ABBREVIATIONS AS WORD-FORMING MEANS IN COMPUTER TERMS

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Technical revolution changes our life, and consequently modifies our speech. A computer with its vocabulary has entered our houses. It is an exceptional field where new terms seem to appear every day. These terms have some exceptional features, they tend to be lively and colourful, simple, fresh, playful, and sometimes even humorous.

According to Dubuc there are four main methods used in creating new terms: semantic change, in which an established word is given a new meaning, morphological change, in which a term is formed by shortening an existing word or by joining existing words and formative elements, conversion, in which a term is coined by changing the grammatical class of an existing word and by borrowing from other languages (Dubuc 1997:134-135).

There are some ways of forming words in computing, Internet and programming, such as affixation, compounding and abbreviation. But it must be stated that one of the most productive ways of modern word-formation in computing is considered to be abbreviation.

Abbreviations have their specific place in computing vocabulary. Nowadays it is common to abbreviate any word if it is possible. For example *dinosaurus*, *armoured*, *termination*, *graduate*, *technological*, *exhibition*, *exposition*, *doctor* have become *dino*, *armo*, *termo*, *grad*, *techno*, *exhibit*, *expo*, *doc.* The word *ecstasy* has changed into *xtc*. A great number of abbreviations are common for the so-called "chats" which is considered to be a way of electronic conversation.

Abbreviations in computing are formed either from the initial part, or from the final part of the word. For example: *semi - semicolons, jock - jockey, quest - question, Net - Internet.*

Abbreviations are also formed from the initial letter or letters of several words or parts of words and pronounced letter by letter. According to O.D. Meshkov, abbreviations are produced in two different ways: the first way is to make a new word form (Meshkov 1976:157). In this connection we may compare the morphemes ***tele-*** in *television* and *telecast*. This type of word-building also called clipping or curtailment, has been recorded in the English language since the 15th century.

Clipping reduces the word, and, as a result the new form acquires some linguistic value. For example ***tele-*** in television is derived from ***Gr tele 'far',*** it is a combining form used to coin many special terms denoting instruments and processes which produce or record results at a distance, *such as telecommunication, telephone, television, etc.* ***Tele-*** in *telecast* does not mean 'far', it is the shortened variant of *television* rendering a special new concept.

The second way is to make a new word from the initial letters of a word group. This subgroup of abbreviations consists of initial letters of a word group.

For example:

CDDI – Copper Distributed Data Interface
CISC – Complex Instruction Set Computer

CPU – Central Processing Unit
CHDL – Computer Hardware Description Language
DAC – Data Authentication Code
DAP – Data Access Point
DAL – Data Analysis Language
DASD – Direct Access Storage Device
DAT – Digital Audio Type
DBN – Data Bank Network
DCN – Distributed Computer Network
DDL – Data Definition Language
DDN – Defense Data Network
PDL – Program Design Language

One of the peculiarities of the abbreviations is that they can express a sentence or a word combination, for example HAND – Have a nice day. These abbreviations are called acronyms (from Gr *acros-* '*end*' + *onym* 'name'). This way of forming new words is becoming more and more popular in almost all fields of human activity, and especially in political and technical vocabulary. Typical of acronymic coinages in technical terminology are *JATO, laser, maser* and *radar*. *JATO* or *jato* means *jet-assisted take-off; laser* stands for *light amplification by stimulated emission radiation; maser* – for *micro-wave amplification and stimulated emission radiation; radar* – for *radio detection and ranging,* it denotes a system for ascertaining direction and ranging of aircraft, ships, coasts and other objects by means of electro-magnetic waves which they reflect. Acronyms became so popular that their number justified the publication of special dictionaries, such as D.D. Spencer's "Computer Acronym Handbook" (1974).

For example:

WOMBAT – Waste Of Money, Brain And Time
GMTA – Great Minds Think Alike
RYS – Read Your Screen
TBYB – Try Before You Buy
HAND – Have A Nice Day
GMAB – Give Me A Break
LMK – Let Me Know
MLNW – Make Love Not War
NSD – Never Say Die
TFTI – Thanks For The Information
RTM – Read The Manual
TFTT – Thanks For The Thought
OV – Opinions Vary
ROTF – Rolling On The Floor
ROTFL – Rolling On The Floor Laughing

It must be stated that in these abbreviations the sentences may express different meanings such as commands, or orders for users (RTM, RTFM, RYS), advice (MLNW, NSD,

TBYB), request (GMAB, LMK), expressions of thankfulness (TFTI, TFTT), wishes (HAN, RIP), expressions of anger (KMA, LAB, LABATYD, RTFM, FOAD, STFU). Some abbreviations express fixed expressions such as (GMTA, MLNW, OV). The abbreviation ROTF-ROTFL is widely used in "English chats", and it may be expanded, such as ROTFLBTCASTC-rolling on the floor laughing biting the carpet and scaring the cat.

A great number of abbreviations may be expressed by means of numbers.

For example:

2L8 – Too Late
4 – For
B4N – Bye For Now
b4 – Before
CUl8tr - see you later
BBL8R – Be Back Later
L33T – Elite
NE1 – Anyone
W8 – Wait
W8N – Waiting

It is evident that numbers "eight" and "four" are often used in abbreviations as their phonemic forms ['eit] and [fo:] may have different variations m[eit], l[eit]r, b[fo:], w[eit], ['fo:]get etc.

It is also common for the letters of the English alphabet.

For example:

CU – See You
CUL – See You Later

In conclusion it must be stated that abbreviations are considered to be the most productive word-formation means in computer terms. Besides, there are many prospects of further investigation of this theme. A lot of neologisms may be derived from these abbreviations which later will enter into the general vocabulary of the English language.

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Հապավումը որպես համակարգչային տերմինների բառակազմական միջոց

Սույն հոդվածում քննության է ենթարկվում հապավումը՝ որպես համակարգչային տերմիններ կազմող բառակազմական միջոց: Այսօր հապավումը կարևոր դեր է խաղում համակարգչային տերմինների ստեղծման գործում: Կրճատվում է այն ամենը, ինչը հնարավոր է կրճատել: Այն հատկապես բնորոշ է համակարգչային խոսակցություններին՝ «չատերին»:

Քննելով հապավումը որպես համակարգչային տերմիններ կազմող բառակազմական միջոց՝ կարելի է ասել, որ այն մյուս բառակազմական միջոցներից ամենագործածականն է և կարող է նպաստել նոր համակարգչային տերմինների ձևավորմանը:

Аббревиатура как словообразительное средство для компьютерных терминов

Данная статья исследует сокращение как словообразительный метод для компьютерных терминов. Особое место в сфере компьютерных терминов занимает сокращение. Сейчас модно сокращать все, что поддается сокращению. Особенно большое количество сокращений характерно для так называемых “чатов”. Сокращение представлена различными типами: усечение конечной части слова, усечение начальной части слова, буквенные усечения, слоговые усечения.

Анализируя сокращение как словообразительный метод для компьютерных терминов, можно сказать, что этот метод является самым продуктивным методом для образования новых компьютерных термин.