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New Blends in the English Language

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Titel:	New Blends in the English Language
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Abstract: The aim of this essay was to identify new blends that have entered the English language. Firstly six different word-formation processes, including blending, was described. Those were compounding, clipping, backformation, acronyming, derivation and blending. The investigation was done by using a list of blends from Wikipedia. The words were looked up in the Longman dictionary of 2005 and in a dictionary online. A google search and a corpus investigation were also conducted. The investigation suggested that most of the blends were made by clipping and the second most common form was clipping and overlapping. Blends with only overlapping was unusual and accounted for only three percent. The investigation also suggested that the most common way to create blends by clipping was to use the first part of the first word and the last part of the second word. The blends were not only investigated according to their structure but also according to the domains they occur in. This part of the investigation suggested that the blends were most frequent in the technical domain, but also in the domain of society.

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1. Introduction and aims

We live in the age of information and we are therefore in constant need of new words. English has acquired new words by borrowing words from every language it has been in contact with, though in recent years, it has become less of an importer and more of an exporter. Apart from borrowing, English has many other ways of acquiring new words. One of the ways is to give new meaning to old words and thereby get a new word with a different meaning. This has occurred, for example, in the case of the word *cool*, originally meaning 'chilly', which is now used as another word for *outstanding*. Another and a more common way is to create completely new words (Clark, Eschholz and Rosa 1994:368). This is done by regular and predictable processes such as compounding, clipping, back-formation, derivation, acronyming and blending. Blending is to combine two or more forms by clipping and/or overlapping. Two well known blends are the words *smog* and *brunch*. Compounding, on the other hand, combines two already existing words to create a new word. Examples are *text book* and *football*. All word-formation processes mentioned above will be explained in this essay, with a focus on blending.

The aim of this essay is to identify new blends that have entered the English language, to examine their structure and to see in what domains they occur. This is done by using a list of blends from Wikipedia, the free-content internet encyclopaedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_portmanteaux). The words are looked up in the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English and in a newer dictionary online. An online-search is also presented as well as a corpus investigation to see if they occur in newspapers. The blends are then divided into different groups depending on their structure and the domains they belong to.

2. Background

In the background the six different word-formation processes compounding, clipping, backformation, derivation, acronyming and blending will be described. All word-formation processes except for blending will only be described briefly, since the focus of this essay is on blending.

2.1. Compounding

Compounding is done by putting two or more words together to create a new one. This is one of the oldest sources of new words in English and it is still very common. But there is a problem with compounds: the English writing system does not show whether two words with a space between them is a compound or not. This is because compounds can be written in more than one way. They can be written with or without a hyphen and with or without a space (Francis 1994:369).

One type of compound is the endocentric compound. Endocentric compounds almost always consist of two words or morphemes where the second word or morpheme determines the word class and the general category of the compound as a whole. The second word, in such compounds, is called the *head* and the first word is called the *modifier*. The term *endocentric* means that the compound is a sub-class or an extension of the head. A *textbook* for example is a kind of book. The word *text* describes what type of book it is, but it is the word *book* that is most important. However, many words can be used as both heads and modifiers. In the compound just mentioned, *text* is the modifier and *book* is the head. But these words could change places and thereby change roles. This means that they can create another compound, *book text*, meaning a text one finds in a book (Ljung 2003:121-122).

Another type of compound is the exocentric compound. Exocentric compounds do not have a head. *Hardback* and *paperback* are two examples of exocentric compounds. They are not examples of backs; instead, they describe different types of books. A hardback is a book with a hard back and a paperback is a book with a back made of paper. In these examples, the two words refer to objects, but most of the time exocentric compounds refer to people with certain characteristics. Examples of that are *red-head* describing a person with red hair and *big-foot* used for persons with big feet (Ljung 1993:127-128).

2.2 Clipping

Clipping refers to the creating of new words by shortening already existing words. The most common way of doing this is through back-clipping. This means that the final part of a word is removed, as in *lab* for *laboratory* and *ad* for *advertisement*. Most back-clippings are nouns,

but this kind of reduction occurs in other word classes as well. *Fab* for the adjective *fabulous* is one example (Ljung 2003:159).

There are also other types of clippings. In one type, the first part of the word is removed. This is called fore-clipping. Examples of fore-clippings are *phone* and *plane* from the words *telephone* and *aeroplane*. In another type of clipping both the first and the final part of the word is removed. This is the case in the words *flu* and *fridge*, which originally were *influenza* and *refrigerator*. This last type of clipping is rare (Ljung 2003:160).

2.2.1 Backformation

One word-formation process that is often mentioned in connection with clipping is back-formation. This is because both can be described as different types of reduction. What they have in common is that in both cases a new word is created by shortening a longer one. The difference is that back-formation uses analogy to create a new word. One could say that it is a kind of reverse derivation. One example is the word *donate* which is a back-formation from the word *donation*. The words *creation*, *create* and *donation* already existed and this suggested that the verb *donate* should also be in the English language. This is what is meant by considering analogy when creating a new word. Clipping, on the other hand, is done without consideration of derivational analogy. Instead, it often keeps the part of the word that has the main stress (Francis 1994:372-373). One important thing to mention when it comes to back-formation is that the process yields a new word belonging to a different word class.

2.3 Derivation

Derivation involves taking an existing word, or sometimes a bound morpheme or morphemic structure, and adding an affix. The affixes that are used are called productive affixes. They are known to all native speakers and are added to various kinds of stems. The word *telegraph*, for example, gave rise to the derivatives *telegrapher*, *telegraphy* and *telegraphic* (Francis1994:369). The affixes are derivational bound morphemes. The suffixes, and sometimes also the prefixes, that are added usually change the word class of the words.

2.4 Acronyming

An acronym is created by combining the initial letters in a title or a phrase. However, all abbreviations are not acronyms. To be an acronym the abbreviation must be pronounced not as a series of letters but as a word (Bauer 1983:237). However there is not a general agreement on this, but I use Bauer's definition in this essay. *NAFTA* (North American Free Trade Association) and *NATO* (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) are two examples of acronyms denoting institutions and organizations. Some acronyms have more or less obviously been created to remind people of an organization's purpose. This is the case with *AIM* (American Indian Movement) and *PUSH* (People United to Serve Humanity). Acronyms can also be made of phrases: *NIMBY* (not in my backyard) is one example (Ljung 2003:158-159).

2.5 Blending

The term *blending* refers to a combination of two or more forms, where at least one has been shortened. The shortening can be by simple omission of a part of a word or it can be a result of overlapping sounds or letters (Algeo 1977:47). Gries defines blending as follows:

> Blending involves the coinage of a new lexeme by fusing parts
> of at least two other source words of which either one is
> shortened in the fusion and/or where there is some form of
> phonemic or graphemic overlap of the source words. (Gries
> 2004:639)

2.5.1 Different types of blends

The following section will describe different types of blends and their structure. It will also discuss the different systematic categories of blends.

2.5.1.1 Blends with overlapping

Overlapping in these blends might take place with overlapping as the only type of shortening of the words. The most common pattern is the one where the final part of the first word

overlaps the first part of the second word. The overlap can be one phoneme or several. One example of this is *slanguage* from *slang* and *language*. Blends with overlapping may also include all of one form and the first or last part of the other word. In those cases it is the spelling of the word that tells us it is a blend:

> *Sinema* "adult film" = *sin + cinema*
> *Cellebrity* "famous criminal" = *cell + celebrity*
> *Cartune* "musical cartoon" = *cartoon + tune*

There is one type of overlapping blend that is not very common. In such blends one form is inserted into another; the overlapping might be complete or partial. *In-sin-uation* for example, meaning insinuation of sin, is created by a fusion of the two words *insinuation* and *sin* (Algeo 1977:49). In those words it is the inserted element that is stressed.

2.5.1.2 Blends with clipping

Blends with clipping have no overlapping. Instead one part or more is omitted. There are different patterns that are used when creating these kinds of blends. One is to keep the whole part of the first word and the last part of the second word.

