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*T. L. Karavaeva***STRUCTURAL AND SEMANTIC TYPES OF EPONYMS**

The article is dedicated to the analysis of modern eponymic processes. Structural and semantic classifications of eponyms are suggested. The first classification embraces six traditionally deciphered types, and a new one is added — abbreviations, while the second classification is enlarged from two to eight types.

Key words: *eponym, eponymic name, structural type, semantic type, source.*

People can give an individual name to any entity or concept, but we do this in a very selective way. There seems to be an intuitive scale of 'nameability' which motivates us to name things on the basis of their closeness or relevance to our lives [2:154]. Many ways exist that makes elements of the language turn into names — but there is a contrary process when names are used in the formation of new lexemes. When a personal name is used in this way, it is known as an **eponym**, and the process as **eponymy** [2:155]. In science the most famous laws, rules, theories are eponymous: they are known by the names of the scientists who invented or discovered them. Still the natural history of eponymy displays some unexpected and unusual patterns according to D. de B. Beaver [1:89].

A new paradigm for the interpretation of Plato's early and middle dialogues as a unified literary project, displaying an artistic plan for the expression of a unified world view is suggested by Ch.H. Kahn, who states: «The relation Plato calls **eponymia**: that sensible things are 'named after' the corresponding Form ... Some such semantic relation may be regarded as implicit in the distinction between beautiful things and Beauty itself, when taken in conjunction with the claim that only the Form itself is truly beautiful [3:353].

R. E. Allen and, more recently, Thomas W Bestor, have each argued that Plato's **eponymy theory** of ordinary predication implies that self-predication statements are identity statements, logically different from ordinary or eponymous predication statements. Their thesis thus implies that the theory of Forms is unscathed by the attack of the third man argument. In this dissertation it is argued that although self-predications are in fact identity

statements, the eponymy theory requires that Forms be classified with their participants — contrary to the claims of Allen and of Bestor — because the two sorts of statements are of the same fundamental kind. Thus, **eponymy** does not rescue the theory from the third man. C. Steinberg offers a solution to the problem of self-predication in Plato's middle theory of Forms. By examining *Cratylus*, some of Plato's philosophical concerns during the middle period, and a very promising recent analysis of Plato's notion of a name, the author shows that Plato views a name as a non-descriptive linguistic tag having only denotation [6].

Structurally and semantically eponyms differ. Eponyms may be grouped traditionally into at least six structural types: simple eponyms, compounds and attributive constructions, suffix-based derivatives, possessives, clippings and blends, the division being suggested by McArthur [4:378]. Though development of new scientific branches, namely computer engineering and programming, calls for the creation of one more type of eponyms — abbreviations — that is used increasingly.

Simple eponyms are proper nouns that have been re-categorized as common nouns, often having the plural form, such as: *boycott* — the practice of boycotting is named after the British land agent, Charles C. Boycott, in County Mayo, Ireland, ostracized in 1880 for refusing to reduce rents. Such common nouns may also be part of collocations: to impose a *boycott*, to lift a *boycott*; it may also behave as a transitive verb: (to) *boycott* — to avoid or prevent trade or dealings with, as a means of intimidation or protest: to *boycott* the elections¹.

According to Th. McArthur's pattern, the eponym in compound nouns is the modifier of the common noun, for example, *Turing machine* named after Alan Turing, a contemporary British mathematician, *Wagner Act* (1935) which enabled unions to grow into extremely large and powerful organizations, named after the U. S. politician Robert F. Wagner, or *Gallup poll* — a representative sampling of public opinion awareness concerning a certain issue, named after the U. S. statistician G. H. Gallup.

Possessive constructions include compounds consisting of personal names in the possessive case associated with different terms. The examples are numerous, most well-known among which being *Abraham Lincoln's Ru-*

¹ Examples are mostly selected from Trahair R. C. S. From Aristotelian to Reaganomics: a Dictionary of Eponyms with Biographies. — Westport: Greenwood Publishing Group, 1994. — 721 p.

mination: Tell the truth and you won't have so much to remember; *Murray's Law*: If written correctly, legalese if perfectly incomprehensible; *George Bernard Shaw's Observation*: Those who can — do. Those who cannot — teach; *Taft's Law*: If «pro» is the opposite of «con», then «Progress» is the opposite of «Congress», *Brooks's Law*: «Adding manpower to a late software project makes it later».

Often eponyms are the result of suffixation, which are added to proper names, producing nouns, adjectives and adverbs. The active suffixes in the creation of eponyms are mainly -ian, -ism, and -ist, for instance, *Machiavellian*, *Machiavellianism*, *Machiavellism*, *Machiavellianly*, *Leninism*, *Marxism*, *McCarthyism*, *Gaussian X* (a computing term named after Johann Carl Friedrich Gauss), *comstockery* — an overzealous censorship of literature and other forms of art, was coined by George Bernard Shaw in reference to Anthony Comstock.

