

Стаття надійшла до редакції 09.11.2024 р.

Перевірено на плагіат 14.11.2024 р.

унікальність – 87 %

<https://doi.org/10.17721/StudLing2024.25.21-31>

UDC 81'22. 811.111

## THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY IN ENGLISH WORDS OF THE YEAR: FLEXIBILITY OF MODERN ENGLISH VS LINGUISTIC CONCEPT OF WORD

Alla D. Belova, [profbelova@gmail.com](mailto:profbelova@gmail.com)ORCID: [0000-0002-3014-326X](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3014-326X)

*Doctor of Sciences in Linguistics, Professor,  
Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv*

*The article explores words of the year (WOTY) announced by the Oxford English Dictionary, Cambridge Dictionary, Merriam Webster Dictionary, and American Dialect Society in terms of the linguistic concept of Word. WOTY poses questions about the changes in the requirements for a word as the basic unit of language that spans orthography, morphology, word formation, naming, categorization, semiotics, and semantics. The list of 77 English WOTY that label the 2001-2023 period is based on two major varieties of English (British English and American English) and, thus, mirrors the anglo-centric vision of the world, burning issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, global and national events. In many cases, WOTY is of historical value as it encapsulates vital human problems. Linguistically, WOTY reveals enormous changes in the English language and the factors that trigger the immense popularity of these words. Many prominent linguists and philosophers of the 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century made a significant contribution to the linguistic concept of Word, describing the correlation between a word and a concept or notion, a word and a part of speech, structural, semantic, and syntactic aspects of Word, its uninterruptability and positional mobility. Due to the wide diversity of languages in the world, the characteristics of words are not universal. Unprecedented flexibility of English, new trends in spelling and word formation, specific word coinages in English of the 21<sup>st</sup> century make pretty obvious the fact that traditional criteria for a word are becoming lenient. Suffixes -ism and -ussy, two-word expressions as WOTY prove the Word borders become less tightened. Hashtags neutralize word spacing as a crucial parameter in the distinction of words and question the correlation of a word and a part of speech. Pictorial elements (emojis) and hashtags emphasize the fusion of alphabetical and non-alphabetical symbols in the domain of English-language communication. Penetration of non-alphabetical scrips (#, emoji, numerical symbols) into the English language, including WOTY, reflects the impact of video gaming, text messaging, ICT, and digital technologies on the English of young generations.*

**Keywords:** *linguistic concept of Word, non-alphabetical script, Word of the year/*

© Белова А. Д., [profbelova@gmail.com](mailto:profbelova@gmail.com)

21 століття в англійських словах року: гнучкість сучасної англійської мови vs  
теорія слова (Англійською)

## 21 СТОЛІТТЯ В АНГЛІЙСЬКИХ СЛОВАХ РОКУ: ГНУЧКІСТЬ СУЧАСНОЇ АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ VS ТЕОРІЯ СЛОВА

Алла Дмитрівна Белова, [profbelova@gmail.com](mailto:profbelova@gmail.com)  
ORCID: [0000-0002-3014-326X](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3014-326X)

доктор філол. наук, професор  
Київський національний університет імені Тараса Шевченка

