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Introduction.

Development of a science as a whole and a linguistic science, in particular is connected not only to the decision of actually scientific problems, but also with features internal and foreign policy of the state, the maintenance of the state educational standards which are to the generators of progress providing social, economic society. It forms the society capable quickly to adapt in the modern world¹. Conditions of reforming of all education system the question of the world assistance to improvement of quality of scientific-theoretical aspect of educational process is especially actually put. As President I.A.Karimov has declared in the program speech “Harmoniously development of generation a basis of progress of Uzbekistan”; “... all of us realize, that achievement of the great purposes put today before us, noble aspirations it is necessary for updating a society, today when we celebrating the 23th anniversary of the National Independence of our Motherland”. The effect and destiny of our reforms carried out in the name of progress and the future, results of our intentions are connected with highly skilled, conscious staff the experts who are meeting the requirements of time².

The theme of my qualification work sounds as following: “ Polyfunctional meanings of abbreviation in English”. Abbreviation (from Latin brevis "short") is strictly a shorter form of a word, but more particularly, an abbreviation is a letter or group of letters, taken from a word or words, and employed to represent them for the sake of brevity. For example, the word "abbreviation" can be abbreviated as "abbr." or "abbrev." This qualification work can be characterized by the following:

The actuality of the work revealed by several important points. We seem to say that the abbreviations are one of the main trends in development of Modern English,

¹ И.А.Каримов Гармонично развитое поколение-основа прогресса Узбекистана. Ташкент. IWX.ерп. 156-168

² Каримов И.А. Наша высшая цель –независимость и процветание Родины, свобода и благополучие народа// Доклад на первой сессии ОлийМажлиса Республики Узбекистан второго созыва от 22.01.2000.-Т.: Узбекистан.2000.Т.8.-С.322-340.

especially in its colloquial layer, which, in its turn at high degree is supported by development of modern informational technologies and simplification of it in common speech.

The main aim of this qualification paper is that we aimed to reveal the main peculiarities of the abbreviations in Modern English.

So the significance of our work can be proved by the following tasks:

- a) to investigate the abbreviations as one of the developing branches of lexicology.
- b) to analyze abbreviations reflect the general trend of simplification of a language.
- c) to study abbreviations' closely connection with the development of modern informational technologies.
- d) being a developing branch of linguistics it requires a special attention of teachers to be adequated to their specialization in English.

The material includes:

1. Different types of dictionaries.
2. The scientific literature on Lexicology, Etymology, Historical Linguistics, Typology, Stylistics.

The object of investigation in our qualification is abbreviations as a source of enriching the English vocabulary.

The subject matter of this qualification paper is to study the function of abbreviations in Modern English.

The novelty of the qualification paper is that word-formation by abbreviations in English language is for the first time under the discussion as a special qualification paper. The material of this qualification paper is taken from the dictionaries and literature on Lexicology.

The practical significance of the work can be concluded in the following items:

- a) The work could serve as a good source of learning English by young teachers at schools and colleges.
- b) The lexicologists could find a lot of interesting information for themselves.

c) Those who would like to communicate with the English-speaking people through the Internet will find abbreviations of chats in our qualification work.

Theoretical value of the research work is that the results of the research lectures, seminars and lexicology.

The structure of this qualification paper includes: Introduction, Chapter I, Chapter II, Chapter III, Conclusion and Bibliography.

Introduction states the actuality, purposes, tasks and scientific and practical value of the work.

Chapter I II and III are the main part of the work which includes the theory and practice of the work.

In Chapter I we studied the word formation as a brunch of Lexicology. Also, there we tried to investigate the origin, types, and problems of forming words.

In Chapter II we investigated the main characteristics and historical background of Abbreviations.

In Chapter III we worked with classification of the groups of abbreviations, and the main differences between them.

Conclusion deals with the theoretical and practical results of a paper. The source deals with the list of literature used in paper. While writing present qualification paper we used the books written by great scholars such as: The English Word by Arnold I.V, A Course of Lexicology by Ginzburg R.S, A Course of lexicology by Buronov J.B. Besides above mentioned literatures we took information from Internet, Work Book Encyclopedia.

Chapter I

Word-formation as a subject of study

1.1. Word-formation as a branch of lexicology

Word-formation is the system of derivative types of words and the process of creating new words from the material available in the language after certain structural and semantic formulas and patterns. For instance, the noun *driver* is formed after the pattern V+-er, i.e. a verbal stem +the noun forming suffix –er. The meaning of the derived noun *driver* is related to the meaning of the stem *drive* – “to direct the course of a vehicle” and the suffix –er meaning “an active agent: a driver is one who is drives(a carriage, motorcar, railway engine etc)”. Likewise compound resulting from two or more stem joined together to form a new word are also built on a quite definite structural and semantic patterns and formulas, for instance the adjectives of the snow-white type are built according to the formula n+a, etc. It can easily be observed that the meaning of the whole compound is also related to the meaning of the component parts. The structural patterns with the semantic relations they signal give rise to regular new creation of derivatives, e.g *sleeper*, *giver*, *smiler*, or *soat black*, *tax free*, etc³.

In conformity with the structural types of the words described above the following two types of word-formation may be distinguished, word-derivation and word-composition (or compounding). Words created by word-derivation have in terms of word-formation analysis only one derivational base and one derivational affix, e.g *cleanness* (from *clean*), *to overestimate* (from *to estimate*), *chairmanship* (from *chairman*), *openhandedness* (from *open handed*), etc. Some derived words have no derivational affixes, because derivation is achieved troughed conversion, e.g *paper* (from *paper*), *a fall* (from *to fall*), etc. Words created by word-composition

³ Dubenets E M “Modern English Lexicology” 2004 p.16

have at least two bases, e.g. lamp-shade, ice-cold, looking-glass, daydream, hotbed, speedometer, etc. The basic ways of forming word in word-derivation are affixation, conversion, compounding and shortening. It should be noted that the understanding of word-formation as expounded here excludes semantic word-building as well as shortening. By semantic some linguists understand any change in word-meaning, e.g. stock- “the lower part of the trunk of a tree”, “something lifeless or stupid”, “a part of an instrument that serves as a base”, etc. bench- “a long seat of wood or stone”, “a carpenters table”, etc. The majority of linguists, however, understand this process only as a change in the meaning of a word that may result in the appearance of the homonyms, as is the case with flower -“a blossom” and flour -“the fine meal”, “powder made from wheat and used for making bread”, magazine- “the chamber for cartridges in a gun or rifle”, etc.

The application of the term word-formation to the process of semantic change and to the appearance of homonyms due to the development of polysemy seems to be debatable for the following reasons: as semantic change does not, as a rule, lead to the introduction of a new word into the vocabulary, it can scarcely be regarded as a word-building means. Neither can we consider the process a word-building means even when an actual enlargement of the vocabulary does come about through the appearance of a pair of homonyms. Actually the appearance of homonyms is not means of creating new words but it is the final result of a long and laborious process of sense development. Furthermore, there are no patterns after which homonyms can be made in the language. Finally, diverging sense development results in a semantic isolation of two or more meanings of a word. Whereas the process of word formation proper is characterized by a certain semantic and the source lexical unit. For these reasons diverging sense development leading to the appearance of two or more homonyms should be regarded as a specific channel through which the vocabulary of the language is replenished with new words and should not be treated on a part with the process of word formation, such as conversion, affixation, and

composition. The shortening of the words also stand a part from the above two fold division of the word formation. It cannot be regarded as a word composition for the simple reason neither the derivational affixes can be singled out from the shortened word. Not there are derivational patterns new shortened words could be formed on by the speaker. Consequently the shortening of the words could not be regarded as a way of word formation on a par with derivation and compounding. For the same reason, such ways of coining words as acronyms, blending, lexicalization and some others should not be treated as a means of word formation. Strictly speaking, they are all, together with shortening, specific means of replenishing the vocabulary different in principles from affixation, conversion and compounding. What is said above especially true, of sound and stress interchange. Both sound and stress interchange may be regarded as a ways of forming words only diachronically because in Modern English not single word can be coined by changing the root vowel of a word or by shifting the place of the stress. Sound-interchange as well as stress-interchange in fact has turned into a means of distinguishing primarily between words of different parts of speech and as such is rather wide spread in Modern English, e.g.

sing-song,

to live-life,

strong-strength

It also distinguishes between different word formation, eg

Wife-wives

To know-knew

To leave- left

Sound interchange falls into groups: vowel-interchange and consonant-interchange.

By vowel-interchange we distinguish different parts of speech, e.g.

Full- to fill

Food – to feed

Blood – to bleed

In some cases vowel interchange is combined with affixation, e.g.

Long – length

Strong – strength

Broad – breadth

Intrusive verbs and corresponding transitive ones with a causative meaning also display vowel-interchange, e.g.

To rise – to raise

To sit – to set

To lie – to lay

To fall – to fell

The type of consonant – interchange typical of Modern English is interchange a voiceless fricative consonant is a noun and corresponding voiced consonant in the corresponding verb, e.g.

Use – to use

Mouth – to mouth

House – to house

Advise – to advise

There are some particular cases of consonant- interchange, e.g.

To speak – speech

To break – breach

Defence –to defend

Offence – to offend

Evidence – to evident

Importance – important

Consonant interchange may be combined with vowel – interchange, e.g.

Bath- to bathe

Breath – to breathe

Life – to live

Many English verbs of Latin- French origin are distinguished from the corresponding nouns by the position of stress. Here are some well known examples of such pairs of words.

Export (n) – to export (v)

Import (n)- to import (v)

Conduct (n) – to conduct (v)

Stress interchange is not restricted to pairs of words consisting of a noun and verb., e.g.

Absent (n) – to absent (v)

1.2. The origin of the word-formation

As early as a 1876, Henry Sweet had written: Word formation – the process of forming words by combining root and affixal morphemes according to a certain patterns specific for the language (affixation, composition) or without any outward means of word formation (conversion, semantic derivation). Word formation as a branch of science of the language, which studies the pattern son which a language forms new lexical items.

Before history must come a knowledge of what exist. We must learn to observe things as they are, without regard to their origin, just as a zoologist must learn to describe accurately horse or any other animal. Nor would the mere statements a modern horse is a descendent of a three toed marsh quadruped be accepted as an exhausted description... Such however is course being pursued by most antiquarian philologist. The most influential scholar concerned with the new linguistics was Ferdinand de Saussure, who emphasized the distinction between external linguistics- the study of the effect on a language of the history and the culture of the speakers, and the internal linguistics – the study of the system rules⁴. Language studied synchronically, as a system of elements definable in relation to one another, must be

⁴ Arnold I V “The English Word” M High school 1986 p 143-149

seen as a fixed state of affairs at a particular point of time. It was internal linguistics, stimulated by the Saussure's works, that was the main concern of the twentieth century scholars, and within it there could be no place for the study of the study of the formation of the words., with its close connection with the external world and its implications of constant change. Any discussion of new formations as such means the abandonment of the strict distinction between history and the present moment. As Harris expressed in his influential *Structural Linguistics* : “The method of descriptive linguistics cannot be tread of the productivity of the elements since that is a measure of the difference between our corpus and some future corpus of the language”. Leonard Bloomfield, whose book *Language* was the next work of the major influence after that of de Saussure, re –emphasized the necessity of the scientific approach and consequent difficulties in the way of studying “meaning” and until the middle of the nineteen-fiftieth, interest was centered on the isolating of minimal segments of speech, the description of their distribution relative to one another, and their organization into larger units. The fundamental unit of the grammar was not the word but a smaller unit, the morpheme.

The next major change of emphasis in linguistics was marked by the publication in 1957 of Noam Chomsky's *Syntactic Structures*⁵. As Chomsky stated it, the aim of the linguistics was now seen to be “to make grammatical explanations parallel in achievement to the behavior of the speaker who, on the basis of a finite and accidental experience with language can produce and understand an indefinite number of new sentences”. The idea of productivity, or creativity, previously excluded from linguists, or discussed in the term of probabilities in the effort to maintain the view of the language as existing in a static state, was seen to be of central importance. But still word-formation remained a topic neglected by linguists, and for several good reasons.

