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COMPOUND NOUNS OF NOUN+NOUN TYPE IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The paper is concerned with the noun-noun type of the compound nouns. There are several tasks that the article aims to achieve: firstly, to introduce the notion of the word formation process of noun compounds; secondly, to describe the types of the formations and the meaning of the compound words; thirdly, to examine the compound nouns of the noun + noun type used in the Economist in the third week of December 2024- January 2025. Compound words, their formation and meaning are considered using morphology, orthography and semantics.

The material under investigation is analyzed using descriptive, continuous sampling, qualitative and comparative methods. The results of the study examined the number of occurrence of compounds from semantic and orthographic perspectives. The results of the study indicate that the most common type is endocentric compounds (71), the next on the list – exocentric – 19 and 1 appositional compound out of the total number of lexemes found in the magazine, which is 99. Among them, closed compounds – 50; open compounds – 8 and hyphenated – 31.

Keywords: a noun compound, an endocentric compound, an exocentric compound, an apposition or copulative compound.

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СКЛАДНІ ІМЕННИКИ ТИПУ ІМЕННИК-ІМЕННИК В АНГЛІЙСЬКІЙ МОВІ

У статті розглядаються складні іменники типу іменник-іменник. Стаття має на меті такі задачі: по-перше, ввести поняття про процес словотворення юкстапозитів; по-друге, охарактеризувати типи утворень і значення складних слів; по-третє, дослідити складні іменники типу іменник-іменник, вжиті в журналі Економіст за третій тиждень грудня 2024/ січня 2025 року. Складні слова, їх утворення та значення розглядаються з точки зору морфології, орфографії та семантики. Досліджуваний матеріал аналізується описовим, порівняльним, якісним та методом суцільної вибірки. Результати дослідження продемонстрували кількість вживаних лексем із семантичної та орфографічної перспектив. Результати свідчать про те, що найпоширенішим типом є ендосентричні сполуки (71), наступні за списком – екзоцентричні – 19 та 1 апозиційна сполука із загальної кількості знайдених у журналі 99 лексем. Серед них закритих сполук – 50, відкритих – 8 і дефісних – 31.

Ключові слова: юкстапозит, ендосентрична сполука, екзоцентрична сполука, копулятивна сполука.

Introduction

New words are formed to express new facts, events and realities and give a description of the world around us. Rapid progress and dramatic changes in life result in continuous development and transformation of languages and the English language in particular. This process is inevitable without nominalization, and it causes the formation of new lexemes or implementing already existing word-formations with new meanings.

The purpose of the research is to generalize typical compound nouns of noun + noun type for their further comparison. The tasks are as follows: firstly, to introduce the notion of the word formation process of noun compounds of noun + noun type; secondly, to describe the types of the formations and the meaning of the compound words; thirdly, to delve the compound nouns of noun + noun type used in the Economist in the third week of December 2014.

The continuous sampling method was applied in order to sort out required material from the text corpus. The comparative method made it possible to define common and different features in lexemes. The collected data was analyzed using qualitative methods and descriptively presented based on the theory applied in the study.

It is evident that compounding is one of the most crucial means of a word formation process due to its high productivity. Bauer defines a compound as a lexeme containing two or more potential stems. Also, each potential stem contains one root. A compound must contain at least two roots. [1] Compounding process involves pre-existing words that are coined together to form a compound word.

One of the accessible methods is to classify compounds according to the parts of speech. Compounds are classified into three types: compound nouns, compound verbs, compound adjectives.

	Compound nouns
Compounding	Compound verbs
(more than one word)	Compound adjectives

Compound nouns are generally divided into the following types: noun + noun, verb + noun, noun + verb, verb + verb, adjective + noun, particle + noun, adverb + noun, verb + particle, phrase compound. [The study examines the noun + noun type of compound nouns, which is the most common type of compound in the English language.

Compound nouns are defined into three groups according to orthography. Firstly, a hyphenated compound involves stems pro tanto formalized with a hyphen. For instance, a top-class. Secondly, a closed compound includes

elements that are formalized as a single word without a hyphen or a space. Such as: *a cavalryman, a footprint*. Thirdly, an open compound is written with a space. Such as *a coin toss, a bullet train*.

