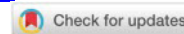


# NOUN COMPOUNDS AND ADJECTIVE COMPOUNDS IN ENGLISH

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**Abstract:** Compounds, typically defined as words composed of two or more words, are frequently found in everyday English usage. In the field of morphology, a number of word formation processes are present, including compounding as one of the most productive ones. This paper introduces some of the most important notions of the word-formation - noun compounds and adjective compounds. Following the theoretical introduction briefly explaining the structure and types of these compounds, the corpus selected for this article provides a classification of 32 noun compounds and adjective compounds in this study, including a discussion of their structure as well as stress patterns found in the compounds. For the purposes of the analysis, the examples were identified and collected from several women's magazines, namely various issues of *Cosmopolitan* magazines, analysed and classified in order to present examples of noun and adjective compounds as well as some metaphorical compounds. In addition to the fact that the meaning of compounds is to a certain degree compositional and easy to comprehend, there are still compounds which may imply metaphorical or figurative meanings, and thus form confusion among speakers of listeners. In this way, compounding is believed to be one of the most productive aspect of language, as it can form as many words and composite words as possible in order to form a completely new meaning, either literal or non-literal. The paper concludes that compounding is considered to be highly productive, especially when interpreting compounds, with a particular focus on nouns and adjectives as heads.

Keywords: word-formation, noun compounds, adjective compounds, morphology.

Field: humanities

## 1. INTRODUCTION: GOAL OF MORPHOLOGY

Morphology is the study of internal structure of composite words, namely the elements needed to form syntactic groups or sentences (Dirven et al, 2004 : 55). Thus, the formation of composite words is called word formation (Dirven et al, 2004: 55). Booij (2007: 23) points out that the goal of morphology is to describe and analyse languages of the world as accurately and as insightfully as possible, claiming that the word morphology can in this way be used in two ways. Thus, the term morphology may refer to a subdiscipline of linguistics and to that part of the grammar of the language that contains the rules for inflection and word-formation, i.e. the word grammar (Booij, 2007: 23). Furthermore, Booij (2007: 24) proposes that morphology has as its aim to provide a better understanding and insight of how linguistic rules function in language perception and production, and how the linguistic knowledge is mentally represented.

## 2. THEORETICAL PRELIMINARIES

### 1.1. WHAT IS A COMPOUND?

Given the frequent use of compounds in English, many authors have dealt with various word formation processes, focusing on compounding as highly productive .

Fabb (2017) defines a compound as a word consisting of two or more words, and claims that such compounds go through phonological and morphological processes. In a prototypical compound, according to Fabb, both parts are independently attached as words (ibid.). In this case, Fabb proposes that in English there are words which can be combined into an independently attached word plus another morpheme which is not an independently attached word, but at the same time does not appear to be an affix, such as in the examples church-goer, ironmonger, television, or cranberry.

Furthermore, Plag (2018) points out that there are compounds which are made of four, five or even more elements or words (i.e. university teaching award committee member). Moreover, he highlights the fact that a number of new words may be frequently added to an existing compound to form a new one. Plag (2018) exemplifies this by providing the noun compound university teaching award committee member training. This property of compounding is called recursivity (ibid.).

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Due to the fact that when the compound gets longer in the process of recursivity, it becomes difficult for the speakers or listeners to understand and produce them correctly, and thus they are not in favour for processing reasons (Plag, 2018). When it comes to the formation of compounds, the words of a compound are considered to be conceptually blended, as they are combined in order to form a completely new meaning, either literal or non-literal (Dirven et al, 2004: 55). For a more thorough overview of the approaches and definition in this particular field, see Bauer (2021), Christianto (2020), Ratih and Ismayoeng Gusdian (2018), and Libben et al. (2020).