> *Foodoholic = food + alcoholic*
> *Fanzine = fan + magazine*

Another alternative is to keep the whole second word and only use the first part of the first word.
> *Eurasia = Europe + Asia*

When both words are clipped it is common to use the first part of the first word and the last part of the second part. Two widely used blends are examples of this combination:

> *Brunch = breakfast + lunch*
> *Smog = smoke + fog*

A fourth alternative is to combine the first parts of both or all elements.

Agitprop = agitation + propaganda

Aldehyde = alcohol + dehydrogenatum

Algeo believes that acronyms belong to this class of blends rather than being a seperate type of word-formation (Algeo 1977:50). However I do not agree with Algeo on this. I treat acronyms as a separate type of word-formation.

2.5.1.3 Clipping at morpheme boundaries

Blends that have been created by simple clipping are often shortened at morpheme boundaries. *Oxbridge*, which is a blend of the words *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, is an example of this. In cases like Oxbridge it can be difficult to decide if the word results from blending or from compounding if one does not know its background. Blends that are clipped at morpheme boundaries are therefore a less obvious example of the blending process than blends that are shortened in a less straightforward manner.

Blending can turn into compounding as in the example that follows. *Landscape* is a word that was borrowed from Dutch, and it was used to create new blends: *cityscape, inscape, offscape* and more. Even the single word *scape* was created from the word *landscape*. Because of this, any new word that is formed using the morpheme *scape* can no longer be seen as a blend but a compound. Blending can also give new meaning to morphemes. The blends *radiocast, telecast, sportscast* and *newscast* have given the word *cast* the meaning of *broadcast* (Algeo 1977:51-52).

2.5.1.4 Blends with clipping and overlapping

Some blends are created by using both clipping and overlapping. There are many variations of patterns to this word-formation. The words that follow are some examples.

Californication = California + fornicate

Suspose = suspect + suppose

Hungarican = Hungarian + American

Motel = Motor + hotel (Algeo 1977:52)

2.5.2 Systematic categories

Blends can be described in terms of distinguishing features as was done above, but there is also another way to distinguish them: they can be classified according to whether they are syntagmatic or associative.

Syntagmatic blends are blends that represent combinations of words that occur next to one another in the speech chain. Although normally regarded as blends, they could equally be seen as contractions. In most of these cases the first word ends with the same sound or sequence of sounds as the second word begins with.

Chicagorilla = Chicago + gorilla

Radarange = radar + range

However, syntagmatic blends do not need to be haplologistic[1]. Some reflect both clipping of one or both forms, some overlapping, and some both processes.

The following two blends are examples of syntagmatic blends:

Amerind = American + Indian

Hashbury = Haight + Ashbury

Associative blends, by contrast, are created from words that are linked in the word-maker's mind. The words can share a common base morpheme or affix, or they might be similar in sound. They can also have a semantic link, which is most common. The clearest examples of associative blends are those which are made by combining synonyms:

Bonk = bump + conk

Swellegant = swell + elegant

Needcessity = need + necessity

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[1] "Contraction of a word by omission of one or more similar sounds or syllables" (*Merriam-Webster online dictionary*).

Shill = shiver + chill

When words that belong to the same paradigmatic class, but are not synonyms, are combined into a blend the result is sometimes called a *dvandva blend* (a term from Sanskrit grammar). *Smog* from the words *smoke* and *fog* is an example of a dvandva blend. Synonymic and dvandva blends are similar because the words can replace each other. It is possible to use *bumped*, *conked* and *bonked* in the same place in a sentence and with the same meaning. These blends are called *paradigmatic blends*. A blend whose source words are associated with each other but are not interchangeable is called a *jumble*. *Foodoholic* from *food* and *alcoholic* is one example of a jumble (Algeo 1977:55-58).

2.6 Summary of background

To sum up, compounds are words that are created by putting two already existing words together to create a new word. The second word-formation process mentioned, clipping, means shortening already existing words. This is not unlike backformation which is also a type of reduction, although in contrast to clipping it uses derivational analogy when creating a new word. Derivation does not involve shortening a word. Instead it adds an affix to a word, a bound morpheme or a morphemic structure. An acronym is an abbreviation that is pronounced as a word instead of as a series of letters. Blending is to combine two or more forms by clipping and/or overlapping. Blends can also be categorized on the basis factors other than their structure, that is whether they are associative or syntagmatic.

3. Method and material

For my investigation I used a list of blends that I found on Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_portmanteaux). The list consists of 249 words. My first step was to look all the words up in the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* from the year 2005. The words that were in the dictionary I considered established. This narrowed the number of words down to 202. These words I looked up in another dictionary online, Dictionary.com. I did that because I wanted to see if the words were established in a more recent dictionary. I assumed that a dictionary online did not have as high requirements for inclusion as a printed one. This appears to be true and it left me with 76 words which went through one more narrowing, described further in the section 3.3. For the 60 blends that were

finally chosen I did a Google search to determine their relative frequencies of occurrence. I also did a corpus investigation, using *The Guardian* and *The Observer* from 2005. I then classified the blends into different types based on structure. The last thing I did was to classify the blends according to the domains in which they occurred.

3.1 Classification

The blends were divided into three different types**:** blends with overlapping, blends with clipping and blends with clipping and overlapping.

3.2 Domains

My classification according to domain closely followed the list from Wikipedia. These domains included: general; technical; science; marketing; film; television; radio; literature; video games; music; internet/media; comic books and manga; sports; organizations, companies and brand names; animals; portmanteaux by Lewis Carroll from *Jabberwocky*; politics, economics and geography; portmanteaux of portmanteaux. However, the blends that I finally focused on were represented in only nine of the Wikipedia domains. In the case of two words*, jazzercise* and *dancercise,* I disagreed with the categorization made by Wikipedia. I thought that the word *jazzercise* should be in the same category as *dancercise*, that is the general category instead of in the organizations, companies and brand names domain. Also *mockumentary* was moved to the same domain as *rockumentary*, namely the film domain instead of the marketing domain. The meaning of all of the words I use in my investigation can be found in the appendix.

3.3 Problems encountered in my investigation

Some of the blends on the list from Wikipedia were company or organization names. Those were *Amtrak, Banesto, Microsoft, CONMEBOL* and *Texaco*. I considered them established even though they were not in the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*. Other words that I excluded were blends that had more than one meaning, such as *Canola, Singlish, multiplex, texel* and *prosumer*. One word, *Intel* could be either a blend from the words *integrated electronics* or a result of clipping of the word *intelligent*. Another word that was on the list was not a blend, but a compound of the abbreviation *ARPA* and the word *net*. Two

blends were names of countries and I therefore considered them established even though they were not in the Longman dictionary. The countries on the list were *Malaysia* and *Tanzania*. In the beginning of the investigation I considered the words *CONELRAD* and *Iveco*, from *control of electromagnetic radiation* and *Industrial Vehicle Corporation*, acronyms instead of blends. Now, however, I think that maybe they should have been included in my corpus investigation. But as this thought did not occur to me until after the investigation had been conducted, the word is not included. Overall, 16 words were excluded in this process.

Another problem that I encountered in my investigation was that I was not able to search any American newspapers. I could only get access to British newspapers and therefore I could not see if any of the blends occurred only in British or American English. The corpura available online did not work either.