According to semantic criteria, compound nouns can be subdivided into three groups. Baure and Plag are among the researchers who defined: endocentric compound, exocentric compound (or bahuvrihi compound) and appositional compound (also known as dvandva or copulative compound or coordinative compounds). Bauer considers an endocentric compound to be a hyponym of the head element. The word head refers to the most important part of the compound. Plug complements this type, calling it a headed compound. It means that a core meaning or a semantic head is represented by the head of the compound, so it is inside the compound. *An election-year-* is a year when people vote in an election.

Most noun + noun compounds are right-headed. Endocentric compounds are characterized with a left-hand element that specifies the right-hand element. Correspondingly, if a semantic head or core meaning is outside the compound, it is defined as exocentric. They are explained to be without a head. According to Bauer, who notices, an exocentric compound is a hyponym of some unexpressed semantic head. These compounds yield new meaning, even though the words they are made of are old and familiar.[5] For instance, *a laptop*.

While endocentric and exocentric compounds have one semantic head, appositional compounds have two core meanings or semantic heads. In words like *city-state* or *poet-translator, geologist-astronomer*, there is no subordinate part. It means that *city-state* is a hyponym for both a city and a state. [1]

In addition, there is one more type of compound apart from the above-mentioned samples. It is synthetic or verbal compounds.[3] A synthetic compound has as its head a derived word consisting of a verb plus one of a set of affixes. Therefore, synthetic compounding is the simultaneous use of both compounding and derivation. Example: *land-dweller*. There is the compound with the left-hand constituent which is a noun – *land* (the surface of the earth that is not covered by water) and a noun derived from the verb to dwell with the suffix *-er*.

The total number of compound nouns of noun + noun type that has been identified in the Economist in the third week of December 2024 is 108. The vast number of compounds under analysis are two-root, although the compound *a lifetime-achievement* consists of a left-hand constituent presented with a two-root stem and a right-hand constituent presented with a one-root stem.

It is interesting to note that compounds with the same constituent are not always on the list of the same group. There are eight compounds with *-man* as the right-hand part in the Table 1 from the whole list of lexemes. For instance, the compounds *a congressman* and *a bogeyman* are hyponyms of the head *-man*, consequently, they are defined to be endocentric.

A congressman - a man who belongs to a congress, especially a member of the US House of Representatives.

A bogeyman - an imaginary evil person who harms children.

On the contrary, *a chairman*, which means a person in charge of a meeting or organization, is not a hyponym of neither the right-hand root *-man* nor the left-hand root *chair-*. Likewise, the compound *a gunman*, which means a man, usually a criminal, who is armed with a gun, is not a hyponym of the root *-man*. In other words, a man with a gun is not equivalent to a criminal. That is, these compounds are hyponyms for unexpressed semantic heads. Consequently, the above-mentioned compounds are exocentric.

Table 1

N	LEFT-HAND constituent	OCCURENCE	SOURCE
1	Bogey-	Bogeyman - endocentric	p.12
2	Cavalry-	Cavalryman - endocentric	p.11
3	Chair-	Chairman - exocentric	p.23
4	Congress-	Congressman - endocentric	p.24
5	Crafts-	craftsman - endocentric	p.3
6	Fisher-	fisherman - endocentric	p.12
7	Gun-	Gunmen - exocentric	p.4
8	Tribes-	tribesman endocentric	p.5

In addition, the same compound noun can be both endocentric and exocentric, depending on the context of the sentence and the meaning of the lexeme.

*Your correspondent shouldered a small pack...containing **notebooks**, a rain jacket, a change clothes, two pairs of underpants and minimal toiletries, but no laptop.*

A compound noun A notebook - a book of plain paper or paper with lines, for writing on.

For instance, the compound “pipeline” is defined as both endocentric and exocentric, depending on the context of the sentences where the lexeme is used.

“Pipeline” is an endocentric compound meaning a very long large tube, often underground, through which liquid or gas can flow for long distances.

*Even if the **pipeline** were turned back on tomorrow, the troubles in the oil sector would hardly disappear.*

On the other hand, the pipeline, which means, from the context - “administration that is in the same vein”, is exocentric in the following example.

His pipeline includes the youngest ever press secretary, aged 27, and the third youngest vice-president, aged 40.

