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Mechanics of Linguistic Mobility in COVID-19 Pandemic: Lexical innovation and richness

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Abstract:

This small-scale study investigates 'Mechanics of Linguistic Mobility in COVID-19 Pandemic: Lexical innovation and richness'. Thus, it generally studies the language native speakers of English have innovated and developed during the ongoing global crisis. In particular, it aims to quantify these terms, identify the morphological processes that facilitate the derivation of these phrases, and explain the reasons lying behind their selection and uses. Methodologically, the study fits into the qualitative research. For data collection, the study benefits from corpus linguistics, i.e. studies of large bodies of texts. Therefore, a concordance of key words in context (KWIC) has been carried out on the British National Corpora (BNC) and other lexicographic sites to build a corpus of corona language. Analytically, the study builds on critical discourse analysis (CDA) at the semantic, morphological and schematic, i.e. discourse level of words and phrases used during the crisis. It has been found that the terms and expressions used during the crisis are either coined to convey new senses or altered to satisfy certain meanings related to the pandemic. The morphological processes vary considerably between compounding, clipping, inflection and coining. The social domains in which the invented terms are used include family, education, health, psychology, sociology, business, politics, and religion.

Keywords: Language Change and Development; Corpus Linguistics; Critical Discourse Analysis; COVID-19 Pandemic; Corona Language.

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آليات التنقل اللغوي في جائحة COVID-19: الابتكار المعجمي والثراء

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ملخص:

هدفت الدراســة للتعرف على آليات الحراك اللغوي في جائحة كوفيد-19، وبالتالي فهي تُحقّق في اللغة التي ابتكرها وطوّرها الناطقون الأصليون للغة الإنجليزية خلال الأزمة العالمية المستمرة. كما هدفت الدراسة إلى تحديد هذه المصطلحات، والعمليات الصرفية التي تُسَهل اشتقاق هذه العبارات، وشرح الأسباب الكامنة وراء اختيارها واستخداماتها. واتبعت الدراسة المنهج النوعي. أمّا فيما يتعلق بجمع البيانات، فقد استفادت الدراسة من علم النصوص الضخمة، لذلك، تم تنفيذ توافق الكلمات الرئيسة في السياق (KWIC) على النصوص الكبيرة في الموســـوعة الوطنية البريطانية (BNC) ومواقع معجمية أخرى لبناء مجموعة من لغة كورونا. ومن الناحية التحليلية، استندت الدراسة إلى علم تحليل النصوص الناقد (CDA) على المستوى الدلالي والصرفي والنصّي. وقد توصلت الدراسة إلى أن المصطلحات والعبارات المُستخدمة أثثاء الأزمة إمّا أن تكون مُصاغة لإيصال معان مستجدة خلال الجائحة أو تم تعديل مصطلحات مستخدمة مسبقًا لإشباع معاني مُعينة تتعلق بالوباء. كما وجد الباحثون أن العمليات الصرفية المستخدمة تتفاوت بشكلٍ كبير عند الاستخدام، وتنحصر في التركيب والنحت والبناء والصك. وأخيراً، وجد الباحثون أن المجالات الاجتماعية التي تستخدم فيها المصطلحات المرتبطة بلغة كورونا ترتبط بالأسرة والتعليم والصحة وعلم النفس وعلم الاجتماع والأعمال والسياسة والدين.

الكلمات المفتاحية: تغيّر اللغة وتطوّرها، علم النصوص الكبيرة، علم تحليل النصوص الناقد، جائحة كوفيد-19، لغة كورونا.

1. Introduction

Thought is perhaps the principle of existence, and language is the receptacle of thought and its content (Gleitman & Papafragou, 2005). We think in words, and with them we also build our knowledge of the world. Every efficiency or deficiency in language necessarily cuts off part of the clarity and significance of thought. Any ambiguity in thought is by its nature an ambiguity in language. As long as our perceptions of the world are articulated in a language, and as long as language - whatever its nature and patterns - is our primary means of human communication. As long as societies, cultures, sciences and civilizations develop, it is natural that language also develops spatially and temporally.

Development may occur at one of the linguistic levels of a language, such as the phonemic, morphological, syntactic, or semantic level, but the most prominent and clear is the latter, especially in times of crisis (Hoff, 2013). Where new words arise according to the daily need of communication—whether this language of communication is natural or artificial, new words in turn are subject to derivation or synthesis. Otherwise, people may recall previously generated words with their semantic displacement to express the new event (Hoff, 2006).

In its simplest sense, language is a system of signs used to build structured models of combinations according to certain rules that the native speakers of that language can modestly follow in order to communicate (Fromkin et al. 2018). This definition includes two problematic concepts: the sign and moderation or convention. The sign is that thing that we take as a sign indicating the existence of something else, either because the two things we have always found are related, or because people have agreed that one thing is indicative of the other (Kimmelman, 2014). The American philosopher and logician, Charles Peirce, distinguishes between three types or styles of the sign: the iconic, indexical and symbolic (Abu-Akel & Bailey, 2001). The first sign resembles the reference pointing to it like a train picture. The second is causally linked to its reference, such as the smoke that indicates fire, and the third is the symbolic sign, which is randomly or spontaneously related to its reference, including language words.

