

THE CONCEPT OF TERMS IN LINGUISTICS AND THE REQUIREMENTS

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31 DIMI

Annotation: In linguistics, the concept of a term refers to specific expressions used to denote precise and stable concepts within various fields such as science, technology, and professions. Terms serve as essential units in scientific texts, ensuring clear, concise, and systematic communication of information. The main requirements for terms, originally established by D.S. Lotte, include systematization, brevity, unambiguity, accuracy, and clarity. Each term is part of a broader terminological system, functioning based on both logical and linguistic structures. Additionally, utilizing the native language's resources when creating terms is recommended, as this helps maintain the comprehensibility and effectiveness of the terminological system. Terminology and nomenclature differ in that terminology refers to general concepts, while nomenclature deals with the naming of specific objects or phenomena. Thus, the development and improvement of the terminological system play a crucial role in advancing the language of science.

Keywords: term, terminology, systematization, brevity, unambiguity, native language, nomenclature, linguistic basis

The Concept of Terms in Linguistics and the Requirements for Them

TERM [from Latin terminus – end, boundary] is a word or phrase that is a precise and stable expression of a specific concept characteristic of a certain field of science, technology, or profession; terminology. Terminology [from Latin terminus – boundary + Greek logos – science, doctrine]. It is difficult to imagine the scientific and regulatory picture of the world without terms because terms perform the function of key units that form scientific texts.

The normative requirements for terms were initially developed by D.S. Lotte, the founder of the terminology school. These requirements are as follows: systematicity, independence from context, brevity, unambiguity, precision, simplicity, comprehensibility, applicability, and others. These have been listed by many scholars, including I.N. Volkova, A.V. Kryzhanovskaya, L.A. Simonenko, and others, with some clarifications and additions.

Below, we will briefly cover some of these requirements:

1. Systematicity: Any term is part of a specific terminological system. It is precisely this characteristic that elevates it to the status of a term. The terminological system has two types of systematicity – logical systematicity and linguistic systematicity.
2. Unambiguity: A term should represent only one scientific or technical concept, and one concept should correspond to only one term. According to D.S. Lotte, the variability of a term's meaning depending on the context is one of the most serious shortcomings of terminology.
3. Brevity (conciseness): A shorter version of a term is a form that is functionally equivalent to the term. It cannot be used freely and arbitrarily.
4. Precision: A scientific concept has clear boundaries, and these boundaries are reflected in its definition. The precision of a term refers to the presence of all the features characteristic of the concept given in its definition.
5. Linguistic Basis: When choosing between terms created based on one's own language or a foreign language, it is advisable to use native terms.

The issue of terms and terminology is one of the key problems in general linguistics. Exploring the meaning, evolution, and creation methods of this concept from a general linguistic perspective, as well as in relation to specific sciences or fields of knowledge, brings linguistics closer to addressing all the issues related to defining the concept of a "term." The study of highly specialized vocabulary is necessary for creating a general theory of terminology.

Scholars' attempts to study the general principles behind the emergence of terminology, as well as the laws governing the functioning of stable terms that are both scientific style units of the language and, in many ways, a part of the general lexicon, are significant. The interaction of terms in understanding the operation of terminology is also crucial. In the mid-20th century, terminology began to spark increasing interest among many linguists and researchers from various countries. The initial theoretical foundations of terminology in foreign linguistics were observed in the 19th century.

By approaching the study of terminology from various angles, both theoretical and practical, researchers continue to reveal all its features across different languages.

According to V.P. Danilenko, the structural composition of a term includes three lexical layers: 1) non-terminological vocabulary, 2) general scientific vocabulary, and 3) terminological vocabulary. While general scientific terms express meanings that are not confined to a specific field of science, terminological vocabulary (special words of a concrete terminological system) forms the most meaningful part of the language of science.

Terms are specialized names widely used among professionals in fields such as science, technology, art, and other areas of human activity. They are further divided into proto-terms, early terms, and terminoids. Often, the concepts of "term" and "nomenclature" are used interchangeably without distinguishing between them. Therefore, it is necessary to also address nomenclature in this context. Nomenclature [from Latin *nomenclatura* – list] refers to the names of related (typical) objects in science. While a term expresses a general concept, nomenclature expresses a specific concept. For example, the names of types of educational institutions, teaching and didactic equipment, and similar items are examples of nomenclature.

The points discussed above lead to the following conclusions:

1. A term should express only one meaning, at least within a specific field, and it must be clear, concise, understandable, systematic, and well-founded.
2. A term is the function that a word or phrase performs in the language of science. Therefore, attempting to define terms by contrasting them with non-terms is an ineffective method.
3. While words and phrases are the general and specific names of objects and phenomena, a term is the name of a concept.
4. There are studies dedicated to the analysis of the general and specific aspects of terminology and nomenclature.
5. Utilizing the possibilities of the native language when creating terms is the most appropriate and correct approach. Otherwise, any terminological system will drift away from the norms of the literary language, making it incomprehensible not only to general readers but also to specialists, thereby seriously compromising the principle of linguistic purity.

6. General terminology has been studied more extensively than specialized terminology in our context. As a result, our theoretical knowledge of specialized terminology remains shallow.

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