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COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-RELATED WORDS IN MODERN ENGLISH

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Computer terminology holds immense significance, permeating various facets of daily life, including education, work, communication, and entertainment. The rapid development of computer science has had a profound impact on language, particularly its vocabulary, resulting in the emergence of a specialised terminological system characterised by a diverse range of technical and professional terms. Once confined to narrow specialists, many computer terms have become relevant to a broad spectrum of computer users. In addition to the formal computer terminology system, a rich and distinctive subset of language known as computer slang has also evolved. This study explores the vocabulary associated with computers, widely used in spoken and written computer-mediated communication, such as emails, video chats, and audio exchanges. Despite the existing body of research, specific structural and semantic features within this domain remain partly studied. As a result, a comprehensive investigation and definitive solution to the particular characteristics of these terms still need to be investigated, underscoring the relevance and significance of this study.

The aim of the work is to analyse specific structural and semantic features of computer-related terms and Internet slang based on the analysis of collected language material. The aim of the report has predetermined the following **objectives** of the investigation:

· Identify and define the shared structural and semantic features that are commonly observed within computer-related vocabulary;

· To classify the collected lexical data into distinct semantic groups and determine the dominant semantic category;

· To undertake an in-depth analysis of the structural peculiarities inherent in the process of word formation within the terminological system of computer technology;

· To unveil the distinctive patterns and mechanisms that underlie the formation of computer terms, with a particular focus on identifying the most prevalent type of word formation;

The object of study is computer-mediated communication and computer terminology system in Modern English.

The subject of study is computer terms, their structural and semantic features and classification problems.

The material of the research consists of 1675 and 690 language units from professional sources (professional texts in computer science), social media websites such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: articles from popular magazines – "Forbes", specialised magazines – "Wired", "Tech Advisor", "Applied Network Science"; video material – "Ted Talks".

General and special **research methods** of linguistics are applied in work for the complete inventory and systematisation of the analysed material:

· A method of sampling;

· A descriptive method;

· A method of semantic analysis;

· A quantitative analysis;

· A comparative analysis;

· A method of etymological analysis.

The topicality of this research lies in its ability to identify current trends in word formation within computer terminology and uncover specific patterns within semantic groups of computer terms. These findings hold theoretical significance as they establish a foundation for future investigations in other domains. Furthermore, this research advances the field of terminology by pinpointing the defining features of terms present in scientific and technical texts pertaining to computer science.

The practical significance of this paper is substantial, as its outcomes have implications for both theoretical and practical courses and seminars. The glossary of computer terms and slang derived from this study proves valuable to translators, interpreters, and industry specialists. It fills a crucial gap in the literature and offers valuable insights to academics, professionals, and language practitioners working in the field of computer science and technology. Overall, this research contributes to the existing knowledge base and serves as a valuable resource and provides insights for academics, professionals, and language practitioners in the field of computer science and technology.

The structure of this study consists of an introduction, two main parts (the first part is theoretical, and the second part is practical), a conclusion and references to the sources used in this work. The work is illustrated with appendices.

The introduction substantiates the relevance, defines the aim, object, and subject, describes the theoretical and practical significance of the scientific research and provides information about the structure.

The theoretical part, which focuses on the survey of scientific works of G. S. Greenberg, J. Aitchison, J. C. Sager, H. Felber, L.P. Bilozerska, A. S. Dyakov, M. A. Kizil, S. M. Yenikieeva, R. Dubuc, M. I. Matviychuk, provides an overview of the general characteristics of computer-mediated communication, including its significance and impact in various domains. It also explores the theory of terminology, encompassing the concept of a term, terminological systems, and their definitions. Additionally, the section delves into the concept of Internet slang in the English language, highlighting the prerequisites for its emergence.

The practical part focuses on the detailed analysis of computer and technology-related words. It examines their distinguishing structural features and word formation, aiming to identify the underlying patterns and processes. Furthermore, the study investigates the functioning of slang neologisms derived from popular social networks such as Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. Finally, a thematic classification of computer terminology is presented, offering insights into the various categories and semantic groups that characterise this terminological system.

By addressing these aspects, the study seeks to enhance our understanding of computer and technology-related vocabulary in Modern English, thereby contributing to the broader knowledge in the field of language and communication.

CHAPTER I. THEORETICAL ASPECT OF COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-RELATED WORDS IN LINGUISTIC RESEARCH

1.1. General characteristics of computer-mediated communication

An indisputable fact is that the Internet today is the most stupendous source of information that humanity has known. Nevertheless, its capabilities, such as efficiency, speed, and availability of communication between users at long and short distances, make it possible to use the Internet not only as a tool for learning but also as a tool for communication. Research fascination with human-to-human interaction via computer networks such as the Internet, in particular, can be related to the fact that computer-mediated communication has significantly altered social interaction. In technologically advanced societies, computer-mediated communication has candidly revolutionised communication and become integral to initiating, developing, and maintaining interpersonal relationships. It has become a truism that, in comparison with previous communication technologies, virtual discourse proceeds with enthralling the masses, and its popularity continues to grow, primarily due to its cheapness, flexibility, speed and convenience.

There are many terms (e.g. computer-mediated communication, internet communication, virtual discourse, computer-mediated discourse, computer discourse) that denote and encompass various forms of human communication through networked computers, which can involve one-to-one, one-to-many, or many-to-many exchanges of text, audio, and video messages. According to Eun-Ju Lee and Soo Youn Oh, *computer-mediated communication* (CMC) is defined as any human communication that occurs through the use of two or more electronic devices. The term has traditionally referred to those communications that occur via computer-mediated formats (e.g., instant messaging, email, chat rooms, online forums, and social network services). However, it has also been applied to other forms of text-based interaction, such as text messaging [29, p.2].

Computer-mediated discourse is not only "the communication produced when human beings interact with one another by transmitting messages via networked computers" [25, p.625] but also "an umbrella term for a range of computerised

information and communication technologies of which the most notable is electronic mail, but which also includes electronic discussion groups, electronic bulletin boards, computer conferencing systems, groupware and more recent Internet applications such as the World Wide Web [31, p 348].

CMC as a model of informational exchange has facilitated communication drastically at reduced costs. Compared to traditional mass media, new media possesses various benefits, including interactivity, multimedia, demassification, selectivity, synchronisation, asynchronization, immediacy, affordability, pro-democratic forums, and speed.

According to Gerald Greenberg, computer-mediated communication has the ability to connect people across vast geographic distances and transform isolated groups into cohesive communities. However, it has also brought a significant change in the way people communicate, as it allows individuals to shape their own identities and construct their reality [23, p.230].

After a detailed study of the topic, the following features of computer-mediated communication can be identified:

1. Interactivity

The concept of interactivity is often associated with in-person conversations, but it can also be found in computer-mediated communication. This includes two-way cable systems, electronic text systems, and interactive video games. Interactivity can also be observed in traditional media, such as through letters to the editor, talk shows, and listener participation in programming. The term "interactivity" became widely used in the 1990s, and researchers have since been studying how people interact through media and the nature of interactive content. According to scholars Philip J. Auter and Abd El-Basit Mahmoud, interactivity is commonly viewed as the defining characteristic of new media [13, p.163].

2.Two-way communication

Interactive communication, including both computer-mediated communication and interpersonal communication, is characterised by bidirectional communication where both the sender and receiver exchange messages. T. Schultz explains that two-

way or multi-way communication occurs as soon as messages are exchanged between both parties [36, p.2].

3. Synchronization & Asynchronization

Interactive communication, particularly in computer-mediated communication, can take place either synchronously or asynchronously. Chat rooms, for example, often facilitate synchronous communication. In contrast, some website producers encourage the use of message boards as a means of creating a public space for users of the website to communicate asynchronously with one another, either publicly or privately. These message boards, also known as forums, challenge the traditional mass communication model in which senders and receivers play distinct roles. In this online environment, the audience can take on both sender and receiver roles in an open environment [18, p.11]. As such, CMC can involve synchronous or asynchronous communication, including electronic mail and computer conferencing [38, p.52].

4. User control

According to the scholar Allbritton, control in interactive communication refers to the extent to which an individual can select the timing, content, and sequence of a communication act, explore alternatives, and enter message content into storage. In interactive communication, typically, two or more participants share control over their exchange of information. In his work he uses the term 'participants' rather than sources and receivers to refer to individuals engaged in interactive communication, as both participants have relatively equal roles in exchanging messages and generating a shared meaning for the information being exchanged [35, p.184-185].

5. Massification & demassification

The findings presented in Tanja Oblak’s study are consistent with recent theories on computer-mediated communication that highlight the impact of massification on interactive forms of communication, such as Usenet conferences, Internet Relay Chat, and mailing lists. While the use of the Web for information, service providers, or entertainment does not require the same level of personal involvement as engagement in specialised discussion groups, it is often argued that today's population engaging in computer-mediated communication more closely

resembles the passive audience of classical mass media than an engaged, informed, and active citizenry [33].

The convergence of communication technologies, exemplified by the widespread adoption of computers, has given rise to concerns about demassification, as audiences become fragmented across various digital platforms and channels. Scholars Merill Morris and Christine Ogan have emphasised this phenomenon and expressed apprehensions about the potential decline of mass audiences traditionally associated with mass media, as individuals increasingly exercise greater control over their media consumption and seek personalised content experiences [32, p.41].

6. Selectivity

According to the scholars Hwiman Chung, Xinshu Zhao, selectivity in interactive communication refers to the degree of available information choices for users. Thus, higher interactivity can be attained by expanding the range of choices offered to users or by improving the medium's ability to provide options [19].

7. The textual medium of CMC

In computer-mediated communication (CMC), unlike face-to-face or audio communication, the medium used is primarily text-based. The absence of nonverbal cues and social context cues such as gender, age, or status not only hinders communication efficiency, but also creates a sense of anonymity and lack of awareness of the social context. These factors have been linked to an increased occurrence of impolite, offensive, and uninhibited behaviour [16, pp.100-101].

The features of CMC are interlinked and have an association with interactivity. For instance, user control is linked to selectivity, and all these characteristics, including the speed of communication technology usage, massification and demassification, telepresence, and synchronisation and asynchronization, contribute to interactivity.

1.2 Theory of terminology

The vocabulary of a language is an ever-evolving entity, with terminology constituting a fluid aspect of this dynamic system. The meanings of words are constantly in flux, leading to a continuous transformation of the composition of

terminology. The development of science and technology has led to a sharp increase in the number of terms; therefore, although terms need regular unambiguous equivalents, neologisms make up the majority of this section of the vocabulary.

In connection with the modern progress of science and accompanying drastic social changes, which cause a radical restructuring of the conceptual apparatus of many scientific disciplines and the emergence of new fields of knowledge, merging of already existing ones, new concepts arise, which sharply increases the need for nomination. According to Pamela Faber, "as a subject field with explicit premises, terminology emerges from the need of technicians and scientists to unify the concepts and terms of their subject fields in order to facilitate professional communication and the transfer of knowledge" [34, p. 4].

The need for new terms leads to the so-called "terminological explosion" — a significant increase in the number of new terms, as well as the emergence of new terminologies that accompany the emergence of new fields of knowledge [14, p 100-114].

Ironically, the term "terminology" can encompass three distinct concepts, namely: 1) "Terminology science," an interdisciplinary field of knowledge that concerns itself with concepts and their representations; 2) a collection of terms that represent the system of concepts of an individual subject field; and 3) a publication that represents the system of concepts of a subject field by means of terms.