This distinction leads us to the second problematic concept in defining language, which is arbitration. It is common to say that 'symbols' -in the sense that "Pierce" placed on them- are distinguished from other signs in that their meaning is idiomatic in that they originate and acquire their meanings according to the customary decisions of their users (Jackman, 1998). The American philosopher John Hospers argues that after a person or group of people decides to use this as evidence, other people decide to do the same thing, and then the practice broadens. This means that these codes are adopted by common agreement (Alison et al., 2014).

In crises especially the major ones, we often feel that we need new words, and that our words and our language have suddenly become obsolete and inappropriate for the strange and disturbing world in which we live (Pennebaker & Lay, 2002; BenSaida & Litmi, 2020; Borden et al.2020). Some of our old terminology sounds pretty clumsy; some of them seem unable to help the rapid and globalized meaning that we want, and some fail to capture the essence of our fear, sadness and alienation. Stephen Mexal points out that people can learn ambiguous terms quickly when needed. For example, the word 'Radar' was also coined in 1940 by the US Navy as an abbreviation for the phrase 'radio wave detection and detection (Cobb, 2007).

Throughout history, difficult conditions have led to the creation of new terms that express the challenges people are going through. For example, in the nineteenth century, the English poet and novelist Mary Ann Evans (also known as George Eliot) originated the word 'frustrating' in her novel 'Middlemarch' –according to the Oxford English Dictionary, to express social pressures, gender

discrimination, and the strict lifestyle of that time (Marques, 2019). Thus, every crisis, ordeal, or new human experience is considered a linguistic womb from which new words and expressions are born quickly on the tongues of people first, and then in dictionaries. To a great extent, linguistic shift in the celebrated dialects, especially in the case of crises that imposes strict isolation and disrupts schools, universities and every aspect of life, becomes pivotal to these people (Kim et al., 2019).

In global pandemic crises, modern technologies play a major role in language development and change. It is true that the various means of technological communication, developed in our contemporary world, will have a role in limiting major language shifts. However, the long hours the children spend with their families throughout the day due to the procedures of quarantine during the Corona pandemic, especially among the categories of immigrants to other countries, and the less educated groups, will definitely lead to a crisis in the inculcation of the official level of language learning. It is probably known that the child at home learns how to speak, but at school and university he learns how to speak, and how to write regularly. Distant and el-learning will definitely not have the desired effect on that. The use of social media applications via the Internet may lead to the deterioration of language levels between parents and their kids. The transition from the age of long e-mails to short texts, for instance, have already contributed to completely different forms of a regular language used by two generations living together (Al-Balushi & Essa, 2020; Wang, 2020; Breiseth, 2020).

In relevance to Corona language, it has been acknowledged that language evolves and changes from time to time (Holmes, 2013). However, linguists rarely have the opportunity to watch and study linguistic change in action and in real time. Only a few people could have imagined the potential speed of this change over the past few months. The nomenclatures given to COVID-19 varies considerably. They include reformulating neutral names for the pandemic, using some old words and stripping new connotations on them, carving new words, and to developing appropriate abbreviations for the era of speed in which we live. Each of which has its impact on people (Singh and Singh, 2020).

Naming the pandemic fluctuates between neutrality and racism (Gorbalenya et al., 2020). At the beginning of the pandemic in Wuhan, China, researchers called the virus 'Wuhan virus', which is the name used by all news agencies, then the name was changed to 'Wuhan coronavirus', or 'China coronavirus', then to 'The emerging corona virus of 2019' nCoV-2019. On February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) gave it an official name, Covid-19. To clarify the matter, the organization announced that this name refers to disease and not to virus in which 'Co' is an abbreviation of the word Corona. 'Vi' is an abbreviation of the word Virus, 'D' is an abbreviation of the word Disease, and 19 is an abbreviation of the year in which the disease appeared. As for (SARS-CoV-2), it is the name of the virus that causes the disease, which was called by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses, where SARS refers to the genetic link of the new Corona virus with the virus that caused the outbreak of SARS in 2003; it stands for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

The COVID-19 pandemic was and still a wonderful experience for linguists through who can examine not only a huge increase in the circulation of one word in a short period of time but also the control of the word corona on the language of global discourse surpassing the different languages, dialects, ethnicities and religions (Wargadinata, 2020; Kitishat et al., 2020). It is a word imposed on both tongues and pens by the pandemic of the "Covid-19" virus since mid-December 2019 until the present day. Besides, this word has contributed to the spread of new vocabularies (whether formal or not) in international languages, including specialized terms from epidemiology, medical science, as

well as new acronyms, which are not known before, to express societal imperatives to confront disease.

As people switched to working and studying online during the Corona pandemic, many students and instructors used the online application 'Zoom' (Zou et al., 2020; Murphy, 2020). This brand name has quickly jumped into the everyday language as a synonym for the term 'video conference'. It has also been used in English as a verb, such as et's zoom at four o'clock, and the term Zoom-bombing has also been used to refer to the spontaneous break-in of the video and the disruption of the meeting by uninvited, as analogous to the term Photobombing, which means the spontaneous break-in of the photo. This is how Zoom software has been circulated in the language of daily speech which represents a dream come true for the marketer but a nightmare for the trademark lawyer!

