THE CRITERIA FOR NEOLOGISM FILTRATION AND ACCEPTANCE

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The initial step of the lexical enrichment is the practice, the human life, as it is influenced by the scientific, economic, political, cultural, and social spheres of the human activity. The process of neologisms generation, filtration, and acceptance is very complicated. A. Rey considers that neologisms must be accepted as functional and pragmatic lexical novelties and the concept can only depend on a collective judgment, otherwise they become neological phantasms. Psychological and sociological factors are the limiters that determine the lexical norm and guarantee the efficacy of communication.

Keywords: neologism, sociological factor, psychological factor, neology, lexical enrichment, lexicography

Our language entirely reflects the human activity. Neologisms occur more often in cultures which are rapidly changing, and also in situations when there is an easy and fast access to the information. The main source of such information is the availability of personal computer, laptop, Smartphone or any other device that helps people get online, access the internet, use search engine and successfully surf or browse the web. The activities mentioned in the previous sentence have ceased their existence as neologisms; they have found their personal position, home, or dictionary entry and acquired the status a legal lexical unit, accepted by our society. This process is unstoppable, as the position of the computer and internet is so important nowadays, that we cannot imagine our lives without writing and sending messages, writing, forwarding, replying and attaching files to e-mails, logging into our accounts or even bank accounts, scheduling maintenance, burning CDs, backing up files, installing new programs, running scans for viruses and spyware, and save God our computer from crashing. Every personal computer user can do almost all the enumerated operation; the age is not vital. As soon as a child understands the principle of touch screen he/she does not encounter any difficulty for quick personal development. The same situation happens in with the people of respectable age. Twenty years ago the situation was drastically different. This period of time of 15-20 years, or also referred to as one generation, is recommended by the scholars as one of the criteria of neologisms filtration and acceptance.

To begin with the first part of the word neologism “neo”, that is translated as “new” from Greek. Our civilization has made an enormous leap the recent years. Every personal computer being the possessor of artificial intelligence can predict and foresee our search in Google. When I introduce the first three letters of the word neologism my computer offers me different search options like : *neo computer, neo construct, neo car, neo taxi Cojusna, neo gym*, that are important at the local social and business levels, but if we look at all twenty-four pages of 670 000 000 results received in 0,41 seconds we come across *Neo* (the main character from the film *The Matrix*), the Revised *NEO* Personality Inventory (*NEO PI-R*) [1] (a personality inventory that examines a person's Big Five personality traits (openness to experience, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism).-, *NEO Scavenger*[2] (a survival role-playing video game developed by Blue Bottle Games). -, the *Neo Geo* [3] (Japanese: ネオジオ Hepburn: Neojio, stylised as NEO・GEO, also written as *NEOGEO*, is a cartridge-based arcade system board and fourth-generation home video game console released on April 26, 1990, by Japanese game company SNK Corporation. It was the first system in SNK's , Neo Geo family), Ilmārs Poikāns (born November 4, 1978) has used the pseudonym *Neo* [4] (of The Matrix) is a Latvian AI researcher at the Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Latvia, and is also known in the press as Latvia's "Robin Hood". - , *August Neo* [5] (who was equally strong in both styles of wrestling, was one of the top light-heavyweight wrestlers of the world in the 1930s despite never winning a major international title; nonetheless

he is on a very short list of wrestlers who have won an Olympic medal at both styles of wrestling in the same year). -, *NEO* [6] (a blockchain platform for distributed apps and cryptocurrency) , Neo [7] (the project of international artificial constructed language created by the Belgian diplomat and linguist Arturo Alfandari (8 June 1888 – 1 May 1969), sometimes called a conlang, a language whose phonology, grammar, and vocabulary were created to ease the communication; langmaker.com lists more than 1.902 made-up languages), *NEO* (a near-Earth object is any small Solar System body whose orbit can bring it into proximity with Earth), *Neo 1973* (first multifunctional Smartphone), etc. thus, we can follow a real NEO – boom nowadays, as if you want to keep up with the times you must have something NEO. The words that I have mentioned above are neologisms, they cannot be found in contemporary dictionaries of the English language. Everything that has the prefix or acronym NEO is new, different, modified, that are concepts of any neologism. In this article I have looked up the words in three online sources: Oxford English Dictionary, Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Collins Dictionary. Oxford English Dictionary and Collins Dictionary have the entry of the word *neo*, while Merriam-Webster Dictionary does not have. OED defines *neo-* as [8] 1New. ‘neonate’ 2A new or revived form of. ‘neo-Georgian’, it provides information about the origin from Greek neos ‘new’ and gives pronunciation neo-/ˈniːəʊ/.