4. Analysis and results

When searching the 60 blends with the Internet search engine Google I got various results. The number of hits ranged from 686 for the word *Juneteenth* to 43 400 000 for the word *podcasting*. Figure 1 shows the number of hits for the 24 words with numbers exceeding 1 000 000.
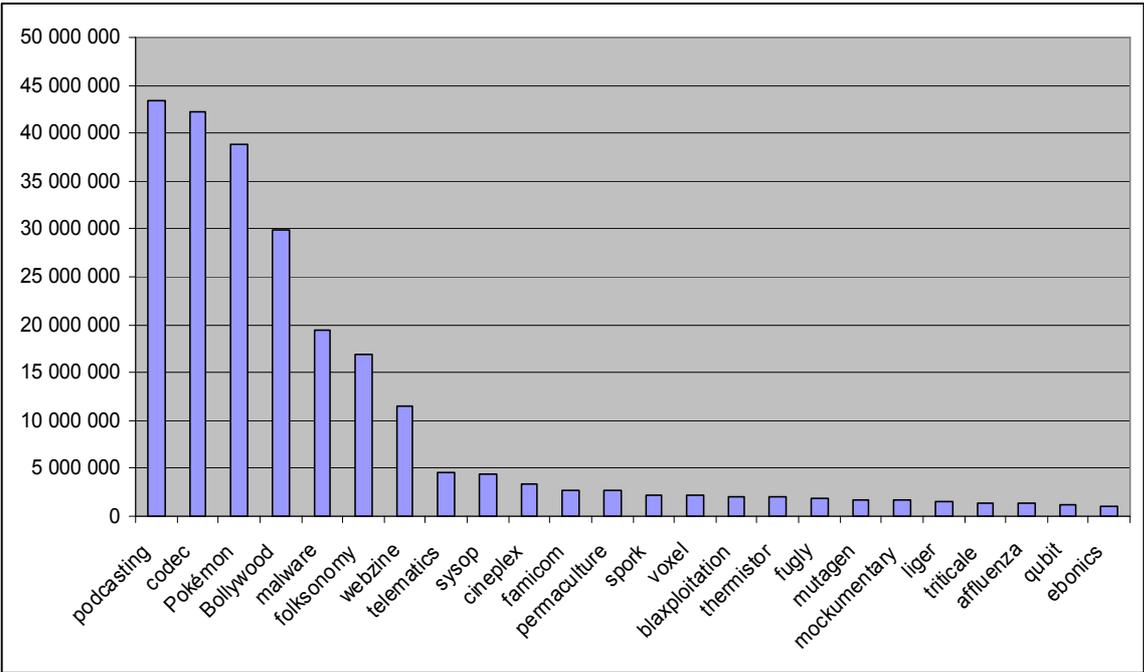
Figure 1: Number of Google hits for the most frequent blends

As figure 1 shows there are seven words with more than 10 000 000 hits each. Of these, *Podcasting*, *codec* and *pokémon* are the most frequent, each with over 35 000 000 hits.

 Figure 2 shows how many hits the words in Figure 1 received in the corpus investigation. When comparing the two figures it is easy to see that there is a big difference between the numbers of hits. This is partly due to the fact that the total number of words searched in the corpus was only 38 000 000. The highest number of hits in Figure 2 is only 247 compared to 43 400 000 in Google, but this is not the most interesting thing. The frequency of the words is not the same in the newspapers (corpus) as it is on the Internet (Google).
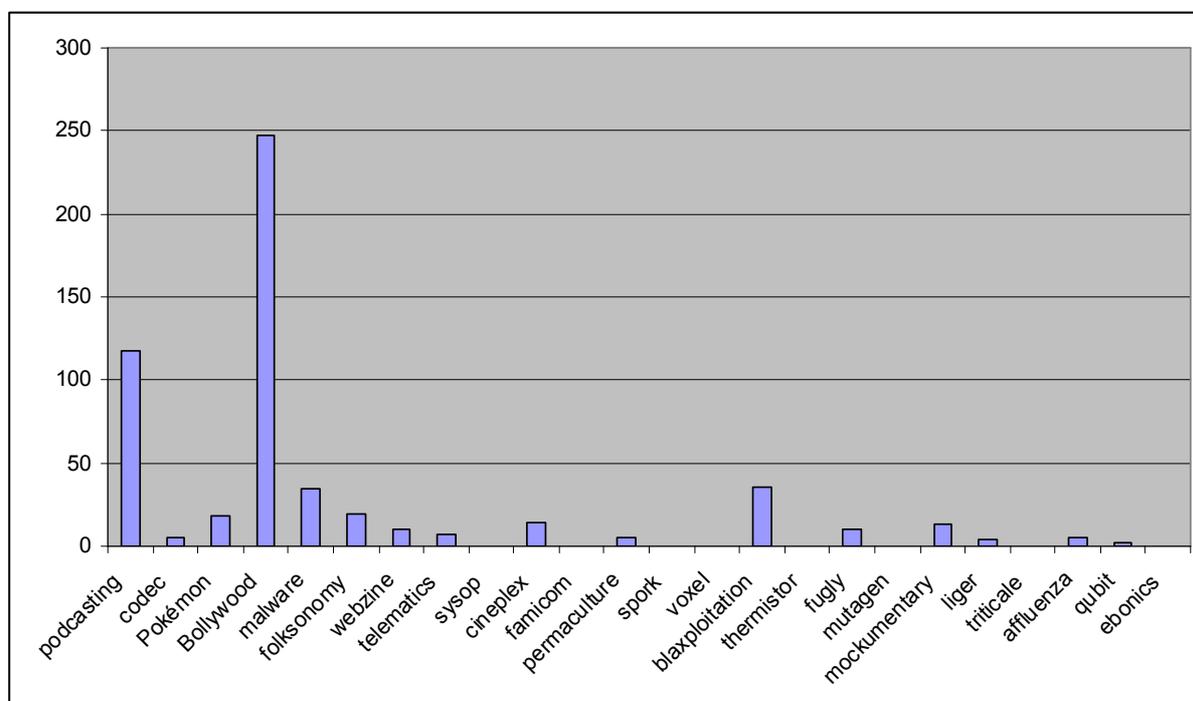
Figure 2: Number of corpus hits for the most frequent blends

As Figure 2 shows, *Bollywood* is the most common word in the corpus investigation. *Podcasting* comes second. This is not so surprising since the two words are in the top four words in figure 1. But the third most common word in figure 2 is *blaxploitation*, which is in 15th place in the Figure 1. The corpus investigation thus does not at all follow the same pattern as the Google investigation. This is very clear when we look at the word *codec*. *Codec* was the next most common word in Google but it is not even close to second place in the

newspaper corpus. This suggests that many of the blends are much more frequent on the Internet.

Figure 3 shows the number of Google hits for the remaining 36 blends. Half of the total number of blends received fewer than 650 000 hits. The 17 least common blends had less than 200 000 hits, which suggests that they are not very established.
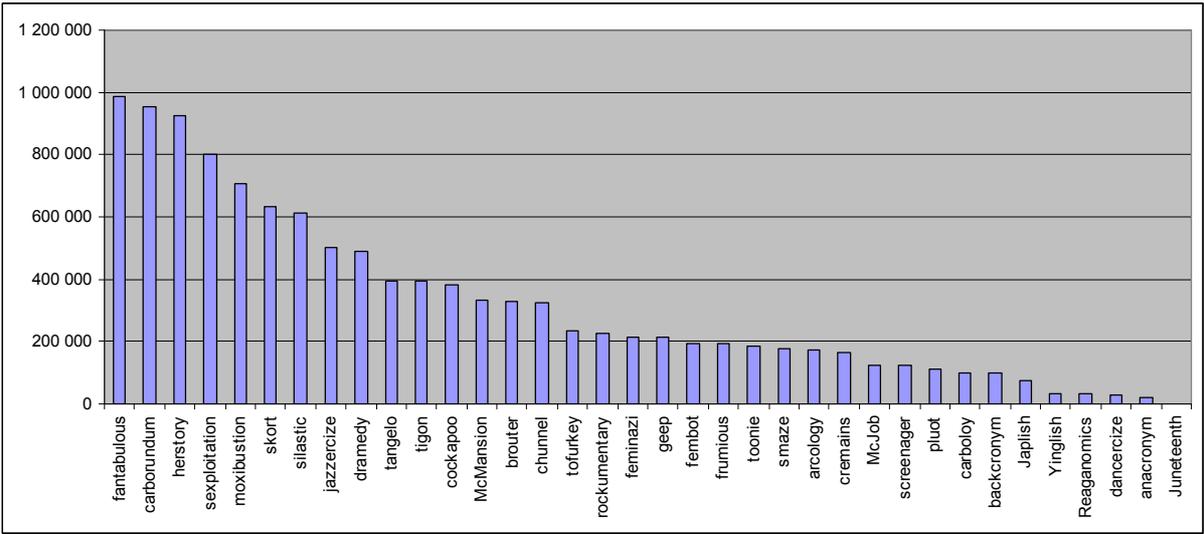
Figure 3: Number of Google hits for the 35 remaining blends