The author presumes that the lexeme “pipeline” is used to nominate an action meaning “coming the same route”.

The table 2 compares the numbers of compound occurrences from the semantic perspective. It is clear that the prevailing number of compounds are endocentric, 86 which are hyponyms of the head element. The next on the list are exocentric compounds with 21 identified lexemes, while appositional compounds are ranked with 1 lexeme.

Table three demonstrates the graphic appearance numbers of compound nouns of noun + noun type according to the orthographic perspective. The greatest number of compounds are lexemes formed as one word with a total number of 67 compounds. Open compounds were ranked with the least number – 8 compounds, followed by hyphenated compounds with 31 lexemes.

Table 2

	Semantic relations	Token	%
1	Endocentric	86	80 %
2	Exocentric	21	19,1 %
3	Appositional	1	0,9 %
	total	108	100 %

Table 3

	Graphic appearance	Token	%
1	Close compound nouns	67	62 %
2	Open compound nouns	8	7,4 %
3	Hyphenated compound nouns	33	30,6 %
	total	108	100 %

According to the theoretical part of the paper, many researchers agree on the basic principles that influence the compound noun formation process. The paper provides an outline of the word formation process of noun + noun compounds and describes the types of formation according to both semantic and orthographic perspectives, indicating their difference in accordance with the particular meaning of a lexeme. The results of the study show that there are 108 compound nouns of noun + noun type used in the Economist in the third week of December.

According to the semantic relations, the study shows that endocentric compound nouns prevail in number in comparison with exocentric and appositional noun compounds of noun + noun type. Despite the observation that the same noun compound under consideration can be defined as both endocentric and exocentric depending on the context, the vast number of noun compounds of noun + noun type are endocentric and compounds of close type. Further study of the method of interpretation of the compound nouns of noun + noun type is promising.

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Appendix 1

1.	an aircraft - exocentric	any <u>vehicle</u> , with or without an <u>engine</u> , that can <u>fly</u> , such as a <u>plane</u> or <u>helicopter</u>
2.	air force - endocentric	the <u>part</u> of a country's <u>military forces</u> that uses <u>aircraft</u> and <u>fighters</u> in the <u>air</u> (end
3.	an airframe – (exocentric)	the body of an aircraft
4.	an airline (exocentric)	a <u>business</u> that <u>operates regular services</u> for <u>carrying</u> passenger and/or <u>goods</u> by <u>aircraft</u>
5.	air pollution (endocentric)	harmful <u>substances</u> in the <u>air</u> , often consisting of <u>waste</u> from <u>vehicles</u> or <u>industry</u>