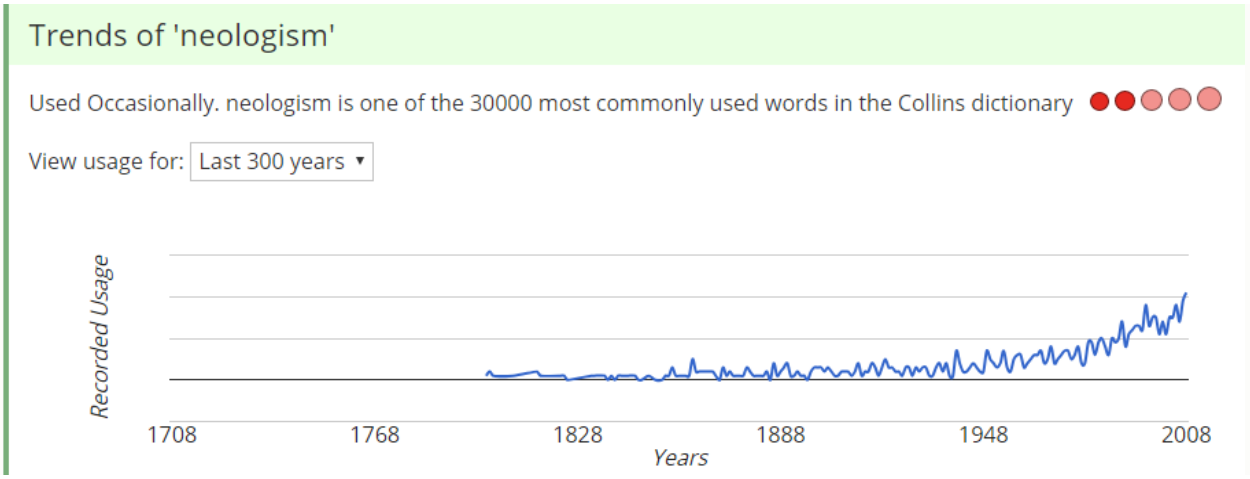
According to the Collins Dictionary the prefix **Neo** [9] - is used with nouns to form adjectives and nouns that refer to modern versions of styles and political groups that existed in the past. Ex.:...10ft high neo-Victorian gates. The neo-Socialists were a small right wing group. **neo**- in British or sometimes before a vowel ne- combining form 1. (sometimes capital) new, recent, or a new or modern form or development neoclassicism neocolonialism 2. (usually capital) the most recent subdivision of a geological period Neogene. Word origin of 'neo-' from Greek neos new neo- in American (ˈnioʊ ; nēˈō; ˈniə ; nēˈə) 1. [often N-] a. new, recent, latest Neolithic, Neozoic b. in a new, different, or modified way neologism c. the New World Neotropical 2. Chemistry a. designating a compound related in some way to an older one neoprene b. indicating a hydrocarbon having at least one carbon atom joined to four other carbon atoms neopentane Word origin of 'neo-' ModL < Gr neos, young, new. So as we see Collins Dictionary that has been published for almost two hundred years is an “ideal dictionary…for expanding your word power” [10].

Andrew Lloyd James once said (Welsh linguist, The Broadcast Word, 1935): «A language is never in a state of fixation, but is always changing; we are not looking at a lantern-slide but at a moving picture.» As English is a growing language new words and phrases emerge everyday at a pace that the Oxford English Dictionary and the Webster's cannot keep up with. While these dictionaries wait for years before they consider words 'fit to publish', the Web is working faster to bring these new terms to light. Nevertheless the online OED has the option of sending word of the day by e-mail, as for example the word [11] *herbert* that is informal British NOUN, that means *an undistinguished or foolish man or youth, ‘a bunch of spotty herberts’, origins in 1960s: the male given name Herbert*, that is recent word. Merriam-Webster Dictionary comes with the same option to build personal vocabulary by getting Word of the Day in our inbox every day. Thus we conclude that these outstanding dictionaries understand the importance of the “moving picture”. I have decided to concentrate upon Collins Dictionary, as this source out of the three that gave a thorough lexicographic description of *neo*.

