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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**STRUCTURAL-SEMANTIC AND FUNCTIONAL
CHARACTERISTICS OF ABBREVIATIONS IN BRITISH
AND AMERICAN MEDIA DISCOURSE**

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INTRODUCTION

Research issue rationale and development rate: In modern times, the acceleration of information exchange, the demand to replace repeated words, especially repeated complex word combinations, with shorter and simpler units in many areas of communication have dramatically increased. As a result of this factor, the tendency to use abbreviations and the resulting abbreviations has increased significantly. The mentioned aspect has actualized the study of the linguistic status of abbreviations, the principles of their formation, regularities, structural, semantic and grammatical features.

The issue of abbreviation in linguistics is not new. Based on the materials of different languages, research and studies related to this issue have been conducted. The main reason for revisiting the mentioned problem is the lack of concrete and precise principles of the abbreviation mechanism. In addition, the rapid increase in the number of newly created abbreviations in international languages, especially in English, has led to the emergence of difficulties related to their decoding, deciphering, spelling and orthography. This makes the issue of abbreviations in linguistics come up again in a slightly different aspect. The approach from a different aspect covers the characteristics of the formation of abbreviations and the spheres of development, and aims to clarify their role as a means of word correction.

The analysis of language materials shows that abbreviations are most often used in military, economic, medical, ICT terminologies and press language. The characteristics of abbreviations in mass media, which play an important role in information exchange, and issues related to their functionality in media discourse attract the attention of researchers. Increasing attention to the process of abbreviation occurring in the media discourse is not accidental. Thus, the modern press provides information on all areas that play an important role in human life, and makes sufficient use of abbreviations in those areas. Abbreviations related to state management systems have increased at

present. The process of abbreviating the names of state, party, state structures, international organizations, various societies and organizations, administrations is almost finished. As a result, it has become common to use these abbreviations in newspapers and magazines and on the Internet.

A significant number of abbreviations, which are more characteristic of the written language, have become so fixed and widespread that they have become language units that are often used in oral speech. There is no doubt that their types and types multiply and are updated at a great speed, it clearly shows itself.

It is an obvious fact that abbreviations are more commonly used in English and the creation of abbreviations in this language is widespread. Media discourse plays an exceptional role in the acquisition of functionality of abbreviations and can be considered an invaluable material for clarifying the modern abbreviation landscape. One of the factors that indicates the relevance of research work is directly related to this. Another factor stems from the importance of identifying similarities and differences in the characteristics of the creation and development of abbreviations in British and American media discourse. The spread of abbreviations in the English language, the openness of the abbreviation microsystem in this language, and their use in media texts of various fields make their comprehensive study relevant.

Abbreviation is one of the characteristic features of modern media and serves as a differentiating factor of journalistic style. When the issue is approached from this direction, the importance of abbreviation methods, as well as the standardization of abbreviations, is revealed.

In modern linguistics, special attention is paid to the study of press language. In recent years, in Germanic studies (K.Sunden, A.Beklund, R.Wels, O.Yespersion, G.Cook, etc.), Russian linguistics (I.V.Arnold, V.P.Artamonov) related to the study of various types of discourse, including media discourse, L.P. Batyreva, G.G. Galtseva,

A.S. Murichova, A.P. Shapovalova, etc.) a lot of researches were conducted¹, abbreviations and abbreviations, abbreviation creation issues were investigated². In Azerbaijani linguistics, issues related to newspaper language and complex abbreviations were investigated³.

Despite a certain level of investigation of abbreviations and their features of processing in the press language, there are not a few controversial issues that have not been resolved in this field.

¹ Look: Sunden, K. Contributions to the Studies of Elliptical Words in Modern English. / K.Sunden – Uppsala, –1984; Cook, G. The Discourse of Advertising / G. Cook. – London: Routledge, –1992; Есперсон, О. Философия грамматики/ О.Есперсон. – Москва: URSS, –2002; Костомаров, В.Г. Языковой вкус эпохи: Из наблюдений над речевой практикой масс-медиа / В.Г. Костомаров. – М.: Педагогика-пресс, – 1994; Володина, М. Н. Язык и дискурс средств массовой информации в XXI веке. –М: Академический проект, –2011; Добросклонская, Т. Г. Медиа-лингвистика: системный подход к изучению языка СМИ. – М.: ФЛИНТА, – 2008; Тырыгина, В. А. Жанровая стратификация масс-медийного дискурса. – Москва: Книжный дом «Либроком». – 2010; Bednarek, M. Evaluation in Media Discourse: Analysis of a Newspaper Corpus. – London: Bloomsbury Publishing PLC, – 2009; Fairclough N. Media Discourse: Language and Globalization. – London: Routledge, – 2006 və s.

