АКТУАЛЬНІ ПРОБЛЕМИ ЛІНГВІСТИКИ ТА ЛІНГВОКУЛЬТУРОЛОГІЇ

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LANGUAGE CHANGES, LESSONS OF COVID-19 AND CORONEOLOGISMS

Мова постійно змінюється та розвивається, а її словниковий склад відображає віхові події суспільного життя. У всьому світі лінгвісти поділяють думку, що такі зміни можуть позитивно впливати на мову та сприяти її осучасненню або, навпаки, мати негативні наслідки, порушуючи існуючі мовні норми. Численні урядові та громадські організації зацікавлені у забезпеченні зрозумілості англійської мови для широкого загалу як мови міжнародного спілкування, однак водночас статус лінгва-франка не може не позначитися на її словниковому складі, який постійно поповнюється новими значеннями вже існуючих слів або зовсім новими лексемами. Зміни граматичних конструкцій (наприклад, вживання герундію замість інфінітиву) або орфоепічних норм потребують більш тривалого часу і відбуваються поступово, як Великий зсув голосних. Наразі лексичні зміни фіксуються у словниках з невеликою затримкою, але легко відстежуються в онлайн-версіях. Щорічно до англомовних словників потрапляє 800–1000 нових слів або додаткових значень. Насправді за цей період з'являється у п'ять разів більше новоутворень, однак вони не входять до широкого вжитку і не задовольняють критерії лексикографів. До 2019 р. більшість новацій у сфері лексики стосувалися технологічних проривів. Однак у 2020 р. безпрецедентну увагу привернула до себе медицина через пандемію, яка спочатку виникла у м. Вухань, КНР, а з часом охопила весь світ. Зараз немає жодного континенту, де не було б зафіксовано спалахів COVID-19. Тож не дивно, що наприкінці 2020 р. більшість англомовних словників визнали словами року номінації, пов'язані з COVID-19, який невідворотно змінив стиль життя та реальність. Отже, наша доробка має на меті простежити лексичні зміни, спричинені спалахом коронавірусу, та проаналізувати новостворені лексеми. У дослідженні використовувалися такі методи: лінгвістичний аналіз, спостереження, математичні розрахунки. Завдяки Інтернету та значному впливу соціальних медіа новоутворені слова та фрази швидко розлітаються по всьому світу, причому деякі з них походять від хештегів. Аналізуючи неологізми, що виникли внаслідок пандемії, ми бачимо, що їх основне призначення – відобразити нові реалії, наприклад 'upperwear' – предмети одягу для відеоконференцій, 'Zumping' (Zoom+dumping) – розірвання стосунків під час соціального дистанціювання через додаток Zoom або інший додаток

для відеодзвінків тощо. Статистично доведено, що найбільш уживаними основами для творення неологізмів стали covid, coron (коронавірус) and quaran (карантин). З точки зору морфологічної будови більшість неологізмів, пов'язаних із пандемією, належать до складних іменників, які пишуться разом (covidiot, coronarave), але зустрічаються і такі, що пишуться окремо (corona boner, corona bae). Беручи до уваги, бум короналогізмів у світі, в українську мову ввійшли кальковані варіанти (coronapocalypse – коронапокаліпсис) або транслітеровані (covidiot – ковідіот). Водночас деякі з неологізмів, що набули особливо широкого вжитку, перекладаються за допомогою українських основ або афіксів (коронабовдур, ковдур, пандемійченко, поковіджений). Отже, лексичні зміни, спричинені пандемією, наразі відбуваються як в англійській, так і в українській мовах. Цей процес швидко набирає обертів і ще далекий від свого закінчення.

Ключові слова: короналогізм, неологізм, пандемія, коронавірус, Covid, складні іменники, лексичні зміни, слово року.

