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## BASIC CONCEPTS RELATED TO TERMS IN WORLD LINGUISTICS

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### ABSTRACT

*The article depicts the problem of the concept of term from different viewpoints of linguists and approaches to the word term in English, Russian and Uzbek languages and analyzes the specific features of term in different languages.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Term, Terminology, Brevity, Concept, Definitivity, Denomination, Nominativity, Scientific Term, Systematicity.*

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### INTRODUCTION

The quality problem of a scientific term is solved in terminology from the position of the theory of *term* as a special type of nomination. The definition of *term* itself contains information about its specificity. It should be said that most researchers define *term* as a word denoting something specific: a specific object, a specific concept. In the search for the concept of *term*, it is extremely difficult to identify its most essential features not only in terms of content, but also in terms of expression.

### The main results and findings

According to Rondeau, *term* is basically a linguistic sign in the Saussurian sense; it has a signifiant and a signifie. He gives the name *denomination* to the label, and the name *notion* to the concept. Unlike Wuster, who used the word *term* to refer exclusively to the *label*, Rondeau uses the word *term* to describe the combination of *denomination and notion*, i.e. the combination of *label* and *concept*. Sager offers the following definition of *terms*: the items which are characterized by special reference within a discipline are the 'terms' of that discipline, and collectively they form its 'terminology' [2].

H. Felber defines *term* as a linguistic symbol assigned to one or more concepts (defined meanings). The meaning of *term* which is a concept, is dependent on the position of this concept in the system of concepts concerned.

M. Teresa Cabre states that a *term* is a unit referring to a reality that is expressed by means of a form and used for intercommunication [1].

Russian linguists also made a significant contribution to history terminological schools and terminology as a science. The Russian founders of modern terminology studies are considered A.A. Reformatsky, D.S. Lotte and V.P. Danilenko. They examined issues that are still in the focus of linguistic analysis, namely, questions about the linguistic essence of the term, nature and the formation of terminologies.

*Term* as the basic unit of interprofessional communication has different interpretations. According to A. A. Reformatsky, *terms* are words limited by their special purpose; words striving to be unambiguous as an exact expression of concepts and the name of things [8]. In the definitions of *term*, it can be revealed the maximum or minimum of the signs recognized as mandatory for this type of sign. According to V.V. Vinogradov a word performs a nominative or definitive function, i.e. it is a means of clear designation, then it is a simple sign, or a means of logical determination, then it is a scientific term [4].

In the definitions of *term* it can be found maximum or minimum features acknowledged obligatory for this type of sign. In particular, N.V. Vasileva defines *term* as a linguistic unit of a special sphere of use possessing a nominative-definitive function. This definition characterizes *term* according to such essential features as belonging to a special sphere of use and a nominative-definitive function. We can note that one of the leading theorists of terminology V.P. Danilenko in his monograph cited 19 definitions of the notion '*term*' from various scientific sources and analyzed various points of view of famous researchers: O.S. Akhmanova, R.A. Budagov, V.V. Vinogradov, G.O. Vinokur, B.N. Golovin, A.A. Reformatsky and others. V.P. Danilenko gives the following definition for the concept of *term*: *term* is a word (or word combination) of a special sphere of use, which is the name of a special concept and requires a definition. It is easy to see that this definition coincides in content with the definition by N.V. Vasileva in which *term* is considered a nomination of a special sphere of use. The sign of relevance to a special concept is also found in the definition given by V.A. Tatarinov that *term* can be defined as a language sign (word or word combinations) correlated with a special concept, phenomenon or subject. The same feature is contained in the definition of *term* given by V.D. Tabanakova, in which besides this, a sign 'scientific' appears and *term* is considered as a sign that is very significant, it is about the expression of a special concept and the reflection of the

place of this concept in the system of concepts: a scientific term is a sign expressing a special concept and reflecting the position of this concept in an appropriate system of concepts.

In the definition of *term*, which is formulated by A.S. Gerd, there is also a sign 'scientific' and *term* is considered as a conditional sign, which brings this definition closer to the definition of *term* given by V.D. Tabanakova, namely, a scientific term is a sign to which one or another meaning is attributed conditionally, by a collective agreement.

According to V. M. Leychik *term* is a lexical unit of a certain language for special purposes, denoting a common-specific or abstract concept of the theory of a specific special field knowledge or activities [6].

From O.S. Akhmanova's point of view *term* is a word or a phrase of special (scientific, technical and etc.) language created (accepted, borrowed, etc.) for the exact expression of special concepts and designation of special objects [3].

There is a well-known point of view according to which *term* has special formal and semantic properties. Such a definition of *term* is formulated by B.A. Plotnikov, who supposes that *term* is a word with special formal and semantic properties. He attributes two main points to the formal features of the term. Firstly, the fact that terms express scientific and technical concepts not only by individual lexical units, but also by their combinations (compound terms). Secondly, in the language of science and technology, as a rule, nouns are considered to be terms, but terms belonging to the other parts of speech can be also formed from them. According to B.A. Plotnikov, the semantic feature of terms is that the meaning of terms has a manifest denotative nature. In other words, this aspect of the meaning of *term* is always in the foreground. B.A. Plotnikov's opinions about special formal and semantic features of *term* seem to us convincing.

