



## THE STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS AND CLASSIFICATION OF IT TERMS

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**Abstract:** This article is dedicated to analyses of different forms and structure of the IT terms, abbreviations and highlighted differences between term and terminology.

**Key words:** IT terms, abbreviations, simple and complex terms, semantic change, morphological change.

**Аннотация:** Данная статья посвящена анализу различных форм и структур ИТ-терминов и аббревиатур, а также выявлению различий термин и терминология.

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**Ключевые слова:** ИТ-термины, аббревиатуры, формы, простые и сложные термины, семантическое изменение, морфологическое изменение.

**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu maqola IT terminlari va abbreviaturalarining turli shakllari va tuzilmalarini tahlil qilishga hamda termin va terminologiya o'rtasidagi farqlarni ko'rsatishga bag'ishlangan.

**Kalit so'zlar:** IT terminlar, abbreviaturalar, oddiy va murakkab terminlar, semantik o'zgarish, morfologik o'zgarish.

As the time going on, millions of new terms and abbreviation have entered the language according to some reasons like a development of science, information technology (IT), genetics, telecommunications and others. According to Robert Dubuc, term is – “constantly being borrowed by different disciplines to name new concepts and designate new realities. In the process, their meanings is broadened, narrowed and otherwise changed”. As a result a new field is introduced as a terminology [1:p. 38]. Jennifer Pearson claims that “a term is a word or phrase which has been assigned an agreed meaning and has been officially approved and published in a standart” [2:p. 23]. In addition, S.D.Shelov characterizes the nature of the term in the following way:

a) It is a concept denoted by a lexical item (word or word combination) that makes this item a term

b) The “termness” of an item (=quality of being a term) is determined by all items necessary for the identification of its concept within the whole system of

definitions (explanations) of these items, belonging to the domain under consideration

c) The greater the amount of information required in a definition (explanation) to identify a concept, denoted by a certain item, the higher the degree of “termness” of this item[3: p. 123]

Technical terminology is specialized in one sphere and mostly used by young generation because they often use these short terms in their speech in order to be clear and precise. In this digitalised era, computer and internet terms are the most common and famous ones, as we have a great need to get information from the internet sources. One of the well-known source is online encyclopedia of computer technology is called “Webopedia” which provides five entries each day like “Term of the Day”, “Recent Terms”, “New Terms”. But in terminology some rules are observed, that is outdated words and phrases for instance “floppy disk” or “diskette”.

Many computer terms have metaphoric features which words and phrases are used in an imaginative way to describe somebody or something. For example, *the computer’s memory* holds information like people’s memory. Similarly, *cloud computing* suggests an idea of storing information on the clouds. More examples of metaphors used in IT are: *notebook, cut, paste, virus, bug, mouse, voicemail*.

David Crystal classified computer terms into seven groups:

1) Combinations of two and more separate words are used to make a new word or compound (*mouseclick, click-and-buy*)

2) Other common prefixes and suffixes or words used as prefixes and suffixes are these: *hyper (hypertext, hyperlink), bug (bugtracker), net (netnews, Usenet)*

3) Terms are often shortened into letter-plus-number combinations such as *W3C (Word Wide Web), P3P (Platform for Privacy Preferences)*.

4) One capital letter is initial, while another is medial (*ScienceDirect, PowerBook*).

5) Some computer-related terms have a permanent presence, when they designate screen areas and functions and specify user options and commands (*file, edit, back, insert*).

6) Some terms are only used when things are going wrong. Then they appear in the form of error message (*forbidden, illegal operation, error 404*).