⁵ Noam Avram C “Syntactic Structures”. Berlin 1957

The ability to make and understand new words is obviously as much a part of our linguistic competence as the ability to make and understand new sentences, and so, as Pennanen points out², “it is an obvious gap in transformational grammar not to have made provision for treating word-formation”. But, as we have already noticed, we may readily think of words, like *to piano* and *to violin*, against which we can invoke no rule, but which are definitely ‘unacceptable’ for no obvious reason. The incongruence of grammaticality and acceptability that is, is far greater where words are concerned than where sentences are concerned. It is so great, in fact, that the exercise of setting out the ‘rules’ for forming words has so far seemed to many linguists to be out of the questionable usefulness. The occasions on which we would have to describe the output of such rules as ‘grammatical but non-occurring’ are just too numerous. And there are further difficulties in treating new words like new sentences. A novel word (like *handbook* or *partial*) may attract unwelcome attention to itself and appear to be the result of the breaking of rules rather than of their application. And besides, the more accustomed to the word we become, the more likely we are to find it acceptable, whether or not it is ‘grammatical’ at the time it was formed, since a new word once formed, often becomes merely a member of an inventory; its formation is a historical event, and the ‘rule’ behind it may then appear irrelevant. What exactly is a word? From Lewis Carroll onwards, this apparently simple question has bedeviled countless word buffs, whether they are participating in a game of Scrabble or writing an article for the *Word Ways* linguistic magazine. To help the reader decide what constitutes a word, A. Ross Eckler suggests a ranking of words in decreasing order of admissibility⁶ A logical way to rank a word is by the number of English-speaking people who can recognize it in speech or writing, but this is obviously impossible to ascertain.

Alternatively, one can rank a word by its number of occurrences in a selected sample of printed material. H. Kucera and W. N. Francis’s *Computational Analysis*

⁶ Kucera H & Francis W N “Computational analyses of the present day”

of Present-day English is based on one million words from sources in print in 1961. Unfortunately, the majority of the words in Webster's A detailed, word-by-word ranking is an impossible dream, but a ranking based on classes of words may be within our grasp. Ross Eckler proposes the following classes:

1. Words appearing in one more standard English-language dictionaries
2. Non-dictionary words appearing in print in several different contexts
3. Word invented to fill a specific need and appearing but once print

Most people are willing to admit as a words all uncapitalized, unlabeled entries in, say, Webster's New International Dictionary. Third edition 1961. Intuitively, one recognizes that words become less admissible as they move in any or all of three directions: as they become more frequently capitalized, as they become the jargon of smaller groups (dialect, technical scientific) and they become archaic or obsolete⁷. These classes have no definite boundaries – is a word last used in 1499 significantly more obsolete than a word last used in 1501. Is a word known to 100000 chemists more admissible than a word known 90000 Mexican-Americans? Each linguist will set his own boundaries.

The second class consists of non-dictionary words appearing in print in a number of sources. There are many non-dictionary words in common use some logologists would like to draw a wider circle to include these. Such words can be broadly classified into:

1. Neologisms and common words overlooked by dictionary makers
2. Geographical place names
3. Given names and surnames

1.3. Various types and ways of Forming words

Word-formation is the branch of Lexicology which studies the derivative structure of the existing words and the patterns on which a language, in this case the English language builds new word.

⁷ Jukka Pennanen. "Aspects of Finnish Grammar". Pohjoinen 1972 p 293

Simple words however are very closely connected with the word-formation because they serve as a foundation, the basic source of the parent units motivating all types of the derived and compound words. Therefore words like writer, displace, atom-free not irrelevant to it⁸.

Any account of how words are formed in English should surely begin with an account of how words had their origin in their earlier stages. We must bear in mind that any discussion of words and formations in the earliest period of the language is hampered first of all by fact that we have now material immediately available, for we have no written records of the language: further we do not know with any certainty who the people who spoke the language, where they lived, their state of culture or the time at which they were speaking the languages. As a result, we cannot be sure apart from comparative investigation of the later language, what concrete the objects they had to spare about or how far they were developed mentally so as to be able to think about and make the statement connected with the objects they say: With such scanty material, available any conclusion on the form and development of the words in the earliest period must be based purely upon hypothesis and result of comparative study, and it is not surprising that the scholars are not agreed upon this subject. We may perhaps start the attempt to define components of the words, separating them into free forms, which may occur alone. For example: "black" and "berry" are found in isolation.

If we examine "raspberry" we may at first time it is the same type, for we undoubtedly do have a word "rasp", but although the forms are identical phonetically they are not identically in meaning, and "rasp" is often used colloquially for the both the bush and the fruit. In the case of "bilberry" we are on safer ground, for element "bill" is not found in isolation in English, and is therefore quite definitely a bound form.

⁸ Ginzburg R S et al "A Course in Modern English Lexicology". M. 1979

The available linguistic literature on the subject cites various types and ways of forming words. Books dealing with the problems of the word-formation in the Uzbek, Russian languages, as well as some books on the English Lexicology usually mention morphologic syntactic and semantic types of word-formation⁹.

In conformity with the basic structural types of the stems and words described above the following two types of word-formation may be distinguished: Word derivation (or compounding) – words created by word derivation have only one primary stem and one derivational affix in terms of word-formation analysis for example: cleanliness from clean, to overestimate from estimate, chairmanship from chairman. Some derived words have no affixes, because derivation is achieved through conversion, for instance, to paper from paper.

Words created from word composition have at least two primary stems, for example

Ice-cold

Looking-glass

Day-dream

Besides, there are words built by simultaneous application of the composition and derivation (suffixation and conversion) – derivational compounds, e.g.

Long-legged

Breakdown

Open-minded

The shortening of words apart from the above two-fold division of word-formation. It cannot be regarded as part of either word-derivation or word-composition for the simple reason that neither the root morpheme nor the derivational affix can be singled out from the shortened words.

⁹ Potter S "Modern Linguistics" Lond. 1957

Consequently, the shortening of the words should be made between ways of forming words. The basic ways of forming words in word derivation, for instance, are conversion, affixation, composition¹⁰.

The lexicalization of grammatical forms, sound and stress, interchange and clipped words, backformation, blending, shortening are usually referred to as minor ways of forming words.

In describing the technique of word formation it is important to point out the means by which word-formation is effected. For instance, affixation is characterized by use of suffix and prefix, some cases of compounding by the use of connecting elements.

Another classification of the types of word-formation worked out by it. Marchland is also of interest. Proceeding from the distinction between complete motivation as found in such composite, as

Rain-bow

Do-er

Un-do

And others are partial motivation as exemplified by phonetic symbolism

He considered two major groups.

1. Words formed syntagmas, ie combination of full linguistic signs.
2. Words which are not grammatical syntagmas, ie which are composites not made up full linguistic signs.

To the first group belonged compounding prefixation, derivation by a Zero Morphemes and Back-derivation.

To the second Expressive Symbolism, Blending, Clipping, Rhyme and ablaut Yemination, Word manufacturing.

It is characteristic of group that a new coining is based on a synchronic relationship between morphemes.

¹⁰ Akhmanova O S Lexicology: "Theory and method" M 1972

There are two large classes word building means:

To class I belong the means of building words having one motivation base. To give an English example the noun character is composed of the base catch- and the suffix –er through the combination of which it is morphologically and semantically motivated.

Class II includes the means of building words containing more than one motivating base. Needless to say they are all based on compounding, eg English compounds:

Country-club

Door-handle

Bottle-opener

Word-formation is the system of the derivative types of words and the process of creating new words from the material available in the language after certain structural and semantic formulas and patterns. For instance: the noun driver is formed after the pattern v+er, i.e a verbal stem + the noun forming suffix+er. The meaning of the derived noun driver is related to the meaning of the stem drive- “to direct the course of vehicle” and the suffix –er meaning “an active agent: a driver is one who drives”(a carriage, motorcar, railway).

The basic ways of forming words in word derivation, for instance are affixation and conversion.

By semantic word-building some linguists understand any change of word meaning, eg stock – “the lower part of the trunk of the tree”, bench – a long seat of or stone.

The application of the term word-formation to the process of semantic appearance of homonyms due to the development of polysemy seems to be debatable for the following reasons.

For the same reasons such ways of coining as acronymy.

Blending lexicalization and some others should not be as means of word formation. Strictly speaking they are all together with word shortening specific means of replenishing the vocabulary different in the principles from affixation, conversion, and compounding.

A beautiful designed room can be both relaxing and invigorating. The living room is beautiful designed.

Both sound and stress interchange may be regard as a way of word forming only diachronically, because in Modern English not a single can be coined by changing a root vowel of a word by shifting the place of the stress. Sound-interchange as well as stress-interchange in fact has turned into a means of distinguishing primarily between words of different parts of speech and as such as rather wide spread in Modern English, e.g.¹¹.

To sing-song

To live-life

Strong-stenth

It is also distinguishes between different word forms, e.g.

Man-men

Wife-wives

To know-knew

Sound interchange falls into groups: vowel-interchange and consonant-interchange.

By vowel-interchange we distinguish different parts of speech, e.g.

Full- to fill

Food – to feed

Blood – to bleed

In some cases vowel interchange is combined with affixation, e.g.

Long – length

Strong – strength

¹¹ Htt: /www.yahoo.com/search/

Broad – breadth

Intrusive verbs and corresponding transitive ones with a causative meaning also display vowel-interchange, e.g.

To rise – to raise

To sit – to set

To lie – to lay

To fall – to fell

Like many others linguistic phenomenon word-formation may be studied from two angles synchronically and diachronically. It is necessary to distinguish between these two approaches, for synchronically the linguists investigate the existing system of the types of word-formation while diachronically is concerned with the history of word building. While analyzing and describing word formation synchronically it is not enough to extract the relevant structural elements from a word describe its structure in the term of derivational base.

Some of the ways of forming words in present day English can be resorted to for creation of new words whenever the occasions demands these are called productive ways of forming words, other ways of forming words cannot now produce new words and these are commonly termed non-productive or unproductive. For instance, affixation has been productive way of forming words ever since the Old English period, on the other hand sound interchanging must have been at one time a word building means but in Modern English, as has been mentioned above, its function is actually only to distinguish between different classes and forms of words. The delimitation between productive and non-productive ways and means of word formation as stated above is not accepted by all linguists without reserve. Some linguists consider it necessary to define the term productivity of word building means more accurately. They hold the view that productive ways and means of word-formation are only those can be for the formation of an unlimited number of new word in Modern English. This divergence of opinion is responsible for the difference

in the lists of derivational affixes considered productive in various books English Lexicology.

Three degrees of productivity are distinguished for derivational patterns and individual derivational affixes:

- 1) Highly productive
- 2) Productive or semi productive
- 3) Non productive

1.4. General problems of the theory of the word

The problems associated with the definition of the word have always been most complex and remain disputable. Determining the word involves considerable difficulties for the criteria employed in establishing it are of different character and each language presents a separate system with its own patterns of vocabulary items, its specific types of structural units and its own ways of distinguishing them. The matter is that the simplest word has many different aspects. It has a sound form because it is a certain arrangement of phonemes.

It has its morphological structure, being a certain arrangement of morphemes. Being the central element of any language system, the word is a sort of focus for the problems of phonology, lexicology, syntax, morphology and also some other sciences that have to deal with language and speech, such as philosophy, psychology and probably quite a few other branches of knowledge. All attempts to characterize the word are necessarily specific for each domain of science and are considered one-sided by the representatives of all the other domains and criticized for incompleteness,

The definition of the word from the point of view of philosophy:

Words are not mere sounds but names of matter (T. Hobbes).

The definition of the word from the point of view of physiology:

A word is a universal signal that can substitute any other signal from the environment in evoking a response in a human organism (I. Pavlov).

The definition of the word from the point of view of Machine Mathematical Linguistics:

A word is a sequence of graphemes between two blanks.

The definition of the word from the point of view of syntax:

A word is a minimum sentence (H. Sweet).

A word is a minimum free form (L. Bloomfield).

The definition of the word from the point of view of semantics:

Words are meaningful units (S. Ullmann).

The definition of the word from the point of view of syntax and semantics:

A word is one of the smallest completely satisfying bits of isolated units into which the sentence resolves itself (E. Sapir).

The definition of the word from the point of view of semantics and phonology:

A word is an articulate sound-symbol in its aspect of denoting something which is spoken about (A. Gardiner).

The definition of the word from the point of view of semantics, phonology and grammar:

A word is the association of a given meaning with a given group of sounds susceptible to a given grammatical employment (A. Meillet).

