

English Grammar – the “-nym” suffix

The suffix "-nym" comes from the Greek word "onyma", meaning "name". It is used in English to form words that refer to different types of names or words. For example:

Synonym – words with the same or similar meanings (e.g. speed, velocity)

Antonym – words with opposite meanings (e.g. cheap, expensive)

Homonym – words that sound the same but have different meanings (e.g. book (noun), book (verb))

Pseudonym – a pen name or stage name (e.g. Elton John – real name is Reginald Dwight)

Acronym – a word formed from the initial letters of a phrase (e.g. POTUS – President of the USA)

Autonym – a person's real name (opposite of pseudonym)

Eponym – a name derived from a person (e.g. "Sandwich" from the "Earl of Sandwich")

Toponym – a place name (e.g. "Chicago" or "Everest")

Hyponym – a more specific term within a category (e.g. "rose" is a hyponym of "flower")

Hypernym – a more general term that encompasses others (e.g. "fruit" is a hypernym of "apple")

Capitonym – a word that changes meaning when capitalized (e.g. "march" (verb) vs. "March" (month))

Oronym – a phrase that sounds like another but has a different meaning (e.g. "I scream" vs. "ice cream")

Retronym – a new term created because something changed (e.g. "analog clock" after digital clocks were invented)

Heteronym – words that are spelled the same but have different pronunciations and meanings (e.g. "lead" (noun – a metal) vs. "lead" (verb – to guide))

Endonym – the name which a country or city calls itself (e.g. Deutschland)

Exonym – the name which a country calls another country (e.g. Germany)