

TERMINOLOGY: ESSENTIAL METHODS, DEFINITIONS, AND APPROACHES

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Abstract: This article analyzes and generalizes many points of view regarding terms and terminology. Different perspectives on the notion of "term" and its definitions are explored. An effort is made to develop a complete definition that is pertinent and expands upon the ones that already exist. It is demonstrated that there are reasons to approach terminology as a science that uses a combination of statistical and analytical approaches, rather than just as a collection of professional terms, a linguistic subject, or a means of instruction. It is explained how terminological methodologies relate to classical linguistics and natural science. It is claimed that when statistical and analytical procedures are applied, the natural characteristics of the studied objects—such as terminology and general linguistics—are taken into consideration. Future research directions are developed.

Keywords: Terminology, term, linguistics, statistical approach, analytical approach, approach, professional terms, classical linguistics.

Аннотация: В этой статье анализируются и обобщаются различные взгляды на термин и терминологию. Обсуждаются различные подходы к понятию "термин" и его определениям. Предпринята попытка сформулировать соответствующее всеобъемлющее определение, обобщающее существующие. Показано, что существуют основания рассматривать терминологию не только как набор профессиональных терминов, лингвистическую область или преподавание, но и как науку, оперирующую статистическими и аналитическими методами в сочетании. Разъясняется актуальность терминологических методов для естественных наук и традиционной лингвистики. Утверждается, что применение статистических и аналитических методов учитывает естественные особенности



объектов изучения, включая терминологию и лингвистику в целом. Формулируются перспективы будущих исследований.

Ключевые слова: Терминология, термин, лингвистика, статистический подход, аналитический подход, подход, профессиональные термины, классическая лингвистика.

INTRODUCTION

Modern linguistic research requires the development of theoretical claims regarding the structure of lingual units since "linguistic theory is necessary not only and not so much to describe facts but how to identify these."[3] The concepts of term and terminology attract much interest, especially due to recent advances in computational and textual terminology and to fast development of its applications. As a sample Condamines, Budin, Tabanakova, Perebyjnis, Condamines Felber, Ivina, Verbenjec, Kristiansen and so on. The goal of the current study is to take these into account and develop pertinent ideas that are in line with the problems of the modern world.

DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS OF A TERM

The approach of coming up with a term's concept is intricate and multifaceted. Part of the reason for this is because this idea is highly intricate. However, the word "concept" itself is one of the most obscure and challenging to understand. Obviously, it is impossible to formulate a comprehensive overview of all existing definitions of a term. Therefore, it is appropriate to limit with the most important ones. In its historical evolution, the concept of "term" was interpreted as:

- "a word that is a name of a strictly defined concept"[7]
- "a word that shows strictly defined philosophical, scientific, technical, etc. concept"[8]
- "a word or a collocation that expresses a concept of some special science, technology, art, social life, etc."[2]
- "a word or a collocation of special (scientific, technical, etc.) language that is created (received or borrowed) for accurate expression of specific concepts and notations of specific objects"[1]



- "a specially cultivated word being artificially invented or taken from natural language"[4]
- "a word or a collocation being the exact name of a special concept for any field of science, technology, production, social political life, culture, etc."[9]

There are many generic concepts through which a term is defined: verbal complex; special object, specific concept, language sign, word, special word, verbal complex motivated sign, lexicalized combination, reduction, function, terminological element, integrity of sign and concept, lexical unit. Despite this, none of the current definitions can fully satisfy the scientists that tend to invent their own ones. Moreover, such a high number of grasps and definitions of the concept of a term confirms an impossibility to create its universal definition.[5] However, this does not mean that a striving towards the most successful definition of a term is without interest.

So, summarizing and amending the above definitions, the following can be presented:

a term (from the Greek τέρμα 'end, boundary') is a word or a collocation that refers to a certain concept in a particular field of human endeavour: science, technology, culture, sports, art, etc.[6]

APPROACHES TO TERMINOLOGY

The lexical layer of language is continuously updated with new terms that form their specific subsystem. Furthermore, the relevant units need to be processed and systematized. All these facts clearly demonstrate a necessity for a separate discipline, the object of study of which would be very terms. It can be noted that there is an urgent need to treat terminology as a full-fledged science.

