

NEOSEMANTICISMS OF ENGLISH ORIGIN IN MODERN LITHUANIAN AND LATVIAN

JURGITA MIKELIONIENĖ

Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania

and

ANDREJS VEISBERGS

University of Latvia, Latvia

Abstract. The influence of English as a global language on Latvian and Lithuanian (two related Baltic languages) has increased significantly over the past three decades. This phenomenon is not limited to direct loanwords but also encompasses semantic changes in existing native and previously borrowed words. The contrastive study is based on a set of borrowed words of English origin that have undergone semantic change in Lithuanian and Latvian in the last two decades. The paper views semantic change as reflected in neosemanticisms – words developing new meanings due to English influence and pattern takeover. Metaphorisation is the dominant type of meaning change. The set of words under discussion is derived from the Database of Lithuanian Neologisms and then compared with the Latvian counterparts. The process of English-induced meaning change in Latvian and Lithuanian is similar but not identical. Some changes may appear unnecessary, but they exist and warrant thorough documentation and analysis to understand the evolving linguistic landscapes of Latvian and Lithuanian.

Key words: semantic change, neosemanticism, borrowing, English, Lithuanian, Latvian

INTRODUCTION

As a global phenomenon, the English language exerts a significant influence on other modern languages, an impact that is perceived and evaluated differently depending on the perspective (Jenkins, Baker and Dewey, 2018; Leya, 2022). Languages influenced by English undergo changes in both vocabulary and grammatical structures, with notable semantic shifts also observed. The global reach, high prestige, and economic value of English contribute to its widespread appeal. Although it is not the dominant language in terms of native speakers, its power lies in its status as a primary second language.

Lithuanian and Latvian are closely related low-resource languages within the Baltic language group, sharing numerous lexical, morphological, and grammatical parallels. However, due to distinct historical trajectories and differing dominant contact languages, their lexicons have diverged over time. Both languages are currently experiencing strong influence from English. 'English as the main direct, indirect and intermediary contact language massively affects the lexical level of languages in the whole Baltic area and beyond' (Brēde, 2015: 174). According to the results of a recent Eurobarometer survey, a resounding 90 per cent of the respondents in Lithuania and 91 per cent in Latvia believe that English is the most beneficial language for children to learn (European Commission, 2024). Moreover, the various studies revealed, for both Lithuanian and Latvian speakers, English is associated with modernity, innovation, prestige, and entertainment (Vaicekauskienė, 2010: 198-199; Bondare, 2023: 37), and for young people it has become an integral part of informal or semi-informal communication (Tamulaitienė, 2014: 12). English loans in both languages (anglicisms) are being constantly monitored, registered and studied. Semantic changes under the impact of English, however, are less prominent and obvious, and they have received much less attention from linguists because they are much more difficult to identify and assess.

The aim of this study is to examine the neosemanticisms of English origin in Latvian and Lithuanian in the 21st century. The paper is based on previous studies on semantic changes in Lithuanian and Latvian (e.g., Veisbergs, 2012; Vladarskienė, 2013), other studies, and collected empirical data. The study also seeks to discuss various types of contemporary semantic changes and to identify similarities and differences in semantic changes in these two related languages. There have been no such contrastive studies of the new semantic shifts of Lithuanian and Latvian, so the research is undoubtedly new and relevant.

CONCEPT OF SEMANTIC CHANGE AND NEOSEMANTICISM

Semantic change (also *semantic shift* or *semantic drift*) reflects language development and the evolution of word meaning. This phenomenon is usually defined as 'the type of lexical change in which no formally new creation occurs but an already existing form is extended in use' (Grzega and Schöner, 2007: 41), or in other words, 'the producing base and the derived word coincide in terms of expression, but diverge in terms of content, that is, we are talking about the rethinking of the already existing lexical meaning, the so-called neologisms-meaning' (Zvereva, 2022: 371). *Neosemanticisms* (also *semantic neologisms* or *neosemes*) are a specific type of semantic change and neologism, where an existing lexical unit (word) with established meaning was assigned by language users with new meaning(s) (Herberg and Kinne, 1998: 1-2).

