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**TRANSPORTING PATTERNS OF DEADJECTIVAL CONVERSION  
IN MODERN ENGLISH**

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**Abstract:** The article focuses on investigating the transporting patterns of deadjectival conversion in Modern English. It contains the semantic analysis of base adjectives in Modern English conversion. The investigation defines the set and classification of transposing patterns of deadjectival conversion in Modern English. It considers certain transporting patterns of deadjectival conversion as  $A \rightarrow N$ ,  $A \rightarrow V$ ,  $A \rightarrow Adv$ ,  $A \rightarrow Pron$ ,  $A \rightarrow Int$ . The further perspective of the research lies in determining the other transporting deadjectival word formation patterns of different productivity.

**Key words:** word formation, deadjectival conversion, transposing pattern, non-transposing pattern, base word.

Our investigation deals with the processes of word-building in which adjectives fulfill the function of the base of derivation. The fact that this field of derivation has not yet been studied as a system in a sufficiently adequate way ensures the topicality of the research. It is common knowledge that the word-building patterns fall into two main types: they can be either non-transposing when both the base word and the derived one belong to the same part of speech ( $N \rightarrow N$ ,  $A \rightarrow A$ ,  $V \rightarrow V$ , etc.), or transposing which result in forming a word that belongs to some other part of speech ( $A \rightarrow N$ ,  $A \rightarrow V$ ,  $A \rightarrow Adv$ , etc.). The aim of our research is to analyze transposing patterns of deadjectival conversion in Modern English. But practically mostly patterns  $N \rightarrow V$  та  $V \rightarrow N$  (the formation of denominal verbs and deverbal nouns) are

considered. Meanwhile as far back as 1941 M. Biese *states the existence of* deadjectival conversion in English differentiating the patterns  $A \rightarrow N$ ,  $A \rightarrow V$  [1]. Not all English adjectives are equally productive as a base of conversion. In all probability, the degree of such productivity depends on their semantics. English adjectives fall into three classes according to their semantic attributive functions:

Class 1. Adjectives which identify or specify, e.g. usual, own, only, whole, certain, general.

Class 2. Adjectives which describe or characterize, e.g. good, bad, pretty, ugly, pleasant, cold, hot, clean, dirty, strong, weak, broad, narrow, large, small, high, low, round, pointed, young, old.

Class 3. Adjectives which classify or categorize, e.g. political, national, professional, religious, conservative, Bostonian, Spanish, etc.

The adjectives of class 3 serve as base words of conversion more often due to the specificity of their semantics [2, p.11-12]. Let us consider the existing patterns of deadjectival conversion.

**Pattern  $A \rightarrow N$ .** Deadjectival nouns may be divided into definite structurally semantic groups. 1. Nouns formed from adjectives without suffixes and with suffixes -al, - (i) an, -ar, -or, -ive, -ile, etc. a) nouns with the semantics of a person: “Doctor Fisher and the Divisionnaire were the only Swiss nationals in the group” (G. Green); “Do you want pen and paper?” he asked, with differential suggestion to a superior” (D.H. Lawrence); b) nouns denoting things (concrete and abstract): “His car was a bright-blue sports convertible with a peculiarly lond hood” (J. Cheever); “...he’d play parts in amateur theatricals” (G. Greene). 2. Nouns formed from adjectives without suffixes and with suffixes -ed, -ly, -less, etc. and from compound adjectives, denote persons: “The rich, the beautiful, the notorious and the well-born might wait in vain to be signaled out and paid special attention (A. Christie). 3. Nouns formed from adjectives without suffixes with the semantics of a person, used in plural: “Dick and Pat danced and he whirled her around until the sealskin browns and the highyallers cheered and clapped” (J. Dos Passos). 4. Nouns formed from adjectives (with suffixes or without suffixes), denoting things, used as a rule in plural: «They drank the gin

with bitters and went to bed» (J. Dos Passos). 5. Nouns formed from adjectives denoting features in the form of a substantive attraction: “How neat it was in his built, so compact, with pieces of *white* in its wings” (D.H. Lawrence).

Pattern A→V. Most of the base adjectives of this pattern are root ones and form verbs with meaning as to be, to become, etc.: “He had to put his hand against the wall *to steady* himself...” (J. Dos Passos); “...his face *crimsoned* and two big veins stood out on his forehead” (A. Christie). Deadjectival verbs may combine with postpositives: “Pennington *smoothed out* the letter on the table” (A. Christie); “... his voice *dried up* way down in his throat” (J. Dos Passos). The widespread opinion, according to which English adjectives with word-forming suffixes cannot fulfil the function of the derivational base in the A→V pattern, should be considered as a misconception. The obvious examples are: *to dirty, to muddy, to western, to southern*.

Pattern A→Adv. The adjectives with the meaning of form, place, direction in space, etc. serve as the derivational base of this pattern. Compare: **RIGHT (Adj.)** 1. being in accordance with what is just, good, or proper (*right* conduct), 2. conforming to facts or truth (the *right* answer), 3. suitable, appropriate (the *right* man for the job), 4. straight (a *right* line), 5. done with the right hand (a *right* hook to the jaw), 6. being in good physical or mental health or order (not in his *right* mind).

RIGHT (Adv.) 1. according to right (live *right*), 2. precisely (*right* at his fingertips), 3. in a suitable, proper, or desired manner (knew he wasn't doing it *right*), 4. directly, straight (go *right* home), 5. truly (guessed *right*), 6. in a complete manner (felt *right* at home) [10].

Pattern A→Pron. This pattern is not productive in Modern English as pronouns constitute a “close” part of speech. The examples of deadjectival pronouns are *some, any, other, another, same*.

Pattern A→Int. In Modern English the adjectives constitute one of the main sources of replenishing the class of interjections: “Go on, Riggs, *sharp!* South Square”. The car moved on” (J. Galsworthy); “*Easy, Doc, easy!*”, the Boss said” (R. P. Warren).

So, one of the most productive ways of deadjectival word-formation is conversion represented by such transporting patterns as  $A \rightarrow N$ ,  $A \rightarrow V$ ,  $A \rightarrow Adv$ ,  $A \rightarrow Pron$ ,  $A \rightarrow Int$ .

The analysis of other transporting deadjectival word formation patterns of different productivity may serve as the perspective of further research as deadjectival word formation in Modern English displays growing activity and this approach would contribute to apprehending English word-formation as a system.

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