LEGE ARTIS

1920 VS 2020 ENGLISH NEOLOGISMS: A CASE STUDY OF CONTRASTIVE SEMANTICS[1]

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Abstract: In this paper, we contrast tendencies in English vocabulary emergence in 1920 and 2020. Using the intentional sampling method, we selected neologisms used in 1920 and 2020 (200 for each year); created fourteen semantic categories in the search for semantic parallels and analogies as well as differences and deviations in the acquired vocabulary.

Key words: semantic categories, semantic parallels, semantic analogies, semantic differences, semantic deviations, neologisms, social context.

1. Introduction

Without even realizing it, people coin countless new words every day (Böhmerová 2009; Jesenská 2016; Lehrer 2006; Mattiello 2017). To keep track of all concepts encoded in new lexemes, lexicographers compile dictionaries of neologisms during particular periods.

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Neologisms are considered to be any innovative items of speech which are verified in the current stock of vocabulary (Bojo 2017: 33). They are "newly coined words or expressions" (Neologism, *s.a.*) that respond "to the immediate naming needs of a speech-community" (Štekauer 2002: 8) and are a bridge between culture and language, enabling us to track how culture is evolving (Algeo & Algeo 1993; McDonald 2005). The neologization process, also referred to as institutionalization (Bojo & Lančarič 2020: 58), resides in word formation (cf. Borys 2018) as well as particular social, political, economic, and cultural events that impact society. Compared to the present, the expansion of the vocabulary that emerged in 1920 was hindered by technological limitations. Whereas 1920s communication was based on telephoning and radio transmission, which mostly spread spoken language, the twenty-first century, and particularly 2020, has been mainly characterized by online communication (Crystal 2001).

The development of English language over the last century was predominantly a result of colonization. Indeed, "[in] 1910, the British Empire was at the peak of its power, with direct control over a quarter of the earth's land surface and more than a quarter of its population" (Mair 2006: 7). Imported words flourished in English vocabulary, describing newly discovered realities. As a consequence, English has become a global language for business and other fields of international communication. Britain might have lost the majority of its colonies after the Second World War but the English language continues its 'online colonization'. Tools such as social networks greatly influence the language's growth and its adoption. Gradually, the lines between standard and non-standard use of vocabulary are being blurred as mainstreamization is taking place and younger generations are bending the principles of Standard English (cf. Bex & Watts 1999).

In this study, we are expanding on a common truth that history repeats itself, however, it may do so in a more advanced way. Thus, the aim of this paper is to describe, analyse

and contrast the tendencies in vocabulary emergence in two periods (1920 and 2020) that are a hundred years apart. We are aiming to prove that identical semantic areas may be found in both examined periods (history repeats itself), however, due to greater accessibility, all the semantic categories will be supplied by a greater number of neologisms in 2020 reflecting the advancement in the socio-political context.

The article maps lexis, it observes its growth and expansion, and analyses possible similarities and differences between the periods of 1920 and 2020. The collected vocabulary is divided into semantically corresponding groups. Based on these groups, the study compares newly formed lexis and observes the emergence of vocabulary. The examined semantic categories include: 1. Agriculture, plants, and animals; 2. Art, architecture, and housing; 3. Beauty and fashion; 4. Emotions; 5. Food; 6. Hobbies and free time; 7. Lifestyle; 8. Media (excl. the Internet and social networks), 9. Medicine (excl. pandemic), 10. Other, 11. Science and technology (excl. medicine), 12. Society (incl. education and politics), 13. Travelling and tourism, 14. Work, economy, and business.

Two hypotheses will be formulated as follows: H1: each of the semantic categories introduced above will be represented by at least one neologism occurrence in both periods to demonstrate that history repeats itself (the same semantic categories reoccur through a period of time) H2: due to the dynamic character of language including occasional periods of greater accessibility and productivity of new words, all the semantic categories will be marked by a significant difference in the number of occurrences between the two examined periods.

2. Sociolinguistic dimensions of neologization in 1920 vs 2020

Each century and decade are marked by breakthrough events characteristic only of that particular period. Some years are more special than others are. One can hardly believe that it has already been 100 years since the beginning of the American 'Modern Era'

Roaring Twenties, when new terms, such as *T-shirt*, *giggle water*, *flapper* became widespread (Truong 2021; Words from the 1920s., *s.a.*). Based on various social media posts, many people thought that 2020 would mark a new beginning and a clean slate in their lives, such as commencing with new activities, getting a new job or starting a family. Change instead came in the form of a novel virus that reshaped and completely changed the society and lifestyles, bringing a wealth of neologisms such as *doomscrolling*, *WHF*, and *flatten the curve* (Clayton et al. 2020) (note: WFH made it into the Merriam Webster Dictionary in April 2020).

For centuries, the popular phrase 'history repeats itself' has been a topic of the investigations of historical recurrences within different fields such as architecture (cf. Molotch et al. 2000) and management (cf. Marnet 2007). Historical recurrence is also represented in literature by authors such as Mark Twain and in philosophy by Heinrich Heine and Friedrich Nietzsche. There are recurring events in our everyday lives and when political issues and scientific and technological advancements come along, they enter the language as neologisms and then via institutionalization become traditional.

Although they are one hundred years apart, societies in 1920 and 2020 share certain characteristics showing that historical events repeat, and influencing language and the evolution of vocabulary. Many new realities that have emerged come from advancements in different areas. When discussing the 1920s, most people think about the Jazz Age, the Roaring Twenties, and the Harlem Renaissance. The 1920s symbolize cultural development and positiveness in people's lives. As promoted in the movie "The Great Gatsby" (2013), people could see the emergence of entertainment and excitement after the dark years of the First World War. The only thing they focused on was prosperity and the beginning of the new era (Murphy 2012). The society changed in the United States. The rural became the urban and the 'telephones, automobiles, records, and movies invaded America's "rural islands" (William Leuchtenburg's phrase)' (ibid., 2). The mingling between the rural and the urban unified American

society and created a middle class (Lindsey 1994). However, intellectuals such as writers, poets, artists, and musicians talked about a certain collapse of ideals in the political and economic establishment (Currell 2009). According to Currell, the major events of 1920 were:

"Women granted national franchise. Prohibition of alcohol begins. 4,000 suspected communists and radicals arrested, including Nicolo Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti. Marcus Garvey's First International Convention of the Negro Peoples of the World. Deaths of Hollywood actresses Olive Thomas and Virginia Rappe." (ibid., 122)

Although facing a post-war period, the events in the United States in 1920 brought many contributions into English thanks to the fact that American society had started to blend many years earlier. Black and white citizens were more unified through the Harlem Renaissance, the low and high classes shared the same form of entertainment, and urban and rural differences had become less observable (American decades 2001). The blending of people was also done on an international level as 1920s was the beginning of internationalization in the USA (Gorman 2012).