There are various internal and external factors, intralinguistic and extralinguistic reasons for the appearance of semantic neologisms: synonym differentiation, euphemisation, technological advancement and the need to describe new concepts,

cultural shifts, the change of people's living environment, etc. (Hao and Chi, 2013: 61; Stanforth, 2008: 805). One of the most significant and frequently cited factors is contact with other languages, sometimes referred to as contact-induced semantic change (Epps and Law, 2019: 38).

Processes of neosemantisation, when a natural language undergoes not only its internal changes but also transpositions resulting from the influence of foreign languages, focus on English (Satoła-Staškowiak, 2014: 183). In the context of Lithuanian and Latvian, the influence of English has been leading to numerous neosemanticisms. Semantic neologisms that result from English impact are sometimes called anglosemantisms (Witalisz, 2007: 1).

Semantic change can manifest in various forms. The primary traditional categories of semantic change include:

- *specialisation* (also referred to as narrowing or concretisation), in which a word's meaning becomes more specific;
- *generalisation* (also known as broadening or widening), where a word's meaning expands to encompass a wider range of referents;
- *pejoration* (also termed derogation or worsening), in which a word acquires a more negative connotation;
- *amelioration*, where a word develops a more positive meaning;
- *metaphorical extension*, in which a word's meaning is transferred to a new domain based on perceived similarities; and
- *metonymisation*, where semantic change occurs due to an associative relationship with a related concept (Ulmann, 1962: 218; Schüler, 2006: 63; Borkowska and Kleparski, 2007: 36; Riemer, 2010: 400-420; Veisbergs, 2012: 113-118; Hao and Chi, 2013: 61-62; Zvereva, 2022: 372-373; Asri, Rhamadanty, Burhamzah, and Alamsyah, 2024: 1088).

Various typologies reflect either a shift in the scope of meaning or a semantic transformation that carries connotative evaluation. Semantic neologisms are often initially perceived as linguistic interference – an unwelcome deviation regarded as erroneous (e.g., Didjurgienė and Grigonienė, 2016: 128). The distinction between what could be termed necessary meanings and those introduced for ornamental or idiosyncratic reasons, often dismissed as superfluous and non-normative, is largely inconsequential, as it does not ultimately influence the linguistic outcome. That is, it does not result in the disappearance of unwelcome neologisms nor in the stabilisation of those deemed acceptable within the language.

A prevailing perspective suggests that English interference and dominance in language contact situations contribute to semantic ambiguity and create communicative barriers within the target language community. Advocates of this view criticise the influence of English and seek to minimise its impact. Others argue that this influence drives linguistic standardisation or homogenisation, ultimately leading to a loss of cultural uniqueness (Munat, 2005: 150). Conversely, some scholars contend that such changes enhance stylistic diversity, introduce new nuances, and fill lexical gaps in the recipient language. From this perspective, borrowing can be regarded as both an enrichment and refinement of a language's

expressive resources, as well as an activation of its latent linguistic potential under the influence of another language or culture (Veisbergs, 2007: 239). Despite differing perspectives, the phenomenon remains widespread, difficult to regulate, and warrants continued scholarly investigation.

METHODOLOGY

The study of semantic neologisms employs a range of methods and methodologies, yet it is often accompanied by significant challenges. One of the most complex issues concerns the temporal dimension: At what point can a new meaning be considered stable? What frequency of usage is required to establish its stability? This challenge is further exacerbated by the inherent limitations of corpus data, as corpora are typically unbalanced, with a predominance of internet and newspaper texts. Moreover, in cases of semantic change affecting high-frequency words, analysing thousands of occurrences can be nearly unfeasible (Furiassi, Pulcini and Gonzales, 2012: 1). These complexities are further amplified when comparing two or more languages, as the processes, characteristics, and methodological approaches may differ.

