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## WORD FORMATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF ABBREVIATIONS IN MODERN ENGLISH

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### ABSTRACT

This article is devoted to an extensive class of military abbreviations, as well as the process of their formation. The impetus for the creation and widespread use of abbreviations was the reduction of wartime. A characteristic feature of military vocabulary is the extremely wide use of abbreviations, the variety of their types and the high rate of renewal. This phenomenon is due to the rapid improvement of military equipment and weapons, and the formation of the armed forces as one of the main social institutions led to the emergence of a huge number of new concepts, terms, nomenclature names.

### KEYWORDS

Abbreviation, military, saturation, word formation, reduction, coincide, acronyms, revolution, wars, initials, submarine.

### INTRODUCTION

From the point of view of word formation, abbreviation is a topical subject of research, since the question of whether to consider it one of the ways to form new words is still being discussed [6, 29]. Since abbreviations as a new type of words enriched the system of lexemes of the language, but, however, did not lead to the emergence of any non-lexical, typologically new units, nor did they lead to the complication of the language structure [4].

Due to the fact that each language has a limited number of root elements and affixes, today, together with traditional methods of word formation (word production and word formation), such methods of vocabulary replenishment as semantic word formation, borrowing and abbreviation play an increasingly important role. According to the definition, abbreviations are nouns that consist of truncated segments of words that are part of a

synonymous phrase, the supporting component of which cannot be a whole, untruncated word. In this case, the special advantage of abbreviation is the creation of new root words and root elements. It should also be noted that word formation by abbreviation is possible in conjunction with other ways of replenishing the vocabulary. In addition, the language resorts to abbreviations only when they are linguistically more appropriate than in other ways.

## MAIN PART

Since the abbreviation actively interacts with other ways of word formation. Consider the ways of forming new words using traditional word-formation methods:

- word formation: RAF (Royal Air Force) - Rafer - "a soldier of the British Air Force"; RAND (Research and Development Corporation) - RANDster - "an employee of the RAND Corporation"; morphologically complicated cases are possible, for example: UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) - Unescan - "belonging to UNESCO";

- word combinations: MATS (military Air Transport Service) + man - MATSman - "military air transport service soldier";

- conversions: RAF (Royal Air Force) - to raff - "subject to attack from the air"; PX (Post Exchange) - to PX - "buy something in the store of the military trade service.

In addition, abbreviation is often combined with another way of word formation. With the help of the joint action of abbreviation and suffixation, for example, the words are formed: blackie (blacksmith - black + ie) - blacksmith", brickie (bricklayer> brick + fie) - "mason", postie (postman> po'st + ie) - "postman".

In these cases, special abbreviated morphemes appear (-black-, -brick-, -post-), which only formally coincide with the root morphemes -black-, -brick-, -post- that already existed in English.

Linguists have developed rules for compiling complex abbreviated lexical units from standard abbreviated components. The most successful initial abbreviations are beginning to be used as "samples" to create new abbreviations, which also contributes to the typification of abbreviations. The most important impetus for the development of abbreviation was the discovery and widespread use of correlative acronyms - initial abbreviations that have the phonetic structure of ordinary words [5].

Abbreviation as word formation is a complex and rather extensive phenomenon. The relevance of abbreviation lies in the need to name new concepts and objects. The expediency is the creation of extremely economical and semantically capacious nominative units.

The abbreviation method of word formation is the most subjective and, perhaps, the most artificial among all known methods. This is due to numerous features of abbreviation: trial and error when creating names, variability and occasionality, intensity of diachronic changes, susceptibility to regulation, weak national fixation and free permeability, etc. [1]

Abbreviations and abbreviations are considered productive ways of word formation, both in modern English and in Russian. Compound words, which are formed by adding the initial parts or syllables of words, as well as alphabetic abbreviations, as a more convenient form of complex terms for written communication, have received predominant

distribution. In general, abbreviations and abbreviations are more widespread in English than in Russian.

The undeniable fact that abbreviation and abbreviation are the most productive in recent decades and regular ways of forming lexical units means the language's desire to save language efforts, and also indicates its rationalization.