У статті досліджуються зміни в інтерпретації слова як базової одиниці мови в аспекті орфографії, морфології, словотвору, номінації, категоризації, семантики, семіотики на основі слів року в англійській мові (2001-2023), що обрані авторитетними виданнями та установами – Oxford English Dictionary, Cambridge Dictionary, Merriam Webster Dictionary та American Dialect Society. Список з 77 слів року охоплює першу чверть XXI століття, два основних варіанти англійської мови (англійська мова у Великій Британії та США) і відображає англо-центричне бачення світу, концептуалізацію та категоризацію явищ, процесів, тенденцій та проблем людства у XXI столітті, глобальні та національні події. Одночасно слова року засвідчують беспрецедентну гнучкість англійської мови та чинники, які зумовлюють частотність та популярність цих лексичних одиниць. Відомі лінгвісти та філософи XIX-XX століть внесли вагомий внесок в теорію слова, досліджуючи співвідношення слова і поняття, частини мови, структурні, семантичні, синтаксичні аспекти слова, позиційну рухливість слова та інші характеристики. Через величезну різноманітність мов світу такі характеристики не є універсальними. Безпрецедентна гнучкість англійської мови, нові тенденції в орфографії, словотворенні вказують, що традиційні критерії до слова стають послабленишими. Наявність суфіксів *-ism*, *-ussy*, двослівних кластерів серед слів року, доводить, що межі слів розмиваються. Хештегі нейтралізують пробіл між словами як важливий параметр у розрізненні слів. Емодзі і хештегі свідчать про зліття літер та не-літерних символів в сучасній англомовній комунікації. Поширення неалфавітного письма (емодзі, хештегі, цифрові символи) в англійській мові, серед англійських слів року тощо, відображає вплив відеоігор, текстових повідомлень, цифрових та інформаційно-комунікаційних технологій на англійську мову молодих поколінь.

**Ключові слова:** неалфавітне письмо, слово року, теорія слова.

### Introduction

A word, the basic structural unit of the language, was one of the central objects of research in Semiotics, Morphology, Semantics, Parts of Speech Theory, Naming Theory, Structural Linguistics, Corpus Linguistics, and some other fields of Linguistics in the 19th – 20th centuries. Multiple language functions (referential,

cumulative, informative, emotive, connotative, expressive, and others) are hardly realizable without words. One of the most persuasive arguments and the best illustrations of *language as words* is a dictionary – an alphabetical listing of words [Cowie 1990]. However, the basic notion of Word is not universal due to the vast diversity of world languages.

In the 21st century, English words are subjected to a sort of rating when the most popular Word of the year (WOTY/ WofY) is selected: "...a word or expression that has reflected the last 12 months and has potential to have lasting cultural significance or provides a snapshot into history" [Mouriquand 2023]. Dictionaries and publishing houses such as Oxford English Dictionary (OED), Cambridge Dictionary, Collins Dictionary, Merriam Webster Dictionary (MWD), American Dialect Society (ADS), and some other associations announce the Word of the year. On the one hand, these dictionaries reveal an anglo-centric vision of the world and its dynamics based on the two major varieties of English – British English and American English. On the other hand, the current status of English as a global language makes the impact of this choice more significant than a WOTY in any other language might have had. Linguistically, WOTY lists reveal interesting facts about changing views on current naming practices, word-forming patterns in Modern English, orthography, the impact of online communication, social media, and digital technologies on the English language, and pragmatics of communication.

The **goal** of the research is to explore the changes in the interpretation of a word as the basic structural unit of the language, to analyze the correlation between a word and a concept, a word and a part of speech, incorporation of non-alphabetical elements into the scope of Modern English and a word as it is.

**Data.** English words of the year label the 2001-2023 period that spans almost a quarter of the 21st century – dynamic, turbulent, full of technological breakthroughs, on the one hand, controversies and conflicts, on the other hand. 77 WOTY under analysis remind about burning issues in the world (*climate emergency* (2019) and other eco-words in the shortlist – *Climate action, Climate crisis, Climate denial, Eco-anxiety, Ecocide, Extinction, Global heating, Net-zero, Plant-based*); vital problems of the mankind (*pandemic* (2019), *quarantine, vaccine, Covid* (2020), *vax* (2021), *Goblin mode* (2022)); the role of digital technologies, ICT and AI in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (*w00t* (2007), *Tweet* (2009), *#hashtag* (2012), *selfie* (2013), *emoji* (2015), *homer* (2022), *enshittification* (2023); *hallucinate* (2023); momentous and remarkable events in the USA (*fake news*

(2017), *insurrection* (2021) and in Great Britain (*omnishambles* (2012), *big society* (2010). David Cameron's "*Big Society*" was named the phrase of the year (OED) in Britain in 2010. Taken to mean many things, it has begun to take on a life of its own - a sure sign of linguistic success" ['Big Society' ... 2010]. In this sense, WOTY contest winners and the words on the shortlists contribute to the language model of the world.