Automatic or semi-automatic recognition of neosemanticisms is not an easy task, because Lithuanian and Latvian text corpora are not semantically annotated, and it is difficult to trace the semantic development of an existing word. Therefore, it was decided not to analyse changing collocations or other word combinations but to use the possibilities of the Database of Lithuanian Neologisms (Milūnaitė and Aleksaitė, n.d.).

The Database of Lithuanian Neologisms (DLN), which has been compiled and continuously updated online since 2011, is a unique digital resource. At the beginning of 2025 that database contains almost 11,000 new lexical items and neologisms created by giving new meanings to existing words – neosemanticisms.

The general information on each item presents the neologism's origin as well as its original form, and the information block, where the meaning(s) and usage of the neologism can be found, provides the data on thematic fields of usage, functional and expressive shades, the relationship between the neologism and the norm of the standard language, usage examples, etc. (Miliūnaitė, 2018: 5). Therefore, this source is very convenient in order to make a certain sample of Lithuanian neosemanticisms and later to compare it with Latvian examples.

Automated search in the DLN for retrieving English-origin neosemanticisms was carried out by setting the following attributes: 'noun', 'borrowed from English', and 'time slot 2004-2024'. The initial list of selected research units consisted of 2,114 neologisms. After manual analysis, aimed at selecting only words with the attribute 'new meaning', we isolated only 44 semantic neologisms, which were then compared to the Latvian counterparts (naturally there are more neosemanticisms, but it was decided to stick to this as the only solid basis from which to proceed). The small number analysed does not reflect the true ratio of semantic neologisms, but it is a good reflection of the fact that new meaning is much more difficult to notice than direct loans.

The corresponding Latvian equivalents were selected, and their semantic structure was analysed. This step was based on real usage, fixed in Latvian corpora (*lvTenTen2014* and *LVK2022* in *Sketch Engine* and *NoSketch Engine* platforms). Finally, using analytical and descriptive methods, the new meanings were viewed by type of semantic change.

RESULTS

The analysis of 44 Lithuanian neosemanticisms from the DLN was conducted by comparing their new meanings with Latvian equivalents. All examples are first classified according to whether the same semantic change was found in Latvian, ignoring whether changes in Latvian could have already occurred earlier (which occasionally was the case, since Latvian has traditionally been more open to internationalisms, especially the so-called neoclassical words).

Within the set of new meanings in the two languages, the following groups can be discerned: parallel semantic changes and non-parallel semantic changes.

It is worth mentioning that the list contains 8 neosemanticisms with non-codified meaning: *chemija/ ķimija* (chemistry) – ‘emotional connections formed between people’, *konspiracija/ konspirācija* (conspiracy) – ‘secret agreement’, *lokacija/ lokācija* (location) – ‘area, place’, *pilotas/ pilots* (pilot) – ‘trial activity’, *presentacija/ prezentācija* (presentation) – ‘set of computer slides’, *reindžeris, -ē/ reindžers, reindžere* (ranger) – ‘a keeper of nature object’, *rezoliucija/ rezolūcija* (resolution) – ‘a measure of image sharpness’, *topas/ tops* (top) – ‘upper body clothing’. In both Lithuanian and Latvian, there are other words that convey the same meanings. The above neosemanticisms will not be analysed further in this study.

1 PARALLEL SEMANTIC CHANGES

The majority of Lithuanian and Latvian neosemanticisms (28 out of 36, or approximately four-fifths) share the same newly borrowed meanings. One of the more challenging issues is determining whether a genuinely new meaning has emerged or whether additional semantic components have simply been appended to an existing one. In both cases – whether the word is monosemic or polysemic – the process involves semantic extension, although the degree of broadening may vary. The mechanism of extension also differs: it may occur through metaphorisation or metonymisation, with metaphorisation sometimes involving connotative shifts.

