

Abstract

The purpose of this essay is to study *neoclassical composition*. The denomination of this method of word-formation already caused disagreements among the linguists. Many authors name it *prefixation* (affixation), while others believe that it is a special type of *composition*, whose components (or at least one of them) take their origins from Latin or Greek. Even though the majority of the Spanish lexicon comes from these languages (mainly from Latin), this type of composition follows some particular rules.

In this essay, we do not intend to say who is right and who is wrong, but to demonstrate the current situation of the *neoclassical composition* in modern Spanish, using the corpus. Nevertheless, it is not possible to completely ignore the different points of view of these authors, who are acclaimed in the academic world. Therefore we decided to divide this study in a theoretic part and a practical one. In the theoretic part, we will recapitulate the terminology used and we will try and choose the most convenient definition for this method. In the practical part, we will see twenty examples of Greco-Latin elements: *auto*, *cida/cidio*, *cracia/crata* (*arca/arquía*), *cripto*, *crono*, *eco*, *euro*, *filo/filia*, *foto*, *narco*, *neo*, *pan/omni*, *para*, *pedo*, *porno*, *pseudo/suedo*, *teca*, *tele*, *teo*, *video* in two different corpus. First, we will work with the corpus of the Faculty of Arts of the Charles University in Prague, InterCorp. This corpus is really useful since it also provides translations to Czech. Then, we will focus on the corpus of the Spanish Royal Academy, Corpes XXI, to see the existing and relevant samples of this word-formation method.