In Figure 4 we see once again that the corpus investigation does not follow the same pattern as the online search. Here the three most frequent words in the corpus investigation are the words that come in ninth, eleventh and seventeenth place in the Google search, namely *dramedy*, *tigon* and *rockumentary*.
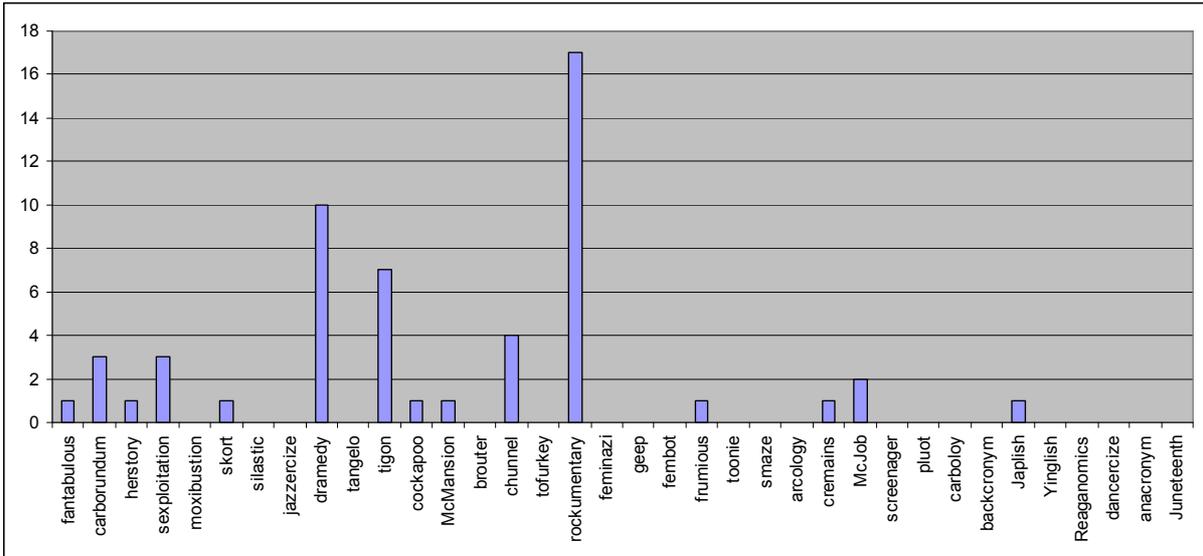
Figure 4: Number of corpus hits for the 35 remaining blends

4.1 Structure

Two different types of blends, namely blends with clipping only and blends with clipping and overlapping, were most frequent. These two types accounted for 97 percent of the total. Blends with overlapping only made up only three percent.

Figure 5: The structure of the blends

4.1.1 Blends with clipping

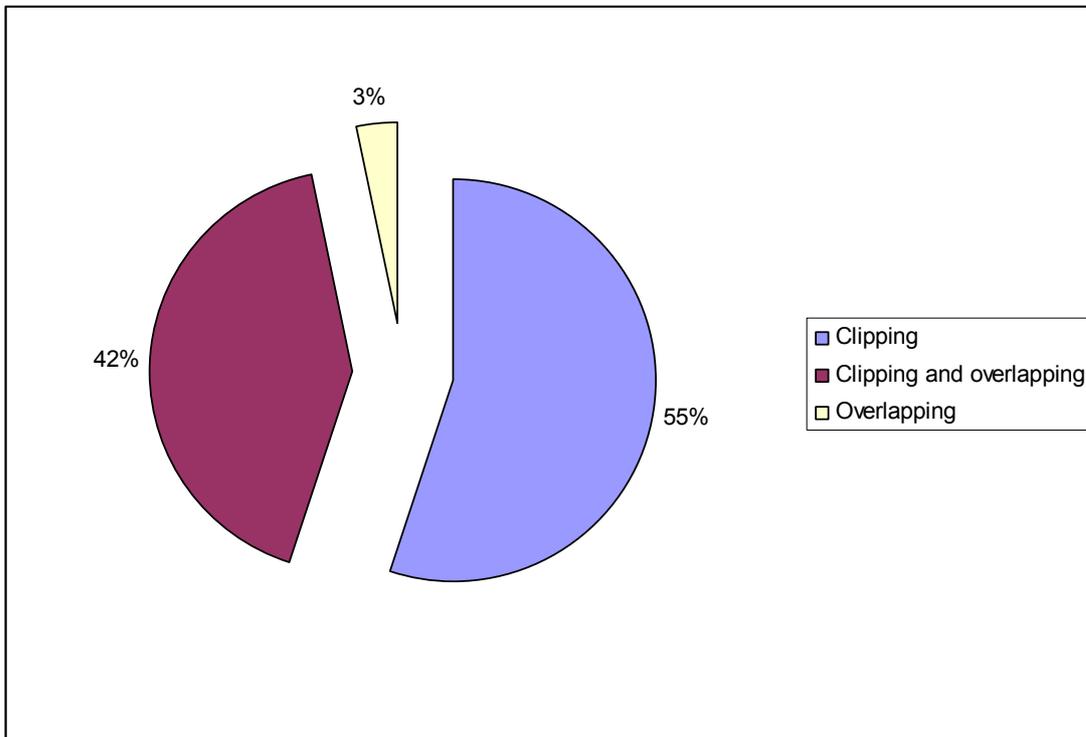Blends with clipping were the most common type of blend. As many as 33 words were created using this method. There were a number of different patterns with this type of blends as illustrated below:

a) Blends created by using the first part of the first word and the last part of the second word:

Malware = malicious + software
Telematics = telecommunications + informatics
Thermistor = thermal + resistor
Tigon = tiger + lion
Cineplex = cinema + complex
Permaculture = permanent + agriculture
Voxel = volume + pixel
Triticale = triticum + secale
Geep = goat + sheep
Fembot = female + robot
Smaze = smoke + haze
Pluot = plum + apricot
Carboloy = carbon + alloy
Japlish = Japanese + English
Spork = spoon + fork
McMansion = McDonalds + mansion
Feminazi = feminist + nazi
McJob = McDonalds + job
Juneteenth = June + nineteenth

b) Blends created by using the whole first word and the last part of the second word:

Folksonomy = folk + taxonomy
Webzine = web + magazine
Herstory = her + history
Jazzercise = jazz + exercise

<p style="text-align:center">Reaganomics = <u>Reagan</u> + eco<u>nomics</u></p>

c) Blends created by using the first part of the first word and the whole second word:

<p style="text-align:center">Qubit = <u>qu</u>antum + <u>bit</u></p>

d) Blends created by using the last parts of two words:

<p style="text-align:center">Podcasting = <u>ipod</u> + broad<u>casting</u></p>

e) Blends created by using the first parts of both the words:

<p style="text-align:center">Pokémon = <u>pock</u>et + <u>mon</u>ster</p>
<p style="text-align:center">Sysop = <u>sys</u>tem + <u>op</u>erator</p>
<p style="text-align:center">Famicom = <u>fami</u>ly + <u>com</u>puter</p>
<p style="text-align:center">Mutagen = <u>muta</u>tion + <u>gen</u>esis</p>
<p style="text-align:center">Cockapoo = <u>cocker</u> spaniel + <u>poo</u>dle</p>

f) Uncategorized blends

Two of the blends with clipping were difficult to place in any of the categories mentioned above. Those blends were *moxibustion* from *mogusa* and *combustion*, and *frumious* from *fuming* and *furious*.