7) A lot of terms associated with the operations of hardware are also long-living (lock, down, crash).[4:p. 81-86]

Gaivenis states that IT terms according to structure can be simple and complex. Simple terms can consist of one word with or without affixes (*link, interconnection*). Complex terms can consist of at least two words such as *user-friendly, computer-aided design*. [5:p. 134]

Silvia Pavel gives her own classification of terms which consists of five groups: simple terms, complex terms, abbreviations, acronyms and initialisms. [6:]

In Dubuc’s classification terms fall into three groups: simple terms (consisting of one word formed of a stem, with or without affixes), complex terms (consisting of two or more words with a grammatical relationship) and terminological phrases (consisting of a group of words). The major drawback of the classification presented by Dubuc is that the difference between complex terms and terminological phrases is not quite clear. In the present research, it has been decided to group complex terms and terminological phrases into one category. [1:p. p 83-89]

According to form of the IT terms, different scholars give their ideas and divide them into a few groups. Here we can rely on mostly Dubuc ideas and he divides it into 4 groups:

a) Semantic change, a word gives a new meaning and includes adoption, expansion, metaphor, metonymy, eponymy

b) Morphological change, term is formed by shortening an existing word or by joining existing words and formative elements and includes clipping, composition, affixation, compounding, blending, initialisms, and acronyms.

c) Conversion, a process in which a new term is created by changing the grammatical class of an established word — and necessarily its meaning — but not its morphology. (photograph, google)

d) Borrowings from other languages, “English has borrowed primarily from Latin, Greek, French and German — languages which are strongly represented in law, medicine, science and technology” [1: p.133].

An abbreviation is a shortened form of a written word or phrase. Abbreviations may be used to save space and time, to avoid repetition of long words and phrases, or simply to conform to conventional usage. The styling of abbreviations is inconsistent and arbitrary and includes many possible variations. Some abbreviations are formed by omitting all but the first few letters of a word; such abbreviations usually end in a period. Other abbreviations are formed by omitting letters from the middle of the word and usually also end in a period. IT abbreviations can be divided into different groups and subgroups for example,

• **Networking Abbreviations:** LAN: Local Area Network, WAN: Wide Area Network, VPN: Virtual Private Network, DNS: Domain Name System, IP: Internet Protocol, TCP: Transmission Control Protocol, UDP: User Datagram Protocol, DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol, FTP: File Transfer Protocol, HTTP: Hypertext Transfer Protocol

• **Programming Abbreviations:** HTML: Hypertext Markup Language, CSS: Cascading Style Sheets, SQL: Structured Query Language, API: Application Programming Interface, OOP: Object-Oriented Programming, IDE: Integrated Development Environment, JVM: Java Virtual Machine, SDK: Software Development Kit, CLI: Command Line Interface, GUI: Graphical User Interface,

• **Database Abbreviations:** DBMS: Database Management System, SQL: Structured Query Language, RDBMS: Relational Database Management System, ACID: Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, Durability, CRUD: Create, Read, Update, Delete, DDL: Data Definition Language, DML: Data Manipulation Language, ERD: Entity-Relationship Diagram, OLAP: Online Analytical Processing, BI: Business Intelligence

• **Security Abbreviations:** SSL: Secure Sockets Layer, TLS: Transport Layer Security, IDS: Intrusion Detection System, IPS: Intrusion Prevention System, AES: Advanced Encryption Standard, PKI: Public Key Infrastructure, DMZ: Demilitarized Zone, XSS: Cross-Site Scripting, CSRF: Cross-Site Request Forgery, DDoS: Distributed Denial of Service,

• **Web and Internet Abbreviations:** URL: Uniform Resource Locator, HTTP: Hypertext Transfer Protocol, HTML: Hypertext Markup Language, CSS: Cascading Style Sheets, JavaScript: JS, CMS: Content Management System, SEO: Search Engine Optimization, CDN: Content Delivery Network, XML: Extensible Markup Language, API: Application Programming Interface

IT terms and abbreviations need to be investigated and we can find many more new terms and input them into the language. Since there is an abundance of new technologies in IT and new terms outnumber those of all other fields, having a better understanding about the structure and formation of terms may help to follow the especially rapid development of the field.

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