



LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TELEGRAM

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Abstract: *The article deals with the features of the formation and the functioning of the contractions in English and Russian language virtual discourse. It focuses on the graphical contractions. The main functions of graphical contractions, the reasons for their formation and different types of these contractions are highlighted. Most of the abbreviations used in telegram containing graphic contractions which can be different members of the sentence and perform a number of functions were discussed. Linguistic compression as the basic principle of organizing text space in TELEGRAMM contributing to a free expression of thoughts and a relaxed nature of communication were analysed.*

Key words: *telegramm, abbreviation, social media, graphic and lexical abbreviations, contraction.*

Аннотация: *В статье рассматриваются особенности формирования и функционирования сокращений в англо- и русскоязычном виртуальном дискурсе. Он фокусируется на графических сокращениях. Выделены основные функции графических сокращений, причины их образования и различные виды этих сокращений. Рассмотрено большинство аббревиатур, используемых в телеграмме, содержащих графические сокращения, которые могут быть разными членами предложения и выполнять ряд функций. Проанализирована языковая компрессия как основной принцип организации текстового пространства в ТЕЛЕГРАММЕ, способствующий свободному выражению мыслей и непринужденному характеру общения.*

Ключевые слова: *телеграмм, аббревиатура, социальная медиа, графические и лексические сокращения, сокращение.*

In the second half of the 20th century, word formation was rapidly developed as an independent section of the science of language. Scientists who have studied this area (E. S. Kubryakova, N. M. Shansky and others) define word formation as “a science that studies the formation and structure of derivative words” (Tyurina, R. Ya). Speaking about this problem, two objects of study of word formation are often mentioned - the structure of derivative words and the word-formation process (V. V. Vinogradov, E. S. Kubryakova, etc.). Thus, word formation deals with both the issues of word production and the study of the results of the word formation process.

At the present stage of development of society and language, one of the most common word-formation processes is abbreviation - “a way of creating nominations for those concepts and realities that were originally designated descriptively, using attributive phrases” (Alekseev, D.I.). Abbreviation is to ensure the transfer of the maximum possible amount of information with minimal use of the material shell of the language, that is, to



increase the effectiveness of the communicative function of the language. The abbreviation is based on the principle of saving speech efforts.

Language economy is defined as a rational mode of expression that is meaningful for every language level. A. Martinet in his work “The principle of economy in language” described it as “the desire to achieve a balance between conflicting needs to be satisfied. On the one hand, the needs of communication. On the other hand, the inertia of memory and the inertia of the organs of speech, still tied to phonetic phenomena” (Martinet, A.). Within the framework of this principle, we can conclude that graphic abbreviations in Internet communication are indispensable, since they help to convey information briefly and create the necessary emotional background.

In the modern world, communication on the Internet has become an integral part of human life, and therefore a new area of scientific knowledge. In the disciplines that study communication on the Internet, Internet communication is understood as “a special communication and information environment or communication space mediated by an electronic communication channel” (Ivanova, T.S.) This environment is characterized by the following distinctive features: virtuality, interactivity, hypertextuality, globality, creativity, mosaic and anonymity (Goroshko, E.I.). Some linguists add to the properties of this environment such characteristics as the absence of non-verbal elements of communication, the erosion of social norms and restrictions, the creation of new social and linguistic identities. Due to the fact that the virtual environment is subject to automation and is characterized by the possibility of using technologies without data, the established social norms and restrictions are gradually being destroyed, new social and linguistic identities are emerging.

But this new reality is not devoid of contradictions that affect the formation of a virtual personality. Complete anonymity, which allows the user to put on a mask and try himself in a different role, choose a new role or create an image that excites the imagination, borders on the publicity of social networks, where the authors flaunt the details of their personal lives, photos or frank thoughts on various topics, or self-disclosure of personality on a blog or on a personal page, which are a certain chronotope of what this person has done somewhere, sometime and for some reason. A number of computer communication researchers put forward a very reasonable thesis that manipulateness, anonymity and the lack of clear boundaries between the real and the virtual lead to a gradual revision of its capabilities and limits. This is expressed in the fact that communication can be carried out both “at a time, when only the sender and a limited number of communicants have access to messages (for example, email or voice mail, SMS messages, etc.), and at different times (in the forum or in some types of blogs)” (Dedova, O.V.).