## 2.2. FORMS OF COMPOUNDS

Lieber and Štekauer (2005: 375) state that there are two forms of compounds, namely the synthetic compounds and the root compounds. Thus, according to this division the following are examples of such compounds:

a) **Synthetic compounds:** bus driver, birth-giving

b) **Root compounds:** cat bowl, ice blue, whiteboard, fat-free

Moreover, Lieber and Štekauer (ibid.) consider the synthetic compounds to be as productive in English as well as the root compounds. In this way, they point out that the noun-adjective (i.e. ice blue), adjective-noun (whiteboard), and adjective-adjective (i.e. fat-free) root compounds are also productive (Lieber and Štekauer, 2005: 375). Furthermore, they also emphasise that other root compounds such as verb-verb compounds (i.e. tumble-dry) and noun-verb compounds (i.e. role-play) are not as productive as the previously mentioned compounds, since they are harder to form.

## 2.3. SYNTHETIC COMPOUNDS

According to Lieber and Štekauer (2005), the synthetic compounds are also called verbal, deverbal or verbal nexus compounds. Similarly, Fabb (2017) points out that the synthetic compound has as its head a derived word consisting of a verb plus one of a set of affixes –er, –ing, passive adjectival –en, such as in the examples of window cleaning (window-clean-ing). Lieber and Štekauer further point out that the synthetic compounding, like root compounding, is highly productive in English and it is right-headed. The following examples explain this phenomenon:

a) Lorry driver, meat packer, dog lover

b) Lorry driving, meat packing, dog loving

c) Desire driven, dog bitten, well fed,

It is agreed that where the deverbalized suffix is –er, or –ing, the stem is interpreted as an internal argument of the verb stem (Lieber and Štekauer, 2005). Therefore, in the example dog lover, it is someone who loves dogs. Moreover, they emphasize that in the earliest generative treatment of synthetic compounds, a transformational derivation for synthetic compounds was used. Based on this, Lieber and Štekauer (2005) consider that there are sentence deep structures that can be used for synthetic compounds, where the transformations can successfully show this phenomenon. Thus, a compound like meat eater derives from a deep structure sentence (E.g. The man eats meat) as do the synthetic compound meat eating, and the root compound eating meat.

## 2.4. ROOT COMPOUNDS

Root compounds are also called primary compounds where the second stem is not deverbal (Štekauer and Lieber, 2005). According to them, root compounds consist of combinations of the open categories N (noun), V (verb), A (adjective). Thus, the following compounds underline this statement:

(1) Noun Compounds: N N bird food, watermill, book shelf

(2) Noun Compounds: A N long distance, last minute

(3) Adjective Compounds: N A sugar free, world famous, skyblue

(4) Adjective Compounds: A A big blue, wide awake

(5) Noun Compounds: V N, pickpocket, pull card

Considering these examples, they claim that the first four sets are highly productive, whereas the compounds containing a verb as one or more members are less productive, without taking into consideration the neologisms. Moreover, root compounds are syntactically and usually semantically right-headed, where in general the root compounds are endocentric, being interpreted as hyponyms of their second stems (Štekauer and Lieber, 2005).

They further explain that in the adjective-adjective compound skyblue the first stem sky denotes a sort of blue, and this can also be applied to other productive N N and A A compounds (Štekauer and Lieber, 2005). In contrast to this, they believe that there are also exocentric root compounds, such as the redhead or airhead (ibid.). These compounds are not types of head, but they are metonyms for types of

people, for example in the former a person with red hair, and the latter a forgetful person (Štekauer and Lieber, 2005: 378).

## 2.5. TYPES OF COMPOUNDS

There are various types of compounds, such as noun, adjective, and verb compounds. This paper deals with the first two types, although the major emphasis is put on the noun compounds as they are considered to be the most productive ones by many linguists, as it is presented in the following sections.

## 2.6. NOUN COMPOUNDS

According to Plag (2018), there are noun compounds which have nouns as heads, and such compounds can be divided into three subclasses - those that contain nouns, verbs, and adjectives as non-heads. In this way, Plag points out that the majority of noun-noun compounds are right-headed, but contrary to this, there are several compounds which are not easily analysed when it comes to the headedness (Plag, 2018: 145). In this way, Plag differentiates between endocentric, exocentric and copulative compounds.