Numerous neologisms testify to the continuous emergence of new abbreviations. A striking example of the successful functioning of abbreviations and abbreviations in modern English is the well-known expression O.K. There are many versions of the origin of this abbreviation. She is credited with both American and European ancestry. For example, it can be the initial letters of the German Oberst Kommandant - senior commander. According to the French, OK is a military abbreviation for "o Killed", which was used in reports during the war period. The entry meant "o killed". An American scientist, an English teacher at Columbia University, Allen Walker Reed, seriously began to study the origin of OK, having studied 12 versions. One of them was associated with Orrin Kendall crackers, which were given to soldiers during the American Civil War. According to another version, this abbreviation is the term of telegraphists Oren Keu ("public key").

According to Allen, this abbreviation first appeared in a satirical article about bad spelling in the Boston Morning Post in 1839 and it was written in the form of Oll Korrekt (not all correct). In 1840, OK was used as the initials of Old Kinderhook (pseudonym of Martin van Buren, 8th President of the United States). His campaign slogan was "Vote OK". Other linguists believe that the abbreviation has an older origin: for

example, it may belong to the Indians. Okeh means yes.

Abbreviation influenced the creation of a non-affixal way of word formation, i.e. reduction of the stem in an abbreviated way, regardless of the boundary of morphemes (non-morphemic truncation of a lexical unit). The non-affixal way of forming words applies only to nouns. The derived word has a stylistic coloring (usually reduced) and a special expressiveness in speech. Most often, this method is used in oral speech. To date, this relatively new way of word formation has become widespread in American English and has reached a high degree of productivity. A word is identified as an abbreviated word as long as its full form exists in the language, from which it was formed. Otherwise, it begins to function as an ordinary, unabbreviated lexical unit.

An important role in solving the problem of abbreviation is played by the relationship between sound and meaning. The main factor in this is the position of the connection of the abbreviation with the phenomenon of reality through the corresponding full names. V.P. Voloshin found out that the meaning of the original phrase is assigned both to the abbreviation as a whole and to each of its components - a sound or sound combination that can be distinguished as part of the abbreviation. These components of the original phrase are called "decoding". As a result, the abbreviation becomes understandable only thanks to "decoding", except for special cases. [12] With this question it is worth referring to the conclusion of K.A. Levkovskaya, who found that the relationship between sound and meaning in complex abbreviated words is of a completely different nature than in ordinary words of the language: it is not carried out directly, but rather through the appropriate decoding [8]. However, if an

abbreviated word is widely used and exists more or less long in the language, a direct connection between sound and meaning can gradually be established, and the abbreviation does not need to be deciphered for understanding.

We can conclude that the problem of the connection between the sound and meaning of abbreviations is one of the main, most complex and controversial problems in the study of abbreviations. Either the recognition of abbreviations as full-fledged words, or their assignment to "lexico-semantic variants" of full forms that do not have their own meaning depends on its decision, which will not allow them to be considered words in full.

Studying the question of the fundamental difference between an abbreviation and a phrase, E.P. Voloshin notes that acronyms and sound-letter abbreviations are not compound words, in contrast to the structural-semantic variety of compound words, but are monemes, i.e. simple, monomorphemic words. The decomposition of their morphological composition, characteristic of such cases of analysis, is impossible without the involvement of extralinguistic data. Despite the fact that E.P. Voloshin does not name a direct connection between the sound and meaning of abbreviations, the very fact of recognizing them as monemes suggests that this connection has the same character in them as in simple, monomorphemic ones [8,94]. At the same time, V.V. Borisov points out that it is not clear why the comparison of the abbreviation with the original phrase is characterized by E.P. Voloshin as "involving extralinguistic data", since it is obvious that the comparison of various lexical units is one of the methods of linguistic analysis.

It is also worth noting that the language does not always include two forms: the original, i.e. full name and abbreviated, i.e. abbreviation. There are cases when, along with the abbreviation, there may not be a full form, due to the fact that in some cases the lexical abbreviation may eventually become an independent word, i.e. main way of expressing this concept. Referring abbreviations to lexical units, we must recognize the unity of sound and meaning, while the meaning is not associated with individual sounds (phonemes) that make up this abbreviation, but with a specially organized sound range, which is the abbreviation.

