

LEXICAL AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF NEOLOGISMS IN MODERN UZBEK LANGUAGE

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Abstract: *This article examines the lexical and semantic features of neologisms in the modern Uzbek language, as well as the factors influencing their formation and their role in society. The study analyzes how neologisms emerge based on lexical renewal and semantic changes in the vocabulary of the language. In addition, the specific meanings of neologisms and their functional roles in speech are discussed.*

Keywords: *neologism, lexical features, semantics, modern Uzbek language, language development.*

Language is a living system that actively adapts to changes in society. New concepts and phenomena that arise during social development necessitate the emergence of new units in the lexical system of a language. Such units are called neologisms. In the modern form of the Uzbek language, neologisms possess distinctive lexical and semantic characteristics and play an important role in the process of language development. The rapid development of the modern world, advances in information technologies, and processes of cultural exchange significantly influence the formation of neologisms and their lexical-semantic changes. For this reason, the study of the lexical and semantic aspects of neologisms is considered a relevant and pressing issue in linguistics. According to Hojiyev, neologisms are words or expressions created to denote new objects or concepts that have not yet become conventional lexical units. For example, the words “kosmodrom” (cosmodrome) and “fazogir” (astronaut) were neologisms during the initial stages of space exploration but later became commonly used words. Neologisms represent lexically new or semantically renewed words and terms. In Uzbek, they emerge through the internal word-formation mechanisms of the language as well as through borrowings from foreign languages. In addition, the expansion of meanings of existing words also contributes to the emergence of neologisms. From a semantic perspective, neologisms primarily serve to denote new concepts and phenomena accurately. Their meanings are often context-dependent or domain-specific, forming new semantic layers. For instance, the word “platforma” (platform) initially had a geological meaning, whereas today it is widely used in the fields of the Internet and digital technologies. Neologisms

differ across various lexical categories: some have a terminological character, while others are actively used in general speech. Their stylistic range is broad, appearing in scientific, official, and colloquial styles.

The formation of neologisms depends on multiple factors. New units are created through the internal resources of the language, particularly word-formation processes, such as “raqamlashtirish” (digitalization) and “yangilanish” (renewal). At the same time, borrowings from languages such as English and Russian—“startup,” “online,” “blog”—have become widespread. Neologisms spread rapidly in speech, especially among young people, and are actively used in the fields of culture, technology, and politics. Their usage contributes to language development and enriches the vocabulary.

In conclusion, neologisms serve as an important indicator of lexical and semantic enrichment and development in the modern Uzbek language. They function as effective means for expressing new concepts and phenomena. A thorough study of the formation of neologisms and their lexical-semantic features remains highly relevant for linguistics and helps to achieve a deeper understanding of language development.

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