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Grado en Estudios Ingleses

TRABAJO DE FIN DE GRADO

Neologisms in Harry Potter books.

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Curso 2013-2014

ABSTRACT

The object of this paper is to achieve a complete vision of neologisms through a corpus linguistic analysis, using Harry Potter books as cornerstone for the analysis. The project has been divided into two stages: the first one consists on a manual selection of the most representative neologisms throughout the saga with a view to classify them according to Cabré's distinction.

The last part of the analysis delves into the collocations of a selected number of neologisms in order to demonstrate that the open-choice principle stated by Sinclair is also accomplished in neologisms.

Neologisms – Corpus Linguistics – Open-choice principle – Cabré – Collocations

El objetivo de este trabajo es conseguir una visión completa de los neologismos a través del estudio del corpus lingüístico. El análisis se ha dividido en dos fases: la primera consiste en una selección manual de los neologismos más representativos a lo largo de la saga con la intención de clasificar los según la distinción enunciada por Cabré.

En la última parte del análisis, se profundiza en las colocaciones de un selecto número de neologismos para demostrar que el *open-choice principle* enunciado por Sinclair también se cumple en neologismos.

Neologismos – Corpus Lingüístico – *Open-choice principle* – Cabré - Colocaciones

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1. Introduction:

Since JK Rowling published the first book of the saga in 1997, Harry Potter books have become a phenomenon that has been moved from literature to films, achieving great results in both fields. After overcoming the limit of 400 millions of copies sold in 2008, the impact of the saga is inarguable.

The final goal of this paper will be to analyze one of the most relevant elements in the saga: neologisms. With this purpose in mind, the study will be made using a corpus-based approach (Tognini-Bonelli, 2001:65). The analysis will be divided into two parts; in the first part, the most representative neologisms in the saga will be identified and defined, with the intention of grouping them in a database.

The classification will be made according to Cabré's subdivision of neologisms, distinguishing between *neologismos de forma*, *neologismos semánticos* and *neologismos sintácticos* which will be renamed in the analysis as morphological, semantic and syntactic neologisms respectively. (Cabré, 2006:231).

The second part of the analysis will be focused on the semantic prosody of a selected number of neologisms. With the view of limiting our analysis to those neologisms that have a really representativeness in the saga, the words selected for the study have to represent half of the total amount of the appearances of neologisms.

The study will try to illustrate through examples how neologisms are affected by context, analyzing the appearances of each neologism in the different books. In that point of the analysis, there will be a special attention to collocates and how they affect neologisms, but also if there is any conjunct of words that tend to be together, confirming the *open-choice principle* announced by Sinclair (Sinclair, 1991:109).

1.1. Structure of the study

The study is divided into different sections: after a brief introduction of the context of the books and the reasons of their selection, the following section consists on a theoretical approach in which the main concepts that are developed in the subsequent analysis are explained.

The third segment contains the notions related to the methodology and corpus. Apart from the characteristics of the corpus, a detailed description of the criterion that has been followed to determine the search is included. In addition to that, the third point includes the development of the analysis as a descriptive analysis of neologisms.

In the fourth section, the results obtained in the previous analysis are interpreted with the view of relating them to the theoretical approaches described in the first section.

After the interpretations of the analysis, the conclusion section extracts some general features from the analysis in relation to neologisms and their common features. Finally, the last subdivision is dedicated to break down the consulted sources for the elaboration of that work.

1.2. A brief introduction to Harry Potter's Universe

Harry Potter series belongs to fantastic literature and it narrates the story of a young wizard that has to defeat a villain and his supporters to achieve peace in the magical world. All the books that form the series are written by JK Rowling and these are the titles:

1. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (1997)
2. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of the Secrets* (1998)
3. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (1999)
4. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2000)
5. *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* (2003)
6. *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (2005)
7. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* (2007)

There are also three more books about Harry Potter's universe: *Quidditch Through the Ages* (2001), *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (2001) and *The Tales of Beedle The Bard* (2007) but they will not be included in the analysis because they are not connected with the main story.

This particular saga has been chosen to observe the creation of new words, or neologisms, because it has become one of the most important fantastic series in the last years.

1.3. Neologisms in the saga

The story is developed in a world surrounded by magical elements. To designate those elements, the author uses different strategies: on one hand, she reuses some terms or words from European folklore or mythology (such as goblins, hippogriffs, dragons, etc.) and she also creates new words to name her creations.

That new creation of words or neologisms will be the focal point in the study. The main function that neologisms perform in languages is to provide them with dynamism, maintaining them continually changeable because they incorporate new concepts to the vocabulary already established. When neologisms appear in successful series as Harry Potter ones, their influence in society is superior because they arrive to a good number of people who recognize those new creations and, in some cases, they may start to incorporate them into everyday language.

2. Theoretical Background

Before starting a detailed analysis, it is important to clarify some significant theoretical notions related to the investigation.

2.1 Neologisms

According to Nordquist, “neologism” is defined as “a newly coined word, expression, or usage.” (Nordquist, 2014). In Harry Potter books there are a great number of new words to designate invented or real things.

One of the most recognizable authors in the study of neologisms and terminology, Cabré, has elaborated a classification to distinguish different type of neologisms. She recognizes three types of neologisms; *Neologismos de forma* (those related to the form of the word or the morphological aspects), *neologismos sintácticos* (syntactic neologisms) and *neologismos semánticos* (semantic neologisms). (Cabré, 2006: 231).

The first type of neologisms is related to the morphology of the word; they have been subjected to a change in their form in order to create a new word (for instance, the word “able” becomes its opposite “unable” through the incorporation of a prefix, “un-“).

The second type of neologisms is based on a change in the grammatical category of the word (for instance, “Google” is a noun referred to the Internet searcher but, due to its increasing popularity, nowadays it is also used as verb, <to google>, to describe the action of searching something on Internet).

The last type of neologisms according to Cabré is the semantic neologism. It entails a change in the meaning, but not necessarily in the form (for instance, the word “seeker” is used on Harry Potter’s books to describe a tactical position in a magical sport, changing completely the original meaning of the word referred to someone who is dedicated to investigate).

Even though some words may experience a single change in their form, meaning or grammatical category, the most common circumstance is that one only change results in a variation of the two others.

This research is focused on the most representative neologisms in the saga. Therefore, the first part of the compilation process will be centered on those words used to designate new elements or objects in the books. Once they had been selected, they will be classified and analyzed paying attention to the morphological, semantic or syntactic changes that they have suffered.

Therefore, with the view of obtaining a full vision of neologisms, they are studied through different approaches. The first approach in the study of neologisms in our corpus is a terminological labor. After the identification of the representative neologisms in the corpus, these are analyzed from a lexicographic point of view in order to obtain a complete database of the neologisms in the saga. Finally, after the identification and definition of the terms, the five most representative neologisms are subjected to a semantic analysis. The purpose of that analysis is to demonstrate the open choice principle that also occurs in neologisms.

However, before starting the analysis it is necessary to establish some basic notions that form part of the investigation.

2.2 Terminology

Wüster, who is considered the father of terminology, was the first one that began to be interested in the designations of concepts through non-ordinary words or terms. Thanks

to his contribution, many authors have followed his line of research; nowadays, terminology is one of the most important branches of linguistic.