Clippings are used to create eponyms much less frequently, though are still observed: *dunce* was coined from the middle name and beginning of the last name of the Medieval Scottish theologian John Duns Scotus, whose rivals called him a fool, or *Casper* is a colloquial word for a computer protection program Caspersky, named after the founder of the company and inventor of this program Eugene Caspersky.

A blend or portmanteau word is a word made by putting together parts of other words. Examples in case are: *Nixonomics* (Nixon + economics) refers to President Nixon's economic policies, especially from an opposing political viewpoint; *Reaganomics* (Reagan + economics) is used to denote and describe the economic policies of U. S. President Ronald Reagan during the 1980s [5], *gerrymandering* is the practice of dividing a city, state, or country into voting districts in an unfair way to enable the party in power to retain its control. This word entered the English language in 1812 to describe the redistricting of Massachusetts by its governor, Elbridge Gerry, *marconigram*, *marconigraph* — he great electrical engineer and inventor Marchese Guglielmo Marconi (1874–1937) gave the world wireless telegraphy, a form of communication of extreme usefulness, *marmalade* appeared when Mary, the Queen of Scots (1542–1587), was out of sorts, the only food that could tempt her was a conserve of oranges, for which she had an inordinate fondness. Hence the name of this jam after the queen's indisposition: *Marie malade* («sick Mary»), which, with time, became marmalade.

It appears necessary to introduce one more structural group of eponyms — those based on abbreviations. The recent growth of science, especially computing, has brought into existence this new way of eponymic formation, for example, *AWK* is named after Alfred Aho, Peter Weinberger, Brian Kernighan and denotes a Unix-based text/handling/macro programming language, *KPM algorithm* acquired its name due to Donald Knuth, Vaughn Pratt, James Morris, meaning a very efficient string matching algorithm that minimizes the number of matches that are tried, *LZW compression* got named after Abraham Lempel, Jakob Ziv, Terry Welch, who invented a widely used and efficient data compression algorithm, *RSA encryption* owes its name to Ronald Rivest, Adi Shamir, Leonard Adleman, inventors of a widely known and used asymmetric encryption algorithm.

As can be judged from the examples, abbreviation rarely functions separately. More frequently abbreviation functions as the modifier to another noun. Notable is the source for the abbreviations — names of creators only.

The donor areas for the creation of eponyms are different [7:18–19], because proper nouns comprise different classes of names: names of people or anthroponyms, geographical names or toponyms, names of beings connected with some religion or mythology or theonyms, etc. First names function as the donors for eponymous words quite frequently, although last names fulfill this function more often. First names as well as middle names and nicknames have one common feature from the viewpoint of their ability to turn into eponyms — a prominent bearer, as in the examples below:

Platonic (love) comes from the name of the Latin philosopher Plato and stands for a nonphysical attraction between a man and a woman, sometimes called platonic friendship. This notion of friendship is loosely derived from views stated in Plato's *Symposium*, in which he tells of the pure love of Socrates for young men. In 1626 in England, platonic love, the love of friendship only, came to be applied only to a love between a man and a woman, and the talk between them was called *platonics*.

Simony is the crime of buying and selling ecclesiastical offices or favors. The word is seldom used today, and then only in a religious context. Simon Magus, a Samaritan sorcerer, is responsible for this eponymous term.

Last names are incredibly productive in the creation of eponyms, which is well understood, since it is the last name that better individualizes the person, simultaneously allowing his family, creations, inventions, etc. «to borrow» the name:

Ohm is used as a physical term, acquiring its name from Georg Simon Ohm.

Pasteurize owes the name to the inventor of the process, Louis Pasteur, French chemist and microbiologist

Pickle can be traced to one William Beukelz or Beukel, a fourteen-century Dutch fisherman who was known as the first to «pickle» food. Though Beukel pickled fish, his name, mispronounced slightly, came to apply to pickled cucumbers.

In the previous paragraph the given examples were based on real people's names, possessing though different degrees of prominence. At the same time it should be stated that unreal, virtual, mostly literary characters sometimes donate their names to eponyms, as in the following examples:

Pantaloons, pants — the forebear of these articles of dress can be traced to the baggy trousers worn by a character in the Italian commedia dell'arte, who in his turn got the name from the patron saint of Venice—San Pantaleone.

