

The Impact of the Pandemic on the Vocabulary

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This presentation provides a discussion of the impact that the coronavirus pandemic has had on English vocabulary over the past year. In order to refer to the virus and to denote new pandemic-related concepts, language users draw on a wide array of word-formation processes, such as derivation (*superspreader*), compounding (*contact tracing*), blending (*covidiot*), alphabetisms (*WFH*), or clipping (*the Rona*). Furthermore, lexical innovations are shown to manifest in semantic changes and the rise of new phraseologisms.