6.	Attorney General (endocentric)	the <u>top legal officer</u> in some <u>countries</u> , whose <u>job</u> is to <u>provide legal advice</u> to the <u>government</u> and to <u>represent</u> the <u>government</u>
7.	a baby-boomer (exocentric)	a <u>person</u> who was <u>born</u> during the <u>baby boom</u> (ex
8.	a bathtub (endocentric)	a <u>long plastic, metal, or ceramic container</u> that is <u>filled</u> with <u>water</u> so that you can <u>sit</u> or <u>lie</u> in it to <u>wash your whole body</u>
9.	6 a batswoman (endocentric)	in <u>cricket</u> , a woman who <u>hits</u> the <u>ball</u>
10.	4 a banknote (endocentric)	a <u>piece of printed paper</u> that has a <u>particular value</u> as <u>money</u>
11.	a bogeyman (endocentric)	an <u>imaginary evil person</u> who <u>harms children</u>
12.	a buffer zone (endocentric)	an <u>area intended</u> to <u>separate</u> two <u>armies</u> that are <u>fighting</u>
13.	a bullet train endocentric	a very <u>fast train</u> with a <u>smooth, pointed shape</u> , <u>especially</u> one used in Japan
14.	cable-television (endocentric)	the <u>system</u> of <u>sending television programmes</u> or <u>phone signals</u> along <u>wires</u> under the <u>ground</u>
15.	a cavalryman (endocentric)	a <u>soldier</u> in an <u>army</u> who <u> fights</u> in a <u>tank</u> , or (<u>especially</u> in the past) on a horse
16.	a chairman	a <u>person in charge</u> of a <u>meeting</u> or <u>organization</u>
17.	a checkpoint (endocentric)	a place where <u>people</u> are <u>stopped</u> and <u>asked questions</u> and <u>vehicles</u> are examined, <u>especially</u> at a <u>border</u> between two <u>countries</u>
18.	a city-state (appositional)	a city and <u>its surrounding territory</u> that together make an <u>independent state</u>
19.	a classmate (endocentric)	someone who is in the same <u>class</u> as you at <u>school</u>
20.	coin toss (endocentric)	the act of <u>throwing a coin</u> up in the <u>air</u> and having it <u>land</u> on the <u>ground</u> or on a <u>surface</u> with one of <u>its two sides</u> <u>facing</u> up, usually for the <u>purpose</u> of <u>deciding</u> between two <u>choices</u>
21.	a congressman (endocentric)	a man who <u>belongs</u> to a <u>congress</u> , <u>especially</u> a <u>member</u> of the US <u>House of Representatives</u>
22.	courtroom (endocentric)	
23.	coastline (endocentric)	the <u>particular shape</u> of the <u>coast</u> , <u>especially</u> as <u>seen</u> from above, from the <u>sea</u> , or on a <u>map</u>
24.	a craftsman (endocentric)	a <u>person</u> who is <u>skilled</u> in a <u>particular craft</u>
25.	a documentary-maker (endocentric)	the <u>people</u> or <u>company</u> that make documentary
26.	an election-year (endocentric)	a year when people vote in an election
27.	a farmland (endocentric)	<u>land</u> that is used for or is <u>suitable</u> for <u>farming</u>
28.	a farmworker (endocentric)	<i>someone employed for labor in agriculture</i>
29.	a fingernail (endocentric)	the hard, <u>slightly</u> curved <u>part</u> that covers and <u>protects</u> the <u>top</u> of the end of a <u>finger</u>
30.	a fisherman (endocentric)	someone who <u>catches fish</u> , <u>especially</u> as a <u>job</u>
31.	football (exocentric)	a <u>game</u> played between two <u>teams</u> of eleven <u>people</u> , where each <u>team</u> <u>tries</u> to <u>win</u> by <u>kicking a ball</u> into the other team's <u>goal</u>
32.	a footballer	someone who <u>plays football</u> , <u>especially</u> as a <u>job</u>