Tam-o'-shanter, tam, the standard headgear of Scots ploughmen, was a shortened form of tam-o'-shanter. This cap was usually made of wool or cloth, and while fitting snugly to the head and around the brow, it was wider than the headband. Its distinctive mark was a pompom or a tassel in the center. Its name derives from Tam O'shanter, the hero of a Robert Burns poem (1789).

Mythological and religious conscience is an inherent part of the human brain. Consequently, names of gods, angels, demons, all types of mythological creatures have always been well-known, widely used and a considerable percentage of them turned into eponyms.

Names of gods from various religions often produced eponyms, either naming connected with them relatives or some distinctive artefacts, features, etc.:

Panic, pandemonium — are both connected with the name of Pan, in the Greek religion a god of forests and fields, of flocks and shepherds, came from disputed parentage. He is represented with the torso of a man and the legs, horns, and ears of a goat. Because he dwelt in the woodlands, any weird sound or eerie sigh emanating at night from the mountains or valleys was attributed to him. Pan was a mischievous creature and loved to dart out of underbrush and shout at people just to startle them. A panic is caused by overpowering fear.

Panacea, hygeia — the Roman god of medicine, Aesculapius, had seven daughters, among them Panacea and Hygeia, both of whose names have passed into common usage in English.

Phaeton is an open four-wheeled carriage drawn by a pair of horses and designed to accommodate two persons plus driver. It was a popular means of transportation during the nineteenth century. It is also the name for an early type of open automobile. The name for these means of transportation was taken from the name Phaeton, the son of Helios, god of the sun.

Panaceas's name means «all-healing.» The Greek form of her name was *Panakeia*, from *pan*, meaning all, and *akeisthai*, to heal. Hence the word *panacea* came to mean a cure-all, a universal medicine or remedy.

Heroes also gave their names to the noble task of enlarging the English word-stock, though it happened quite rarely, for example:

Berserk came from Norse mythology has come the word *berserk*, meaning «deranged» or «raging» or «crazed.» Berserk, a legendary Norse hero of the eighth century, always went into battle without armor and was famed for the savagery and reckless fury with which he fought. In old Scandinavian, *ber-serk* probably meant «bear-shirt,» that is, one clothed only in his shirt and not protected by armor or heavy clothing.

Besides gods mythology and religions comprise a variety of other creatures, sometimes giving life to eponyms. Below are several well-known eponymous words based on their names:

Chimeric, chimerical in today's language means visionary, fantastic, unreal, or wildly improbable. The word stems from a mythological story of a she-monster named Chimera. This fire-breathing monster was represented as spewing flames and usually as having a lion's head, a goat's body, and a dragon's tail.

Siren is the sound-producing device that was invented by the French physicist Charles Cagniard de la Tour in 1819. His invention determined the frequency, or number of vibrations per second, corresponding to a sound of any pitch. Sirens are now used only as signals. In Greek mythology, Sirens (from *sirenes*, meaning «entanglers») lived on an island off southern Italy. They were mythical monsters, half woman and half bird, who, by their sweet singing, lured mariners to destruction on the rocks surrounding their island.

Not only living or quasi-living beings possess the ability of creating eponyms, but place names, or toponyms, as well. A certain phenomenon being connected to a certain area might acquire its name, as in the examples:

Sybarite comes from a region in southern Italy, and founded a city that they named Sybaris. Its inhabitants followed such a liberal policy of admitting people from all lands that the city flourished and was soon noted for its wealth and luxury. In fact, no other Hellenic city could compare with Sybaris in prosperity and splendor.

Solecism — a grammatical mistake, a blunder, or any deviation from correct idiom is, in English, termed a solecism. The word's history can be traced to the Greek city of Soloi in ancient Cilicia, which was in what is today southern Turkey.

Bikini — a skimpy two-piece swimsuit appeared in 1947, when bikinis were first seen on the beaches of the French Riviera, a year after the United States began testing atom bombs on the Bikini atoll of the Marshall Islands.

Cologne, a city on the Rhine, where «*eau de cologne*» was first made, was founded in 38 B. C. as Ara Ubiorum. When the city became a Roman colony in A. D. 50 its name was changed to Colonia Agrippina in honor of the Roman empress Agrippina Minor, who was born there. Later the French modified the name to Cologne, and that is the way it has remained in English.

Cities, islands, some larger geographical units cannot boast with the exclusive right to produce eponyms. So-called **microtoponyms**, i.e. names of streets, lanes, parks, buildings, monuments and the like once in a while demonstrate the same ability, the examples though being scarce:

Pasquinade is a witty lampoon or squib, having ridicule for its object, written anonymously, and posted for all to see, or a satire mocking someone that is published in a vehicle of general circulation. Anyone who pins up an unsigned note on the bulletin board, hoping the boss will see it, has posted a pasquinade. In 1501 in Rome a mutilated ancient statue was unearthed, restored, and placed near the Piazza Navona. Some say it was a statue of a Roman gladiator named Pasquino. Others contend that the statue was named after Pasquin, a barber noted for his caustic wit, whose shop was near the field where the statue was found.

