PECULIARITIES OF NEOLOGISMS IN THE GERMAN

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ANNOTATION
The term neologism entered usage in the mid-18th century, borrowed from French into German. In France, néologisme was coined in the first half of the 18th century. It's a neoclassical loan word formation, combining the elements (néos) 'new' and (logos) 'word, teaching'. The emergence of neologism in France can be traced back to the linguistic and lexicographical environment, where heated debates about the merits and drawbacks of new words and their inclusion in the dictionary took place. This same context led to the adoption of the term neologism in German, even though it had carried a negative connotation for a long time: neologism was seen as an unsightly, superfluous new word that contaminated the refined German language.

Key words: *Emergence of neologism, new term, lexical unit, vocabulary unit, specific communication, linguistic communit;y*

Neologisms fulfill the need for new terms within a communication community. As new names are linked to lexical units, which are understood as a two-sided sign encompassing both form and meaning, they serve as a clear starting point for defining neologism. What sets neologism apart from established vocabulary units is that either the form and meaning or only the meaning of the unit is perceived as new by the majority of members in a specific communication community over a certain period of time. Therefore, two types of neologisms must be distinguished: new terms and new meanings, also known as neosemantisms. In the context of the German language, new lexemes encompass both single-word and multi-word lexemes, which, in their combination of form and meaning, were previously absent from the German vocabulary until a specific point in time. Additionally, there is no fundamental distinction made between new lexemes formed in German and those borrowed from other languages. A new meaning arises when a new semantic element is added to an existing mono- or polysemic lexeme in German at a certain point in time.

Neologisms are commonly regarded as expressions that reflect new phenomena emerging in various aspects of society. New word formations or meanings that have become widely accepted are considered neologisms. The rise of industrialization, mechanization, and technological advancements, such as the emergence of new media, has led to the integration of numerous technical terms into everyday language, such as "Telex" and "Satellitenübertragung". The primary characteristics of neologisms are their role in designating new facts or concepts, their frequency of use, and their integration into general language usage.

There are no universally applicable linguistic criteria to determine whether a word is 'new' or not. The term 'neologism' is relative and depends on the specific time and context in

which it is considered new. Neologisms are inherently linked to a particular time and place, and their status as 'new' within that context diminishes over time.

A neologism is a word or meaning that emerges during a specific stage of language evolution within a community of communicators, becomes widespread, is widely recognized as a linguistic standard, and is considered new by the majority of language users for a certain duration within that specific phase of development.

One important criterion considered by lexicographers is the widespread use of a new word, which determines its integration into the language. Once new words become established in the core or general vocabulary and are included in standard dictionaries, they are no longer classified as neologisms. In literature, there is often a distinction made between one-time coinages, known as occasionalisms, and more broadly used neoplasms. Occasionalisms, which are temporary or ad-hoc formations, are often only meaningful within a specific context and serve specific linguistic or stylistic functions, addressing lexical gaps. They have the potential to develop into neologisms and eventually become firmly established in the language, but they may also disappear before achieving widespread usage. The creation of a new term requires a specific need for designation, which may be temporary and socially bound. The diffusion of a neologism depends on collective agreement regarding the identified need for labeling and its implementation through the use of the neologism.

Today, the term "neologism" commonly denotes a word's novelty in comparison to the existing lexicon of a language. Neologisms play a role in expanding or revitalizing the vocabulary. The need for new words arises from the necessity for new designations, as well as for the purpose of condensing information, ensuring precision, and promoting originality. The adoption of every new word or formation relies on its acceptance by the language community. This aspect of acceptance within the linguistic community is crucial, as "new objects ... require new words to describe them and must establish themselves as acceptable forms before regulatory bodies can deliberate on them.

In general, there are several terms used to refer to the idea of new words created in literature, including literary neologisms, author neologisms, and nonce words. There are subtle differences and interpretations of these concepts. Some linguists, such as Crystal, define neologisms as newly created words or expressions that are subsequently accepted by a language community, and define nonce words as linguistic forms invented on a single occasion with the potential to become neologisms when adopted by a community. Other linguists, like Yartseva, offer a broader definition, stating that neologisms are words, meanings, or collocations that appeared within a certain period in a language or were used once in a text or speech act.

Michael Riffaterre introduces the term literary neologisms to differentiate between everyday and literary word formations. He proposes that these words are fundamentally distinct from neologisms in everyday language, which are created to convey a new meaning or concept and may not necessarily be perceived as unusual forms. Riffaterre emphasizes that literary neologisms, on the other hand, are always recognized as anomalies and are deliberately used because of this anomaly, sometimes even without consideration for their meaning.

Yet, within the framework of the Conceptual Blending theory advanced by Fauconnier and Turner, neologisms can be regarded as outcomes of a widespread and universal cognitive process known as conceptual blending or conceptual integration. This process is considered

to give rise to creativity and originality, which are contingent upon a foundation of well-established and mastered mental structures.

In this context, neologisms crafted by poets can be perceived as outcomes of the same cognitive processes as standard neologisms, and their distinctiveness is linked to their conceptual intricacy, the unique merging of mental constructs not previously linked, and their acceptance by a specific language community.

Expressionist neologisms can therefore be characterized as newly coined words resulting from deliberate manipulation of standard language, emerging from universal mental processes that arise from the subjective merging of mental constructs. They are unconventional creations formed by Expressionist poets, who introduced new concepts through the expression of fleeting emotional and cognitive states.

To elucidate the linguistic characteristics of Expressionist neologisms, I employ the concept of the figure-ground based theory of Cognitive Transitivity, which encompasses the principle that "Any event image is processed according to a model that connects (at least) two referential segments through a relator.

Conceptual integration, like analogy, recursion, mental modeling, conceptual categorization, and framing, is a fundamental cognitive process that serves various cognitive functions. It often results in the creation of entrenched concepts and structures in our thinking, which can then be further developed and adapted. Through blending, elements from different mental spaces are combined to create a new, emergent structure in a separate mental space known as the generic space.

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