

### Conversion as a productive way of word formation in aviation discourse

*The article deals with a conversion of English lexical units as a process of word-formation in aviation discourse, foremost with its role in the formation of aviation vocabulary and terminology.*

Word formation is a specific branch of linguistics, which studies the structure of words and the ways they are formed. Among the huge variety of these ways, conversion is one of the most common one in English. Taking into account the analytic nature of the English language, conversion is now considered to be very inherent to English and a specifically English way of word formation that distinguishes English from the other languages.

In linguistics conversion is a kind of word-formation, involving the creation of a word by shifting or converting one word that belongs to a certain part of speech into the word from another part of speech with no changes and affixes. Lots of linguists call it quite a serviceable and productive way of word formation, where one word can have the characteristics of a number of parts of speech. Philosophers and logicians state that conversion as a linguistic phenomenon arises from the reverse relations between the lexical units. The reverse relations that form the language category of conversion not only indicate the presence of these relations in the language system, but also emphasize the importance in their realization in syntagmatic and paradigmatic structures of a language system. There are some types of conversion: 1) verbalization (noun to verb conversion); 2) substantivization (verb to noun conversion); and 3) adjectivization (where words are converted into adjectives) [3].

There are two main types of conversion, which frequently occur in scientific texts of all the fields, including aviation: substantivization and verbalization. In aviation terminology there is a great number of words formed according to the principles of these types of conversion. These words usually have the same form but in different syntactic situations they can play the role of a notion or an act. For example, let's take the word "record". In the case of being a verb, "to record" means "to set down or register in some permanent form": "*The flight plan records the callsign and the number of people on board*" - "*У плані польоту реєструються позивні літака та кількість пасажирів на борту*". If it happens to be a noun in a sentence its meaning is the following: "a piece of information written on paper or stored on a computer". Let's consider it in a sentence: "*A log is a written record of a flight, flying hours, maintenance check, etc, for an aircraft, engine or propeller*" - "*Бортівий журнал це журнал реєстрації рейсів, годин нальоту, процедур технічного обслуговування тощо літака, двигуна або гвинта*". This is a good example of substantivisation, where the noun copies the form of the verb. There is a logic connection between them: both of them are somewhat connected with registering and storing data [2].

The opposite situation can be observed in verbalization. The word, that is primarily a noun converts into a verb, in most cases, preserving the semantics of a noun. Let's take the word "impact", which has the meaning "a collision or a striking of one thing against another" as a noun. "*Before impact the captain ordered the crew to secure themselves at their assigned emergency stations*" - "*Перед зіткненням командир наказав екіпажу забезпечити себе на призначених для них аварійних постах*". As the verb "to impact" has such a meaning "to collide or to influence" and we can see it in the following sentence: "*The crew initiated a go-round, but the plane failed to gain altitude and impacted the ground*" - "*Екіпаж почав виконувати захід на друге коло, але літак не зміг набрати висоту і врізався в землю*". The connection in meaning of "impact" in these cases is observed too, but it may be hard for people without the specialist knowledge to distinguish which part of speech a word in this or that case belongs to. In such situations it is worthwhile to look at the structure of a sentence and see the relations with its other components, for example, "*The flight plan records the callsign and the number of people on board*". Here the ending "s" is an indicator of the verb, and here "*A log is a written record of a flight, flying hours, maintenance check, etc, for an aircraft, engine or propeller*" the indefinite article "a" is an indicator of a noun. The other prompt is that if a word is a noun, the stress is on the first syllable and if a word is a verb - on the second one. In aviation English it is common when the same word can be both a noun and a verb or even an adjective, making it rather complicated in rendering to the other languages [1].

Nevertheless, the principle that the words convert into other parts of speech with no serious change in meaning doesn't always work. There are cases, where conversion leads to shifts of meaning in resulting words. It can be seen in the words like "object" and "subject". In the following sentence "*The crew detected foreign object debris on the taxiway*" - Екіпаж виявив уламки невідомого предмету на руліжній доріжці - the noun means "a thing or a person, or a matter to which action is directed, anything that you can see or touch". But if subject this word to verbalization, the meaning will be different from the primary one. Let's look at the sentence: "*Pilots objected to the introduction of longer working hours*" - "*Пілоти протестували проти збільшення робочих годин*". In this case there is quite an essential semantic shift of the meaning in words due to the conversion. Let's also consider the word "subject", which in the form of a noun means "something that is being discussed or studied": "*Understanding of the of the subject of ice accretion is essential so that this hazard can be minimized*" - "*Розуміння явища обледеніння є важливим для мінімізації цієї загрози*". After the verbalization it transfers its meaning into "to bring the rule, control or expose to": "*Plane-makers subject their aircrafts to rigorous tests*" - "*Розробники літаків піддають свої літальні апарати ретельним перевіркам*". There is also no logical connection between the substantiated and verbalized words. We can conclude that conversion in aviation discourse is able both to change and preserve the semantics of the lexical units. This is the result of the polysemantic and reverse relations between the words of a certain language.

### **Conclusion**

To sum it up, one should say that conversion, being almost purely English kind of word-formation, is a complicated linguistic phenomenon. It is simultaneously a simple and productive way of word construction and a thing that makes it difficult to perceive the aviation and other texts. The prevalence of verbalization and substantivization in aviation discourse proves the existence of reverse relationships on grammar, phonetic and lexical levels that a translator should take into account in order to convey a proper meaning of words.

### **References**

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