Getting into a new communicative space, the language acquires certain features and additional functions. In a virtual environment, communication is carried out not only by means of natural language, that is, verbally, but also by means of audiovisual means. Non-verbal information is transmitted through emoticons, graphic methods (for example, the capitalization of words or even whole sentences can express the actualization of certain



thoughts or the “cry of the soul” of the interlocutor; reduplication of letters in a word indicates a demonstration of certain feelings or mood of the user; the absence of punctuation marks serves to attract attention or messages about some insignificant moment in life as an incredible event), photos, videos. The appearance of audiovisual text, when a blogger makes a video about his life, hobbies, while commenting on his actions, emotions, experiences, helps to expand the usual boundaries of the text. The presence of feedback and comments of communicants make the text multidimensional, polythematic, deep and non-finite continuum.

Language compression can be called one of the leading principles of text organization in the Internet space. So, in order to create a post on the Twitter service, the user must fit his thought into 280 characters, which is far from always possible. Such a compact way of transmitting information is the so-called "phonetic writing", which is based on the identification of the graphic spelling of words with their sound.

"Linguistic Encyclopedic Dictionary" offers the following definition: "an abbreviation (Italian *abbreviatura*, from Latin *abbrevio* - I cut) - a noun consisting of truncated words included in the original phrase, or from truncated components of the original compound word" (Martinet, A.)

In general, the process of formation of abbreviations can be defined as the replacement of any linguistic expression (word, phrase) in oral or written speech with a shorter unit based on the material of the first expression and with the preservation of the general semantic content. Abbreviation from the point of view of the theory of word formation is interpreted ambiguously by many linguists. The question of how true it is to consider abbreviation as one of the ways of word formation remains not fully resolved. The term “word-manufacturing” is often used to denote the process of creating new vocabulary units using the abbreviation technique. As D.I.Alekseev rightly notes, “the abbreviation method of word formation is the most subjective, the most artificial among all the methods known to the language” (Alekseev, D. I.).

According to the norms of the language, the meaning of the abbreviation completely coincides with the meaning of the unabbreviated form. However, this statement can only be applied to a part of the abbreviations. Most of the abbreviated units are formed and function according to special rules. For example, depending on how an abbreviation or abbreviation is written, its meaning may change. Very often, the meanings of abbreviations and abbreviations and their full forms do not match, although they differ graphically only in that they are written in uppercase or lowercase letters. In some cases, such confusion leads to misunderstanding or serious semantic errors. There are certain patterns by which abbreviations can undergo various shifts compared to the meaning of full forms. For example, if the full form denotes a process, the abbreviation can take on the meaning of a device, a device that uses this process. It is important to note that “many abbreviated units are the only real expression of a particular concept. The full (expanded) form in these cases is not the original one, and on the contrary, it itself is selected in accordance with the structure of the reduction” (Nikishina, S.A.).



Following S. O. Barinova, we single out graphic and lexical abbreviated units. "Graphic abbreviation exists and is used only in written speech, while lexical abbreviation, having an outwardly expressed meaning, is an established linguistic unit and can be used both in written and oral speech" (Barinova, S. O.). Taking into account the peculiarities of virtual communication, we found that graphic abbreviations prevail over lexical ones. 90% of the examples we studied contained graphic abbreviations. We have identified 4 subtypes of graphic abbreviations: sigils, suspensions, contractures, phonoidograms. Among lexical abbreviations, we distinguish 3 types: syllabic, compound syllabic and initial units. Let's consider how abbreviations function in virtual communication using specific examples.

