

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis "Composition in contemporary Spanish " focuses on compounding as one of the most important processes in word formation. The purpose of our thesis on level of theoretical linguistics is to provide clear typology of Spanish compound words. On level of linguistics research our objective is to analyze current development of Spanish compound words.

In theoretical part of our work we defined compounding together with derivation and parasynthesis as main word-formation processes that contribute to the growth of Spanish lexicon. Apart from these processes we also defined other important terms connected to this topic and essential for good understanding of it as lexical base, morpheme, word formation rules and their restrictions, productivity or blocking.

We decided to classify Spanish compound words according to their orthographic character into two main groups – orthographic and syntagmatic compounds. In addition we subdivided these two groups; orthographic compounds were classified according to word class of the final compound, syntagmatic compounds were classified according to their internal structure.

In practical part we focused on two main topics – orthographic form of studied compounds and the way of their plural formation. All compound words that we studied were analyzed in three different text corpora which provided us enough relevant data and validated our results.

The analysis showed us that juxtapositional compounds are mostly used with a space between elements while adjectival compounds are usually found in a hyphenated form or as one unit. We verified that from orthographical point of view the frequency of plural forms is analogous to the singular ones. When it comes to plural forms, juxtapositional compounds form plural in most cases by adding plural morpheme to first compound element, on the other hand adjectival compounds more usually add plural morpheme to the second element as well. We have also verified that there are even varieties of compound words that are orthographically unified and add plural morpheme between their compound elements.

Key words:

Composition

Compounding

Morphology

Word formation

Restrictions

Productivity

Orthographic compounds

Syntagmatic compounds