Boutin-Quesnel defines “terminology” as follows: “Terminology is a systematic activity in which subject field experts or terminologists/linguists (with subsequent revision of their work by subject-field experts) draw up a list of terms covering in principle a whole semantic field”. (Quoted in Maurais, 1993:112)

Therefore, keeping in mind the definition provided by Boutin-Quesnel, the first objective of the analysis is to search for the most frequent neologisms with the idea of elaborating a database.

2.3 Lexicography

Once the previous search has concluded, the lexicographic labor starts. According to the lexicographer Svensén: “Lexicography is an activity which consists in observing, collecting, selecting, analyzing and describing, in a dictionary, a number of lexical items (words, word elements and word combinations) belonging to one or more languages”. (Svensén, 2009: 2)

The purpose of analyzing them from a lexicographic perspective is to be able to make a database that incorporates the main features of each neologism as their grammatical category or its correspondent definition.

In order to obtain a complete database, it has been necessary a previous documentation about the art of making dictionaries.

2.4 The art of making-dictionaries

With the view of obtaining a useful glossary of the new words or neologisms of the Harry Potter books, it is important to consider some significant concepts.

According to Svensén, “A dictionary is a product of the culture in which it has come into being. Its objective is not only satisfies the individual’s needs for information but to become heritage for the succeeded generations”. (Svensén 2009:1)

For that purpose, dictionaries must include some important aspects such as the grammatical category of the word and some semantic basic information.

2.5 Semantics

The last part of the analysis is focused on the study of meaning in language. Neologisms are new words that have not already acquired a connotative meaning because they are recently used in a language; for that reason, it is important to pay attention to the collocative associations of the neologisms to observe how they affect to the word. (Vizental 2009:24)

There are numerous theories developed from the basis of collocation; one of the most relevant theories stated by Sinclair is the “open-choice principle”. (Sinclair, 1991:109).

2.6 Open-choice principle

Sinclair outlined the open-choice principle, stating that “language is based on this paradigmatic principle by which grammatical patterns are selected to be part of the language. It is the combinatorial force of lexical elements to co-exist”. (in Bayón 2013:83).

The majority of grammars hold this assessment. However, this principle has not been demonstrated in neologisms.

3. Methodology and Corpus:

3.1 Characteristics of the corpus

The research is based on a corpus analysis, so it is important to point out some of the main characteristics of this type of procedures.

Sinclair defines corpus as follows: “A corpus is a collection of pieces of language text in electronic form, selected according to external criteria to represent, as far as possible, a language or language variety as a source of data for linguistic research” (Sinclair, 2005:16).

The corpus linguistic analysis is a procedure that is gaining importance in the last years due to the rapidity to analyze huge amounts of data in a short period of time.

The Harry Potter saga is composed by seven books. The table below consists on a breakdown of the number of words in each book as well as the total amount of them that form the corpus.

Books	Words
<i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i>	77,729
<i>Harry Potter and the Chamber of the Secrets</i>	85,667
<i>Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban</i>	107,561
<i>Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire</i>	191,328
<i>Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix</i>	260,439
<i>Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince</i>	169,869
<i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows</i>	198,813
	Total of words: 1,091,433

However, in corpus linguistics it is not only important the full words but also any kind of language sample. For that reason, the length of the corpus is established on tokens¹ instead of words, because even the most basic unit of information must be considered in the analysis. Therefore, the length of the corpus has a finite size established on 1,122,368 tokens. Because of the similarities in the texts (author, time, place, style, etc.), the corpora try to cover a parcel in English language.

3.2 Methodology.

In the part of the methodology there is a description of the analysis, mentioning how it is accomplished. The results obtained from the analysis are interpreted in the section of results. The study is divided into two types of analysis; qualitative and quantitative.

According to McEnery, the qualitative analysis consists in providing a detailed description rather than quantification. Therefore, the qualitative analysis is based on the observation that precedes the quantitative analysis.

¹ According to the Oxford Dictionary, in the field of computing “token” is “the smallest meaningful unit of information in a sequence of data for a compiler”.

The quantitative analysis is based on an objective classification of data in order to obtain some subsequent conclusions; it deals with the numbers and statistics of the analysis. (McEnery and Wilson, 1996: 76).

In the quantitative analysis of the study, the books are inspected using a linguist tool, AntConc®. According to its creator, Laurence Anthony, “AntConc is a freeware, multiplatform tool for carrying out corpus linguistics research and data-driven learning”. (Anthony, 2011: 1).

The compilation is made with the view of obtaining a list of candidate terms. As it was said before, Cabré states that there is more than one type of neologisms. She distinguishes three types: morphological, semantic and syntactic neologisms (morphological neologisms are those that are innovative in their morphology). (Cabré, 2006:231) The semantic ones are those which incorporate a new meaning for a word that has already in the language and, finally, the syntactic ones are those that contain a change in their grammatical category).

For this reason, in the analysis, neologisms are separated by types. With the view of obtaining a real representativeness of the chosen neologisms, they have to appear at least ten times in each book. That limit is established in order to avoid including in the analysis those neologisms that have not a real presence in the saga.

When the manual process of identification and selection of candidate terms are concluded, they are compared to larger online corpus databases of English language, COCA (Corpus of Contemporary American English) and BNC (British National Corpus). COCA and BNC are the most important corpora online in English language. The first one contains 450 millions of words meanwhile BNC is formed by 100 million words.

The objective of searching words in online corpus is to verify whether the words have been previously used in other contexts and, therefore, if they must be discarded from the group of morphological neologisms.

4. Analysis.

4.1 Qualitative Analysis

The texts that form the corpus belong to fantastic literature; the grade of specialization of them may not be considered specialized but, due to the use of fantastic terms and meaning, they may not be ranged in general language.

The selection of corpus criterion is established based on external linguistic elements. It has been decided to analyze only the seven books of the saga, excluding some extra books of the same author, because they do not maintain a relationship with those belonging to the saga.

The language used in the books is constructed; the author has revised her writings before publishing them so they cannot be catalogued as naturally-spoken data. All the texts have been originally written in English. Therefore, they share the same time and place as the singularity of the author's style. All of them are informal texts; there are a lot of contracted words ("dunno" instead of "do not know") or informal idioms as an attempt to imitate the style of young people speaking.

The saga belongs to the fantastic literary genre so there are some notions which could be difficult to understand for a person that does not know anything about the saga. Therefore, the grade of specialization is slightly above the general language; however, those (books that belong to the literary genre cannot be considered as specialized texts.

4.2 Quantitative Analysis

In order to determine which terms are considered as representative in books and which are not, a list with the most frequent words in each book has been created.

Before starting the analysis, all the texts were adapted to machine readable form or .txt format in order to be processed.

I. Selection of neologisms

<i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (1997)</i>				
Total number of tokens: 80,635				
Position in the ranking	Frequency	Word	COCA	BNC
200	60	Quidditch	37	-
489	22	Muggle	31	-
564	19	Muggles	34	-
567	19	Quaffle	-	-
599	18	Snitch	272	4
754	14	Seeker	554	78
780	13	Bludgers	3	-
1,006	10	Keeper	1,764	1,357

Table 1: Results obtained from the analysis of the first book.

As it can be seen from the table above, the most frequent word is “quidditch” with 60 appearances. With the exception of “muggle”, the rest of the neologisms are related to the magical sport: “quaffle”, “snitch” and “bludgers” are objects used in the game whilst “seeker” and “keeper” are two positions in the game team.

