

# MINOR TYPES OF WORD-FORMATION



*Word-formation* is the system of derivative types of words & the process of creating new words from the material available in the language after certain structural & semantic formulas & patterns.



## MINOR TYPES OF WORD-FORMATION

- shortening
- blending
- acronymy
- sound interchange
- sound imitation
- distinctive stress
- back-formation



# SHORTENING

It is the formation of a word by cutting off a part of the word.

## Types of

Initial or  
aphesis

*Ex.*

*phone-telep  
hone*

Medial or  
syncope

*Ex.*

*fancy-fant  
asy*

Final or  
apocope

*Ex. advert -*

*advertisemen  
t*

Both  
initial and  
final

*Ex. flu -  
influenza*



# BLENDING

- It is the formation of a new word by combining parts of two words.

## Types of blending

1) Additive type that may be transformed into a phrase consisting of complete stems combined by the conjunction “and”

*Ex. smog – sm(oke) and (f)og*

2) Restrictive type that can be transformed into a phrase, the first element of which serves as a modifier for the second

*Ex. telecast – television broadcast*

# ACRONYMY (GRAPHICAL ABBREVIATION)

It is the formation of a word from the initial letters of a word combination.

## Types of

### Acronymy

Acronyms which are read as ordinary English words  
*Ex. UNESCO – the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*

Acronyms with the alphabetic reading  
*Ex. BBC – the British Broadcasting Corporation*



# SOUND-INTERCHANGE

It is the formation of a word due to an alteration in the phonemic composition of its roots.

## Types of sound interchange

Vowel-interchange  
e (ablaut)  
*Ex. food- to feed*

Consonant-interc  
hange  
*Ex. advice- to  
advise*



# SOUND-IMITATION (ONOMATOPOEIA)

It is the naming of an action or a thing by a more or less exact reproduction of the sound associated with it.

## Types of sound-imitation

Words denoting sounds produced by human beings in the process of communication or expressing their feeling.

*Ex. chatter, babble*

Words denoting sounds produced by animals, birds, insects.

*Ex. moo, croak, buzz*

words imitating the sound of water, the noise of metallic things, a forceful motion.

*Ex. splash, whip, swing*



# BACK-FORMATION

It is the formation of a new word by subtracting a real or opposed suffix from the existing words.

*Ex. to butle - butler*



# DISTINCTIVE STRESS

It is the formation of a word by means of the shift of the stress in the source word.

*Ex. 'increase – to in'crease*  
*'present – to pre'sent*