	Oxford English Dictionary	Cambridge Dictionary	Merriam Webster Dictionary	American Dialect Society
2023	rizz	hallucinate	Authentic	enshittification
2022	Goblin mode	homer	gaslighting	-ussy
2021	vax	perseverance		insurrection
2020	No single word was chosen	quarantine	vaccine	Covid
2019	Climate emergency	upcycling	pandemic	My (pronoun)
2018	toxic	nomophobia	justice	tender-age shelter
2017	youthquake	populism	feminism	fake news
2016	Post-truth	paranoid	surreal	dumpster fire
2015	Emoji (Face with tears)	austerity	-ism	they
2014	vape	cleavage	Culture	#blacklivesmatter
2013	selfie		science	because
2012	omnishambles		Socialism and capitalism	#hashtag
2011	squeezed middle		pragmatic	occupy
2010	Big society		Austerity	App
2009	simples		Admonish	Tweet
2008	credit crunch		Bailout	bailout
2007	carbon footprint		w00t	subprime
2006	bovvered		truthiness	<a href="#">to be plutoed, to pluto</a>
2005	sudoku		integrity	Truthiness
2004	chav		blog	Red. Blue/ purple States
2003			democracy	Metrosexual
2002				Weapons of mass destruction (WMD)
2001				9-11, 9/11 or September 11

*Table 1. Words of the year 2001-2023.*

**Methodology.** Theoretical interpretation of the notion “word” developed in European tradition since ancient times and can be traced back to Aristotle, who categorized words as parts of speech with their categorial meaning and as members of the sentence. The linguistic concept of Word evolved in the wake of

the efforts of many eminent scholars – philosophers, linguists, and semioticians [Haspelmath 2023; Juilland and Roceric 2019]. Ferdinand de Saussure and Charles Peirce considered words in terms of semiotics. Ferdinand de Saussure insisted on the arbitrary nature of the sign and studied “the signifier” (a linguistic form, for instance, Word) and “the signified” (the meaning) [Saussure 1916]. Charles Peirce tackled words as signs and distinguished several classes of them [Peirce 1931-1958; Peirce's Theory...2007]. Uriel Weinreich implemented semantic approach to words [Ullmann 1957]. The Word was syntactically defined as “the minimum sentence” by Henry Sweet, as “a minimum free form” by Leonard Bloomfield. Edward Sapir took into account both, syntactic and semantic aspects, and stressed indivisibility of the Word [Sapir 1921]. John Lyons emphasized “positional mobility” and “uninterruptability” of words [Lyons 1969]. Prof. Smirnitsky insisted on morphological characteristics as the Word meets paradigmatic characteristics of a particular part of speech with all relevant categories and categorial meaning. Overall, in the history of the linguistic concept of word scholars distinguished nearly 70 criteria: phonological, phonetic, orthographic, morphosyntactic, morphological, structural, semantic ones. In the article qualitative analysis of the data and deductive method are used. Methods of research also include structural, semantic, semiotic, orthographic analysis.

### Research

The WOTY award does not necessarily go to curious or the most frequently used words and does not necessarily mean inclusion of a popular newly-coined word in the dictionaries. The staff wait to see good evidence that a word or expression will stay the course [Reuters 2010]. OED relies mainly on its vast corpus (over 14.5 billion words in 2021), so the soaring frequency of the Word becomes the crucial factor. For example, in 2019 usage of the phrase *climate emergency* increased steeply, and by September it was more than 100 times as common as it had been the previous year [Barret 2019]. In September 2021, *vax* appeared more than 72 times more frequently than the year before, it also generated numerous collocations and derivatives [Guy 2021]. In 2015, to explore frequency of the most popular *emoji* across the world, Oxford University Press partnered with leading mobile technology business SwiftKey [Announcing ... 2015]. In 2023, OED made the procedure more democratic: for the first time ordinary people could vote for the Word of the year, so *rizz* received more than 32,000 votes as WOTY. It peaked in June 2023, when actor Tom Holland was

