

Concepts of Term and Terminology: Linguistic Approaches (On the Example of The Transport Field)

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Abstract: This article examines the terms and terminology system related to transport engineering from a linguistic perspective. Using analytical-descriptive and comparative methods, English, Russian, and Uzbek transport-related terms are compared to identify their morphological, semantic, pragmatic, and cognitive characteristics. The study focuses on the adaptation of loanwords, translation challenges, and compliance with international standards. The linguistic analysis of terms contributes to improving terminological normalization, systematization, and effective technical communication in the field of transport engineering.

Keywords: Transport terminology, linguistic approach, terminology, morphological analysis, semantics, cognitive linguistics, translation, term system, technical thinking, borrowing.

Introduction: When discussing the role of terms within the language system, it is essential to consider their communicative, nominative, and cognitive functions. First and foremost, terms serve the function of nominating a specific concept. This nomination arises directly from social needs—that is, whenever a new technology, discovery, or phenomenon emerges, a corresponding term is created. From this perspective, terminological systems are considered dynamic structures—they are constantly being updated, enriched, and, in some cases, become obsolete and fall out of active use.

The linguist A. A. Reformatsky, in his research on terminology, states: “Terms are the language of science. Without terms, clarity and consistency in the system of knowledge cannot be maintained.” This idea emphasizes not only the lexical significance of terms but also their role as primary tools for expressing conceptual knowledge systems.

Moreover, the German linguist E. Wüster is recognized as one of the pioneers in establishing terminology as an independent discipline. In his works, he emphasized the importance of standardizing terms, especially in technical and industrial fields, and stressed the significance of using unified terms for global cooperation. Wüster’s approach serves as a

fundamental theoretical basis for the development of modern terminological systems.

In Uzbek linguistics as well, various studies have been conducted on terminology. For example, scholars such as A. Madvaliev, A. Komilov, and N. Mahmudov have discussed issues related to terminological lexicography, translation, and the process of nationalization of terms. A. Madvaliev recommends adhering to criteria such as semantic equivalence, contextual clarity, and phonetic correspondence when translating terms. These criteria are especially important when adapting international technical terms into the Uzbek language. [1,2]

If we focus on terms related to transport engineering, we can observe that a significant portion of them have been borrowed from Russian and English. Terms such as “dvigatel,” “carburetor,” “generator,” “transmission,” and “suspension” belong directly to the language of technology and are often used in Uzbek either in their original form or through phonetic adaptation. However, in some cases, the same term may appear in two or three different variants, which highlights the need for proper standardization of terminology.

Another important issue in terminology is the problem of equivalence. To accurately translate terms between language pairs, it is necessary to identify semantic

equivalence. For example, the English term “powertrain” is translated into Uzbek as “kuch uzatish tizimi” (power transmission system), but this translation may not fully encompass the technical nuances. Therefore, when translating, it is important to take into account the technological content specific to the field, the context in which the term is used, and the needs of the user.

The sociolinguistic aspect of terminology also deserves special attention. Every term is formed within a particular socio-cultural environment, and as such, is closely linked to the social layers of the language. For instance, there may be a difference between the terms used by specialists in technical fields and the terminology understood by the general public. This situation requires the adaptation of methodological approaches, especially in teaching professional English or Uzbek language instruction.

In conclusion, although terms are a part of the language, they constitute a distinct area of study within linguistics that requires specialized approaches. Today, in technical fields—particularly in transport engineering—the creation of new terms, their proper adaptation into Uzbek, the development of scientific-technical dictionaries, and the analysis of terms based on modern linguistic approaches are of great scientific and practical importance. [1]

METHODS

In this study, to linguistically analyze the terminology related to the field of transport engineering, analytical-descriptive and comparative-typological methods were employed. Using the analytical-descriptive method, the internal structure, semantic load, sources of formation, and contextual usage of transport-related terms were identified. Through the comparative approach, transport terminology in English, Russian, and Uzbek was compared, and the methods of borrowing, translation strategies, and semantic differences were analyzed. [2]

To determine the linguistic characteristics of terms, morphological-grammatical, semantic, pragmatic, and cognitive analysis approaches were applied. During the research, the theoretical perspectives of both foreign and local linguists on terminology, including the works of R. Reiß, T. S. Kabanova, V. P. Danilenko, Sh. R. Qorayev, G'. Sh. Rahmatullayeva, and others, served as a scientific foundation. [3]

The terms were collected from domain-specific texts such as technical documents, textbooks, international standards (ISO, GOST), scientific articles, and literature intended for specialists. In addition, linguistic corpora and lexical sources were utilized. [4]

RESULTS

As a result of the study, the following significant linguistic findings were made regarding the terminology of transport engineering:

- Terms possess a socio-demand-driven nature, as they are created in response to societal needs and ensure the rapid exchange of information in technical fields. Transport-related terms are expressed in a clear and concise form and serve as an effective communication tool among specialists.

- Through linguistic approaches, characteristic features of the structural composition of terms were identified: compound words, abbreviations, word combinations, and units based on international terminology are widely used in transport terminology.

- A large portion of transport-related terms in the Uzbek language are borrowed from English and Russian, having been integrated into the language system through phonetic and morphological adaptation. For example, terms such as *dvigatel*, *transmissiya*, and *kuzov* are borrowed from Russian, while *airbag* and *ABS* are derived from English.

- In the creation of new terms, factors such as semantic clarity, the term's ability to precisely express a concept, its contextual appropriateness, and its compatibility with the existing terminological system are defined as crucial. At the same time, due to the lack of Uzbek equivalents for some terms, translation and calque methods are being applied. [5]

DISCUSSION

The research findings demonstrate that studying terms and terminological systems through linguistic approaches is a pressing issue in modern linguistics, allowing for a deeper understanding of the interconnection between language and science. Transport-related terminology constitutes a distinct lexical-semantic system, which can be analyzed from a structural-linguistic perspective in terms of grammar and morphology, and from a semantic approach in terms of meaning layers.

The cognitive approach, in turn, helps uncover the relationship between transport terminology and human thought and knowledge models. For example, concepts like fuel efficiency carry not only technical but also ecological and economic connotations. [6]

In the process of translation, the problem of equivalence is especially critical. In some cases, complex transport-related terms lack clear equivalents in Uzbek, requiring them to be expressed through conceptual explanations. However, this can negatively affect terminological consistency and precise communication among specialists. [7]

If terms are not systematized and standardized, it can lead to confusion in scientific and practical activities. Therefore, at the national level, it is necessary to coordinate technical terminology, publish specialized dictionaries, and ensure collaboration between experts and linguists.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that the terminology related to transport engineering is a complex system that requires in-depth analysis not only from a technical but also from a linguistic perspective. The accuracy of these terms, their degree of international equivalence, semantic stability, and contextual usage directly influence the development of the field.

Linguistic research plays an essential role in stabilizing terminological systems and applying them in practice. This, in turn, serves as a decisive factor in improving the quality of scientific and technical communication that supports the development of modern transport systems. [8]

In the future, systematizing transport-related terminology in electronic formats, integrating them into modern educational curricula, and standardizing their use in multilingual environments will become important scientific and practical tasks. [9]

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