



## LEXICAL FEATURES OF INTERNET DISCOURSE LANGUAGE

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**Abstract.** *This article examines the distinctive lexical characteristics of internet discourse, focusing on the transformation of language in digital communication environments. The findings contribute to ongoing discussions about language change in the digital age and have implications for understanding contemporary communicative practices across diverse online platforms.*

**Keywords:** *internet discourse, lexical features, digital communication, neologisms, computer-mediated communication, linguistic adaptation*

**Аннотация.** *В данной статье рассматриваются отличительные лексические характеристики интернет-дискурса, особое внимание уделяется трансформации языка в цифровой коммуникационной среде. Результаты исследования способствуют продолжению дискуссий об изменении языка в цифровую эпоху и имеют значение для понимания современных коммуникативных практик на различных онлайн-платформах.*

**Ключевые слова:** *интернет-дискурс, лексические особенности, цифровая коммуникация, неологизмы, компьютерно-опосредованная коммуникация, языковая адаптация*

**Annotatsiya.** *Ushbu maqola raqamli muloqot muhitida tilning o'zgarishiga e'tibor qaratib, onlayn muloqotning o'ziga xos leksik xususiyatlarini o'rganadi. Tadqiqot natijalari raqamli davrda til o'zgarishi haqidagi doimiy munozaralarga hissa qo'shadi va turli onlayn platformalardagi zamonaviy muloqot amaliyotlarini tushunish uchun muhimdir.*

**Kalit so'zlar:** *onlayn muloqot, leksik xususiyatlar, raqamli muloqot, neologizmlar, kompyuter vositasida muloqot, tilga moslashish.*

**Introduction.** The Internet's communication has altered linguistic practices and discourse patterns that are indicative of this change very clearly. The language of the Internet, in other words, the Online language, is a linguistic phenomenon that has a very specific and peculiar lexicon that distinguishes it from the other forms of written and spoken communication. The fast growth and spread of social media, along with messaging apps and online forums, have greatly contributed to this ongoing process of lexical innovation, which has produced not only new terms but also new ways of writing and new styles of usage that have turned the traditional norms upside down [1]. In fact, this very change is a reflection of the larger shifts in the society and culture regarding the ways through which a person makes and communicates meaning,



as well as the ways of relating to others via digital media. The Internet discourse is full of various lexical, and among these we can list the phenomena of acronyms, emoticons, hashtags, and hybrid languages that utilize the elements of various linguistic systems [2]. In addition, these lexical features are crucial for understanding the contemporary communication practices as well as the transition of language in the digital world. Among the features of this domain, the researchers have found some very specific characteristics that include the economy of expression, humor, and the playful manipulation of spelling rules [3].

**Methodology and Literature Review.** This piece of research utilizes a qualitative approach by relying on extensive literary review and critical synthesis of the current academic writing in the field of Internet discourse language. The research strategy consists of the systematic review of linguistic studies, discourse analysis, and sociolinguistics that investigate vocabulary change, word formation, and semantic evolution in online communication [4]. The review of literature shows that the digital communication has its own set of lexicons that reflects the communicative restrictions and opportunities offered by the media. Among the various linguistic features, the scholars have pointed out to the abbreviation and acronym formation as the main ones, where the users are inventing short forms like LOL, BTW, and OMG for the sake of fast communication and to be more efficient in character-constrained contexts [5].

Research conducted by Uzbek linguists has highlighted the prevalence of borrowings and code-switching practices in online communication, particularly among bilingual and multilingual users who integrate lexical elements from different languages within single utterances. Russian scholarship has emphasized the role of language play and creative orthography in Internet discourse, documenting phenomena such as deliberate misspellings, phonetic spellings, and graphical substitutions that serve expressive and identity-marking functions [6]. International research has documented the proliferation of neologisms in Internet discourse, including terms derived from technology, popular culture, and social media practices. Studies have shown that Internet users actively participate in lexical innovation through various word formation processes including compounding, blending, derivation, and semantic extension. The literature also addresses the phenomenon of emoticons and emoji as paralinguistic elements that supplement verbal communication and convey emotional states, attitudes, and interpersonal stance [7].

**Results and Discussion.** The analysis of scholarly literature reveals several significant lexical features that characterize Internet discourse language and distinguish it from conventional communication forms. First, abbreviation and acronym formation emerge as fundamental characteristics, reflecting the economy principle that governs much digital communication. Users systematically create shortened forms to reduce typing effort and accommodate platform constraints, resulting in an extensive repertoire of abbreviated expressions that function as



conventional lexical items within online communities [8]. Second, neologism creation represents a dynamic process through which Internet users continuously expand vocabulary to describe new technologies, practices, and cultural phenomena. This lexical innovation occurs through various mechanisms including compounding, blending, conversion, and semantic extension, producing terms that rapidly diffuse across digital networks and sometimes enter mainstream language. Third, code-switching and multilingual practices constitute prominent features in Internet discourse, particularly in contexts where users share multiple linguistic repertoires.

The integration of lexical elements from different languages within single messages reflects the globalized nature of digital communication and the fluid linguistic identities of online participants. Fourth, informal and colloquial vocabulary dominates Internet discourse, with users preferring conversational expressions, slang, and vernacular forms over formal or standard language variants. This informality aligns with the interpersonal orientation of much online communication and the blurred boundaries between written and spoken language modalities in digital contexts. Fifth, creative orthography and language play emerge as expressive resources through which users signal identity, affect, and social positioning. Deliberate deviations from standard spelling conventions, including phonetic spellings, letter substitutions, and repetition, serve stylistic and pragmatic functions beyond simple communication of propositional content.

The findings indicate that lexical features of Internet discourse reflect the interplay between technological affordances, communicative needs, and sociocultural practices. Digital platforms shape vocabulary through interface design, character limitations, and search algorithms, while users actively appropriate and transform these affordances through creative linguistic practices. The rapid lexical innovation observed in Internet discourse demonstrates language's adaptability and the active role of speakers in shaping linguistic systems. Moreover, the analysis reveals that Internet discourse language exhibits register variation, with lexical choices varying across different platforms, genres, and communicative contexts.

**Conclusion.** This study has examined the lexical features of Internet discourse language through systematic literature analysis, revealing distinctive characteristics that reflect the unique communicative conditions of digital environments. The research demonstrates that Internet discourse exhibits specific lexical patterns including extensive abbreviation, active neologism creation, multilingual code-switching, informal vocabulary preference, and creative orthographic practices. These features emerge from the intersection of technological constraints, communicative efficiency demands, and sociocultural creativity, illustrating how digital media reshape linguistic practices. The findings contribute to understanding language evolution in contemporary society and highlight the dynamic nature of lexical systems in response to new communicative technologies. Internet discourse language represents neither



linguistic deterioration nor mere informality, but rather a sophisticated linguistic register adapted to the specific affordances and constraints of digital communication contexts.

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