



THE USE OF SLANG BY TEENAGERS IN THE UZBEK LANGUAGE ON THE TELEGRAM SOCIAL NETWORK

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Annotation: This article is dedicated to the analysis of slang words used in the social media correspondence of teenagers and their linguistic features. The study examines the factors behind the emergence of informal, abbreviated, and unique expressions in teenagers' speech, their semantic transformations, and their impact on society. Additionally, the lexical-semantic aspects of these slang words specific to the Uzbek language are analyzed, and their social significance is evaluated. The article aims to determine the role of slang in teenage communication and understand its contribution to the development of modern language.

Key words. Sleng, social media, uzbek adolescents, lexical-semantic, comments.

Today, social media tools have evolved into not only a means of transmitting information but also a medium for communication. This type of information exchange and communication is giving rise to new forms of thinking and language use. Such virtual communication in the global world bypasses the constraints of time, space, and concepts, continuously developing day by day. As G. Merchant (2015) points out, the traditional distinctions between spoken and written language are gradually disappearing under the influence of new technologies. The development of technology has led to the emergence of various social media platforms. The popularity of social media has significantly influenced the lexical-semantic level of language, as the communicative function of social media integrates the norms of literary language with colloquial speech, creating new forms of interaction among people. Among different age groups, teenagers and young people are considered more adaptable and receptive to these new forms of communication.

Teenagers are more flexible compared to other segments of society in adapting to new technologies and typically adopt them more quickly. They become a strong driving force for changes in the new communication landscape. On their social media platforms, teenagers experiment with and create new forms of writing(Devid A. Huffaker .Sandra L. Kalvert 2006) Lexical-semantic changes in teenage language arise under the influence of various factors. These include social, cultural, technological, and psychological aspects. The main causes of lexical-semantic changes in teenage language are:

1. Social and cultural changes;
2. Technological and digital communication;
3. Creativity and innovation;
4. Gender and emotional changes;
5. The influence of social groups and subcultures;
6. The influence of global culture.

Lexical-semantic changes in teenage language are influenced by many factors, including free communication on social media or the internet, mutual discussions, and the

reflection of their social and cultural transformations through their expressions. These changes manifest through language renewal, the creation of new meanings, and the use of new words. The development of teenage language is connected not only to individual expression but also to the renewal of interactions on social media and the influence of global culture. Milom V.L.(2019) according, we focus on adolescence, typically defined as the years between 13 and 19." Thurlow(2001), S. Aziz, M. Shamim, M. F. Aziz, P. Avais(2013), K. Allan, K. Burrige(2006), Y. Zhou, and F. A. Fan(2013), have conducted research on slang.

One way to describe slang is to view it as the speech of a distinctive in-group. Slang is a form of jargon that challenges official rules, characterized by its relative novelty, rapid obsolescence, and the goal of establishing group identity (Spolsky, B. 1998). The use of slang is an informal, playful, and humorous response to standard language forms, and slang helps to differentiate social spaces. Attitudes towards slang assist in identifying and forming social groups and identities(Adams., M. 2009) Moreover, "the use of slang is often found among teenagers, as most adults do not use or struggle to understand 'youth language,'" and "this style of language is not widely accepted outside the group. Nevertheless, it plays an important role in the communication of teenagers on social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp, and others (Nor Azida. S. et al 2020). In the research of Nor Azida Sabri et al (2014) "internet slang used by participants on various social media websites and applications can be classified into four types:

1. Phonetic changes – altering words to fit pronunciation.
2. Abbreviations of phrases – using shortened forms of phrases.
3. Abbreviations of words – expressing individual words in shorter forms.
4. Inanity – words and phrases that lack logical meaning or are irrelevant".

The process of globalization has also contributed to the enrichment of youth and teenage language with lexemes from other languages. Below are examples of slang types found in the speech of Malaysian teenagers.

Table 1.

Phonetic changes	every1 b4 m8 luv	Everyone Befor Mate love
Abbreviations of phrases	Istg Rofl Otw Fml	I swear to god Rolling on the floor laughing On the way Fuck my life
Abbreviations of words	Thx Ppl Pls Msg	Thank you People Please Message
Inanity	Tingz Dats	Thing That's

During the process of globalization, especially during and after the COVID period, attitudes towards the use of social media changed across all age groups. This period caused teenage language to deviate further from literary language norms in the virtual world, as the unique biological and psychological changes during adolescence also influenced their speech styles. The widespread use of social media made teenagers from different languages more adaptable when communicating with their peers and learning new languages, often adopting many words from foreign languages and using them in their speech. Currently, Uzbek teenagers are adopting many slangs from English. Teenage speech is distinguished from the speech of other age groups by its extensive use of slang. The process of globalization has also contributed to the enrichment of teenage language with lexemes from other languages.

Below, we will examine some of the slangs taken from teenage chats and their meanings.

Table 2.

1	Use ur CS	Use your common sense
2	IDGASH	I don't give a sh**
3	Lol	Laughing out loud
4	Fr	For real
5	Lmao	Laughing my ass off

A: Shatafakap

B:Stfu= shut the fuck up

C:sz uzbemsz ?

B:Yaq

C:uzi odammsz

B:Statistikaga kora hali aniqmas

C:Ha

A:Nope, elementary

B:Sezdim. Omadizi bersin

A:Sen kim edinu omadin nima bo'ladi

B:BTW Hell is helling fr

A:I wish the same for you

B:Logica that's not smth u got

A:bor naryoda o'yna

B:When marimba rhythms start to play, dance with me nd go to hell

She's a beast, I call her Karma. She eat ur heart out like Jeffrey Dahmer☺

D:elts nechchi

B:Highhhh

D:5.68?

B:8.5 lol

E:Proof

B:For who?

D:Congrats

B:IDGASh even for everyone

D:We felt already

Slang words in social media correspondence are used by teenagers for several purposes:

1. Ease of Communication: Slang allows teenagers to communicate more quickly and informally, often conveying meaning in fewer words or with greater emotional impact.

2. Cultural and Social Identity: By using specific slang, teenagers align themselves with particular social groups, reflecting their membership in certain subcultures or trends.

3. Creativity and Innovation: Teenagers use slang to express their creativity, often coining new terms or modifying existing words to reflect their unique experiences or perceptions.

4. Humor and Playfulness: Slang can inject humor and lightheartedness into communication, allowing teenagers to play with language and express emotions in a more playful way.

5. Separation from Adults: Slang helps teenagers distinguish themselves from older generations, as adults may not understand or use the same terms, creating a sense of independence or rebellion.

6. Influence of Global Culture: With globalization and access to diverse online content, teenagers incorporate slang from other cultures, particularly from English-speaking countries, into their language.

Slang words in social media correspondence among teenagers are becoming increasingly popular. These slang words serve not only as a convenient means of communication but also as cultural and social identifiers. The findings of the study show that slang enhances brevity, emotional richness, and uniqueness in teenage speech, while influencing the development of modern Uzbek. This linguistic phenomenon fosters creativity in teenage communication, but when overused, it may sometimes negatively affect the formal and traditional norms of language. Therefore, studying slang and identifying its place in society is one of the important areas of linguistics.

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