In parallel, 2020 was expected to be the beginning of a new era and a new chapter in people's lives. However, the series of unfortunate events proved the opposite. The year started with barely stoppable bushfires in Australia, which involved global fundraising efforts to help save animals. This event was followed by the beginning of the global COVID-19 pandemic or the so-called 'corona crisis'. Soon after the outbreak, the killing of George Floyd, an African American, gave rise to the Black Lives Matter (#BLM) movement and was followed by riots and protests in the United States and in many other countries. Interlaced with the pandemic, 2020 brought many different events, which soon became trending and hot topics for people to discuss predominantly in social networks (Facebook, *s.a.*; Salo 2020; Twitter, *s.a.*).

Today, information spreads much faster than before; moreover, anglicisms influence more and more languages. Thanks to modern technological devices, people can

transmit their thoughts within seconds wherever they want, especially within social media, which, in the past, used to be "…an informal way of communication meant for people to connect and share their ideas" and today, they can be used for any purpose regardless of the formality (Hroteková 2021: 155). Certain parallels can be seen in the way different people influence societies. Whereas in 1920 the role models or 'influencers' used to be famous artists such as writers, philosophers, actors, or musicians who disagreed with or admired the social and economic situation (Murphy 2012), in 2020 people from the 'crowd' influenced one another through social media; thus, the spreading of words and popularizing of language creativity have become the prerogative of ordinary people as well as that of celebrities.

Technology and technological devices have played an important role in people's lives. In both years, there were many technological advancements, especially related to the use of media. There was the advent of radio and movie industry in 1920 and in 2020 there was a dramatic expansion of social media and other kinds of online communication. The first commercial radio broadcast took place on November 2, 1920 and was an immediate success that motivated and inspired other broadcasting companies to emerge, with 600 doing so within four years (People and discoveries: KDKA begins to broadcast 1998).

The major global event of 2020 was undoubtedly the COVID-19 pandemic. The writer Ernest Cline, who is one of the pioneers in LitPrg (Literary Role-Playing Game), a novelty of the literary genre introduced only in 2013, describes distance studying as a fantasy. Yet it has become the 'new normal' (a novel expression first used in the 2007-2008 economic crisis) that students face every day. The coronavirus affected health matters and other areas of people's lives. Sci-fi education has become a new normality and has led to a quick adaptation and reorganization of society (Jandrić et al. 2020). The wish to turn somebody off as they boringly speak has become a reality, and the word 'mute' has acquired a new meaning (Urban dictionary, *s.a.*).

"The ability to mute my peers was one of my favorite things about attending school online, and I took advantage of it almost daily. The best thing about it was that they could see that you'd muted them, and they couldn't do a damn thing about it" (Cline 2011)

Consequently, what used to be science fiction became a reality. New media have responded to the pandemic with a flood of information, which is a rich source of linguistic data (cf. Panasenko et al. 2020: 123).

As mentioned above, besides the COVID-19 pandemic, there are many other important events that have changed and polarized the American society and indeed the whole world. Despite different opinions and perspectives on the events, one thing is certain: people are united through social networks and the Internet. As a result, vocabulary is spreading and influencing population faster than in 1920, when people's sources of information were mainly the national or local newspapers and later radio.

Table 1. Major events of 1920 and 2020 (Amadeo 2021; Brown 2015 [2021]; Currell 2009; Salo 2020; Williams 2005)

1920		2020	
June 1920	Republican Warren G. Harding elected	June 2019–May 2020	Australian bushfires
January 1920–December 1933	Prohibition of alcohol begins		Prince Harry and Megan Markle quit the Royal Family
January 1920	4,000 suspected communists and radicals arrested, including Nicolo Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti	January–February 2020	The COVID-19 pandemic
August 1920	Marcus Garvey's First International Convention of the Negro Peoples of the World	January 2020 and August 2020 respectively	The deaths of Kobe Bryant and Chadwick Boseman
Both September 1920	The deaths of Hollywood actress Olive Thomas and actor Robert Harron	February–April 2020	The 2020 stock market crash

January 1920	The establishment of the League of Nations	January 2020	The impeachment of US President Donald Trump
Through 1920s	The Lost Generation began its transformation of American literature	May 2020–Ongoing	Black Lives Matter protests
January 1920	The first Ponzi scheme	July–December 2020	The West Coast wildfires
Through 1920	The birth of mass media	July 2020	Twitter hack

3. Corpus collection and research methods

The data collection was done manually, selecting lexemes from dictionaries, online databases, articles, and blogs with the keywords: vocabulary of 1920, vocabulary of 2020. While collecting the corpus, certain challenges were met as the ways of data collection for 1920 and 2020 were completely different. Most of the corpus from 1920 was collected from public sources such as newspapers (online archived versions), glossaries, and dictionaries. (Algeo & Algeo 1993; Ayto 1998; Ayto & Simpson 1992; Dictionary.com; Words from the 1920s., *s.a.*; Partridge & Beale 1984; 100 years old: New words of the 1920s, *s.a.*). The 2020 corpus was accessible through online social networks, online newspaper articles, blogs, and glossaries (About Words. A Blog from Cambridge Dictionary; Facebook; Instagram; Shariatmadari 2020; Twitter).

The greatest challenge was to find non-pandemic vocabulary for 2020, given that it had been that year's primary topic.

The pre-selected lexemes were also checked in the source *Fifty Years Among the New Words* (Algeo & Algeo 1993), which has been a source of linguistic investigation. Today there are numerous lists and databases with the most recent neologisms and nonce words such as the *Rice University Neologisms Database* and *Dictionary.com* as well as blogs of prestigious dictionaries such as *New Dictionary Words by Merriam-Webster*, *About Words. A Blog from Cambridge Dictionary*, and *Oxford English Dictionary Updates*. To capture dynamism of the language *Urban Dictionary* was

created. It is a crowdsourced and online 'people's' dictionary where one can add newly created words or render definitions for new meanings of existing vocabulary (Johns 2019).

Secondly, a selection was made of random word samples coined in 1920 and in 2020: there were 200 for each year and 400 lexemes in total. In the first stage of the research, the collected data were manually processed in the table and placed into one of fourteen categories based on their thematic appurtenances. Although some categories, namely medicine naturally belongs to science, pandemic to medicine, and the Internet to media, we decided to omit such a categorization for the following reasons: 1. The aim of the categorization is to classify the lexemes based on similar historical occurrences. As pandemic was the major event of 2020, to be impartial, we decided not to include these neologisms (coroneologisms). 2. The categorization was focused on the activities and events that are common for both periods, we omitted the Internet as a part of media since in 1920 it had not been invented yet. 3. We put medicine as a separate category to see if there are neologisms in 2020 apart from pandemic. The classification, therefore, includes these groups: science and technology (excl. medicine); medicine (excl. pandemic); work, economy, and business; lifestyle; hobbies and free time; beauty and fashion; art, architecture, and housing; travelling and tourism; society (incl. education and politics); the media (excl. the Internet and social networks); food; emotions; agriculture, plants, and animals; and 'other'. Initially, there were more categories, but they were merged based on semantic similarities, such as business and work, or beauty and fashion. Therefore, it was necessary to add the description and further specify some of the categories – such as society (incl. education and politics) – as the topic might otherwise sound too vague. Some of the lexemes might overlap in different categories. To avoid the ambiguity, we placed them into a category with the most frequently used context.