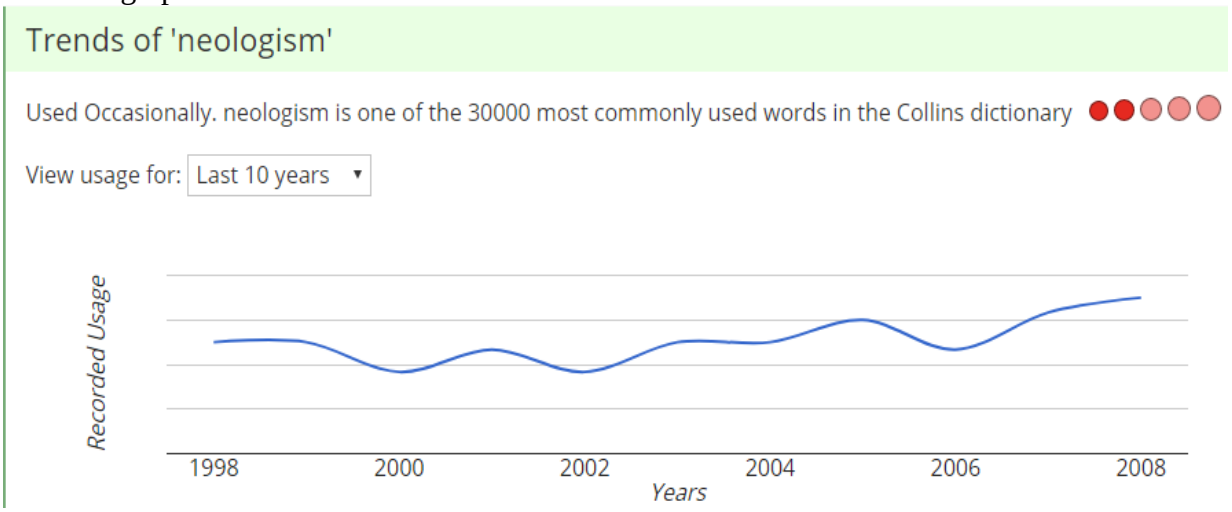
I would also like to focus on the term *neologism*. The issue of defining *neologism* appears when we deepen our knowledge addressing the dictionaries. The search engine Google gave 1 130 000 results in 0,30 seconds for the word *neologism*, when in the end of the XXth century it took me about 30 seconds to find one entry in a paper dictionary. According to the Oxford Dictionary the term *neologism*, comes from French “néologisme”[12] in the early 19th century and means a newly coined word or expression. However Dictionnaire de l'Académie française, 4th Edition (1762) identified the term neologism as “mot tiré du Grec. On s'en sert pour signifier

l'habitude de se servir de termes nouveaux, ou d'employer les mots reçus dans des significations détournées. Ce mot se prend presque toujours en mauvaise part, désigne une affectation vicieuse, fréquente en ce genre"[13], the definition shows the attitude of its authors, and probably expressed the general mood of the society. The definition of the same dictionary, the 8th edition (1932-5), is more neutral. It explains a neologism as "nouveau ou mot détourné de sa signification ordinaire." [14]

The Russian Dictionary of the Linguistic Terms (Словарь-справочник лингвистических терминов. Изд. 2-е. — М.: Просвещение Розенталь Д. Э., Теленкова М. А. 1976) defines a neologism as "слово или оборот речи, созданные для обозначения нового предмета или выражения нового понятия."[15] The first the definition given by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary "a new word, usage, or expression"[16] is more functional and necessary than simple renaming and substituting existing words. The second explanation given in this entry is a *psychological term "*a new word that is coined especially by a person affected with schizophrenia and is meaningless except to the coiner, and is typically a combination of two existing words or a shortening or distortion of an existing word". The electronic online dictionary http://www.yourdictionary.com/ has a theological explanation of a neologism "a new doctrine or a new interpretation of scripture" [17]. Collins Dictionary says that *neologism* [18] (niːələdʒɪzəm , nipl-) /word forms: plural neologisms countable noun/ -a neologism is a new word or expression in a language, or a new meaning for an existing word or expression. [technical] Some neologisms become widely used and enter the language. It also provides synonyms: new word, buzz word [informal], coinage, new phrase. A *neologism* in British (nɪˈɒləˌdʒɪzəm) or *neology* noun plural -gisms or -gies 1. a newly coined word, or a phrase or familiar word used in a new sense 2. the practice of using or introducing neologisms 3. a tendency towards adopting new views, esp rationalist views, in matters of religion, the last definition is marked as rare. It is of interest to note that in the American English definition a *neologism* (niˈɑləˌdʒɪzəm ; nēälˈəjizˌəm) noun 1. a new word or a new meaning for an established word 2. the use of, or the practice of creating, new words or new meanings for established words, thus it does not contain the third explanation of "a tendency towards adopting new views, esp rationalist views, in matters of religion". The term neologism has become polysemous. Besides Collins Dictionary provides derived forms, such as *neologist* (neˈologist) noun *neologistic* (neˌoloˈgistic), *neological* (neˌoloˈgistical) or *neological* (ˌnɪəˈlɒdʒɪkəl) adjective *neologistically* (neˌoloˈgistically) or *neologically* (ˌneoˈlogically) adverb. To assess the evolutional growth of the word neologism and not only to show the mere presence of this word in everyday life but the amount of new words in human lives and their frequent usage I would like to share the graphic presented by the Collins Dictionary that proves that the word neologism is one of the 30 000 most commonly used words in the Collins dictionary the last three hundred years.



