

SEMANTIC AND PRAGMATIC CLASSIFICATION OF ENGLISH NEOLOGISMS

Zaripova Aziza Ravshanovna

Teacher, Department of Uzbek Language and Literature,
Russian and English Languages,
Abu Ali Ibn Sino Bukhara State Medical Institute

Abstract. The rapid development of social, political, technological, and cultural processes has led to an intensive growth of neologisms in the English language. These newly formed lexical units reflect not only linguistic innovation but also pragmatic intentions and communicative needs of modern society. This article investigates the semantic and pragmatic classification of English neologisms, with particular attention to their functional features in contemporary socio-political discourse and their translation into Uzbek and Russian. The study is based on the theoretical framework proposed by N. M. Shansky, who distinguishes lexical and semantic neologisms. Using system-structural, functional, and communicative-pragmatic approaches, the research analyzes new lexical material and identifies the main trends, models, and mechanisms of semantic neologization. The results demonstrate that neologisms play a crucial role in shaping modern vocabulary, enriching expressive potential, and reflecting social change.

Keywords: neologism, semantic neologization, pragmatic potential, lexical innovation, English language, translation

Аннотация. Стремительное развитие социальных, политических, технологических и культурных процессов привело к интенсивному росту неологизмов в английском языке. Эти новообразованные лексические единицы отражают не только лингвистические инновации, но и прагматические намерения и коммуникативные потребности современного общества. В данной статье исследуется семантическая и прагматическая классификация английских неологизмов с особым вниманием к их функциональным особенностям в современном общественно-политическом дискурсе и их переводу на узбекский и русский языки. Исследование основано на теоретической базе, предложенной Н. М. Шанским, который выделяет лексические и семантические неологизмы. Используя системно-структурный, функциональный и коммуникативно-прагматический подходы, в исследовании анализируется новый лексический материал и выявляются основные тенденции, модели и механизмы семантической неологизации. Результаты исследования показывают, что неологизмы играют решающую роль в формировании современного словарного запаса, обогащая выразительный потенциал и отражая социальные изменения.

Ключевые слова: неологизм, семантическая неологизация, прагматический потенциал, лексические инновации, английский язык, перевод.

Introduction

In modern linguistics, the study of neologisms occupies a central place due to the dynamic nature of language development. English, as a global language, responds particularly quickly to changes in social, political, scientific, and technological spheres. These changes give rise to new words and meanings that gradually become an integral part of the lexical system. Neologisms serve as linguistic markers of innovation, reflecting new realities, concepts, and attitudes.

The relevance of the present study is determined by the growing number of neologisms in contemporary English and the need for their systematic semantic and pragmatic classification. While neologisms have been studied extensively in Russian and Western linguistics, their analysis in relation to Uzbek remains limited and fragmented. Moreover, many studies focus primarily on word-formation mechanisms, whereas semantic and pragmatic aspects often remain insufficiently explored.

The aim of this article is to analyze English neologisms from semantic and pragmatic perspectives and to propose a classification based on multiple criteria, including mode of occurrence, degree of novelty, duration of existence, and communicative function. The scientific novelty of the research lies in the integration of semantic derivation theory with communicative-pragmatic analysis and in the introduction of new lexical material into comparative linguistic study.

Materials and Methods

The methodological basis of the research is a комплекс approach that combines traditional linguistic methods with modern functional and pragmatic analysis. The material of the study consists of English neologisms selected from explanatory and neological dictionaries, as well as from contemporary socio-political texts and media sources.

The following methods were applied in the research:

Descriptive method, which enabled the systematic presentation and classification of neologisms.

Complete sampling method, used to select relevant lexical units from dictionary and textual sources.

Definition analysis, allowing the examination of dictionary definitions as the foundation for semantic interpretation.

Component analysis, aimed at identifying semantic components involved in the process of semantic derivation.

Contextual analysis, which revealed the pragmatic features and actual usage of neologisms in discourse.

Comparative method, applied to establish similarities and differences in the semantics of neologisms in English, Uzbek, and Russian.

These methods made it possible to investigate neologisms as system-based linguistic units functioning within specific communicative contexts.

Semantic Classification of Neologisms

Following N. M. Shansky's classification, neologisms are divided into **lexical** and **semantic** types. Lexical neologisms are newly created words or borrowings introduced to denote new objects, processes, or phenomena, such as *blockchain*, *crowdfunding*, *metaverse*, and *cryptocurrency*. These units usually arise due to scientific and technological progress and are often international in character.