Many scholars have attempted to define the word as a linguistic phenomenon. Yet none of the definitions can be considered totally satisfactory in all aspects. The definition which is a bit extended but takes into account different aspects and hence can be considered optimal is the definition of the word given by I. Arnold:

The word is a speech unit used for the purposes of human communication, materially representing a group of sounds, possessing a meaning, susceptible to grammatical employment and characterized by formal and semantic unity.

The Structure of the Word. Types of Morphemes and their Specific Features.

If viewed structurally, words appear to be divisible into smaller units which are called morphemes. Like a word a morpheme is an association of a given meaning

with a given group of sounds. But unlike a word it is not autonomous. Morphemes occur as constituents of words. But there are quite a lot of words which contain only one morpheme.

The word morpheme is of the Greek origin. Morphe means form, the suffix –eme means the smallest unit¹².

Morphemes can be divided into two main types: free (those that can occur alone) and bound (those which cannot occur alone). The word wool, for instance, has one free morpheme, the word woolen consists of two morphemes: wool (which is free) and –en (which is bound). The word лісистий consists of the free morpheme ліс and the bound morpheme –ст.

A word has at least one lexical morpheme represented by a root by which we mean the ultimate constituent element which remains after the removal of affixes and it does not admit any further analysis. It is the common element of words within a word-family. It is the primary element of the word, its basic part conveys its fundamental lexical meaning. There are many root-morphemes which can stand alone as words: table, car chair, room. It is one of the specific features of the English language. Free morphemes can be found only among roots. But not all roots are free morphemes. Only productive roots are free.

Unlike roots affixes are usually bound morphemes. According to their function and meaning prefixes and suffixes are divided into derivational and functional. There are several differences between them. Derivational affixes are those by means of which new words are formed: to teach – a teacher. Functional are those by means of which new forms of words are formed: teach – teaches. Derivational affixes permit the substitution of one word by another without this affix. Functional affixes do not permit such substitution without violating grammar rules. Derivational affixes permit further derivation: teach – teaching – teaching-room. Functional affixes do not permit such derivation. Derivational affixes do not combine freely. Functional affixes

¹² [Http://www.yahoo.com/search/](http://www.yahoo.com/search/)

combine more or less freely. The suffix –s can be added practically to any noun to form the plural form.

As a conclusion, I would like to say that the formation of the words thoroughly investigated in lexicology. As above mentioned, each word has its history of formation and in this chapter we tried to identify diachronic form of some words. For defining the notion of the word we have collected some opinions of well-known scientists as Meillet, Gardiner, Ullmann, Sweet etc. They pointed out that the word contains formative element.

Chapter II.

The main characteristics of abbreviations.

2.1. The stylistic functions of the abbreviations in modern English

Abbreviation (from Latin *brevis* "short") is strictly a shorter form of a word, but more particularly, an abbreviation is a letter or group of letters, taken from a word or words, and employed to represent them for the sake of brevity. For example, the word "abbreviation" can be abbreviated as "abbr." or "abbrev."¹³

In strict analysis, abbreviations should not be confused with contractions or acronyms (including initialisms), with which they share some semantic and phonetic functions, though all three are connoted by the term "abbreviation" in loose parlance. An abbreviation is a shortening by any method; a contraction is a reduction of size by the drawing together of the parts. A contraction of a word is made by omitting certain letters or syllables and bringing together the first and last letters or elements; an abbreviation may be made either by omitting certain portions from the interior or by cutting off a part; a contraction is an abbreviation, but an abbreviation is not necessarily a contraction. However, normally acronyms are regarded as a subgroup of abbreviations.

Abbreviations can also be used to give a different context to the word itself, such as (PIN Number, wherein if the abbreviation were removed the context would be invalid)

In the process of communication words and word-groups can be shortened. The causes of shortening can be linguistic and extra-linguistic. By extra-linguistic causes changes in the life of people are meant. In Modern English many new abbreviations, acronyms, initials, blends are formed because the tempo of life is increasing and it becomes necessary to give more and more information in the shortest possible time.

There are also linguistic causes of abbreviating words and word-groups, such as the demand of rhythm, which is satisfied in English by monosyllabic words. When

¹³http://www.mpsttu.ru/works/english_philology

borrowings from other languages are assimilated in English they are shortened. Here we have modification of form on the basis of analogy, e.g. the Latin borrowing «fanaticus» is shortened to «fan» on the analogy with native words: man, pan, tan etc.

2.2. The overview of the history of abbreviations

Abbreviation has been used as long as phonetic script existed, in some senses actually being more common in early literacy, where spelling out a whole word was often avoided, initial letters commonly being used to represent words in specific application. By classical Greece and Rome, the reduction of words to single letters was still normal, but can default.

An increase in literacy has, historically, sometimes spawned a trend toward abbreviation. The standardization of English in the 15th through 17th centuries included such a growth in the use of abbreviation. At first, abbreviations were sometimes represented with various suspension signs, not only periods. For example, sequences like ⟨er⟩ were replaced with ⟨ꝛ⟩, as in ⟨mastꝛ⟩ for master and ⟨exacꝛbate⟩ for exacerbate. While this may seem trivial, it was symptomatic of an attempt by people manually reproducing academic texts to reduce their copy time¹⁴.

Mastꝛ subwardenꝛ y ꝛmēde me to you. And wherꝛ y wrot to you the last wyke that y trouyde itt good to differrꝛ thelectionꝛ ovꝛ to quīdenaꝛ tinitatis y have be thought me synꝛ that itt woll be thenꝛ a bowte mydsomꝛ.

In the 1830s in the United States, starting with Boston, abbreviation became a fad. For example, during the growth of philological linguistic theory in academic Britain, abbreviating became very trendy. The use of abbreviation for the names of "Father of modern etymology" J. R. R. Tolkien and his friend C. S. Lewis, and other members of the Oxford literary group known as the Inklings, are sometimes cited as symptomatic of this. Likewise, a century earlier in Boston, a fad of abbreviation started that swept the United States, with the globally popular term OK generally credited as a remnant of its influence.

¹⁴ An example from the Oxford University Register, 1503

After World War II, the British greatly reduced their use of the full stop and other punctuation points after abbreviations in at least semi-formal writing, while the Americans more readily kept such use until more recently, and still maintain it more than Britons. The classic example, considered by their American counterparts quite curious, was the maintenance of the internal comma in a British organization of secret agents called the "Special Operations, Executive" — "S.O.,E" — which is not found in histories written after about 1960.

But before that, many Britons were more scrupulous at maintaining the French form. In French, the period only follows an abbreviation if the last letter in the abbreviation is not the last letter of its antecedent: "M." is the abbreviation for "monsieur" while "Mme" is that for "madame". Like many other cross-channel linguistic acquisitions, many Britons readily took this up and followed this rule themselves, while the Americans took a simpler rule and applied it rigorously.

Over the years, however, the lack of convention in some style guides has made it difficult to determine which two-word abbreviations should be abbreviated with periods and which should not. The U.S. media tend to use periods in two-word abbreviations like United States (U.S.), but not personal computer (PC) or television (TV). Many British publications have gradually done away with the use of periods in abbreviations completely.

Minimization of punctuation in typewritten matter became economically desirable in the 1960s and 1970s for the many users of carbon-film ribbons, since a period or comma consumed the same length of non-reusable expensive ribbon as did a capital letter¹⁵.

Widespread use of electronic communication through mobile phones and the Internet during the 1990s allowed for a marked rise in colloquial abbreviation. This was due largely to increasing popularity of textual communication services such as instant- and text messaging. SMS for instance supports message lengths of 160

¹⁵ An example from the Oxford University Register, 1503

characters at most (using the GSM 03.38 character set). This brevity gave rise to an informal abbreviation scheme sometimes called Textese, with which 10% or more of the words in a typical SMS message are abbreviated.[5] More recently Twitter, a popular social network service, began driving abbreviation use with 140 character message limits.

Based on the research, I can say that as every type of word formation, abbreviation has its own lexical, stylistic and thematic peculiarities. The creation of abbreviations has historical backgrounds and reason of formulating. Abbreviation has been used as long as phonetic script existed, in some senses actually being more common in early literacy, where spelling out a whole word was often avoided, initial letters commonly being used to represent words in specific application. The reasons of usage this form of words was proved with examples and facts.

Chapter III

Classification groups of abbreviations, the main differences between them

3.1. Graphical abbreviations

In the process of communication words and word-groups can be shortened. The causes of shortening can be linguistic and extra-linguistic. By extra-linguistic causes changes in the life of people are meant. In Modern English many new abbreviations, acronyms, initials, blends are formed because the tempo of life is increasing and it becomes necessary to give more and more information in the shortest possible time.

There are also linguistic causes of abbreviating words and word-groups, such as the demand of rhythm, which is satisfied in English by monosyllabic words. When borrowings from other languages are assimilated in English they are shortened. Here we have modification of form on the basis of analogy, e.g. the Latin borrowing «fanaticus» is shortened to «fan» on the analogy with native words: man, pan, tan etc. There are two main types of shortenings: graphical and lexical¹⁶.

Graphical abbreviations

Graphical abbreviations are the result of shortening of words and word-groups only in written speech while orally the corresponding full forms are used. They are used for the economy of space and effort in writing.

The oldest group of graphical abbreviations in English is of Latin origin. In Russian this type of abbreviation is not typical. In these abbreviations in the spelling Latin words are shortened, while orally the corresponding English equivalents are pronounced in the full form, e.g. for example (Latin *exampli gratia*), a.m. - in the morning (*ante meridiem*), No - number (*numero*), p.a. - a year (*per annum*), d - penny (*dinarius*), lb - pound (*libra*), i. e. - that is (*id est*) etc.

Some graphical abbreviations of Latin origin have different English equivalents in different contexts, e.g. p.m. can be pronounced «in the afternoon») (*post meridiem*) and «after death» (*post mortem*). —there are also graphical abbreviations of native

¹⁶ Jespersen ,Otto. Growth and Structure of the English Language. Oxford, 1982

origin, where in the spelling we have abbreviations of words and word-groups of the corresponding English equivalents in the full form. We have several semantic groups of them:

- a) days of the week, e.g. Mon - Monday, Tue - Tuesday etc
- b) names of months, e.g. Apr - April, Aug - August etc.
- c) names of counties in UK, e.g. Yorks - Yorkshire, Berks -Berkshire etc
- d) names of states in USA, e.g. Ala - Alabama, Alas - Alaska etc.
- e) names of address, e.g. Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr. etc
- f) military ranks, e.g. capt. -captain, col. - colonel, sgt - sergeant etc.
- g) scientific degrees, e.g. B.A. - Bachelor of Arts, D.M. - Doctor of Medicine (Sometimes in scientific degrees we have abbreviations of Latin origin, e.g., M.B. - *Medicinae Baccalaurus*).
- h) units of time, length, weight, e.g. f. / ft -foot/feet, sec. - second, in. -inch, mg. - milligram etc¹⁷.

The reading of some graphical abbreviations depends on the context, e.g. «m» can be read as: male, married, masculine, meter, mile, million, minute, can be read as long-playing¹⁸, low pressure.

Because of the ever closer connection between the oral and the written forms of the language it is sometimes difficult to differentiate clippings coined in oral speech from graphical abbreviations. The latter often pass into oral speech and become widely used in conversation.

Apart from the common form of shortening one word, there are other types of abbreviations. These include acronym and initialism (including TLA), apocopation (that is, apocope), clipping (phonetics), elision, syncope, syllabic abbreviation, portmanteau.

Syllabic abbreviation A syllabic abbreviation is an abbreviation formed from initial syllables of several words, such as Interpol for International police.

¹⁷ Jespersen ,Otto. Growth and Structure of the English Language. Oxford, 1982 pp.246-249

¹⁸ A Umarova, O Ataulloyeva “Xozirgi zamon fransuz va uzbek tillarida qisqartma suzlar”// Filologiya masalalari 2003

Syllabic abbreviations are usually written in lower case, sometimes starting with a capital letter, and are always pronounced as words rather than letter by letter.

Syllabic abbreviations should be distinguished from portmanteaux.

Use in different languages

Syllabic abbreviations are not widely used in English or French, but are common in certain languages, like German and Russian.

