



ABBREVIATIONS AS A LINGUISTIC OBJECT IN LANGUAGES WITH DIFFERENT SYSTEMS

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Abstract

This article addresses the issues of etymological, structural-semantic, and lexical study and analysis of abbreviations (acronyms, shortenings) in English linguistics. The paper analyzes the mechanisms of abbreviation formation, their structural and semantic features, as well as their functional potential in the process of communication. In particular, the linguistic nature of abbreviations is revealed through examples from English and Uzbek, highlighting their specific characteristics within analytic and synthetic language systems.

Keywords: Abbreviation, shortening, language system, analytic and synthetic languages, linguopragmatics, discourse, language economy, comparative-typological analysis.

Introduction

In modern linguistics, abbreviations, i.e., shortened forms, are attracting particular scientific interest as one of the active and dynamic elements of the language system. Due to globalization, the rapid development of information technologies, and the acceleration of communication processes, the need to economize language units is increasing. In this context, abbreviations function not only as a means of linguistic economy but also as an important linguistic phenomenon that enhances the expressiveness and pragmatic effectiveness of speech.

Abbreviations in languages with different systems—such as analytic and synthetic languages—possess specific structural, semantic, and functional features. In English, abbreviations are often formed based on graphic and phonetic economy, whereas in Uzbek they are adapted morphologically and used



in accordance with national language norms. Therefore, the comparative study of abbreviations across different language systems, their formation mechanisms, usage scope, and linguopragmatic features is considered a relevant issue.

This research analyzes abbreviations as an object of linguistics in languages with different systems using a comprehensive approach. The main aim of the study is to identify the structural-typological features of abbreviations and reveal their semantic load and functional potential in speech. Additionally, the study scientifically substantiates the linguistic nature of abbreviations, their formation methods, and their role in modern discourse.

The relevance of the research lies in the fact that today abbreviations are widely used in scientific, technical, socio-political, and internet discourse, becoming one of the key indicators of language development. Their systematic study is important not only for theoretical linguistics but also for applied translation studies, terminology, and communicative linguistics.

Literature Review

The article also highlights the role of abbreviations in modern communication, particularly in scientific, socio-political, and internet discourse. Furthermore, the importance of abbreviations in increasing linguistic economy, expressiveness, and pragmatic impact is substantiated. The research results contribute to a deeper understanding of both theoretical and practical aspects of abbreviations, enabling their correct use in translation processes and effective application in language teaching.

From the 1950s, a new stage in the development of abbreviations began in Uzbek linguistics, directly related to their widespread use and rapid formation. Some researchers focused on specific but less significant issues, which is largely due to the complexity of the studied process and the problems being solved [3].

In his research, V.Z. Sannikov considered abbreviations as a process similar to punctuation, suggesting that they do not have a strong connection with spoken language and function as conventional signs [4].

A.M. Sukhothin, in his studies on graphic abbreviations, defined them as follows: “Abbreviations are not the basis of language but full or partial shortenings that do not affect the word itself” [5]. Therefore, he essentially excludes graphic



abbreviations from the linguistic system. Similar opinions were expressed by other researchers. For example, M.M. Segal noted that “abbreviations seem completely alien to language” [6].

It is known that the length of a word in any language is not infinite and is regulated by the language system. According to one hypothesis, the length of a word does not exceed the number of elements it contains. English and Uzbek languages provide opportunities for forming multi-component syllabic abbreviations. However, in our material, only three-component syllabic abbreviations were observed, corresponding to the typical word length in both languages.

An important factor in the compatibility of elements in syllabic abbreviations is phonetic harmony. In this regard, several features should be emphasized.

Analysis and Results

The etymological study of abbreviations involves investigating the origin of shortened words and phrases, the meanings of their components, and their historical entry into the language. Abbreviations constitute an important part of the lexical layer in modern linguistics, and their etymology is studied through the following aspects:

1. Sources of origin

Abbreviations mainly arise to simplify long names. Their etymological roots often include:

Socio-political terms (e.g., UN — United Nations)

Scientific and technical terms (e.g., NPP — Nuclear Power Plant)

Names of organizations and institutions (e.g., SamSU — Samarkand State University)

2. Structural etymology

Not the abbreviation as a whole, but each letter or syllable within it is reconstructed and analyzed. This includes:

Borrowed layer: abbreviations borrowed from other languages (often Russian or English), e.g., NATO, UNESCO

Native layer: abbreviations formed from Uzbek words (e.g., UzR — Republic of Uzbekistan)



3. Etymological classification and orthographic features

The etymology of abbreviations is also related to their spelling. In Uzbek, abbreviations and their suffixes are written together (e.g., ToshDUning, SamDUga).

4. Historical-etymological studies

Over time, abbreviations may change their meanings or fall out of use. Their period of origin is analyzed through etymological markers. Etymological dictionaries provide historical analysis of abbreviations and their components.

Conclusion and Recommendations

In conclusion, the conducted research shows that abbreviations in all languages can be classified into initial, syllabic, partially shortened, and graphic types. Their usage varies depending on written documents and textual contexts.

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