33.	f Foothill (endocentric)	a <u>low mountain</u> or <u>low hill</u> at the <u>bottom</u> of a <u>larger mountain</u> or <u>range</u> of <u>mountains</u>
34.	a footprint (endocentric)	the <u>mark</u> made by a person's or animal's <u>foot</u>
35.	footwear (endocentric)	shoes, <u>boots</u> , or any other <u>outer covering</u> for the <u>human foot</u>
36.	fossil fuel (endocentric)	fuel used in winter
37.	gingerbread (exocentric)	a <u>type</u> of <u>cake</u> , usually very <u>dark brown</u> and <u>soft</u> , that <u>contains ginger</u> end
38.	a government-bond (endocentric)	an <u>amount</u> of <u>money borrowed</u> by a <u>government</u> , or the <u>official document relating</u> to this (end)
39.	a gunman (exocentric)	a man, usually a <u>criminal</u> , who is <u>armed</u> with a <u>gun</u>
40.	a handbag (endocentric)	a <u>small bag</u> for <u>money</u> , <u>keys</u> , <u>make-up</u> , etc., <u>carried especially</u> by women
41.	a headline (endocentric) 30	a <u>line</u> of words <u>printed in large letters</u> as the <u>title</u> of a story in a <u>newspaper</u> , or the <u>main points</u> of the <u>news</u> that are <u>broadcast</u> on <u>television</u> or <u>radio</u>
42.	heartland	<u>the central part of a country or area</u>
43.	a hobby-horse (endocentric)	a <u>toy</u> made from a <u>long stick</u> , with a <u>shape</u> like a horse's <u>head</u> at one end, that a <u>child</u> can <u>pretend to ride</u>
44.	human resources (endocentric)	the department of an organization that deals with finding new <u>employees</u> , <u>keeping records</u> about all the organization's <u>employees</u> , and <u>helping</u> them with any <u>problems</u>
45.	a keyring (endocentric)	a <u>metal</u> or <u>plastic ring</u> used for <u>keeping your keys</u> together
46.	a land-dweller (endocentric)	a person who lives and works on land
47.	a lawmaker (endocentric)	someone, such as a <u>politician</u> , who is <u>responsible</u> for making and <u>changing laws</u>
48.	a lawsuit (endocentric)	a <u>problem</u> taken to a <u>law court</u> by an <u>ordinary person</u> or an <u>organization</u> rather than the <u>police</u> in <u>order to obtain</u> a <u>legal decision</u>
49.	a laptop (exocentric)	a <u>computer</u> that is <u>small</u> enough to be <u>carried around easily</u> and is <u>flat</u> when <u>closed</u>
50.	a landlady (endocentric)	a woman who is <u>paid rent</u> by <u>people</u> for the use of a <u>room</u> , <u>building</u> , or <u>piece of land</u> that she <u>owns</u>
51.	Legroom (endocentric)	
52.	a letterbox (endocentric)	a <u>metal container</u> in the <u>street</u> or other <u>public place</u> in which you can put <u>letters</u> for them to be <u>collected</u> and <u>sent</u> to someone <u>else</u>
53.	a lifetime-achievement (endocentric)	the <u>notable successes</u> that someone <u>achieves</u> during their <u>life</u>
54.	a marketplace (endocentric)	a <u>small outside area</u> in a <u>town</u> where there is a <u>market</u>
55.	a mastermind (exocentric)	someone who <u>plans</u> a <u>difficult activity</u> , often a <u>crime</u> , in <u>detail</u> and makes <u>certain</u> that it <u>happens successfully</u>
56.	mass-market (exocentric)	A <u>product</u> that is <u>designed</u> for the <u>mass market</u> is <u>intended to be bought</u> by as many <u>people</u> as <u>possible</u> , not just by <u>people</u> with a lot of <u>money</u> or a <u>special interest</u>
57.	a money-minder (endocentric)	a person whose job it is to look after someone or something
58.	a network (exocentric)	a <u>number</u> of <u>computers</u> that are <u>connected</u> together so that they can <u>share</u> information
59.	a newspaper (endocentric)	

60.	a notebook (endocentric)	a <u>book</u> of <u>plain paper</u> or <u>paper</u> with <u>lines</u> , for writing on
61.	Oil-price (endocentric)	The cost of a barrel of crude oil
62.	straw-bale	
63.	a pancake (endocentric)	a <u>thin, flat</u> , round <u>cake</u> made from a <u>mixture</u> of <u>flour</u> , <u>milk</u> , and <u>egg</u> , fried on both <u>sides</u>
64.	pepper-beef (endocentric)	beef with pepper
65.	petrol-price (endocentric)	
66.	a pipeline (endocentric)	a very <u>long large tube</u> , often <u>underground</u> , through which <u>liquid</u> or <u>gas</u> can <u>flow</u> for <u>long distances</u>
67.	a pipeline	administration that is in the same vein
68.	a pitfall (exocentric)	a <u>likely mistake</u> or <u>problem</u> in a <u>situation</u>
69.	a pocket-handkerchief (endocentric)	old-fashioned for handkerchief
70.	a power-plant (endocentric)	power station
71.	a policymaker (endocentric)	a <u>member</u> of a <u>government department</u> , <u>legislature</u> , or other <u>organization</u> who is <u>responsible</u> for making new <u>rules</u> , <u>laws</u> , etc
72.	restaurant-review (endocentric)	a review of a restaurant
73.	rice paper (endocentric)	<u>thin paper</u> that can be <u>eaten</u> and is used in <u>cooking</u> and in <u>painting</u>
74.	a risk-aversion (endocentric)	the <u>state</u> of being unwilling to take <u>risks</u> or <u>wanting</u> to <u>avoid risks</u> as much as <u>possible</u>
75.	a road-side (endocentric)	a <u>small road</u> that <u>joins</u> a <u>main road</u>
76.	a rollercoaster (endocentric)	an <u>exciting entertainment</u> in an <u>amusement park</u> , like a <u>fast train</u> that goes up and down very <u>steep slopes</u> and around very <u>sudden bends</u>
77.	a scapegoat (exocentric)	someone who is <u>blamed</u> or <u>punished</u> for another's <u>faults</u> or <u>actions</u>
78.	A school-book 59	A textbook
79.	a schoolchild (endocentric)	a <u>child</u> who goes to <u>school</u>
80.	shrimp-paste (endocentric)	paste made of shrimps
81.	a school-playground (endocentric)	a playground at school
82.	a screen-writer (endocentric)	someone who writes a story for a film
83.	sea-coal (endocentric)	mineral coal
84.	seafood (endocentric)	animals from the <u>sea</u> that can be <u>eaten</u> , especially <u>fish</u> or <u>sea creatures</u> with <u>shells</u>
85.	a slave-owner (endocentric)	people who owned other people as slaves
86.	a snowball (endocentric)	a <u>ball</u> of <u>snow</u> pressed together in the <u>hands</u> , especially for <u>throwing</u>
87.	a soundbite (exocentric)	a <u>short sentence</u> or phrase that is <u>easy</u> to <u>remember</u> , often <u>included</u> in a <u>speech</u> made by a <u>politician</u> and <u>repeated</u> in <u>newspapers</u> and on <u>television</u> and <u>radio</u>