Fictitious toponyms, i.e. those that appeared in a myth or literary work, rarely serve as donors to eponyms:

Serendipity, *serendipitous* — Horace Walpole coined the word serendipity, which he used in a letter addressed to a friend dated January 28, 1754, and formed from the title of a Persian fairy story, The Three Princes of Ser-

endip. This was a happy coinage, for in their travels the princes of Serendip repeatedly discovered, by chance, rewards they were not seeking.

Examples of things, lifeless objects having proper names are known, as the *Holy Grail* or *Big Ben*. Such names are called **chrematonyms**. Several eponyms are known to have originated from chrematonyms, as in the following paragraph:

Palladium, Palladian — Pallas Athena, called Pallas Minerva in Latin, perhaps is so named from the spear she brandished. In classical legend, the wooden statue of Pallas, in the citadel of Troy, which was said to have fallen from heaven, preserved the safety of the city. From this notion has come the general meaning of palladium—a safeguard on which anyone or anything can depend. The Trojans knew this legend well. After Odysseus and Diomedes stole the statue, Troy fell.

Another source of eponymy is presented by **ergonyms** or names of groups of people, united by their educational, professional, ideological, confessional, etc. interests. Names suited to the occupations of their owners in this way are sometimes known as **aptonyms**, as *Draper* is understood as a dealer in dry goods, *Dresser* as a surgeon's assistant in a hospital. The difference between aponyms and eponyms lies in the opposing **nomination::denomination** processes, the latter turning into appellatives completely, for example:

Zeal, zealot — is defined as earnest enthusiasm, especially for a cause. The original Zealots, members of a religious sect, were dedicated to protecting a piece of ground, even at the expense of their lives. The Zealots, first-century fundamentalists, were a Jewish sect founded by Judas of Gamala, who fiercely fought for God's law against the Romans, who opposed it.

Eponymy is the new Park Slope store that has one of New York's finest small collections. Prada eveningwear mingles with Chanel jackets from the 1940s and there is a fluffy selection of cocktail frocks that are pure fifties froth.

Ideonyms are the names of spiritual and intellectual human creations, such as names of literary works, musical pieces, sculptures, paintings. They might become eponyms, but it happens very seldom:

Pamphlet — a Latin poem titled Pamphilus was famous in the twelfth century. The author of this Latin poem is unknown, but the verses, some three pages in length, became the best-known piece of literature in the Middle Ages.

Brand names of popular products create a huge variety of eponyms. Any sweet gas water may be called Coca-Cola, any car may be (ironically)

names Mercedes, the list being almost endless. A **proprietary eponym** could be considered a brand name (trademark or service mark) which has fallen into general use. Some very widely used eponyms based on trade marks/brand names are offered in the next paragraphs:

Xerox — a photocopy produced by an electronic xerography machine produced by Xerox Corporation or a machine itself.

Lego — plastic, snap-action building block(s) produced by The Lego Group.

Levis, Levi's — jeans created by Levi Strauss during the California Gold Rush.

Google — to perform a Web-based search-engine query powered by Google, Inc.

As may be seen from the article various types of proper names are able to turn into eponyms. The donor areas for the creation of eponyms are different, because proper nouns comprise different classes of names: names of people or anthroponyms, geographical names or toponyms, names of beings connected with some religion or mythology or theonyms, chrematonyms, ergonyms, ideonyms and commercial brand names.

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СТРУКТУРНО-СЕМАНТИЧЕСКИЕ ТИПЫ ЭПОНИМОВ

Статья посвящена анализу современных эпонимических процессов. Предложены структурная и семантическая классификации эпонимов, причем первая включает шесть традиционно выделяемых типов и один новый, а именно аббревиатуры; в то время как семантическая классификация ранее состояла только из двух типов, а предлагаемая в статье — из восьми.

Ключевые слова: эпоним, эпонимическое название, структурный тип, семантический тип, источник.

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СТРУКТУРНО-СЕМАНТИЧНІ ТИПИ ЕПОНІМІВ

Статтю присвячено аналізу сучасних епонімічних процесів. Запропоновані структурна та семантична класифікації епонімів, зокрема до першої до шести традиційно виокремлюваних типів додається ще один, а саме аббревіатури, семантична ж класифікація раніше складалася лише з двох типів, а та, що пропонується у статті — з восьми.

Ключові слова: епонім, епонімна назва, структурний тип, семантичний тип, джерело.