New and unfamiliar language acronyms have also taken their place in everyday life, and have also appeared in the latest edition of the Oxford English Dictionary. For example, the abbreviation WFH, which means 'Working from Home' appeared in 1995, but was often used in the field of digital communications to notify colleagues that someone is working from home on a specific day or for a temporary period. The abbreviation continues to become a style of life during the Corona crisis. The acronym PPE, shortened for 'Personal Protective Equipment', refers to the equipment or means used for occupational safety, including clothing, helmets, goggles, or any other equipment designed to protect the body of the wearer. Though it appeared in 1977 and was limited to the rhetoric of health care professionals and emergencies, but this acronym is now widely known to all people (Instalment & Village, 2020).

In an interactive initiative with linguistic variation and mobility during the Corona pandemic, the British writer, Tony Thorne, has collected the most prominent new linguistic innovations used since the start of the pandemic. He has also devoted part of his website for for 'Tony Thorne: Language and Innovation'. The Thorne's 2020 Website includes an electronic glossary of the most of the nouns, terms, acronyms, slangs, metaphors, aphorisms or cliché phrases that people have invented during the outbreak (Thorne, 2020). It is important to not here that Thorne is a pioneering researcher and author in the field of language development and change across the English-speaking world.

1.2 Research problem

Within the issue of COVID-19 pandemic, many sectors including specialists in medical, economic, social and political sciences have already played an important role in dealing with the crisis. Though the crisis is pervasive and crucial to linguistic, choice, change and development in apparent time, researchers in the various areas of applied linguistics, in general and sociolinguistics and pragmatics, in particular have played less role in investigating this international dilemma. The present study hopes through collecting and analyzing the terms used during the ongoing crisis to contribute to the general field of linguistics.

1.3 Research objectives

This small-scale study generally attempts to shed some light on the terms emerged during COVID-19 pandemic in the English-speaking countries. In particular, it aims to list and quantify these terms, identify the morphological processes that facilitate the derivation of these phrases, and explain the reasons lying behind their selection and uses.

1.4 Research questions

As the present study fits into linguistic investigations dealing with language development and change of real time crises, it addresses the following questions:

- What are the main terms and phrases that have already emerged during COVID-19 pandemic?

- What morphological processes are utilized to derive such pandemic technical terms and phrases?
- What are the social forces, proclivities and factors lying behind such a selection of such phrases?

1.5 Significance of the study

The study counts for some good reason. From a socio-pragmatic perspective, it first investigates language change, choice and development and its characteristic features in international contemporary drastic and crucial crises, whether communal, economic or scientific. From a pragmalinguistic view, the study also focuses on the linguistic, encyclopedic and lexicographic innovations and achievements of native English speakers during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. As the study tend to highlight the importance of participating linguists for the sake of scientific clarity and transparency in dealing with the consequences of the crisis, it is preoccupied with some ethical concerns aiming to enrich the literature of sociolinguistics with solid research and established science.

2. Literature Review:

Malecki et al. (2021) remarked that a number of essential concepts in tremendous danger verbal exchange hooked up in the late twentieth century could furnish essential scientific insight into patient response to the dangers posed by way of coronavirus sickness 2019 (COVID-19). Early hazard verbal exchange students determined acceptability of chance was used to be formed via two key components: hazard and outrage. The variety of human beings who were exposed, infected, and fell sick could be regarded the hazard. How the public and sufferers and respond to messages concerning threat mitigation related to outrage. Social and cultural factors, immediacy, uncertainty, familiarity, non-public control, scientific uncertainty, and believed in establishments and media all shaped appreciation and response to hazard messaging. Outrage elements affected the ever-changing public grasp of COVID-19 risk. In concert, hazard and outrage alongside with cultural and economic context shaped adherence to, and usual acceptance of, private mitigation strategies including wearing facemasks and social distancing among the well-known public. The unfolded of misinformation on social media additionally presented both challenges and opportunities for clinicians. Social media provided an opportunity for specialists to rapidly bring true statistics about hazards, but afforded others the opportunity to counter this with the spread of misinformation and exacerbate outrage. We proposed techniques for infectious diseases clinicians to follow danger conversation ideas and frameworks to enhance patient care and public message development in response to COVID-19.

Oyebode et al. (2020) argued that the COVID-19 pandemic had affected people's lives in many ways. Social media data reveal public perceptions and journey with admire to the pandemic, and additionally revealed factors that impeded or helped efforts to curb world spread of the disease. In this paper, we analyzed COVID-19-related comments accumulated from six social media platforms the usage of Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques. We recognized relevant opinionated key phrases and their respective sentiment polarity (negative or positive) from over 1 million randomly chosen comments, and then categorized them into broader themes the use of thematic analysis. Our consequences uncovered 34 poor issues out of which 17 were economic, socio-political, educational, and political issues. 20 advantageous topics have been also identified. We talked about the terrible troubles and endorsed interventions to tackle them based on the fantastic subject matters and lookup proof.

Rashed et al. (2020) investigated current a toolbox for herbal language processing duties related to SARS-CoV-2. It comprised English dictionaries of synonyms for SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19, a silver general corpus generated with the dictionaries and a gold widespread corpus of 10 PubMed abstracts manually annotated for disease, virus, symptom and protein/gene terms. This toolbox was freely accessible on GitHub (on this https URL) and could be used for textual content analytics in a

range of settings related to the COVID-19 crisis. It would be accelerated and utilized in NLP took over the next weeks and the community was invited to contribute.