They prevailed in Germany under the Nazis and in the Soviet Union for naming the plethora of new bureaucratic organizations. For example, Gestapo stands for Geheime Staats-Polizei, or "secret state police". This has given syllabic abbreviations a negative connotation, even though they were used in Germany before the Nazis, e.g., Schupo for Schutzpolizist. Even now Germans call part of their police Kripo for Kriminalpolizei. Syllabic abbreviations were also typical of German language used in the German Democratic Republic, e.g. Stasi for Staatssicherheit ("state security", the secret police & secret service) or Vopo for Volkspolizist ("people's policeman"). Some syllabic abbreviations from Russian that are familiar to English speakers include samizdat and kolkhoz. Orwell's novel 1984 uses syllabic abbreviations like "Engsoc" (=ENGLISH SOCIALISM) to evoke the use of language under the Nazi and Soviet regimes.

East Asian languages whose writing uses Chinese-originated ideograms instead of an alphabet form abbreviations similarly by using key characters from a term or phrase. For example, in Japanese the term for the United Nations, kokusai rengō is often abbreviated to kokuren. Another classic example is shogun. Such abbreviations are called ryakugo in Japanese. Syllabic abbreviations are frequently used for names of universities: for instance, Beida for Peking University (Beijing) and Tōdai for the University of Tokyo

Usage of syllabic abbreviations in organizations.

Syllabic abbreviations are preferred by the US Navy as it increases readability amidst the large number of initialisms that would otherwise have to fit into the same

acronyms. Hence DESRON 6 is used (in the full capital form) to mean "Destroyer Squadron 6," while COMNAVFORLANT would be "Commander, Naval Force (in the) Atlantic."

3.2. Different type of acronyms and Initialism in Modern English

Acronyms and initialisms are abbreviations formed from the initial components in a phrase or name. These components may be individual letters (as in CEO) or parts of words. There is no universal agreement on the precise definition of the various terms (see nomenclature), nor on written usage (see orthographic styling). While popular in recent English, such abbreviations have historical use in English as well as other languages. As a type of word formation process, acronyms and initialisms are viewed as a subtype of blending.

Definition to the acronyms

Acronyms, initialisms, and alphabetisms are abbreviations, such as NATO, laser, and ABC, written as the initial letter or letters of words, and pronounced on the basis of this abbreviated written form¹⁹.

Nomenclature

Initialism originally referred to abbreviations formed from initials, without reference to pronunciation, but during the middle portion of the twentieth century, when they saw more use than ever before, the word acronym was coined for abbreviations which are pronounced as a word, like NATO or AIDS.

Of the words, acronym is the much more frequently used and known; and many use it to describe any abbreviation formed from initial letters. This is a contentious point, however, and other sources differentiate between the two terms, restricting acronym to pronounceable words formed from the letters of each of the constituent words, and using initialism or alphabetism for abbreviations pronounced as the names of the individual letters. In the latter usage, examples of proper acronyms would be NATO

¹⁹ A Umarova, O Ataulloyeva "Xozirgi zamon fransuz va uzbek tillarida qisqartma suzlar"// Filologiya masalalari

(IPA: ['neɪtʊ] or ['neɪtə]), and radar ([ˈreɪdɑ(ɹ)]), while examples of mere initialisms would include FBI ([ɛf.biˈaɪ]) and HTML ([ɛɪtʃ.ti.ɛmˈɛl]).

There is no agreement as to what to call abbreviations that contain both separately pronounced letters and sequences of letters pronounced as a "word", such as JPEG (jay-peg) or MS-DOS (em-ess-doss). These abbreviations are sometimes referred to as acronym-initialism hybrids, although they are grouped by most under the broad meaning of acronym.

In English-language discussion of languages with syllable-based writing systems (such as Chinese, Japanese, and Korean), acronym describes short forms that take the first character of each (multi-character) element. For example, Beijing University—Beijing Daxue (literally, North-Capital Big-School 北京大学)—is widely known as Beida (literally, North-Big). In describing such languages, the term initialism is inapplicable.

The history of the acronyms.

Nonetheless, earlier examples of acronyms in other languages exist. The early Christians in Rome used a fish as a symbol for Jesus in part because of an acronym—fish in Greek is ΙΧΘΥΣ (ichthys), which was said to stand for Ιησους Χριστος Θεου Υιος Σωτηρ (Iesous CHristos THEou (h)Uios Soter: Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior). Evidence of this interpretation dates from the 2nd and 3rd centuries and is preserved in the catacombs of Rome. And for centuries, the Church has used the inscription INRI over the crucifix, which stands for the Latin Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum ("Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews").

Initialisms are known to have been used in Rome dating back even earlier than the Christian era. For example, the official name for the Roman Empire (and the Republic before it) was abbreviated as SPQR (Senatus Populusque Romanus), showing a clear precedent.

Early examples in English

- A.M. (Latin ante meridiem, "before noon") and P.M. (Latin post meridiem, "after noon")
- O.K., a term of disputed origin, dating back at least to the early 19th century, now used around the world
- n.g., for "no good", from 1838

Usage of Acronyms

Acronyms are used most often to abbreviate names of organizations and long or frequently referenced terms. The armed forces and government agencies frequently employ acronyms and initialisms, perhaps most famously in the "alphabet agencies" created by Franklin D. Roosevelt under the New Deal.

Jargon of Acronyms

Acronyms and initialisms often occur in jargon. An acronym may have different meanings in different areas of industry, writing, and scholarship. This has led some to obfuscate the meaning either intentionally, to deter those without such domain-specific knowledge, or unintentionally, by creating acronyms that already existed.

Written Usage of Acronyms

Written presentation of both acronyms and initialisms varies from person to person and from one body's suggested or required usage to that of another.

Punctuation

Traditionally, in English, abbreviations have been written with a full stop / period / point in place of the deleted part, although the colon and apostrophe have also had this role. In the case of most acronyms and initialisms, each letter is an abbreviation of a separate word and, in theory, should get its own termination mark. Such punctuation is diminishing with the belief that the presence of all-capital letters is sufficient to indicate that the word is an abbreviation.

Some influential style guides, such as that of the BBC, no longer require punctuation, or even proscribe it. Larry Trask, American author of *The Penguin Guide to Punctuation*, states categorically that, in British English, "this tiresome and

unnecessary practice is now obsolete", though some other sources are not so absolute in their pronouncements.

Nevertheless, some influential style guides, many of them American, still require periods in certain instances. The New York Times' guide recommends them after unpronounceable abbreviations, such as K.G.B., but not for pronounceable ones (acronyms), such as NATO.

Some style manuals also base the letters' case on their number. The New York Times, for example, keeps NATO in all capitals (while several guides in the British press may render it Nato), but uses lowercase in Unicef (from United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) because it is more than four letters.

Some acronyms undergo assimilation into ordinary words, when they become common: for example, when technical terms become commonplace among non-technical people. Often they are then written in lower case, and eventually it is widely forgotten that the word was derived from the initials of others: scuba ("Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus") and laser ("Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation"), for instance. The term anacronym has been coined as a portmanteau of the words anachronism and acronym to describe acronyms whose original meaning is unknown to most speakers.

When a multiple-letter abbreviation is formed from a single word, periods are generally proscribed, although they may be common in informal, personal usage. TV, for example, may stand for a single word (television or transvestite, for instance), and is generally spelled without punctuation (except in the plural). Although PS stands for the single word postscript (or the Latin postscriptum), it is often spelled with periods (P.S.). (Wikiquote abbreviates television as T.V.)

Initials are the bordering case between graphical and lexical abbreviations. When they appear in the language, as a rule, to denote some new offices they are closer to graphical abbreviations because orally full forms are used, e.g. J.V. - joint venture. When they are used for some duration of time they acquire the shortened form of

pronouncing and become closer to lexical abbreviations, e.g. BBC is as a rule pronounced in the shortened form.

In some cases the translation of initialisms is next to impossible without using special dictionaries. Initialisms are denoted in different ways. Very often they are expressed in the way they are pronounced in the language of their origin, e.g. ANZUS (Australia, New Zealand, United States) is given in Russian as AH3YC, SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks) was for a long time used in Russian as COJIT, now a translation variant is used. This type of initialisms borrowed into other languages is preferable, e.g. UFO - HJIO, CLI - JV etc.

There are three types of initialisms in English:

- a) initialisms with alphabetical reading, such as UK, BUP, CND etc
- b) initialisms which are read as if they are words, e.g. UNESCO, UNO, NATO etc.
- c) initialisms which coincide with English words in their sound form, such initialisms are called acronyms, e.g. CLASS (Computer-based Laboratory for Automated School System). (Some scientists unite groups b) and c) into one group which they call acronyms. Some initialisms can form new words in which they act as root morphemes by different ways of word building: a) affixation, e.g. AWA Lism, ex-rafer, ex-POW, to warfare, AID So phobia etc. - J b) conversion, e.g. to raff, to fly IFR (Instrument Flight Rules), I cj composition, e.g. STOL port, USAF man etc²⁰.

(there are also compound-shortened words where the first component is an initial abbreviation with the alphabetical reading and the second one is a complete word, e.g. A-bomb. U -pronunciation, V -day some cases the first component is a complete word and the second T-component is an initial abbreviation with the alphabetical pronunciation, e.g. Three -Ds (Three dimensions) - Abbreviations of words.

Abbreviation of words consists in clipping a part of a word. As a result we get a new lexical unit where either the lexical meaning or the style is different from the full form of the word. In such cases as »fantasy» and «fancy», «fence» and «defense» we

²⁰ Jespersen ,Otto. Growth and Structure of the English Language. Oxford, 1982 pp.246-249

have different lexical meanings. In such cases as «laboratory» and «lab», we have different styles.

Abbreviation does not change the part-of- speech meaning, as we have it in the case of conversion or affixation, it produces words belonging to the same part of speech as the primary word. e.g. prof. is a noun and professor is also a noun. Mostly nouns undergo abbreviation, but we can also meet abbreviation of verbs. such as to rev from to revolve, to tab from to tabulate etc. But mostly abbreviated forms of verbs are formed by means of conversion from abbreviated nouns, e.g. to taxi, to vac etc. Adjectives can be abbreviated but they are mostly used in school slang and are combined with suffixation, e.g. comfy, dilly, mizzy etc. As rule pronouns, numerals, interjections, conjunctions are not abbreviated. The exceptions are: fif (fifteen), teenager, in one's teens (aphaeresis from numerals from 13 to 19).

Lexical abbreviations are classified according to the part of the word which is clipped. Mostly the end of the word is clipped, because the beginning of the word in most cases is the root and expresses the lexical meaning of the word. This type of abbreviation is called apocope. Here we can mention a group of words ending in «o», such as disco (discothèque), expo (exposition), intro (introduction) and many others. On the analogy with these words there developed in Modern English a number of words where «o» is added as a kind of a suffix to the shortened form of the word, e.g. combo (combination). In other cases the beginning of the word is clipped. In such cases we have aphaeresis, e.g. chute (parachute), varsity (university), copter (helicopter), muse (enthuse) etc. Sometimes the middle of the word is clipped, e.g. mart (market), fanzine (fan magazine) math (mathematics). Such abbreviations are called syncope. Sometimes we have a combination of apocope with aphaeresis, when the beginning and the end of the word are clipped, e.g. tec. (detective), van (avanguard) etc.

Sometimes shortening influences the spelling of the word, e.g. «c» can be substituted by «k» before «e» to preserve pronunciation, e.g. mike (microphone),

Coke (coca-cola) etc. The same rule is observed in the following cases: fax (facsimile), tack (technical college), trunk (tranquilizer) etc. The final consonants in the shortened forms are substituted by letters characteristic of native English words²¹.

The investigation of abbreviations.

The investigation of lexical units directed to clear out the means and ways of objective reality peculiarities is one of the most importance in contemporary linguistics.

The necessity of studying nominative means in investigating shortened words: the fruitfulness of shortening as a means of nominative units; and insufficiency of researches on revealing shortening defines the importance of working out the theoretical aspects of the problem of shortened words.

The following parameters are included in defining typology of shortened words which express the macro field a linguistic person a German languages especially in contemporary English:

The characteristics of initial groups; the ways of shortening the degree of expressions of preliminary units in shortened word. The usage of shortened words expressing nomination in different text connect of functional style.

To investigate the usage of the shortened words and the absolute equivalents of them in non related languages in considered to be the actual problems of the contemporary linguistics.

To make different test quizzes and visual aids on shortened words contribute to have fruitful lesson on all Language Teaching Educational Establishment.