Язык постоянно меняется и развивается, а его словарный состав отображает события социальной жизни общества. Во всём мире лингвисты сходятся во мнении, что такие изменения могут оказывать положительное влияние на язык и делать его более современным, либо, наоборот, иметь негативные последствия, нарушая действующие языковые нормы. Многочисленные правительственные и общественные организации заинтересованы в том, чтобы сохранить английский язык понятным для широких масс в качестве языка международного общения, но в то же время, статус лингва-франка не может не повлиять на его словарный фонд, который постоянно пополняется новыми значениями уже существующих слов или абсолютно новыми лексемами. Изменения грамматических конструкций (например, использование герундия вместо инфинитива) или орфоэпических норм требуют гораздо больше времени и происходят постепенно, как Великий сдвиг гласных. В настоящее время лексические изменения фиксируются в словарях с небольшой задержкой и легко отслеживаются в онлайн-версиях. Ежегодно в английские словари попадает 800–1000 новых слов или дополнительных значений. В действительности за этот период появляется примерно в пять раз больше новообразований, но они не получают широкого распространения и не соответствуют критериям лексикографов. До 2019 г. большинство лексических нововведений было связано с технологическими прорывами. Однако в 2020 г. беспрецедентное внимание привлекла к себе медицина из-за пандемии, которая первоначально была выявлена в г. Ухань, Китай, а затем охватила весь мир. В настоящее время нет ни одного континента, на котором бы не было вспышек COVID-19. Поэтому неудивительно, что в конце 2020 г. большинство англоязычных словарей признало словами года номинации, связанные с COVID-19, который безвозвратно изменил образ жизни и реальность. Таким образом, целью данной работы является проследить лексические изменения, связанные со вспышкой коронавируса, и проанализировать новообразованные лексемы. В исследовании использовались методы лингвистического анализа, наблюдения, математических расчетов. Благодаря Интернету и значительному влиянию социальных сетей, новые слова и фразы быстро распространяются по всему миру, причем некоторые из них происходят от хэштегов. Анализируя неологизмы, появившиеся во время пандемии, мы видим, что их главная цель – охватить новые реалии, такие как upperwear – предметы гардероба для видеоконференций, Zumping (Zoom+dumping) – разрыв отношений во время социального дистанцирования в приложении Zoom или другом приложении для видеозвонков и т.д. Статистически доказано, что наиболее употребимыми основами в словообразовании стали covid, coron (коронавирус) и quaran (карантин). С точки зрения морфологического строения большинство неологизмов, связанных с пандемией, относятся к сложносоставным существительным, которые пишутся слитно (covidiot, coronarave), однако встречается и раздельное написание (corona boner, corona bae). Принимая во внимание мировой бум коронелогизмов, украинский язык заимствовал некоторые из них либо в виде кальки (coronapocalypse – коронапокалипсис), либо в транслитерированном варианте (covidiot – ковидиот). В то же время некоторые широко используемые неологизмы были переведены с использованием украинских корней и аффиксов (коронабовдур, ковдур, пандемійченко, поковіджений). Лексические изменения, вызванные пандемией, в настоящее время происходят как в английском, так и в украинском языках. Этот процесс быстро набирает обороты и далёк от своего завершения.

Ключевые слова: короналогизм, неологизм, пандемия, коронавирус, Covid, сложносоставные существительные, лексические изменения, слово года.

Introduction. Adapting to the needs of society, languages reflect progress by updating lexical systems. English is no exception. Recently, there have been a number of significant changes both in structure and vocabulary. It should be noted that there are two main approaches to language changes – one is positive, while

the other is negative. The former views most language changes as necessary mirroring adjustments in worldviews and lifestyles. The latter, on the other hand, treats them as those deteriorating the language.

