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## THE LEXICON OF SOCIAL NETWORKS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK NEW TERMS AND NEOLOGISMS

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**Annotation:** *This article focuses on the study of new words and neologisms that have emerged in English and Uzbek under the influence of social networks. It examines modern lexical units used in online communication, their origins, and their usage in both languages. The paper also highlights how English terms are borrowed into Uzbek as well as how new expressions are formed within the Uzbek language itself. Overall, the article aims to show how social networks contribute to the ongoing development of language.*

**Keywords:** *Social networks, lexicon, neologisms, English language, Uzbek language, borrowing, online communication, modern vocabulary.*

### INTRODUCTION

In recent years, social networks have become an essential part of everyday life, significantly influencing the way people communicate and use language. Platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Telegram, and TikTok have created new spaces for interaction, where users exchange information quickly and informally. As a result, language used in these platforms is constantly evolving and giving rise to new words and expressions. One of the most noticeable changes is the rapid growth of new lexical items, often referred to as neologisms. These new terms are mainly related to online activities, digital communication, and social media culture. Since English is the dominant language of the internet, many of these terms originate in English and later spread to other languages, including Uzbek. Consequently, Uzbek has adopted a number of English-based words while also developing its own expressions to describe social media activities. This article aims to explore the lexicon of social networks in both English and Uzbek, focusing on the emergence of new terms and neologisms. It also examines how these words are formed, borrowed, and adapted, highlighting the dynamic nature of language in the digital age.

#### 1. The role of social networks in modern communication

In today's world, social networks play a very important role in people's daily communication, because they have made it much easier and faster to connect with others. People no longer need to meet face to face or even make phone calls, since they can simply send messages, share posts, or comment online. As a result, communication has become more convenient and more active, especially among young people. Moreover, social networks are not only used for personal communication, but they are also widely used for education, business, and entertainment. For example, students use platforms to share information and learn new things, while businesses use them to promote their products and communicate with customers. In addition, people use social media to express their opinions,

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share their daily life, and stay updated with news. Therefore, social networks have become an essential part of modern society. At the same time, the way people communicate on social networks is quite different from traditional communication. People often use short messages, informal language, and various symbols such as emojis, abbreviations, and slang. Because of this, communication becomes quicker but sometimes less formal. Furthermore, users try to express their ideas in a simple and clear way so that others can easily understand them.<sup>1</sup>

Another important point is that social networks connect people from different countries and cultures, and this leads to the exchange of languages. For instance, many English words are used by Uzbek speakers in online communication, and gradually these words become a part of everyday language. In the same way, new expressions are created within the Uzbek language based on social media usage. In conclusion, social networks have changed the way people communicate in many ways, because they make communication faster, easier, and more interactive. At the same time, they influence language by introducing new words and expressions, which shows that language is constantly developing in the modern digital world. Nowadays, social networks have become one of the most important tools of communication, because they allow people to stay connected anytime and anywhere. In the past, communication was mostly limited to face-to-face conversations or phone calls, however, today people can easily send messages, make video calls, and share information within seconds. Therefore, communication has become not only faster but also more flexible and accessible for everyone.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, social networks have changed the style of communication, since people now prefer short and quick messages instead of long and formal texts. For example, users often write brief comments, use abbreviations, and include emojis to express their feelings more clearly. Because of this, communication becomes more informal and more expressive at the same time. Moreover, people try to save time, so they simplify their language and avoid complex structures, which leads to the creation of new forms of expression.

Furthermore, social networks play a significant role in connecting people from different parts of the world, and as a result, they create a global communication environment. People from different cultures, languages, and backgrounds can easily interact with each other, share ideas, and learn from one another. Consequently, this interaction leads to the mixing of languages, especially the influence of English on other languages, including Uzbek. Many English words are widely used in online conversations, and gradually they become familiar to users.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Blommaert, J. (2020). *Durkheim and the internet: On sociolinguistics and the digital age*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 1–198.