All examples can be divided into subgroups based on the mechanism of semantic change:

- 1) The largest group – comprising 17 words, or more than half of the corpus – consists of neosemanticisms whose semantic structures have been extended by meanings referring to entirely different concepts, linked to the original ones through external or internal features. Due to this perceived similarity, these new meanings can be classified as metaphorical. For example, the resemblance

in external form led to the metaphorical extension of the Lithuanian musical term *koncertina* (concertina), which acquired the additional meaning of ‘spiral barbed cutting wire used as a fence to form a movement barrier’.

The results show that the new meaning is often a terminological one, describing another specialised concept; for example, now the word *tonikas/ toniks* (tonic) started to be used as a term in cosmetology and is defined as a ‘liquid cosmetic preparation used to clean the skin of the face’. Now *skautas/ skauts* (scout) in sport means ‘someone who is looking for new young players for the team and gathers information about the opponents’:

LT: Lietuvos rinktinės *skautas* yra tas žmogus, kuris narsto varžovų žaidimą ir aiškina savo krepšininkams, ko iš priešininkų tikėtis aikštėje.

LV: Bijušais NHL hokeja Tampa Bay Lightning komandas *skauts* un personības izaugsmes treneris.

However, in the list of neosemanticisms analysed, the mechanism of semantic change is not very clear for all words. For example, it can be assumed that the semes of the word *senior – senjoras, -ė/ seniors, -a* – (respected, ‘usually of older age’) were transferred to denote such a group of elderly and therefore respected people who already receive a pension.

Further examples can be seen in Table 1. In the tables and in the text, the abbreviations ‘EN’ for English, ‘LT’ for Lithuanian, and ‘LV’ for Latvian have been used.

Table 1 **Metaphorisation (1)**

Neosemanticism	New meaning(s)
EN: <i>avatar</i> . LT: <i>avataras</i> (Invision _White turi savo firminį <i>avatarą</i>). LV: <i>avatars</i> (Katram lietotājam ir savs grafiskais attēls jeb <i>avatars</i> , kurš pārvietojas pa virtuālo telpu dažādos veidos).	‘virtual reality uses a graphic image or character that describes the virtual personality’
EN: <i>evangelist</i> . LT: <i>evangelistas</i> (<i>Evangelistas</i> man – techninis žmogus, kuris šiuos dalykus gali paaiškinti kitiems). LV: <i>evanģēlists</i> (Microsoft Latvia tehnoloģiju <i>evanģēlists</i> Aigars Mačiņš).	‘a specialist in new technologies capable of generating public interest in advanced ideas through various means of disseminating information’
EN: <i>phoenix</i> . LT: <i>fēniksas</i> (verta atkreipti dėmesį į „iškalbingą“ tyčinių bankrotų arba vadinamų „ <i>fēniksų</i> “ statistiką). LV: <i>fēnikss</i> (Par “ <i>fēniksiem</i> ” saucot tieši šīs epizodes, kad viens nobankrotē, atstāj parādus pret piegādātājiem vai klientiem un pret valsti, un nodibina nākamo tajā pašā sektorā).	‘a fraudulent company that deliberately causes bankruptcy to avoid financial obligations and “resurrects” under a new name’
EN: <i>icon</i> . LT: <i>ikona</i> (L. Donskis – mūsų laikmečio akademinė <i>ikona</i>). LV: <i>ikona</i> (Alberts Einšteins ir viena no dižākajām mūsu laikmeta <i>ikonām</i>).	‘a person who is worshiped as the symbolic embodiment of a political, religious, cultural, or fashion phenomenon’