asked in a widely reported interview about his ‘rizz’, to which he answered, ‘I have no rizz whatsoever, I have limited rizz’ [Oxford ... 2023]. *Rizz*, widely used online, is defined as style, charm or attractiveness, or one’s ability to attract a romantic or sexual partner, *rizz up*, a phrasal verb, means to attract, seduce or chat up a person [Mouriquand 2023]. *Rizz*, from the middle part of the word ‘charisma’, is quite a rare example of word formation in English and is similar to ‘*fridge*’ (refrigerator) and ‘*flu*’ (influenza).

Cambridge Dictionary is also guided by spiking frequency of the words. For example, Dictionary.com noticed a 46% jump in dictionary lookups for the words “*hallucinate*” and “*hallucination*” from 2022 to 2023 [Lee 2023] due to discussions about AI, celebrity culture, identity, and social media [Cantor 2023].

Crowning of the WOTY at the assembly or hybrid meetings of American Dialect Society might draw up to 300 members – linguists, academics, scholars, writers, editors, and microcelebrities. American Dialect Society members also vote for winners in such categories as Political Word of the year, Most useful Word, Most Likely to Succeed, Slang / Informal Word of the Year, Most Creative, Euphemism of the Year, Most Outrageous, Most Unnecessary, Digital Word of the Year. In 2014 and 2015, ADS introduced new categories, such as Hashtag of the Year and Emoji of the Year. In 2014 *#blacklivesmatter* became the hashtag of the year followed by *#icantbreathe*, *#notallmen*, *#notallwomen*, *#whyisstayd*.

When used in sentences, words are syntactically organised and easily classified as a part of speech. Nouns dominate in the WOTY lists, thus, the language function of naming, labeling, categorization turns out to be of utmost importance. Other parts of speech are not numerous: Verbs – 3 (*hallucinate* (2023), *admonish* (2009), *pluto* (2006); Adjectives – 3 (*authentic* (2023), *toxic* (2018), *pragmatic* (2011); Pronouns – 2 (*they* (2015), *my* (2019); Conjunction – 1 (*because* (2013); Interjection – 1 (*wOOt* (2007). Suffixes (-*ism* (2015), -*ussy* (2022)), meaningful word-forming components but not words in the linguistic sense, cannot be rendered as a part of speech. This fact signals the concept of the Word is becoming relaxed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Moreover, the WOTY lists include some non-alphabetical scripts – *hashtag* (# (2012), *#blacklivesmatter* (2014), and *emoji* (2015) that cannot be qualified in terms of parts of speech either. Hashtags, perceived as words and comprising several components, make it hardly possible to establish a correlation between a word and a part of speech.

A word can be also defined as a sequence of sounds/ letters separated from other words by audible gaps in speech or spaces in the sentence. Word spacing is

crucial for automatic natural language processing, machine translation, corpora and corpus linguistics, speech synthesis and recognition, and other modern technologies. The orthography of hashtags neutralizes word spacing as a criterion for word disambiguation. In 2015, *#JeSuisParis*, *#LoveWins*, *#SayHerName*, *#StayWoke*, *#BlackLivesMatter* were categorized by ADS as the most notable hashtags. Easily noticeable capitalization within a hashtag compensates for the lack of word spacing and facilitates distinguishing the hashtag components. Hashtags, comprising several words, therefore disputable as words, on the one hand, fully meet the syntactic approach to a word as “the minimum sentence” or “a minimum syntactic unit”, on the other hand.

To some extent, the selection of a hashtag as WOTY is a continuation of the policy of Oxford University Press that stated that the contest was not limited to a single word and is open to two-word expressions (*Goblin mode* (2022), *climate emergency* (2019), *tende-age shelter* (2018), *dumster fire* (2016), *socialism and capitalism* (2012), *squeezed middle* (2011), *big society* (2009), *credit crunch* (2008), *carbon footprint* (2007)). These WOTY are examples of structural and semantic unity. The designator keeps these words bound in clusters and keeps the collocations stable, but two-word expressions do not meet the uninterruptability and indivisibility criteria of a word.