Deshpande and Schuller (2020) argued that there had been recently an expanded interest closer to innovating, enhancing, building, and deploying functions of speech sign processing for providing help and remedy to human mankind from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Many AI with speech initiatives were taken to fight with the current scenario and also created a protected and tightly closed environment for the future. The paper summarized all these efforts taken by the re-search neighborhood towards supporting the individuals and the society in the fight in opposition to COVID-19 over the past 3-4 months using speech sign processing. They additionally summarized the deep methods used in this route to come up with successful solutions in a quick span of time. This paper further gave an overview of the contributions from non-speech modalities that might also complement or serve as idea for audio and speech analysis. In addition, they discussed observations with admire to answer usability, challenges, and the considerable technological know-how achievements.

Boberg et al. (2020) contended that COVID-19 pandemic had not solely had extreme political, economic, and societal effects, it had also affected media and conversation structures in remarkable ways. While typical journalistic media had tried to adapt to the rapidly evolving situation, alternative information media on the Internet have given the events their personal ideological spin. Such voices had been criticized for furthering societal confusion and spreading doubtlessly hazardous "fake news" or conspiracy theories by social media and different online channels. The modern found out about analyzes the factual groundwork of such fears in an initial computational content material analysis of choice information media's output on Facebook in the course of the early Corona crisis, based totally on a giant German fact set from January to the second 1/2 of March 2020. Using computational content material analysis, methods, reach, interactions, actors, and subjects of the messages had been examined, as nicely as the use of fabricated information and conspiracy theories. The evaluation printed that the alternative news media stay real to message patterns and ideological foundations identified in prior research. While they did not spread obvious lies, they predominantly shared overly critical, even anti-systemic messages, opposing the view of the mainstream information media and the political establishment. With this pandemic populism, they made a contribution to a contradictory, menacing, and distrusting worldview, as portrayed in detail in this evaluation.

Wolfer et al. (2020) argued that the coronavirus pandemic could also be the biggest disaster the world had had to face given that World War II. It did not come as a surprise that it additionally had an impact on language as our foremost verbal exchange tool. The current three inter-connected sources that were designed to seize and illustrate these results on a subset of the German language: An RSS corpus of German-language newsfeeds (with freely accessible un-truncated unigram frequency lists), a static however always up to date HTML page monitored the range of the used vocabulary and a net utility that enabled different researchers and the broader public to discover these consequences without any or with little know-how of corpus representation/exploration or statistical analyses.

Schuller et al. (2020) argued that at the time of writing, the world population was suffering from more than 10,000 registered COVID-19 sickness epidemic induced deaths considering the fact that the outbreak of the Corona virus greater than three months ago now officially regarded as SARS-CoV-2. Since, great efforts had been made global to counter-steer and manipulate the epidemic with the aid of now labelled as pandemic. In this contribution, they furnished an overview on the conceivable for pc audition (CA), i.e., the usage of speech and sound analysis by means of artificial

Genius to assist in this scenario. They first surveyed which types of related or contextually widespread phenomena could be robotically assessed from speech or sound. These consisted of the computerized cognizance and monitoring of breathing, dry and wet coughing or sneezing sounds, speech below cold, eating behavior, sleepiness, or pain to identify however a few. Then, they considered attainable use-cases for exploitation. These consisted of threat evaluation and analysis primarily based on symptom histograms and their development over time, as nicely as monitoring of spread, social distancing and its effects, treatment and recovery, and patient wellbeing. They shortened information further through challenges that wanted to be faced for real-life usage. They came to the conclusion that CA seemed equipped for implementation of (pre-)diagnosis and monitoring tools, and greater normally presents wealthy and significant, yet so some distance untapped workable in the combat against COVID-19 spread.

3. Methods and Materials

3.1 Research Methods

As the study deals with Corona language, it theoretically fits into linguistic studies, in general and sociolinguistic studies, in particular that investigate community and language in crises. Sociolinguistics can provide a wealth of information about the way language works, the social relationships in the community, and the way people signal aspects of their social identity (Holmes, 2013). Therefore, sociolinguists concern the relationship between language and the context in which it is used. In relevance, sociolinguistic variation, change, and development are central to the general field of applied linguistics that concern the increasing understanding of the role of language in human affairs and thereby with providing the knowledge necessary for those who are responsible for taking language –related decisions whether in the classroom, the workplace, the law court, or the laboratory (Schmitt, 2013).

Methodologically, the study applies a qualitative research method in which an analytical as well as a critical approach has been utilized. For data collection, the study benefits from corpus linguistics (CL), i.e. study of large bodies of texts (Schmitt, 2013). CL provides tremendous insights as how language use varies in different situations, such as spoken versus written, or formal conversations versus casual conversations. Corpus-based analyses of language is empirical, analyzing the actual patterns of use in natural texts. It also utilizes a large and principled collection of natural texts, known as corpus, as the basis for analysis. Text collection process for building a corpus need to be principled so as to ensure representativeness and balance. The study exclusively makes use of both the British National Corpus (BNC) and the Urban Dictionary (available at: www.urbandictionary.com) to build a corpus of the words used during the COVID1-19 pandemic. A concordance of key words in contexts (KWIC) via the BNC as well as a quick of search in the Urban Dictionary, including 'Corona', 'COVID-19', 'corona-viva' and 'coronials', for example, has been carried out (see Figures 1 to 3 in Appendix I).

