

Author's neologisms in the book "Boca do Inferno"

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1 Introduction

This work is intended for people interested in linguistics. It will address, in an exploratory way, the neologisms which are present in the book "Boca do Inferno", written by Ricardo Araújo Pereira (a famous contemporary comedian in Portugal).

This book is a compilation of chronicles published in "Visão" magazine, from December 2004 to December 2005. The chronicles address different social and political events that occurred during the year in which they were written. Although it has been 18 years since its publication, the topics, approached with humor, are still current.

The goal of this work is to analyze how neologisms are formed by this author and to show in which contexts these are presented in the chronicles.

2 Theoretical Framework and Methodology

According to the general dictionary definition, a "neologism" is a new word or expression that is formed inside of a given language or that is imported or borrowed from another language. It is assumed that these new words appear to allow the native speakers to better express themselves.

According to Jesus (2020) and following Guilbert (1972), neologisms can be divided in four different groups:

- Phonological neologisms, where "the change in the significant is responsible for the new term".
- Syntactic neologisms, "created by prefix derivation, suffix derivation, syntagmatic derivation and composition".
- Semantic neologisms, where "the change in the meaning is responsible for the new term, as well as the transition from a lexical unity of a general language to a specialized language or vice versa".
- Foreignisms, which are neologisms "formed by conversion and by loan".

The method used in this exploratory study comprised the following steps:

(1) digitalization, (2) collection of candidates, (3) validation/exclusion of neologisms; (4) concordances extraction, (4) Data analysis.

The corpus, composed of the complete set of chronicles published in Araújo Pereira, R. (2006). *Boca do Inferno*. Lisbon: Visão, was digitalized using the Microsoft Word Dictation function. Simultaneously, the candidates for neologisms were collected. The candidates were, then, validated in the Portuguese dictionaries Priberam and Infopédia. This process allowed us to exclude candidates that were already considered in the dictionary entries. After this, we analyzed the data in the corpus. We used Sketch Engine tool to extract the concordances in which the neologisms occurred. Finally, a description of the meaning of the neologisms, as well as their categorization was proposed.

3 Data compilation and treatment

The compiled corpus is a textual corpus composed of 55 chronicles, in European Portuguese, even if sometimes there are some words in other languages, for example in English. It is written in the Former European Portuguese orthography and presents some spelling mistakes.

The text files were compiled in Sketch Engine and pre-processed (tokenization, part-of-speech annotation and lemmatization) with the processing tools available. Concordances (i.e., lines of context featuring the keyword in the middle) were extracted with the default settings of the tool.

4 Analysis

Non-adapted loanwords were excluded because we wanted to focus on neologisms formed in Portuguese, such as:

(1) *deleuziano* (Chronicle 12, pp. 30 and 31): "(...) eu quero ver de que modo é que um *deleuziano* como José Gil olha para a actualidade do nosso país."

"*deleuziano*" is a noun, meaning 'person who relates to the way of thinking of the philosopher Deleuze'. It is formed through suffix derivation. The proper name "Deleuze" joins the suffix "iano", which means "relation". It is, thus, a syntactic neologism.

deleuziano = *deleuz-* (nominal stem) + *-iano* (derivation suffix)

The table below presents the list of neologisms analysed.

Neologism	Description	Type
<i>marialvismo</i>	Noun, 'person that has womanizer's practices'	syntactic
<i>deleuziano</i>	Noun, 'person who relates to the way of thinking of the philosopher Deleuze'	syntactic
<i>piadão</i>	Noun, 'consider something very funny'	syntactic
<i>Glorioso</i>	Noun, 'Sport Lisboa e Benfica'	semantic
<i>malandroso</i>	Adjective, 'quality of the people that don't like to work'	syntactic
<i>comportadinho</i>	Adjective, 'characteristic of a person that is very well behaved'	syntactic
<i>lápés</i>	Noun, 'pencil'	phonological
<i>ténes</i>	Noun, 'tennis shoes'	phonological
<i>escarreta</i>	Noun, 'mucus originated by the airways'	syntactic
<i>órdes</i>	Noun, 'orders'	phonological
<i>frete-a-frete</i>	Nominal expression, 'doing something with a bad will'	syntactic
<i>ouvinte-legislador</i>	Adjective, 'person that calls to the radio with the goal of setting norms'	syntactic
<i>ouvinte-relâmpago</i>	Adjective, 'person that calls to the radio with the goal of not taking too much time'	syntactic
<i>autoritário-platónico</i>	Adjective, 'waitress that yells with the kitchen staff'	semantic
<i>candidato-arguido</i>	Adjective, 'person that applies to a job position and was charged of a felony'	syntactic
<i>prà frentex</i>	Nominal expression, 'very advanced'	syntactic
<i>alargar o cinto</i>	Verbal expression, 'having room to spend money'	syntactic

5 Final remarks

Overall, we found more neologisms than we expected, even though less diverse from what we anticipated. Most of the neologisms presented syntactic characteristics, and the minority of the neologisms presented semantic features. In neologisms that were formed by suffix derivation, there weren't any repetition of suffixes.

We also verified the need of knowing what was happening in Portugal at the sociopolitical and cultural levels, to understand the author's neologisms.

Thank you!

References

Jesus, A. M. R. (2020). Tipologias dos neologismos: breve percurso histórico. *Revista GTLex*, 4(1), 54-67.

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