

## ORNITHONYMS-NOMENS IN ECOLINGUISTIC INTERPRETATION

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*The article discusses scientific bird names (ornithonyms-nomens) as linguistic nominations of natural objects. It is observed that a nomen, being a variety of a term, performs the two leading functions: nominative and cognitive, i.e. giving names to birds a nomenclative unit at the same time serves as a means of experiencing of the wide world. The examined ornithonyms-nomens are categorized in accordance with the seven feature-forming components which contain biologically and ecologically important information about the species they name. These components are phononyms, morphonyms, bionyms, phagonyms, ergonyms, toponyms and eponyms.*

*A phononym reflects various bird vocalizations and can be represented in the form of a voice transcription, an onomatopoeic root or a voice assessing description. A morphonym contains somatic characteristics and can be of two types: a morphonym that indicates plumage colour and a morphonym that describes a bird's shape and size. A bionym contains information on a bird's habitat and environmental condition, while a phagonym reveals the variety of food items or prey of birds. An ergonym refers to display breeding behaviour, typical habits or temperament, a mode of flight and other behavioral models. A toponym is connected with names of continents, countries and other types of locality with reference to the actual bird distribution. An eponym commemorates a real person or a mythical or fictional character.*

*In the scientific systematics bird appearance, its habitat and environmental condition are of great importance for species identification, that is why epithets containing morphonyms and bionyms show the quantitative domination. Among the generic names ornithonyms containing phononyms and morphonyms share the leading position. It means that man singles out birds with most noticeable features such as voice and plumage colour and gives them corresponding names. It is appropriate here to note the significance of linguistic studies in the sphere of natural ecology for the further transmission of the information on man's cognitive activity and for the formation of ecoanthropocentric worldview which is required to strengthen the position of ecolinguistics as an interdisciplinary science.*

**Keywords and phrases:** *scientific nomenclature; ornithonym-nomen; ecolinguistics; generic name; specific adjective (epithet); phononym, morphonym, bionym, phagonym, ergonym.*

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