### 2.6.1. ENDOCENTRIC COMPOUNDS

The compounds such as laser printer, book cover, letter head are noun-noun compounds and they all denote a subclass of the referents of the head, so that the laser printer is a kind of printer, a book cover is a type of cover etc. (Plag, 2018). Since the semantic head of the compounds is inside the compound, the compounds are called endocentric compounds (ibid.). Similarly, Fabb (2017) considers that those compounds that have a head fall into this category, so that the head of the compound has a similar characteristic to the head of a phrase.

Fabb (ibid.) gives the example of the endocentric compound sneak-thief, where he explains that the thief is the head, so that the sneak-thief is a kind of the thief, and concludes that the thief and sneak-thief are both nouns. Moreover, Benczes (2006: 2) states that in the endocentric compounds, the compound is the hyponym of the head element (i.e. apple tree is a kind of tree).

### 2.6.2. EXOCENTRIC COMPOUNDS

As far as exocentric compounds are concerned, Fabb (2017) points out that the compounds without a semantic head are called exocentric compounds, so that the semantic head is outside the compound. Furthermore, Štekauer and Lieber (2005) note that the type of exocentric compound is traditionally referred to as a bahuvrihi compound. This term bahuvrihi compound was first used by the Sanskrit grammarians to refer to a particular type of compound, namely the compound which lacks the phonologically visible head and which predominantly refer to pejorative properties of human beings ([http://www.glottopedia.de/index.php/Bahuvrihi\\_compound](http://www.glottopedia.de/index.php/Bahuvrihi_compound)). In this way, Booij (2007: 80) considers that the bahuvrihi-compounds sometimes form a subset of the exocentric compounds, since they do not refer to the entity mentioned by the head of the compound, so that the baldhead is not a type of head. Plag, furthermore, considers that there are some compounds which are more difficult to discuss, such as redneck, loudmouth, greybird, where the redneck is not a kind of neck but a kind of person (Plag, 2018).

Additionally, Plag (2018) states that the compound loudmouth is not a kind of mouth but it refers to a characteristic of a person. In the examples of pickpocket and spoilsport, the former does not refer to a kind of pocket, and the latter refers to someone who spoils funny moments of other people (ibid.). According to Plag (2018), these compounds mostly denote an entity characterized by the property expressed by the compound. These compounds are also called possessive compounds, as in the example loudmouth where it denotes a person that possesses 'a loud mouth' (Plag, 2018: 149).

In this way, Plag (2018) concludes that such compounds have an adjective as their left-hand element. In conclusion, as far as endocentric and exocentric compounds are concerned, Fabb (2017) considers that the distinction between them is usually a matter of interpretation and is often of little relevance. Fabb, thus, gives the example of the compound greenhouse, so that the decision of whether this compound fall under the category of endocentric or exocentric depends on whether we think it is a kind of a house or not.

## 2.7. ADJECTIVE COMPOUNDS

Adjective compounds can have nouns or other adjectives as non-heads, and so the interpretation of noun-adjective compounds follows the same principle as that of the noun-noun compounds (Plag, 2018: 152). In the adjective compounds, the non-head can serve as a modifier, or as an argument of the head with the help of the appropriate adjective head.

In this manner, Plag (2018) further states that compounds such as knee-deep, dog-lean, blood-red

receive various kinds of interpretations (i.e. deep to the height of the knee, lean as a dog, red like blood). Such compounds, according to Plag (ibid.), include interpretation in terms of comparison or the first element of such compounds gets the role of an intensifier. Contrary to this, Plag (2018) proposes that there are compounds such as girl-crazy, sugar-free, class-conscious where the first element of the compound, namely the noun, satisfies an argument position of the adjective (Plag, ibid). In syntactic construction this argument appears next to the prepositions: free of sugar, crazy for girls, conscious of class (Plag, 2018). Moreover, Plag points out that the adjective-adjective compounds with the first element as adjective as modifier are not so frequent like the noun-adjective compounds (Plag, ibid.)