Notably, there are certain governmental and non-governmental organizations in the UK committed to controlling changes. The Plain English Campaign that opposes gobbledygook, jargon and legalese and the Queen's English Society that promotes good English are some of them. Marie Clair, of the Plain English Campaign commented on "a worrying trend of adults mimicking teen-speak... using slang words and ignoring grammar" [Shariatmadari, 2019]. The aim of the Queen's English Society is "to keep the English language safe from perceived declining standards" with the main risks of making communication less effective and the language less varied [Cobbett, 2020]. As a result, the organizations strive to sift out unacceptable language changes to prevent confusion and any loss of shades of meaning fighting the bar lowering.

John Humphrys, the British broadcaster, believes it is laziness and imprecision that results in language obesity. Speakers feed on junk words and tautology, e. g. future plans, past history, live survivors, safe havens, temper tantrums, new initiatives [Shariatmadari, 2019].

Interestingly, it is not the first time that linguists fear the language decline. Over the centuries, they have repeatedly been predicting degradation. In 1785, the poet and philosopher James Beatty wrote that the English language was rapidly degenerating. 70 years earlier Jonathan Swift issued a similar warning emphasing a great amount of confusions and abbreviations. Most writers and poets of that time were convinced that the golden age of English started from the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign and ended with the Great Uprising of 1642.

It is worth pointing out that it is not only English that stimulates that many disputes of the language future. The linguist Rudi Keller provides similar examples for German. He has a point noting that over 2,000 years "complaints about the decay of respective languages have been documented in literature, but no one has yet been able to name an example of a "decayed language" [Shariatmadari, 2019]. Therefore, languages are evolving non-stop. As change is most often generational, older speakers feel like criticizing and complaining.

However, even the most significant and lasting changes take a long time and can be imperceptible. For example, the Great Vowel Shift, a series of pronunciation changes, took about 350 years and the changes became noticed only 100 years later.

Analyzing the current changes, the following grammar ones are highlighted:

– the gerund outnumbers the infinitive (*He started seeing her last month* vs *He started to see her last month)*. In the 1940s, to start and to begin were mostly followed by the gerund and in the 1950s-1960s to like, to love, to hate, to fear joined the trend;

– the continuous/progressive forms get preference to the simple ones in the Passive voice (*The conference is being organised* vs *The conference is organised*) and modal verbs (*He should be going* vs *I should go*);

– in the Passive voice, to get as well as to be can be used with the past participle (*the letter got sent*) [Okrent, 2013].

Nonetheless, lexical changes vastly outnumber grammatical ones. Taking into account the variability of English spoken by 1.5 billion people, it is the fastest growing language in the world. According to GLM, about 5,400 new words are annually created and only one fifth make it into print [Payack, 2020].

The analysis of recent research and publications. Neology deals with studying newly coined words or added new meanings. Stenetorp views neologism as a lexeme not present in dictionaries [Stenetorp, 2010]. Moreover, neologisms used to be considered pathological deviations of the norm. To be exact, an Addenda Section in 1966 of Webster's Third New International Dictionary added neologism defining it as a meaningless word. Right now, there are two meanings of the term: 1) "a new word, usage, or expression technological neologisms, 2) psychology: a new word that is coined especially by a person affected with schizophrenia and is meaningless except to the coiner…." [Neologism, 2020].

Throughout the history, playwrights, poets and writers coined a great many neologisms. To be exact, Shakespeare created 500 words (e.g. swagger, hint), John Milton even more – 630

coinages (e.g. lovelorn, fragrance). Geoffrey Chaucer, Ben Jonson, John Donne and Sir Thomas More minted their own coinages, accordingly universe, rant, self-preservation, anticipate, etc [Bodle, 2016].

In the 20th century, it was lexical and semantic derivation that led to the changes of the English language vocabulary. It is estimated that about 65% of neologisms were affixation-coined. However, in the 1990s other word-building patterns came into use.

