

The influence of (extra)linguistic experience on word-formation creativity. The case of name blending

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Although usage-based models of language (cf. e.g., Langacker 1987) acknowledge the role of linguistic experience in the production and perception of linguistic units (cf. e.g., Dabrowska 2015), it remains unclear how linguistic experience interacts with individual differences between language users regarding their extralinguistic knowledge. This is especially true for name-based word-formation patterns and the influence of (extra)linguistic experience on their creativity. Personal name blends (e.g., *Brangelina* from *Brad* (Pitt) and *Angelina* (Jolie), *Thomats* from *Thomas* (Müller) and *Mats* (Hummels)) are a good testbed here because they comprise extralinguistic knowledge about the social roles, relationships, and events in which name bearers are involved. This paper presents the results of a production task and a rating study investigating the role of familiarity with name constituents (extralinguistic factor) and linguistic experience with lexical and name blends in the production and processing of experimentally elicited personal name blends.

References

- Langacker, Ronald W. 1987. *Foundations of Cognitive Grammar*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Dabrowska, Ewa. 2015. Individual differences in grammatical knowledge. In: Dabrowska, Ewa/Divjak, Dagmar (eds.): *Handbook of Cognitive Linguistics*. Berlin: De Gruyter. 650–668.