The Ukrainian scholar, Maxym Vakylenko, explained that the ongoing enrichment of the lexical component of language through the introduction of new terms, their formation as a distinct subsystem within the lexical level, and the necessity to analyze and organize these linguistic units clearly underscore the necessity for a dedicated field of study focused on terminology. It is increasingly evident that there is a pressing need to view terminology as a fully-fledged discipline possessing the characteristics of an exact science, a viewpoint that has gained traction among experts in recent times [2, p.59].

Terminology work, which involves analysing, defining, and naming concepts, is the activity that underpins terminography, the publishing of terminology.

Terminology science is a polymethodological and polytheoretical field where practitioners from different countries tend to use different methods and theories. However, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), specifically its Technical Committee 37 (ISO/TC 37), is engaged in ongoing efforts to establish a common standard for terminology work. The origins of the ISO's terminology standards can be traced back to the work of Eugene Wüster, the founder of the school of terminology in Vienna.

Terminologies are inherently restricted to specific domains, which can result in a single term possessing divergent meanings across distinct fields. As such, a given terminology is tailored to encompass solely the pertinent concept and corresponding definition specific to its intended domain. Additionally, it is deemed advantageous for a particular domain to refrain from utilising a given term to signify more than one concept. [21, p. 18, 31].

The process of terminology work encompasses the compilation and generation of novel terms or comprehensive terminologies by a terminologist. Despite lacking a universally accepted standard approach, scholars Sue Ellen Wright and Gerhard Budin [22, p. 3] eschew the categorisation of the discipline into distinct "schools," instead referring to the poly theoretical and polymethodological nature of terminology as a whole.

Professor Juan C. Sager posits that the tripartite framework employed in terminology and delineates the following three dimensions of terminology:

1) the cognitive dimension which relates the linguistic forms to their conceptual content, i.e. the referents in the real world;

2) the linguistic dimension, which examines the existing and potential forms of the representation of terminologies;

3) the communicative dimension, which looks at the use of terminologies and has to justify the human activity of terminology compilation and processing [17, p.13].

"ISO 704:2009" lists the main activities in terminology work as follows:

- identifying concepts and concept relations;
- analysing and modelling concept systems on the basis of identified

concepts and concept relations;

• establishing representations of concept systems through concept diagrams;

• defining concepts;

• attributing designations (predominantly terms) to each concept in one or more languages;

• recording and presenting terminological data, e.g. in print and electronic media (terminography) [27]. It is important to note that the concept *terminology work* includes *terminography*, and it entails more than solely terminography.

1.2.1 The concept of the term, terminological system and their definitions

In the latter part of the 20th century, numerous definitions of the term "term" emerged, particularly those that characterise it as a linguistic unit that expresses a specific idea or notion within a specialised discipline, a word or phrase that conveys a particular meaning within a specific context, and a label used to describe specific objects or occurrences in the natural or social realm. These definitions embody the essential features of terminology as a vital component of language and communication.

Andriy Dyakov believes that the term' term' is quite difficult to define [4, p. 10]. To date, there are a large number of definitions of terms. This phenomenon is explained by the fact that the term represents an object for a number of sciences, and each science tries to highlight the features that are most significant from its point of view.

Marianna Lyubchenko proposes that a term, in the conventional sense, is a special word or a phrase that is used in the language of specialists and has a precisely defined meaning. The most important requirements for the term are unambiguity, accuracy, and stylistic neutrality [9, p.26].

Scholar Mykola Mostovyy provides a definition of a term as "a word or phrase with a historically or conventionally assigned meaning that represents a specific concept within a specialized field of knowledge or production" [11, p. 191]. Terms

have informative nature, they "serve as precise carriers of information about scientific concepts" [6, p. 19].

In his work, Lyudmila Symonenko proposes that a term is a word or phrase that signifies a concept in a specific branch of science, technology, or art. She identifies the following characteristics as defining features of a term: systematic and consistent representation of the designated concept, the existence of a definition, a tendency to be unambiguous within its terminological domain, affiliation with the terminology of a particular branch of knowledge, brevity, stylistic impartiality, accuracy, and high level of informativeness [12, pp. 21-25].

H. Felber, a representative of the Austrian-German terminology school and author of a renowned textbook on terminology, defines terms as conventional symbols (words or groups of words) that express a particular concept within a specific field of knowledge [24, p.54].

According to Savory T.H., terms are conditional signs used to convey a certain amount of encrypted information that is only understood by those who are familiar with the code or key [37, p.21].

The debate surrounding the linguistic status of terms continues, with some scholars positing that a term must take the form of a single word, while others assert that a term can also take the form of a phrase or a word combination.

B.M. Golovin defines a term as "a word or phrase formed on the basis of subjunctive relationships, which has a professional meaning. It is used to express and form concepts within that field and to facilitate the process of learning and understanding the objects and relationships within that field of expertise" [1, p. 38].

Adopting this perspective, we encounter another issue: the absence of a consensus regarding the boundaries of compound terms (in the form of subordinate clauses). There are standards by which compound terms are divided into linguistic and oral terms. Concurrently, terms that are more frequently repeated are regarded as linguistic terms. Oral terms are utilised in the speech process and belong to the specialised terminological system of a particular expert.

Speaking of terminology, linguists usually distinguish [3, p. 67]:

1) a section of linguistics that studies terms (in this sense, the word "terminology" is increasingly used);

2) professional vocabulary consisting of all words of a certain language (we say, for example, "German terminology");

3) special vocabulary or branch terminology that serves a certain branch of science or technology ("linguistic terminology", "construction terminology").

Branch terminologies are called terminological systems. The systematic nature of the terminology is determined by two types of connections that give sets of terms a systematic character:

1) logical connections (if there are systematic, logical connections between the concepts of a certain science - and they exist in every science - then the terms that name these concepts must also be systematically connected);

2) linguistic connections (although the terms denote scientific concepts, they remain units of natural human language, and therefore, they are characterised by all those connections that are characteristic of commonly used words - synonymous, antonymic, word-forming, polysemic, grammatical, generic, etc.) [3, p. 8].

Valentīna Skujiņa suggests that terms can be classified based on various criteria, such as their subject matter, form, function, and so on. Additionally, terms can be classified based on their terminological sources, which include native words that have acquired a specialised meaning, neologisms that are newly created terms, and loanwords that are borrowed from other languages. Another possible classification of terms is based on their category membership [3, p. 23-24].

Terminology, as a part of a language's vocabulary, possesses unique characteristics that set it apart from common lexis. Mykhailo Kocherhan outlines the following distinctive features of terms: 1) their systematic nature as each term belongs to a particular term system and derives its meaning from it; 2) their definition-based meaning, as opposed to interpretation; 3) their tendency towards monosemanticity within their terminological field, 4) their lack of expression, and 5) their stylistic neutrality.

1.3 The features of computer terms in English

The development and proliferation of specialised terminology are intrinsically tied to the level of advancement achieved within a given field of science and technology. Evidently, a highly developed field is characterised by a substantial volume of specialised terms.

Mykhailo Kocherhan, in his 2006 study, asserts that modifications to a terminological system are the result of both linguistic and extralinguistic factors. Linguistic factors comprise alterations in the lexicon of the language as related to unification tendencies, the systematisation of linguistic means, as well as variations in nominations bearing varying motivations and tasks of emotional and stylistic expressiveness. Extralinguistic factors involve transformations in the world that pertain to rapid advancements in numerous fields of science and technology, as well as innovations in cultural and social spheres and everyday life [8, pp. 54-46].

Maryna Kizil highlights that the development of the computer term system is significantly impacted by extralinguistic factors, such as informatisation, the computerisation of English-speaking societies, and the creation and widespread use of the Internet and cyberspace. Additionally, globalisation, the dominance of English, the emphasis on linguistic coding of concepts, and computer-mediated realities play a significant role in shaping computer terminology. As such, language acts as a reflection of the changes occurring in the world around us [7, pp. 54-56].

In the realm of terminology, terms are inherently interdependent components of a system. Specifically, computer terminology represents a system of terms within the domain of information technology. Given that the field of information technology experienced a period of unprecedented advancement towards the end of the twentieth century, the computer terminology system is considered one of the most recently developed term systems.

Maryna Kizil characterises computer terms as lexical units that exhibit a structural-semantic interdependence between their components, which serves to activate both information-substantial and cognitive-figurative experiences related to

the fields of informatics, computer technology and internet communication [7, pp. 54-56].

As observed by S. Enikieieva, computer terms possess a unique characteristic in that, due to the extensive integration of computer technology in various aspects of society, they tend to lose their highly specialised nature and become a part of everyday language. This phenomenon is not common among other technical terminological systems [5].

R. Dubuc states that besides being accurate and adequate, a term should also reflect an essential characteristic of the concept and avoid any ambiguity. The close relationship between computer terms and common lexis results in specific characteristics such as expressiveness, imagery, stylistic nuances, and attitudinal meaning. Examples of such terms include garbage collection, firewall, bin, bug, hotlist, burst speed, and bottleneck, among others. Therefore, computer terms refer to words or phrases that hold a precise, unambiguous meaning within the information technology domain. A key attribute of these terms is their ability to adequately convey concepts, processes, and names of distinct information technology or IT elements [20, p. 42].

Another important feature of computer slang, which distinguishes it from other jargon, slang and other social dialects, is the tendency for polyfunctionality of its lexical units [5, p.99]. Yes, each unit that appears should serve a "slang" function, which is understood as informal communication of the speakers of this slang, but, on the other hand, it also serves their professional needs; that is, it acts as professionalism.

1.4. Identification of the concept of slang and prerequisites for the emergence of it

In contemporary language usage, the term "computer slang" has emerged as a notable linguistic phenomenon. It is characterised by various terms such as Internet short-hand, Cyberslang, SMS-speak, netspeak, or chat-speak. Nonetheless, it is important to acknowledge that this phenomenon is rooted in the broader concept of

"slang." As such, "computer slang" constitutes a particular variety or constituent element of "slang" as a whole.

O. Jespersen was the first to give the definition of the term slang, in a general sense, among foreign researchers. He correlated the theoretical and linguistic comprehension of this concept with the psychological tendency within linguistics: «Slang, a form of speech which originates from a desire to break away from the commonplaces of the language imposed on us by the community. It is an outcome of mankind's love of play: it is the playful production of something new, where, properly speaking, nothing new was required" [28, p.230].

According to the Ukrainian scholar M. Matviychuk "Computer slang is a set of stylistically marked words, not peculiar to the literary language, which was initially used by members of isolated groups of computer specialists, but over time began to be used by people who use computers both in the professional and domestic spheres and in which there is a need for an "easier" version of communication" [10, p. 98].

Internet slang has been a significant element of online communication since the inception of the Internet. Online users have adopted internet slang as a means of enhancing communication, as it facilitates ease of understanding among participants. The creation of internet slang has been a natural and subconscious response to the character limits imposed by some online platforms. Understanding the meaning of internet slang can be time-consuming and challenging for some individuals. Moreover, people often communicate using internet slang unconsciously, leading to a deviation from their daily communication style. The vast and diverse nature of information available on the Internet has given rise to a novel language commonly referred to as Internet slang [15, p. 14].

Individuals who are not familiar with the subculture of the online community may find the use of code language in this context incomprehensible. Internet users often create abbreviations spontaneously, leading to ambiguity, vagueness, or even nonsensical expressions for those who are not immersed in the virtual medium culture [30, p.50].

Internet slang, also known as chat-speak, netspeak, or cyberslang, has emerged as a rapidly evolving communicative language that has attained global normalisation. The usage of internet slang by students is influenced by the context and objectives of their messages. In formal contexts, students report using internet slang unintentionally and only to a limited extent. This study also revealed that regulations and guidelines are crucial in regulating the usage of internet slang, as a lack thereof can result in a significant increase in its usage [39, p.2]. Both of these categories have an instantaneous impact on the level of vocabulary.