² Алексеев, Д.И. Сокращенные слова в русском языке / Д.И.Алексеев. – Саратов: Изд-во Саратов. ун-та, –1979; Алексеева, Н.Н. Типология сокращенных лексических единиц современного английского языка/ Автореферат дисс. ... канд. филол. наук/ – Москва, 1984; Каховская, Л.Ф. Аббревиатура как способ словообразования: /Автореферат дисс. ... канд. филол. наук/ – Минск, 1980; Гяч, Н.В. Вопросы лексической аббревиации: (на материале немецкого и русского языков): /Дисс. ... канд. филол. наук/ – Ленинград, -1971; Мустафинова, Э.Р. Аббревиация в русском языке: когнитивный аспект. / Дисс. ... канд. филол. наук/ – Барнаул, -2001; Сегаль, М.М. Аббревиация и аббревиатуры в современном английском языке: /Дисс. ... канд. филол. наук / – Ленинград, 1965; Мурычева А.С. Структурно-функциональные особенности конфронтирующих аббревиатур: (На материале англо-американской периодики): / Дисс. ... канд. филол. наук/ – М., – 1991; Шаповалова, А. П. Аббревиация и акронимия в лингвистике / А. П. Шаповалова. – Ростов-на-Дону: Феникс, – 2003 və b.

³ Adilov, M.M. Azərbaycan dilində abreviasiya və abreviaturlar/ M.M.Adilov. – Bakı: Elm, - 2010.

Abbreviation and the problem of abbreviations in English and American media discourse have not been comprehensively studied to date.

Object of the study is abbreviations used in British and American media discourse, their full forms, components and elements that make up abbreviations.

Subject of the research is the structural and semantic features of abbreviations, the mechanism of abbreviation, the reasons for using abbreviations in media discourse.

Research aims and objectives. The main goal of the study is to learn the structural-semantic and functional characteristics of abbreviations used in British and American media discourse. For the realization of this goal, the subsequent tasks were performed:

- to clarify the reasons for the abbreviation;
- to classify abbreviations according to their components;
- to identify structural types and models of abbreviations;
- define the semantic models of abbreviations;
- to determine the structural types of abbreviations used in MMTs and their productivity based on materials related to British and American media discourse;
- to give thematic classification of abbreviations used in British and American media discourse;
- to investigate the processing characteristics of the thematic types of abbreviations in the media discourse;
- to conduct a reconciliation analysis of abbreviations used in British and American media discourse according to their structural-semantic and constituent components.

The research methods. Descriptive, comparative-contrast, analysis of dictionary definitions of abbreviations, contrastive and component analysis methods were used in the dissertation. Statistical calculations were applied to identify the frequency of abbreviations.

The main provisions for the defense. The following propositions were put forward in the research work:

1. Abbreviation appeared as a result of the implementation of the principle of economy in the language, and later, in addition to serving this purpose, it was also widely utilized as a means of word and term creation and re-nomination.

2. Abbreviation is a special semiotic process of shortening the linear length of what is called. The result of this process is the creation of a new unit that replaces the long perfect form. A new unit with a repeated nomination unit is called an abbreviation.

3. Abbreviations form a subsystem in the language with its own rules and functionality. In the process of development and evolution of the language, the number of abbreviations in the language increases, and as a result, the number of elements of the mentioned subsystem is constantly expanding.

4. Abbreviations subsystem of the language is an open system. Some elements of this system wear out over time, and at the same time new elements enter the system. The emergence of new abbreviations in the language is getting faster.

5. Each new abbreviation appearing in the language initially functions as a variant of the corresponding full form. This repeated nomination unit is gradually accepted in the language and becomes a context-independent lexical unit.