As it can be seen while defining the word *term* the notion *scientific* is often mentioned among a lot of other features of *term*.

The language of science is nominated as an independent functional variety of the general literary language a great number of researchers. The vocabulary of the language of science, like all other varieties of the general literary language, is not the same type. Three relatively independent types are distinguished in it:

- 1) Non-terminological vocabulary (significant and official words of the general literary language);
- 2) General scientific vocabulary (special words of a scientific sphere of communication in general);
- 3) Terminological vocabulary (special words of specific branches of knowledge).

The general position of all studies of terms of science is as follows:

- a) Terminological vocabulary is a totality of special denominations combined in terminological systems.
- b) Each term system reflects the categorial apparatus, the system of concepts of a specific science, scientific direction, school and concept.

c) Terms, undoubtedly, constitute the main distinguishing feature of the vocabulary of the language of science. This is the most informative part of this language.

From V.P. Danilenko's point of view, there are five specific features of *term*. They differ as follows:

- 1) Semantic: terms refer only to special concepts;
- 2) Functional: terms have not only a nominative, but also a definitive function;
- 3) In accordance with the sphere of distribution: terms serve only as a means of professional communication in its direct function;
- 4) According to the sources, methods and means of creation: scientific terms, in addition to general literary sources, methods and means of their creation, have their own specialized resources that do not find application in other varieties of the general literary language;
- 5) In terms of the semiotic composition of denomination units: in terminology, symbols going beyond the scope of verbal means of expression are used widely [5].

Linguistics takes a special position in the system of the humanities. According to N.B. Gvishiani, it is due to the specifics of the subject of study, since linguistics is characterized by three main stages of scientific research including the study of linguistic facts, the creation of concepts, the development of metalanguage. This is the difference of linguistics from the abstract sciences logic and philosophy, in which research begins from the second stage, from the consideration of generalizations considered the direct object of study. First of all, linguistics is a discipline that studies the phenomena of human speech.

In theoretical terminology there is a postulate of an ideal term, according to which the term must have the whole range of qualities in contrast to vocabulary units of a common language: brevity, systematicity, unambiguity, lack of emotional coloring and independence of context, and only under such a condition it can fulfill the main function to express a special concept exactly.

In addition, among the properties that distinguish a term from a non-term, according to D.S. Lotte is that terminological vocabulary is unaffected to the process of polysemy and synonymy that are characteristic for a general literary language and all cases of their demonstration in terminological systems are considered as shortcomings to be eliminated [7].

Another list of ideal requirements for the term is given by V.D. Tabanakova. Based on the sign of the term, it is attributed the following properties: accuracy; unambiguity within one terminological system; lack of ideographic synonyms; a lack of emotionality (that distinguishes it from professionalism); motivation, which is determined by the fact that the terms are secondary denomination; nominativity - the function of designation of a special concept that is implemented independently of context; definitivity - when the meaning of a term is formulated as a logical definition; consistency - the feature to occupy a certain place in a system of terms which, in turn, is determined by a certain place of a special concept denoted by a term in a system of special concepts; systematicity - the property of reflection systematicity at morphological level.

The terminologists, who develop a complex of ideal requirements for *term*, notice that there are more or less deviations from an ideal in the practice of creation and use the term. Therefore, we

can state that in general, both the properties of the term and the requirements for it represent certain trends that are realized to a greater or lesser degree.

A significant contribution to the activity of the national terminology in Uzbek linguistics was made by research of N. Mamatov, S.F. Akobirov, A. Hojiev and R. Doniyorov.

According to A. Madvaliev *term* is a word or phrase that is a clear and stable expression of a specific concept specialized in the field of science, technology or profession [9].

A. Hojiev's states that *term* is a word or phrase that is clear to an understanding of something related to science, technology or another field whose field of activity is limited to these areas. Terms differ from ordinary words according to what they mean and do not have emotionality [10].

In the process of studying the definitions thoroughly, it can be concluded that the whole list of ideal characteristics of *term* deserves an attention. In some definitions of *term*, the authors identify two or even more essential features which all of them are considered to be the most specific for the *term*.

Having analyzed basic concepts related to the *term*, we have come to the following conclusions:

1. The term can be a word, phrase or symbol of non-verbal nature;
2. It has a sign of belonging to a special concept;
3. The term requires a definition;
4. It possesses the sign 'scientific';
5. The term is involved in a system of terms;
6. It has got a conventional character.

We formulate our own, definition of *term*: A scientific term is a language sign (word or phrase) that has got a specific nominative and definitive functions and reflects the position denoting concepts in the system of concepts of science according to its denotative and significative content and in an appropriate terminological system.

## CONCLUSION

Thus, it can be confirmed that terms are formed both on the basis of the natural national literary language and on the basis of an inventory of specific means of expression of special concepts, which is created by researchers on the basis of existing and new material in each branch of knowledge, primarily universal - international. To understand and explore the peculiarity of terminological systems of specific directions, terminology comes from the specifics of a particular scientific field, in our case, linguistics.

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