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LEXICAL TRANSFORMATIONS: AN EXPLORATION OF CHANGES AND ADAPTATIONS IN LANGUAGE

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Abstract: This article is dedicated to lexical transformations that occur in language, including neologisms, borrowings, semantic shifts, as well as processes of amelioration and pejoration. It discusses different types of lexical changes and their impact on language, with examples from various languages. The paper explains how cultural, social, and technological changes influence the emergence of new words and the evolution of existing meanings. The author emphasizes the importance of lexical transformations for maintaining the dynamism of language and its adaptation to changing conditions.

Keywords: Lexical transformations, neologisms, borrowings, semantic shifts, amelioration, pejoration, broadening, narrowing, language, culture, technology, social changes, linguistics.

Language, as a dynamic and evolving system, undergoes various transformations over time. These transformations are integral in shaping the lexicon, and one of the most intriguing processes within this realm is *lexical transformation*. Lexical transformations refer to the changes that occur in the form, meaning, and usage of words in a language, often in response to cultural, social, or historical shifts. This phenomenon can involve the introduction of new words, the evolution of existing terms, or the borrowing of terms from other languages. In this article, we will explore the concept of lexical transformations, their types, and how they impact language in both the short and long term. We will also examine examples from various languages and discuss the factors that drive lexical changes.

1. Understanding Lexical Transformations. Lexical transformations encompass a wide range of changes that affect words and phrases in a language. These transformations can involve: Neologisms: The creation of new words, often to describe new concepts, technologies, or cultural practices. For instance, terms like "smartphone", "selfie", or "hashtag" have become common in everyday

speech, but they were non-existent in the lexicon a few decades ago; Word Borrowing: The adoption of words from other languages, typically due to cultural contact, globalization, or the spread of new ideas. For example, the English word "ballet" comes from French, while the word "piano" has Italian roots. Borrowed words are often assimilated into the lexicon, and over time, they may lose their foreign associations; Semantic Shifts: Words can undergo semantic transformations, where their meanings change or expand. A good example is the word "girl." Historically, it simply meant a young person of either gender but later came to be exclusively associated with females; Broadening and Narrowing: These refer to changes in the scope of a word's meaning. Broadening occurs when a word takes on additional meanings, like "holiday," which once referred specifically to a religious festival but now includes any day of celebration or rest. Narrowing happens when a word's meaning becomes more specific, like "meat," which once referred to any kind of food but now typically refers only to the flesh of animals.

Types of Lexical Transformations: There are several types of lexical transformations, each of which plays a unique role in the development of language. Let's delve deeper into some of the most prominent types: Neologisms - the creation of new words is one of the most prominent features of lexical transformation. Neologisms emerge for various reasons, particularly to describe new inventions, technologies, or cultural phenomena. The digital age, for instance, has seen a surge of neologisms, such as "cloud computing", "virtual reality" and "emoji". Neologisms can originate in specific fields, such as technology, politics, or popular culture. Some may be short-lived, while others become firmly established in the lexicon. For instance, words like "internet" and "blog" were once neologisms but have now become part of everyday language. Word Borrowing - as societies come into contact with other cultures, they often borrow words to describe new objects, concepts, or practices. English, for example, has borrowed extensively from Latin, French, Germanic languages, and many others. Words like "menu" (from French), "entrepreneur" (from French), and "guru" (from Sanskrit) have become integral to the English lexicon. Borrowed words may undergo phonetic and grammatical adaptations to fit the rules of the borrowing language. However, some words retain their original pronunciation or spelling, especially when they are considered formal or technical terms. **Broadening and Narrowing** are two types of semantic change that occur when the meaning of a word shifts in terms of scope. Broadening occurs when a word takes on additional meanings. For instance, the word "book" once referred specifically to a written manuscript but now refers to any printed or digital work. Narrowing, on the other hand, occurs when the meaning of a word becomes more specific. An example is the word "meat", which originally meant any kind of food but now refers only to animal flesh.

- 3. Factors Driving Lexical Transformations; There are numerous factors that drive lexical transformations in language. These include: Cultural and Social Changes: Changes in society, such as new technologies, social movements, or shifts in political power, often lead to the creation of new terms or the evolution of existing ones. For instance, the rise of social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook has given rise to terms like "tweet", "hashtag" and "viral"; Technological Advancements: As new technologies emerge, they require new vocabulary to describe them. Terms like "smartphone", "app" and "Wi-Fi" were coined as a result of technological innovations; Globalization and Cultural Exchange: As cultures come into contact through travel, trade, and communication, languages borrow words from one another. English, for example, has borrowed extensively from French, Spanish, and other languages due to its colonial past and global interactions. Evolving Social Norms: Changes in social attitudes and values can influence the meanings of words.
- 4. The Impact of Lexical Transformations on Language lexical transformations can have both short-term and long-term impacts on a language. In the short term, they can make a language more dynamic, reflective of contemporary realities, and adaptable to new circumstances. In the long term, however, lexical transformations can lead to the development of entirely new lexicons and linguistic structures. As languages continue to evolve, lexical transformations will remain a vital aspect of this process. They reflect the changing nature of human culture, society, and technology, ensuring that language remains a relevant and functional tool for communication.

Conclusion. Lexical transformations are an essential and fascinating part of language development. From neologisms to borrowed words, from semantic shifts to the narrowing and broadening ¹⁴⁰

of meanings, these transformations shape the way we communicate and express ideas. By understanding the nature of lexical transformations, we can gain valuable insights into the changing dynamics of language and culture, and how words evolve to meet the needs of society. As long as society continues to change, so too will language – and the lexicon will continue to grow and adapt in response.

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THE TYPES OF TRANSLATION AND THEIR FEATURES IN MODERN SCIENCE FICTION

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Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются основные особенности перевода в английской научной фантастике, анализируются и обсуждаются труды ученых, упоминаются последние нововведения, многочисленные исследования стилей и

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