

The present thesis aims to provide a detailed characterization of analogy as a word-formation process in the context of the historical development of English. The research part of this paper analyses a selection of words modelled on the analogy of already existing ones, as implied in the Etymology section of The Oxford English Dictionary. The extracted data is examined from the perspectives of the distinct historical periods of the English language in terms of the word-formation processes as well as the word classes affected by these changes.