After analyzing new words, Andy Bodle singled out 13 mechanisms as the most significant ones [Bodle, 2016]. However, the authors rejected onomatopeia, back formation, error and loanwords as non-productive leaving only 9 mechanisms at present:

1) Derivation (e.g. monogamish, Brexiteer, microwedding);

2) Compounding (e.g. doomscrolling, Blursday);

3) Portmanteaus (e.g. titilifarious = titillating+hilarious, plumtuous = plump+sumptuous);

4) Repurposing (e.g. backstop);

5) Conversion (e.g. to google, muffin top – roll of fat that appears on top of trousers that feature a low waist);

6) Eponyms (e.g. Brangelina: used to refer to supercouple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie);

7) Abbreviations (e.g. WFH – work from home, BLM – black lives matter);

8) Reduplication (e.g. lovey-dovey, cray-cray);

9) Nonce words (e. g. frabjous).

Despite numerous researches on the formation and classification of English neologisms, there have not been enough studies devoted to newly-coined words related to the pandemic of COVID-19. Thus, the *purpose of our article* is to trace lexical changes caused by the coronavirus outbreak and analyse newly-coined lexemes. The following *methods* were used in the study: linguistic analysis, observation, mathematical calculations.

Presenting the main material. With about a thousand words introduced to English dictionaries every year, according to GML, the lexicon of the English language is growing fast. The company also states that in 2009, the millionth English word was added and it was Web 2.0 [Payack, 2020]. However, lexicographers and representatives of the world-known dictionaries question the algorithm of GLM. The Oxford English Dictionary contains more than 829,000 words, meanings and entries.

Annually, world-known English dictionaries pick the word of the year which mirrors prevailing dictionary searches and society trends. In January 2018, more than 1,100 words, meanings and entries were added to The Oxford English Dictionary, with another 700 being added three months later [Simpson, Weiner, 2015].

Before adding a neologism to a dictionary, linguists consult with experts in various fields, as a word or phrase must meet the criteria and be in use for a period of time and there should be numerous independent examples. According to the algorithm of GLM, a word is considered a neologism after it has been used 25,000 times [Payack, 2020].

It is of interest that the Oxford English Dictionary adds not only words and phrases. In 2015, an icon (emoji) was added. It was a popular emoticon – Face with Tears of Joy. Due to cooperation of The Oxford University Press with SwiftKey, it was concluded that since the first use of emoticon in 2004 there has been a boom in their use [Simpson, Weiner, 2015].

When analyzing the words of the year from 2016 to 2020 of the Oxford English Dictionary [Simpson, Weiner, 2015], the Collins English Dictionary and the Cambridge Dictionary (associated with British English) as well as the Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (American English) [Neologism, 2020], a certain similarity has been tracked (table 1).

Table 1

The words of the year (2016–2020)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Merriam-Webster	surreal	feminism	justice	they	pandemic
Collins	Brexit	fake news	single-use	climate strike	lockdown
Cambridge	paranoid	populism	nomophobia	upcycling	quarantine
Oxford	post-truth	youthquake	toxic	climate emergency	

Data-driven choices of the words of the year reflect lookup spikes indicating a social trend, a new usage distilling a debate and tackling the most crucial challenges. For example, in 2019 the Collins and Oxford dictionaries chose words related to climate change, while the Cambridge Dictionary picked up *upcycling* defined as an action to make a difference which is still about human influence on the environment. However, the Merriam-Webster dictionary picked the pronoun *they*, adding the fourth meaning to denote a non-binary person.

The words of 2020 turned out to focus on COVID-19 as the outbreak hit the global community with life-changing consequences. As a result, the Merriam-Webster dictionary singled out pandemic [Neologism, 2020], the Cambridge Dictionary – quarantine and the Collins dictionary – lockdown [Hanks, 2018]. Nevertheless, the Oxford dictionary didn't pick a single word. They explained that in 2020 the pattern of choosing the word of the year didn't coincide with the pandemic reality adding that 2020 was "a year which cannot neatly be accommodated in one single word" [Flood, 2020]. Instead, a list of words was chosen, including coronavirus, lockdown, mail in, unmute, bushfires, Covid-19, WFH, circuit-breaker, support bubbles, keyworkers, furlough, Black Lives Matter, etc. OED lexicographers noted "seismic shifts in language data and precipitous frequency rises in new coinage" since the beginning of 2020 [Flood, 2020]. Being the root of people's identity, language is getting as baffling as Covid-19 times.

