

FORMATION AND USE OF NEOLOGISMS IN THE MODERN UZBEK LANGUAGE

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Abstract. *This article examines the changes occurring in the lexical composition of the modern Uzbek language, with particular attention to the formation of new words and expressions, namely neologisms, and the specific features of their use in speech. The study focuses on the sources and methods of formation of new lexical units entering the Uzbek language as a result of globalization, the rapid development of information and communication technologies, and the intensification of economic, political, social, and cultural processes.*

Particular attention is paid to neologisms created through the internal resources of the Uzbek language, borrowing from other languages, calquing, semantic innovation, and affixation.

The role of neologisms in mass media, the Internet, social networks, education, and professional communication is also examined.

Keywords: *neologism, modern Uzbek language, vocabulary, new words, borrowed words, word formation, terminology, globalization, Internet language, information technologies.*

Introduction

Language is a complex social phenomenon that is closely connected with the development of society. Political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural, and social changes taking place in society are directly reflected in the lexical composition of a language.

Particularly in the twenty-first century, the rapid development of information technologies, the intensification of globalization, and the expansion of international economic and cultural relations have resulted in the active emergence of new words and terms in the lexical systems of languages around the world. This process is also characteristic of the modern Uzbek language.

Today, the vocabulary of the Uzbek language is being enriched with numerous words and terms expressing new concepts. For example, such lexical units as *digitalization, e-government, artificial intelligence, online education, distance education, cybersecurity, digital economy, startup, blogger, content, podcast, streaming, freelance, and marketplace* are increasingly used in modern communication.

Neologisms are one of the important indicators of the dynamic development of a language. The emergence of new words is directly associated with the appearance of new objects, phenomena, professions, technologies, concepts, and social relations. Therefore, the study of neologisms is important not only from a linguistic perspective but also for understanding the social and cultural development of society.

The term “neologism” is derived from the Greek words *neos*, meaning “new,” and *logos*, meaning “word” or “concept.” In linguistics, a neologism refers to a lexical unit that has recently appeared in a language during a particular period or an existing lexical unit that has begun to be used with a new meaning.

The main characteristic of a neologism is determined by the degree of its novelty.

However, not every newly emerging word remains a neologism for a long period. If a new lexical unit is widely accepted by society and used regularly, it gradually becomes part of the active vocabulary of the general language and loses its feature of novelty.

In this respect, neologisms can be divided into temporary and established lexical units.

New words that are initially used within a limited social or professional group may later become widespread and become integrated into the norms of the literary language. For example, words such as *online*, *blogger*, *platform*, and *content*, which were previously used mainly in technological or professional contexts, are now actively used in everyday speech by a broad section of society.

Main Part

New lexical units in the modern Uzbek language are being formed from several major sources. The first source is **the internal resources of the Uzbek language**. New words are created on the basis of existing word-formation models of the language. Affixation, compound word formation, the terminologization of word combinations, and other methods can be cited as examples.

For instance, the lexical units *raqamlashtirish* (digitalization), *raqamli* (digital), *tarmoqlashuv* (network development), *elektronlashtirish* (electronization/digitalization), and *axborotlashuv* (informatization) have been formed using the internal grammatical and word-forming resources of the Uzbek language.

The second important source is **borrowing from other languages**. Under conditions of globalization, numerous new lexical units from English, Russian, and other foreign languages are entering the Uzbek language. The influence of English is particularly strong in the fields of information technologies, business, marketing, finance, sports, and Internet communication.

Examples include *blogger*, *marketing*, *startup*, *freelance*, *branding*, *podcast*, *streaming*, *like*, *follower*, *target*, *content*, and *design*, which are frequently encountered in modern communication.

The third source is **semantic neologisms**, that is, the acquisition of new meanings by existing words. In this process, the form of a word remains unchanged, but its semantic range is expanded or the word is used to express a new concept.

For example, the word *platform* originally referred primarily to a physical object or a technical structure, whereas today it is also actively used to denote an Internet-based service or electronic system. The use of the word *network* in such new meanings and combinations as *Internet network* and *social network* is another example of semantic development.

In the modern Uzbek language, neologisms are formed through several methods. One of the most productive methods is affixation. New lexical units expressing new concepts are created by using word-forming affixes of the Uzbek language.

For example:

- *raqam* + *li* — **raqamli** (digital);
- *raqam* + *lashtir* + *ish* — **raqamlashtirish** (digitalization);
- *axborot* + *chi* — **axborotchi** (information specialist);
- *tarmoq* + *lashuv* — **tarmoqlashuv** (network development);
- *elektron* + *lash* + *tirish* — **elektronlashtirish** (electronization/digitalization).