In dealing with the corpus built, the study builds on discourse analysis (DA), i.e. the analysis of language in its social context (Schmitt, 2013). DA enables researchers to analyze and understand real language data written by first or second language speakers. It can enable analysts to understand better the kinds of discourse that language learners are exposed to outside the classroom (whether formal vs. informal). It can also help them assist language teachers and materials writers to evaluate language course books. Therefore, DA is expected to reveal a lot about the morphological processes the community of native English have already activated during the ongoing crisis. This morphological analysis is important as it contributes to the pragma-stylistic views of understanding how language functions in crisis. DA is also supposed to shed some light on the various meanings satisfied in the

lexicon of the English community before they have been transferred into the English dictionary. The semantic analysis contributes to both pragmalinguistic and socio-pragmatic perspectives aiming to explain how language varies, spreads, changes and develops over time, in space and socially (Holmes, 2013).

4. Analysis and Discussion

The following subsections attempts to answer research questions 1 to 3. In the first subsection, the researchers will discuss the data collected in regard to the terms used during COVID-19 pandemic. Here, the corpus built will be analyzed from a semantic perspective. In the second, the features of the English language selected and used during the crisis will be discussed. Thus, the morphological processes the native speakers of English will be explained. In the last, the social domain in which the language is expected to use will be referred to and highlighted.

4.1 Corona Language: Coining New Denotations or Changing Meaning of Words

A corpus of about (50) words has been built (see Appendix II). A close look at these terms and phrases reveal that they are either simultaneously coined during the crisis or altered to convey certain meanings related to the crisis. Coining refers to invent a new word or expression, or to use one in a particular way for the first time. In these terms, meaning is freshly denotational. For example, the phrase 'coronacation' which refers to 'corona vacation, that is forced leave from work due to the Corona pandemic'. The term is composed of two syllables: Corona, and Vacation (see 2 in Table 1). Another example is 'corona-fi'. This expression refers to 'corona fairy tales science fiction stories and others that were written during the pandemic and / or inspired by the Corona crisis'. The letters Fi is an abbreviation of the word Fiction (see 3 in Table 1). A third example might be 'corona-phobia'. It triggers the negative feelings of fear that people experience due to the Corona pandemic (see 5 in Table 1).

Table (1): Examples of the New Words/ phrases Invented During COVID-19 Pandemic

Denotations and Connotations	Words/ phrases
How small children or kids pronounce corona to connote the negative feelings of	1. CoRoNa
cornoaphobia	
Corona vacation (forced leave from work due to the Corona pandemic). The term is	2. Coronacation
composed of two syllables: Corona, and Vacation.	
Corona fairy tales (science fiction stories and others that were written during the pandemic	3. Corona-fi
and / or inspired by the Corona crisis. The letters Fi is an abbreviation of the word Fiction).	
The fluctuations of feelings accompanying the Corona crisis (the shifts of one's feelings	4. Coronacoaster
between hope and despair throughout the day due to the Corona pandemic).	
Coronophobia (meaning the feelings of fear that people experience due to the Corona	5. Coronaphobia
pandemic).	

Another group of words has been altered to satisfy certain meanings related to the emerging COVID-19 pandemic on the global level. For example, the term 'de-roning refers to 'removing the traces of Corona, that is trying to get rid of the effects of the coronavirus by cleaning and disinfecting the items that were brought home' (see 2 in Table 2). The term 'loxit' comes from 'exit'. Thus, it refers to 'exit from lockdown, i.e. the process of exiting the lockdown dictates associated with the outbreak' (see 3 in Table 2). The term 'masklessness' refers to 'not wearing a face mask during the crisis' (see 4 in Table 2).

Table (2): Examples of the Words/ phrases Altered During COVID-19 Pandemic

New Denotations and Connotations	Words/ phrases
Mutation remover (a name for coronavirus seen as a phenomenon destroying the demographics	1. Boomer remover
of the baby boomers).	
Removing the traces of Corona (trying to get rid of the effects of the coronavirus by cleaning	2. De-roning
and disinfecting the items that were brought home).	
Exit from lockdown (the process of exiting the lockdown dictates associated with the outbreak).	3. Loxit
Not wearing a face mask.	4. Masklessness
Someone is acting stupidly during the Corona pandemic.	5. Morona

4.2 Features of Corona Language: Processing Words via Compounding, Affixation, Clipping, and Coining

A close look at the corpus-built reveals that there are four morphological processes are utilized during the crisis. They are compounding, affixation, clipping, and coining. To begin with compounding, it sounds that this process is very frequent. For example, the phrase 'corona crunch' is compound to mean corona crisis, i.e. the massive impact of the corona epidemic on income and investment returns. The phrase 'corona-click-bait' is a multiple phrase of three words combined to refer to corona marketing liquid, i.e. a headline or an interesting text designed to entice the reader to read information related to corona disease, and the aim of it is to market an article or link on the Internet to play on the feelings of fear that surround people (see Table 3 and Column 2 in Appendix II for more examples).

Table (3): Compounding Words During COVID-19 Pandemic

New Denotations and Connotations	Words/ phrases
Corona crisis (the massive impact of the Corona epidemic on income and investment	1. Corona crunch
returns).	
(An area through which people are allowed to travel to reach a specific destination,	2. Corona-Corridor
gradually easing lockdown measures during the pandemic).	
Corona Marketing Liquid (a headline or an interesting text designed to entice the reader to	3.Coronaclickbait
read information related to Corona disease, and the aim of it is to market an article or link	
on the Internet to play on the feelings of fear that surround people).	