As can be seen from the above, the most common way to create blends with clipping is to use the first part of the first word and the last part of the second word. Figure 6 shows the frequency of the different variations. and blends with clipping that were difficult to place are also included in this figure.
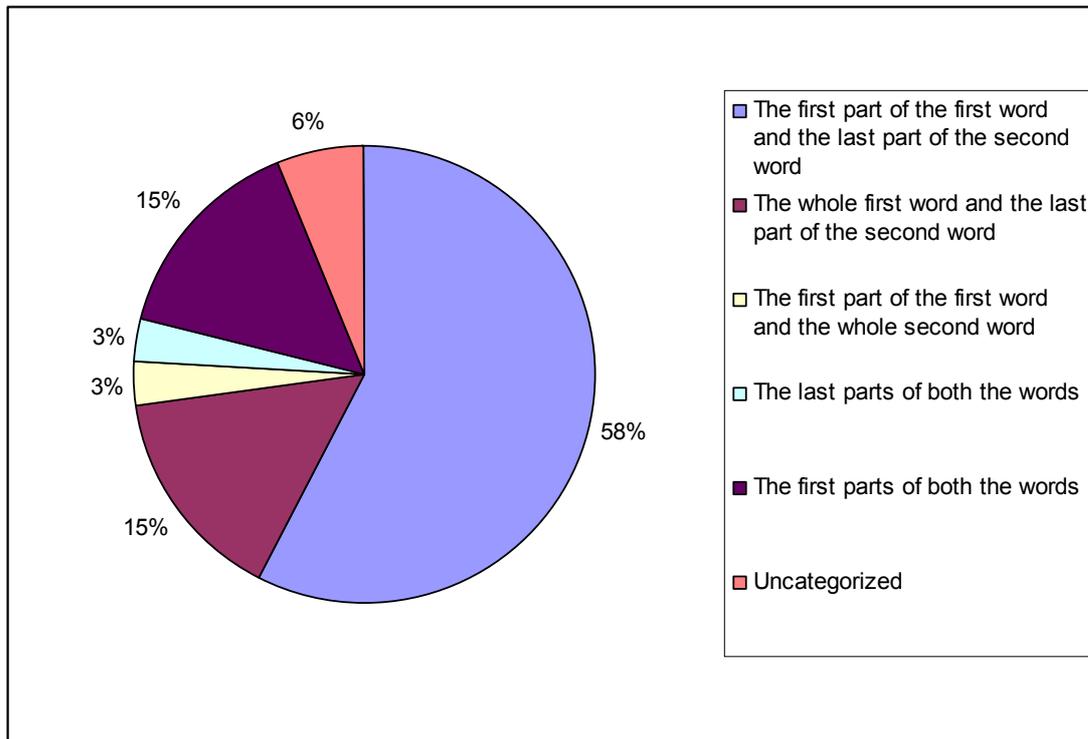
Figure 6: Variations of clipping

4.1.2 Blends with overlapping

There were only two instances of blends with overlapping but no clipping: *sexploitation* from *sex* and *exploitation* and *backcronym* from *back* and *acronym*.

4.1.3 Blends with clipping and overlapping

Twenty-two blends were created by using both clipping and overlapping. In many of these only one phoneme overlapped while in others larger units were involved. Those that overlapped only one letter represented almost half of all the blends in this category, more precisely 12 out of 25 words:

> *Bollywood = Bombay + Hollywood*
> *Fugly = fucking + ugly*
> *Carborundum = carbon + corundum*
> *Silastic = silicone + plastic*
> *Dramedy = dramatic + comedy*
> *Brouter = bridge + router*

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> *Tofurkey = <u>tofu</u> + <u>turkey</u>*
>
> *Dancercise = <u>dance</u> + <u>exercise</u>*
>
> *Tangelo = <u>tange</u>rine + pom<u>elo</u>*
>
> *Liger = <u>li</u>on + t<u>iger</u>*
>
> *Arcology = <u>arc</u>hitecture + e<u>cology</u>*
>
> *Codec = <u>co</u>der + <u>dec</u>oder*

One interesting conclusion that can be drawn by looking at the blends with one overlapping phoneme is that in all cases the blends are made by using the first part of the first word and the last part of the second word. This means that these words follow the most common pattern for blends with clipping. Other blends had larger overlaps than those mentioned above:

> *Skort = <u>sk</u>irt + sh<u>ort</u>*
>
> *Chunnel = <u>ch</u>annel + t<u>unnel</u>*
>
> *Mockumentary = <u>mock</u> + <u>documentary</u>*
>
> *Rockumentary = <u>rock</u> + <u>documentary</u>*
>
> *Cremains = <u>cre</u>mated + <u>remains</u>*
>
> *Screenager = <u>screen</u> + <u>teenager</u>*
>
> *Anacronym = <u>anachronism</u> + <u>acronym</u>*
>
> *Ebonics = <u>ebony</u> + ph<u>onics</u>*
>
> *Yinglish = <u>Yiddish</u> + <u>English</u>*
>
> *Blaxploitation = <u>black</u> + <u>exploitation</u>*
>
> *Toonie = <u>two</u> + l<u>oonie</u>*
>
> *Fantabulous = <u>fanta</u>stic + <u>fabulous</u>*
>
> *Affluenza = <u>affluence</u> + in<u>fluenza</u>*

The blends with an overlap that covered more than one phoneme follow almost the same patterns as those with a one phoneme-overlap. All blends are created by using the first part of the first word, and most also use the last part of the second word.

4.2 Domains

The original list of blends from Wikipedia consisted of 18 different domains, see section 3.2. However, the blends that could be found in the online dictionary came from only 9 of these:

general; technical; video games; film; marketing; animals; organizations, companies and brand names; politics, economics and geography; and portmanteaux of portmanteaux. Figure 7 shows how many words belonged to which category.
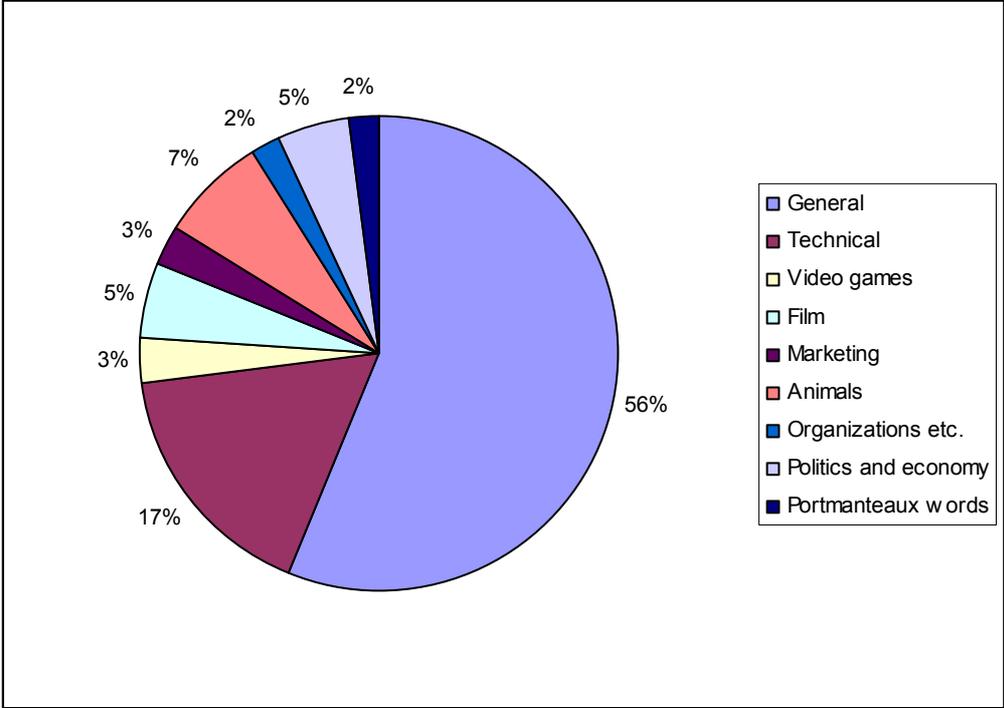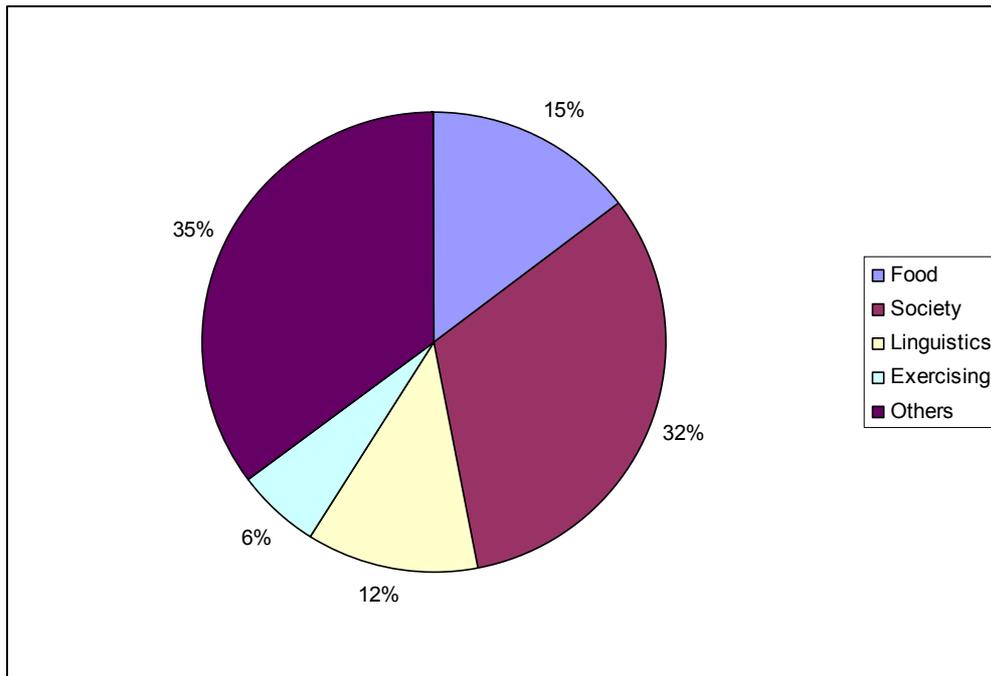

Figure 7: Domains

As can be seen in Figure 7 there are two domains that are more interesting than the others. Those are the general domain and the technical domain. It is not very surprising that the general domain is the most frequent one since it is such a broad domain. I have therefore divided the general domain into subdomains as follows:

Table 1: The general domain divided into smaller domains

Food	Society	Linguistics	Exercising	Others
Spork	folksonomy	Japlish	dancercise	moxibustion
Pluot	ebonics	Yinglish	jazzercise	carboloy
Tangelo	sexploitation	anacronym		silastic
Tofurkey	McMansion	backronym		toonie
Triticale	blaxploitation			cremains
	McJob			mutagen
	permaculture			smaze
	affluenza			Chunnel
	herstory			Fantabulous
	arcology			Fugly
	screenager			Webzine
				skort

Figure 8 gives another view of the division into subdomains:

Figure 8: Subdomains

5. Summary and conclusions

The English language is constantly changing. New words are created in many different ways. Six of the different word-formation processes are mentioned in the background of this essay, namely compounding, clipping, backformation, acronyming, derivation and blending. The aim of this essay was to investigate new blends that have entered the English language and to look at their structure and the different domains they occur in.

During the investigation the number of words was narrowed down from 249 words found in a Wikipedia list to 60. The 60 blends were divided into different categories and into different semantic domains. The categories were blends with overlapping, blends with clipping and blends with clipping and overlapping. The results showed that the most common way to create new blends was by clipping only and the second most common way was to use clipping and overlapping. Using only overlapping was highly unusual and stood for only 3 percents of the new blends. The blends were also divided into subcategories. This categorisation showed that the most common blends with clipping only were those which combined the first part of the first word and the last part of the second word. This process was also the most common

one when it came to blends with clipping and overlapping where only one letter overlapped. When the blends were searched in corpus and on the Internet, the results suggested that many of the blends were much more frequent on the internet.

When the blends were divided into different domains, 56 percent of them fell into the general category. Together with the technical domain it accounted for 73 percent of all the blends. This shows that the technical domain stands for many of the new blends, but it also meant that I needed to take a closer look at the general domain. The 34 blends falling into it were thus divided into five new domains within the general domain. These domains were food, society, linguistics, exercising and others. The domain where most blends belonged was others with twelve blends, and secondly came society with eleven blends.

This investigation has looked mostly at the structure of the blends and at the domains in which the blends most frequently occur. It might be interesting to do further investigations of the different domains. For example, one could investigate why blends are more frequent in some domains than others and also why there are some domains where blends seldom or never occur. It could also be interesting to look at blends from the perspective of whether they are associative or paradigmatic.

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Appendix

List of Blends
(The 60 blends that were considered new blends are underlined.)

General

aerobatics from *aerial* and *acrobatics*
affluenza from *affluence* and *influenza*
alphabet from *alpha* and *beta* is a code name for the setup of the letters in our language
anacronym from *anachronism* and *acronym*
arcology from *architecture* and *ecology*
arfé from *art* and *café*
backronym from *back* and *acronym*
blaxploitation from *black* and *exploitation*
bleen from *blue* and *green*, coined by Nelson Goodman to illustrate Goodman's paradox
blorph from *blend* and *morph*, a visual effects technique (coined by Ken Ralston/Sony Pictures Imageworks)[citation needed]
boxercise from *boxing* and *exercise*
brunch from *breakfast* and *lunch*
Californication from *California* and *fornication*
camcorder from *camera* and *recorder*
caplet from *capsule* and *tablet*
carboloy from *carbon* and *alloy*[1]
chortle from *chuckle* and *snort*, coined by Lewis Carroll
Chunnel from *Channel* and *tunnel*
cocacolonization from *Coca-Cola* and *colonization*
cremains from *cremated* and *remains*
cryptex from *cryptology* and *codex*
cyborg from *cybernetic* and *organism*
dancercise from *dance* and *exercise*
dramastic from *dramatic* and *drastic*
ebonics from *ebony* and *phonics*
ecoteur from *ecological* and *saboteur*
electrocution from *electricity* and *execution* (originally only referred to execution in an electric chair)
fantabulous from *fantastic* and *fabulous*
fanzine from *fan* and *magazine*
folksonomy from *folk* and *taxonomy*
foon from *fork* and *spoon* (see also *spork*, below)
Franglais from *français* (French for "French") and *anglais* (French for "English") (see also —*lish*, below)
frankenfood from *Frankenstein* and *food*, a reference to GMOs
frankenword from *Frankenstein* and *word*, synonym for *portmanteau*
frappuccino from *frappé* and *cappuccino*
fugly from *fucking* and *ugly* (commonly abbreviated to *fug*)
gaydar from *gay* and *radar*
ginormous from *gigantic* and *enormous*

grue from *green* and *blue* (see *bleen*, above)

guesstimate from *guess* and *estimate*

herstory from her and history

—lish *used as a suffix to form many frankenwords meaning foreign varieties of English (see also* Franglais*, above):*

Chinglish (Chinese)

Germlish or **Denglish** (German)

Greeklish (Greek)

Hebrish (Hebrew)

Hinglish (Hindi)

Hunglish (Hungarian)

Japlish (Japanese). Similar are the words Janglish, which involves utilizing English words with a Japanese pronunciation (sometimes called Katakana English), and Engrish, which is simply English being inappropriately utilized in the context of Japanese culture.