Suffixes are parts of words that can't stand alone. In 2015 Merriam-Webster Dictionary declared the suffix “-ism” as its WOTY to honor something that is not a word: “A suffix is the Word of the Year because a small group of words that share this three-letter ending triggered both high volume and significant year-over-year increase in lookups at Merriam-Webster.com.”, namely, *racism*, *fascism* and *socialism*, followed by *feminism*, *communism*, *capitalism* and *terrorism*. ... “ism” without the hyphen actually is a word, specifically “a noun meaning ‘a distinctive doctrine, cause, or theory’ or ‘an oppressive and especially discriminatory attitude or belief’[Schaub 2015]. In other words, *ism* in this meaning was substantivized. Merriam-Webster's *-ism* as the Word of the year and Oxford Dictionaries' *emoji*, each of them is not a word as it is, made 2015 WOTY choice more than remarkable.

The suffix “-ussy” as the WOTY 2022 was selected by American Dialect Society in conjunction with the Linguistic Society of America's annual meeting. Initially, this suffix cropped up in LGBT chats, later, it conquered TikTok. These two factors predetermined WOTY choice. Ben Zimmer, chair of the ADS New Words Committee and language columnist for the Wall Street Journal, said: “The

playful suffix builds off the Word pussy to generate new slang terms. The process has been so productive lately on social media sites and elsewhere that it has been dubbed -ussification... Riffing off ‘bussy’ (a portmanteau of ‘boy’ and ‘pussy’), now everything is a cat or a cavity. A calzone is a pizzussy. A wine bottle has a winussy” [The American Dialect Society... 2022].

WOTY selection makes evident semantic changes in word-forming components. For example, new meaning of the prefix *post-* became apparent in *post-truth*, WOTY 2016. “Rather than simply referring to the time after a specified situation or event – as in *post-war* or *post-match* – the prefix in *post-truth* has a meaning more like ‘belonging to a time in which the specified concept has become unimportant or irrelevant’. This nuance seems to have originated in the mid-20th century, in formations such as *post-national* (1945) and *post-racial* (1971)” [Word ... 2016]. Probably due to pre-position in the collocation *post-truth* is categorized as an adjective (Cambridge Dictionary), though none of the elements is typical of the English adjective as a part of speech. *Post-truth* is defined as a concept, though concepts are usually codified with nouns: “The concept of *post-truth* has been in existence for the past decade, and remained in the periphery, but Oxford Dictionaries has seen a spike in frequency this year in the context of the EU referendum in the United Kingdom and the presidential election in the United States...It has also become associated with a particular noun in the phrase *post-truth politics* [Word ... 2016].

Noteworthy, WOTY list includes another word with *truth* as the basic element – *truthiness* (2006). One more semantically related WOTY is *fake news* (ADS 2017). Interestingly, *truthiness* became a WOTY with a new meaning, referring to the quality of seeming to be true but not necessarily true according to known facts. *OED* has a record of its use dating to the 1830s in the sense of "truthfulness," but this use is considered rare now. *OED* also mentions Colbert's sense of *truthiness* and credits the talk show *The Colbert Report* host Stephen Colbert as its coiner, who defined it as "truth that comes from the gut, not books" ['Truthiness' ... 2005]; The Word ... 2006]. This change of the meaning is qualified as metaphoric evolution.

