

## Neologisms and their formation in the German language

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### Abstract

We encounter new words every day. The scope and expansion of the vocabulary depend on the communicative needs of the language communities. New words are constantly being formed, others are dying out, their meanings change, or good words are borrowed from other languages. More than any other component of language, vocabulary is subject to change; because naming needs are constantly changing and arise from everyday life in the language community, from science and technology. The German vocabulary is constantly changing.<sup>1</sup> This is also confirmed by a look at the latest edition of the orthography -Duden, published in 2006. With around 130,000 keywords, the current edition is more extensive than all of its previous editions. Around 3500 newly recorded words that have established themselves in the German vocabulary over the past few years, such as *Brötchentaste* (bread rolls), *E-Pass* (e-passport), *Jobcenter* (job center), *Plasmafernseher* (plasma TV) or *Weblog* (weblog), but also new meanings in expressions that have been in use for a long time, reflect the current development of the German language.<sup>2</sup> The constantly emerging neologisms play an important role in this process of change.<sup>3</sup>

**Keywords:** Neologisms, formation, German language.

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