Konglish (Korean)

Malglish (Malaysian)

Russlish (Russian)

Singlish (Singaporean)

Spanglish (Spanish)

Swenglish (Swedish)

Taglish (Tagalog)

Tinglish (Thai)

Yinglish (Yiddish)

lupper from *lunch* and *supper*

McJob, from *McDonalds* and *job*

McMansion, from *McDonalds* and *mansion*

mechatronics from *mechanics* and *electronics*

meld possibly from *melt* or *mold* and *weld*

metrosexual most commonly, from *metropolitan* and *heterosexual*; some argue the etymology can be attributed to *metera*, from the Greek word meaning 'mother' (or effeminate), from which *metropolitan* is derived

mobisode from *mobile (phone)* and *episode*

mockney from *mock* and *Cockney*

moped from *motor* and *pedal*

motel from *motor* and *hotel*

moxibustion from *mogusa*, the Japanese name for *Artemisia vulgaris*, and *combustion*

mutagen from *mutation* and from Gk. *genesis* "origin, creation, generation,"

Oxbridge from *Oxford* and *Cambridge*

permaculture from *permanent agriculture*, or *permanent culture*, coined by Bill Mollison and David Holmgren during the 1970s

permafrost from *permanent* and *frost*

petrochemical from *petroleum* and *chemical*. Because the crucial root *oleo* has been removed, this word is a portmanteau.

phoneme from *phonetics* and *scheme*. This is a way to distinguish sounds of symbols.

pluot from *plum* and *apricot*

pomosexual from *postmodern* and *sexual*

posistor from *positive* and *thermistor*[citation needed]

prosumer from *professional* and *consumer* — products at a quality between 'professional' products and 'consumer' products; typically marketed as such

satisficing from Herbert Simon, *satisfactory* and *sufficing*

screenager from *screen* (as in a computer monitor) and *teenager*
sexercise from *sex* and *exercise*
sexploitation from *sex* and *exploitation*
silastic combination *silicone* and *plastic*
simulcast from *simultaneous* and *broadcast*
skort from *skirt* and *short* (as in short pants)
smaze from *smoke* and *haze*
smog from *smoke* and *fog*
spork from *spoon* and *fork*
sportscast from *sports* and *broadcast*
stagflation from *stagnation* and *inflation*
tangelo from *tangerine* and *pomelo*
televangelist from *television* and *evangelist*
tofurkey from tofu and turkey
toonie from *two* and *loonie*, a Canadian $2 coin (where a *loonie* is the Canadian $1 coin)
trill from *true* and *real* (exists with other meanings)
triticale from *triticum* and *secale* (Latin for wheat and rye)
turducken from *turkey*, *duck*, and *chicken*, a food dish in which a turkey is stuffed with a duck which is itself stuffed with a chicken)
twincest from *twin* and *incest*
webzine from *web* and *magazine*
wigger from *white* and *nigger*, a caucasian person who dresses, speaks, etc. in an attempt to emulate the perceived mannerisms of an African American youth, especially those mannerisms based on ethnic stereotype; also spelled **whigger**

Technology

alphanumeric from *alphabetic* and *numeric*
animatronics from *animation* and *electronics*
apronym from *apropos* and *acronym*
ARPAnet from *ARPA* and *network*
ASCIIbetical from *ASCII* and *alphabetical*
automagic(al) from *automatic* and *magic(al)*
avionics from *aviation* and *electronics*
bit from *binary* and *digit*
brouter from *bridge* and *router*
codec from *coder* and *decoder*
cyborg from cybernetics and *organism*
datacasting from *data* and *broadcasting*
desknote from *desktop* and *notebook* is another name for a desktop replacement computer, a laptop that seeks to fulfill all the functions of a desktop computer.
digerati from *digital* and *literati*
digipeater from *digital* and *repeater*
email from *electronic* and *mail*
emoticon from *emotion* and *icon*
ezine from *electronic* and *magazine*
Fembot from *female* and *robot*
Feminoid from *female* and *android*
Internet from *international/interglobal/interchanged* and *network*

Kripkenstein from *Kripke* and *Wittgenstein*, coined to describe a philosophical position that Kripke argued one could read into Wittgenstein's work, but which neither he nor Wittgenstein accepted.

malware from *malicious* and *software*

marchitecture from *marketing* and *architecture*. (alt. *marketecture*)

modem from *modulator* and *demodulator*

multicart from *multiple* and *cartridge*. This kind of cartridge consists of multiple games in one (e.g. 76,000-in-1 from Power Player Super Joy III).

netizen from *(Inter)net* and *citizen*

netiquette from *(Inter)net* and *etiquette* (similarly, wikiquette)

Odditorium from *odd* and *auditorium* - a museum that display exhibits beyond realistic imagination.

pixel from *picture* and *element*

podcasting from *iPod and broadcasting*

privoxy from *private* and *proxy*

qubit from *quantum* and *bit*

ringxiety from *ring* and *anxiety*

smudgemate from *smudge* and *estimate*

spambot from *spam* and *robot*

spamdexing from *spam* and *indexing*

sporgery from *spam* and *forgery*

satisficing from *satisfactory* and *sufficient*

sysop from *system* and *operator*

telecast from *television* and *broadcast*

telematics from *telecommunications* and *informatics*

texel from *texture* and *element*

thermistor from *thermal* and *resistor*

transistor from *transfer* and *resistor*

voxel from *volume* and *pixel*

Wikiquette from *Wikipedia* and *etiquette*

Science

prion from *proteinaceous* and *infectious*

Marketing

advertainment from *advertising* and *entertainment*

advertorial from *advertising* and *editorial*

cineplex from *cinema* and *complex* (building)

docudrama from *documentary* and *drama*

docusoap from *documentary* and *soap opera* (serialised drama)

dramedy from *dramatic* and *comedy* (television)

edutainment from *education* and *entertainment*

faction from *fact* and *fiction* (a story which is based on fact, made fictional, perhaps by switching names. Also, fictionalized fact)

fraudience from *fraud* and *audience*

infomercial from *information* and *commercial*

infotainment from *information* and *entertainment*

Limon from *lime* and *lemon*, a commercial construction to promote the soft drink Sprite

mockumentary from *mock* and *documentary*
multiplex from *multiple* and *cineplex* (itself a portmanteau) - this word has a different meaning in telecommunications
Art, literature, media and popular culture
Numerous portmanteaux have been coined by or for various media.

Film

Bollywood from *Bombay* and *Hollywood*
dubtitle from *dub* and *subtitle*, for subtitles transcribed from dubbed soundtrack, especially in anime
mog from *man* and *dog*, from the film *Spaceballs*
Orgasmatron from *orgasm* and *electron(ic)*, from Woody Allen's film *Sleeper*
rockumentary from *rock* and *documentary*
Wonkavator from *Wonka* and *elevator*, a fictional elevator that can move in any direction, not merely up or down featured in the film *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*

Television

airpain from *airplane* and *pain*, the name of a microgame on Wario Ware, Inc. Mega Microgame$ and Wario Ware, Inc. Mega Party Game$.
Britcom from *British* and *comedy*, by analogy with sitcom (see below)
dancersize from *dance* and *circumsize*, from *Fry and Laurie*
manssiere from *man* and *brassiere*, a bra designed for and worn by a man (coined on a Seinfeld episode)
mimbo from *male* and *bimbo*, from a *Seinfeld* episode
newrun from *new* and *rerun* - episode from a talk-show wherin old subjects are rehashed.
Policenauts from *police* and *astronaut*
sacrilicious from *sacrilege* and *delicious*, used by Homer Simpson
tomacco from *tomato* and *tobacco*, a fictional vegetable from *The Simpsons*
Wikiality from *wiki* and *reality*, coined by Stephen Colbert based on how if enough people believe something to be true on wikipedia it becomes reality.