Abbreviations that come from single, rather than multiple, words—such as TV (television)—are pluralized both with and without apostrophes, depending on the logic followed: that the apostrophe shows the omission of letters and makes the s

²¹ World Book Encyclopedia NY Vol 8 1993 p.321

clear as only a pluralizer (TV's); or that the apostrophe should be reserved for the possessive (TVs).

Especially in the 18th century, some writers of English considered numerals as abbreviations of whole words and punctuated them accordingly: for example, Thomas Jefferson, who employed such usage, might have abbreviated "I have two apples" with "I have 2. apples", with a period after the numeral. This consideration of numerals as abbreviations of whole words may be the reason behind the use of apostrophes in the plurals that denote decades: for example, the 1970's.

Some writers omit this apostrophe, and would use it only for the possessive: for example, In 1970's mid-term elections, ... (the mid-term elections of the year 1970). In The New York Times, the pluralizing apostrophe is retained, but the truncating apostrophe when the century numerals are omitted is not used, so that the aforementioned decade is described in the NYT as the 70's. The television sitcom That '70s Show uses the apostrophe for the omission of the century numerals and forms the plural with a simple s. It is assumed that, in the NYT, something belonging to the decade of the 1970s might be described as the 1970's' or the 70's'.

In the German language, numerals also appear with periods after them; but these are abbreviations of the ordinals. For example, the word zwei (two) is abbreviated with 2 (the numeral alone), but the word zweite (second) is abbreviated with 2. (period after the numeral).

In some languages, the convention of doubling the letters in the initialism is used to indicate plural words: for example, the Spanish EE.UU., for Estados Unidos (United States). This convention is followed for a limited number of English abbreviations, such as pp. for pages (although this is actually derived from the Latin abbreviation for paginae).

Acronyms that are now always rendered in the lowercase are pluralized as regular English nouns: for example, lasers. When an acronym is part of a function in computing that is conventionally written in lowercase, it is common to use an

apostrophe to pluralize or otherwise conjugate the token. This practice results in sentences like "Be sure to remove extraneous dll's" (more than one dll). In computer lingo, it is common to use the name of a computer program, format, or function, acronym or not, as a verb; for example "Sam zipped the files" or "Sam zip'ed the files" means that Sam used a computer program to combine and/or compress the files in the ZIP format. In such verbification of abbreviations, there is confusion about how to conjugate: for example, if the verb IM (pronounced as separate letters) means to send (someone) an instant message, the past tense may be rendered IM'ed, IMed, IM'd, or IMd—and the third-person singular present indicative may be IM's or IMs.

Numerals and Constituent Words

While typically abbreviations exclude the initials of short function words (such as "and", "or", "of", or "to"), they are sometimes included in acronyms to make them pronounceable.

Numbers (both cardinal and ordinal) in names are often represented by digits rather than initial letters: as in 4GL (Fourth generation language) or G77 (Group of 77). Large numbers may use metric prefixes, as with Y2K for "Year 2000". Exceptions using initials for numbers include TLA (three-letter acronym/abbreviation) and GoF (Gang of Four). Abbreviations using numbers for other purposes include repetitions, such as W3C (World Wide Web Consortium); pronunciation, such as B2B (business to business); and numeronyms, such as i18n (internationalization; 18 represents the 18 letters between the initial i and the final n). In some cases, an acronym or initialism has been turned into a name, creating a pseudo-acronym. For example, the letters making up the name of the SAT (pronounced as letters) college entrance test no longer officially stand for anything. This trend has been common with many companies hoping to retain their brand recognition while simultaneously moving away from what they saw as an outdated image: American Telephone and Telegraph became AT&T (its parent/child, SBC, followed suit prior to its acquisition of AT&T and after its acquisition of a number of

the other Baby Bells, changing from Southwestern Bell Corporation), Kentucky Fried Chicken became KFC, British Petroleum became BP to emphasize that it was no longer only an oil company (captured by its motto "beyond petroleum"), Silicon Graphics, Incorporated became SGI to emphasize that it was no longer only a computer graphics company. DVD now has no official meaning: its advocates couldn't agree on whether the initials stood for "Digital Video Disc" or "Digital Versatile Disc", and now both terms are used.

Initialisms may have advantages in international markets: for example, some national affiliates of International Business Machines are legally incorporated as "IBM" (or, for example, "IBM Canada") to avoid translating the full name into local languages. Similarly, "UBS" is the name of the merged Union Bank of Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corporation.

Rebranding can lead to redundant-acronym syndrome, as when Trustee Savings Bank became TSB Bank. A few high-tech companies have taken the redundant acronym to the extreme: for example, ISM Information Systems Management Corp. and SHL System house Ltd. Another common example is RAM memory, which is redundant because RAM (random-access memory) includes the initial of the word memory; NIC card is similarly redundant, NIC standing for network-interface card. PIN stands for personal identification number, obviating the second word in PIN number. Other examples include ATM machine (Automatic Teller Machine machine), EAB bank (European American Bank bank), and the formerly redundant SAT test (Scholastic Achievement/Aptitude/Assessment Test test, now simply SAT Reasoning Test).

Sometimes, the initials are kept but the meaning is changed. SADD, for instance, originally Students against Driving Drunk, changed the full form of its name to Students against Destructive Decisions. YM originally stood for Young Miss, and later Young & Modern, but now stands for simply Your Magazine.

When initialisms are defined in print, especially in the case of industry-specific jargon, the initial letters of the full words are often capitalized. While this is logical

for proper nouns, such as Kentucky Fried Chicken, some usage writers have argued that it is technically incorrect for other terms, such as storage area network. Such capitalization is widespread in English publications; but "back-capitalization"—from SAN to give Storage Area Network, for example—is considered incorrect.

Acronyms have been widely used in Hebrew since at least the Middle Ages. Several important rabbis are referred to with acronyms of their names. For example, Baal Shem Tov is called the Besht, Rav Moshe ben Maimon (Maimonides) is commonly known as Rambam, and Rabbi Moshe ben Nahman (Nahmanides) likewise known as the Ramban.

The usage of Hebrew acronyms extends to liturgical groupings: the word Tanakh is an acronym for Torah (Five Books of Moses), Nevi'im (Book of Prophets), and Ketuvim (Hagiographa).

Most often, though, one will find use of acronyms as acrostics, in both prayer, poetry (see Piyyut), and kabbalistic works. Because each Hebrew letter also has a numeric value, embedding an acrostic may give an additional layer of meaning to these works. One purpose of acrostics was as a mnemonic or a way for an author to weave his name as a signature, or some other spiritual thought, into his work, at a time when much was memorized. Examples of prayers which contain acrostics include:

- Shokhen Ad - Lines are written so that letters line up vertically, spelling the name Yitzchak, which may refer to the patriarch Yitzchak, or to an unknown author.
- Ashrei - The first letter of every verse starts with a consecutive letter of the

Hebrew alphabet

It is also a common part of Jewish thought to make inferences based on hidden acrostics. For example the Hebrew words for "man" (he: אִישׁ) and "woman" (he: אִשָּׁה) can be used to draw the inference that marriage, the joining of a man and a woman, is a spiritual relationship, because if one removes from each of the words "man" and "woman", one of the letters in the word "God" (he: הוה), all that is left when "God" is

removed from the joining of the two, is the word for destruction (he: שׂר lit: fire) in place of each.

So much can be interpreted from Hebrew, and attributed to or inferred from it, that an interpretational system, called exegesis, has been developed along these lines. A special punctuation mark, the gershayim ("), is used to denote acronyms. It is placed before the last letter in the abbreviation (e.g. תנ"ך for Tanakh)

Greek word tetragrammaton is used as a proper noun to describe the Hebrew spelling of the name of the Abrahamic god, יהוה (commonly transliterated as "YHVH", "YHWH", "Yahweh", or "Jehovah"), which Jews do not speak aloud, and protect when written (see Geniza). Scribes are prohibited from correcting, modifying, or erasing this word, or any series of four words which all begin, or all end, with these letters. Friday-night Shabbat Kiddush begins "Vay'hi Erev, Vay'hi Boker, Yom HaShishi. Vayachulu Hashamayim ..." Even though the first sentence is unnecessary to say, it would be breaking up the Tetragrammaton not to say it. The first four words, then, are completely unnecessary, but omitting them would make the next two words in some sense incomplete. Jews therefore whisper the first four words and say the rest out loud.

Agglutination

In languages where agglutination extends beyond plurals, various methods are used. A representative example is Finnish, where a colon is used to separate inflection from the letters:

- An acronym is pronounced as a word: Nato [nato] — Natoon [nato:n] "into Nato"
- An initialism is pronounced as letters: EU [e: u:] — EU:hun [e: u:hun] "into EU"
- An initialism is interpreted as words: EU [euro:pan unioni] — EU:iin [euro:pan unioni:n] "into EU"

Acronyms Examples

- pronounced as a word, containing only initial letters:
 - FNMA: (Fannie Mae) Federal National Mortgage Association
 - laser: light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation
 - NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
 - scuba: self-contained underwater breathing apparatus
- pronounced as a word, containing non-initial letters:
 - Amphetamine: Alpha-methyl-phenethylamine
 - Gestapo: Geheime Staatspolizei ("secret state police")
 - Interpol: International Criminal Police Organization
 - radar: radio detection and ranging
- pronounced as a word or names of letters, depending on speaker or context:
 - IRA: ([ˈaɪrə] or [aɪ.ər.eɪ])
 - When used for Irish Republican Army, always pronounced as letters
 - When used for Individual Retirement Account, can be pronounced as letters or as a word
 - FAQ: ([fæk] or [ɛf.eɪ.kju]) frequently asked questions
 - SAT: ([sæt] or [es.eɪ.ti]) Scholastic Achievement (or Aptitude) Test(s)
 - SQL: ([sɪkwəl] or [ɛs.kju.əl]) Structured Query Language
- pronounced as a combination of names of letters and a word:
 - CD-ROM: ([si.di.rɒm]) Compact Disc read-only memory
 - IUPAC: ([aɪ.ju.pæk]) International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
 - JPEG: ([ˈdʒeɪpɛɡ]) Joint Photographic Experts Group
 - PDFORRA: ([pi.di.fɔrə]) Permanent Defence Forces Other Ranks

Representative Association

- pronounced only as the names of letters
 - BBC: British Broadcasting Corporation
 - DNA: deoxyribonucleic acid

- LED: light-emitting diode
- OB-GYN: obstetrics and gyn(a)ecology or obstetrician and gyn(a)ecologist
 - pronounced as the names of letters that also sound like words
- YRUU: ([waɪ.ɑr.ju.ju]) Young Religious Unitarian Universalists
 - pronounced as the names of letters to distinguish it from the word the abbreviation forms
- OIL: Oil India Limited, not a recursive acronym
 - pronounced as the names of letters but with a shortcut
- AAA: ([tɹɪpəl.eɪ]) American Automobile Association or anti-aircraft artillery
- IEEE: (aɪ.tɹɪpəl.i) Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
- NAACP: (ɛn.dʌbəl.eɪ.si.pi) National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- NCAA: ([ɛn.si.dʌbəl.eɪ]) National Collegiate Athletic Association
 - shortcut incorporated into name
- 3M: ([θɹi.ɛm]) originally Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company
- E³: ([i.θɹi]) Electronic Entertainment Exposition
- I18N: Internationalization (18 letters are omitted)
- W3C: ([dʌbəl.ju.θɹi.si]) World Wide Web Consortium
 - recursive acronyms, in which the abbreviation itself is the expansion of one initial (particularly enjoyed by the open-source community)
- GNU: GNU's Not Unix
- HURD: HIRD of Unix-Replacing Daemons, where "HIRD" stands for "HURD of Interfaces Representing Depth"
- VISA: VISA International Service Association
- WINE: WINE Is Not an Emulator
 - pseudo-acronyms are used because, when pronounced as intended, they resemble the sounds of other words:
- ICQ: "I seek you"

- OU812: "Oh, you ate one, too?", a Van Halen album
- CQR: "secure", a brand of boat anchor

Trivia of Acronymms

The longest acronym, according to the 1965 edition of *Acronyms, Initialisms and Abbreviations Dictionary*, is ADCOMSUBORDCOMPHEIBSPAC, a United States Navy term that stands for "Administrative Command, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet Subordinate Command."²²

The world's longest initialism, according to the *Guinness Book of World Records* is NIIOMTPLABOPARMBETZHEL BETRABS BOMONIMONKONOTDTEKHSTR OMONT (Нииомтплабопармбетзелбетрабсбомонимонконотдтехстромонт). The 56-letter initialism (54 in Cyrillic) is from the *Concise Dictionary of Soviet Terminology* and means "The laboratory for shuttering, reinforcement, concrete and ferroconcrete operations for composite-monolithic and monolithic constructions of the Department of the Technology of Building-assembly operations of the Scientific Research Institute of the Organization for building mechanization and technical aid of the Academy of Building and Architecture of the USSR."