<sup>2</sup> Crystal, D. (2020). *Language and the internet* (3rd ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1–304.

<sup>3</sup> Danet, B., & Herring, S. C. (2020). *The multilingual internet: Language, culture, and communication online*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 1–350.

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At the same time, social networks are not only used for communication but also for spreading information and knowledge. People use them to follow news, participate in discussions, and even study online. For instance, students communicate with teachers, join educational groups, and exchange learning materials through these platforms. In addition, businesses and organizations use social networks to communicate with their audience, promote their services, and build relationships with customers. Another important aspect is that social networks encourage people to be more active in communication, because users can easily share their thoughts, opinions, and experiences. As a result, communication becomes more interactive and dynamic, since people are not only receivers but also creators of content. This creates a new communication culture where everyone can participate and express themselves freely.

In conclusion, social networks have greatly transformed modern communication, because they make it faster, easier, and more interactive. At the same time, they influence the way people use language, as new words, expressions, and communication styles continue to appear. Therefore, it is clear that social networks play a key role in shaping both communication and language in the modern world.<sup>4</sup>

## **2. The concept of lexicon and neologisms in linguistics**

In linguistics, the term *lexicon* refers to the vocabulary of a language, that is, all the words and expressions that people use in communication. It includes not only simple words, but also phrases, idioms, and fixed expressions. In fact, the lexicon is considered one of the most important parts of any language, because without words it is impossible to express ideas, thoughts, and feelings. Therefore, studying the lexicon helps us understand how a language works and how it develops over time. At the same time, the lexicon of a language is not stable, because it is constantly changing and developing. New words appear, some old words disappear, and others change their meaning. This process happens due to different factors, such as social changes, technological progress, and cultural development. As a result, language always adapts to the needs of its speakers, and this makes it flexible and dynamic.

One of the key concepts related to the development of the lexicon is *neologism*, which means a newly created word or expression. Neologisms usually appear when there is a need to name new objects, ideas, or phenomena. For example, with the development of technology and the internet, many new terms have been introduced into everyday language. Words like “blog”, “emoji”, and “online” were once new, but now they are widely used and understood by most people. Moreover, neologisms can be formed in different ways, and each language uses its own methods to create new words. For instance, new words can be formed through borrowing from other languages, combining existing words, adding prefixes

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<sup>4</sup> KhosraviNik, M. (2020). *Social media discourse and critical discourse studies*. London: Routledge, pp. 1–210.

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or suffixes, or even shortening longer expressions. Because of this, the process of word formation becomes very active, especially in modern times.<sup>5</sup>

In addition, not all neologisms remain in the language forever, because some of them are temporary and disappear after a short time. However, others become stable and enter the standard vocabulary. This depends on how often they are used and how useful they are for communication. If a new word is widely accepted by speakers, it becomes a permanent part of the lexicon. In conclusion, the concepts of lexicon and neologisms are closely connected, since the lexicon grows and changes through the creation of new words. This shows that language is not fixed, but always evolving, especially under the influence of modern life and communication.

### **3. New lexical units in English social media language**

In recent years, the English language has been strongly influenced by the rapid development of social networks, and as a result, many new lexical units have appeared. These new words and expressions are mainly connected with online communication, digital activities, and social media culture. Because English is considered the global language of the internet, most new terms are first created and used in English, and then they spread to other languages. One of the most common types of new lexical units in social media is related to user activity. For example, words like “post”, “like”, “share”, “comment”, and “follow” are now widely used in everyday communication. Although some of these words existed before, their meanings have changed or expanded due to social media. Therefore, they have gained new functions and become an important part of online language. In addition, there are many completely new words that did not exist before the rise of social networks. Terms such as “selfie”, “hashtag”, “influencer”, “unfollow”, and “viral” are clear examples of neologisms created by digital culture. These words describe new concepts that appeared with the development of social media, and they are now commonly used by millions of people around the world. Moreover, abbreviations and shortened forms are very popular in English social media language, because users prefer fast and simple communication. For instance, expressions like “LOL” (laugh out loud), “OMG” (oh my God), and “DM” (direct message) are frequently used in chats and comments. As a result, communication becomes quicker, but at the same time more informal. In addition, social media has introduced a large number of completely new terms that did not exist in traditional communication. Words such as “selfie”, “hashtag”, “influencer”, “livestream”, and “unfriend” because of new digital realities, and they are now widely understood by people of different ages and backgrounds. These words help users describe new concepts, and therefore they quickly become popular and widely used.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Seargeant, P., & Tagg, C. (2020). *The language of social media: Identity and community on the internet*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 1–240.