<i>Harry Potter and the Chamber of the Secrets (1998)</i>				
Total number of tokens: 88,545				
Position in the ranking	Frequency	Word	COCA	BNC
222	56	Muggle	31	-
283	43	Quidditch	37	-
377	33	Bludger	2	-

556	21	Muggles	31	-
865	13	Snitch	272	4
903	12	Kwikspell	-	-
911	12	Polyjuice	2	-
983	11	Parseltongue	-	-

Table 2: Results obtained from the analysis of the second book.

In table 2, we can see that the most frequent word in the second book is “Muggle” followed by some others related to the magical sport and different spells, abilities or potions used in the books. This book does not increase the number of neologisms in relation to the first one; in both cases there are eight neologisms.

<i>Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (1999)</i>				
Total number of tokens: 110,914				
Position in the ranking	Frequency	Word	COCA	BNC
169	95	Dementors	4	-
275	55	Dementor	4	-
281	54	Quidditch	37	-
364	41	Snitch	272	4
409	36	Boggart	4	4
519	28	Patronus	14	-
545	26	Muggle	31	-
546	26	Muggles	34	-
702	26	Expecto Patronum	1	-
851	16	Keeper	1,764	1,357

870	16	Seeker	554	78
949	14	Arithmancy	1	-
1066	12	Bludger	2	-
1,179	11	Quaffle	-	-
1,297	10	Sneakoscope	-	-

Table 3: Results obtained from the analysis of the third book.

In the third book, there is an increase of the number of neologisms, some of them appearing for the first time. There are also compound terms as “expecto patronum” that are considered as a single element because it is used to describe a concept.

There is a rise in the number of neologisms from eight in the second book to fourteen in the third. It is also interesting that the most repetitive neologism is “Dementor” which outnumbers “muggle” and “quidditch” in the number of appearances.

<i>Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (2000)</i>				
Total number of tokens: 197,228				
Position in the ranking	Frequency	Word	COCA	BNC
291	91	Quidditch	37	-
396	69	Triwizard	4	-
458	57	Muggle	31	-
644	37	Dementors	4	-
707	34	Muggles	34	-
715	34	Veela	1	-
744	32	Horntail	2	-

1,038	22	Omnioculars	-	-
1,165	19	Pensieve	-	-
1,207	18	Imperius	-	-
1,252	17	Galleons	56	23
1,359	15	Auror	-	-
1,402	15	Portkey	-	-
1,530	13	Cruciatus	-	-
1,696	12	Skrewts	-	-
1,700	12	Snitch	272	4
1,789	11	Quaffle	-	-
1,884	10	Gillyweed	-	-

Table 4: Results obtained from the analysis of the fourth book.

In the fourth book, the tendency of increasing the number of neologisms still continues. In this book, some neologisms that do not have any appearance in the previous books appear for the first time.

There is also a new tendency; in this book morphological neologisms (those words that have not any appearance in COCA and BNC) are more frequent than semantic neologisms.

<i>Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (2003)</i>				
Total number of tokens: 265,884				
Position in the ranking	Frequency	Word	COCA	BNC
323	143	Quidditch	37	-
393	82	Dementors	4	-

809	39	Muggle	31	-
827	38	Occlumency	-	-
864	36	Snitch	272	4
937	33	Quaffle	-	-
1,015	30	Quibbler	-	-
1,053	29	Thestrals	5	-
1,150	26	Muggles	34	-
1,153	26	Pensieve	-	-
1,283	23	Patronus	14	-
1,363	22	Wizengamot	-	-
1,410	20	Auror	-	-
1,439	20	Keeper	1,764	1,357
1,473	19	Dementor	4	-
1,809	14	Aurors	-	-
1,893	14	Thestral	-	-
1,558	18	Galleons	56	23
1,910	13	Bowstruckle	-	-
2,061	12	Gurg	-	-
2,136	12	Triwizard	4	-
2,325	10	Dungbombs	-	-

Table 5: Results obtained from the analysis of the fifth book.

The fifth book is the one which incorporates a major number of neologisms (there is a total of twenty-one neologisms). It continues the predominance of the morphological neologisms in comparison with the semantic ones.

In this case, there is also a new record in the number of appearances of “quidditch”, the most frequent neologism in the book.

<i>Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (2005)</i>				
Total number of tokens: 174,816				
Position in the ranking	Frequency	Word	COCA	BNC
52	112	Death Eaters	4	-
154	58	Muggle	31	-
180	53	Quidditch	37	-
230	46	Horcrux	1	-
293	38	Horcruxes	2	-
690	19	Auror	-	-
801	17	Galleons	56	23
811	17	Inferi	1	-
860	16	Keeper	1764	1357
925	15	Muggles	34	-
1,020	13	Aurors	-	-
1,135	12	Imperius	-	-
1,640	11	Snitch	272	4
1,322	10	Dementors	4	-

1,348	10	Inferius	2	-
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Table 6: Results obtained from the analysis of the sixth book.

This book represents a breaking point with the tendency of increasing the appearances of neologisms; in this case not only does the number of new words decrease from twenty one to fourteen, but also the frequency of the times that the most repetitive word appears (from 143 to 112 appearances).

However, the most frequent compound, “death eaters”, has not appeared before in the previous books.

<i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows (2007)</i>				
Total number of tokens: 204,346				
Position in the ranking	Frequency	Word	COCA	BNC
44	141	Death Eaters	4	-
98	93	Horcrux	1	-
113	88	Muggle	31	-
205	63	Death Eater	3	-
270	51	Horcruxes	2	-
343	42	Dementors	4	-
366	41	Snitch	272	4
487	32	Patronus	14	-
511	31	Muggles	34	-
607	26	Mudblood	-	-
621	25	Deluminator	-	-
856	19	Quidditch	37	-

1,151	14	Polyjuice	2	-
1,275	12	Accio	9	-
1,458	11	Patronuses	-	-
1,554	10	Firewhisky	-	-

Table 7: Results obtained from the analysis of the seventh book.

This book contains the highest number of appearances of a neologism in relation to the whole saga. Those words are “Death Eaters” and they appear 143 times in the book. It is observable how the objects related to the magical sport has disappeared, being replaced with magical objects or spells.

II. Verification of semantic neologism’s candidates

Following, all the neologisms have been divided into two groups: the first group was composed by those words that do not have any appearance in the online corpora whilst the second group contains the words that have one or more results in the searching. The words that appear in at least one of them will be included in the group of the candidates for semantic neologisms. The words which belong to the last group will be checked in order to determine if they incorporate a new meaning to the word, or their definition have has already been included in the dictionary.

The chosen tool to prove whether the meaning of the words had been previously used is the Oxford Dictionary, and the definitions included in the following table have been extracted verbatim from the source (see table 10). In the table, the grammatical category of each neologism is included in order to determine whether there has been a variation in its syntactic features. That change could only be possible in those words that already existed in the English language because, differently from semantic neologisms, the morphological ones are innovative in their meaning as in their morphology, so it is not possible a change in a word that has not previously existed. For this reason, morphological neologisms are not considered in that part of the analysis.

Once the neologisms were selected, there was a work to classify them into morphological or non-morphological ones; this process of identification of each neologism providing its correspondent meaning was developed with the help of the “Oxford Dictionaries” online edition. Whilst morphological neologisms are new words

created by J.K Rowling and, consequently, the relation between the referent and its meaning never existed before, the non-morphological neologisms must be submitted to a deeper analysis to see if the author provided any new meaning. In this part of the analysis all the meanings or definitions of the searched words were taken into account to observe if any of them corresponded with the new sense provided.