Furthermore, Plag (2018) introduces the adjectival compounds that involve derived adjectives as heads and that behave in a similar fashion as deverbal synthetic compounds. Therefore, adjective compounds such as blue-eyed, clear-sighted, hair-raising fall into this category. Here, the derivational suffix -ed is added to the right-hand element. Hence, the derivational suffix -ed can be paraphrased as 'having X, provided X', so that blue-eyed can mean 'having blue eyes' (Plag, 2018). For some compounds as in university-controlled, the suffix -ed is not the ornative suffix, but it is the adjectively used past participle and in that way the previously mentioned compound can be interpreted as 'controlled by university' (ibid.).

Adjective compounds which have a past participle receive a passive interpretation, where the non-head expresses the agent argument of the verb (Plag, 2018). In the case of the adjective compound hair-raising, the non-head is interpreted as the object of the verbal base of the head (i.e. a hair-raising experience is and experience that raises one's hair) (ibid.).

## 2.8. INTERPRETING NOUN COMPOUNDS

Fabb (2017) claims that the meaning of a compound is to some extent compositional, although it is not always predictable when looking at the meaning of the composite words. Fabb shows the example of the noun compound popcorn and points out that if someone does not know the meaning it would be difficult to see how the parts contribute to the whole and it is not easy to guess the meaning by only looking at the meaning of the parts (ibid.).

Therefore, the lack of predictability, according to Fabb (2017), arises if one discusses the characteristics of compounds, so that there are compounds that are subject to processes of semantic drift, which can include metonymy, such as in the example of redhead referring to a person who has red hair. Plag (2018) states that 'compounds are usually interpreted by relating the two members of the compound to each other in terms of the typical relationship between the entities referred to by the two nouns', thus distinguishing two different classes of nouns, sortal and relational nouns.

### 2.8.1. SORTAL NOUNS

Sortal nouns are, according to Plag (2018), used in order to classify the entities of a compound, so that a given object in focus may be a chair or a table (e.g. kitchen chair, kitchen table).

### 2.8.2. RELATIONAL NOUNS

These nouns denote relations between a specific entity and a second entity (Plag, 2018). Plag considers that one cannot do a surgery without performing surgery on something etc. In this way, it can be said that the right-hand member of a compound is relational, and the left-hand member of the compound is interpreted as an argument of the relational noun. For example, in the compound brain surgery the left-hand member of the compound with the relational noun surgery as head is interpreted as an argument of surgery, so that the brain surgery is interpreted as a surgery on the brain (Plag, 2018). Regarding the relational compounds, Plag introduces the term argument-linking. Plag (2003:149) considers that the argument linking, which is a process by which a phrase or word in the neighbourhood of a head word is assigned the status of the head word's argument. Furthermore, Plag considers that the argument linking is important for compounds where the right-hand member is a noun derived from a verb, and where the left-hand member serves as an argument of the verb, so Plag labels such compounds synthetic compounds, as exemplified below (2018):

(1) beer drinker, car driver, pasta-eating, soccer-playing, bookseller, window-cleaning

This argument linking in compound fails, when the compounds such as Sunday driver, street seller or computer surgery are found, so that a Sunday driver is not a person who drives a Sunday but a person who drives on Sunday, or a street seller is not someone who sells streets but someone who sells things on the street, and computer surgery is not a surgery of the computer but rather a surgery including computers or medical instruments (ibid.).



## 2.9. THE STRESS PATTERN OF COMPOUNDS

### STRESS PATTERN IN NOUN COMPOUNDS

According to Plag (2018), compounds have a stress pattern that is different from a phrase, where this is mainly present in nominal compounds. Plag further explains that the stress in a phrase is placed on the last word, and so compounds are stressed either on the first or the second element of the compound. According to the systematic difference, the nuclear stress rule is a phrasal stress on the last word of a phrase and the compound stress rule is the stress on the left-hand member of a compound (Plag, 2018:137). The following examples provided by Plag highlight this situation:

NOUN COMPOUND	NOUN PHRASE
bláckboard	a black bóard
'a board to write'	'a board that is black'
gréenhouse	a green hóuse
'a glass building for growing plants'	'a house that is green'

Furthermore, when it comes to stress, Plag (ibid.) points out that there are copulative compounds (i.e. geologist-astronomer), which have rightwards stress (i.e. geologist-astrónomer). Plag (2018) also states that the meaning relationships that have the rightward stress are temporal, locative, causative. This is clearly illustrated by the following examples (Plag, 2018):

- (1) TEMPORAL a summer night
- (2) LOCATIVE the Boston márathon
- (3) CAUSATIVE 'made of' silk tíe

### 2.10. STRESS PATTERN IN ADJECTIVE COMPOUNDS

Adjective compounds, according to Plag (2018), can have leftward and rightward stress. In the case of copulative adjective compounds such as knee-déep, bone drý, dog-tíred, top-héavy they are stressed on the final element, but other formations have initial stress such as fóotlose, thréadbare etc.

### 2.11. NON-LITERAL MEANINGS OF COMPOUNDS

Benczes (2006: 2) introduces metaphorical compounds which undergo a cognitive process in understanding them, and states that the metaphors that participate in the meaning of noun-noun compounds are mostly established ones. Benczes (2006: 3) claims that in the case of exocentric or 'headless' compounds, the compound is not hyponym of the head element, but in majority of cases there is some sort of metaphor at work in the meaning of such compounds.

Benczes (2006: 1) provides the example of land fishing, which does not refer to any type of fishing, but it has a metaphorical meaning, namely it refers to the activity of seeking our treasure hidden in the ground with the means of a metal detector. Furthermore, Benczes (2006: 5) discusses the classification of compounds proposed by Libben et al (2020), including the compounds with transparent constituents (i.e. bedroom); those with non-transparent modifier element but non-transparent head (i.e. godchild); those with a transparent modifier element but non-transparent head (i.e. jailbird); and those where both elements are non-transparent (i.e. fleabag)

In addition, Benczes (2006: 6) names the compounds that undergo metaphorical processes as creative compounds. When dealing with non-literal compounds, Kavka (2011: 38) distinguishes several examples such as white lie, blue joke, lazybones. Kavka (ibid.), also, states that there are some compounds which may be literal and figurative in meaning such as blue pencil. Furthermore, Kavka (2011: 38) considers that compounds can be non-compositional because they are invariable which means that the sequence of constituents is fixed and the attributive determiners only affect the whole compound and not only one or the other element and explains that the violation of the sequence in the compounds such as lazybones, sunrise, common sense produces nonsense words.

## 3. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

For the purposes of the analysis in this section, a total of 32 examples was identified in several issues of the women's magazine – the *Cosmopolitan* magazine. The examples, serving as the corpus for this study, were analysed and classified in order to present the examples of noun and adjective compounds, as well as some metaphorical compounds, resulting in the following classification:

### 3.1. NOUN COMPOUNDS

(1) Money guru Alexa von Tobel, of LearnVest, tells you how to grow (and stretch) your dollar. (*Cosmopolitan*, January 2013: 8)

- (2) So hold on to your handbags, and come to take a ride with us. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 8)
- (3) Cosmo readers from around the world share what they're thinking about right now. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 16)
- (4) I'm in the middle of launching a food magazine. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 17)
- (5) I want to have a drink with her so badly! It would be beer, not some girly cocktail. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 17)
- (6) Top a flow-y, romantic dress with a motorcycle jacket and a heavy-metal belt. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 64)
- (7) Boots with Baditude: There's nothing about these babies. Animal-print, over-the-knee, fierce hues, right now, it's all about having a little edge. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 72)
- (8) All of a sudden, the bride was right next to us on the dance floor asking suspiciously, "Who are you two here with?" (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 95)
- (9) But even the most harmless-seeming activity on the social-media network can have a potentially disastrous impact on your life. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 30)
- (10) Nicole Fischelis, head fashionista at Macy's, pinpoints three things to look for. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 68)

