

Pseudo – foreign words

Kron

Pseudo – foreign words

- A number of words that look like foreign imports are not all that they seem
- Some have been formed on the model of an existing foreign word and, while they have the appearance of a loanword, in fact they have no equivalent in the supposed source language

Nom de plume

- „an assumed name used by a writer instead of their real name, a pen name“
- Looks French
- Was formed in English from French words in the early 19th century
- Based on the pattern of the genuinely French **nom de guerre**
- „an assumed name under which a person engages in combat or some other activity or enterprise“

Bon viveur

- Pseudo-French coinage formed from the French words for „good“ and „living person“ to match the earlier imported phrase **bon vivant**
- „a person who lives luxuriously and enjoys good food and drink“

Braggadocio

- Italian sounding
- Denoting boastful or arrogant behavior
- Originally the name **Edmund Spenser** gave to a boastful character in his poem **The Faerie Queene**
- Ending is based on the authentically Italian suffix - **occio**
- **Suggesting something large of its kind**
- The first part comes from the English **brag** or **braggart** (a person who does a lot of bragging)

Foreign word as a template

- Sometimes a foreign word can act as a template for other, often humorous coinages

Literati

- From Latin
- Dates from the 17th century and refers to well educated people who are interested in literature.
- Their modern descendants include:
 - **Glitterati** – fashionable people or celebrities
 - **Chatterati** – another term for the chattering classes, intellectual or artistic people who express liberal opinions
 - **Digerati** – computing experts regarded as a class

Blitzkrieg

- Literally „a lightning war“
- **Sitzkrieg** – formed on the analogy of Blitzkrieg. A term used in English in the 1940s to convey the idea of „a sit-down war“, a war, or a phase of a war, in which there is little or no active warfare

Russian and Yiddish suffix „-nik“

- As in words Sputnik or Kibbutznik
- Refusenik
- Peacenik
- Beatnik
- No-goodnik
- Used since the 1950s, to form English words denoting a person associated with a specified thing or quality

El – the Spanish definite article

- The equivalent of English **the** as in El Dorado and El Greco
- Since the 20 th century, it has been used in titles such as **El Supremo**
- Also used in such colloquial expressions as:
- **El Cheapo** – first recorded in the 1960s, this means „very cheap, of poor quality“
- The English adjective *cheap* made to resemble a Spanish word by the addition of an *o*

Costa Brava and Costa del Sol

- The *Costa Brava* and *Costa del Sol* have inspired other pseudo-Spanish names of resort areas such as the:
- **Costa Geriatrica**, describing one largely frequented or inhabited by elderly people