Affixation is another strategy used for deriving words during COVID-19 pandemic. For example, the term 'coronalusional' meaning Corona delusion, i.e. suffering of the person. The term is also composed of two syllables: "Corona", and "imaginary" or "delusional". The term is affixed with '-al' to convert it into an adjective. Thus, the suffix means 'characterized by'. The term 'coronasplaining' which refers to conversational transcendence about the Corona crisis –that is a person's tendency to explain the corona crisis to those who understand it better than him. The term is analogous to the term Mansplaining, which means the male dialogue transcendence towards women. The inflectional –ing suffix is added to convert it into a noun (see table 4 and Column 2 in Appendix II for more examples).

Table (4): Affixing Words During COVID-19 Pandemic

New Denotations and Connotations	Words/ phrases
Corona delusion (suffering of the person). The term is also composed of two syllables:	1. Coronalusional
"Corona", and "imaginary" or "delusional".	
Conversational transcendence about the Corona crisis (a person's tendency to explain the	2. Coronasplaining
Corona crisis to those who understand it better than him. The term is analogous to the term	
Mansplaining, which means the male dialogue transcendence towards women)	
Corona time (the period of the Corona disease outbreak).	3. Coronatimes

Clipping is another morphological process utilized during the ongoing crisis. The term 'covexit' referring to exit from COVID, i.e. the process of easing restrictions on public life during the COVID-19 pandemic, is clipped from both 'COVID' and 'exit'. The compound term 'covidivorce' refers to a divorce resulting from the coved house arrest where the parties realize that a parting of the ways might be best. It is clipped from both terms of 'COVID' and 'divorce' (see Table 5 and Column 2 in Appendix II for more examples).

Table (5): Clipping Words During COVID-19 Pandemic

New Denotations and Connotations	Words/ phrases
Exit from COVID (the process of easing restrictions on public life during the COVID-19 pandemic).	1. Covexit
(a term given to a person who ignores warnings about social distancing or concern for the safety of others, as well as a person who rushes to buy and store disinfectants and foodstuffs and deprive others of them. It is composed of two sections: Covid, the virus	2. Covidiot
that causes Corona disease; idiot) a divorce resulting from the coved house arrest where the parties realize that a parting of the ways might be best	3. Covidivorce

Coining, i.e. using a term for the first time, is another morphological process utilized during the crisis. For example, the slang 'Miss Rona' has been originated in teenage forums on the Internet as a description of the corona virus; the prefix Miss refers to rude behavior or speech, and thus the meaning of the term can become a brazen corona virus, as an embodiment of the current conditions in which the virus disrupted our lives, and led to the cancellation of our plans and testing our relationships, For ourselves and for others. The phrases 'Morona' and 'post-rona' referring to someone who is acting stupidly during the corona pandemic, and the post-epidemic phase respectively, have been originated during the crisis (for more examples see Column 2 in Appendix II and Table 6).

Table (6): Coining Words During COVID-19 Pandemic

New Denotations and Connotations	Words/ phrases
Miss Rona (a slang word that originated in teenage forums on the Internet as a description of	3. Miss Rona
the Corona virus; the prefix Miss refers to rude behavior or speech, and thus the meaning of the	
term can become a brazen corona virus, as an embodiment of the current conditions in which	
the virus disrupted our lives, and led to the cancellation of our plans and testing our	
relationships, For ourselves and for others.	
(Someone is acting stupidly during the Corona pandemic).	2. Morona
Post-Corona (the post-epidemic phase).	3. post-rona

4.3 3 Social Domains Lying Behind the Derivation of Corona Language

According to Holmes (2013), the social domain is defined as a social act in which some participants or interlocutors meet in a specific time and place to discuss a topic using either a formal or informal variety. A close look at the corpus-built reveals that most of the words derived during the COVID-19 pandemic are related to health, business, education, family, linguistics, psychology and literature social domains. For example, the phrase 'coronaspeck referring to 'corona obesity, i.e. weight gain resulting from overeating during the home isolation period' fits into medical and healthy terms. The term 'cornoclickbait' is related to marketing and business. It refers to 'corona marketing Liquid', a headline or an interesting text designed to entice the reader to read information related to corona disease, and the aim of it is to market an article or link on the Internet to play on the feelings of fear that surround people. The phrase 'corona-viva' is related to education. It means coronian mouthpiece, i.e. an oral exam or online university dissertation discussion during the lockdown period due to the Corona pandemic. The phrase 'social bubble' is a term used to describe any action taken by a certain

family in merging with another family, and with no more than ten members, to ease the restrictions of closure during the corona pandemic. The term 'coronaspeak' sounds metalinguistic as it refers to corona speech or any new words and language abbreviations that people used during the corona pandemic. The term 'lockstalgia' is a psychological term referring to nostalgia for closure, the idea that we may look back with longing and nostalgia after the end of the lockdown and home isolation period, especially after family ties strengthened during this period (for more examples, see Table 7 and Column 4 in Appendix II).