6. Abbreviations have different structural-semantic types. Structural-semantic types are determined on the basis of certain criteria and determined by classification of abbreviations. There are various structural-semantic classifications of abbreviations. Each classification was made on the basis of certain criteria or set of criteria.

7. The complete or initial form subjected to abbreviation has its own component pattern of abbreviations created in the course of abbreviations, and they differ from each other in a fundamental way.

8. The typology of abbreviations is based on the method of abbreviating the complete form. Abbreviation is realized by shortening, cutting, cutting and pasting, combining initial phonemes and graphemes, as well as their combinations, cutting and joining

initial, medial, final syllables, combining initial syllable and word, and other methods. In the process of abbreviation, there is no general regularity in the selection of abbreviation components taken from the full form.

9. The number of structural types of abbreviations is large, and these structural types are designated and named according to the components contained in the abbreviation, as well as the abbreviation mechanism.

10. Different types of discourse are characterized by specific applications of abbreviations. Abbreviations are used more productively in media discourse.

11. There are no significant differences in the development of structural types and thematic types of abbreviations in British and American media discourse. Certain differences between abbreviations used in British and American media discourse are evident in the mechanism of abbreviation and the inclusion of additional signs and symbols in the abbreviation. In American media discourse, the dotted type of abbreviations is used more often.

Scientific novelty of the research. The abbreviation aspect of the British and American media discourse was initially described in detail in Azerbaijani linguistics based on the texts printed in the press. The analysis and research of the abbreviations recorded in the media discourse was carried out on the basis of clarification of the abbreviation mechanism applied for their correction. The issue of regrouping abbreviations, taking into account the given classifications for the materials of different languages, was considered. For the first time, the research was conducted to determine the components of the full form and abbreviation, the components of the abbreviations recorded in the British and American media discourse and the principles of combining these components were determined. Abbreviations of the British and American media discourse were included in the comparative analysis, and for the first time a comparison of standard and non-standard abbreviations was made.

Calculations and statistical analyzes were carried out to identify the quantitative characteristics of the utilization of abbreviations recorded in British and American media discourse. Structural and thematic types of abbreviations, the specifics of their use in media discourse were investigated in the study.

Theoretical and practical significance of research. The research is theoretically important from many aspects in the direction of enriching the general theory of abbreviation. This includes clarifying the reasons for the differences in the abbreviation mechanisms of the abbreviations that were previously created and accepted in the media discourse, defining the concept of the abbreviation and the component of the complete form it replaces, investigating the motivation of the differences in the total amount and form of the abbreviation components, the abbreviation components development of a scientific approach to determining the regularities of combining with each other, setting criteria and principles for the structural and thematic classification of abbreviations, revealing regularities between the functionality of abbreviations and the general theory of abbreviations, and the connection of active abbreviation processes with the development and evolution of the language. It is important from a scientific-theoretical point of view to try to identify the factors that find out the abbreviation in English, the reasons for the rapid expansion of the tendency to implement abbreviations in the media discourse.

The practical importance of the research is that the results obtained in the dissertation allow the compilation of lists of the main part of abbreviations used in British and American media discourse, and combining those lists provides the compilation of a comparative single list of abbreviations used in British and American media discourse. The materials of the research serve as a basis for creating the rules of spelling and orthography of abbreviations used in the British and American media discourse, is expected to be applied in the compilation of bilingual abbreviation dictionaries according to

ğabbreviations, in the improvement of existing dictionaries, in the preparation of textbooks and methodical aids on the lexicology of the English language, and in special seminars and lectures related to abbreviations and abbreviations.

Research materials and sources. The material of the study was selected from the texts of articles published in different columns in British and American newspapers. The main sources of abbreviations are the followings: 1) Great Britain media: "The Times", "The Financial Times", "The Guardian", "The Daily Telegraph", "The Independent", "The Daily Mail", "The Mirror". , "The Sun", "The Express"; 2) American newspapers: "The New York Times", "The Wall Street Journal", "The Washington Post", "Los Angeles Times", "USA Today", "The Herald Tribune", "New York Post", "Houston Chronicle", "The Star Tribune", "Newsday", "The Chicago Tribune", "The Boston Globe". More than 1500 abbreviations were involved in the study. Abbreviations in different structures with the same meaning are included in the research material as separate abbreviations.

