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викладач КАМТС №1

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## **CONVERSION AS A WAY OF FORMING WORDS IN ENGLISH**

The vocabulary of modern English has evolved in different historical epochs with the help of various derivational means.

The name "conversion" has been the subject of fierce discussions since 1981, when the famous English linguist Henry Sweet first used the term. One of the problems associated with conversion, is attributing it to one or another type of word formation.

It seems very interesting explanation of the reason for the conversion, given by O. Jespersen, whose opinion for the emergence and development of conversion was based on the formal similarity of most English nouns and verbs. And O. Jespersen called the conversion "an English unique feature", because it was typical only for this language.

Conversion as a way of word-building of verbs and nouns has become one of the characteristic features of the English language since the XIII century. It arose as a result of the loss of the infinitive suffix in numerous related nouns and verbs. Since 1150 there is a number of derivatives of verbs formed by conversion from adjectives, and from XIII to XIV century - derivatives of verbs from adverbs and interjections.

It should be noted that the disappearance of the endings of nouns and verbs had far-reaching consequences. As a result of coincidence in the form of different words, it became possible to produce new words by analogy. The analogy was a characteristic feature of the New English word-building.

It should also be noted that in the era of Shakespeare, the non-suffix formation of verbs from nouns, adjectives and even adverbs, was much wider used than later. Even Shakespeare used examples of such formation.

The next prerequisite that contributed to the emergence of conversion was the so-called "backformation", which played no less important role in the development of the new method than the above factors. Approximately until the XV century, the formation of verbs from nouns and adjectives is greatly reduced due to the appearance of a large number of nouns and verbs borrowed from the French language. Thus, with the death of the infinitive suffix during the XIV - XV centuries, the formation of verbs from nouns and adjectives, and nouns - from verbs continued, but morphological indices were not used only for the formation of the verb.

The infinitive forms of a number of verbs have become similar in appearance to the noun forms from which they were formed, for example: answer, work, walk, look, point, smell, hate. Thus, the phenomenon began, which became known as the term "conversion".

Conversion is to some extent inherent in many languages, but in English it is particularly widespread. The most important reason for this phenomenon can be considered a feature of the English language, which is in the almost complete absence in this language of the morphological indicators of parts of speech. The question of the place of conversion in the system of word formation of the English language has great theoretical and practical significance.

The last quarter of the XIX century is an important milestone in the formation of the doctrine of conversion in the English grammar tradition. Thus, in R. Morris's grammar it was pointed out that one and the same word, in his opinion, can be a noun in one part of the sentence, an adjective in another and a verb in the third.

The conversion is often associated with metonymy. Scientists argue that metonymy should be considered as a sign operation, during which one sign gets the opportunity to replace another sign. It should be noted that this property of the English language can be called a falsehood, because a word cannot be a noun, an adjective, and a verb. But behind the same form different structures can really exist.

It should be noted that conversion facilitates the perception and understanding of the language, i.e. you have to remember less words, and you can guess the meaning of a

word. Thus, conversion is an extremely productive way of replenishing the vocabulary with new words. There are different models of conversion: nouns, verbs and adjectives can be converted into other parts of speech, acquiring new meanings, that is why this method is the most productive.

But we cannot say about the difficulties that arise when translating sentences with these words, because it is necessary to determine what part of the speech is the word. It is also very important to pay attention to the context and accompanying articles and prepositions. Thus, we can conclude that after studying all the ways of word-formation English, you can significantly increase your vocabulary, since without special difficulties it is possible to form different parts of speech from the same word and undoubtedly facilitate the task of learning English, because a good knowledge of the language makes any person more educated.

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