That information was necessary for the subsequent classification of neologisms not only to know their meaning but also to discover which neologisms suffered a change in its grammatical category, also known as syntactic neologisms. As a consequence, only the neologisms dismissed from the morphological group were considered in the analysis, because it was necessary to compare the new grammatical category with the previous one to observe if there was any variation.

If there is a coincidence between the meanings, the neologism is discarded from the group. On the contrary, if the new meaning is not contemplated before, it was included in the classification as a semantic neologism.

Morphological neologisms:
1. Quaffle
2. Kwikspell
3. Parseltongue
4. Sneakoscope
5. Omniculars
6. Pensieve
7. Imperius
8. Auror
9. Portkey
10. Cruciatus
11. Skrewts
12. Gillyweed
13. Occlumency
14. Quibbler
15. Wizengamot
16. Thestral
17. Bowstruckle
18. Gurg
19. Dungbombs
20. Imperius
21. Mudblood
22. Deluminator
23. Firewhisky

Table 8: Resume of morphological neologisms.

Candidates for semantic neologisms:
1. Muggle
2. Quidditch
3. Snitch
4. Bludger
5. Dementor
6. Expecto Patronum
7. Patronus (pl. Patronuses)
8. Boggart
9. Arithmancy
10. Triwizard
11. Veela
12. Horntail
13. Thestrals
14. Death Eaters
15. Horcrux (pl. Horcruxes)
16. Ineri (pl. Inferius)
17. Polyjuice
18. Accio
19. Seeker
20. Keeper
21. Galleons

Table 9: Resume of semantic neologisms' candidates

Word	Appearance in Oxford dictionaries	Definition	New Meaning	Semantic neologism
1. Muggle ²	✓	Noun: A person who is not conversant with a particular activity or skill.	Noun: A person without magical powers.	✓
3. Snitch	✓	- Verb: Steal - Noun: An informer	Noun: Magical object used in Quidditch (magical sport).	✓
5. Bludger	✓	- Noun: A scrounger - Noun: An idle or lazy person	Noun: Magical Object used in Quidditch (magical sport).	✓
6. Dementor	X		Noun: Magical creature that controls prisons	✓
7. Expecto Patronum	X		Noun: A spell used to repel dementors.	✓
8. Patronus (pl. Patronuses)	X		Noun: The magical entity that emerges in Expecto Patronum's spell.	✓
9. Boggart	✓	Noun: An evil or mischievous spirit.	Noun: An evil or mischievous spirit.	X
10. Arithmancy	X		Noun: It is a discipline which studies the relation between numbers and their	✓

² Origin: 1990s: from mug + -le; used in the Harry Potter books by J. K. Rowling to mean 'a person without magical powers'.

			magical connotations.	
11. Triwizard	X		Noun: It is the name of a contest in which participate 3 competitors.	✓
12. Veela	X		Noun: It is a race that mixes some human features and some characteristics of sirens.	✓
13. Horntail	✓	Noun: A large wasp-like sawfly which deposits its eggs inside trees and timber. It has a long egg-laying tube but no sting. Also called woodwasp.	Noun: It is a kind of dragon from Hungary.	✓
14. Thestrals	X		Noun: It is a magical creature which is believed that provides bad luck.	✓
15. Death Eaters	X		Noun: It is the term to designate the antagonist's followers.	✓
16. Horcrux (pl. Horcruxes)	X		Noun: It is an object in which has been left part of someone's soul.	✓
17. Inferi (pl. Inferius)	X		Noun: It is a dead creature which comes into life through a spell.	✓
18. Polyjuice	X		Noun: It is a kind of potion to obtain	✓

			someone's image.	
19. Accio	X		Noun: It is a spell that allows moving things.	✓
20. Seeker	✓	From "to seek"(verb); person who attempts to find (something)	Noun: It is a position in Quidditch (magical sport).	✓
21. Keeper	✓	Noun: short for goalkeeper or wicketkeeper.	Noun: It is a position in Quidditch (magical sport).	X
22. Galleons	✓	Noun: A sailing ship in use from the XV to the XVIII.	Noun: It is the coin used in magical world.	✓

Table 10: Results of the searching in Oxford Dictionary

The first relevant thing that we can observe from the previous table is that only two words are dismissed from the candidates for semantic neologisms. These words are "boggart" whose meaning shares a lot of similarities to the one given in the book, and "keeper" whose meaning can be extrapolated from reality to fiction (in both cases, it is referred to a position in a team sport so there is not an innovation in the meaning).

<p>asked the headmaster if the staff would have to be give my child years some practice.</p> <p>So, the first question we must ask ourselves is, what is a Boggart?</p> <p>Hermione put up her hand.</p> <p>It's a shape-shifter, she said. It can take the shape of whatever it thinks will frighten us most.</p>

Table 11: Results extracted from the analysis of HP3 in AntConc.

From the results extracted from the analysis, it is observable the similarities between the meaning of "boggart" in the books (it is defined as a "shape-shifter that takes the shape of whatever frightens us most") and the one provided in Oxford Dictionary as a mischievous creature.

<p>Three Chasers try and score with the Quaffle; the Keeper guards the goal posts; the Beaters keep the Bludgers away from their team, Harry reeled off.</p>

Table 12: Results extracted from the analysis of HP1 in AntConc.

The same happens with “keeper”. Although in the books it is used to refer a position in the magical sport “quidditch”, the meaning of the word is the same that the one given in Oxford Dictionaries. Therefore, the reason for the exclusion of those two words is the similarity of their meanings in the saga and the Oxford Dictionary, so there is not a real semantic innovation.

On the other hand, many words that appear in online corpora as COCA have not any results in dictionaries. It is clearly observable through an example; the word “horcrux” was a result in the COCA, but when it is searched in the dictionary, it does not have any results. The reason for this fact is the incorporation of a great number of entries that belongs to media or fictional texts in the online corpora.

The use of those types of texts in online corpora as COCA provokes that the results obtained in the search from their database are self-referential; the results extracted from COCA are referred to Harry Potter books. For this reason, the words have not been dismissed from the analysis because they have their origin in the saga.

The screenshot shows the COCA search interface. At the top, it says "CORPUS OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ENGLISH" and "450 MILLION WORDS, 1990-2012". Below this, there are search options like "DISPLAY", "LIST", "CHART", "KWIC", "COMPARE", "SEARCH STRING", "WORD", "COLLO", "POS LIST", "RANDOM", and "SECTION". The search results for "horcrux" are displayed in a table format. The table has columns for "CONTEXT" and "FREQ". The "CONTEXT" column shows the source information and expanded context for the word "horcrux".