Neosemanticism	New meaning(s)
EN: <i>injection</i> . LT: <i>injekcija</i> (1. kreiptis į fondus dėl kapitalo <i>injekcijos</i> gali ir pačios įmonės. 2. Geros nuotaikos <i>injekciją</i> ir šypsenas veiduose sustiprins ne tik smagi orkestro programa, [...]). LV: <i>injekcija</i> (1. kad gaidāma galvenā kredītu <i>injekcija</i> , būs zināma marta sākumā. 2. bija pieprasījums pēc optimisma <i>injekcijām</i>).	1. ‘one-time funds to improve the financial situation of another community or organisation’; 2. ‘a strong arousal of an emotional state or vitality’.
EN: <i>platform</i> . LT: <i>platforma</i> (Europos Komisija siūlo naujas taisykles skaitmeninėms <i>platformoms</i>). LV: <i>platforma</i> (Nintex Workflow piedāvā Microsoft Sharepoint <i>platformas</i>).	‘the digital environment required to run and use the software’

This metaphorical transformation affects the denotative meaning of the words. Usually, it can be clearly discerned as a different meaning and should be clearly marked in dictionaries as a new sense.

Semantic borrowing of this type is especially rife in those spheres of Lithuanian and Latvian that undergo fast development; for example, the rise of AI has undoubtedly given a new meaning – ‘misleading information generated by AI’ – to the psychiatric term *hallucination*. The growth of the cryptocurrency market clearly explains the extension of the meaning of *ether*, for example:

LT: *eterio* operacijų blokų grandinės valiutos vienetai.

LV: *ēteris* (ether) ir kā dolārs jeb ārvalstu valūta).

New technology – ‘fuel and electricity-powered car’ – of *hibridas/ hibrids* (hybrids) also demonstrates this. The productivity of metaphorisation is confirmed by neosemanticisms with political overtones; for example, in the context of Russia’s war with Ukraine, the fictional creatures ‘orc’ and ‘elf’ have also acquired new meanings (Table 2).

Table 2 Metaphorisation (2)

Neosemanticism	New meaning
EN: <i>elf</i> . LT: <i>elfas</i> (Lietuvoje interneto <i>elfai</i> atsirado kaip atsvara prokremliškiems virtualioje erdvėje besidarbuojančiams troliams) LV: <i>elfs</i> (<i>elfi</i> pārlūko sociālos medijus, lai atklātu viltus profilus)	‘an internet fighter against lies and hostile propaganda spread by internet trolls’
EN: <i>orc</i> . LT: <i>orkas</i> (Po šito <i>orkų</i> siautėjimo Ukrainoje mes Lietuvoje tikrai atsiskakysime daug sovietų paveldo). LV: <i>orks</i> (Ja kādreiz Putinu un citus kara noziegumus pastrādājušos <i>orkus</i> notiesātu).	‘Russian soldier – demoralised brutal aggressor in Russian war in Ukraine 2022’

As can be seen from tables 1 and 2, the most frequently metaphorised meanings have concrete nouns, while only two abstract verbal nouns with new meanings were detected: *implozija* (implosion) – ‘a sudden rupture directed inward of the object’ – and *kanibalizacija/ kanibalizācija* (cannibalisation) – ‘a phenomenon in which one part of an object emerges, diminishing or eliminating other parts of the same object’, for example:

LT: *Kanibalizacija* – tai reiškiny, kai pradėta pardavinėti nauja prekė sumažina kitų tos pačios linijos prekių pardavimo apimtis.

LV: Tai pat laikā arī tādi mārketinga efektivitātes un atdeves novērtēšanas izaicinājumi, kā produktu klāsta optimizācijas nepieciešamība un precīzāks *kanibalizācijas* daļas (īpatsvara).

- 2) Additionally, seven words (approximately one quarter of the corpus) have developed through a different mechanism: their semantic extension is based on metonymisation. In these cases, the new meaning arises not from similarity but from a logical or contextual association. For example, the original abstract meaning of *affirmation* as ‘confirmation’ has evolved into a more specific sense denoting the result of the action – ‘statement’. Overall, all neosemanticisms resulting from metonymisation exhibit a shift toward a more specialised meaning than their original one (see Table 3).