Non-alphabetical elements penetrated English due to virtual communication and digital technologies. In 2015 the Oxford Dictionaries selected as WOTY a pictograph – the ‘Face with Tears of Joy’ emoji (from the Japanese words *e* (picture) and *moji* (letter, character)). Though *emoji* was used in English-language articles in Japan since 1997 emoji culture evolved into the global mainstream in

2015. ... emoji have come to embody a core aspect of living in a digital world that is visually driven, emotionally expressive, and obsessively immediate... Casper Grathwohl, President of Oxford Dictionaries, noted: “You can see how traditional alphabet scripts have been struggling to meet the rapid-fire, visually focused demands of 21st century communication. It’s not surprising that a pictographic script like emoji has stepped in to fill those gaps – it’s flexible, immediate, and infuses tone beautifully. As a result emoji are becoming an increasingly rich form of communication, one that transcends linguistic borders...the character captured a sense playfulness and intimacy that embodies emoji culture itself” [Announcing ... 2015]. Noteworthy, English *emoticon* (*emotion* and *icon*) did not rival with its Japanese counterpart, though the designator is the same. It was the second, not anglicized Japanese loanword, selected WOTY after *sudoku* peaked as OED WOTY in 2005 in the wake of the Sudoku craze in Britain. That extremely popular pastime activity "transformed from a foreign curiosity to part of the British cultural landscape" with the rise of the elite one might call *Sudokurati* [The Rise ... 2006]. This derivative with *-ati*, a pseudo-suffix known after *glitteratti* (*glitter* + *literatti* (Latin)), reveals that *sudoku* has joined the English word formation paradigm being able to add one of the psuedo-suffixes – a distinctive characteristic of English word formation in the 1990s-2010s.

Another example of non-alphabetical scripts among WOTY is the interjection *w00t* (2007) – an expression of joy coined by online gamers ("it could be after a triumph, or for no reason at all); similar in use to the word 'yay'" ['Woot' ...2007], typically spelled with two zeros. *w00t* first became popular in the wake of digital culture spread, competitive online gaming, as part of what is known as l33t ("leet," or "elite") speak – an esoteric computer hacker language in which numbers and symbols are put together to look like letters [Parisvega 2007]. *W00t* mirrors the impact of video gaming and text messaging on young generations of Americans. Webster President John Morse said *w00t* reflected the growing use of numeric keyboards to type words, of numeral-letter substitutions: 0 for O; 3 for E; 7 for T; and 4 for A... This is simply a different and more efficient way of representing the alphabetical character”. ... It seems to have been derived from the obsolete 'whoot' which essentially is another way to say 'hoot' which itself is a shout or derisive laugh...”[Szep 2007]. *w00t* is a perfect example of complicated spelling and word formation in Modern English when several patterns are involved simultaneously: typical of English spelling, the double "o" in the Word is replaced by a double zero, the exclamation is also known to be an

acronym for "we owned the other team" that emerged in the gaming community. Digital symbols are very popular in text messaging and social media (for example, be4, 4ever, l8er, gr8), though they have remained rare among WOTY.

In 2009, Oxford Dictionaries selected as WOTY the grammatically incorrect catchphrase, '*simples*' with the meaning "easy to do", which appeared in the comparethemarket.com ads [Sreeraman 2010]. The grammatically incorrect phrase runs counter to the prescriptive nature of dictionaries with the guidelines for correctly using words.

### Conclusion

New coinages, new facts of spelling, semantic changes, and incorporation of non-alphabetical elements into English-language communication and words reveal the enormous flexibility of English, its openness to radical and far-reaching alterations. The status of the Word of the Year attracts rapt attention to these language facts. WOTY might not become lemmas in modern dictionaries of the English language, but they might indicate potential large-scale trends and trigger reshuffling of the linguistic concept of Word.