In this connection, we can conclude that, in general, the process of formation of abbreviations (abbreviation) can be characterized as the replacement of any stable language expression (word, phrase) in oral or written speech with a shorter expression based on the material of the first expression and with maintaining a common semantic content. The meaning of the abbreviation process is to rationalize the use of the material elements of the language for communicative purposes, that is, its sound and graphic shell.

Abbreviation word formation within the framework of military vocabulary is one of the main tools of language economy. One of the reasons for the spread of this method of word formation is the progress in the field of military equipment. Denoting cumbersome terms with capacious abbreviations facilitates the maintenance of written documentation, and also saves time on negotiations and briefings. However, it significantly complicates the task of the translator. For example, the abbreviation "AAA" to a simple layman may remind the size of AA batteries, but for a military translator it is nothing more than Anti-aircraft artillery.



The main tool of work in this case is the dictionary of military abbreviations, which includes all the already established abbreviations and where new ones are regularly added.

Thus, we can conclude that the facts of the language show the involvement of the abbreviation in the system of word-formation means. And entering the word-formation system, on the one hand, it cannot but be exposed to the action of stable, established elements of this system, and on the other hand, it cannot but exert its influence on them.

Based on the analysis of abbreviation as a process, the main features of abbreviations as a product of abbreviation are established, the differences between abbreviations and some similar phenomena are revealed (for example: a letter symbol), and the main types of lexical units are also characterized.

Let's consider three basic concepts: "abbreviation", "abbreviation" and "abbreviation".

Abbreviation is the process of creating a secondary nomination, which consists in reducing the linear length of the original name, and resulting in the formation of an abbreviated structural version of this name as a result of using a number of formal operations.

An abbreviation is a unit of written or oral speech created from individual elements of the graphic or sound shell of the original full form (most often a word), with which this unit is in a certain lexico-semantic connection.

The terms "abbreviation" and "abbreviation" distinguish between such concepts as the process of creating a nomination and its final result, while the

term "reduction" can denote both the process of reducing the sound or graphic form of a word, and the result of this process [1, 2].

According to some studies of abbreviation processes, abbreviation can be characterized as a specific means of word formation necessary to create structural-specific and stylistic variants of words (in connection with which abbreviations are not considered as words when they first appear in the text, but acquire the status of words in the course of language development). According to many linguists, abbreviations do not replenish the dictionary, but reduce the original lexical unit, but at the same time, there is a possibility of abbreviations moving into the sphere of common use, and also, in the course of language development, an abbreviation can become a separate independent word. [7]

In the process of abbreviation, the following features are usually taken into account: nominalization, two-sidedness and functionality. E.M. Beregovskaya considers abbreviations as structural and stylistic equivalents of words and phrases, receiving "the right of way of circulation, while the expanded name serves only as a means of interpreting the meaning of the abbreviation." In other words, abbreviated signs are conditional abbreviations of the verbal signs of supporting phrases with the same subject correlation, which are their stylistic synonyms. An abbreviation is a secondary code that performs the function of replacing one linguistic material form with another. [10, 174-179]

As for the English military vocabulary itself, it should be said that abbreviations are an integral part of the oral speech of military personnel, and are also widely used in various written documents. There are types of

documents in which only proper names and geographical names are given in full form, otherwise they consist entirely of abbreviations.

Saturation with abbreviations is a feature of special literature and reflects one of the main ways of informational optimization of a message. However, the variety of forms of creating abbreviations in English often leads to difficulties in their interpretation in Russian. When working with them, it is important to remember that due to the lack of international and national standards for abbreviations, many English abbreviations do not have equivalents in Russian. In this case, the translation is carried out using other special methods of conveying the meaning of a particular term, but the absence of an equivalent leads to a partial loss of the meaning of the translated word, and also its semantic coloring is lost.

The function of abbreviations in the process of communication is to express thoughts more economically and to eliminate redundancy of information. In other words, in the reduction of formal language material (sound or graphic) to convey a certain semantic content.