At the stage of data evaluation (the third stage of research), the contrastive method was used in the search for semantic parallels and analogies as well as differences and deviations in the acquired vocabulary. The impact of historical events on vocabulary emergence in the two periods was also compared. The significance of occurrences of the examined variables was tested statistically, using the Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula.

4. Corpus analysis

To illustrate the sampling process, examples of the year–event–neologism matches are listed below.

Table 2. Examples of sampling

1920	Ponzi scheme	2
1920	Post-war period	6
1920	Discoveries of new medicine	7
2020	COVID-19 pandemic	58
2020	Prince Harry and Megan Markle quit the Royal Family	1
2020	Black Lives Matter protests	2

The results of the sampling process show the following values organized in the table and the corresponding graph. Both the table and the graph illustrate the representation of the taxonomic categories in the examined periods.

Table 3. The representation of taxonomic groups in the examined periods

	CATEGORY	1920	2020
1	Agriculture, plants, and animals	8	3
2	Art, architecture, and housing	10	15
3	Beauty and fashion	5	9
4	Emotions	7	2
5	Food	14	6
6	Hobbies and free time	26	11
7	Lifestyle	5	32
8	Media (excl. the Internet and social networks)	1	1
9	Medicine (excl. pandemic)	9	8
10	Other	13	2
11	Science and technology (excl. medicine)	51	27

12	Society (incl. education and politics)	34	52
13	Travelling and tourism	1	13
14	Work, economy, and business	28	12

Figure 1 specifies the occurrences of values in the individual taxonomic groups. It contrasts the occurrences in the 1920 and 2020 periods.
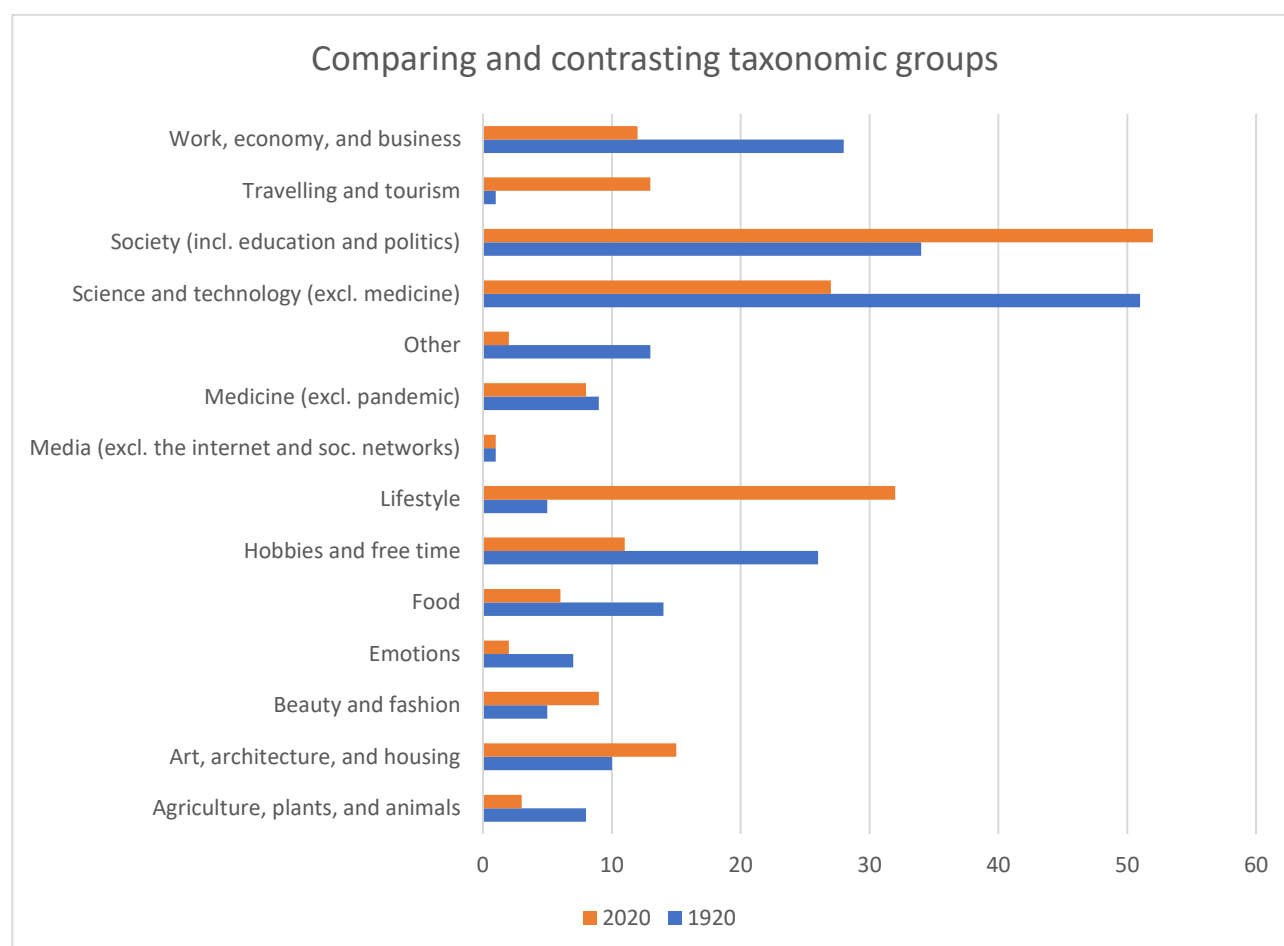

Figure 1. Comparing and contrasting taxonomic groups

Table 3 and the corresponding graph in Figure 1 show the results of the considered vocabularies from 1920 and 2020. Although there are certain recurrences (e.g., deaths of famous people, political tensions between countries, and natural disasters), it was initially assumed that there would be more significant differences in the newly coined vocabulary in the individual years given that, for instance, there was no Internet in 1920 and 2020 was not in an immediate post-war period. The numbers show that both years shared certain similarities such as a similar number of lexemes in the art

architecture and housing, and medicine category meanwhile differences in categories such as hobbies and free time, lifestyle, etc. (see further explanation in the text below). The main difference in the events is that 2020 deviated from the ongoing life due to COVID-19 pandemic and thus made it different from the previous years of the twenty-first century. In the compilation of the corpus, it was assumed that most of the vocabulary that emerged and came into use in 2020 would be COVID-19-related and that the lexemes would thus describe medical or other scientific terms from fields such as biology, physics, chemistry, and technology. As the coronavirus was a new reality, and the 'corona' terms would dominate the corpus, they were not considered. Medicine was categorised as a separate group of lexemes in order to be able to compare the vocabulary and see if there were any medical advancements disregarding the situation with COVID-19.