Table (7): Social Factors Lying Behind the Derivation of Corona Language

Examples	Social Domains in which Corona Language is Used	
Corona-speck, biosurveillance, common invisible enemy	1. Health	
Corona crunch, corona-clickbait, slackers	2. Business	
Corona-fi, corona-viva, de-roning,	3. Education	
Covidivorce, coronacuts, coronadodge, spendemic, social bubble	4. Family	
Coronasplaining, coronaspeak, Miss Rona	5. Linguistics	
Coronaspiracy theories, lockstalgia, corona-phobia	6. Psychology	
Coronapocalypse	7. Religion	
Coronalit	8. Literature	

5. Conclusions

By analyzing and discussing the data collected critically, it has been found that the terms used during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis are divided into two types: Coined and altered. The former refers to new words used for the first time in the crisis. The latter refers to old terms given new senses related to the crisis.

Besides, it has been found that some morphological processes have been used to derive words related coronal language. Compounding is significantly utilized for deriving many words related to the ongoing crisis. Clipping, affixation, whether pre-fixation and suffixation, and coining are also benefited from t a good extent.

Finally, it has been that most of the words derived and used during the COVID-19 pandemic are regulated by familial, educational, professional, metalinguistic, health or medical, psychological and religious social factors. Amongst these, the social domains of health, family, business, psychology, linguistics, and education are very frequent. The social domains of religion and literature are less frequent in corona language.

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APPENDIX (I)



Figure (1) Concordance of 'corona' in the BNC

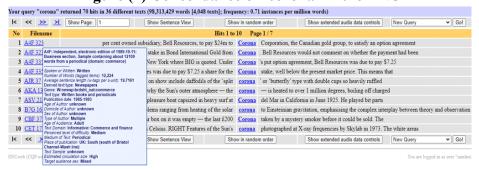


Figure (2) Showing KWIC for the word 'corona' in BNC



Figure (3) Quick Search of the Term 'Coronnials' in the Urban Dictionary

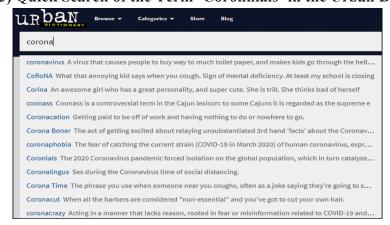


Figure (4) Quick Search of the Term Corona in the Urban Dictionary

APPENDIX (II)

	Corpus: A List of the Words Used During	COVID-19 Pandem	ic	
Sociolinguistic: The potential social domain in which the word used	Semantic: Meanings and senses of the word used during COVID-19 pandemic	Morphological processes	Lexicographic: Corona language in alphabetical order	
Column 4	Column 3	Column 2	Column 1	
Education –Health	Vital monitoring (monitoring the occurrence of infection in the population)	Compounding / coining	Biosurveillance	1
Educ. / Health	Mutation remover (a name for coronavirus seen as a phenomenon destroying the demographics of the baby boomers).	Compounding- suffixation/ coining	Boomer remover	2
Educ. / Health	(A description used by NATO of the virus that causes Corona disease, as an invisible enemy threatening humanity).	Multiple compounding	Common invisible enemy	3
Educ. / Health	(The act or actions of altruism for some people during the period of isolation, confinement, or closure).	Compounding/ coining	Contagion chivalry	4
Applied Linguistics /Family		Postlexical Derv.	CoRoNa	5
Business	Corona crisis (the massive impact of the Corona epidemic on income and investment returns).	Compounding / coining	Corona crunch	6
Health –airport	(An area through which people are allowed to travel to reach a specific destination, gradually easing lockdown measures during the pandemic).	Compounding/ coining	Corona-Corridor	7
Education – literature	Corona fairy tales (science fiction stories and others that were written during the pandemic and / or inspired by the Corona crisis. The letters Fi is an abbreviation of the word Fiction).	Compounding / clipping	Corona-fi	8
Psychology / Public affairs	Coronavirus defamation (public criticism of those who violate public health rules during the Corona crisis, especially the celebrities among them).	Compounding/ inflection	Corona shaming	9
Family- Tourism	Corona vacation (forced leave from work due to the Corona pandemic). The term is composed of two syllables: Corona, and Vacation.	Compounding / blending	Coronacation	10
Family – business	Corona Marketing Liquid (a headline or an interesting text designed to entice the reader to read information related to Corona disease, and the aim of it is to market an article or link on the Internet to play on the feelings of fear that surround people).	Multiple compounding	Coronaclickbait	11
Education – psychology	The fluctuations of feelings accompanying the Corona crisis (the shifts of one's feelings between hope and despair throughout the day due to the Corona pandemic).	Compounding- suffixation	Coronacoaster	12

