

## THE CONCISE ANALYSES OF ENGLISH SLANG TOPONYMS.

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**Abstract:** *Place names play one of the most decisive roles in the realm of onomastics. They are a necessary aspect not only in the analysis of standard language, but in slang as well. This article is devoted to the problems of English slang toponyms. In the article, various slang toponyms gathered from different slang vocabularies are divided into subgroups of toponomastics. Additionally, relevant examples for every single toponymic units are also demonstrated.*

**Keywords:** *toponym, toponomastics, choronym, hodonym, eirgmonym, oronym.*

Everything has its own name in the world. Thanks to the names, we can distinguish one object or place from others. That is why, people have been utilizing names as long as thousands of years. Advancements in different walks of life of a humankind such as traditions, literature, science and technology, have caused names to develop and increase in numbers at the same time. As a result, these changes could help onomastics progress as a new field in linguistics.

Place names are considered as one of the most significant units not only in people's lives, but in onomastics as well. A place name may also be called as a "Toponym" [1] which is a proper name assigned to a place, either with or without inhabitants. Toponomastics is the branch of onomastics devoted to the scholarly investigation of toponyms [2].

In many parts of the world, it is a commonplace that some placenames have no etymologies that we can discover, e.g., European names like Rome, Paris, and London. In other parts of the world, it is likely that placenames also have a variety of origins; some are transferred, some are borrowed, and many are descriptive coinages [3].

If we speak about slang toponyms, we can say that they have different connotations although they have the same denotations with the place names in standard language. So, considering slang and standard language toponyms as synonyms structurally, we classified toponyms into the following types collected from different slang vocabularies:

1. Choronym – an administrative proper name used to label a geographical area of land:

- Russia (*n*) – a pocket-book. **'Russia' is a pocketbook.** (*Indianapolis Journal (IN)*, 28 Feb., 1904, 3/3);

- France and Spain (*n/v British*) – (to) rain. ***I was wearing a leaky I'm afloat, / And it started to France and Spain.*** (*Doss Chiderdoss, "The Rhyme of the Rusher" in Sporting Times, 29 October, 1892*).

2. Astionym [4] – city names:

Babylon (*n British*) – a generic term for white Western society; by ext.

the authorities. ***Same old fucking Babylon! Same old fuckery!*** (*A. Wheatle, Dirty South, 2008, p.178*);

Moscow (*n Aus*) – a pawnshop. ***Me clobber's already in Moscow, an' so is me tan shoes.*** (*Dymphna Cusack, Caddie, 1953, p.217*).

3. Hodonym [5] – a proper name given to routes such as the names of crossings, bridges, pathways, roads, streets, tunnels, etc.:

- Broadway (*n US*) – the ground floor of a prison. ***We he had been placed in a cell in Mangauring's notorious 'Broadway' isolation section remains uncertain.*** (*Mail & Guardian (Johannesburg), 3 September 2015, Internet*).

4. Eirgmonym [6] – the name of a jail.

- Club Fed (*n American*) – a minimum security, well-equipped federal prison housing white-collar criminals, especially the federal prison camp in Lompoc, California. ***Hopefully, you'll never experience the pleasures of a "Club Fed" vacation.*** (*Suroosh Alvi and others, The VICE Guide to Sex and Drugs and Rock and Roll, 2002, p.223*)

- Rock (*n American*) – 11. The Alcatraz Federal penitentiary, located in San Francisco bay. ***You're going to the Rock, Al, a nice long ride to Alcatraz.*** (*Morris (Red) Rudensky, The Gonif, 1970, p.61*).

5. Syssitionym [7] – name of a restaurant.

- Mickey D's (*n American*) – McDonald's™ fast food restaurant. ***At Mickey D's, I earned \$200 a week, and the tax man took out fifty. That was like kicking Monday and Friday in the Ass.*** (*Chris Rock, Rock This!, 1997, pp. 96-97*).

6. Oronym [8] – mountain names. Jewish Alps (*n American*) – the Catskill mountains. ***Fun, before I discovered women, consisted of swimming at Hauto and summer vacations in the Catskill Mountains – the Jewish Alps...*** (*Richard Marcinko, Rogue Warrior, 1992, p.34*).

7. Potamonym – name of a river.

- Mississippi marbles (*n American*) – dice. ***But I didn't exactly duck when the Mississippi marbles were rolling on the rug or a golf-betting proposition came along.*** (*Sam Snead, The Education of a Golfer, 1962, p.162*)

To conclude, observing different examples of slang toponyms, we can say that some of the place names (Russia, Babylon, Moscow, Broadway) can be used alone, while others (Club Fed, Rock, Mickey D's) can be utilized as nicknames; or some (France and Spain, Jewish Alps, Mississippi marbles) function as one of the components in a phrase.

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