Each group will be described below and (where necessary) tested statistically, rendering a few examples to illustrate each category as the whole corpus sample is extensive. Chi-square statistics will be used to test the significance of the differences between the categories.

4.1 Agriculture, plants, and animals

Following the earlier-introduced assumption, the chi-square statistics tests the significance of the difference between the distributions of neologisms in 1920 and 2020.

H_0: There is an equal distribution of 'agriculture, plants, and animals' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H_1: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'agriculture, plants, and animals' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 4. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. agriculture, plants, and animals

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp. Fr.
Agriculture, plants, and animals 1920	8	5.5	2.50	6.25	1.14
Agriculture, plants, and animals 2020	3	5.5	-2.50	6.25	1.14
					2.273

The Chi^2 value is 2.273. The *p*-value is .13167. The result is *not* significant at *p*> .05. The p-value demonstrates that, contrary to the previously stated assumption, the distribution of agriculture, plant, and animal neologisms is not significantly different in either of the examined periods.

Agriculture, **plants**, and **animals** category include eight lexemes from 1920, which name new species (such as *appaloosa* and *olingo*) and the agricultural term *rice polishings*. One of the top priorities of 2020 was to promote eco-friendliness, sustainability, and eco-consciousness. People were trying to restore nature and rediscover hidden gems, yet there were only three lexemes in this category: *super bloom*, *mob grazing*, and *regenerative agriculture*, reflecting the trends of 2020.

4.2 Art, architecture, and housing

H$_0$: There is an equal distribution of 'art, architecture, and housing' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H$_1$: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'art, architecture and housing' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 5. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. art, architecture, and housing

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp. Fr.
Art, architecture, and housing1920	10	12.5	-2.50	6.25	0.50
Art, architecture, and housing 2020	15	12.5	2.50	6.25	0.50
					1.000

A comparable amount of vocabulary enrichment can be seen in **art**, **architecture**, and **housing**. At *p*-value .31731, there is not a significant difference between the occurrences in 1920 and 2020. The similar number of lexemes came into use in both periods. In 1920, there were ten lexemes, such as *window walk*, *asphalt jungle*, and *stairwell*; in 2020, there were fifteen lexemes, including terms such as *granny pod*, *collab house*, and *moon garden*.

4.3 Beauty and fashion

The statistical test below tests the level of the difference between the distributions of beauty and fashion neologisms in 1920 and 2020.

H_0: There is an equal distribution of 'beauty and fashion' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H_1: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'beauty and fashion' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 6. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. beauty and fashion

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Beauty and fashion 1920	5	7	-2.00	4.00	0.57
Beauty and fashion 2020	9	7	2.00	4.00	0.57
					1.143

The Chi^2 value is 1.143. The *p*-value is .28505. The result is *not* significant at $p < .05$. The p value $p < .05$ shows no statistically significant differences in the occurrences of the beauty and fashion neologisms in either of the examined periods. It may be concluded that this area of vocabulary is represented relatively equally in both 1920 and 2020.

There are less than 10 lexemes in **beauty** and **fashion** terms category in both periods. Whereas 1920 (five lexemes) introduced terms for everyday objects such as *antiperspirant* and a *T-shirt*, the 2020 beauty and fashion trends (nine lexemes) were

severely marked by the pandemic with contributions such as *maskne*, *lockdown tache*, *zoomwear*, and *coronacuts* (Instagram, *s.a.*). The category of beauty and fashion neologisms was represented almost equally, with very little statistic difference in both 1920 and 2020.

4.4 Emotions

The statistics below tests the significance of the difference in the distribution of emotion neologisms in 1920 and 2020.

H$_0$: There is an equal distribution of 'emotion' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H$_1$: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'emotions' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 7. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. emotions

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Emotions 1920	7	4.5	2.50	6.25	1.39
Emotions 2020	2	4.5	-2.50	6.25	1.39
					2.778

The Chi^2 value is 2.278. The *p*-value is .09558. The result is *not* significant at $p < .05$. The *p* value ($p < .05$) shows no significantly prevalent distribution of the emotion-related neologisms in either of the examined periods. Emotion neologisms were distributed almost equally in both 1920 and 2020.

The **emotion** category includes lexemes that are emotionally coloured. Such words could be found in 1920 (seven lexemes): e.g., *icky boo*, *yippee*, and *plotz*. In 2020, there were two such terms, one for feeling (*blue mind*) and another for affirmation (*awesomesauce*) (Ayto & Simpson 1992; Instagram, *s.a.*).

4.5 Food

Due to the development of society and the circumstances listed in the previous parts of this article, as regards the food category, the chi-square statistics tests the significance

of the distribution of food neologisms in the periods 1920 and 2020. The alternative hypothesis wishes obtain evidence for a significantly dominating distribution of food neologisms in 1920.

H_0: There is an equal distribution of 'food' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H_1: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'food' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 8. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. food

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Food 1920	14	10	4.00	16.00	1.60
Food 2020	6	10	-4.00	16.00	1.60
					3.200

The Chi^2 value is 3.2. The *p*-value is .07364. The result is *not* significant at *p*< .05. The qi-square statistics with the p>.05 does not provide enough evidence for the acceptance of the alternative hypothesis. Consequently, it may be stated that the distribution of food neologisms is not significantly different in either of the examined periods.

The difference in the **food** category is notable. For the past fifteen years, as people have had access to worldwide cuisine through budget travel and online shopping, the intercultural exchange of food and recipes is no longer a novelty. By contrast, there is a strong impact of globalization and immigration in 1920 as more culinary terms (fourteen lexemes) were borrowed from abroad: e.g., *daiquiri*, *piña colada*, *al dente*, *guacamole*, and *tempura*. The 2020 food neologisms tend to describe methods and trends instead of actual dishes and drinks (six lexemes); these include *walktail*, *bluicing*, and *culinary kaleidoscope* (About words…, *s.a.*). Expressed statistically, even though the counts are higher in favour of 1920, the difference between 1920 and 2020 in the production of food neologisms is not statistically significant.

4.6 Hobbies and free time

The chi-square statistics below tests the significance of the difference in occurrences of the hobby and free time neologisms in 1920 and in 2020.