Radio

opinuendo from *opinion* and *inuendo*, a term used regularly on the *Radio From Hell* show.

Literature

Freakonomics from *Freak* and *Economics*. Book by economist Steven Levitt and journalist Stephen J. Dubner

Video games

Famicom from *family* and *computer*, this is the official name for the Japanese version of the Nintendo Entertainment System.
Famiclone from *Famicom* and *clone*. These are clones of the NES/Famicom. Many of these products are pirated hardware.

Goombario from *Goomba* and *Mario*, a friendly variation of the goomba and a playable character in *Paper Mario*

Goomboss from *Goomba* and *boss*, a boss enemy from *Super Mario 64 DS*.

machinima from *machine* and *cinema*

magikoopa from *magic* and *koopa*, characters from the Super Mario series of games that performed magic; Kamek is the most famous of the class.

Pokémon from *pocket* and *monster*

Portendo from *portable* and *Nintendo* is a project implemented by Kevin Horton. This project involves the concept of making a compact (portable) NES/Famicom.

Somari from *Sonic* and *Mario*. This game was a pirated hack of Sonic the Hedgehog casting Mario instead.

Waluigi from *Wario* and *Luigi*, he is Wario's brother (i.e. evil variation of Luigi).

Music

bootylicious from *booty* and *delicious*, a Destiny's Child song

Instrumedley from *instrumental* and *medley*, a song performed only during live shows by the progressive metal band Dream Theater

Sexplosion! from *sexual* and *explosion*, an album by My Life With the Thrill Kill Kult

Internet media

Animutation, an absurdist animation genre, from animation and mutation

caninja from *canine* and *ninja* (coined in an Ask a Ninja episode)[citation needed]

minja from *midget* and *ninja* (coined in an Ask a Ninja episode)[citation needed]

- from *ninja* and *elephant* (coined in an Ask a Ninja episode)[citation needed]

niniature golf from *ninja* and *miniature golf* (coined in an Ask a Ninja episode)[citation needed]

Comic books and manga

scanlation from *scan* and *translation*, used for unofficial internet-distributed translations of manga

Sports

smark from *smart* and *mark*, a slang term from professional wrestling for fans who recognize the scripted nature of the business, but enjoy the in-ring entertainment

streetball from *street* and *basketball*

Organizations, companies and brand names

Accenture from *accent* and *future* (accent from the future)

Amtrak from *America*, *travel* and *track*

Banesto from ***Ban**co **Es**pañol de Cré**di**to* (Spanish for "Spanish Credit Bank")

Boxster from *boxer engine* (a type of internal combustion engine) and *roadster*

Canola from *Canadian oil, low acid*, the trademarked name of a specific cultivar of rapeseed developed in Canada to have a naturally low erucic acid content

Carborundum from *carbon* and *corundum*, the original manufacturer of the abrasive, carborundum

CONELRAD from *con*trol of *el*ectromagnetic *rad*iation

CONMEBOL from *Con*federación *Suda*mericana de Fú*tbol* (Spanish for "South American Football Confederation")

Danimals from *Dannon* and *animals*, a line of children's yogurt

Froogle from *frugal* and *Google*, the online shopping branch of Google.

Fruitopia from *fruit* and *Utopia*, a line of fruit-flavored beverage from the Coca-Cola Company.

Frusion from *fruit* and *fusion* is a brand name for a low-fat yogurt by Dannon.

Hairagami from *hair* and *origami*, an "As seen on TV" product for hairstyling for formal events.

Intel from *integrated* and *electronics*; could also act as a short variation of intelligent therefore Intel devices are intelligent in terms of technology.

Iveco from *Industrial Vehicles Corporation*.

Jazzercise from *jazz* and *exercise*

Microsoft from *microcomputer* and *software* - when the name was created it was in fact Micro-Soft, a few months ago after its creation the name became *Microsoft*.

Nicorette from *nicotine* and *cigarette* - a brand name for an anti-nicotine gum.

Pictionary from *picture* and *dictionary*, a popular board game distributed by Hasbro Inc.

pizzone from *pizza* and *calzone*, popularized by Pizza Hut

Squand from *sand* and *aqua* is a popular kid's toy sold most notably in the early 90's, popularized by Nickelodeon commercials.

Texaco from *Texas*, (possibly *Mexico*) and *company* (or *corporation*), an oil company.

Verizon from *veritas* (Latin for truth) and *horizon*

Wexis, from *Westlaw* and *LexisNexis*, a humorous term used to refer to the two academic publishing conglomerates that dominate the legal information services industry.

Wikibooks from *wiki* and *books*, a project for a collection of free textbooks, manuals, and other texts, with supporting book-based texts, that is written collaboratively on its website.

Wiktionary from *wiki* and *dictionary*, a sister project to Wikipedia intended to be a free wiki dictionary (thesaurus and lexicon therein) in every language.

Wikipedia from wiki and encyclopedia which is a web-based free content encyclopedia that is openly edited and freely readable.

Zend Technologies from *Zeev Suraski* and *Andi Gutmans*, the company's founders.

Animals

cama - from *camel* and *llama*

cockapoo from *Cocker* and *poodle*

geep (sometimes **shoat**) from *goat* and *sheep*

labradoodle from *Labrador* and *poodle*

liger from *lion* and *tiger*, the offspring of a male lion and a female tiger.

pekeapoo from *Pekingese* and *poodle*

schnoodle from *schnauzer* and *poodle*

tigon from *tiger* and *lion*, the offspring of a male tiger and a female lion.

wholphin from *whale* and *dolphin*

zeedonk from *zebra* and *donkey*

zony from *zebra* and *pony*

Portmanteaux by Lewis Carroll from Jabberwocky

Some of these terms are nonce words, others are of questionable origin or have worked their way into common speech.
brillig from *begin* and *broiling*, according to Humpty Dumpty, "four o'clock in the afternoon—the time when you begin broiling things for dinner."
burbled a possible mixture of **b***leat,* **mu***rmur,* and *war**ble***, but also a legitimate dictionary word, derived from the Middle English "burblen", and meaning a gurgling or bubbling sound.
<u>frumious</u> from *fuming* and *furious*.
galumphing; to *galumph* is to **gal***lop* tri**umph***antly*.
mimsy from *flimsy* and *miserable*.
slithy from *lithe* and *slimy*.

Politics, economics and geography

Bakerloo from *Baker* Street and *Waterloo*, a London Underground stattion that links those Barker and Waterloo.
<u>feminazi</u> from *feminist* and *nazi*, a deragatory term describing extreme feminists. There is no real connection to the Nazi party.
Hongcouver from *Hong Kong* and *Vancouver*, a negative slang for Vancouver, British Columbia due to a high asian population there. It caught on in Canadian culture.
<u>Juneteenth</u> from *June* and *nineteenth*, a popular celebration in Texas among African-Americans; June 19, 1865 was the date on which the Emancipation Proclamation was first read in Texas
Michiana from *Michigan* and *Indiana*, an informal name for the region composed of the two states.
Pennsyltucky from *Pennsylvania* and *Kentucky*, the area of Pennslyvania in the north and center of the state which is neither Philadelphia nor Pittsburgh (and their respective suburbs). These areas tend to vote Republican (like Kentucky), while the urban and suburban areas are more Democratic.
<u>Reaganomics</u> from *Reagan* and *economics*
Rogernomics from *Roger* and *economics*
Rubinomics from *Rubin* and *economics*
Ruthanasia from *Ruth* and *euthanasia*
Malaysia from *Malaya* and *Singapore, the name was adopted when Singapore entered the federation and was maintained when Singapore seceded.*
Tanzania from *Tanganyika* and *Zanzibar*, the name was adopted when the two countries united.

Portmanteaux of portmanteaux

alphanumeric from *alphabetic* and *numeric*
ASCIIbetical from *ASCII* and *alphabetical*
Googlepedia from *Google* and *Wikipedia* to describe a possible cooperation project.
voxel from *volumetric* and *pixel*