### References:

1. Oxford University Press. (2015). *Announcing the Oxford Dictionaries "Word" of the Year 2015*. Retrieved from [https://global.oup.com/news-items/11001744/Announcing the Oxford Dictionaries Word of the Year 2015?cc=ua](https://global.oup.com/news-items/11001744/Announcing-the-Oxford-Dictionaries-Word-of-the-Year-2015?cc=ua)
2. Barret, E. (2019). '*Climate Emergency*' Is Oxford Dictionaries' Word of the Year 2019. Retrieved from <https://fortune.com/2019/11/21/word-of-the-year-2019-climate-emergency/>
3. The Telegraph. (2010). '*Big Society*' named Word of the Year. Retrieved from <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/8154591/Big-Society-named-word-of-the-year.html>
4. Cowie, A. P. (1990). Language as words: Lexicography. In *Encyclopedia of Language* (pp. 363–377).
5. Cantor, M. (2023). *Hallucinate, AI, authenticity: Dictionaries' words of the year make our biggest fears clear*. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2023/dec/05/dictionaries-word-of-the-year-merriam-webster-cambridge-oxford>
6. Guy, L. (2021). '*Vax*' is Oxford English Dictionary publisher's 2021 Word of the Year. Retrieved from <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/11/01/world/word-of-the-year-2021-scli-intl-gbr/index.html>
7. Haspelmath, M. (2023). *Defining the word*. *WORD*, 69(3), 283–297. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00437956.2023.2237272>
8. Juilland, A., & Roceric, A. (2019). *The linguistic concept of word*.

9. Lee, B. Y. (2023). *Dictionary.com 2023 Word Of The Year 'Hallucinate' Is An AI Health Issue*. Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2023/12/15/dictionarycom-2023-word-of-the-year-hallucinate-is-an-ai-health-issue/>
10. Lyons, J. (1969). *Introduction to theoretical linguistics*.
11. Mouriquand, D. (2023). *Oxford's Word of the Year for 2023 is ...*. Retrieved from <https://www.euronews.com/culture/2023/12/04/oxfords-word-of-the-year-for-2023-is>
12. Oxford University Press. (2023). *Oxford Word of the Year 2023*. Retrieved from <https://languages.oup.com/word-of-the-year/2023/>
13. Parisvega. (2007). *Merriam-Webster's Word of the Year 2007: w00t*. Retrieved from <https://parisvega.com/merriam-websters-word-of-the-year-2007-w00t/>
14. Peirce, C. S. (1931–1958). *Collected Papers of Charles Sanders Peirce* (C. Hartshorne, P. Weiss, & A. Burks, Eds.). Harvard University Press.
15. Peirce's Theory of Signs. (2007). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
16. Reuters. (2010). *"Big Society" named phrase of the year*. Retrieved from <https://www.reuters.com/article/world/us/big-society-named-phrase-of-the-year-idUSTRE6AN45X/>
17. Sapir, E. (1921). *Language: An introduction to the study of speech*.
18. Saussure, F. de. (1916). *Cours de linguistique générale* (C. Bally & A. Sechehaye, Eds.).
19. Schaub, M. (2015). *The suffix '-ism' is named 2015 Word of the Year by Merriam-Webster*. Retrieved from <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/this-britain/the-rise-and-rise-of-sudoku-5336007.html>
20. Sreeraman, V. R. (2010). *'Simples' voted New Word of the Year*. Retrieved from <https://www.medindia.net/news/simples-voted-new-word-of-the-year-63053-1.htm>
21. Szep, J. (2007). *"w00t" crowned Word of the Year by U.S. dictionary*. Retrieved from <https://www.reuters.com/article/technology/w00t-crowned-word-of-year-by-us-dictionary-idUSN11551595/>
22. The American Dialect Society. (2022). *The suffix "-ussy" as the Word of the Year for 2022*. Retrieved from <https://americandialect.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-Word-of-the-Year-PRESS-RELEASE.pdf>
23. CBS News. (2006). *The Word of the Year: 'Truthiness'*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-word-of-the-year-truthiness/>
24. Independent. (2006). *The rise and rise of Sudoku*. Retrieved from <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/this-britain/the-rise-and-rise-of-sudoku-5336007.html>
25. Merriam-Webster. (2005). *'Truthiness': Can something "seem," without being, true?* Retrieved from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/grammar/truthiness-meaning-word-origin>
26. Ullmann, S. (1957). *The principles of semantics*.
27. Wired. (2007). *'W00t' Named Merriam-Webster's Word of the Year*. Retrieved from <https://www.wired.com/2007/12/woot-named-merr/>
28. Oxford University Press. (2016). *Word of the Year 2016*. Retrieved from <https://languages.oup.com/word-of-the-year/2016/>