<sup>6</sup> Tagliamonte, S. A. (2020). *Teen talk: The language of adolescents*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1–280.

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Furthermore, English social media language активно uses abbreviations and shortened forms, since users want to communicate faster and more efficiently. For instance, expressions like “LOL”, “BRB” (be right back), and “BTW” (by the way) are commonly used in chats and comments. Because of this, communication becomes quicker and easier, although it may also become less formal and sometimes unclear for those who are not familiar with these forms. Another important point is that creativity plays a big role in the formation of new lexical units, because users часто invent new expressions, combine words, or change their meanings to make communication more interesting. For example, words like “clickbait”, “ghosting”, and “trend” are widely used to describe specific online situations. As a result, the vocabulary of social media continues to grow and change every day.<sup>7</sup>

In conclusion, new lexical units in English social media language appear as a result of technological progress and the need for fast communication, and at the same time, they reflect the creativity of users. Therefore, this process clearly shows that language is живой и постоянно развивается, especially in the context of modern digital communication. Another important feature is the use of slang and creative expressions, which makes online communication more expressive and engaging. People often invent new words or use existing ones in a creative way to attract attention or express emotions. Because of this, social media language is constantly changing and developing. In conclusion, new lexical units in English social media language reflect the influence of technology and modern communication. These words not only make communication easier and faster, but they also show how language adapts to new realities and continues to grow in the digital age.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the analysis of the lexicon of social networks in English and Uzbek clearly shows that language is not a fixed system, but a constantly developing and flexible phenomenon. Social networks have created a new type of communication environment, where speed, simplicity, and creativity play a very important role, and because of this, many new words and expressions continue to appear every day. As a result, both English and Uzbek languages are активно enriched with new lexical units. Furthermore, it is important to note that English has a dominant influence on global digital communication, and therefore most neologisms are first created in English and then spread to other languages. Uzbek, in this process, does not only borrow these terms, but also adapts them according to its own phonetic and grammatical rules, and at the same time creates new expressions using native language resources. Consequently, this shows a combination of external influence and internal development within the Uzbek lexicon.

In addition, the emergence of new lexical units is closely connected with the needs of society, because new technologies, platforms, and forms of interaction require new ways of expression. Social networks encourage users to communicate more actively, and therefore people constantly simplify, shorten, and modify language in order to make communication faster and more effective. Because of this, abbreviations, slang, and informal expressions

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<sup>7</sup> Androutsopoulos, J. (2021). Mediatization and sociolinguistic change. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, pp. 1–260.

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have become a natural part of everyday language. Another important aspect is that not all new words remain in the language permanently, since some of them are used only for a short period of time, while others become stable and enter the standard vocabulary. This process depends on how frequently the words are used and how useful they are in communication. Therefore, only the most relevant and widely accepted neologisms continue to exist and develop further. Moreover, social networks not only introduce new vocabulary, but they also influence the way people think, communicate, and express their ideas. Communication has become more interactive and global, and as a result, languages are coming closer to each other. This leads to the mixing of linguistic elements and the formation of new hybrid expressions, especially in multilingual societies.

To sum up, social networks have a powerful impact on the development of language, particularly on its lexicon, because they constantly generate new words, change existing meanings, and shape modern communication styles. Therefore, it can be concluded that the process of lexical development will continue in the future, and both English and Uzbek will keep evolving under the influence of digital communication and globalization.

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