymy could be identified: the mechanisms of metaphor and metonymy can occur either prior to the operation of conceptual integration (e.g. *honeymoon period; breadwinner*), or within or posterior to this operation (e.g. *pantomime horse; sabre-rattling*). In addition, the results of the study allowed to support the proposition that the principle of analogy is the main principle that governs the process of compounding. Due to certain limitations of the given type of texts, it can be advised to expand the selection of language material for analysis in order to be able to provide more comprehensive conclusions about the cognitive aspects of compounding in modern Mass Media English, and in the English language in general.

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