To summarise, the 21st century is characterised by the dominance of information technology (IT) which offers a vast array of products. Professionals operating within this sphere utilise specialised languages to communicate amongst themselves. A notable example of such a "special language" is computer slang, which can be considered a real language due to its incorporation of various words, expressions, and idioms with diverse origins. Predominantly, the semantic elements within computer slang have been derived from the English language, thereby affirming the latter's crucial role in enriching computer slang and exerting the greatest influence on its formation.

Conclusions to the first chapter

Firstly, computer-mediated communication (CMC) has significantly transformed social interactions and become integral to interpersonal relationships. It encompasses various forms of communication through networked computers, characterised by features such as interactivity, two-way communication, synchronisation/asynchronisation, user control, massification/demassification, selectivity, and reliance on textual media. These characteristics contribute to the overall interactivity of CMC and its impact on modern society. A thorough examination of the general characteristics of computer-mediated communication reveals its significant role and profound impact across various domains, including language communication and the terminology of the English language.

Secondly, exploring the theory of terminology presents a comprehensive overview of the concept of a term, terminological systems, and their definitions. Efforts have been made to establish a common standard for terminology work, which involves analysing, defining, and naming concepts to facilitate professional communication and knowledge transfer. Terminologies are domain-specific and aim to provide unambiguous and accurate representations of concepts. The term "term" can have multiple meanings, but it generally refers to a word or phrase with a defined meaning within a specialised field. Various characteristics define terms, such as systematic representation, the existence of a definition, unambiguity, stylistic neutrality, accuracy, and informativeness. Terms can take the form of single words, phrases, or word combinations. Terminology is systematic and exhibits logical and linguistic connections between concepts. Classification of terms can be based on the subject matter, form, function, terminological sources, or category membership. Terminology possesses distinct features, including its systematic nature, definition-based meaning, monosemanticity, lack of expression, and stylistic neutrality.

Furthermore, examining the features of computer terms in English provides valuable insights into the linguistic and semantic characteristics of technical language in the context of computer-mediated communication. Computer terms exhibit interdependence between their components and activate experiences related to

informatics, computer technology, and Internet communication. Unlike other technical terminological systems, computer terms tend to become part of everyday language due to the widespread integration of computer technology in society. Computer terms are characterised by accuracy, adequacy, and the ability to convey concepts, processes, and names within the information technology domain. They may also possess expressiveness, imagery, stylistic nuances, and attitudinal meaning.

Lastly, investigating the concept of Internet slang brings attention to the prerequisites for its emergence. Through the perspectives offered by scholars, the origins and evolution of Internet slang are explored, uncovering its dynamic nature and the role it plays in shaping online communication practices. Computer slang, as a "special language," incorporates various words, expressions, and idioms primarily derived from the English language. English plays a significant role in enriching computer slang and exerts the most influence on its formation. Computer slang exhibits polyfunctionality, serving both informal communication and professional needs.

Overall, the theoretical part of this thesis, based on the scholarly contributions of G. S. Greenberg, J. Aitchison, J. C. Sager, H. Felber, L.P. Bilozerska, A. S. Dyakov, M. A. Kizil, S. M. Yenikieeva, R. Dubuc, and M. I. Matviychuk, provides a comprehensive foundation for understanding the fundamental concepts and phenomena related to computer-mediated communication, terminology theory, and the concept of slang.

CHAPTER II. CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-RELATED WORDS IN MODERN ENGLISH

2.1. Distinguishing features of lexical and semantic computer and technology-related words

The computer term system represents one of the more recent additions to the landscape of term systems, having emerged and evolved during the late twentieth century, a period characterised by significant advancements in information technology. Within the field of information technology, computer terms are lexicons comprising words or phrases that possess precise and well-defined meanings. Notably, these terms serve a crucial role in accurately articulating the unique concepts, processes, and nomenclature specific to computer technology.

Two primary approaches exist for the examination of terms: normative and descriptive. The normative approach centres on investigating terms as words or phrases within a distinct domain of application, where they represent the names of specific concepts necessitating definition. Consequently, terms differ from common lexicon regarding their structural and semantic attributes. Conversely, the descriptive approach entails the study of terms as lexical units fulfilling a specialised function. Within the computer terminological system, terms can be categorised into the following groups.

Firstly the terms that exhibit correlations with common words, wherein these commonly used words acquire specific meanings within the context of IT. For instance, those terms include mouse, bug, button, card, chat, break, drive, default, edit, copy, disable, page, application, cookies, assembler, backdoor, cable, click, screen, monitor, file, folder, virus.

Secondly, there are general terms that transcend the computer term system and find application in other scientific and technological fields: algorithm, data, interface, protocol, logic, model, simulation, sensor, input, output, analysis, optimisation, memory, processor, artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, encryption, virtual reality, augmented reality, cloud computing, robotics, nanotechnology, quantum computing.

Thirdly, there exist special terms that are exclusive to the field of computers. Examples of such terms include ache, bytecode, compiler, debugger, firmware, kernel, motherboard, overclocking, pixel, recursion, server, spam, syntax, thread, firewall, encryption, malware, phishing, ransomware, rootkit, trojan, virus, botnet, buffer overflow, denial of service (DoS), graphical user interface (GUI), open source, operating system (OS), software development kit (SDK), user interface (UI). In such scenarios, the meaning attributed to a word aligns harmoniously with the meaning of the corresponding term. This congruence arises from the fact that the word functions exclusively to convey a specific and distinct concept, thereby ensuring that both the term and the semantic essence of the word adequately captures the intended meaning of the term.

Some terms can exhibit multiple meanings in a computer term system. For example, "mouse" refers to both a physical input device used to navigate and interact with graphical user interfaces, as well as a software component that tracks and controls the movement of the cursor on the screen; "patch" encompasses both a piece of software designed to update or fix issues in a program or operating system, and a set of changes or modifications applied to the code or data to address vulnerabilities or improve functionality; "driver" a software component that enables the communication between the operating system and a specific hardware device.

In the context of semantic analysis, the following groups have been delineated based on shared semantic characteristics:

1. Lexical units encompassing the constituents and classifications of computers and other components integral to computer architecture. For instance, terms like *monitor, CPU (Central Processing Unit), keyboard, mouse, graphics card, motherboard, RAM — Random-Access Memory, hard drive, solid-state drive, power supply, optical drive, network card, sound card, Ethernet cable, Wi-Fi adapter, USB port, HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface) port, VGA (video graphics array) port, chip, Bluetooth, webcam, microphone, speakers, headphones, touchscreen, trackpad, cooling fan, case, power button, reset button, expansion slots, battery, printer, scanner, projector.*

2. Lexical units denoting different types of computer languages, symbols, and signs: *Python, JavaScript, HTML, CSS (Cascading Style Sheets), C++, Java, Ruby, PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor), Swift, Perl, R (Statistical Programming Language), MATLAB, SQL (Structured Query Language), Shell scripting, Assembly language, TypeScript, Objective-C, Kotlin, Go, Rust, Lisp, Prolog, Fortran, Haskell, Scala, Dart, Lua, Groovy, VB.NET (Visual Basic.NET), F# (F Sharp), COBOL, PL/SQL (Procedural Language/Structured Query Language), XML (eXtensible Markup Language), JSON (JavaScript Object Notation).*

3. Lexical units associated with computer software applications. Examples in this category comprise *operating system, antivirus program, word processor, spreadsheet software, presentation software, graphics editor, video editing software, database management system, interface, email client, file compression software, media player, project management tool, virtualisation software, subclass, content management system, note-taking app, screen recording software, password manager, calendar application, image viewer, backup software, web browser, web development IDE (Integrated Development Environment), data analysis tool, remote desktop software, OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software, audio editing software, FTP (File Transfer Protocol) client, disk partitioning software, system optimisation tool, encryption software, version control system, diagramming software.*

4. Lexical units linked to computer-related actions and commands involve *compiling, reformat, spam, executing, debugging, scripting, deleting, renaming, copying, pasting, searching, sorting, filtering, saving, opening, closing, printing, formatting, resizing, selecting, inserting, updating, querying, encrypting, decrypting, compressing, decompressing, extracting, downloading, uploading, installing, scan, screenshot, click, uninstalling, running, restarting, shutting down, logging in, logging out, navigating, scrolling, zooming, clicking, dragging, dropping, selecting all, tweak, undoing.*

5. Lexical units that denote users of the Internet and programmers include *netizens, surfers, users, coders, programmers, developers, hackers, tech enthusiasts, geeks, cyber citizens, cybernauts, cyber addicts, bloggers, social media influencers,*

content creators, webmasters, sysadmins, cyber security experts, database administrators, network engineers, IT professionals, online gamers, moderators, web designers, digital marketers.

6. Lexical units pertaining to Internet usage and commonly utilised in online discourse. Examples in this category include *website, hyperlink, domain, online, browsing, streaming, downloading, uploading, email, social media, online shopping, e-commerce, online banking, search engine, online chat, video conferencing, online education, virtual meetings, cloud computing, cybersecurity, data privacy, online advertising, online forums, online communities, digital content, online news, online entertainment, online forums, online transactions*. English Netspeak slang includes numerous terms that specifically denote individuals involved in computer usage and programming: *webbie, hyperlinker, domainer, netizen, browser, streamer, downloader, uploader, mailer, socialite, shopaholic, e-shopper, net banker, searcher, chatter, video conferencer, e-learner, virtual attendee, cloud dweller, cyber warrior, privacy advocate, ad clicker, forum junkie, community member, digital junkie, news junkie, entertainment junkie, transaction enthusiast.*

7. Lexical units closely related to the development and usage of social networking platforms, such as "Facebook," "Twitter," and "Instagram," encompass terms like *profile, friend request, post, like, comment, hashtag, follow, share, timeline, notification, tag, meme, emoji, status update, social media influencer, news feed, timeline, follower, retweet, DM (direct message), story, explore, live stream, group, event, filter, caption, shareable content, viral, in-app purchases, algorithm, privacy settings, verified account, engagement, comment thread, social network analytics, trending, notification, emoticon, selfie, check-in, newsfeed algorithm, privacy policy, geotagging, comment moderation, social media manager, viral marketing, social media campaign.*

For the study, 1675 English-language computer terms were selected (they comprise 100% of the sample), using the continuous sampling method from lexicographic sources, Internet resources, specialised dictionaries, social media websites such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: articles from popular magazines –

"Forbes", specialised magazines – "Wired", "Tech Advisor", "International Journal of Sensor Networks and Data Communications"; video material – "Ted Talks".

Table 1 (p.26) presents the outcomes of the quantitative analysis conducted on computer terms, classified according to seven semantic groups.

№	Semantic group	Number of cases	The amount in percentage
1	Lexical units that denote programmers and programming language	152	9.1%
2	Lexical units that designate the constituent parts of a computer, denote computer types, some other components of computer structure	290	17.3%
3	Lexical units that denote computer software	232	13.9%
4	Lexical units that denote work via computer related to actions and commands	423	25.3%
5	Lexical units that denote computer language types, symbols, and signs	122	7.3%
6	Lexical units that are connected to the Internet and used in Internet discourse	313	18.7%
7	Lexical units related to the development of social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)	143	8.5%
	Total	1675	100.0%

Based on the quantitative and descriptive methods, the collected data was divided into seven semantic groups. The investigation indicated that the largest semantic group is the group that includes lexical units that denote work via computer related to actions and commands (25.3%). The smallest semantic group includes lexical units denoting computer language types, symbols, and signs (7.3%). The exact percentage of each semantic group within the computer terminology is shown in a pie chart [Appendix 1]: Lexical units that denote programmers and programming language – 9.1%, lexical units that designate the constituent parts of a computer, denote computer types, some other components of computer structure – 17.3%, lexical units that denote computer software – 13.9%, lexical units that denote work via computer related to actions and commands – 25.3%, lexical units that denote computer language

types, symbols, and signs – 7.3%, lexical units that are connected to the Internet and used in Internet discourse – 18.7%, lexical units related to the development of social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) – 8.5%.