Sometimes an acronym's official meaning is crafted to fit an acronym that actually means something that sounds less "official". For instance, the Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB) weapon recently developed in the United States is popularly called the "mother of all bombs" since it is the largest conventional bomb in the world; it is widely assumed that the "mother of all wars" phrase was the true inspiration for the MOAB acronym.

Fictional espionage organizations

During the 1960s trend for action-adventure spy thrillers, it was a common practice for fictional spy organizations or their nemeses to employ names that were acronyms (or more accurately, backronyms). Sometimes these acronyms made sense but most of the time, they were words incongruously crammed together for the mere

²² Jespersen ,Otto. *Growth and Structure of the English Language*. Oxford, 1982 pp.246-249

purpose of obtaining a catchy acronym, traditionally a heroic sounding one for the good guys and an appropriately menacing one for the bad guys. This has become one of the most commonly parodied clichés of the spy thriller genre. They were presumably inspired by SMERSH, which appeared in the James Bond stories and sounded fictional, but really was a branch of Soviet intelligence. These acronyms are often spelled with periods/points/stops to make it clear that they stand for longer terms and are not simply the usual English words that they resemble, even though the punctuation would otherwise seem to indicate that the abbreviations should be pronounced as the names of the individual letters. Among the most popular:

- A.P.E. and C.H.U.M.P., from Lancelot Link, Secret Chimp (probably the only spy series with an all-chimpanzee cast)
- CONTROL and KAOS, from the Get Smart television series, are often mistaken for acronyms
- D.O.O.P. (Democratic Order of Planets), an intentionally silly example in the Futurama television series.
- E.V.I.L. (Every Villain Is Lemons), an intentionally silly example from the Spongebob Squarepants television series.
- F.E.A.R. (First Encounter Assault Recon), in the horror-themed first-person-shooter computer game F.E.A.R..
- F.I.R.M., from the Airwolf television series
- G.U.N. (Guardian Unit of Nations), an organization from the Sonic the Hedgehog series who opposed the creation of Shadow and the Biolizard
- H.A.R.M., from the No One Lives Forever (NOLF) series of computer games, which were released in the 1990s, but were based in 1960s pop culture. What H.A.R.M actually stands for is never revealed, and speculation about its true meaning is the subject of several jokes in both games. (However, in the 1966 spy film Agent for H.A.R.M., it stands for Human Aetiological Relations Machine.)

- K.A.B.O.O.M. (Key Atomic Benefits Organization of Mankind), from *The Naked Gun 2½: The Smell of Fear*.
- M.A.S.K. (Mobile Armored Strike Kommand), the good mask-wearing cohort from 1980s Saturday-morning cartoon *M.A.S.K.*
- P.A.G.A.N. (People against Goodness and Normalcy) from the film *Dragnet*
- S.H.A.D.O. (Supreme Headquarters Alien Defence Organisation) in the Gerry Anderson television series *UFO*.
- S.H.I.E.L.D. (originally Supreme Headquarters, International Espionage, Law Enforcement Division; later Strategic Hazard Intervention, Espionage and Logistics Directorate), from the Nick Fury, Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D. Marvel comics
- Shlekht in the Morecambe and Wise film *The Intelligence Men*
- SPECTRE (Special Executive for Counter-intelligence, Terrorism, Revenge, and Extortion), from the James Bond series.
- S.T.E.N.C.H. (Society for the Total Extermination of Non-Conforming Humans) in *Carry On Spying*.
- T.H.U.N.D.E.R. (The Higher United Nations Defense Enforcement Reserves)
- U.N.C.L.E. (United Network Command for Law and Enforcement) and T.H.R.U.S.H, from *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* (The meaning of T.H.R.U.S.H. was never revealed on the series; but, in the novelizations it was stated to be "Technological Hierarchy for the Removal of Undesirables and the Subjugation of Humanity".)
- V.E.N.O.M. (The Vicious, Evil Network of Mayhem), the evil mask-wearing cohort from 1980s Saturday-morning cartoon *M.A.S.K.*
- V.I.L.E. (The Villains International League of Evil), Carmen Sandiego's band of international thieves.

- U.N.I.T. (United Network Intelligence Taskforce) A military organization formed investigate and combat paranormal and extraterrestrial threats to the Earth in the series Doctor Who²³.

- W.O.O.H.P. (World Organization of Human Protection), the fictitious organization from Totally Spies!, an animated series on Cartoon Network

Small caps are sometimes used to make the run of capital letters seem less jarring to the reader. For example, the style of some American publications, including the Atlantic Monthly and USA Today, is to use small caps for acronyms and initialisms longer than three letters; thus "U.S." and "FDR" in normal caps, but "NATO" in small caps. The initialisms "AD" and "BC" are often smallcapped as well, as in: "From 4004 BC to AD 525."

Pronunciation-dependent style

At the copyediting end of the publishing industry, where the aforementioned distinction between acronyms (pronounced as a word) and initialisms (pronounced as a series of letters) is usually maintained, some publishers choose to use cap/lowercase (c/lc) styling for acronyms, reserving all-caps styling for initialisms. Thus Nato and Aids (c/lc), but USA and FBI (caps). For example, this is the style used in The Guardian, and BBC News typically edits to this style (though its official style guide, dating from 2003, still recommends all-caps). The logic of this style is that the pronunciation is reflected graphically by the capitalization scheme.

Some style manuals also base the letters' case on their number. The New York Times, for example, keeps NATO in all capitals (while several guides in the British press may render it Nato), but uses lower case in Unicef (from "United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund") because it is more than four letters, and to style it in caps might look ungainly (flirting with the appearance of "shouting capitals").

Numerals and constituent words

²³ D Horner, D Strutt "Words at work. Vocabulary development for business English" Cambridge University Press 1996

While typically abbreviations exclude the initials of short function words (such as "and", "or", "of", or "to"), they are sometimes included in acronyms to make them pronounceable. Sometimes the letters representing these words are written in lower case, such as in the cases of TfL (Transport for London) and LotR (Lord of the Rings). This usually occurs when the acronym represents a multi-word proper noun. Numbers (both cardinal and ordinal) in names are often represented by digits rather than initial letters: as in 4GL (Fourth generation language) or G77 (Group of 77). Large numbers may use metric prefixes, as with Y2K for "Year 2000" (sometimes written Y2k, because the SI symbol for 1000 is k - not K, which stands for kelvin). Exceptions using initials for numbers include TLA (three-letter acronym/abbreviation) and GoF (Gang of Four). Abbreviations using numbers for other purposes include repetitions, such as W3C ("World Wide Web Consortium"); pronunciation, such as B2B ("business to business"); and numeronyms, such as i18n ("internationalization"; 18 represents the 18 letters between the initial i and the final n).

Pseudo-acronyms

In some cases, an acronym or initialism has been redefined as a non-acronymous name—creating a pseudo-acronym. The term "orphan initialism" has also been used for names which began as an acronym but lost this status. Such an apparent acronym or other abbreviation, that does not stand for anything cannot be expanded to some meaning. For example, the letters of the SAT (pronounced as letters) college entrance test no longer officially stand for anything. This is common with companies that want to retain brand recognition while moving away from an outdated image: American Telephone and Telegraph became AT&T (its parent/child, SBC, followed suit prior to its acquisition of AT&T and after its acquisition of a number of the other Baby Bells, changing from Southwestern Bell Corporation), Kentucky Fried Chicken became KFC to de-emphasize the role of frying in the preparation of its signature dishes, British Petroleum became BP to emphasize that it

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Pseudo-acronyms may have advantages in international markets: for example, some national affiliates of International Business Machines are legally incorporated as "IBM" (or, for example, "IBM Canada") to avoid translating the full name into local languages. Similarly, "UBS" is the name of the merged Union Bank of Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corporation, and "HSBC" has replaced "The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation."

Recursive acronyms and RAS syndrome

Rebranding can lead to redundant-acronym syndrome, as when Trustee Savings Bank became TSB Bank, or when Railway Express Agency became REA Express. A few high-tech companies have taken the redundant acronym to the extreme: for example, ISM Information Systems Management Corp. and SHL Systemhouse Ltd. An example in entertainment is the television show CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, where the redundancy was likely designed to educate new viewers as to what "CSI" stood for. The same stood for when the Royal Bank of Canada's Canadian operations rebranded to RBC Royal Bank, or when Bank of Montreal rebranded their retail banking subsidiary BMO Bank of Montreal.

Another common example is RAM memory, which is redundant because RAM (random-access memory) includes the initial of the word memory. PIN stands for personal identification number, obviating the second word in PIN number. Other examples include ATM machine (automated teller machine machine), EAB bank (European American Bank bank), DC Comics (Detective Comics Comics), HIV virus (human immunodeficiency virus virus), Microsoft's NT Technology (New Technology Technology) and the formerly redundant SAT test (Scholastic

Achievement/Aptitude/Assessment Test test, now simply SAT Reasoning Test). TNN (The Nashville/National Network) also renamed itself The New TNN for a brief interlude.

Simple redefining

Sometimes, the initials continue to stand for an expanded meaning, but the original meaning is simply replaced. Some examples:

- CAF was Confederate Air Force, a ragtag collection of vintage warplanes that started in Odessa, Texas. It was changed to Commemorative Air Force to better reflect its mission and avoid offense.
- DVD was originally an initialism of the unofficial term digital video disk, but is now stated by the DVD Forum as standing for Digital Versatile Disc.
- GAO changed the full form of its name from General Accounting Office to Government Accountability Office.
- The OCLC changed the full form of its name from Ohio College Library Center to Online Computer Library Center.
- RAID used to mean Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks, but is now commonly interpreted as Redundant Array of Independent Disks.
- SADD changed the full form of its name from Students Against Driving Drunk to Students Against Destructive Decisions.
- WWF originally stood for World Wildlife Fund, but now stands for Worldwide Fund for Nature (although the former name is still used in the US).

Contrived acronyms

A contrived acronym is one deliberately designed to be especially apt for the thing being named (by having a dual meaning or by borrowing the positive connotations of an existing word). Some examples of contrived acronyms are USA PATRIOT, CAN SPAM, CAPTCHA and ACT UP. The clothing company French Connection began referring to itself as fcuk, standing for "French Connection United Kingdom." The company then created t-shirts and several advertising campaigns that exploit the

acronym's similarity to the taboo word "fuck". See the list of fictional espionage organizations for more examples of contrived acronyms.

The US Department of Defense's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is known for developing contrived acronyms to name projects, including RESURRECT, NIRVANA and DUDE. In July 2010, Wired Magazine reported that DARPA announced programs to “..transform biology from a descriptive to a predictive field of science” named BATMAN and ROBIN for Biochronicity and Temporal Mechanisms Arising in Nature and Robustness of Biologically-Inspired Networks,[43] a reference to the Batman and Robin Comic-book superheroes.

Some acronyms are chosen deliberately to avoid a name considered undesirable: for example, Verliebt in Berlin (ViB), a German telenovela, was first intended to be Alles nur aus Liebe (All for Love), but was changed to avoid the resultant acronym ANAL. Similarly, the Computer Literacy and Internet Technology qualification is known as CLaIT, rather than CLIT. In Canada, the Canadian Conservative Reform Alliance (Party) was quickly renamed to the Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance when its opponents pointed out that its initials spelled CCRAP (see crap). (The satirical magazine Frank had proposed alternatives to CCRAP, namely SSHIT and NSDAP.) Two Irish Institutes of Technology (Galway and Tralee) chose different acronyms from other institutes when they were upgraded from Regional Technical colleges. Tralee RTC became the Institute of Technology Tralee (ITT), as opposed to Tralee Institute of Technology (TIT). Galway RTC became Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT), as opposed to Galway Institute of Technology (GIT). Team in Training is known as TNT and not TIT. Technological Institute of Textile & Sciences is still known as TITS. The war on terror was originally referred to in early Bush speeches as "The War Against Terror" (TWAT), but this was swiftly changed.