CONTEXT	FREQ								
<p>Expanded context / SOURCE INFORMATION</p> <p>Source information:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Date</td> <td>2005 (Dec)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Publication information</td> <td>, Iss. 856/857; pg. 148, 4 pgs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Title</td> <td>LITERATURE OF THE YEAR: books</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Source</td> <td>Entertainment Weekly</td> </tr> </table> <p>Expanded context:</p> <p>In his remarkable debut novella, Iweala captures the horror of ethnic violence in all its brutality and the vulnerability of youth in all its innocence. 7 Harry the Half-Blood Prince U.K. Rowling (Scholastic, \$29.99) Rare is the series that remains so imaginative, so consistent, and so beguiling this late in its cycle penultimate volume in her planned seven-book saga about a heroic teen wizard, Rowling restores narrative discipline and ties up some loose threads in p for her eagerly awaited (and, alas, still unscheduled) grand finale. The horcrux of the matter: Rowling is still at the tippy-toes top of her game. 8 Dancin Caryl Phillips (Knopf, \$23.95) " The funniest man I ever saw, and the saddest man I ever knew. " That's how W.C. Fields once described the Caribbean-b vaudevillian Bert Williams, who became famous at the turn of the last century for his bumbling blackface routine. In a lyrical, melancholy dream of a nov the real-life Williams, Phillips explores the tragedy of an innately</p>	Date	2005 (Dec)	Publication information	, Iss. 856/857; pg. 148, 4 pgs	Title	LITERATURE OF THE YEAR: books	Source	Entertainment Weekly	
Date	2005 (Dec)								
Publication information	, Iss. 856/857; pg. 148, 4 pgs								
Title	LITERATURE OF THE YEAR: books								
Source	Entertainment Weekly								

Table 13: Capture of the results for “Horcrux” in COCA

It is observable in the table 13 that the word “horcrux” does not appear in a different context from the Harry Potter one; the article in which the word is mentioned is referring to the books written by JK Rowling.

Another important aspect in the analysis is that all the new coined words are nouns. These neologisms name new creatures or objects from the magical world but also elements that already existed in our culture. It is also interesting the limited number of syntactic neologisms presented in the saga. That phenomenon of derivation from one grammatical category to another is known as transposition and it is observable in translation studies in which, in some occasions, it is necessary a shift in the grammatical category from the source text to the target or translated text. (Newmark, 1988: 85).

Regarding the similarities in the morphology of words, there are some patterns that the author has followed to create the new words. On one side, there are some transparent words (those words whose meaning could be assumed although one does not know the word) as the case of “firewhisky”, a neologism that is referred to a typical drink that causes a burning sensation when you drink it. In that group there is a tendency to compound words to create a new one (for instance, “death eaters” is the result of joining to existing words).

On the other side, there are opaque words as “skrewts” which meaning cannot be assumed by its morphology. Within the opaque words, the author follows a strategy to create some of the words. She uses Latin endings as in the case of “imperius” or “cruciatus” when she is naming some spells. The fact of using the same endings may transmit to the readers the sensation that these words are related between them.

Regarding their morphology, the analysis produces some interesting results. The majority of the neologisms created by JK Rowling are composed by 2 syllables; it means that the majority of these neologisms are not as long as the new terms created in some fields such as medicine or biology. It is important to remember that these books are addressed to a young public, for whom too elaborated words may be difficult to remember and identify.

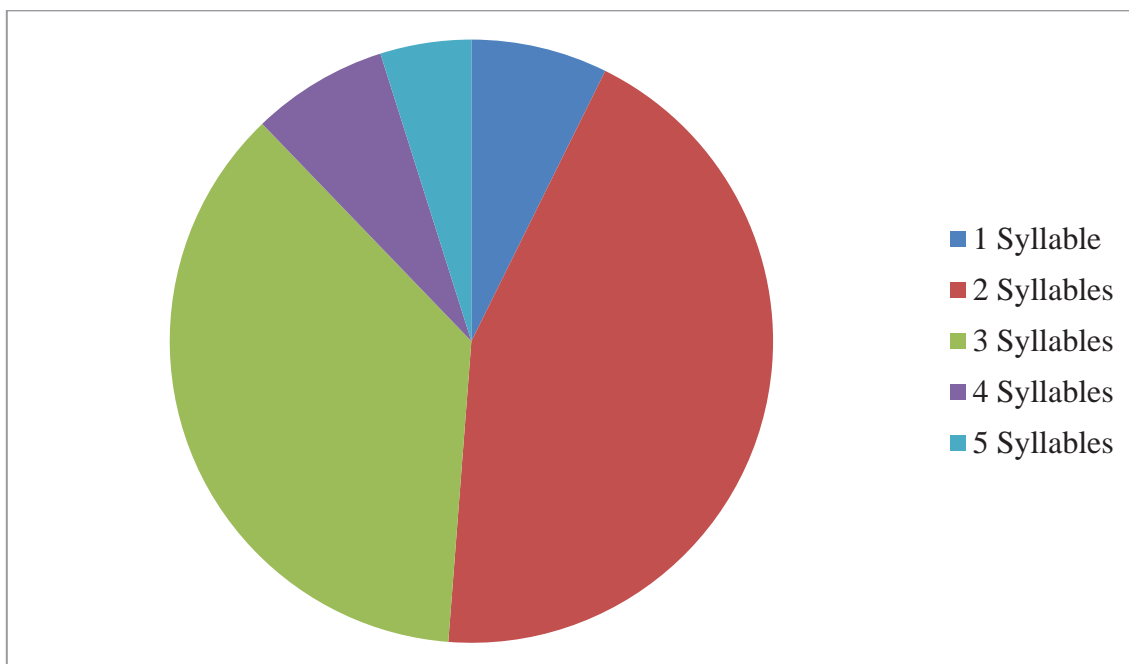


Table 14: Classification of neologisms by syllables.

Having all these considerations in mind, the results of the analysis are interpreted in order to observe some common features that are present in all the neologisms and, considering all that, to hypothesize about the features that a new word must accomplish in order to be accepted in dictionaries.

At this point, the word the word “muggle” deserves a special attention: this word is the only one neologism created by JK Rowling that has achieved enough repercussion to be admitted in the Oxford Dictionaries.

To conclude this section, there is a list of final neologisms. It is important to remember that the neologisms “seeker” and “snitch” are included in both subdivisions, the semantic and the syntactic one, because they accomplish the conditions to be in both groups. On the other side, a new word always results in a new meaning even if they are not included in semantic neologisms.

Morphological neologisms:		Semantic neologisms:	Syntactic Neologisms:
1. Muggle	19. Quaffle	1. Snitch	1. Snitch
			2. Seeker
2. Kwikspell	20. Expecto Patronum	2. Bludger	
3. Parseltongue	21. Patronus	3. Horntail	
4. Sneakoscope	22. Triwizard	4. Seeker	
5. Omnioculars	23. Veela	5. Galleons	
6. Pensieve	24. Horntail	6. Death Eaters	
7. Imperius	25. Thestrals		
8. Auror	26. Horcrux		
9. Portkey	27. Inferi		
10. Cruciatus	28. Polyjuice		
11. Skrewts	29. Accio		
12. Gillyweed	30. Arithmancy		
13. Occlumency	31. Imperius		
14. Quibbler	32. Mudblood		
15. Wizengamot	33. Deluminator		
16. Thestral	34. Firewhisky		
17. Bowstruckle	35. Quidditch		
18. Gurg	36. Dungbombs		

Table 15: List of final neologisms.

III. Study of the most frequent neologisms' collocations

Finally, when all the neologisms have been classified into the different groups, the analysis of collocations starts. In this section, the neologisms are analyzed in order to observe which are the most frequent collocates of a selected number of neologisms in order to discover if the open-choice principle occurs also in neologisms. For that part of the analysis, only the neologisms that constitute the half of the total appearances of neologisms in all the books are taken into account.

For that purpose, the first stage consists on knowing which neologisms are the most common ones throughout the books. Having in mind that they have to be representative of the whole saga, they have to appear in at least two books out of the seven that form the Harry Potter series. The number of appearances of each neologism has been added to observe the total number of times that each one appears in the saga.