H_0: There is an equal distribution of 'hobbies and free time' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H_1: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'hobbies and free time' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 9. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. hobby and free time

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Hobbies and free time 1920	26	18.5	7.50	56.25	3.04
Hobbies and free time 2020	11	18.5	-7.50	56.25	3.04
					6.081

The Chi^2 value is 6.081. The *p*-value is .01366. The result is significant at *p*< .05. The *p* value proves a highly prevalent distribution of the hobbies and free time neologisms in 1920.

The 1920 **hobbies** and **free time** category was mostly enriched by sports and sport terms (twenty-six lexemes) such as *ski pole*, *shark bait*, *chute*, and *kayo* (Ayto 1998; Ayto & Simpson 1992; Merriam-Webster online dictionary, *s.a.*). As the particular lexemes imply, they referred to outdoor sports. This contrasts with 2020 (eleven lexemes), where most of the sports introduced were indoors: *chessboxing*, *incidental fitness*, *impact exercise*, and *functional fitness* (Facebook, *s.a.*). However, it is important to mention the contribution of entertainment to this category. The 1920 movie industry saw the emergence of *screenplay* and *screenwriter*, and in 2020 there was a new music genre (*kindie*).

4.7 Lifestyle

The chi-square statistics in the category of lifestyle tests a significance of the difference in the distribution of lifestyle neologisms in the two examined periods.

H$_0$: There is an equal distribution of 'lifestyle' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H$_1$: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'lifestyle' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 10. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. lifestyle

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Lifestyle 1920	5	18.5	-13.50	182.25	9.85
Lifestyle 2020	32	18.5	13.50	182.25	9.85
					19.703

The Chi^2 value is 19.703. The *p*-value is < .00001. The result is significant at *p*< .05. The *p*> .05, which shows lack of evidence for the acceptance of the alternative hypothesis. Consequently, it may be stated that, in contrast to the previous assumption, the difference between the distributions of life neologisms in 1920 and 2020 is statistically significant.

As the **lifestyle** category shows, there were only five lexemes for 1920 but thirty-two for 2020, which implies that everyday life was different a hundred years ago. The difference can also be observed statistically. The gap between the counts for each period shows a greater level of significance at p-value < .00001. (It was implied that the result is significant at p < .05.) This category may include lexemes that are also part of other categories, because for some people a hobby can also be a way of living. This fact can be observed in 1920 terms such as *ritzy*, which is also applied to **travelling** and **art**, **architecture**, and **housing;** (*hand truck*, included in **hobbies** and **free time**); and *ketogenic diet*, which also appears in **food.** These are a few examples describing people's living trends. The 2020 lexemes are *house plant pamper*, which also appears in **hobbies** and **free time**; and *Japandi*, which is included in **art**, **architecture**, and **housing** (Ayto & Simpson 1992; Instagram, *s.a.*; Merriam-Webster online dictionary, *s.a.*).

4.8 Media (excl. the Internet and social networks)

When comparing the evolution of vocabulary in the **media** category (excl. the Internet and social networks), besides the first commercial radio broadcasting in 1920, we found only the term *aerogram*. In 2020, there was only the term *infodemic*. It is very difficult to separate the Internet and social networks or the media from the 2020 corpus, because we are living in the digital era and almost all everyday life in 2020 took place online. It is therefore worthwhile mentioning a few examples of what terms came into use in 2020, which did not apply to the presented statistics as they are based on that year's peculiar reality. The ingeniousness of Internet users brought lexemes such as *zoomwear*, *zoombombing*, *social commerce*, *sharenet*, *doomscroll*, *digital campfire*, and *data drainers* (About words…, *s.a.*; Twitter, *s.a*). The equal yet not highly productive distribution of the media-related neologisms in both periods does not provide enough evidence for the acceptance of the hypothesis. This category does not require further statistical analysis.

4.9 Medicine (excl. pandemics)

The chi-square statistics below tests the significance of the difference of the observed values (category of medicine) between the periods of 1920 and 2020.

H_0: There is an equal distribution of 'medicine (excl. pandemic)' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H_1: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'medicine (excl. pandemic)' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 11. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. medicine

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Medicine 1920	9	8.5	0.50	0.25	0.003
Medicine 2020	8	8.5	-0.50	0.25	0.003
					0.059

The Chi^2 value is 0.059. The *p*-value is .80837. The result is *not* significant at *p*< .05. The *p* value shows that there is no significant difference between the occurrences of

medicine neologisms in the two examined period. The medicine vocabulary was distributed almost equally in both 1920 and 2020.

Despite the major event of 2020 being the spreading of the coronavirus, there was a comparable number of lexemes in the **medicine** category (excl. pandemic). 1920 (nine lexemes) brought the names of new diseases and terms that are widely spread today, such as *Bang's disease*, *moniliasis*, and *universal donor*. The 2020 terms not related to the pandemic (eight lexemes) included *polypill*, *genetic scissors*, and *PMIS*.

4.10 Other

H$_0$: There is an equal distribution of 'other' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H$_1$: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'other' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 12. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. other

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Other 1920	13	7.5	5.50	30.25	4.03
Other 2020	2	7.5	-5.50	30.25	4.03
					8.067

The **other** category comprises miscellaneous lexemes that are mainly verbs and adjectives of a descriptive character. These terms include *unscramble*, *sharable*, and *customize* from 1920 (thirteen lexemes) and *boomsplain* and *angried* from 2020 (two lexemes). The Chi^2 value is 8.067. The *p*-value is .00451. The result is significant at *p*< .05. There is a statistically significant difference between the occurrences of the category "other" in 1920 and 2020.

4.11 Science and technology

H$_0$: There is an equal distribution of 'Science and technology' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H₁: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'Science and technology' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 13 Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. other

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Science and technology 1920	51	39	12.00	144.00	3.69
Science and technology 2020	27	39	-12.00	144.00	3.69
					7.385

Surprisingly, the results show that in the science and technology category, more lexemes were coined in 1920 (51 lexemes) than in 2020 (27 lexemes), excluding the 'corona' terms. The comparison of the frequency of occurrences shows statistically significant results between the occurrences of the 1920 science and technology neologisms and 2020 science and technology neologisms. The Chi^2 value is 7.385. The *p*-value is .00658. The result is significant at *p*< .05. As 2020 was expected to feature more science and technology lexemes, the results are intriguing. Concurrently, the values show that the hypothesis on 2020's science and technology category is invalid. The 1920 science and technology vocabulary mostly include highly scientific terms. They incorporate neologisms from biology, e.g., *intermitotic*, *saprozoic*, and *heterophile*; chemistry, e.g., *exotoxin* and *hydrosere*; mathematics, e.g., *multivariate*; physics, e.g., *quantize* and *subsonic*; and technology, e.g., *key button*, *loudspeaker*, and *spray gun* (Time traveler …, *s.a.*). This is in contrast with the 2020 terms, which were more formed in popular culture; the scientific sub-categories of 2020 include biology, e.g., *superbloom*; the environment, e.g., *blue acceleration* and *lyfe*; and technology, e.g., *xenobot*, *screen time*, and *data drainers* (About words…, *s.a.*). The scientific trends of 2020 are mainly about environmental awareness and the digital world, unlike in 1920, when science had a more traditional profile focusing on working in laboratories, developing new substances, and the beginnings of mass production (Encyclopeadia.com, *s.a.*).