Contrived acronyms differ from backronyms in that they were originally conceived with the artificial expanded meaning, while backronyms are later invented expansions.

Macronyms / Nested Acronyms

A macronym, or nested acronym, is an acronym in which one or more letters stand for acronyms themselves. A special type of macronym has letters that refer back to itself when expanded. These are called recursive acronyms. One of the earliest examples appears in The Hacker's Dictionary as MUNG, which stands for "MUNG Until No Good"

Some examples of recursive acronyms are²⁴:

- GNU stands for "GNU's Not Unix"
- LAME stands for "LAME Ain't an MP3 Encoder"
- PHP stands for "PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor"
- WINE stands for "WINE Is Not an Emulator"

Other macronyms have letters that refer to other acronyms; they include the following:

- POWER stands for "Performance Optimization With Enhanced RISC," in which (RISC stands for Reduced Instruction Set Computing)
- VHDL stands for "VHSIC Hardware Description Language," in which (VHSIC stands for Very High Speed Integrated Circuit.) (This example is not a recursive acronym)
- XSD stands for "XML Schema Definition," in which (XML stands for eXtensible Markup Language.)
- SECS stands for "SEMI equipment communication standard," in which SEMI stands for "Semiconductor equipment manufacturing industries".
- AIM stands for "AOL Instant Messenger," in which AOL stands for America Online.
- An ongoing joke in the mathematics world is that Benoit B. Mandelbrot's middle initial, B, stands for Benoit B. Mandelbrot.

²⁴ D Horner, D Strutt "Words at work. Vocabulary development for business English" Cambridge University Press 1996

Some macronyms can be multiply nested—the second order acronym points to another one further down a hierarchy. In an informal competition run by the magazine *New Scientist*, a fully documented specimen was discovered that may be the most deeply nested of all: RARS is the "Regional ATOVS Retransmission Service", ATOVS is Advanced TOVS, TOVS is TIROS operational vertical sounder and TIROS is Television infrared observational satellite.

3.3. The usage of internet slang in English language.

This paragraph is about slang used on the Internet. For jargon related to the Internet, see Glossary of Internet – related terminology.

Internet slang (Internet language, Internet Short hand, let, net speak or chat speak or chats speak) is a type of slang that Internet users have popularized and in many cases, have coined. Such terms often originate with the purpose of saving keystrokes. Many people use the same abbreviations in texting and instant messaging and social networking websites. Acronyms, keyboard symbols and shortened words are often used as methods of abbreviation in Internet slang. New dialect of slang, such as let or Lolspeak, develop as in group memes rather than time savers. In let speak, letters may be replaced by characters of similar appearance, let is often written as 133 or 1337 origins.

In 1975, Raphael Finkel of Stanford University compiled a collection of hacker slang, the Jargon File, from technical cultures, such as the MITAI Lab, the Stanford AILAB, the Stanford AI Lab (SAIL) and others, of the old ARPANET / AI /LISP-10 communities. Two items on this list in current use as Internet slang are “ flame “ and “ loser “. By 1990, the Jargon File had been enriched with examples of shortened used in talk mode between two terminals, (for example, “ BTW “, “ FYI “ and “ TNX ”) as well some slang expressions in use Usenet and new commercial networks like Compo Serve (for example, “ LOL “, “ FOTF “ and “ AFK “) A

Computer world article, discussing to origin of several current web slang terms, cites a still – online Fido Net article from 1989, which displays emoticons in addition to all – caps shortcuts like “LOL”.

“BRB” and “TYT”.²⁵

Use beyond computer – mediated communication this article contains IPA phonic symbols. Without proper rendering support, you may see question marks, boxes, or other symbols instead of Unicode characters. Many items of Internet jargon cross from computer – mediated communication to face – to – face communication. For example, The New York Times “Buzzwords of 2008” article includes: “FAIL”, long photo, (a term coined by Flickr for videos less than 90 seconds long), “DWT” (Driving While Texting) and various terms shorting with “tw –”, inspired by the web service Twitter.

Teenagers now sometimes use Internet acronyms in spoken communication as in written, for example: ROFL (pronounced / ro ^ fel / or / ^ r ^ fel /) and LOL (pronounced / ^ o ^ l / , ^ l ^ l / or / ^ lo ^ ^ ^ l /). David Crystal says that the crossover from written slang to speech is “ a brand new variety of language evolving, invented really by young people, within five years “.

Other commentators disagree, saying that these new words, being abbreviations for existing, long – used, phrases, don not “ enrich “ anything: they just shorten it. Further more, linguist Geoffrey K.Pullum of the University of Edinburgh states that even if interjections such b as LOL and ROFL were to become very common in spoken English, their “ total effect on language “ would be “ utterly trivial “.

Laccetti, a professor of humanities at Stevens Institute of Technology and Molsk, in their essay entitled The Lost Art of Writing are critical of the acronyms, predicting reduced chances of employment for students wrong use

²⁵ Смирницкий А.И “ Лексикология английского языка “ М,1956 p.163

such acronyms stating that, “Unfortunately for these students, their bosses will not be “lol “ when they read a report that lacks proper punctuation and grammar, has numerous misspellings, various made – up words, and silly acronyms. “Fondiller and Nerone, in their style manual, assert that “professional or business communication should never be careless or poorly constructed “ whether one is writing an electronic mail message or an article for publication and warn against the use of smiley and these abbreviations, stating that they are “no more than e – mail slang and have no place in business communication “, Yunker and Barry, in a study of online courses and how they can be improved through podcasting, have found that these acronyms, as well as emoticons, are “often misunderstood “ by students and are “difficult to decipher “ unless their meanings are explained in advance. They single out the example of “ROFL “ as not obviously being the abbreviation of “rolling on the floor laughing “ (emphasis added). Haig singles out LOL as one of there most popular initializes in Internet slang, alongside BFN (“bye for now “) and IMHO (“in my humble opinion “). In general, he describes these acronyms and the various initializes of Internet slang as convenient, but warns that “as ever more obscure acronyms emerge they can also be rather confusing “. Likewise, Bidgoli states that these initializes “save key strokes for the sender but [...] might make comprehension of the message more difficult for the reviewer “ and that “[s] Lang may hold different meanings and lead to misunderstandings especially in international settings “ ; he advises that they be used “only when you are sure that the other person knows the meaning “.

A 2003 study of college students by Naomi Baron found that use of initialize, even in computer – mediated communication (CMC) and specifically in instant messaging, was actually lower than she had expected. The students “used few abbreviations, acronyms and emoticons”. The spelling was “

reasonably good “ and contractions were “ not ubiquitous “. Out of 2,185 transmissions, there were 90 initializations in total, only 31 CMC style abbreviations, and 49 emoticons. Out of the 90 initializations, 76 were occurrences of “ lol “

Linguistic analysis

Shorts observes that LOL is a means of “ annotating text with stage directions “. Hung, in discussing these acronyms in the context of performative utterances, points out the difference between telling someone that one is laughing out loud and actually laughing out loud: “ The latter response is a straightforward action. The former is a self – reflexive representation of an action: I not only do something but also show you that I am doing it. Or induced, I may not actually laugh out loud but may use the locution ‘LOL’ to communicate my appreciation of your attempt at humor “. David Crystal notes that use of LOL is not necessarily genuine, just as the use of smiley faces or grins is not necessarily genuine, posing the rhetorical question, “ How many people are actually ‘ laughing out loud ‘ when they send LOL ? “. Fanzine concurs, stating that there is as yet no research that has determined the percentage of people who are actually laughing out loud they write “ LOL “²⁶.

Bonnie Ruberg, in an article concerning Internet linguistics, shares the following insight, “ In a world of text communication where real – life facial expressions and vocal intonations are impossible, abbreviations “ lol “ sacrifice their real meaning in order to articulate our nuanced intentions. They, in and of themselves, become glib, cliché – while at the same time almost necessary for expression online “.

Victoria Clarke, in her analysis of telnet talkers important when people write “ LOL “ and that “ a user who types LOL may well be laughing louder

²⁶WWW. abbreviation. ru

than one who types lol“, and opines that “ these standard expressions of laughter are losing force through overuse“. Egan describes LOL, ROTFL and other initialisms as helpful as long as they are not over used. He recommends against their use in business correspondence because the recipient may neither they nor emoticons are (in his view) appropriate in such correspondence. June Hines Moore shares that view. So, too, does Lind sell – Roberts, who gives the same advice of not using them in business correspondence, “ or you won’t be LOL’ ing“. This is a list of both complete and abbreviated English Internet slang. Some of the abbreviations listed are not confined to the Internet, but are used in shorthand as well. Many come from specialized types of shorthand, such as military activities, scientific work, or medical terminology. From the word Leet, derived from the word elite.

3.4. Internet message abbreviation

A.

AC ? : AH ! SI ?

AAF : As A FRIEND

ADAD : Another Day Dollar

ADIH : Another Day In Hell

ADIP : Another day in Paradise

AEAP : As Early As Possible

AFAICR : As far as I can recall / remember

AFAICS : As far as I can see

AFAICT : As far as I can tell

ASLP or A / S / L / P : Age, sex, location, picture²⁷

ATEOTD : At The End of the Day

ATM : At the moment

²⁷ Leonard Bloomfield Language New York. 1933

AWOL : Absent Without (Official) Leave

AYBABTU (also abbreviated as AYB) : all your base are belong to us
(from the video game ZERO Wing).

B

B2B : Business to Business

B2C : Business to Customer

B4 : Before

BBIAB : Be back in a bit

BBQ : Barbecue While not Internet slang in itself, it is often combined with other intialisms as a point of satire, absurdity, or a non – sequitur. For example OMG, WTF, BBQ.

BBL / BBS : Be back later / shortly / soon

BCNU : Bee seen' you

BFF : Best Friends Forever

BFN : Bye For Now

blog : Also known as web log or online journal

BOFH : Bastard operator from hell

bot : Any type of automated software in chat rooms and web – cataloging software

bump : Increment (for example: C 's + operator) or a backronym for
“ Bring Up My Post “

C

CMIIW : Correct me if I am wrong

crawl : To retrieve a web page along with the hyperlinks that reference it

crapplet : A poorly written computer application.

CU : See you (latter)

CYA : See ya Ok Cover Your Ass

cyber - (prefix) : A term to connect the subsequent word loosely to the world of computers or the Internet or sex over a computer.

Cyberspace : Virtual reality, the Internet, the World Wide Web and other kinds of computer systems, Science fiction author William Gibson popularized the term in his novel Neuromancer. Gibson used the word to describe a virtual world of computer networks that his cybrpunk heroes ‘jacked into ‘.²⁸

D

DFTT : Don't feed the trolls

D / L : Download

DND : DO not disturb

DOA : Dead on arrival, Refers to hardware that is broken on delivery. E

EOF : End of File

EOM : End of Message

EOL : End of Life (device or hardware that is at the end of its product life cycle) OR END of Line

F

F 9 : Fine

FAQ : Frequently Asked Question (s)

flamer : Someone who makes inflammatory, abusive or directly offensive comments. Similar to, but not quite the same as an Internet troll.

FMCDH : From My Cold Dead Hands.

FOAF : Friend of a friend

FTFY : Fixed that for you

FTL : For the loss

FTW : For the win

²⁸ www. Cambridge lesson UK

FTW ? : Fuck the what ? (reversal of WTF ?, implies increased confusion)²⁹

FUBAR : Fucked up beyond all recognition / repair (from military slang; pronounced “ foo – bar “)

FUD : Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt (the purposeful spread of misinformation).

FWIW : For what it’ s worth

FYI : For you information

G

GBTW : Get back to work

GGG : Good games

GJ : Good job, often used in online gaming when a teammate performs an act benefiting his team, such as killing an opponent or enabling that kill.

GL : Good luck, used before commencing a game

GMATA : Great minds think alike

Godwin’s law : Dictates that the like longer a thread, the more likely someone will post a comparison involving Nazis or Hitler

gratz : Congratulations

GTFO : Get the fuck out

GTG or G2G : “ Go to go “ or “ Good to go “

GR : Good Race

H

HAND : have a nice day

handle : Name used in online chat, (AKA nick (name) alias, screen / user name)

HF : Have fun

haxor or H4x Or (1337) : Hacker

²⁹ . Leonard Bloomfield, Language New York, 1933.

hit : A request made to the web server, (noun) the results of an Internet search, (verb) loading a web page. Hits are not equivalent to visitors of a webpage.

home page : The website's introduction page, starting point and guide. The technical term is "index"
hot list : A collection of publicly available URLs (World Wide Web site addresses), sometimes available as text files.

