JOURNAL OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY SCIENCES AND INNOVATIONS
VOLUME 5, ISSUE 02
MOPNTHLY JOURNALS
ISSN NUMBER: 2751-4390
IMPACT FACTOR: 9,08

NEOLOGISMS IN THE UZBEK LANGUAGE AND THEIR ROLE IN SPEECH

Muslikhiddinova Rakhshona
Teacher of Asia International University

Abstract: This article analyzes the factors contributing to the emergence of neologisms in the Uzbek language, their types, and their functional role in speech. New lexical units that have appeared as a result of social development, scientific and technological progress, and globalization processes are examined on the basis of mass media materials. The study substantiates the role of neologisms in enriching the lexical layer of the Uzbek language and in becoming established within official and informational discourse.

Keywords: neologism, lexical layer, terminologization, borrowed words, cyberattack, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, AI, ChatGPT, OneID, mass media language, globalization.

The language is a constantly developing social phenomenon. As a result of social progress, scientific and technological achievements, and political and cultural changes, a process of renewal occurs within the vocabulary of a language. The new words and expressions that emerge in this process are called neologisms. Neologisms enrich the lexical layer of the language and serve to express modern thinking and contemporary needs. In the Uzbek language as well, since the years of independence, numerous new units have appeared in the socio-political, economic, and information technology spheres.

The purpose of this article is to analyze the factors contributing to the emergence of neologisms in the Uzbek language, their types, and their role in speech.

The term *neologism* (from the Greek *neos* – new, *logos* – word) in linguistics refers to words that have recently appeared or have begun to be used in a new meaning. Several factors contribute to the emergence of neologisms.

First, scientific and technological progress. For example, units such as *internet, online, platform, blogger, startup, crypto,* and *artificial intelligence* are associated with the development of modern technologies.

Second, socio-political changes. After independence, words such as *hokimiyat (local government), senator, investment, grant,* and *entrepreneurship* began to be actively used in our language.

Third, the internal word-formation potential of the language also plays a significant role. In Uzbek, new lexical units are created with the help of affixes, such as *raqamlashtirish* (digitalization), *globallashuv* (globalization), *yangilanish* (renewal), *faollik* (activity), and others.

Neologisms appear in two main forms:

1. **Lexical neologisms** – completely new words (e.g., *podcast, marketplace, freelancer*).
2. **Semantic neologisms** – existing words used in a new meaning (e.g., *tarmoq* – internet network; *oyna* – computer window).

In speech, neologisms perform several functions. First, they serve to accurately express modern realities. Second, they ensure conciseness in communication. Third, they contribute to the enrichment and renewal of the language. In particular, mass media and social networks play an important role in the rapid dissemination of neologisms.

However, the normative use of neologisms is essential. Excessive use of borrowed elements may negatively affect the purity of speech. Therefore, new words should be applied in accordance with the phonetic and grammatical norms of the language.

Neologisms are also classified according to their scope of usage: they may belong to the general language or be specific to an individual's speech. The first type is referred to as a **general-language neologism**, while the second is called an **individual (authorial) neologism**. There is a view that general-language neologisms initially emerge in individual speech. After being used in the language for a certain period, a general-language neologism gradually loses its sense of novelty and often becomes an ordinary, contemporary lexeme.

For example, when a writer introduces a new word in a literary work, it may function as an individual neologism.

V. V. Vinogradov defines word formation as follows:

"Since term formation occupies a significant place in linguistics, it is closely connected with lexicology—the branch of linguistics that studies the vocabulary of a language—and, in turn, with grammar, particularly with the theory of word formation and the syntax of word combinations."

Neologisms can be encountered in various spheres of communication. In literary works and individual speech, we often observe individual (authorial) neologisms, whereas in press materials and socio-political or cultural-educational discourse, general-language neologisms are more common.

For instance, a few days ago, the UN General Assembly adopted a special resolution declaring the Aral Sea region a zone of ecological innovation and technology. Likewise, through a special mobile application, work has been completed on offering customers a new type of deposit called "Online," placed for six months at an annual interest rate of 21 percent.

In the above sentences taken from just two issues of the newspaper *Xalq so'zi* (May 22, 2021, No. 107 (7887)), we encounter such new words as *innovation*, *resolution*, and *online*. While these words possessed the characteristics of neologisms in 2021, today they have already been assimilated into general public usage. Compared to newspapers, magazines—often targeted at younger audiences—tend to incorporate neologisms more frequently. Although printed newspapers and magazines maintained their relevance around 2020–2021, today traditional paper-based mass media have largely been replaced by electronic (or "e-") journalistic platforms. Consequently, neologisms are most readily identified through e-media, which serve as the primary channel through which the speaking community becomes acquainted with new lexical units.

In the following analysis, the identification of neologisms in contemporary Uzbek is primarily based on materials from *Daryo.uz* and *Kun.uz*. Why were these particular sources selected?