The collocations that are considered in the analysis are those which are immediately before or after the key word or neologism. In that part of the analysis, the different tokens of words are grouped by types. That is, the words that share the same lexeme were grouped as one type (for instance; “dog”, “dogs” and “Dog” constitute three tokens but only one type because they share the same lexical characteristics).

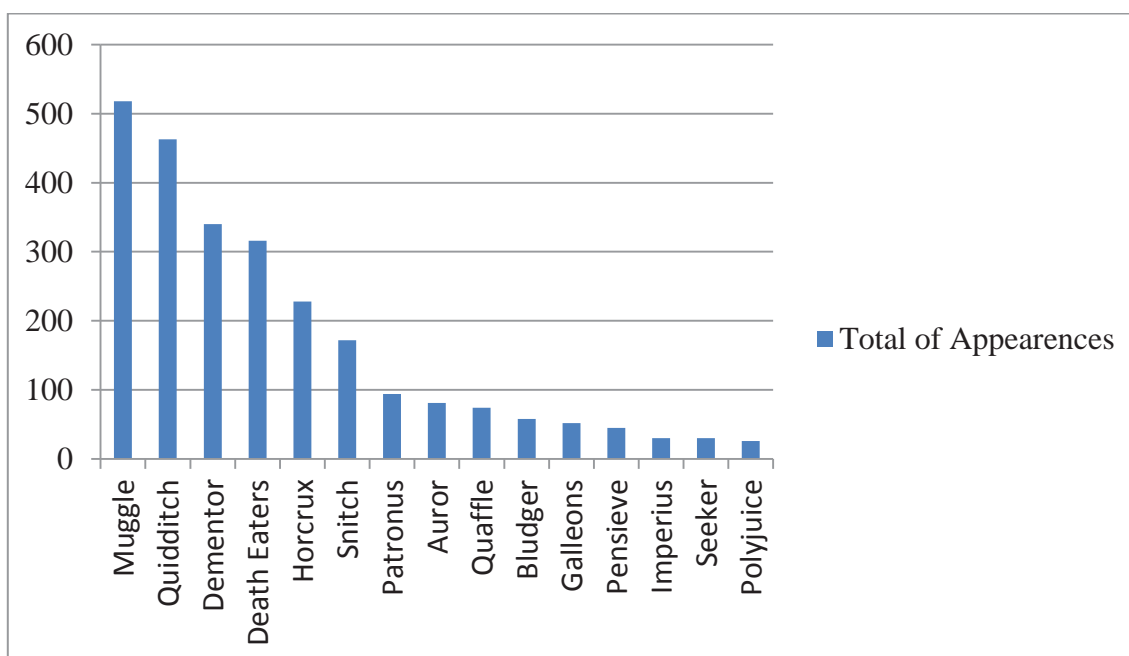


Table 16: Representation of the most frequent neologisms in the saga

The most important neologism in the Harry Potter books is “muggle” within 518 appearances throughout the saga. The second most recurrent neologism in the books is “quidditch” (463 appearances), followed by “dementors” (340 appearances).

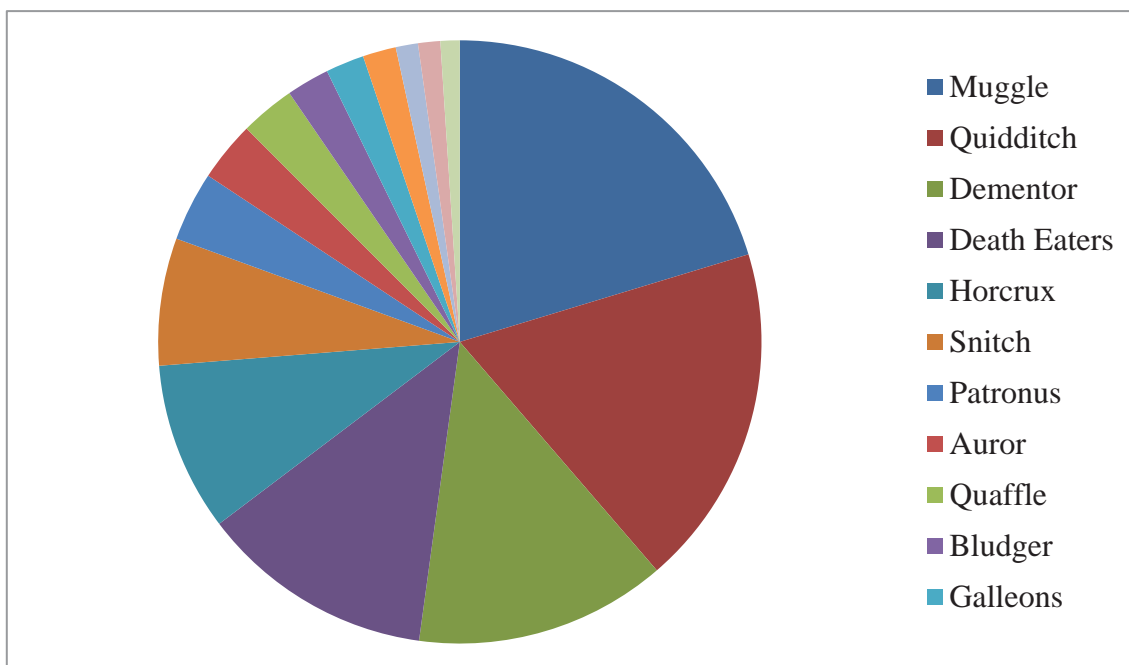


Table 17: Distribution of neologisms in the saga

The importance of these three neologisms in the saga is unarguable; they represent more than half of the total appearances of neologisms in the books. For that reason, the chosen terms analyzed in order to demonstrate if the open-choice principle is also applicable in neologisms are “muggle”, “quidditch” and “dementor”.

IV. Open-choice principle in neologisms

At first sight, the three words may have different connotations; “quidditch” and “Dementor” have really influential connotations. The first one is the common sport between wizards so it is normally seen as positive, the second one is referred to evil creatures in charge of guarding prisons, so its connotations, in principle, are negative.

However, the word used to designate people without magical powers, “muggle”, seems neutral because it is not directly related to positive or negative elements. Through an analysis of the correlative collocates of the three words, the most common collocates for each word or those which have been especially interesting are observable.

In the analysis there are different sections: the acronym “R1” is referred to the lexical words that precede the key word, whilst “R2” is referred to the collocate that follows the neologism.

The initials “HP” correspond to the abbreviation of “Harry Potter” and the number that follows them is the identification for each one of the books.

Muggle				
	R1	R2		Observations
	Adjective	Noun	Verb	
HP1	Great	Clothes		There are 3 adjectives, 8 nouns and no verb.
	Biggest	Sweet		
	Feeble	Money		
		Family		
		World		
		Children		
		Chess		
Towns				
HP2	Mad	Stuff	Trick	There is an increase in the number of adjectives; some of them have negative connotations.
	Curious	- Born		
	Lousy	Business	Clean	
	Prying	Shop		
	Ridiculous	Artifacts		
	Filthy	Rubbish		
	Common	Money		
		Street		
		Eye		
Camera				
Parentage				
HP3	Dark	World		

	Real	Police	Study	
HP4	Anti-	-Torture		
	Real	-Lovers		
		-Born		
	Anti-	Precautions		
		Security		
Poor	Relations			
HP5		-Hunting		
	Anti-	Pranksters		
	Strapping	Towns		
		Remedies		
		Medicine		
		Nutters		
	Flying	Artifacts		
	Sneaking			
		Suburb		
		Perspective		
	Innocent			
HP6	Handsome	Killer	Kill	There are 3 adjectives negatives to one positive.
	Dirt-veined	-Born		
	Filthy	Rubbish		
	Dark	Attire		
		Attacks		
		-Lover		
	-Hater			
HP7	Anti-	Tendency	Maiming	Great use of the combination “Muggle-born”
		Contraptions	Murdered	
		-Born	Forced	
		Slaughter		
		Dwellings		

		Blood		
		Torture		

Table 18: Frequent collocations of “Muggle”.