Disparities in quantitative analysis between the compared lexical categories can reveal patterns and trends in the field, such as emerging technologies, popular programming languages, or evolving terminology associated with hardware, software, networking, or other areas of computer science. The semantic analysis of computer vocabulary over time can uncover language's evolution within the technology domain.

2.2. Structural distinguishing features and word formation of computer and technology-related words

A significant portion of the computer-related lexicon in English does not appear in professional dictionaries and instead comprises neologisms that have been reconstructed, for instance, such words as "uninstall," "undelete," and "resetup." The word formation process, which follows specific laws in English, can be instrumental in understanding these terminologies, and mastery of these principles can facilitate the study of computer-related vocabulary.

The word-formation of computer terms encompasses various types, including affixation (suffixal, prefixal, and prefixal-suffixal), abbreviations, acronyms, blending, clipping and lexical-semantic transposition, specifically the formation of terminological compounds.

Affixation refers to the creation of a new lexical unit by adding an affix (such as suffix, prefix, interfix, infix, etc.) to the stem, for instance: preprocessor, subroutine, postcondition, cybersecurity, infotainment.

Prefixation is a method of forming new lexical units by adding a prefix, which is an affix that appears before the stem. The most common prefixes used in computer terms in English include "cyber-," "e-," "hyper-," "micro-," "mini-," "multi-," "sub-," "super-," and "techno-." For example, some computer terms formed by prefixation include cyberspace, e-commerce, hyperthreading, microprocessor, miniaturisation, multitasking, subdomain, supercomputer, and technophobia.

Suffixation is a morphological process of word formation in which a suffix is added to a base or stem to create a new lexical unit. The most common suffixes employed in computer terminology include "-er", "-ware", "-ise", "-ing", "-(a)tion", "-ish", and "-ese". The use of these suffixes results in a wide range of computer-related neologisms such as webmaster, software, authorise, coding, encryption, digitisation, hackish, hackerese, and so forth.

Prefixal-suffixal is a way of forming a lexical unit characterised by the addition of both a prefix and a suffix. This process involves adding a prefix at the beginning and a suffix at the end of a word to form a new meaning. Common examples of this type of word-formation in computer terminology include reassignment, disintermediation, co-registration, outliner, refactoring, encoder, supersampling, destructor, deauthorise, overlocking, defragmentation, cyberattack, multinetting, among others.

In the process of forming computer terms, **compounding** is another method that combines two or more stems to create a lexical unit, distinguished by the integrity of meaning. Examples of such words include motherboard, laptop, webcasting, malware, firewall, hardcoded, workstation, netdead, wirehead, barfmail, rollover, keyboard flatworm, user-friendly, and background.

The presented sample of hyphenated, closed, or opened compounds maybe be divided into the following examples:

Two-component compound words:	Words	Usage in context
[Adj. + N] = N	virtual reality, social network, genetic algorithm, big data, artificial intelligence	I immersed myself in a virtual reality simulation and explored a virtual world filled with stunning visuals and interactive experiences. The genetic algorithm iteratively evolved a population of

		potential solutions to optimize the design of a complex engineering system.
[N + N]= N	search engine, user interface, data mining, machine learning, computer science, video game, mobile device, cloud computing, digital art, software engineering, computer vision, cybersecurity measures, blockchain technology, network protocols	With the adoption of cloud computing, businesses can store and access their data and applications remotely, allowing for greater flexibility and scalability. Through data mining techniques, companies can extract valuable patterns and insights from large datasets, enabling them to make data-driven decisions and gain a competitive advantage.
[Participle II + N] = N	encrypted data, optimised code, deleted files, executed command	By implementing optimised code, the software application runs more efficiently and performs tasks at a faster pace. The deleted files can often be recovered using specialized data recovery tools until they are overwritten by new data.

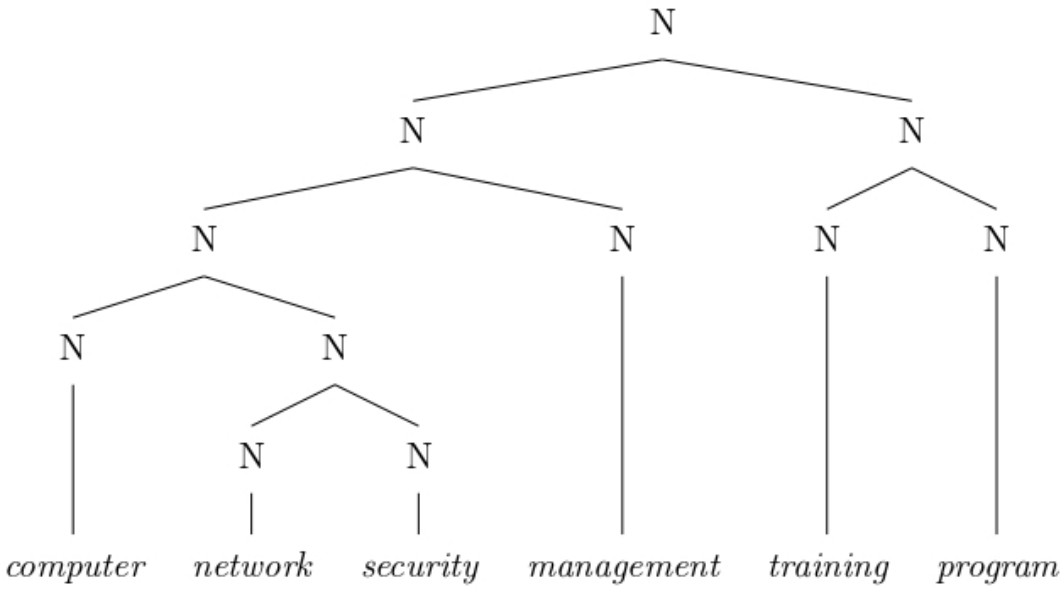
[V+Prep.] = N	build-in, drive-in	The latest computer model comes with a build-in webcam, allowing users to engage in video conferencing without the need for external peripherals. A solid-state drive (SSD) can be considered a drive-in storage device
Three-component compound words:	Words	Usage in context
[Adj. + N + N] = N	Advanced Encryption Standard, Dynamic Link Library, Public Key Infrastructure, Secure Sockets Layer, Virtual Private Network	AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) plays a crucial role in ensuring the privacy and integrity of our digital communications. It's used in various applications to keep our information secure. Numerous organizations adopt VPNs (Virtual Private Networks) to facilitate secure remote access to company resources for their employees, guaranteeing the protection of sensitive data's confidentiality.

*Other multi-word terms**	Cloud-based storage, artificial intelligence algorithms, data encryption techniques, machine learning models, augmented reality applications, Internet of Things (IoT) devices, virtual private networks (VPNs), social media analytics, e-commerce platforms, big data analytics, web-based content management systems, web development frameworks, online payment gateways, mobile application development, search engine optimization (SEO) strategies, data mining techniques, user interface design principles, voice-activated assistant, browser-based application, AI-powered system, blockchain-based technology	In today's digital landscape, businesses are leveraging the power of web-based content management systems to effortlessly manage their online presence, while also integrating Internet of Things (IoT) devices to enhance connectivity and data exchange. With the rise of voice-activated assistants, users can now interact with these smart systems to control and manage various aspects of their digital environment, creating a seamless and intuitive user experience. With the increasing popularity of e-commerce, online payment gateways have become indispensable for businesses, enabling them to effortlessly process online payments and ensure a secure transaction experience.

- * The largest group is the multiword terms.

A distinction is made between types of compounding, such as "one-component compounding," "two-component compounding," etc. Regardless of how many word compounds they consist of, they have the same meaning and makeup one lexical unit.

What is also important to note is that - at least with noun-noun compounds - new words can be repeatedly stacked on an existing compound to form a new one. Therefore, if there was a specialised training program for professionals to become experts in managing computer network security, we could refer to it as the computer network security management training program. The rules of compound formation are able to create the same kind of structure repeatedly. This property is called recursivity, and it is a property that is chiefly known from the analysis of sentence structure [26, pp.171-172]. For instance, according to (Picture 1), the constituents of the six-member compound "computer network security management training program" are computer, network security (management), and training program.



Reversion, also known as reverse word formation, is a process of forming new words by removing affixes from an existing word; in computer terminology, words such as "right-clicking" becoming "right-click", "downloading" becoming "download", "reloading" becoming "reload". **Conversion** refers to the linguistic process of deriving a new word by changing the word class or grammatical category of an existing word without adding any overt affixes or markers [26, p.134]. In computer term system

nouns often convert to verbs, for instance, Google (to google), email (to email), file (to file) and program (to program), "Sublime Text" (to sublime), the examples of conversion from adjectives to verbs can also be viewed in the Internet users lexicon such as speed (to speed), empty (to empty), better (to better). On the other hand, **blending** is another active computer-related word formation type, the combination of two or more words to create a new word that incorporates the features of each word. Some examples of blended words in computing include:

Words	**Components**	**Usage in context**
netspeak (n.)	internet+speak	I'm not a big fan of excessive netspeak in formal emails; it can make the message seem unprofessional and difficult to understand
netiquette (n.)	Net + etiquette	Top-posting and spamming are considered poor netiquette on a newsgroup.
hi-tech (n.)	high + technology	Hi-tech has become an integral part of our daily lives, driving innovation and transforming various industries.
email (n.)	electronic + mail	You can contact us by email or fax.
pixel	pix (“pictures”) + element	The digital artist painstakingly crafted a masterpiece, meticulously placing each pixel to create a breathtakingly detailed image.
malware	malicious + software	Ensure you have reliable antivirus software installed on

		your computer to protect against malware and potential cyber threats
Winmodem	Windows + modem	Back in the early 2000s, many computer users relied on Winmodems to establish dial-up internet connections.
transistor	transfer + resistor	Transistors play a vital role in a computer's processor, enabling it to perform millions of calculations per second and efficiently handle intricate tasks.
bit	binary + digit	Send me the file ASAP, I'll need every bit of data to analyze.
sysadmin	system + administrator	The sysadmin efficiently managed the network infrastructure, ensuring smooth operations and timely resolution of technical issues.

The abundance of multiword terms in the computer technology sphere contributes to the inclination towards **abbreviations**, which have become a necessity. **Initialisms** are most commonly formed by taking initial letters of multiword sequences to make up a new word, pronounced letter by letter. For instance, HTML — Hyper Text Markup Language, SCSI — Small Computer System Interface, DVD — Digital Video Disk, RAM — Random Access Memory [26, p.161-5]. In contrast, **acronyms** are formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase but pronounced as a single word (e.g., CAPTCHA for Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart).

Shortenings, also known as **clippings**, are abbreviations which shorten a word by removing one or more of its components through apocope, apheresis, or syncope. Apocope involves the omission of sounds or letters from the end of a word (e.g., an app for application); apheresis, which involves the omission of sounds or letters from the beginning of a word (e.g., phone for telephone); syncope, which involves the omission of sounds or letters from the middle of a word (e.g., modem for modulator-demodulator). Some examples of abbreviated computer-related words in context can be viewed below:

Words	**Meaning**	**Type of abbreviation**	**Usage in context**
AI	artificial intelligence	Initialism	As technology continues to evolve, AI is poised to revolutionize industries, empowering businesses with enhanced efficiency.
CPU	Central Processing Unit	Initialism	The CPU is the brain of a computer, responsible for executing instructions and performing calculations.
LAN	Local Area Network	Initialism	It had the capability to accommodate a maximum of six players, allowing connections through the internet, LAN, serial cable, or direct modem connection.