### 3.2. ADJECTIVE COMPOUNDS

- (1) She has segued seamlessly to a crazy-busy, normadic pop-star way of life. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 19)
- (2) Her room is decorated with cozy touches, like vanilla-scented candles and personal photos. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 20)
- (3) The boy-meets-girl style screams confidence, go all out with a rocker-inspired crop, or fake it with some clever styling tricks. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 28)
- (4) 'I am not model skinny but also not superfat and fabulously owning my hugeness,' she writes in her memoir, "Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?" (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 33)
- (5) SHOWER POWER: Ban hotel body wash forever with these travel-friendly pods. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 59)
- (6) This cosy blanket-inspired style is like a really, really chic Snuggle. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 58)
- (7) Salve your skin: Soothe cracked lips, cuticles, and desert-dry soles in a swipe. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 59)
- (8) The most style-savvy way to stay warm, whatever you have going on. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 58)
- (9) But experts say sending a handwritten message to friends for random things is a great way to stand out and show you really care. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 76)
- (10) Dryness causes flakes, and flakes usually mean acne since a buildup of skin blocks oil-filled pores. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 105)

### 3.3. COMPOUNDS WITH A NON-LITERAL MEANING

- (1) Eventhough I'm into fitness and nutrition I'm not a health nut 24/7. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 17)
- (2) It's hard to catch up with my friends, because it always involves money-happy hour, brunch, movies.....Why are social lives so expensive? (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 17)
- (3) The twist: Justin Bieber turned out to be her fairy godmother. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 19)
- (4) There's a fresh breed of powerhouse in Hollywood today: A smart, beautiful star who's too busy being successful to worry about a few extra pounds. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013:33)
- (5) When Lena's pantless red-carpet look sparked a media firestorm this past fall, the Girls creator fired right back: "I don't think a girl with tiny thighs would have received such no-pants attention. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 33)
- (6) Sky-high cheeks In Seconds: Here's how to use bronzer, blush and highlighter to work out your angles. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 60)
- (7) Eye opener: "I live and die by and eyelash curler..." (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 62)
- (8) This peacoat is a classic for a reason: It is polished and goes with everything. (Cosmopolitan, November 2012: 58)
- (9) My job is one big cultural melting pot- I'm one of two Americans in my office. (Cosmopolitan, January 2013: 16)
- (10) Can I pull off the metallic-eyetrend during the day?

(Cosmopolitan, November 2012:102)

(11) Spice up a simple pencil skirt with the bright blouse.

(Cosmopolitan, August 2012: 60)

(12) Because we are celebrating the 25th Anniversary of “Dirty Dancing” by giving you a free download of the movie when you buy 3 or more qualifying SKINNY COW candy and low-fat ice-cream treats.” (Cosmopolitan, August 2012: 130)

### 3.4. BRIEF INTEPRETATION OF THE COMPOUNDS

The interpretation is based on the use of the dictionary Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (OALD) in order to define the literal meaning of the composite words, and in the cases where the dictionary is not sufficient, a free paraphrase is given in order to provide the metaphorical meaning of the compounds. The 32 compounds are presented in the table below following the a/m order of their presentation in sections 3.1.-3.3.

