

# Formal and Conceptual Processes for Creating Words

## Word Creation Examples

**Uninstalled**

Being fired

**Decruitment**

(see uninstalled)

**Cube farm**

An office filled with cubicles

**Prairie Dogging**

When someone yells or drops something loudly in a cube farm, and people's heads pop up over the walls to see what's going on

artisticco/iStock/Thinkstock

## Word Creation Examples



### Seagull manager

A manager who flies in, making a lot of noise, craps on everything and then leaves

### Mouse potato

The on-line, wired generation's answer to the couch potato

### Alpha geek

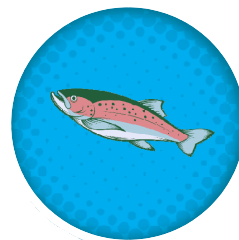
The most knowledgeable, technically proficient person in an office or work group

### Assmosis

The process by which some people seem to absorb success and advancement by kissing up to the boss rather than working hard

wenchiawang/iStock/Thinkstock

## Word Creation Examples



### Salmon day

The experience of spending an entire day swimming upstream only to be screwed and die in the end

### Adminisphere

The rarefied organizational layers beginning just above the rank and file. Decisions that fall from the adminisphere are often profoundly inappropriate or irrelevant to the problems they were designed to solve

### 404

Someone who's clueless

### Genericca

Features of the North American landscape that are exactly the same no matter where one is, such as fast food joints, strip malls, subdivisions

amplionus/iStock/Thinkstock

## Word Creation Examples



### Percussive maintenance

The fine art of whacking the living shit out of an electronic device to get it to work again

### Yuppie food stamps

The ubiquitous \$20 bills spewed by ATMs everywhere. Often used when trying to split the bill after a meal

### CLM

Career Limiting Move, like doing an uncannily accurate imitation of your boss while she is standing right behind you

### Ohnosecond

That minuscule fraction of time in which you realize that you've just made a big mistake

wenchiawang/iStock/Thinkstock

## Formal Processes (Semasiological)

### Morphology

- uninstalled • decruitment (*morphology + blending*)

### Blend

- assmosis • adminisphere • generica

### Conversion

- prairie dogging • 404

### Abbreviation

CLM

### Compounding

- salmon day • cube farm • seagull manager
- onosecond • mouse potato • alpha geek

### Nada

- Yuppie food stamps
  - Percussive maintenance
- } *Onomasiological*

## Conceptual Processes (Onomasiological)

### Metaphor

- yuppie food stamps
- 404
- uninstalled
- salmon day
- prairie dogging
- alpha geek
- cube farm
- seagull manager
- mouse potato
- percussive maintenance

### Metonymy

- ohnosecond
- mouse potato
- cube farm

### Metaplasms

- assmosis
- decruitment
- genericia
- adminisphere

### Nada

CLM