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Ways of forming Russian sports jargon

Abstact

This study aims to perform a comprehensive analysis of Russian sports jargon building patterns. The existing dictionary entries are used as the material for the research to focus upon the details of their semantics, morphology and phraseology. Such multi-level studies have not been reported in the literature so far. The background for the research is built upon the works of both modern linguists and the authors of the previous century. The results demonstrate various patterns involved in building sports jargon units: affixation, compounding, contraction, substantiation, lexico-semantic transformations, etc. It was discovered that the lexical-semantic system of sports jargon is characterized by active secondary nomination based on the following types of initial units: zoonyms and phytonyms, proper names. At the same time, abbreviation was found to show a low level of productivity. The results obtained can be used in the courses of lexicology and stylistics of the Russian language, both as L1 and L2. The outlook on future research will involve further stratification of sports jargon.

Keywords: sports jargon, word formation, semantic transfer, suffixation, compounding, contraction