To understand the essence and patterns of functioning of abbreviations in a language, one should consider the problem of their origin.

The occurrence of abbreviations can be explained by the "principle of least effort" and "the law of economy of speech means". [3, 49] "The trend of economy in language is manifested in the creation of abbreviated units that penetrate into all spheres of human activity as a kind of reaction against the excessive expenditure of physiological efforts, against all kinds of inconveniences that complicate the work of memory,

the implementation of certain brain functions associated with the production and reproduction of speech". Research on the topic of speech economy was carried out both in domestic and foreign linguistic literature. Abbreviation is associated with the main communicative function of the language and provides the needs of communication not by "saving effort", but by condensing information by increasing the informational value of certain elements of formal language material.

The development of abbreviation and its distribution in written and oral speech can be explained by the redundancy of the language and the uneven distribution of information in the individual elements of the speech flow. The omission of elements that do not carry new information does not affect the understanding of the semantic content of a segment of speech. In this connection, it is expedient to reduce the informational value of the statement (i.e., replacing a detailed statement with a short one) in order to increase the communicative capabilities of the language.

This means that the abbreviation is to ensure the transfer of the maximum amount of information with the minimum use of the material shell of the language (sound shell and graphic form).

The classification of abbreviations is quite extensive. The first sign by which abbreviations are divided is the number of components. The abbreviations are one-Jy - July, two-RJ - Road Junction, three-SAC - Strategic Air Command, four- FEBA - Forward Edge of the Battle Area, and five- LACAS - Low Altitude Cilose Air Support component. The occurrence of more than five-component abbreviations in documents is very rare. [9, 37-42]

Abbreviations are divided into two large groups: graphic and lexical.

A graphic abbreviation is a reduction of a word due to the omission of several letters, which does not have a special sound form and requires decoding when reading, since it cannot function independently in speech. In other words, this is a way of abbreviating a word or phrase (for example, Svc Pit is read service platoon "service platoon").

In graphic abbreviations, punctuation marks such as dot, hyphen, slash, etc. are widely used. In this regard, there are several types of graphic abbreviations:

- dot abbreviations, for example, int. – interjection, s.b. – somebody, log. – logic, fam. – family;

- hyphen abbreviations, for example, H-P - high-power, ah-d - ahead, h-f -

hard facet;

- oblique abbreviations, for example, f / lg - focal length, i / b - in bulk, in / in - inside / inside;

- zero (without dots) abbreviations, for example, fcap - foolscap, ib - ibidem, mo - month;

- combined abbreviations, for example, cu.-sec - cubic feet per second, cu.-nb. – cumulonimbus.

In English, there are several semantic groups of graphic abbreviations in which they are most often found. One of which is military ranks, for example, capt - captain, col - colonel, sgt - sergeant, etc.

A characteristic feature of graphic abbreviations is that the same abbreviation can be read differently depending on the context. For example, fl - filter, finish

line, flat, Florida, foreign language. Another option is also possible, where the same word is replaced by several ways of graphic abbreviations. For example, octane number - ON, O.N., on, o.n.

Lexical abbreviation is the creation of a new lexeme different from the original unit both in graphics and phonetics, and sometimes in semantics and grammar. Lexical abbreviations, unlike graphic abbreviations, are used both in oral and written speech.

As the first type of abbreviations, syllabic abbreviations can be distinguished by transformation. Their main difference from graphic abbreviations is that the form of the word changes not only graphically, but also phonetically: the abbreviated word is read according to the current spelling rules as an ordinary word (for example, sub from submarine "submarine" or submachine-gun "automatic, pistol-machine gun").

The next type is alphabetic or initial abbreviations. This is the reduction of phrases to the initial letters of the words included in them. Most often, such lexical units belong to the class of nouns and have a nominal character (for example, BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation); UK (United Kingdom), USN ['ju:'es'en] - United States Navy "US Navy"). The combination of initialisms with non-abbreviated words form new lexical units (for example, PC word processor forms a new abbreviation PCW, i.e. the initialism PC is "embedded" in the initialism PCW). There are often cases when, in order to recognize an abbreviation as initialism, it is enough that it also includes not initial letters, but at least one initial letter from among the abbreviated words (for example, XGA = eXtended Graphics Adapter).