GIF	graphics interchange format	Acronym	PNG files do not have the capability to support animations, in contrast to GIF files.
PIN	personal identification number	Acronym	The PIN length must be between 8 and 16 characters.
ATM	Adobe Type Manager	Acronym	Graphic designers rely on ATM to ensure precise font rendering and optimal typographic quality across various output devices.
doc	document	Clipping (Syncope)	The team collaboratively worked on editing the doc.
net	Internet	Clipping (Apocope)	The net was meticulously supervised by the network administrator, ensuring thorough oversight and maintenance of the network's operations.
Ctrl	control key	Clipping (Syncope)	Press Ctrl-Alt-Del to restart the computer.

Acronyms frequently originate from informal slang and abbreviated expressions. Presently, numerous acronyms and initialisms employed in verbal and written discourse (such as PIN and GIF) trace their origins to internet slang. Notably, several common texting abbreviations, such as "lol" denoting "laugh out loud" and

"idk" signifying "I don't know," have transcended their initial usage and permeated other modes of communication.

Reductions are abbreviations created by combining two words and omitting some letters or sounds, usually marked with an apostrophe; interestingly enough, in Netspeak, we do not observe contractions with an apostrophe so often as internet users tend to omit them. Some common examples of contractions in computer slang include "gonna" for "going to," "wanna" for "want to," "lemme" for "let me," "gimme" for "give me," and "cuz" for "because." These contractions are widely recognised and used in online communication and can help to convey a sense of camaraderie and ease between users.

One of the main reasons for the widespread use of shortenings in computer terminology is the need for brevity and simplicity. In a fast-paced technological environment, time is of the essence, and users need to be able to communicate quickly and efficiently. Shortenings help to achieve this goal by providing concise and recognisable names that can be easily typed or spoken.

The sample examination reveals that computer-related vocabulary is not only created by using standard word-formation rules but also through a process known as **secondary nomination** or **transposition.** This involves the re-meaning of existing words and phrases through the use of metaphor and metonymy. Examples of such lexical-semantic transposition in the computer industry include the term "bug" from the world of entomology being used to describe a concept in the domain of computing, referring to an error or flaw in a software program. Other examples of metaphors include "firewall" (a protective barrier that prevents unauthorised access to a computer network) and "cookies" (small pieces of data stored on a user's computer by a website). Other examples are metonyms, in which a term is used to represent something related to or associated with the original referent. For example, "editor" can refer to a person who edits written content, but in the context of computing, it can also refer to a software program used to edit text. Similarly, "folder" can refer to a physical container for storing documents, but in computing, it can refer to a digital container for storing data.

Table 2 (p.38) presents the results of the quantitative analysis of the most common ways of computer-related term formation.

№	Semantic groups	Number of cases	The amount in percentage
1	Affixation	113	16.4%
	- suffixation	46	6.7%
	- prefixation	58	8.4%
	- prefixal-suffixal	9	1.3%
2	Abbreviation	125	18.1%
	- clipping	7	1.0%
	- contraction	14	2.0%
	- acronym	104	15.1%
3	Compounding	229	33.2%
4	Conversion	16	2.3%
5	Blending	119	17.2%
6	Lexical-semantic transposition	41	5.9%
7	Backformation	42	6.1%
8	Onomatopoeia	5	0.7%
	Total	690	100.0%

As the quantitative analysis of the sample shows, compounding (33,2%) abbreviations (including clippings, contractions and acronyms) (18,1%), blending (17,2%) and are the most productive ways of forming computer-related terms in Modern English. The least productive ways of creating computer terms are onomatopoeia (0,7%), blending (1,8%) and conversion (2.3%) [Appendix 2]. The most productive type of affix in computer terminology is prefix (8,4%). Acronyms constitute the most significant portion of abbreviations (15,1%) [Appendix 3].

The exact percentage of each way of word formation within the computer terminology is shown in a pie chart [Appendix 2]: Affixation (suffixation – 6.7%; prefixation – 8.4%; prefixal-suffixal –1.3%) – 16.4%, Abbreviation (clipping - 1.0%;

contraction – 2.0%; acronyms – 15.1%)– 18.1%, compounding – 33.2%, conversion – 2.3%, blending – 17.2%, lexical-semantic transposition – 5.9%, backformation – 6.1% and onomatopoeia - 0.7%.

2.3 The characteristic features of computer slang neologisms in Modern English

Slang neologisms play a significant role in the digital communication landscape, with social networking platforms such as Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook acting as breeding grounds for creating and disseminating these linguistic innovations. This chapter aims to explore the characteristics of slang neologisms within the context of these three major social networks.

Computer slang neologisms in Modern English refer to newly created words or phrases that emerge within specific online communities on social networking platforms. These linguistic innovations often arise as a result of the dynamic nature of digital communication and the need for users to express themselves concisely and creatively within the constraints of these platforms.

In online communication the absence of facial expressions and auditory cues poses a challenge in conveying emotions effectively. As a result, individuals have developed emoticons as a means of expressing their feelings. Emoticons consist of sequences of ordinary symbols readily available on computer keyboards.

The characteristic features of slang neologisms in Modern English can vary, but they often share several common traits:

1. Creativity: Slang neologisms exhibit a high degree of creativity, as users on social networks employ innovative language forms to express their ideas, emotions, and experiences. They frequently employ wordplay, abbreviations, blending, and repurposing of existing words to create unique linguistic expressions.

For instance, the extremely popular social media slang term "ghosting" characterizes the abrupt and unforeseen cessation of all communication with another person, often seen within the realm of dating or relationships have many alternatives. Commonly associated with the widespread use of social media and online dating platforms, the term has expanded its application to include similar behaviors observed

in friendships, family dynamics, as well as various professional and business interactions. Firstly, the term “Caspering” serves as an alternative approach to ghosting, where instead of abruptly cutting off communication, individuals opt for honest and gentle communication about their feelings before gradually withdrawing from the other person’s life. Another sentimentally derived term with a connection to ghosting is “Marleying,” referring to the unexpected contact from an ex-partner during the Christmas season. “Cloaking” represents another associated behaviour observed when an individual is blocked on all dating applications by their online match, who also fails to show up for a scheduled date.

Word	Word Formation	Usage in context	Background
ghosting (n.)	Affixation (prefixation) ghost + -ing	I haven't seen Alex in 3 weeks. Does it count like ghosting?	The term emerged in the early 2000s, primarily associated with dating and romantic relationships.
to Casper (v.)	Backformation to Casper from Caspering (Casper + -ing)	she's nice but I don't want to see her again so I'm caspering her til she takes the hint	The term "Caspering" draws creative inspiration from the fictional child phantom portrayed in the movie "Casper (1995)."
Marleying (n..)	Affixation (prefixation) Marley + -ing	Wow, my ex just texted me, “Happy New Year! I hope you had a good year.” We haven’t talked since February. It must just be Marleying.	In 2017, the term "Marleying" emerged, creatively inspired by the character Jacob Marley from Charles Dickens' renowned novel, A Christmas Carol.

to cloak (v.)	Backformation to cloak from cloaking (cloak + -ing)	He cowardly deleted his Tinder profile and avoided public places for 2 weeks in case he ran into Angela. Johnny was too immature and was cloaking her.	Rachel Thompson, a journalist from Mashable, is credited with coining this term after her personal encounter of being stood up for a date and subsequently blocked on all apps. Within a matter of weeks, this particular neologism gained significant popularity on Twitter.

2. Brevity: The limited character count and the preference for concise communication on platforms like Twitter have led to the development of slang neologisms that prioritise brevity. Users strive to convey complex concepts or emotions within a shorter space, often resorting to abbreviations, acronyms, or initialisms.

As an example, the acronym "LOL" (Laugh Out Loud) has gained extensive recognition, originating from online communication platforms and now serving as a means to express amusement or laughter across diverse contexts. Within social media messengers like Instagram and Facebook, several acronyms have gained popularity, including "BAE" (before anyone else), "K" (Okay), "JMHO" (Just my humble opinion), "IDK" (I don't know), "G2G", "TTYL" (Talk to you later) and "R" (are), among others:

Word	Meaning	Usage in context
FB	Facebook	I'm scrolling through my FB feed to catch up on the latest updates from friends.
MSG	Message	I just received an urgent MSG from my boss asking for a project update ;((

PITR	Parent in the room	person 1: Hey check out this hot chick link person 2: PITR! person 3: I mean check out this chicken in the oven
HIFW*	How I feel when	HIFW has emerged as a prevalent text abbreviation within humorous and sarcastic memes and gifs shared on social media platforms such as Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

3. Adaptability: Slang neologisms in Modern English are highly adaptable and can quickly evolve or be repurposed to suit different contexts or express new meanings. These linguistic innovations have a fluidity that allows them to spread and gain popularity rapidly across social networks.

Word	Meaning	Usage in context	Background
on fleek	1) flawless or perfect;	1) gosh, why your eyebrows are on fleek today? i need tips! 2) Zayn is on fleek due to his ability to appear perfect at all times.	"On fleek" originally referred to well-groomed eyebrows but has now expanded to describe anything that appears flawless or perfect:
yeet	1) an exclamation denoting excitement or victory; 2) to throw; 3) dance that gained prominence through its inclusion in the game "Fortnite."	1) I have just achieved an A on my mathematics examination, ya yeet! 2) Anna finishes her soda and proceeds to yeet her empty can into a trash bin. 3) How to yeet an opponent in Fortnite?	In recent years, the dance move known as "the dip" gained prominence through its inclusion in the game "Fortnite." However, concerns have been raised regarding the appropriation of black culture within

			the game, as the move was adopted and renamed without proper acknowledgment of the community that originated it.
bae (baby, babe)	1) a word you can use when you are talking to someone you love such as your wife, husband, partner, etc. 2) bae (before anyone else)	1) Oh bae, I love you so much! 2) Bae caught me slippin	In 2012, the term "bae" gained attention as individuals shared contrived pictures of themselves appearing caught off guard while sleeping, along with the caption "Bae caught me slippin'," revealing the fabricated nature of the concept within the selfie trend.

4. Community-specific: Slang neologisms often emerge within specific online communities on social networks, representing those communities' shared linguistic practices and experiences. These linguistic innovations form group identities and represent inclusion and affiliation within these digital spaces. Examples include:

Word	Community	Meaning	Usage in context
gainz (n., pl)	Fitness community	muscle gains achieved through weightlifting or strength training.	I had a sick workout yesterday. Check out mah gainz.

reps (n., pl.)	Fitness community	short for repetitions, referring to the number of times an exercise is performed.	Did 10 reps of squats today, pushing myself to the limit!
shredded (adj.)	Fitness community	having well-defined muscles and low body fat percentage.	man he must lift and run all day cuz hes shredded
noob (n.)	Gaming Community	someone who lacks experience or is new to a game.	you are total noob at this game, ahaha
GG (n.)	Gaming Community	Abbreviation for "good game"	Person 1: BRO! YOU WON! Person 2: Hold on... Person 2, in game chat: gg
loot drop (n.)	Gaming Community	valuable items or rewards acquired within a computer game.	finally got that legendary loot drop, it's time to celebrate!
slay (v.)	LGBTQ+ Community	to look amazing or achieve something with great success	gggirl, you slay this dance routine, nailing every move!
snatched (adj./v.)	LGBTQ+ Community	good-looking	Her makeup looks snatched. I am prepared to be snatched by this captivating new film.
LGBTQIA+ (n.)	LGBTQ+ Community	An inclusive acronym representing lesbian, gay, bisexual,	LGBTQIA+ pride, love is love!

		transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, and asexual communities.	
banger (n.)	Music Community	a catchy and uplifting song	Sam Smith's new song is such a banger, can't stop listening to it
code monkey (n.)	Tech Community	a programmer or developer	Shoutout to all the code monkeys out there, making amazing software!
hack (v.)	Tech Community	find a creative or unconventional solution to a problem	hacked that software problem, saving me so much time

5. Evolving and trending: Slang neologisms on social networks are highly susceptible to change and trends. They can emerge and gain popularity quickly, often driven by viral content, memes, or influential users. The evolving nature of these neologisms reflects the fast-paced and ever-changing landscape of online communication.