88.	Space-craft (exocentric)	a <u>vehicle</u> used for <u>travel</u> in <u>space</u>
89.	Staircase (endocentric)	a set of <u>stairs</u> inside a <u>building</u> , usually with a <u>bar fixed</u> on the <u>wall</u> or onto <u>vertical poles</u> at the <u>side</u> for you to <u>hold on to</u>
90.	a stallholder (endocentric)	a <u>person</u> who <u>rents</u> or <u>owns</u> a <u>stall</u> in a <u>market</u>
91.	a stockmarket (endocentric)	a stock exchange
92.	a storyteller (endocentric)	a <u>person</u> who writes or <u>tells stories</u> , or <u>reads</u> them <u>aloud</u>
93.	sunlight (endocentric)	the <u>light</u> that comes from the <u>sun</u>
94.	Supply-side (exocentric)	the part of a country's economy that involves producing goods and supplying services
95.	top-class (endocentric)	among the finest of its kind
96.	a totem pole (endocentric)	a <u>tall wooden pole</u> with symbols <u>cut</u> or <u>painted</u> on it that is <u>part</u> of the <u>tradition</u> of the <u>Native Americans</u> of the <u>west coast</u> of Canada and the <u>northern</u> US
97.	a toymaker (endocentric)	a <u>company</u> that <u>manufactures toys</u>
98.	a toy-market (endocentric)	a market of toys
99.	a tribesman (endocentric)	a man who belongs to a tribe
100.	venture-capital (endocentric)	<u>money</u> that is <u>invested</u> or is <u>available</u> for <u>investment</u> in a new <u>company</u> , <u>especially</u> one that <u>involves risk</u>
101.	a video-game (endocentric)	a <u>game</u> in which the <u>player controls moving pictures</u> on a <u>screen</u> by <u>pressing buttons</u>
102.	wealth-management (endocentric)	the <u>business</u> or <u>activity</u> of <u>advising people</u> , <u>especially rich people</u> , on how to <u>invest</u> and <u>manage their money</u> and <u>property</u> end
103.	a warehouse (endocentric)	a <u>large building</u> for <u>storing</u> things before they are <u>sold</u> , used, or <u>sent out</u> to <u>shops</u>
104.	a waterway (endocentric)	a <u>narrow area</u> of <u>water</u> , such as a <u>river</u> or <u>canal</u> , that <u>ships</u> or <u>boats</u> can <u>sail</u> along
105.	wavelength (endocentric)	the <u>distance</u> between two <u>waves</u> of <u>energy</u> , or the <u>length</u> of the <u>radiowave</u> used by a <u>particular radio station</u> for <u>broadcasting programmes</u>
106.	winter-fuel (endocentric)	Fuel for winter period
107.	wish-fulfillment (endocentric)	the <u>achievement</u> of things you really <u>want</u>
108.	a workhorse (exocentric)	a <u>machine</u> that <u>operates</u> without <u>failing</u> for <u>long periods</u> , <u>although</u> it might not be very <u>interesting</u> or <u>exciting</u>
109.	youth-unemployment (endocentric)	the <u>number</u> of young people who do not have a <u>job</u> that <u>provides money</u>