Semantic neologisms involve the development of new meanings within existing lexical forms. For example, words such as *cloud*, *virus*, *platform*, and *network* have acquired additional meanings in technological and socio-political contexts. Semantic neologization is closely connected with metaphorical and metonymic transfer, which allows speakers to conceptualize new realities through familiar linguistic forms.

From a broader semantic perspective, neologisms can be classified according to several criteria:

Mode of occurrence: lexical, semantic, and phraseological neologisms;

Degree of novelty: absolute neologisms, which are entirely new forms, and relative neologisms, which represent new meanings of existing words;

Duration of existence: occasional neologisms (single-use or context-dependent), temporary neologisms, and stable neologisms that become part of the language system.

The analysis of socio-political texts demonstrates that semantic neologisms are particularly productive in this sphere, as political discourse frequently reinterprets existing vocabulary to achieve ideological and persuasive goals.

Pragmatic Characteristics of Neologisms

From a pragmatic point of view, neologisms possess a high communicative value. They are used to attract attention, express evaluation, create emotional impact, and influence the audience. In media and political discourse, neologisms often function as tools of persuasion and manipulation, shaping public opinion and framing social realities.

The pragmatic potential of neologisms depends largely on context. The same lexical unit may carry neutral, positive, or negative connotations depending on its usage. For instance, neologisms in political rhetoric may serve to legitimize certain actions or discredit opponents. This contextual variability highlights the importance of pragmatic analysis in neological studies.

Word-Formation Models of English Neologisms

The analysis reveals that the most productive word-formation models of English neologisms include affixation, conversion, compounding, blending, abbreviations, acronyms, truncation, and reduplication. Among these, blending and abbreviation are especially common in modern media discourse due to their brevity and expressive power.

These models reflect the tendency of the English language toward linguistic economy, adaptability, and creativity. At the same time, word-formation processes interact closely with semantic and pragmatic factors, shaping the functional potential of neologisms.

Discussion

The findings of the study confirm that neologisms represent a multifaceted linguistic phenomenon that requires an integrated analytical approach. Structural

analysis alone cannot fully explain the emergence and functioning of neologisms, as semantic and pragmatic factors play a decisive role in their development and dissemination.

Semantic neologization reflects changes in conceptual structures and worldview, while pragmatic aspects reveal speakers' communicative intentions and strategies. In socio-political discourse, neologisms often acquire evaluative and ideological meanings, which may differ significantly across languages and cultures.

Comparative analysis shows that the translation of English neologisms into Uzbek and Russian frequently involves adaptation rather than direct equivalence. Translators must consider not only the denotative meaning of a neologism but also its pragmatic effect and cultural associations. This highlights the importance of interdisciplinary research combining linguistics, translation studies, and cultural analysis.

The limited number of system-based studies on Uzbek neologisms indicates the need for further research in this area. Applying semantic and pragmatic classification models developed for English may contribute to the advancement of Uzbek lexicology and comparative linguistics.

Conclusion

In conclusion, neologisms are an essential and dynamic component of the modern English vocabulary. Their semantic and pragmatic classification reveals the mechanisms of language development and the interaction between linguistic innovation and social change. The study demonstrates that semantic neologization and pragmatic function play a key role in the integration of new lexical units into the language system.

The findings of this research may be useful for linguists, translators, and language teachers, as well as for further comparative studies of neologisms in English, Uzbek, and Russian.

References

1. Dadaboyev, H. (2019). *O'zbek terminologiyasi*. Tashkent.
2. Karimov, I. A. (2009). *Jahon moliyaviy-iqtisodiy inqirozi va O'zbekiston sharoitida uni bartaraf etish yo'llari*. Tashkent.
3. Shansky, N. M. (2007). *Lexicology of the Modern Russian Language*. Moscow.
4. Qurbonova, M., Abjalova, M., & Axmedova, N. (2021). *O'zbek tilidagi o'zlashma so'zlarning urg'uli lug'ati* (Vols. 1–2). Tashkent.
5. Allan, K. (2020). *The Routledge Handbook of Semantics*. Routledge.
6. Bauer, L. (2019). *Compounds and Neologisms in English Lexicology*. Oxford University Press.
7. Bozorova, D. (2023). *Issues of Translating Medical Terminology from English into Uzbek*. *Philological Studies Journal*, 12(1), 45–53.
8. Cabré, M. T. (2020). *Terminology and Language Planning in Medical Sciences*. John Benjamins.
9. Harper, D. (2021). *COVID-19 and Lexical Innovation in English Medical Discourse*. *Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 18(3), 77–90.