Table 3 Metonymisation

Neosemanticism	New meaning
EN: <i>affirmation</i> . LT: <i>afirmacija</i> (Afirmacija turi būti aiški, be dviprasmybių, be juokų ar pokštų). LV: <i>afirmācija</i> (Tāpēc dažiem afirmācijas ir ļoti jaudīgs instruments).	‘a short, often repeated statement that is positive and encourages you to achieve your goal’
EN: <i>accentuation</i> . LT: <i>akcentuacija</i> (Užstringančio tipo akcentuacija pasižymintys žmonės užsispyrusiai gina savo idėjas). LV: <i>akcentuācija</i> (Akcentuācijas ir robežstāvokļi starp psihiski līdzsvarotu cilvēku un psihiskām novirzēm).	‘character disorders in the areas of will, feelings, moral and aesthetic qualities’
EN: <i>block</i> . LT: <i>blokas</i> (Gavau bloką „Facebook“). LV: <i>bloks</i> ([...], tas ir kā psiholoģisks bloks jebkura uzņēmēja galvā!).	‘prohibition (blocking the way) to perform some actions’
EN: <i>conference</i> . LT: <i>konferencija</i> (NBA Vakarų konferencijos ketvirtfinalyje „Spurs“ krepšininkai atsirevanšavo Dalaso klubui). LV: <i>konference</i> (Austrumtenesijas valsts universitātes komanda gaida pēdējās sacensības pirms "Atlantic Sun" konferences čempionāta).	‘association of institutions or sports teams of the same profile’

Neosemanticism	New meaning
EN: <i>franchise</i> . LT: <i>franšizė</i> („ <i>Haris Poteris</i> “ – <i>pelningiausia visų laikų kino franšizė</i>). LV: <i>franšize</i> (<i>Studijas DreamWorks animācijas franšizes "Mad-agaskara" jaunākā filma uzstādījusi jaunu rekordu Latvijā</i>).	‘a series or film, games, etc. linked by a common theme and marketed as a single product’
EN: <i>normality</i> . LT: <i>normalumas</i> (<i>Internetas yra naujoji mūsų gyvenimo realybė, naujasis normalumas</i>). LV: <i>normālums</i> (<i>Brīnos, ka nav daudz tādu, kas beigās atzīstas, ka viņu normālums ir tēlots</i>).	‘a political, social, cultural category that defines a situation that conforms to a norm or standard’
EN: <i>operator</i> . LT: <i>operatorius</i> , -ė (<i>Šveicarijos geležinkelių operatorė pasiūlys įsigyti bitkoinų bilietų automatuose</i>). LV: <i>operators</i> , -e (<i>"Āžu HES" operatore "Dzirkstelei" apstiprina, ka šopavasār ledus burtiski sagrauzis koka balstus</i>).	‘a company that provides financial intermediation, telecommunication services, etc. operations’

- 3) Sometimes words have changed connotation. We have four such examples in the list of neosemanticisms: *rekrūtas/ rekrūtis* (recruit) has lost its historical negative connotation and now refers to ‘a newly arrived employee of a company’; *rutina/ rutina* (routine) today is already understood as a positive habit; and the meaning of the word *simuliacija/ simulācija* (simulation) has changed into a neutral, IT-related sense:

LT: *Gauta informacija mums padės atlikti kompiuterines simuliacijas.*

LV: *Simulācijas algoritma blokshēma ir attēlota turpmāk.*

Unlike the other examples listed here, ‘consumerism’ is increasingly condemned in contemporary society; therefore, the connotation of neosemanticism *konsumerizmas/ konsumerisms* can be considered negative.