Psychology	Fast-tempered due to the Corona crisis	Compounding	Coronacranky	13
Sociology / Family – business	Corona haircuts (cutting and hairdressing at home during the Corona pandemic, which seems literal).	Compounding/ inflection	Coroanacuts	14
Family –Social behaviors	Avoiding Corona (deviating while walking on the road to avoid contact with pedestrians in order to avoid infection and in compliance with the restrictions of the required distance for social distancing, and is analogous to the expression "Covid dance" Covid waltz, meaning making a maneuver while walking on the road to avoid pedestrians).	Compounding / conversion	Coronadodge	15
Philosophy / Ontology	Armageddon Corona (Another description of the end of the world due to the Corona pandemic).	Compounding	Coronageddon	16
Literature	Corona literature (literature produced during the pandemic period and / or inspired by the Corona crisis. The letters (Lit) are short for Literature).	Compounding / clipping	Coronalit	17
Psychology	Corona delusion (suffering of the person). The term is also composed of two syllables: "Corona", and "imaginary" or "delusional".	Compounding- clipping – suffixation	Coronalusional	18
Psychology	Corona paranoia (paranoia that any familiar symptoms of seasonal allergies are symptoms of corona disease and imminent death).	Compounding/ clipping	Coronanoia	19
Psychology	Coronophobia (meaning the feelings of fear that people experience due to the Corona pandemic).	Compounding	Coronaphobia	20
Ontology	Corona's resurrection (describing the Corona pandemic as a catastrophe that leads to the end of the world).	Compounding	Coronapocalypse	21
Applied Linguistics	Corona talk (new words and language abbreviations that people used during the Corona pandemic).	Compounding	Coronaspeak	22
Health	Corona obesity (weight gain resulting from overeating during the home isolation period).	Compounding	Coronaspeck	23
Psychology	Conspiracy theories related to Corona disease (the theories have been circulating since the emergence of Corona disease as an economic-political conspiracy).	Multiple compounding	Coronaspiracy theories	24
Linguistic Health	Conversational transcendence about the Corona crisis (a person's tendency to explain the Corona crisis to those who understand it better than him. The term is analogous to the term Mansplaining, which means the male dialogue transcendence towards women)	Compounding – inflectional suffixation	Coronasplaining	25
Litracies	Corona time (the period of the Corona disease outbreak).	Compounding – inflectional suffixation	Coronatimes	26

Family and Buisness	The Corona Verse (the prevailing social and economic system during the Corona	Compounding	Coronaverse	27
Health	pandemic). Coronian mouthpiece (An oral exam or online university dissertation discussion during the lockdown period due to the Corona pandemic).	Compounding	Coronaviva	28
Business	Business Corona (the exploitation of companies and individuals of the Corona pandemic for profit under the name of charitable initiatives and donations, or even financial contribution to gain reputation and reduce taxes).	Compounding / inflectional suffixation	Coronawashing	29
Demography	Corona generation (the one born during the Corona pandemic, and the singular is Coronnial)	Coining / derivation and inflectional suffixation	Coronnials	30
Politics –health protocols	Coronian surveillance (an economic term meaning building a national or global system of surveillance and domination during a pandemic).	Compounding / clipping	Coronopticon	31
Politics –health protocols	Exit from COVID (the process of easing restrictions on public life during the COVID-19 pandemic).	Compounding / clipping	Covexit	32
Health protocols	(a term given to a person who ignores warnings about social distancing or concern for the safety of others, as well as a person who rushes to buy and store disinfectants and foodstuffs and deprive others of them. It is composed of two sections: Covid, the virus that causes Corona disease; idiot)	Compounding / clipping	Covidiot	33
Family	a divorce resulting from the coved house arrest where the parties realize that a parting of the ways might be best	Compounding/ clipping	Covidivorce	34
	(Live concert via Zoom App or Skype).	Compounding	CovidParty	35
Health	Removing the traces of Corona (trying to get rid of the effects of the coronavirus by cleaning and disinfecting the items that were brought home).	Pre-fixation & inflectional derivation	De-roning	36
Family	Insulation baking (baking at home and exchanging recipes during home isolation).	Compounding – clipping – inflection	Isobaking	37
Health	An isolation office (an improvised or used workplace during the Corona pandemic).	Compounding / clipping	Isodesk	38
Psychology	Nostalgia for closure (the idea that we may look back with longing and nostalgia after the end of the lockdown and home isolation period, especially after family ties strengthened during this period. The term is composed of two syllables: Lock and Nostalgia).	Compounding / clipping	Lockstalgia	39

Sami Al-Heeh, Ameer Salameh, Mechanics of Linguistic Mobility in COVID-19 Pandemic: Lexical innovation and richness

Health	Exit from lockdown (the process of exiting the lockdown dictates associated with the outbreak).	Compounding / clipping	Loxit	40
Health procesures	Not wearing a face mask.		Masklessness	41
Family – metalinguistics	Miss Rona (a slang word that originated in teenage forums on the Internet as a description of the Corona virus; the prefix Miss refers to rude behavior or speech, and thus the meaning of the term can become a brazen corona virus, as an embodiment of the current conditions in which the virus disrupted our lives, and led to the cancellation of our plans and testing our relationships, For ourselves and for others.	Compounding Coining	Miss Rona	42
Family – metalinguistics	(Someone is acting stupidly during the Corona pandemic).	Conversion	Morona	43
History	Post-Corona (the post-epidemic phase).	Compounding, clipping	Post-rona	44
Politics	Report a violation related to the Coronavirus crisis (i.e. reporting to the authorities about those who violate the restrictions imposed to contain the Corona pandemic, and other new terms such as Covidobbing - Coronasnitching correspond to it).	Compounding/ inflection	Ronadobbing	45
Business/ employment	Slackers (remote workers using the popular commercial communications platform Slack).	Suffixation – inflection	Slackers	46
Family	A social bubble (meaning any action taken by a certain family in merging with another family, and with no more than ten members, to ease the restrictions of closure during the Corona pandemic).	Compounding	Social Bubble	47
Family & shopping	Pandemic spending (widespread trend among people to spend and shop online during the Corona pandemic).	Compounding /clipping / suffixation	Spendemic	48
Health	(The intense competition between the major countries in the discovery and production of a vaccine for the Covid-19 virus, which strengthens their international economic and political position).	Compounding/ suffixation	Vaccine nationalism	49