

The Evolution of Terminology

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Abstract: This article provides a comparative analysis of the development stages of modern terminology theory, focusing particularly on the frameworks proposed by Auger and Leychik. It examines the distinct characteristics, periodization, and methodological differences between the international model by Auger and Leychik's Russian linguistic perspective. Through a clear tabular presentation, the paper highlights essential theoretical contributions and identifies key differences, offering insights into their relevance within contemporary linguistic research.

Keywords: Terminology, Auger's model, comparative analyses, linguistic theory, diversity, historical stages, venerated.

Introduction: It is well known that contemporary schools of linguistics exhibit considerable diversity. Scholars around the world continue to explore new dimensions and emerging disciplines within the field. Among this diversity, the field of terminology stands out as a distinct and noteworthy area of study.

According to various scholars, the development of terminology as a scientific discipline encompasses several historical stages, each characterized by specific methodological approaches and scholarly orientations [1]

METHOD

In, Ancient Rome, terminus referred to stone markers used to delineate and define land boundaries. These stones were dedicated to the God Terminus, who was venerated as the divine protector of borders. Every year on February 23, a festival known as Terminalia was held, during which offerings were made to this deity. During the celebration, neighboring landowners would decorate the boundary stones with garlands, construct simple altar, and offer sacrifices as grain, honey, wine, and lamb or piglet. These rituals and described in Ovid's work Fasti [2].

During the Renaissance period, advancements in science and technology led to the emergence of new concepts and terms, and particularly in the process of writing and translating scientific woks in Latin, the issues of standardizing ans systematizing terminology

became increasingly significant [3].

In the technological revolution that followed this era, the need for specialized terminology grew considerably. Evidently, precise and systematically organized terminology became recognized as a vital branch of linguistics. Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, rapid developments in science and technology resulted in the creation of a large number of new terms, with fields such as chemistry, physics, and biology establishing their distinct terminological frameworks [4].

Modern terminology science emerged as a distinct academic discipline during the 1930s, primarily through the pioneering work of Austrian linguist Eugen Wuster in Vienna. Wuster's doctoral dissertation, published in 1931, laid a systematic foundation for the field emphasizing the importance of organizing methods for managing terminological data to enhance clarity and precision in scientific and technical discourse. He argued convincingly for the necessity of standardizing terms to eliminate ambiguity and ensure effective communication within specialized domains.

Wüster developed key principles for regulating terminological activities, which included clarity, consistency, comprehensiveness, and systematicity. His methodological contributions established a structured framework for processing terminological information, thereby significantly influencing

subsequent developments in lexicography, terminography, and applied linguistics.

According to Rondeau (1983), during this initial period, Wüster predominantly concentrated on methodological issues and the standardization of terminology, viewing terminology primarily as a practical instrument essential for facilitating clear and efficient scientific communication. Only later did Wüster develop a broader theoretical interest in terminology, contributing substantially to the establishment of the field known today as General Theory of Terminology.

The principles and approaches formulated by Wüster continue to underpin modern terminology studies, and his influence extends to contemporary standardization efforts, notably through his involvement in developing international standards such as ISO (International Organization for Standardization) terminological guidelines [5].

At the opening of the 1975 Infoterm Symposium, Eugen Wüster identified four prominent scholars as foundational figures in the theory of terminology. These included the German scholar A. Schloman, who was among the first to systematically explore the characteristics of specialized terms; the Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure, recognized for initially emphasizing the systematic nature of language; the Russian scientist Ernst Drezen, who underscored the importance of standardization and was a key initiator of the International Standardization Association (ISA); and the English expert J.E.Holmstrom, who actively promoted international terminological standards through UNESCO and was the first to highlight the need for an international organization dedicated to addressing terminological issues [5].

Based on Auger (1988), four main stages in the development of modern terminology can be distinguished as follows;

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

1. Initial Formation Stage (1930-1960)

During this period, the initial theoretical and methodological foundations of terminology began to take shape. Due to the methods proposed by the Austrian engineer and linguist Eugen Wüster, terminology acquired its preliminary basis as an

academic discipline. Wüster emphasized terminology as a crucial tool for eliminating misunderstandings and ambiguities arising in scientific and technical communication.

2. Period of Formation as an Independent Discipline (1960-1975)

This stage marks the consolidation of terminology as a distinct scientific discipline. During this period, methodological foundations for analyzing terms were established, conceptual structures of specialized notions were developed, and principles of terminological classification were formulated. As a result, the theoretical and structural framework of terminology as a separate field of study was clarified and strengthened.

3. The Period of Active Development (1975-1985)

During this period, terminology achieved widespread international recognition, significantly enhancing the scope and effectiveness of international organizations such as Infoterm. Efforts to standardize and codify terms intensified at the international level, resulting in a considerable expansion of terminographic activities.

4. Period of Integration and contemporary development (from 1985 to the present)

Currently, the science of terminology reflects interdisciplinary integration processes, evolving significantly through digital technologies and information communication systems. Electronic resources, corpus linguistics, and artificial intelligence technologies are creating new opportunities for the advancement of terminology. Simultaneously, terminology has become an essential communicative tool not only in scientific and technical fields but also in cultural, social, political, and tourism domains [6].

As we can observe, the linguist Auger categorized the development of terminology into four distinct stages. However, another prominent linguist, V.M.Leychik, also made significant contributions to this field. Leychik similarly divided the evolution of terminology into four stages, yet these stages differ in their naming conventions as well as their chronological frameworks. These differences are clearly illustrated in the provided comparative table.

Comparative development stages of terminology by Russian and western terminology schools

Period	Russian terminology school	Western terminology school
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Stage 1	<i>Preparatory Stage (1780-1920);</i> Initial efforts in coining and editing terms; first national terminological dictionaries appeared.	<i>Origins (1930-1960);</i> Emergence of modern terminology theory.
Stage 2	<i>First stage (1930-1960);</i> Foundations terminological theory:	<i>Structuring of the field (1960-1975);</i> Establishing principles, classifications, and methodology.
Stage 3	<i>Second stage (1970-1980);</i> terminology recognized as an independent field; monographs, dissertations, and terminological dictionaries emerged.	<i>Boom (1975-1985);</i> rise of international organizations like infiterm; widespread codification and standardization.
Stage 4	<i>Third stage (late 1980s onward)</i> scientific maturity; deeper theoretical development of terminology.	<i>Expansion (1985- present);</i> interdisciplinary growth, integration with technology and corpus linguistics.

The above table provides a comparative analysis of the development stages of terminology according to Wuster's international model and Leychik's Russian model. While Wuster's framework emphasizes standardization and international collaboration, Leychik's approach highlights the development of terminological dictionaries and the deeper theoretical foundations of the discipline.

CONCLUSION

In summary, modern terminology has evolved through several developmental stages, initially emerging in the early 20th century with foundational theoretical and methodological principles aimed at ensuring clear and efficient communication within scientific and technical domains. Subsequently, it solidified its status as an independent academic discipline by establishing structured methods for term analysis and classification. Later, international collaboration intensified, resulting in extensive standardization and systematization of terms on a global scale. Currently, terminology continues to advance, driven by digital innovations, interdisciplinary integration, and the growing use of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence,

thereby broadening its communicative role across various fields beyond purely scientific contexts.

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