English lexicon is getting updated non-stop with the most common areas of innovation – modern technology, scientific progress, etc. The outbreak resulted in common interest in medicine, a real first on the global scale. The pandemic not only affected health systems worldwide but also led to new coinages and meanings which are getting wide coverage in the media [Bilefsky, Yeginsu, 2020; Thorne, 2020] and in scientific publications [Szabó, 2020; Alyeksyeyeva, Chaiuk, Galitska, 2020].

Scientific terms are in everyday language like never before. Moreover, new words are being coined at an unparalleled pace where stems coron and covid are prevalent. So far, Tony Thorne of King's College estimated over a thousand pandemic-related words became actively used in 2020, noting three stages 1) "medicalisation of our everyday vocabulary"; 2) inventing own words referring to new reality; 3) about the institutional discourse [Szabó, 2020]. The fast spread of pandemic-related neologisms are due to the no-boundary Internet, including social media.

With coronavirus penetrating and changing lives, the virus was shortened when used informally. It is widely known as (the) Rona, Ms Rona, Miley Cyrus (rhymed Cockney slang), while coronaspeak is often referred as 'c' language. There are also cynical slang names describing high death rate, e.g. boomer, herd thinner. Moreover, even BC, the abbreviation previously standing only for before Christ, has recently got another meaning – before coronavirus.

After analyzing pandemic-related news pieces published online at https://www.bbc.co.uk, https://www.cbc.ca, https://www.abc.net.au, https://economictimes.indiatimes.com, https://www.theguardian.com and others, the list of coroneologisms coined in the period from the end of 2019 to mid 2020 was made. Statistically, it was proven that *coron* is the most frequent followed by *quaran* and *covid*. In the table below, there are coroneologisms spotted in the Internet.

Table 2

The list of coroneologisms

	Coroneologisms	total
Coron	coronababy, corona bae, coronabesity, corona boyfriend, coronabuzz, coronacation, coronacave, coronacile, coronacoma, Corona-chan, coronachaser, coronacile, coronacocooing, coronacrew, coronacronym, coronacuture, coronadating, coronaddict, coronafool, corona hair, coronahoarder, corona language, coronallusional, coronametaphor, coronamoaner, coronapage, coronaparadox, coronapocalypse, coronarave, coronarelationship, coronaroamer, coronaspam, coronaspeak, coronaspeck, coronaterminology, coroneologism, coronial	34
Quaran	quarantech, quarantips, quarantrends, quaranteen, quarantrolls, quarantini, quaranteam, quaran-stream, quarantough, quarantined, quarantime	12
Covid	covideoparty, covidhumour, covidials, covident, covidiot, covidivorce	6

Interestingly, Urban Dictionary [Peckham, 2012] has much more neologisms added. To be exact, there are 18 entries starting with *quaran* and 12 – covid, e.g. *quarantan* (quarantine+tan), *quarantainment* (quarantine+entertainment), *quarantigue* (quarantine+fatigue), *covideo* (covid+video), etc.

Noteworthy, the coroneologisms with the most frequent part *coron* has the fewest changes of the second part. Most often, two independent words are combined, e.g. corona+language, corona+terminology, corona+paradox, etc. However, there are examples of certain changes when the last letters of *corona* are the same or similar to the first letters of the following part, e.g. corona+neologism = *coroneologism*, corona+apocalypse = *coronapocalypse*, etc.

The shortened version of quarantine -*quarant*- is used for coining compound nouns by adding either separate words or suffixes.