Word	Meaning	Usage in context	Background
quarantini (n)	a cocktail specially crafted to complement the practice of quarantine	I think I'll have a quarantini or three and skip the news...	The quarantini serves as one of lexical innovations observed on social media platforms amid the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

zoom (v.)	to communicate with someone using the video conferencing service Zoom	I spent my days watching zooming my friends and sleeping on lectures.	With the onset of 2019, the mode of communication underwent a transition towards the online format, resulting in daily interactions via Zoom application.
savage (adj.)	exceptionally cool, impressive, or ruthless	"Sis, do you know Kaiden!" "Ya, he's a fucking savage!"	Gained popularity among Instagram users in 2020, after a release of Megan Thee Stallion song "Savage"

6. Informal and playful Tone: Slang neologisms often adopt an informal and playful tone, reflecting the casual nature of online communication on social networks. Users leverage these linguistic innovations to add humour, sarcasm, or irony to their messages, enhancing engagement and interaction.

Word	Meaning	Usage in context	Background
nice	synonym to "ugh" or "okay"	"I bought that new flavour of Fanta today." "Nice..."	In slang, it is commonly used as a filler during a pause in conversation, and it doesn't necessarily carry a complimentary meaning.
funneh	funny	nar it r not that funnah	Internet users frequently engage in intentional misspelling of words to create humor or convey additional meaning. This phenomenon is particularly evident in netspeak, where words similar to "funny" like "happy"

			and "bunny" also undergo alterations to "bunneh", "happeh"
shrinkflation	the act of diminishing the size or amount of a product while maintaining or increasing its price.	Damn, did you see that shrinkflation on those chips? Same price, but way less in the bag now. SMH	In 2009, the company Mars Bar implemented a strategy of weight reduction while preserving the price point at 37 pence. This action prompted internet users to coin the term "shrinkflation," which quickly gained widespread attention and found application in various other contexts.

7. Influenced by Popular Culture: Slang neologisms on social networks are frequently influenced by music, movies, television shows, and internet phenomena. They serve as vehicles for referencing and incorporating elements from contemporary culture into everyday language use.

Word	Meaning	Usage in context	Background
netflix and chill (adj)	casual or intimate encounters after originating from the invitation to watch Netflix together, which often implied a more romantic or sexual intention.	when he says he wants to netflix and chill but you realize he has no TV	In the innocent days of 2009, “Netflix and chill” really did mean “chilling out and watching Netflix”. It was a solo activity.
brexiting (v.) from Brexit (British+exit)	the act of telling everyone at a gathering, that you	He is at the party, brexiting near the bar for over an hour now.	The term Brexit first appeared in June 2012, on the model of Grexit, a term which

	are leaving, but actually staying		had appeared earlier in the year in reference to the possibility of Greece leaving the Eurozone
cancel culture (n.)	a cultural phenomenon where individuals who are perceived to have engaged in objectionable actions or expressed inappropriate views are socially marginalized, boycotted, or excluded from public support.	If it wasn't for cancel culture, James Charles would have more subscribers.	Since late 2019, after Movement,the term "cancel culture" has gained widespread recognition, especially after #MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements.

Innovative language forms, brevity, adaptability, and community-specific nature characterise computer slang neologisms. They have found fertile ground for their formation and propagation on social networking platforms like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. With their extensive user base, interactive features, and global reach, these platforms contribute to the rapid dissemination and adoption of slang neologisms, reflecting the dynamic nature of language evolution in the digital age.

2.3.1 Slang Neologism Formation in Twitter

With its real-time nature and character limitation, Twitter has become a fertile ground for the birth and rapid spread of slang neologisms. The platform's character limitation, initially set at 140 characters and later expanded to 280 characters, has led to the development of concise and condensed communication styles. Hashtags,

retweets, and mentions facilitate these linguistic innovations' propagation, allowing them to permeate diverse online communities.

Using hashtags enables users to discover and track slang neologisms within their areas of interest. Users can search for specific hashtags or follow trending topics, exposing themselves to the associated slang neologisms. This mechanism creates a network effect whereby the visibility and reach of a neologism expand as more users adopt and utilise the corresponding hashtag.

For example, the hashtag #OOTD (Outfit of the Day) became popular within fashion-related communities on Twitter, serving as a platform for users to share their daily fashion choices. The hashtag allowed individuals interested in fashion to connect and engage in conversations, resulting in the widespread dissemination of neologism. Other examples include #competition, #influencer, #influencermarketing, #fridayfeeling, #MondayMotivation, #tbt, #traveltuesday or the neologism “squad goals”, referring to a group of friends who embody an aspirational ideal. Users utilised the hashtag #squadgoals to connect with others, share experiences, and exchange related content, resulting in neologism's evolution and widespread usage.

Moreover, hashtags provide a platform for ongoing discussions and conversations revolving around socially shifting events. They also often organise and categorise discussions, with examples such as #MeToo, #BlackLivesMatter, and #ClimateChange.

Hashtags and trending topics play a pivotal role in forming and disseminating slang neologisms on Twitter. They facilitate categorisation, discovery, and the establishment of virtual communities centred around slang neologisms.

2.3.2 The Influence of Instagram on Slang Neologism Evolution

With its primary focus on visual content, Instagram has emerged as a powerful platform influencing the development of contemporary slang. Users frequently engage in linguistic experimentation, showcasing their creativity by inventing new words and phrases. They employ strategies such as blending, truncating, and altering existing words to form neologisms that capture specific ideas or trends. These linguistic

innovations serve as expressions of personal identity, humour, or social commentary within the Instagram community.

The present study analysed a corpus of Instagram content and identified several widely used neologisms. These include clip words like "merch" (merchandise), "bio" (biography), "Insta/Gram" (Instagram), "fave/fav" (favourite), "celeb" (celebrity), "inspo" (inspiration), "vibes" (vibrations), "mic" (microphone), "comfy" (comfortable), "rona" (Coronavirus disease), "delish" (delicious), and "pic" (picture).

Word	Meaning	Example
vibe (n.)	to relax, chill, hangout,	wanna skip class and go vibe in the bathroom?
inspo	inspirational	wow, inspo girl
rona	Coronavirus (Covid-19)	Did you hear that Italy is shutdown because of rona?
merch	merchandise	Person 1: OMG I'm so exited for comic-con! Person 2: I know, especially for the merch!

Many blend words can be found on Instagram, including terms like "brunchilicious," which combines "brunch" and "delicious" to describe an especially enjoyable brunch experience, and "instafam," blending of "Instagram" and "family" to convey the concept of community within this application, other examples include:

Words	Components	Definition	Usage in context
flirtationship (n.)	flirt + relationship	a casual relationship based only on flirtation.	I can't tell if they're just being friendly or if there's something more to their constant teasing and playful banter. It's

			definitely a confusing flirtationship!
infomercial (n.)	information + commercial	a long television advertisement, that contains a lot of information and seems like a normal programme	Alex, have you seen that new infomercial? It's so cringey, but I can't stop watching! xD
webinar (n.)	web + seminar	an occasion when a group of people go on the internet at the same time to study and discuss something	I'm super excited for the upcoming webinar from Huberman. It's gonna be lit!
webisode (n.)	web + episode	an episode of a television show that is only aired online.	Just binge-watched the latest webisode of the Kardashians' reality show. Their drama is next level! Can't get enough!
emoticon (n.)	emotion + icon	An image or graphic icon used to represent such emotions; an emoji.	Just received a cute message from HIM with heart eyes emoticon. Made my day!
vlog (n.)	video + blog (itself a blend of web + log)	a weblog using video as its primary presentation format.	Hey guys, just uploaded a new vlog capturing my

			adventurous road trip. Check it out and don't forget to like and subscribe!
situationship (n.)	situation + relationship	A situationship is a term used to describe a romantic or sexual relationship that lacks clear definitions, boundaries, or long-term commitment.	Barbara told me that Larisa is in total situationship!
bloggerati (n.)	blogger + literati	people who write successful and popular blogs	Just checked out the latest fashion haul from the bloggerati squad. Their style game is always on point!
frenemy (n.)	friend+enemy	a person who pretends to be your friend but is in fact an enemy	Her only friends are a trio of catty frenemies she hasn't seen in months.
chillax (v.)	chill + relax	to become calm and relax	Just chillax, Bartosz, they'll be here soon.
ignoritch	ignorant + rich + bitch	someone who is ignorant because of money	Bro chill you’re being an ignoritch.

hangy (adj.)	hungry + angry	becoming angry because you are feeling hungry	Ugh, I'm so hangry rn! Need food ASAP!
bromance (n.)	brother + romance	a close, friendly, but not sexual relationship between two men	Just had an epic bro sesh with my bestie. Our bromance is on another level!
thumbo (n.)	thumb + typo	a typographical error made while using thumbs only to text mesage.	Did you mean to write guck you? No, sorry, that was a thumbo.
netizen (n.)	Net + citizen	a member of the community of Internet users.	OMG, that viral video is going crazy among netizens! It's blowing up on every social media platform!
podcast (adj./n.)	iPod (“portable music player made by Apple”) + broadcast	a radio programme that is stored in a digital form that you can download from the internet and play on a computer or on an MP3 player	Some radio stations already are posting their talk shows on websites to reach podcast audiences.
staycation (n.)	stay + vacation	a holiday that you take at home or near your home rather	Just started my staycation and I'm already feeling

		than travelling to another place	those chill vibes! #StaycationMode
glamping (n.)	glamorous + camping	any of various luxury forms of camping.	Going glamping with my friends and enjoying nature without sacrificing luxury. It's gonna be epic!
botsplaining (n.) botsplaine (v.)	AI chatbot + explaining	a situation when an AI chatbot confidently gives wrong information	ugh, the chatbot is botsplaining again, I guess it's time to DIY
frenchtistic (adj.)	french toast sticks + fantastic	the feeling you get when eating french toast sticks	“How’s your breakfast?” “Got me feeling frenchtistic!”
wangster (n.)	white + gangster	A person that wants to be a gangster but has never worked hard for something a day in their life.	toaf thinks hes punk but hes the biggest wangster
awesomazing (adj.)	awesome + amazing	a combination of awesome and amazing; the highest level of awesomeness.	Dude did you here that new song? It is awesomazing!
beerking (n.)	beer + cycling	bar crawling while riding bicycles between bars	Joe and his friend went beerking last Saturday- they drank over four

			pints and rode 20 miles before calling it a day.
reddiquette (n.)	Reddit + etiquette	proper conduct to be followed on the website Reddit.	Oi mate! This post breaks the reddiquette! We better report this to the subreddit moderators or reddit admins!

Abbreviations and acronyms are also commonly used on Instagram, particularly in hashtags and comments. Examples include "#ootd" (outfit of the day), "#mua" (make-up artist), "#gm" (short for good morning), "btw" (by the way), and "imo" (in my opinion).

