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Nota di contenuto	Acknowledgments -- List of tables and figures -- List of abbreviations -- Introduction: polysemy, heterogeneity and ambiguity in word-formation patterns -- Phonological, syntactic and semantic constraints on the formation of -ee words -- The career of -ee words: a diachronic analysis from medieval legal use to nineteenth-century ironic nonce words -- Morphology and the lexicon: on creativity and productivity of -ee words -- A corpus-based analysis of 1,000 potential new -ee words -- -ee words in varieties of English.