Understanding terminology as an independent science is a modern achievement, but for a long time, this was not the case. In particular, terminology was considered as:

- "a set of terms of any domain"
- "a set of terms used in a particular field of science, technology, politics and art"



- "1) a vocabulary part encompassing terms of different fields of science, technology, art, social life, and 2) a set of terms of any field of science, technology, art, etc., or all terms of the given language"
- "a set of terms of any field of science, technology, art and all terms of the given language"
- "a set of terms expressing a historically established concept of a certain field of human knowledge or activity"
- "a set of linguistic (lexical) units denoting the concept of a certain specialized field of knowledge or activity that is spontaneously shaped during the birth and development of this field"

Thus, up until recently, terminology was typically thought of as a collection of terms, a lexicological trend, or a component of lexicology, the primary goal of which is to define the terms' contents, standardize and regulate them, and create new terms for new subject areas.

METHODS OF TERMINOLOGY

Let's review the qualities that make a field of study legitimately a science.

This is the presence of sociological and epistemological criteria, where the first group includes the existence of:

- 1) research groups with a common paradigm,
- 2) specialized associations,
- 3) common communication channels,
- 4) regular events where researchers meet

And the second one implies the presence of:

- 1) the separate subject of investigation,
- 2) the principles and methods of research, and
- 3) the procedures for description and analysis of the material,
- 4) the theoretical field propositions and their practical implementation (i. e, availability of appropriate university courses, as well as specialized technical, educational and reference materials, etc.), and



5) common conceptual apparatus.

With the sociological criteria being fully satisfied, terminology has a clearly defined research subject (terms), and more or less successful implementation of its theoretical positions within educational courses. Every advanced science has two fundamental techniques that work best together. For instance, both theoretical and experimental methods are used in physics; the theory is developed based on actual facts, and experimental results are always contrasted with theoretical expectations. There are two further categories of linguistic methods: theoretical and experimental. Similarly, there are two methods in terminology. Terminology as a science studies the rules and laws of the formation, development and operation of terms in a particular field of human undertaking, and enjoys the statistical and analytical research methods. The comprehensive use of the well-defined investigation methods terminology manifesting the shift from terminology-teaching to terminology-science is equivalent to the transition from critical discourse to the puzzle solving inherent to science. The statistical method (SM) that determines "what is customary," is to establish the presence of a linguistic fact regardless of its accuracy and correctness, and assumes accumulation of such facts. The principal components of this method are descriptive and observation method and statement stage in a number of linguistic methods (e. g., in the method of grammatical analogies and comparative method). Several socio-, psycho- and ethno linguistic methods such as listening to recordings, questionnaires, surveys, testing, associative experiment and collecting field material (as a lingual geographic method component), should be also included here. The statistical method that fixes practice of use (language usage) of certain language or speech unit, is traditionally applied to oral speech and written texts. The SM does not provide a faultfinding assessment of existing results and transfer of acquired information to a qualitatively new knowledge, and requires therefore an additional interpretational tool. The analytical method (AM) that determines "what is right," provides critical methodical analysis and allows one to discover scientific validity and feasibility of a given linguistic unit (including lexemes and, in particular, terms) or operation mode of specific rules. The AM components are: induction and



deduction, idealization and formalization, method of hypotheses, falsification method, taxonomization, transformation stage of the analysis and synthesis method, comparative historical method (reconstruction technique, relative chronology, glottochronology, historical and etymological analysis), structural method (opposition, distribution, transformation, component and string analysis, method of immediate constituents), functional method (lingual, pragmatic, conversation, contextual interpretive, discourse analyses, methods of functional semantic fields modeling), typological, comparative, lingual statistical method, method of acoustic invariants and others. In the practical work, the required AM elements are to be chosen according to the given problem.

CONCLUSIONS

This paper discusses several methods for defining the terms "term" and "terminology," as well as their respective meanings. An appropriate, thorough definition of the term "term" that generalizes the ones that are already in place has been put forth. Additionally, many perspectives on the notion of "terminology" were examined. In combination, the systemic application of both statistical and analytical methods, taking into account the natural features of the objects of study, recognizes terminology as a full science. Such an approach allows one to formulate the objective hallmarks of an "apposite" ("well formed") term, carry out a comprehensive and reasonable classification and ordering of synonyms inherent to every advanced term vocabulary, develop practically beneficial recommendations for spelling and use of linguistic units, investigate acoustic features of speech sounds and distinguish their invariant characteristics that make it possible, in particular, to unify the principles of graphic rendering of foreign loanwords. Thus, terminology as a discipline that enables one to explore linguistic material much deeper and more objectively benefits from the methods and techniques of exact sciences and humanities working together.



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