In these examples, we see the borrowing of abbreviations from the English language: "лол" - "lol" - "laughing out loud" (Russian analogue - "ржунимагу"), "рофл" - "rofl" - "rolling on the floor laughing" ("катаюсь по полу от смеха"), "имхо" - "imho" - "in my humble opinion" ("помоему скромному мнению"). These abbreviations in their structure are phrase sigils - one of the most used types of abbreviations in Telegram.

In this example, "спс" - "спасибо" and "крч" - "короче" - contractures are consonant graphic abbreviations obtained from consonant letters of words. The user uses the word "крч" in an attempt to quickly and concisely talk about what worries him. This contraction performs an emotionally expressive function. "Спс" replaces the particle "спасибо" and also helps the communicant express his emotions, in this case - irritation and discontent, even some irony. The abbreviation "мак" from "Макдоналдс" is a lexical syllabic abbreviation. In this sentence, it acts as an adverb of a place and performs a nominative function, naming a well-known fast food restaurant.

In the course of the study, it was revealed that in the Russian and English languages Telegram segment, users almost never use such a type of graphic abbreviations as phonideograms. This situation may be related to the fact that there are very few words in the Russian language, parts of which are consonant with the pronunciation of numbers and symbols.

The subject matter of the abbreviations used in Telegram varies. Users use this social network for various reasons: someone wants to talk about the past day, someone wants to find new friends or those who are interested in similar games, music, etc. It is very easy to find a communicator who is a member of a particular fandom - a community that includes fans of a particular literary work, musical group or movie.

a) Abbreviation using numbers and letters. This method is based on replacing words or their parts with similar pronunciation of some numbers and letters. Such an abbreviation group is rarely used in Russian and English languages, but still there are examples for this type of abbreviation: 05-опять, 7я-семья, 4то-что, Что случилось 5?, Нуи 4то or in English language you can find 8L3W-Eight letters, three words (I love you), 2NITE- tonight, 121-one to one and etc..

b) Reduction through the removal of letters. In this case, letters, both vowels and consonants, are removed from the word. Пж- пож-пожалуйста, Спс(сп)-спасибо, Пок-



пока, Встр-встреча, Помоги мне Пж., Я так жду эту встр., Я спать. Пок.. and in English SRY-sorry, RLY-really

c) Abbreviations through the use of incomplete words. A group that is used to abbreviate words referring to family members by moving from full to incomplete words. Бро-брат, Ма-мама, Ба-бабушка, Ксю-Ксюша, Ма, где мой телефон?,Ксю, ты придешь?, Тём ты щас за ПК? And in English language PAW (Parents are watching), ZZZ – Sleeping, bored, tired

d) Reduction (Reduction) This is the most unusual way of reducing in Russian and English. Reduction (a linguistic term) is the loss of the length of a vowel in a word or the loss of a distinct sound of consonants, and the faster the rate of speech, the more significant the reduction. Сейчас [щас], Что-[чо], Ощущения –[ощения], Пожалуйста –[пжалста], Чо щас делаешь?, Пжалста, скорее!. In the English language TIL-Until, WED - Wednesday, SUBJ- Subject to, OCT-October

e) Truncation of a part of a word. Фан – фанат, спец – специалист, клави – клавиатура, комент – комментарии, физра – физкультура, общага – обществознание, Ну ты спец!, Комп опять завис!, Какая(по счёту) физра?.

As a result of our study, we found that word formation plays an important role in organizing the linguistic picture of the world of a modern person who is actively involved in society and is in touch 24 hours a day. The new communication environment, due to its special media characteristics, also dictates the features of the construction of the language space. Language compression is one of the leading principles of text organization in the Internet environment. The so-called "phonetic writing" as a compact way of transmitting information contributes to a freer presentation of thoughts and a relaxed nature of communication, which is reflected in non-standard word usage and word creation.

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