4.12 Society (incl. education and politics)

The category of society tests the level of difference between the individual occurrences of the society neologisms in 1920 and 2020.

H_0: There is an equal distribution of 'Society (incl. education and politics' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H_1: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'Society (incl. education and politics' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 8. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. society

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Society 1920	34	43	-9.00	81.00	1.88
Society 2020	52	43	9.00	81.00	1.88
					3.767

The Chi^2 value is 3.767. The *p*-value is .05226. The result is *not* significant at $p < .05$. The p-value demonstrates a significant difference between the occurrences of the society neologisms in 1920 and 2020.

The fact that society has evolved and changed can be seen in the **society** category (incl. education and politics) in the terms from 2020 (fifty-two lexemes) such as *goldfish generation*, *craftivist*, *BLM*, and *Generation Alpha*. This can be compared to 1920 (thirty-four lexemes), which described very different realities such as *deb*, *praesidium*, and *soviet*. This category also reveals the influence of other languages. The evolvement is obvious, even though (given the counts) not statistically significant. The p-value is .05226. (The result is not significant at $p < .05$.).

4.13 Travelling and tourism

The qi-square statistics tests the significance of the difference between the distribution of travelling neologisms in 1920 and 2020.

H$_0$: There is an equal distribution of 'travelling' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H$_1$: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'travelling' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 4: Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat. travelling

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp. Fr.
Travelling 1920	1	7	-6.00	36.00	5.14
Travelling 2020	13	7	6.00	36.00	5.14
					10.286

The Chi^2 value is 10.286. The *p*-value is .00134. The result is significant at *p*< .05. The p value (*p*< .05) demonstrates that there is a significant difference between the value occurrences in 1920 and 2020. In the category of travelling, there is a significantly higher occurrence of values in 2020 than it is in 1920.

Despite the lack of travelling opportunities in 2020, there were still more lexemes in the **travelling** and **tourism** category than in 1920. *Burglary tourism*, *heritage travel*, *divorce tourism*, and *wall crawl* are lexemes that enriched 2020 vocabulary (thirteen lexemes). The only word related to travelling in 1920 was the previously mentioned adjective *ritzy*, derived from the Ritz hotel chain, which describes a travelling style rather than the type of tourism seen in 2020.

4.14 Work, economy, and business

The chi-square statistics below tests whether the category of work, economy, and business neologisms is significantly prevalent in either of the examined periods.

H$_0$: There is an equal distribution of 'work, economy and business' neologisms in both 1920 and 2020.

H$_1$: There will be a significant difference in the distribution of 'work, economy and business' neologisms in the two examined periods.

Table 10. Chi-square goodness-of-fit formula: Statistical significance, cat work, economy, and business

	Observed	Expected	Difference	Diff. Sq.	Diff. Sq. / Exp Fr.
Work, economy, and business 1920	28	20	8.00	64	3.20
Work, economy, and business 2020	12	20	-8.00	64	3.20
					6.400

The Chi^2 value is 6.4. The *p*-value is .01141. The result is significant at *p*< .05. The *p* value demonstrates a significant prevalence of the work, economy, and business vocabulary in 1920.

The 1920 were a prosperous decade in American life, but 1920 was still more of a post-war year than a time of flourishing commerce. The main aim at that time was to recover economically. **Work, economy**, and **business** vocabulary (twenty-eight lexemes) such as *nonindustrialized*, *recapitalization*, *chain saw*, *shape up*, and the well-known *Ponzi scheme* investing scam featured in newspaper headlines in 1920, whereas in 2020 there were neologisms (twelve lexemes) such as *social commerce*, *chop*, *superforecaster*, *pub desk*, and *bee broker* (Ayto & Simpson 1992; Merriam-Webster online dictionary, *s.a.*; Urban dictionary, *s.a.*).

Hypothesis 1, which is based on a common assumption that history repeats itself is confirmed. In all the semantic categories which have undergone this research, a number of occurrences has been identified in both examined periods.

Hypothesis 2: the numerical data have been summarized in the table below:

Table 11. Hypothesis 2: The numerical data

	CATEGORY	1920	2020	*p*-value	Level of significance
1	Agriculture, plants, and animals	8	3	.13167	low
2	Art, architecture, and housing	10	15	.31731	low
3	Beauty and fashion	5	9	.28505	low
4	Emotions	7	2	.09558	low

5	Food	14	6	.07364	low
6	Hobbies and free time	26	11	.01366	high
7	Lifestyle	5	32	.00001	high
8	Media (excl. the Internet and social networks)	1	1	-	equal
9	Medicine (excl. pandemic)	9	8	.80837	low
10	Other	13	2	.00451	high
11	Science and technology (excl. medicine)	51	27	.00658	high
12	Society (incl. education and politics)	34	52	.05226	low
13	Travelling and tourism	1	13	.00134	high
14	Work, economy, and business	28	12	.01141	high

The hypothesis was formulated in order to test the significance of the difference between the occurrences of neologisms in both examined years as a result of the dynamic character of language. The p-values in the table demonstrate that there is not enough evidence for the acceptance of hypothesis 2. Some categories were marked by a difference between the occurrences of neologisms in 1920 and 2020 periods, however this difference did not prove to be statistically significant.

5. Discussion

Although the number of lexemes categorized as **pandemic** category, is not included in Table 2, it is noteworthy to comment on this extensive group. When collecting data from 2020, there were fifty-eight terms (with novel names such as *coroneologism, coronism*, and *convidiom*) related to pandemic (Roig-Marín 2021). However, not all of the terms were related to medicine or public health. As mentioned above, the pandemic affected people's lives and their lifestyles. The 2020 neologisms have certainly enriched English vocabulary with the emergence of expressions such as *quaranteaching* – related to teaching when quarantined; *workation* – travelling and working with the sense of a working vacation as people can travel and work from another place and not necessarily from the office as many workplaces were shut down; and *covideo* – merging work, education, and free time to refer to videos that are recorded or to video calls that are made during the time of pandemic (About words…, *s.a.*; Twitter, *s.a*). Even though it might seem that the COVID-19 pandemic hindered

scientific and technological development (in the other areas than medicine), it, contrary to the assumption above, boosted these processes and enabled the fast development of healthcare products such as various types of sanitizers, tests, and vaccines (*COVAX*) (Twitter, *s.a*).