The most repeated neologism in the books throughout the saga is “muggle”. It is the term to designate a person without magical abilities and it is presented in all the books as one of the most important neologisms.

In the previous table, “muggle” has been taken as a keyword. In the analysis only those terms that incorporate a lexical meaning have been considered collocates, in order to observe how they influenced the keyword.

One of the most common collocations for “Muggle” is followed by a noun to create a compound noun; there are some examples as “Muggle-clothes”, “Muggle-money”, “Muggle-chess”, etc. especially in the first books.

In the second book, there is an increase of the R1 collocates; it is observable a rising in the use of adjectives to qualify the keyword, although the nouns in R2 position still maintain a fundamental role.

In the third book there is a descent in the use of the keyword and that is reflected in the collocations; there is also a descent in the modifiers surrounding the word. It is interesting that there is equilibrium in the R1 and R2 collocations.

From the fourth book onwards, the tendency of a major number of R2 than R1 collocations comes back as it has already happened in the firsts two books. The most used combination with the keyword “muggle” is the post-modifier “-born”, merging the compound “muggle-born”.

Quidditch					
Books	R1		R2		Observations
	Adjective	Verb	Noun	Verb	
HP1			Teams		Large use of nouns after the keyword to create compound words
			Trials		
			Cup		
	Excellent		Field		
	Good		Player		
			Season		
			Captain		
HP2			Team		
	Quality		Supplies		
	Favorite		Team		
			Robes		
			Stadium		
			Teacher		
	Late-running		Practice		
HP3	Quality		Supplies		
	Good		Final		
			Practice		
HP4	Favorite	Play	Team		
	House	Love	Talk		
			Player		
			Match		
			Practice		
			Captain		
			Cup		
		Stadium			
HP5	Good	Play	League		
	International		Team		

			Tryouts		
			Players		
			Practice		
			Cup		
HP6	Final		Tickets		
			Commentators		
			Robes		
			Players		
			Lectures		
			Injury		
			Game		
			Pitch		
HP7	Great		Knowledge		
			Match		
			Player		
			Hero		

Table 19: Frequent collocations of “Quidditch”.

In the previous table, “quidditch” (the term used to designate the magic sport) is analyzed. As it happens with “muggle”, the keyword is used especially in the creation of compound nouns.

It is interesting that there is not any result for the position of verbs in R2; however, there are three occurrences for verbs in R1 position.

The table does not suffer great variations throughout the books. In all of them, there is a major use of nouns following the keyword than adjectives that modify it. In the case of adjectives, the principal keynote is a positive feature in most of them.

Dementor					
Books	R1		R2		Observations
	Adjective	Verb	Noun	Verb	
HP1					No hits
HP2					No hits
HP3	Anti-	Guard	Lesson		
	Real	Affect			
HP4		Bury		Destroy	
		Enter			
		Place			
HP5	Ruddy	Out-of-control		Swipe	
	Invisible			Attack	
	Putrid	Repel			
HP6		Tackle	Attacks	Guard	
			Essay		
HP7		Repel	Flight	Blow	
			Gliding	Swoop	

Table 20: Frequent collocations of “Dementor”.

In the case of “dementor”, there are some characteristics that may attract our attention.

A “dementor” is an evil creature whose function is to guard the wizards’ prison. In the first case, the word does not have any appearances in the first two books of the series, which is surprising because the keyword is the third most used one in the saga.

Another important characteristic in that table in relation to the previous ones is the use of verbs. In the case of “dementor”, verbs constitute an important element because they are widely used in R1 and R2 position.

Unlike what happens with the other two keywords, the use of nouns in R2 position it is not so frequent. There are not any compounds with the keyword. Regarding adjectives, there is a negative tone in most of them such as the case of “putrid”.

4.3 Results

One of the most important revelations extracted from the analysis is the addition of the neologism “Muggle” in the Oxford Dictionary as a result of the increasing importance that this word had in the series. The word is widely used in the books so it could be established that the first step that a neologism must accomplish to be officially accepted as a new coined word is an extensive use of it.

That fact is important not only to observe the importance that J.K Rowling’s creation has, but also to see through a sample how languages work. First, a new word is invented; thereafter, by the use and the broadcasting, it becomes socially accepted and finally, it is officially accepted by an important organ in the correct use of English language as it is the Oxford Dictionary.

On the other side, once the analysis has concluded, it is important to denote some features that are accomplished in neologisms. The first common characteristic among them is their grammatical category. All the neologisms studied in the analysis appear as nouns; that fact could be due to the openness of this particular grammatical category in which it is easier to introduce new terms or words than in others. Although it is not observable in the study of books, it is observable that some neologisms that appear as nouns, after an extensive use of them, they are gradually derived to other grammatical categories, such as adjectives or verbs (for instance, the noun “Google” referred to the Internet browser has derived into a verb, “to google”, to define the action of searching something in the net).

On the contrary, some words that belong to other grammatical categories can turn into nouns due to a transposition process (as it is mentioned in the methodology section). That is the case of “snitch” and “seeker”; “snitch” comes from the verb “to snitch” and its use as a noun derives from it. The same happens with “seeker”, which becomes a noun by the extensive use of the verb “to seek”.

Another common feature that the majority of Rowling’s neologisms share is that they are short words. From the 41 neologisms analyzed, 18 of them only have 2 syllables, followed by those which only have 3 syllables, have resulted in a total of 15 words.

That shortness in words may be made on purpose; these words are addressed to a general public who would probably forget the neologisms if they are too elaborated words.

Apart from their shortness, the author avoids to create a conjunct of words (more than one) to refer to a concept. It means that she uses one word to name one concept, although there are some cases, such as “expecto patronum” and “death eaters”, in which the neologism is formed by two words instead of one.

It is also observed that the dissemination of a term may result in a variation of its meaning. For example, “muggle” is defined by the Oxford Dictionary as “A person who is not conversant with a particular activity or skill” but that is not the definition provided in the books. In the context of a magical world, “muggle” is used to designate those people who do not have any magical skills. When we compare the two definitions, an adaptation in the meaning of the word can be appreciated, although it maintains its basic features.

The performance of the neologisms in the saga also brings some conclusions. In order to analyze that performance, neologisms have been classified into morphological, semantic or syntactic categories to observe how they are distributed throughout the books.

It has been observable a tendency of increasing the number of neologisms as the saga advances. That increase in the total number of neologisms was also accompanied by a rise in the use of morphological neologisms and a descent in semantic ones.