Neologism appeared as a term in the early 18th century. The old meaning of neologism is synonymous with «barbarism», «gallicism» (in English), «anglicism» (in French). It is opposed to «purism». No matter how zealous representatives tried to keep the language clear from novelties, the process of the *language neologization* has become inevitable, what is clearly seen in the first graphic.



The second graphic demonstrates the trends of the word neologism the last ten years. It was actively used and the scale keeps growing.

However the best definition I found not in a dictionary. The best definition was given by Alain Rey, famous French linguist. The above-mentioned definitions do not define "linguistic nature", and the "chronological character of neologism' [19 (Rey, p.64)]. Alain Rey gives his definition to the term, "new units in a specific linguistic code", to satisfy immediate and practical purposes. In 1975 the French lexicographer and terminologist Alain Ray set up a theoretical model, suggesting that "..., the neologism will be perceived as belonging to the language in general or only to one of its special usages; or as belonging to a subject-specific usage which may be specialized or general."

Helge Niska in his work *Explorations in Translational Creativity: Strategies for Interpreting Neologisms* (1998) claims that neologisms are tokens of a creative process, "a novel relational product, growing out of the uniqueness of the individual on the one hand, and the materials, events, people, or circumstances of his life on the other." [20] Such creativity is especially evident in computing where the coiners of neologisms 'are not particularly aware of following any word-formation rules' (Jacqueline, 2001: 35). But the data text calls for consistency which is more important than creativity (Silvia, 2001). Whereas Bauer acknowledges that both 'productivity and creativity give rise to a large number of neologisms' (1983: 63)

M.V. Basinskaya [21] gives four criteria proposed by M.T. Cabre to determine the novelty of a lexical unit:

1. Psychological: a word is a neologism, the novelty of which is felt by native speakers.

2. The criterion of systematic formal or semantic instability, which refers to the neologisms of the word, characterized by semantic, morphological, phonetic or graphic instability.

3. Lexicographic criterion, implying that a neologism is a word that is absent in the normative dictionaries of a given language.

4. The diachronic criterion defines neologism as a word that occurs in a modern text in a given language and which has not been part of this language before.

N.V. Kuznetsova cites five factors contributing to the entry of a lexical unit into the vocabulary of the language, which were singled out by the American scientist Alan Metcalf:

- frequency of use;
- unobtrusiveness;
- diversity of users and situations;
- generation of other forms and meanings;
- endurance of the concept.

The use of neologism in the dictionary definition and the use of neologism in the phraseological unit are considered as additional criteria for the establishment of neologism in the language.

Parianou & Kelandrias have noticed that neologisms pass through other three stages:

- creation, the unstable neologism is still new, being proposed or being only by a limited audience Epstein (2005) calls such a neologism *protologism* (another neologism) 'from Greek protos, first+Greek logos, word, by analogy with prototype and neologism.'

- Trial, when it is diffused, but it is not widely accepted yet

- Establishment, finally it is stabilized and identifiable, having gained wide-spread approval; such "stability" is indicated by its appearance in glossaries, dictionaries and large corpora. However, even the last stage may not be the last one. (Parianou & Kelandrias, 2002: 756).

The above-mentioned criteria for neologism filtration and acceptance are different and have different approaches, but they bring the same conclusions. As soon as a coined word has the quality of novelty, newness, originality, unusualness, freshness, and acceptance by the public it holds the status of neologism, because neologisms help the language grow, change and mirror the success of the human society and civilization. The words that have been coined for the sake of invention have a high chance to be accepted in the linguistic and further in the lexicographic family of words.

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