2.3.3 Computer Slang Neologisms and Facebook's Impact

Although Facebook differs in functionality from Twitter and Instagram, it remains a prominent platform for slang neologism development. With its vast user base and diverse communities, Facebook fosters the creation and diffusion of linguistic innovations through posts, comments, and groups.

Facebook has popularised the use of acronyms and initialisms in computer slang. Terms like "CU" (see you), "LOL" (laugh out loud), "BRB" (be right back), "ROTFL" (rolling on the floor laughing) and "OMG" (oh my God) have become widely recognised and integrated into online communication. Suffixation is also observed in computer slang neologisms, with words like "selfie" being formed to describe the act of taking a self-portrait with a smartphone; "healthie" meaning a selfie captured while engaged in a physical exercise routine. Such popular computer slang terms have become integrated into the mainstream language and are now recognised and used by individuals who may not even be active social media users. Other examples include the words "algorithmize", "uploadable", "repostable", and "emojify".

Additionally, clipping is another prevalent mechanism used to create computer slang neologisms. Words like "obvi" (obviously), "fam" (family), "adobs" (adorable), and "pic" (picture) have emerged through the process of truncating longer words. Furthermore, contractions, such as "wanna" (I want to) and "gonna" (going to), have become common in computer-mediated communication on platforms like Facebook.

The examples of such words in context are provided below:

Words	Meaning	Usage in context
facepalm	the action of covering your face with your hand to show that you are embarrassed, annoyed, or shocked about something	I just facepalmed so hard I nearly broke my nose.
simp	An individual who excessively endeavors to fulfill the desires of another person, particularly within the context of a romantic relationship.	He is a constantly weeping simp, in love with an arrogant social-climbing corpo-rat.
braggie	an image posted on a social media platform with the intention of making someone jealous.	Sarah just posted the ultimate #holidaybraggie
emojify	transform into an emoji.	how can u emojify this movie?
Facebookable	worthy to be posted on the social media platform Facebook.	You know it was a good night when only 3 out of

		152 pics are facebookable
adords	a short form of adorable, used to describe people, animals, or things that are easy to like or love because they are so attractive	She shared an adorbs picture of her kids on her Facebook.

To conclude, Facebook, with its extensive user base and influential role in shaping online interactions, facilitated the widespread adoption of these neologisms. As computer technology continues to evolve, new computer slang neologisms are expected to emerge, reflecting the ever-changing landscape of the digital world.

Conclusions to the second chapter

In conclusion, the study investigated the distinguishing features of lexical and semantic computer and technology-related words. Computer terms were identified as lexicons that play a crucial role in accurately articulating concepts, processes, and nomenclature specific to computer technology. The normative and descriptive approaches were used to examine terms, with normative analysis focusing on defining specific concepts and descriptive analysis studying the lexical units fulfilling specialised functions.

The computer terminological system was categorised into different groups, including terms that exhibit correlations with common words, general terms used in various scientific and technological fields, and special terms exclusive to computers. Some terms in the computer term system exhibited multiple meanings, emphasising the importance of context in understanding their intended usage.

Semantic analysis revealed several groups of lexical units based on shared characteristics, such as constituents of computer architecture, computer languages and symbols, computer software applications, computer-related actions and commands, users of the Internet and programmers, Internet usage, and social networking platforms. Quantitative analysis of 1675 English-language computer terms indicated that the largest group pertains to lexical units denoting work carried out through a computer, specific actions and commands, constituting 25.3% of the total. Conversely, the smallest group comprises lexical units denoting computer language types, symbols, and signs, accounting for 7.3%. The percentages of each category were illustrated in a pie chart [see Appendix 1]. Lexical units denoting programmers and programming languages constituted 9.1% of the total. In contrast, lexical units representing the constituent parts of a computer, computer types, and other components of computer structure accounted for 17.3%. Lexical units denoting computer software represented 13.9%, lexical units denoting actions and commands related to computer work accounted for 25.3%, lexical units indicating computer language types, symbols, and signs constituted 7.3%, lexical units connected to the Internet and used in Internet

discourse represented 18.7%, and lexical units associated with the development of social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) accounted for 8.5%.

Furthermore, the study examined the distinguishing structural features and word formation of 690 computer and technology-related words. It was found that a significant portion of the computer-related lexicon comprises neologisms. The study analysed word formation within computer terminology, identifying affixation, abbreviation, compounding, conversion, blending, lexical-semantic transposition, backformation, and onomatopoeia as the main ways of forming computer-related words. The percentages of each word formation method were also illustrated in a pie chart [Appendix 2]: Affixation (suffixation – 6.7%; prefixation – 8.4%; prefixal-suffixal – 1.3%) constitutes 16.4% of the total, while abbreviation (clipping – 1.0%; contraction – 2.0%; acronyms – 15.1%) accounts for 18.1%. Compounding represents 33.2%, conversion 2.3%, blending 17.2%, lexical-semantic transposition 5.9%, backformation 6.1%, and onomatopoeia 0.7%.

The analysis revealed that compounding is the most productive method of forming computer terms, followed by abbreviations and blending. The use of abbreviations, including acronyms, is prevalent in computer terminology due to the need for brevity and simplicity in communication. Slang neologisms, which play a significant role in digital communication, exhibit characteristics such as creativity, brevity, adaptability, community specificity, and trendiness. They often originate and spread rapidly on social networking platforms like Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, where the character limitation encourages concise and condensed language styles.

In conclusion, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of the distinguishing features of lexical and semantic computer and technology-related words, providing valuable insights for researchers, linguists, and professionals working in the field of information technology.

CONCLUSIONS

After analyzing the collected material, we can conclude that computer-related terminology rapidly evolves and significantly impacts all aspects of human life. The survey conducted during this study achieved the following objectives:

Firstly, the study focused on identifying the distinguishing characteristics of lexical and semantic computer and technology-related words. It established that computer terms serve a crucial role in accurately expressing concepts, processes, and specific nomenclature related to computer technology. The analysis employed normative and descriptive approaches, with the normative analysis defining specific concepts and the descriptive analysis examining the lexical units that fulfil specialized functions.

The computer terminological system was then categorized into various groups, including terms that show correlations with common words, general terms used in scientific and technological fields, and specialized terms exclusive to computers. Some terms within the computer term system exhibited multiple meanings, highlighting the importance of context in comprehending their intended usage.

Moreover, the semantic analysis revealed several groups of lexical units based on shared characteristics. These groups encompass constituents of computer architecture, computer languages and symbols, computer software applications, computer-related actions and commands, internet users and programmers, internet usage, and social networking platforms. A quantitative analysis of 1,675 English-language computer terms indicated that the largest group comprised lexical units denoting work performed through a computer, specific actions, and commands, accounting for 25.3% of the total. On the other hand, the smallest group consisted of lexical units denoting computer language types, symbols, and signs, representing 7.3%. Other semantic groups included lexical units associated with programmers and programming languages (9.1%), computer components and types (17.3%), computer software (13.9%), internet-related terms (18.7%), and terms related to social networking (8.5%) [see Appendix 1].

Additionally, the study investigated the distinguishing structural features and word formation of 690 computer and technology-related words. It revealed that a significant portion of the computer-related lexicon consists of neologisms. The analysis examined various word formation methods within computer terminology, identifying affixation, abbreviation, compounding, conversion, blending, lexical-semantic transposition, backformation, and onomatopoeia as the main ways of forming computer-related words. The distribution of word formation methods was visually represented using pie charts [see Appendix 2-3]. Affixation, including suffixation (6.7%), prefixation (8.4%), and prefixal-suffixal combinations (1.3%), constituted a total of 16.4% of the analyzed data. Abbreviations, encompassing clipping (1.0%), contraction (2.0%), and acronyms (15.1%), accounted for 18.1%. Compounding emerged as the most prevalent method at 33.2%, followed by conversion (2.3%), blending (17.2%), lexical-semantic transposition (5.9%), backformation (6.1%), and onomatopoeia (0.7%).

The analysis demonstrated that compounding is the most productive method of forming computer terms, followed by abbreviations and blending. The need for concise and simplified communication drives the prevalent use of abbreviations, including acronyms, in computer terminology. Slang neologisms, which play a significant role in digital communication, exhibit characteristics such as creativity, brevity, adaptability, community specificity, trendiness, and the expression of identity and inclusivity. These terms often originate and spread rapidly on popular social networking platforms like Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, where the character limitation encourages concise and condensed language styles.

In conclusion, this research enhances our understanding of the distinguishing features of lexical and semantic computer and technology-related words, offering valuable insights for researchers, linguists, and professionals working in the field of information technology.

SUMMARY

Computer terminology plays a vital role in various aspects of daily life, encompassing domains such as education, work, communication, and entertainment. The rapid advancement of computer science has profoundly influenced language, particularly its lexicon, giving rise to a specialised terminological system characterised by a wide array of technical and professional terms. While initially limited to a niche group of specialists, many computer terms have become relevant and widely understood by a broad range of computer users. Alongside the formal computer terminology system, a distinct and vibrant subset of language known as computer slang has also emerged. This study aims to delve into the vocabulary associated with computers, extensively employed in both spoken and written computer-mediated communication, including mediums such as emails, video chats, and audio exchanges. Despite existing research on the topic, specific structural and semantic features within this domain have received partial attention. Consequently, there remains a need for a comprehensive investigation to fully explore and provide definitive insights into the distinctive characteristics of these terms, emphasising the relevance and significance of this study.

The aim of the work is to analyse specific structural and semantic features of computer-related terms and Internet slang based on the analysis of collected language material. The aim of the report has predetermined the following **objectives** of the investigation:

· Identify and define the shared structural and semantic features that are commonly observed within computer-related vocabulary;

· To classify the collected lexical data into distinct semantic groups and determine the dominant semantic category;

· To undertake an in-depth analysis of the structural peculiarities inherent in the process of word formation within the terminological system of computer technology;

· To unveil the distinctive patterns and mechanisms that underlie the formation of computer terms, with a particular focus on identifying the most prevalent type of word formation;

The object of study is computer-mediated communication and computer terminology system in Modern English.

The subject of study is computer terms, their structural and semantic features and classification problems.

The material of the research consists of 1675 and 690 language units from professional sources (professional texts in computer science), social media websites such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: articles from popular magazines – "Forbes", specialised magazines – "Wired", "Tech Advisor", "Applied Network Science"; video material – "Ted Talks".

General and special **research methods** of linguistics are applied in work for the complete inventory and systematisation of the analysed material:

· A method of sampling;

· A descriptive method;

· A method of semantic analysis;

· A quantitative analysis;

· A comparative analysis;

· A method of etymological analysis.

The research presented in this study introduces novel insights by examining a distinct subject matter and employing specific methodological approaches. It conducts a comprehensive and systematic analysis of the computer terminology system, shedding light on the structural and semantic features of computer-related terms and Internet slang. Through quantitative analysis, the study identifies the central and peripheral components of the computer terminology system, revealing prevailing trends in Modern English. The theoretical significance of this research lies in its identification of current trends in computer terminology word formation and the specific patterns of semantic groups within computer terms. These findings serve as a foundation for future investigations in related domains. Furthermore, the research contributes to the advancement of terminology by identifying characteristic features of terms found in scientific and technical texts pertaining to computer science. The practical implications of this study are significant as the results can be applied in both

theoretical and practical contexts, benefiting courses, seminars, translators, interpreters, and industry specialists. The study fills a gap in the existing literature, providing valuable insights for academics, professionals, and language practitioners in the field of computer science and technology.

The structure of this study comprises an introduction, two main parts (theoretical and practical), a conclusion, and references to the sources used. The introduction establishes the relevance and defines the aim, object, and subject of the research. It also highlights the theoretical and practical significance of the study and provides an overview of its structure.