There are two ways of voicing initialisms: as an ordinary word according to the current spelling standards (NATO) or letter-by-letter voicing (BBC).

In addition, lexical abbreviations include acronyms. These are abbreviations that coincide in form with common words, formed from the initial letters or syllables of the phrase (for example, BOSS biological orbiting satellite station "biological orbital station", cf. boss "boss, owner"). Acronyms are one of the new, promising and least studied ways of word formation, which has become widespread in modern English.

Lexical abbreviation should be considered as a way of word formation, the result of which is the emergence of various abbreviated lexemes, while graphic abbreviation is a phenomenon directly related to abbreviated entries, in which the entries themselves are graphic abbreviations.

It is worth noting that some types of abbreviations are so similar to each other that, undergoing certain morphological and phonetic changes, they can move from one type to another. For example, CD-ROM - Compact Disc read-only memory - here the first part is read letter by letter, and the second - like a regular word. In such cases, it is not possible to determine this abbreviation to one particular species.

Thus, the classification of abbreviations is not based on one feature, but on the basis of a combination of two defining features: by the method of abbreviation and by the method of reading.

Abbreviations can also include non-letter characters. Most often, these are numeric characters that can replace a whole word in an abbreviation.

1. Cardinal numbers.

DS1 - Digital Signal level 1 - Digital signal with level 1.

DS2 - Digital Signal level 2 - Digital signal with level 2.

2. Ordinal number.

1LT - first lieutenant - first lieutenant.

1SGT - first sergeant - first sergeant.

3. Multiple number.

F2F - Frequency - Double Frequency - two-frequency.

4. Numerals 2 (two) and 4 (four) as consonant prepositions to and for.

B2B - Business to Business - interaction company - company.

B2C - Business to Customer - interaction between the company and the client.

5. Numerals as a "metasign". That is, in the form of a way to indicate the number of successive letter abbreviations.

C2IS - Command and Control Information Systems - information control and guidance system.

C4 - Command, Control, Communications and Computers - command, control, communications and computer technology.

Since communication in the military sphere is characterized by the need for an accurate and economical designation of special concepts used in certain sections of military science, abbreviations of all kinds are often used in it (Barinov, 2007).

If we pay attention to the typology of abbreviated units based on their functioning in different types of



contexts, three main functional types of abbreviated nominations used in modern English, especially in written discourse, are most often considered:

- copyright or occasional;
- text;
- generally accepted; [11, 56]

Occasional or author's abbreviations in linguistics are called a layer of abbreviated names, namely, "one-time" nominations that are not entered in dictionaries, do not have a generally accepted meaning, depend on the context, existing within the same source. This type is quite widely represented by acronyms.

Text abbreviations, along with occasional abbreviations, need explanation or decoding, exist within a certain context and belong to highly specialized and professional areas. Often these include abbreviations of military vocabulary.

Common abbreviations are regularly used in the language, have systemic relations with the usual vocabulary and normative status, are active in word formation, and are included in dictionaries. In the list of generally accepted abbreviations, there is a well-established group of abbreviated lexical units - abbreviations-internationalisms, denoting concepts that are common or important from one point of view or another for native speakers.

Thus, we found out that there are various classifications of abbreviated units, the purpose of which is to replace any stable linguistic expression in oral and written speech with a shorter expression created on the basis of the original lexical unit while maintaining the general meaning of the content.

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## **CONCLUSION**

We can say that the abbreviation demonstrates the development of intercultural relations, scientific and technological progress or the progress of society as a whole, which replenish the vocabulary of the language with new abbreviated units. In addition, new abbreviations appear during social changes (wars, revolutions). All these factors cause the need for mass nomination of a number of newly emerging phenomena. Most often, abbreviations are used in narrowly focused areas to denote long scientific and military terms.

Thus, we found out that there are various classifications of abbreviated units, the purpose of which is to replace any stable linguistic expression in oral and written speech with a shorter expression created on the basis of the original lexical unit while maintaining the general meaning of the content.

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