First, these two websites are among the most widely read and frequently updated information platforms in Uzbekistan. They cover a broad range of topics, including politics, economics, IT, education, society, and international affairs.

Second, online publications are often the first to introduce new concepts into circulation. In particular, newly emerging terms related to technology, digitalization, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity are actively used first in the language of online mass media.

Third, these platforms combine elements of formal and popular styles, which makes it possible to observe how neologisms function in real communicative practice. Therefore, they serve as convenient empirical sources for identifying neologisms of the present period.

Below, the identified neologisms are presented together with sample sentences taken from online media texts:

"In a cyberattack, the data of nearly 60,000 citizens were leaked."

The lexeme *kiberhujum* (cyberattack) is a compound word consisting of two components:

a) *kiber-* – derived from the Greek *kybernetes* ("steersman, controller"), which in modern

terminology denotes "related to the digital space, the internet, or information technologies";
b) *hujum* – borrowed from the Arabic *hujūm*, meaning "attack, assault, strike."
Thus, *kiberhujum* expresses the complex concept of "an attack carried out in the digital space." This unit emerged as a semantic calque of the English term *cyberattack*. It is considered a modern technological neologism associated with the development of the 21st-century information environment and is actively used in IT and security-related media discourse.
"It was ordered to strengthen cybersecurity training for bank and internal affairs employees."
The lexeme *kiberxavfsizlik* (cybersecurity) used in this sentence belongs to the layer of technological neologisms in contemporary Uzbek. It emerged as a semantic calque of the English term *cybersecurity* and consists of the components *kiber-* (related to the digital space or internet environment) and *xavfsizlik* (a noun of Arabic origin meaning "security").
Morphologically, this unit is a determinative compound noun in which the first component functions as an attributive modifier, while the second constitutes the semantic core. From a semantic perspective, *kiberxavfsizlik* represents a specialized subcategory of the broader concept of "security," referring specifically to the protection of information systems, databases, and digital infrastructure.
The term has undergone a process of terminologization: initially used within a narrow professional sphere, it has now become a normative unit actively employed in official-administrative and mass media styles. Syntactically, in the sentence it forms a governance relation through the postposition *bo'yicha* ("regarding, in the field of"), indicating the direction of activity and serving as a semantic center of the statement.
This neologism clearly demonstrates the adaptation of global technological terminology into the Uzbek language system through semantic calquing and the compound word formation model.
"In Uzbekistan, a fine was introduced for the illegal processing of personal data through artificial intelligence."
The phrase *sun'iy intellekt* (artificial intelligence) used in this sentence belongs to the scientific and technical neologisms of contemporary Uzbek. This unit was formed as a semantic translation (calque) of the English term *artificial intelligence* and consists of the components *sun'iy* (an adjective of Arabic origin meaning "artificial") and *intellekt* (from Latin *intellectus* – "mind, intellect").
As a terminological combination, it functions as a stable lexical unit in scientific, legal, and media discourse. Over time, it has expanded beyond specialized technical contexts and entered broader public usage, reflecting the growing influence of digital technologies in modern society.

References:

3. Rahmatullayev, Sh. (2006). *Hozirgi adabiy o'zbek tili*. Toshkent: Universitet nashriyoti.
4. *Xalq so'zi*. (2021, 21 May). № 106 (7886).
5. *Xalq so'zi*. (2021, 22 May). № 107 (7887).
6. Kun.uz. (2026, February 12). *Kiberhujumda 60 mingga yaqin fuqaroning ma'lumotlari tarqalgan – Sherzod Shermatov*. https://kun.uz/news/2026/02/12/kiberhujumda-60-minga-yaqin-fuqaroning-malumotlari-tarqalgan-sherzod-shermatov
7. Daryo.uz. (2026, January 27). *Shavkat Mirziyoyev banklar va ichki ishlar xodimlarini kiberxavfsizlik bo'yicha o'qitishni kuchaytirishni topshirdi*. https://daryo.uz/2026/01/27/shavkat-mirziyoyev-banklar-va-ichki-ishlar-xodimlarini-kiberxavfsizlik-boyicha-oqitishni-kuchaytirishni-topshirdi
8. Daryo.uz. (2026, January 21). *O'zbekistonda sun'iy intellekt orqali shaxsga doir ma'lumotlarga noqonuniy ishlov berganlik uchun jarima joriy etildi*.

https://daryo.uz/2026/01/21/ozbekistonda-suniy-intellekt-orqali-shaxsga-doir-malumotlarga-noqonuniy-ishlov-berganlik-uchun-jarima-joriy-etildi/

9. Daryo.uz. (2026). *[Maqola nomi ko‘rsatilmagan]*. https://daryo.uz/9d9TuQ8T
10. Kun.uz. (2026, February 12). *Kiberhujumda 60 mingga yaqin fuqaroning ma’lumotlari tarqalgan – Sherzod Shermatov*. https://kun.uz/news/2026/02/12/kiberhujumda-60-minga-yaqin-fuqaroning-malumotlari-tarqalgan-sherzod-shermatov