The theoretical part reviews the scientific works of G. S. Greenberg, J. Aitchison, J. C. Sager, H. Felber, L.P. Bilozerska, A. S. Dyakov, M. A. Kizil, S. M. Yenikieeva, R. Dubuc, and M. I. Matviychuk. This section offers an overview of the general characteristics of computer-mediated communication, emphasizing its significance and impact across various domains. It explores the theory of terminology, encompassing the concept of a term, terminological systems, and their definitions. Additionally, the section delves into the concept of Internet slang in the English language, highlighting the prerequisites for its emergence.

After analyzing the collected material, we can conclude that computer-related terminology is rapidly evolving and significantly impacting all aspects of human life. The survey conducted during the second part of this study achieved the following objectives: Firstly, the study focused on identifying the distinguishing characteristics of lexical and semantic computer and technology-related words. It established that computer terms serve a crucial role in accurately expressing concepts, processes, and specific nomenclature related to computer technology. The analysis employed normative and descriptive approaches, with the normative analysis defining specific concepts and the descriptive analysis examining the lexical units that fulfill specialized functions. The computer terminological system was then categorized into various groups, including terms that show correlations with common words, general terms used in scientific and technological fields, and specialized terms exclusive to computers.

Some terms within the computer term system exhibited multiple meanings, highlighting the importance of context in comprehending their intended usage.

Moreover, the semantic analysis revealed several groups of lexical units based on shared characteristics. These groups encompass constituents of computer architecture, computer languages and symbols, computer software applications, computer-related actions and commands, internet users and programmers, internet usage, and social networking platforms. A quantitative analysis of 1,675 English-language computer terms indicated that the largest group comprised lexical units denoting work performed through a computer, specific actions, and commands, accounting for 25.3% of the total. On the other hand, the smallest group consisted of lexical units denoting computer language types, symbols, and signs, representing 7.3%. Other semantic groups included lexical units associated with programmers and programming languages (9.1%), computer components and types (17.3%), computer software (13.9%), internet-related terms (18.7%), and terms related to social networking (8.5%) [see Appendix 1].

Additionally, the study investigated the structural distinguishing features and word formation of 690 computer and technology-related words. It revealed that a significant portion of the computer-related lexicon consists of neologisms. The analysis examined various word formation methods within computer terminology, identifying affixation, abbreviation, compounding, conversion, blending, lexical-semantic transposition, backformation, and onomatopoeia as the main ways of forming computer-related words. The distribution of word formation methods was visually represented using pie charts [see Appendix 2-3]. Affixation, including suffixation (6.7%), prefixation (8.4%), and prefixal-suffixal combinations (1.3%), constituted a total of 16.4% of the analyzed data. Abbreviations, encompassing clipping (1.0%), contraction (2.0%), and acronyms (15.1%), accounted for 18.1%. Compounding emerged as the most prevalent method at 33.2%, followed by conversion (2.3%), blending (17.2%), lexical-semantic transposition (5.9%), backformation (6.1%), and onomatopoeia (0.7%).

The analysis demonstrated that compounding is the most productive method of forming computer terms, followed by abbreviations and blending. The prevalent use of abbreviations, including acronyms, in computer terminology is driven by the need for concise and simplified communication. Slang neologisms, which play a significant role in digital communication, exhibit characteristics such as creativity, brevity, adaptability, community specificity, trendiness, and the expression of identity and inclusivity. These terms often originate and spread rapidly on popular social networking platforms like Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, where the character limitation encourages concise and condensed language styles.

In conclusion, this research enhances our understanding of the distinguishing features of lexical and semantic computer and technology-related words, offering valuable insights for researchers, linguists, and professionals working in the field of information technology. The findings of this study emphasize the importance of conducting further research on terminology within the field of computer science and the Internet. The terminology system associated with computer-related concepts is observed to be in a state of constant evolution and continuous enhancement. In light of the current state of intercultural communication and the globalized nature of society, there is a clear imperative to thoroughly analyze this domain, taking into account the ongoing influx of new terms that emerge each year.

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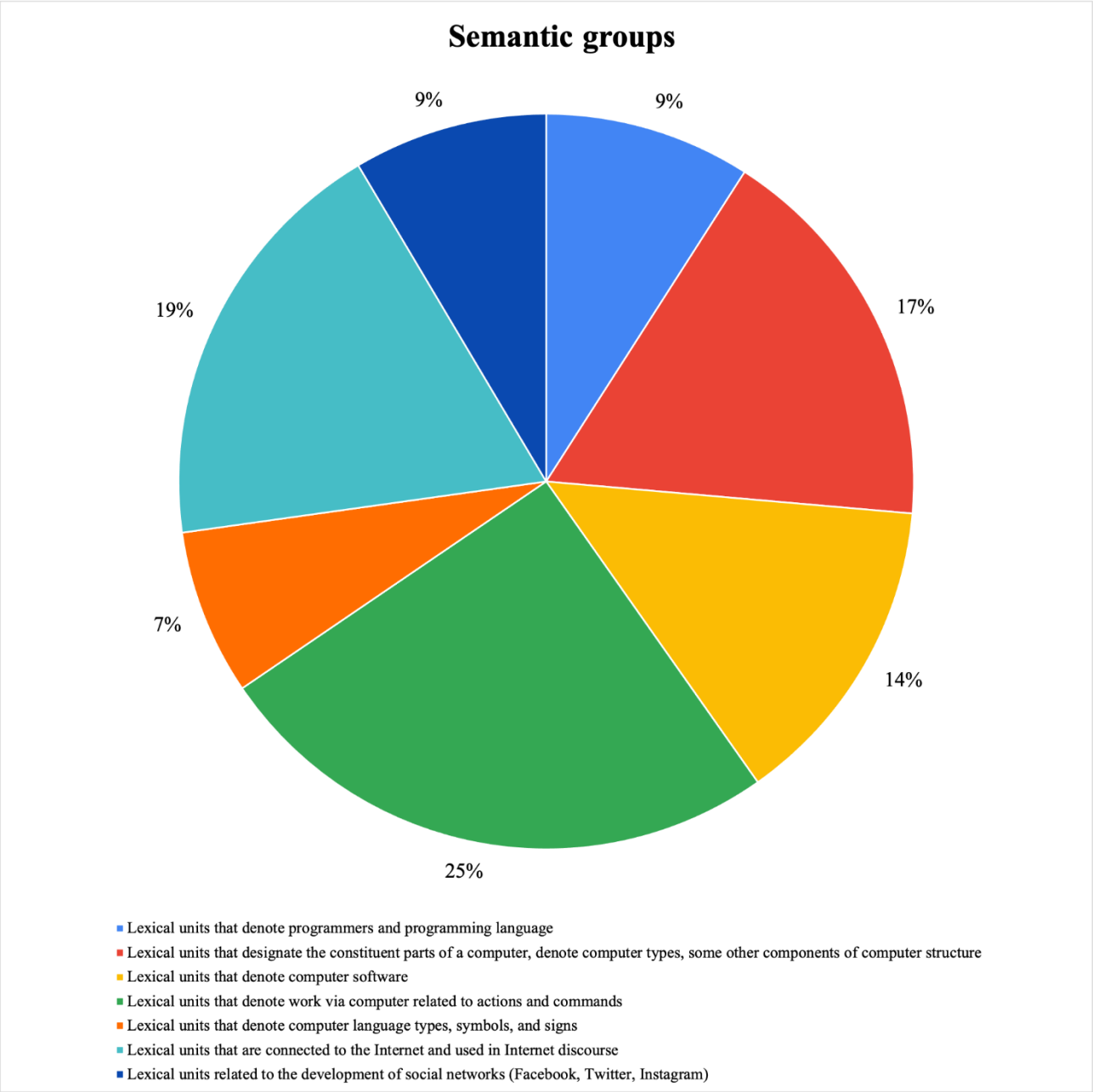
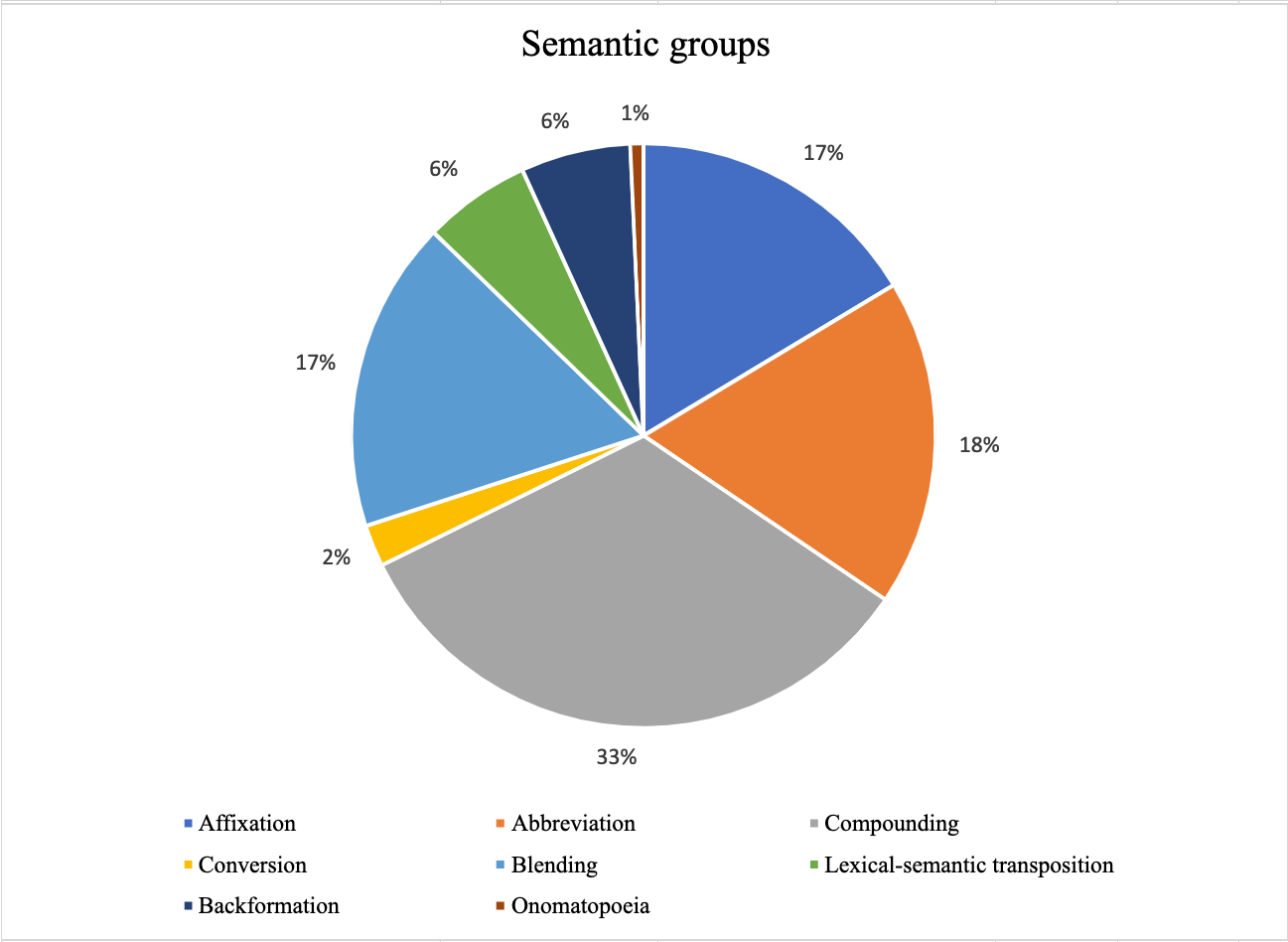
APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2



APPENDIX 3