However, when processing the corpus, we discovered that old terms could acquire a new meaning and popularity over time. Some terms that became popular in 1920 have slightly changed their meaning, thus today's *junk mail* is not 'an unsolicited postal delivery' (Zimmer 2010) but rather 'an unwanted electronic mail'.

Another change in today's society accompanies the way people use language. Certain historical parallels show the resemblance of events such as a famous person's death, economic circumstances, and political issues. As major world events affect the emergence of neologisms, it is interesting to note that despite the fact that some of the 1920 words are slang words (e.g., *family jewels*, *palooka*, *schnook*, and *delish*) the majority of the words – e.g., *customize*, *decoder*, and *food chain* – sounded neutral or formal due to the fact that the word spreaders were mostly famous people such as politicians, actors, businessmen, and members of the intelligentsia. On the other hand, the vocabulary from 2020 is mainstream and possesses a slang-like denotation as the media use popular language and people in turn use the language of the media.

6. Conclusion

Changes in lexis and the appearance of new words is a natural phenomenon in any language. Each period is characterized by certain trends including political, social, and cultural events that play an important role in creating and institutionalizing vocabulary.

In the conducted research we took two years (1920 and 2020), collected the corpus, and categorized the lexemes based on their semantic appurtenances. The sample shows that society is constantly evolving and that the selected areas are being enriched, albeit

not homogeneously, which is the result of changing priorities and the emergence of new realities.

Many of the categories have a very similar number of items, with a deviation from 1 to 10. These categories include medicine; beauty and fashion; art, architecture, and housing; media; food; emotions; and agriculture, plants, and animals. Surprisingly, those categories that were expected to deviate the most – such as media; food; and agriculture, plants, and animals – showed only a slight difference in the terminological number of items.

On the other hand, categories such as science and technology (excl. medicine) were a surprise as it was expected there would be more contributions in 2020 than in 1920. Out of the fourteen categories, there were six with a deviation of fourteen to twenty-seven lexemes. As expected, the lifestyle category from 2020 contained far more lexemes. This shows how society is evolving and changing despite the recurrence of events.

The research shows that although there is a hundred-year difference, some concepts might repeat or be constantly used as they were part of everyday values, routines, or habits of society.

Note

All the tables and figures in this paper have been processed by the authors.

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Résumé

The article focuses on the new vocabulary coined in particular fields in 1920 and 2020. The paper aims to compare the occurrences of neologisms in different areas and give potential reasons for prevalent distribution of neologisms in one period of time over the other. The collected corpora is categorized into 14 categories: science and technology (excl. medicine); medicine (excl. pandemic); work, economy, and business; lifestyle; hobbies and free time; beauty and fashion; art, architecture, and housing; travelling and tourism; society (incl. education and politics); the media (excl. the Internet and social networks); food; emotions; agriculture, plants, and animals; and 'other'. The article provides a detailed quantitative analysis of distributions of the neologisms, which we test statistically for the level of significance of the differences between the two tested periods of time. It has been concluded that some of the categories of social life and events differ significantly in the two examined periods under the influence of history, politics, and various social happenings. For example, the category of travelling demonstrates a significant prevalence of travelling neologisms in 2020, despite the 2020 travelling restrictions. The other categories demonstrate prevalent occurrence in either period; however, these occurrences were not proved to be statistically significant, e.g., the category of agriculture, plants and animals, which demonstrates different, though statistically insignificant, distributions of neologisms between the examined areas (in favour of 1920). Such lack of statistical evidence may provide evidence for random occurrences within the examined data set. The article, as an in-depth quantitative survey into the emergence of neologisms in two different periods of time provides the basis for further generalisations on the coinage of neologisms and their further usage within the common stock of vocabulary.

Key words: semantic categories, semantic parallels, semantic analogies, semantic differences, semantic deviations, neologisms, social context.

Appendix

Neologisms used in the article

LEXEME	YEAR	DEFINITION
aerogram	1920	a sheet of light paper folded and sealed to form a letter for sending by airmail
al dente	1920	cooked so as to be still firm when bitten (of food, typically pasta)
angried	2020	angered; troubled or perturbed as a result of anger
antiperspirant	1920	a substance that is applied to the skin, especially under the arms, to prevent or reduce perspiration
appaloosa	1920	a horse of a North American breed having dark spots on a light background
asphalt jungle	1920	a big city or a specified part of a big city
awesomesauce	1920	extremely good; excellent
Bang's disease	1920	contagious abortion of cattle caused by a brucella (Brucella abortus)
bee broker	2020	a person who organises the hives from the Beekeepers to be delivered to the Growers that need the bees for a fee
BLM	2020	Black Lives Matter (BLM), international social movement, formed in the United States in 2013, dedicated to fighting racism and anti-Black violence, especially in the form of police brutality
bloomsplain	2020	to give someone an unnecessary or unwanted explanation of something; used when someone of the baby boomer generation explains something to a younger person
blue accelaration	2020	a race among diverse and often competing interests for ocean food, material, and space
blue mind	2020	a mildly meditative state characterized by calm, peace, unity, and a sense of general happiness and satisfaction with life in the moment
bluicing	2020	a process of juicing and then blending
burglary tourism	2020	an activity of going to another country to burgle someone's home
chain saw	1920	a portable power saw that has teeth linked together to form an endless chain
chessboxing	2020	a sport in which participants contest alternating rounds of chess and boxing, of four and two minutes respectively
chop	2020	to reduce an amount of money by a large amount
chute	1920	a clipped form of 'parachute'
collab house	2020	a large house in which people who work in social media live and work together
coronacuts	2020	an act of cutting one's own hair at home due to the closure of hair salons
coroneologism	2020	a neologism related to COVID-19
coronism	2020	a term that was created during COVID-19 pandemic
COVAX	2020	the vaccination of either Pfizer and Moderna, to cause immunity to the SARS-CoV-2 aka the COVID-19 aka the coronavirus
covidiom	2020	an idiom related to COVID-19 pandemic
craftivisit	2020	a person that uses craft projects as a form of protest or to advance social causes
culinary kaleidoscope	2020	a wide choice of food
customize	1920	to modify (something) to suit a particular individual or task
daiquiri	1920	a cocktail containing rum and lime juice
data drainers	2020	devices or applications that drain your data
deb	1920	a clipped form of 'débutante'
digital campfire	2020	a small group of people who communicate online, usually on a social media site
divorce tourism	2020	an activity of going to another country to take advantage of its divorce laws
doomscolling, doomscroll	2020	a term for that feeling when you can't stop scrolling down Twitter, or reading news that you know will make you sad, anxious, or angry
exotoxin	1920	a toxin released by a living bacterial cell into its surroundings
flapper	1920	a fashionable young woman intent on enjoying herself and flouting conventional standards of behavior
flattten the curve	2020	to use public health measures to achieve a more gradual increase and decrease in the number of new cases, spreading the same total number of cases over a longer period of time, as depicted by a gently sloping curved line on a graph (during a disease outbreak)
functional fitness	2020	physical exercise involving movements used to perform everyday tasks
generation Alpha	2020	a way of referring to the group of people who were, or will be, born in the 2010s and 2020s