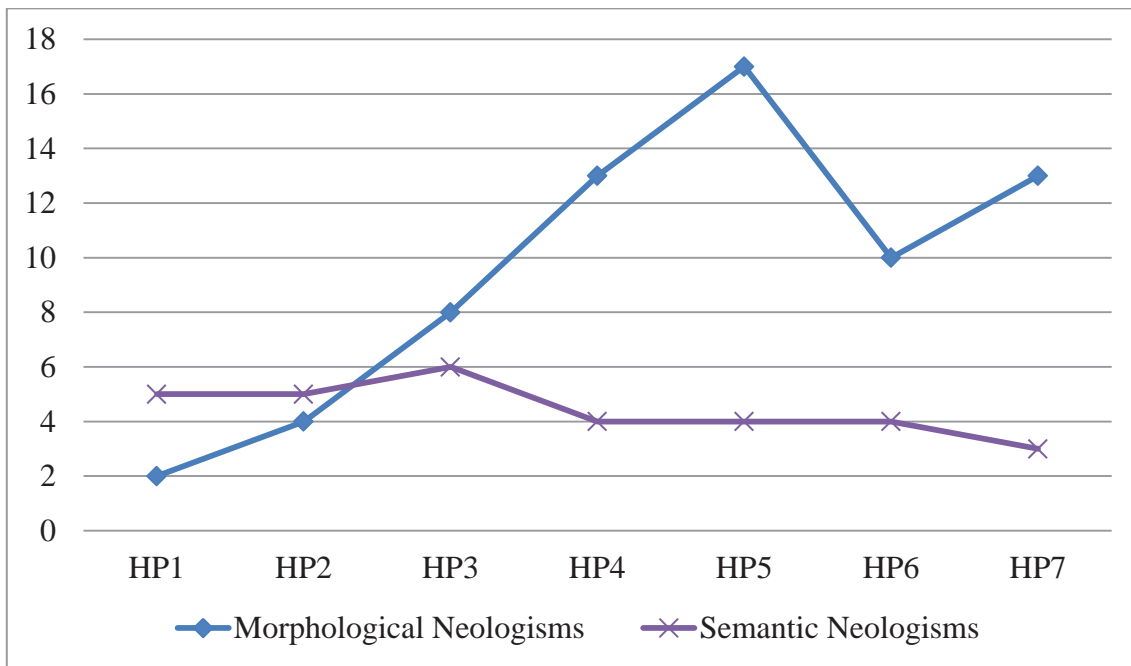


Table 12: Distribution of neologisms in the saga

That spread of the morphological neologisms in the second part of the books can be due to several reasons: the readers who have reached the fourth book of the saga are able to understand and recognize some terms that had already appeared in the previous books.

Those readers could be compared to semi-experts in the field because they are able to relate the new words or neologisms to their concepts, and also to have in mind those words that have already appeared in the books.

That is why the language used in the books cannot be described as general; although it belongs neither to a specific field as it could be, for instance, economics or biology, the tone of specialization could be placed in a middle stage, considering it as semi-expert language.

From the section of collocations, there are some results from the previous tables that must be analyzed and interpreted.

There is a great use of nouns following the keyword to create new compounds. It may be due to the desire of the author of avoiding the creation of new terms that may confuse the readers. Harry Potter books are addressed, mostly, to young people, so the excessive use of neologisms may result in difficulties to follow the story. For that

reason, instead of creating new words to designate the muggles' money or clothes, for instance, she uses the compounding with the keyword.

The same happens with the keyword "quidditch"; there are a lot of nouns following the keyword to name the robes, matches or leagues related with the magical sport to avoid the creation of different words to name all the objects.

The relations between the keywords and their collocates also produce some interesting results. In the table of the collocations for "muggle", it is noticeable a change in the tone from the first book to the last ones. The first book has some R1 adjectives as "great", "biggest" and "feeble"; however, as the story advances, the tone of crudeness intensifies the negative connotations of the adjectives that modify the keyword (some of the harsher adjectives are "filthy", "lousy" or "dirt-veined" amongst others). That fact could be due to the neutrality of the term; being "muggle" is not necessarily something good or bad. For that reason, the collocations that modify the word are so important; they can transmit the idea of something good or evil by the collocative meaning that "muggle" acquires.

That tendency of a progressive pejorative use of the term is also observable in the R1 nouns; the results from the first book showed a group of nouns without major implications. They are words that designate common objects in our world as money, family, chess, etc.

However, in the second book that use of neutral nouns changes with the incorporation of some negative words as "rubbish" until the last two books, in which those nouns with negative connotations became in the most used ones.

The same occurs with the verbs; the last two books incorporate some verbs as "to maim", "to kill", "to murder" or "to force" so the keyword is influenced unavoidably with their negative implications.

Those types of collocations are a reflection of the story itself; the term "muggle" is deteriorated as the story advances because muggles are believed to be inferior than wizards.

In the case of "quidditch", apart from the nouns, the keyword is also surrounded by adjectives in R1 position. However, unlike what happens in the case of "muggle", there

are no significant changes in the tone of the adjectives; they are positive adjectives that serve to intensify the notion of this sport as something good.

From the first book to the last one, the adjectives that modify the keyword have positive connotations (some examples are: “excellent”, “good”, “favorite”, “great”, etc.). These types of adjectives only reinforce the idea of the magical sport as something positive.

On the other hand, we have the word “dementor”. The term is used to designate the evil creatures that guard the wizard’s prison so its collocates follow the same meaning than the noun. There are some examples as “putrid” or “ruddy” although the use of adjectives in this case is very limited.

In contrast to that, there is a predominant use of verbs in the case of “muggle” and “quidditch”. “Dementor” entails a kind of negative features, so the use of adjectives may not be necessary to reinforce that idea. As it can be seen in the table, the most common R1 and R2 collocations are verbs, describing the way of acting of these creatures.

Therefore, it is observable how some words attract some others with the same characteristics. Whilst “quidditch” and “Dementor” are surrounded by positive and negative collocations in each case, those words as “muggle” which do not have an established implication are more susceptible to be influenced by their collocates.

5. Conclusions

Taking the results of the analysis as a reference, some conclusions can be extracted. The open-choice principle announced by Sinclair is also accomplished in neologisms; as it has been seen in the analysis, the meaning of the neologisms is a fundamental point to the tone of their collocations. Those neologisms which had positive connotations attract positive collocations whilst those which had negative ones are surrounded by negative lexical items.

Throughout the study, the fundamental role that collocations exert in their companions is also obvious, as it is seen in the case of “muggle”.

The findings of this study suggest that the numerous possibilities that the study of collocations have not touched the ceiling and there are great opportunities for this field in linguistics.

Regarding the different types of neologisms, semantic neologisms are easier to understand than morphological ones. For that reason, the first books contain a major number of semantic neologisms, changing that tendency in the last ones. It is easier for a person to incorporate a new meaning for a word that has already been used than to learn a new word and its corresponding new meaning.

On the other side, there are some characteristics that are present in the majority of the neologisms. From those characteristics it might be possible to establish some features that a new coined word must accomplish to be officially accepted.

The most important characteristic that a word must have to be accepted is a great diffusion in society; as a word grows in popularity, it has more possibilities of being incorporated in dictionaries.

The great majority of neologisms are nouns that normally appear as single words; the simplicity in the new words is appreciated when they are addressed to a general public.

Finally, regarding to the semantic features, there are some words that experiment an adaptation in their meanings when they are incorporated. This is produced by the inevitable process of simplification that they suffer when people use them.

Although the current study is based on a small parcel of language, the findings suggest that neologisms must accomplish certain characteristics in order to be officially accepted in dictionaries.

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