The formation of compound and complex lexical units also plays an important role in modern terminology. Such expressions as *digital economy*, *artificial intelligence*, *e-government*, *cybersecurity*, *distance education*, and *online service* are actively used to express new concepts.

Borrowed lexical units also constitute an important layer of the modern Uzbek vocabulary. After entering the language, such units may undergo phonetic, grammatical, and semantic adaptation to the structural system of Uzbek.

Today, one of the largest sources of neologisms is **information and communication technologies**. The development of digital technologies has resulted in the emergence of new objects and concepts. The need to name these new phenomena, in turn, has contributed to the emergence of new terms.

Lexical units such as *artificial intelligence*, *cloud technology*, *digital platform*, *cybersecurity*, *blockchain*, *crypto asset*, *online service*, *mobile application*, *electronic payment*, and *virtual reality* are directly associated with contemporary technological development.

Social networks are also accelerating the process of popularization of neologisms. New words created by users can spread among a wide audience within a very short period of time. As a result, some lexical units are initially used in informal Internet communication and later begin to appear in mass media and everyday communication.

Internet communication also contributes to the increasing use of abbreviations, hybrid lexical units, and words borrowed from foreign languages.

The scope of neologism usage varies across different fields. In scientific and technical fields, new terms are used to express specific concepts precisely. In mass media, neologisms serve as a means of rapidly expressing new developments and phenomena occurring in society.

In economics and business, lexical units such as *startup*, *investment*, *marketplace*, *branding*, *target*, and *freelance* are widely used. In education, concepts such as *online education*, *distance education*, *digital education*, *electronic platform*, and *virtual classroom* have become widespread.

New lexical units are also emerging in the field of sports. As modern sports technologies develop, terminological expressions such as *sports analytics*, *digital monitoring*, *video analysis*, and *sports tracking* are increasingly used.

The use of neologisms expands the communicative potential of a language. However, excessive and normatively unjustified use of such lexical units may, in some cases, negatively affect the comprehensibility of speech.

The increasing number of new words in modern Uzbek also makes the improvement and regulation of literary language norms an important issue. Directly adopting every foreign lexical unit may not always correspond to the internal resources of the Uzbek language or its national terminological traditions.

Therefore, the following principles should be taken into consideration when creating new terms:

- expressing the content of the new concept clearly and accurately;
- making effective use of the word-forming resources of the Uzbek language;
- ensuring that pronunciation and spelling conform to the norms of the literary language;
- taking into account the general communicative value of international terms;
- developing, whenever possible, a single and stable term for each concept;
- monitoring the use of new lexical units in scientific, official, and public discourse.

In this process, terminological dictionaries, explanatory dictionaries, and electronic linguistic resources are of great importance.

Neologisms are not merely a product of the internal development of a language; they are also a linguistic manifestation of changes taking place in society. Phenomena that become socially significant during a particular period often lead to the rapid formation of new words.

For example, terms associated with the development of digital technologies represent the linguistic expression of technological progress.

During the pandemic period, the widespread use of expressions such as *distance education*, *online lesson*, and *remote work* demonstrated the influence of social conditions on language.

Thus, the study of neologisms makes it possible to draw important conclusions about the social, economic, technological, and cultural processes of a particular period. The emergence of new words is a natural and necessary process of language development. Neologisms make it possible to express new concepts concisely and accurately, expand the lexical richness of a language, and create new communicative means for expressing achievements in science and technology.

At the same time, certain problems also exist. The excessive increase in foreign borrowings, the expression of one concept through several different terms, spelling variation, and the lack of terminological standardization may create communicative difficulties.

Therefore, systematic scientific study of neologisms in the modern Uzbek language, identification of their frequency and semantic characteristics, and determination of variants that correspond to the norms of the literary language are among the important tasks of contemporary Uzbek linguistics.

Conclusion

The formation and use of neologisms in the modern Uzbek language is one of the important indicators of language development. Social, economic, political, scientific, technological, and cultural changes in society naturally lead to the emergence of new concepts and, consequently, to the need for new lexical units to express them.

The results of the study demonstrate that neologisms in the modern Uzbek language are primarily formed through the internal word-forming resources of the language, borrowing from other languages, semantic development, calquing, and terminological processes. Information technologies, economics, education, mass media, and Internet communication are among the most active sources of new lexical units.

The widespread use of neologisms demonstrates that the Uzbek language is adapting to modern communicative needs. At the same time, the standardization of new words, regulation of their spelling and pronunciation, and effective use of the national and internal resources of the Uzbek language remain important tasks.

In the future, one of the important areas of linguistic research may involve conducting a statistical analysis of neologisms in the modern Uzbek language on the basis of an electronic corpus, determining their frequency of use, classifying them according to fields of application, and studying the mechanisms through which new terms become integrated into the literary language.

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