It should be noted that English suffixes are used to form English-based coroneologisms, e.g. *covidial, coronial, covidism*, etc.

Naturally, there are other stems in high demand to coin new words. Since a boom in learning apps, Zoom has rocketed worldwide. As a result, a number of coroneologisms were introduced, e.g. *Zoombombing* (when uninvited people try to get into a video conference), *Zumping* (dumping a person via Zoom), *Zumped* (being dumped during a Zoom conference), etc.

Alyeksyeyeva, Chaiuk & Galitska point out that coroneologisms can be classified into social groups denoting generations (coronababies, coronials, quaranteens), relations (a corona boyfriend / girlfriend, a quaranteam), people according to a) shopping attitudes (a coronahoarder), b) attitudes to the disease (a covidiot, a morona (used to denote people with irresponsible behaviour), a coronadult (to describe people following pandemic rules), a coronaddict (someone believing Covid-related fake news), a coronacile (someone who spreads fake news), a coronachaser (a person whose aim is to contact the virus), etc. There are also coroneologisms nominating new cultural practices happening during the pandemic. They can be categorised into the following groups: 1) features of Covid-lifestyle (a coronacave, WFH – work from home, coronacation, quarantini); 2) changes in appearance (coronabesity, coronaspeck, corona hair, upperwear); 3) pandemic routines (elbow bumps or elbumps); 4) interpersonal relations and computer-mediated interactions (covidivorce, coronadating, zumped, covideo, ronavation). The auhors also argue that three approaches are applicable when studying the lexemes of Coronaspeak. According to the stylistic theory, scientific and medical terms have been widely adopted by nonspecialists. The etymological approach regards neologisms as coinages with a new meaning. While the denotational approach views neologisms as lexemes created to nominate new concepts [Alyeksyeyeva, Chaiuk, Galitska, 2020].

According to morphological composition, most Covid-related neologisms are compound nouns consisting normally of two words. The combination is noun + noun. As for the forms, closed or solid is the most frequent – *coronacoma, coronamoaner, coronamoaner*. Then it is followed by an open or spaced form – *corona language, corona bae*. As for hyphenated forms, they are quite few – *Corona-chan.*

With English as lingua franca, it is mostly held responsible for spreading coroneologisms around the world which are often called English-based.

Amanda Roig-Marine carried out an analysis of the pandemic neologisms with covid and corona in some European languages. She came to the conclusion that the former is often written either in uppercase or lowercase. In general, *covid* is viewed as an English borrowing, while *corona* is of Latin origin (crown). However, due to the fact that English does not have a grammatical category of gender for *covid*, French, Catalan, Spanish and Italian tend to view it as masculine because virus is a masculine noun. Still there are some disputes going as some French and Spanish linguists believe that it is more appropriate to use it as a feminine noun because it means coronavirus disease, and disease is feminine [Roig-Marine, 2020].

Taking into account a strong tendency to genderize nouns in Ukrainian, all the coroneologisms are no exception. In Ukraine, both *coronavirus* and *covid* are used as masculine. It is worth pointing out that when coining coronelogisms in Ukrainian, both internationally recognized words and specifically Ukrainian ones are used. Below there are variants of translating covidiot into Ukrainian – *коронабовдур, ковідько, ковідченко, ковідурень, ковідіот, коронадур, ковдур, пандемійченко, ковідур, поковіджений, ковідоносець, заразонощенко, заражайло,*

etc. [Ціхоцький, Свистун, 2020]. Based on quarantine which is both noun and verb in English, in Ukrainian it is traditionally used as noun according to the Dictionary of the Ukrainian language. On the other hand, recently the following verbs were formed with the help of affixes, e.g. *карантинити*, *перекарантинити*.