2 NON-PARALLEL SEMANTIC CHANGES

New meanings that have emerged in Lithuanian without corresponding changes in Latvian are relatively rare: only eight neosemanticisms (approximately one-fifth of the corpus) lack semantic equivalents in Latvian. The mechanisms by which these Lithuanian neosemanticisms arise are the same as those described in the previous section. Some examples include jargon terms formed through metaphorical transformation, such as *pitonas* (python), which has acquired the additional meaning of ‘programming language’; *kojotas* (coyote, ‘someone who smuggles people across the Mexico-US border’); the new meaning of *cigarette* as ‘women’s narrow, straight, fitted trousers’ based on the similarity of the shape; and the new meaning of *denimas* (denim, ‘denim pants, jeans’) based on metonymy

by transferring the name of a fabric to the name of the item made of this fabric. Metonymy was a background for the extension in the meaning of *bandažas* (bandage), to include the sexual practice of bondage, where sexual gratification is gained from tying a partner up or being tied up. More specific meaning appeared in the metaphorised abstracts *melioracija* (melioration, 'a linguistic process where a word with a negative connotation acquires a more positive meaning') and *nulifikacija* (nullification, 'surgical removal of genitals').

It cannot be unequivocally stated that the semantic changes discussed here do not occur in Latvian, at least in spoken language, nor that they are non-existent simply because they have not yet been documented in corpora. Language is in constant flux, and there may be a delay in recording such developments. This phenomenon is particularly evident in the context of neosemantics in both Lithuanian and Latvian. The present study has demonstrated that even advanced digital resources, such as the DLN and online dictionaries, struggle to keep pace with contemporary usage. Nevertheless, corpora themselves provide valuable insights. For instance, it has been observed that the neosemanticism *scout* has already broadened its meaning to denote any 'person seeking new professionals' – *Esmu jauno dizaineru skauts žurnālā Salt & Vinegar*.

CONCLUSIONS

Analysing semantic change and neosemanticisms is vital in linguistics, as it reveals how languages adapt to evolving environments and cultural contexts. This analysis underscores the dynamic nature of language and illustrates how linguistic communities negotiate meaning in response to external influences. Documenting these semantic shifts in dictionaries and databases is essential; neglecting them can lead to confusion and misunderstandings in textual interpretation.

Analysis of a limited set of semantic neologisms in Lithuanian and Latvian indicates that English exerts a broad and often similar influence on semantic changes in both Baltic languages. The majority of examined words exhibit parallel semantic developments in both languages. Approximately one-fifth of these words, however, did not display such changes in Latvian. This discrepancy does not necessarily suggest a more active process in Lithuanian overall; it results from the specific samples derived from the Database of Lithuanian Neologisms.

The emergence of new meanings in language is influenced by various factors; however, metaphorisation stands out as a predominant mechanism driving semantic change. This process affects words across different linguistic strata, with a notable prevalence in slang and professional jargon. This observation aligns with findings of other researchers that 'semantic neologisms are used in slang to a greater extent than other types of neologisms' (Medvid, Malovana and Vashyst, 2022: 78). This phenomenon is particularly noteworthy when considering Anglicisms, especially neoclassical formations, which are not part of the traditional core vocabulary of Baltic languages. These semantic changes are less a consequence of the inherent

linguistic features of the affected languages and more a reflection of contemporary societal transformations, evolving cultural paradigms, and the pervasive global influence of the English language.

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Jurgita Mikelionienė (Assoc. Prof., Dr. in Humanities) is currently working at the Kaunas University of Technology. Her research interests include lexicology, terminology, corpus linguistics, and word-formation.

 0000-0002-7182-5515

Email: jurgita.mikelioniene@ktu.lt

Andrejs Veisbergs (Prof., Dr. Habil. in Philology) works at the University of Latvia. He is a Consultant of Oxford English Dictionaries and an accredited European Union interpreter. His research interests include lexicography, idioms, language contacts, translation and interpreting.

 0000-0001-6107-2348

Email: andrejs.veisbergs@lu.lv