COMPOUNDS	DICTIONARY MEANING AND PARAPHRASE
1. money guru	A trusted counselor and adviser; a mentor (OALD) (paraphrased: A person who teaches people clever ways to save money)
2. handbags	a small bag for money, keys, etc, carried especially by women (OALD)
3. cosmo readers	a person who reads a particular newspaper, magazine, etc (OALD) (paraphrased: People who mostly read the Cosmopolitan magazines)
4. food magazine	a type of large thin book with a paper cover that you can buy containing articles, photographs (OALD) (paraphrased: containing articles on food)
5. girlie cocktail	a drink usually made from a mixture of one or more spirits(= strong alcoholic drinks) and fruit juice. (OALD) (paraphrased: A drink drunk only by women)
6. motorcycle	a road vehicle with two wheels, driven by an engine, with one seat for the driver and often a seat for a passenger behind the driver (OALD) (paraphrased: In the context it refers to a part of clothing used for motorcycling)
7. animal-print	to make a design on a surface or cloth by pressing a surface against it which has been coloured with ink or dye (OALD) (paraphrased:a design containing animal motif)
8. dance floor	an area where people can dance in a hotel, restaurant, etc. (OALD)
9. social-media	websites and software programs used for social networking (OALD)
10. head fashionista	-the person in charge of a group of people or an organization -a fashion designer, or a person who is always dressed in a fashionable way (OALD) (Paraphrased: A person who decides everything about the fashion in a company)
11. crazy-busy	paraphrased: very busy, no time for anything,
12. vanilla-scented	having a strong pleasant smell (OALD) (paraphrased: having the smell of vanilla)
13. rocker-inspired	a person who performs, dances to or enjoys rock music and wears leather jackets (OALD) (paraphrased: gaining ideas from the dressing codes of a rocker)
14. superfat	(paraphrased: extremely fat)
15. travel-friendly	(paraphrased: easy to travel with)
16. blanket-inspired	(paraphrased: design clothes in a way of taking some instances of the cloth and motif usually used for making blankets)
17. desert-dry	(paraphrased: extremely dry)
18. style-savvy	having practical knowledge and understanding of something; having common sense (OALD) (paraphrased: having enough knowledge of fashion)
19. handwritten	written by hand, not printed or typed (OALD)
20. oil-filled	full of the thing mentioned, i.e. oil (OALD)
21. health nut	a person who is extremely interested in a particular subject, activity, etc (OALD) (paraphrased: extremely interested in healthy way of living)
22. happy hour	a time, usually in the early evening, when a pub or a bar sells alcoholic drinks at lower prices than usual (OALD)
23. fairy godmother	a person who rescues you when you most need help (OALD)
24. powerhouse	a person who is very strong and full of energy (OALD) (paraphrased: a group of powerful and ambitious women)
25. red carpet	a strip of red carpet laid on the ground for an important visitor to walk on when he or she arrives (OALD)
26. sky-high cheeks	very high; too high (OALD) (paraphrased: put on make-up in order to highlight the cheeks so that they look longer and stronger)
27. eye opener	an event, experience, etc. that is surprising and shows you something that you did not already know (OALD) (paraphrased: to use an eyelash culer to make your eyes look more beautiful and attractive)
28. peacoat	a type of thick short coat (OALD) (Paraphrase: the coat is not made of peas)
29. melting pot	a place or situation in which large numbers of people, ideas, etc. are mixed together (OALD) (paraphrase: it does not mead that the pot is melting)
30. metallic-eye	(paraphrase: put on eye make-up which has metallic colour)
31. pencil skirt	a narrow straight skirt (OALD) (paraphrased: it is not a skirt made of pencils)
32. skinny cow candy	(paraphrase: candies made of cow milk in the forms of a cow)

## 4.CONCLUSION

As it has already been mentioned, morphology is the study which deals with the word-formation processes, in this case with the formation of noun and adjective compounds. Compounding is considered to be highly productive, especially when interpreting noun-noun compounds, as they can involve nouns, adjectives and verbs as non-heads.

The paper gives a theoretical overview of various forms of compounds and their types. In addition

to the fact that the meaning of compounds is, to a certain degree, compositional and easy to comprehend, there are still compounds which may imply metaphorical or figurative meanings, and thus form confusion among speakers of listeners. In this way, compounding is believed to be one of the most productive aspect of language, as it can form as many words and composite words as possible in order to form a completely new meaning, either literal or non-literal.

Thus, the majority of examples provided and described in this paper serve to explain the various aspects of compounding. The final part presents examples of compounds which can be found in the contemporary women's magazines *Cosmopolitan*. The reason for choosing the magazine as a source for the analysis is the fact that nowadays magazines make use of compounds which are metaphorical in meaning or which at least are considered to be interesting to the reader and linguists for further studies.

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