HTH : Hope this / that helps

I

IANAL : I am not a lawyer

IBTL : In before the lock

IDK : I don't know

IHT : I had to

IONO : If I recall / remember correctly

ILY : I love you

IMO : In my opinion

IMHO : In my humble / honest opinion

IMNSHO : In my not so humble opinion

IMAO : In my arrogant opinion information superhighway : The Internet (

AKA : I way, Infobahn)

IOW : In other words

IRC : Internet Relay Chat

IRL : In real life

J

jaggy : aliased computer graphics

JAS : Just a sec

JFTR : Just for the record

JK or j/k : Just kidding, or joke

K

k or kk : OK

KISS : Keep it simple stupid

KOS : Kill on sight

KTHX : OK, thanks

KTHXBAI : OK, thanks, goodbye, used either to cut short a conversation or to express displeasure with being cut short.

L

L8R : Later, L8R also sometimes abbreviated as

L8ER is commonly used in chat rooms and other text based communications as a way of saying good bye3.

leet : Often spelled as 133t or 1337. It originally meant elite

LFG : Looking for group

LFM : Looking for more

LMAO : Laughing my ass off

LMFAO : Laughing my fucking ass off

LMIRL : Let's meet in real life

LOL : Laughing out loud, laugh out loud

LTNS : Long time no see

lulz : corruption of LOL

lurker : Someone who frequents a Usenet group with out participating in discussions

LYLAB : Love you like a brother

LYLAS : Love you like a sister

M

MMORPG, MMO : Massive Multi –player Online Role Playing Game.

MOTD : Message of the day

MTFBWY : May The Force be with you

MUD : Multi – User Dungeon

MUSH : Multi – User Shared Hallucination

MYOB : Mind your own business

M8 : Mate

N

N 1 : Nice one, used mostly often in gaming

NE 1 : “ Anyone “

newbie, newb, noob : An inexperienced user of a system or game, or an annoying person.³⁰

nOrp : Alternate form of pron, intertional misspelling of porn

NP : No problem

NS : Nice shot. Used in online gaming

NSOH : No sense of humor

NSFW : Not safe for work. Warning about content that may get the viewer in trouble with his employer or co – workers

NVM, NVMD or nm : Never mind, not much

O

ORLY : Oh really ?

OIC : Oh, I see

OFN : Old freaking news

OMG : Oh my god

OMFG : Oh my fucking god

OMGWTF : Oh my God what the fuck

OMW : On my way or Oh my word

ONoz : Oh, no

OP : Original poster / Operator / Outpost

OS : Operating system

³⁰ www. Cambridge lesson UK

OT : Off topic

OTOH : On the other hand

OTP : On the phone or One true pairing or On The Piss³¹

P

P2P : Peer to peer, or pay to play

PAW : Parents are watching

PEBKAC / PEBCAK : Problem exists between keyboard and chair

PITA : Pain in the Ares /ass

PLMK : Please let me know

PMSL : Pissing myself laughing

POS : Piece of shit, or parent over shoulder

POTS : Plain old telephone service

POV : Point of view

PL : Power leveling, used in online games

PPL : People

PTKFGS : Punch the keys For God's Sake

pron : International misspelling of porn

PW : Persistent World (gaming)

pwned : Intentional misspelling of owned

Q

QFT : Quoted for trustiness – either to show satire or agreement with something satiric.

QWP : (texting) Quit Whining, Please. (gaming) equip v / equipment n.

R

rehi (or merely re) : Hello again

RL : Real life

³¹ O. Akhmanova, (ed) “Lexicology : Theory and Method“ M, 1972 p.381

RMS : Ride me sideways

ROFL : Rolling on floor laughing

ROTFL : Rolling on the floor laughing

ROFLMAO / ROTFL : Rolling on (the) floor laughing my ass off while peeing in my pants

ROFLOL / ROTFLOL : Rolling on the floor laughing out loud

RSN : Real soon now (used sarcastically)

RTFB : Read the fucking binary (or book)

RTFS : Read the fucking source

RTFM / RTM : Read the (fucking) manual or reboot the (fucking) machine

S

SCNR : Sorry, could not resist

SFW : Safe for Work, see NSFW

sk8 / sk8r / sk8er : skate / skater

smiley : Another name for emoticons

SMH : Shaking my head

SNAFU : Situation normal : all (fucked / fouled) up snail mail : Normal paper mail service

SOHF : Sense of humor failure

spider : The program behind a search engine

STFU : Shut the fuck up

STFW : Search the fucking web

T

TANSTAAFL : There aren't no such thing as a free lunch, a quote originally attributed to Robert Heinlein

TBF : Time between failures

TBH : To be honest

TG : That's great

TGIF : Thank God it's Friday

THX / THNX, TNX or TX : Thanks

TIA : Thanks in advance

TINC : There Is No Cabal, a term discouraging conspiracy theories

TL, DR : Too Long, Didn't Read

TMI : To much information

TOOBS : Internets (referring to the Internet as a series of tubes)

TOS : Terms of service

TTBOMK : To the best of my knowledge

TTFN : Ta ta for now

TTYL : Talk to you later (also spelled TTUL, T2UL, or T2YL)

TTYN : Talk to you never

TTYS : Talk to you soon

tweedler : One who has deep love for all computer related technology and gadgets

TY : Thank you

TYT : Take your time

TYVM : Thank you very much³²

U

U : You

UGO : You go Owned

URS : You Really Suck

W

WOOT, WOOT or WOOT : First two express exuberance, the last is a backronym for the term "We Own the Other Team"

W / or W / O : With or without

WB : Welcome back

³². www.Cambridge.lesson.UK

Wed site : Wedding Website

WUG : What you got ?

WUBU2 : What (have) you been up to ?

WUU2 : What (are) you up to ?

WYSIWYG : What you see is what you get

W8 : Wait

Y

YAGNI : You aren't Goanna Need It

YAGTOH : You are going to own him

YHBT : You have been trolled

YEC : Young Earth Creationism

YKW : You know what ?

YMMV : Your mileage may vary

YOYO : You're On Your Own

Z

ZOMG : An intentional misspelling of the acronym short hand for " Oh My Gaud " and pounced " Z oh My Gaud " This version is mainly used in jest or to ridicule people who use abbreviations like OMG and OMFG.

Instant message, e – mail and text message abbreviations pepper our Conversations these days both screen – to screen and face – to face and if You don not spend a lot of time texting or chatting online, you may feel out of the loop. With every new technology comes new vocabulary, usually about the parts and fresh inventions. This has certainly been true of the internet and cellular phones. Young people just one generation ago knew nothing of hard drives, CD – ROM, text message or Google, but today, there' s far more than just new vocabulary. Text abbreviations have almost created a whole new dialect, and if you can't tell your BRBs from your LOLs, here's a handy reference guide to help you speak.

Many of the following text message abbreviations can stand alone and do not need to be incorporated into a larger message to convey meaning. However, they are not limited and can be placed in a sentence as indicated in the examples.

2 – two / too / to

I'm going 2 work at 2.

Me 2.³³

2 nite – tonight

4 – four / for

He has something 4 me.

bf / gf - boyfriend / girlfriend

My bf' s taking me 2 dinner.

bff – best friend (forever)

She's my bff.

brb – be right back This stand – alone text abbreviations is used to excuse oneself from an internet conversation for a short while. Most often, it is used when absences will be under five minutes in duration.

C – see

Though, abbreviation as other types of words has different verities, as acronym, innitialism, and etc. these verities are shows that abbreviation carries out polyfunctional meaning. Needs for the usage of them in different spheres of live, divided it into groups according the layer of speakers. Some abbreviations belong to only some social groups, such as medicine, law, and etc.

³³ . www.EnglishLec.Net

Conclusion.

A shortened word is in some way different from its prototype in usage. The shortened word and its full form have the same lexical meaning but differ only in stylistic reference.

Shortened words are structurally simple words and in most cases have the same lexical meaning as the longer words from which they are derived. Shortening is not a derivational process because there are no structural patterns after which new shortened words could be built therefore we can't say that shortening is a derivational word formation. We must distinguish lexical abbreviations and clippings.

Abbreviations consist of the first letters of a word group or a compound word (CPSU, YCL, USA, BBC, NATO) or the component of a two member word group H (hydrogen) bomb, V – day – Victory Day is shortened. The last one is not changed. Clipping consists in the cutting off of one or several syllables of a word. In many cases the stressed syllables are preserved. Ex : Sis (sister), Jap (Japanese), doc (doctor).

Clippings and abbreviations have same peculiarities as simple words. They take the plural endings and that of the possessive case. They take grammatical inflexions. Ex : exams, docs, cars, doc's they are used with articles. the USA, a lab etc.

They may take derivational affixes: YCL – er, MP ess hanky (from handkerchief), unkie (from uncle). Clippings do not always coincide in meaning with the original word. Ex : doc and doctor have the meaning one who practices medicine, but doctor is also the highest degree given by a university to a scholar or scientist and a person who has received such a degree whereas doc is not used with these meanings.

Internet slang (Internet language, Internet short – hand, let, net speak or chat speak) is a type of slang that Internet users have popularized and in

many cases, have coined. Such terms often originate with the purpose of saving keystrokes. Many people use the same abbreviations in texting and social networking websites. Acronyms, keyboard symbols and shortened words are often used as methods of abbreviations in Internet slang. New dialects of slang, such as let or Lol speak, develop as in group memes rather than time savers.

Having analyzed the problem of Abbreviations in Modern English we could do the following conclusions:

- a) The problem of Abbreviations in Modern English is very actual nowadays.
- b) There are several kinds of Abbreviations acronym, graphical abbreviations.
- c) A number of famous linguists dealt with the problem of Abbreviations in Modern English.

In particular, Profs. Ullmann and Broal emphasized the social reasons for abbreviating, L. Lipka pointed out non-binary contrast or many-member lexical sets and gave the type which he called directional opposition, V.N. Comissarov and Walter Skeat proved the link of homonymy influence with the appearing of abbreviated words, etc.

- d) The problem of Abbreviation is still waits for its detail investigation.
- e) Abbreviations studied in Lexicology, in the part of word formation.

Lexicology (from Greek Lexis “word” and logos “learning”) is the part of the linguistics dealing with the vocabulary of the language and the properties of words as the main Units of the language. The term of vocabulary is used to denote the system formed by the totality all words that the language processes.

The term word denote the basic unit of a given language resulting from the association of a particular meaning with the particular group of sounds, capable of a particular grammatical employment. A word therefore is simultaneously a semantic, grammatical and phonological unit.

Our conclusion would be incomplete without mentioning the units of that are an inseparable part of word-stock its word building elements. So English word-formation process includes the ways of word building by affixation, hybrids, compounding, shortening, abbreviations, acronyms and etc. Word building process involve not only the qualitative but the quantitative changes. Thus derivation, compounding represent addition as affixes and free stems, respectively are added to the underlying form.

Abbreviations on the other hand, may be represented as significant subtraction, in which part of the original words is taken away.

The spoken and a written forms of the English language have each their own patterns of the Abbreviations. But there is a constant exchange between the both sphere. It is sometimes difficult to tell where the given Abbreviations really originated.

In Modern English Abbreviations becoming wide spread. It has its homonymic pair and also main peculiarities. All these innovations manifest varying many degrees of stability or rather varying degrees of acceptance as independent lexical unit. Some abbreviations and acronyms have already been included in Dictionaries. We have gathered a lot of examples from “New English – Russian Dictionary” by Galperin I R and analyzed them. Abbreviations pertain to the public political, cultural, economic and industrial life of English speaking people.

To study the problem of Abbreviations are of theoretical value as it becomes obvious if we realize that it forms the study of on three main aspect of language, i.e its vocabulary, the other two being its grammar and sound system.

Having said about the perspectives of the work we hope that this work will find its worthy way of applying at schools, lyceums and colleges of high education by both teachers and students of English. We also express our hopes to take this work its worthy place among the lexicological works dedicated to the types of Abbreviations.

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