genetic scissors	2020	a method of cutting the DNA in a cell so that it can be repaired
giggle water	1920	alcohol used during Prohibition; often applied specifically to champagne
goldfish generation	2020	a way of referring to the group of people who have grown up with smartphones and other technology and have a poor memory and attention span as a result
granny pod	2020	a very small house, built in the garden of a relative's house, where an old person lives
guacamole	1920	a dish of mashed avocado mixed with chopped onion, tomatoes, chili peppers, and seasoning
hand truck	1920	a small hand-propelled truck
herritage travel	2020	travelling to places where your ancestors lived to learn more about their lives
heterophile	1920	of, relating to, or being an antibody circulating in blood serum that is reactive with antigen originating in a different species
hydrosere	1920	an ecological sere originating in an aquatic habitat
icky boo	1920	a baby-talk alteration of sick or sickly
impact exercises	2020	an activity of combining a sporting challenge such as running a marathon with working on a project that benefits the people who live in the same area
incidental fitness	2020	a condition of being physically strong and healthy as a result of being more active in one's daily routine, such as taking the stairs instead of the lift
infodemic	2020	a massive amount of widely and rapidly circulating information about a particular crisis or controversial issue, consisting of a confusing combination of fact, falsehood, rumor, and opinion
intermiotic	1920	existing or occurring between periods of mitotic activity
Japandi	2020	an interior design trend which combines Japanese and Scandinavian styles
kayo	1920	a knockout
ketogenic diet	1920	a diet that aims at a high production of ketones (=substances that are produced when the body breaks down fat) in the body; it consists of a 4:1 ratio of fats to proteins and carbohydrates and is said to control a number of serious illnesses
key button	1920	part to be depressed by a finger that serves as one unit of a keyboard
kindie	2020	a style of music that appeals equally to children and adults and that is mainly written and performed by independent musicians who do not work for a large music company
lockdown tache	2020	a moustache that its wearer has allowed to grow during lockdown
loudspeaker	1920	a piece of equipment that changes electrical signals into sounds, especially used in public places so that large numbers of people can hear someone speaking or music playing
lyfe	2020	any form of life, including but not limited to the human, animal and plant life we are aware of
maskne	2020	several skin conditions that can be caused by wearing a face mask or covering
mob grazing	2020	a type of farming that involves moving a large number of animals into a small area of land for a very short time before moving them to a new area and leaving the grass to recover
monoliasis	1920	candidiasis
moon garden	2020	a garden that is meant to be enjoyed by the light of the moon, or at nighttime
multivariate	1920	involving two or more variable quantities
nonindustrialized	1920	not having become industrial; not industrialized
olingo	1920	a small nocturnal mammal related to the kinkajou and the raccoon, living in tropical Central and South American rainforests
piña colada	1920	a cocktail made with rum, pineapple juice, and coconut
plotz	1920	to collapse or be beside oneself with frustration, annoyance, or other strong emotion
PMIS	2020	Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in children
polypill	1920	a pill containing a number of medicines that all treat the same condition
Ponzi scheme	1920	a form of fraud in which belief in the success of a nonexistent enterprise is fostered by the payment of quick returns to the first investors from money invested by later investors
praesidium	1920	a standing executive committee in a communist country
pub desk	2020	a table in a pub that someone can use as a desk instead of working at home, usually in return for an hourly or daily payment

quantize	1920	to apply quantum theory to, especially form into quanta, in particular restrict the number of possible values of (a quantity) or states of (a system) so that certain variables can assume only certain discrete magnitudes
recapitalization	1920	a process of restructuring a company's debt and equity mixture, often to stabilize a company's capital structure
regenerative agriculture	2020	a method of farming that focuses on improving and maintaining the health of the soil
rice polishings	1920	the inner bran layer of rice rubbed off in milling
ritzy	1920	expensively stylish
saprozoic	1920	feeding on dead organic matter; of or relating to nutrition in which the nutrient substances are derived from dead organic matter
screen time	2020	an amount of time someone spends looking at an electronic device with a screen, such as a computer or television
screenplay	1920	a script of a movie, including acting instructions and scene directions
screenwriter	1920	a person who writes a screenplay
shape up	1920	to develop or happen in a particular way
sharable	1920	suitable or intended for sharing with another or other
sharenet	2020	a parent who frequently shares such personal information on social media
shark bait	1920	applied to a lone or daring swimmer far out from shore
ski pole	1920	either of two lightweight poles held by a skier to assist in balance or propulsion
social commerce	2020	buying and selling of goods or services directly within a social media platform
soviet	1920	an elected governmental council in a Communist country
spray gun	1920	a device resembling a gun which is used to spray a liquid such as paint or pesticide under pressure
stairwell	1920	a shaft in a building in which a staircase is built
subsonic	1920	relating to or flying at a speed or speeds less than that of sound
superbloom	2020	the appearance of an unusually high number of wild flowers in a particular season
superforecaster	2020	someone whose job is to predict what certain events or situations are going to be like in the future, and who can do this very accurately
T-shirt	1920	a short-sleeved casual top, generally made of cotton, having the shape of a T when spread out flat
tempura	1920	a Japanese dish of fish, shellfish, or vegetables, fried in batter
universal donor	1920	a person of blood group O, who can in theory donate blood to recipients of any ABO blood group
unscramble	1920	to separate (something, such as a conglomeration or tangle) into original components
walktail	2020	a cocktail that you make in order to drink while walking on the streets; an alcoholic beverage in a to-go cup
wall crawl	2020	a tourist activity involving a visit to different walls in a city, one after the other, to look at graffiti or art painted on them
WHF	2020	an abbreviation for working from home: used to refer to a person doing their job in their home rather than travelling to an office, etc. in order to do it
window walk	1920	a railed observation platform atop a usually coastal house
xenobot	2020	a type of very small robot that can move independently, created from living cells
yippee	1920	expressing wild excitement or delight
zoombombing	2020	a type of cyber-harassment in which an individual or a group of unwanted and uninvited users interrupt online meetings over the Zoom video conference app
zoomwear	2020	a style of dress where someone wears office attire (laundered shirts, sweaters, blouses, jackets, etc.) above the waist and sweats, gym shorts, pj's or less down below