Oksana Matsko, an associate professor of Ukrainian language and applied linguistics at the Institute of Philology of Taras Shevchenko National University, notes that medical terms have crossed the boundaries of medicine as a professional sphere, turning from lexis of limited use into one widely popularized. She is convinced that this reaction is "a way to neutralize anxiety and fear via humor, because the oldest way to overcome a problem is to ridicule it. That's why there are so many memes on the subject of quarantine and coronavirus as well as phraseological transformations that respond jokingly to all these seemingly sad realities" [Мацько, 2020].

All in all, new coinages are about conceptualising new types of post-pandemic reality and facing the challenges of the pandemic. They denote generations (*quaranteens*), relationship terms (*coronadating*), people based on their attitude to Covid-related events (*covidiot*), life and work style (*quaranteam*), etc.

Conclusions and prospects for further research. Serious global changes are behind many of lexical innovations. No wonder, it is COVID-19 that one can credit for most of the latest neologisms. After the pandemic hit starting in China, new coinages began spreading. Currently, the virus has enveloped the whole world while coroneolgisms have penetrated most languages in order to simplify communication and understanding between different communities. In English, *coron* has been the most frequent stem for making new covid-related coinages. In Ukrainian, coroneologisms also emerged adjusting to the linguistic patterns. It's too early to define the extent of changes as they are still happening. So far the pandemic has been unpredictable in playing out economically and linguistically.

Thus, further studies should be directed to the role of covid-related lexemes in the development of English grammar and vocabulary, in particular working out their detailed lexical classifications and synonyms/antonyms sets.

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LANGUAGE CHANGES, LESSONS OF COVID-19 AND CORONEOLOGISMS

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Languages are developing continuously, with lexis mirroring all the major changes happening in society. Worldwide, the changes are either viewed positively as those updating languages or negatively as those deteriorating them. With English widely recognized as an international language, a lingua franca, numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations make it their business to keep the language understandable, at the same time preserving and introducing a variety of meanings and words when dealing with lexis. Changes in grammar (preference for gerunds instead of infinitives, for example) and pronunciation can take longer to be noticed as they happen over a longer period of time (the Great Vowel Shift). Currently, lexical changes get covered in dictionaries with little delay and are easy to track in online versions. Annually, 800-1,000 newly coined words or added meanings push way into English dictionaries. Approximately five times more are coined each year but fail to get in wide use and meet the acceptance criteria of lexicographers. Up to 2019, most lexical innovations were focused on technological breakthroughs. However, in 2020 medicine gained unprecedented attention due to the pandemic, initially pinpointed in Wuhan, China, and later spread all over the world – all the continents are currently exposed to COVID-19. Therefore, it has been of little surprise when in the end of 2020 most of the year words by English dictionaries were about COVID-19, which has irrevocably changed lifestyles and reality. The purpose of the article is to trace lexical changes caused by the coronavirus outbreak and analyse newly-coined lexemes.

The following methods were used: linguistic analysis, observation, mathematical calculations. Thus, the purpose of our article is to trace lexical changes caused by the coronavirus outbreak and analyse newly-coined lexemes. Due to the Internet and a significant influence of social media, newly coined words and phrases get swiftly spread globally, some of them originating from hashtags. Analyzing neologisms coined in the pandemic, it is evident that their main aim is to cover new realities such as upperwear, Zumping (Zoom+dumping), etc. It is statistically proven that covid, coron (coronavirus) and quaran (qurantine) are the three most frequent stems. The pandemic-related neologisms are mostly closed compound nouns (co-vidiot, coronarave). Still spaced ones are often used as well (corona boner, corona bae). Taking into account a boom of coronelogisms worldwide, the Ukrainian language borrowed some either as loan trans-lated (coronapocalypse – коронапокаліпсис) or transliterated (covidiot – ковідіот). At the same time, some widely used neologisms got translated using Ukrainian stems and affixes (коронабовдур, ковдур, пандемійченко, поковіджений). Lexical changes, influenced by the pandemic and currently observed in English and Ukrainian, evolve rapidly and they have not come to an end.

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