Approbation and application of the research results. The topic of the dissertation was approved at the meeting of the Scientific Council of Nakhchivan State University on May 1, 2018 (protocol No. 8) and was registered at the meeting of the Scientific Council on Philological Problems of the Scientific Research Coordination Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan on October 25, 2018 (protocol No. 9).

The main provisions of the work are reflected in 10 scientific articles, conference materials and thesis published by the author in journals and collections included in the list of the National Academy of Sciences. The results of the dissertation were discussed at the seminar of the "English language and translation" department of Nakhchivan State University. The results of the research were reported at the 1st International Scientific Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences, at the 26th International Scientific Conference "Shusha: The Celebration of Victory", and at the 4th Republican

Scientific Conference of Doctoral and Master's Students on the topic "Unity of education, research and innovation".

The work can be applied in the compilation of lists of abbreviations used in British and American media discourse, in the compilation of their comparative single list, in the compilation of bilingual abbreviation dictionaries based on these abbreviations, in the improvement of existing dictionaries, in the preparation of textbooks and methodical aids on the lexicology of the English language, in special seminars and lectures on abbreviations.

Name of the organization where the dissertation work was accomplished: The dissertation was performed at the "English language and translation" department of Nakhchivan State University.

The volume of the structural sections of the dissertation separately and the total volume with a sign. The dissertation consists of "Introduction", 3 chapters, "Conclusion" and a list of used literature. The "Introduction" part of the dissertation is 7 pages - 13588 marks, Chapter I 47 pages - 91659 marks, Chapter II 36 pages - 58704 marks, Chapter III 48 pages - 90277 marks, "Conclusion" 3 pages - 5021 marks, the total volume of the work is 162 pages - 259249 marks.

MAIN CONTENT OF THE RESEARCH

In the "**Introduction**" part of the dissertation, the relevance of the topic is justified, the degree of development of the topic is justified, the goals and objectives, the methods of the research, the provisions put forward for defense are defined, the scientific innovation, theoretical and practical importance of the research, the approval and application of the research work, the name of the organization where the dissertation work is carried out, the separate volume of the structural sections of the dissertation and information about the total volume is presented with a sign.

Chapter I of the dissertation called **"Scientific-theoretical issues of the study of abbreviation in English"** consists of five subchapters. In the first subchapter entitled **"History of the Study of Abbreviations in German Studies"**, the issues of the creation, development, classification of abbreviations, abbreviations, acronyms and other abbreviations of this type were analyzed, and its chronology was followed. It is noted that in modern times economy of language is actively applied. The main reason for this is, on the one hand, the rapid transfer of information, and on the other hand, it takes less time to record this information. *"Simplification and compression of repeated complex forms in the text has started to spread widely. Various tools are used for this purpose. The most widespread of such tools include abbreviations, abbreviations, acronyms and other forms of abbreviations of this type"*⁴ A. Steinhauer, who talks about the history of the creation of abbreviations in German languages, writes: *"The history of abbreviations and short sentence forms is as old as writing"*⁵. Starting from the early Middle Ages, it is known that abbreviations such as *N.B.-note bene*, *Dr.-doctor* were transferred from Latin to German and English.

As the number of abbreviations that acted as writing elements in the early periods increased and were included in various texts, their decoding caused certain difficulties in the reading process, and the need to compile abbreviation lists arose. Such lists, in fact, played the role of the first dictionary of abbreviations. It is noted that the first

⁴ Cəlilzadə, A. Dildə abreviasiya hadisəsi haqqında // "Təhsil, tədqiqat və innovasiyanın vəhdəti" mövzusunda Doktorant və magistrantların IV Respublika elmi konfransının materialları. Naxçıvan Müəllimlər İnstitutu. – Naxçıvan, – 29 aprel, – 2022, – s. 316.

⁵ Steinhauer, A. Kürze im deutschen Wortschatz // Linguistik: Impulse und Tendenzen. Sprachliche Kürze. Konzeptuelle, strukturelle und pragmatische Aspekte / J.A. Hrsg. Bär, Th. Roelcke, A. Steinhauer. – Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, – 2007. – p. 131

such dictionary called "Modus Legendi abbreviations" was compiled in the 15th century⁶. The first lists of abbreviations prepared for Germanic languages, the dictionaries can be considered the first research works in German studies in the field of abbreviations.

In the 20th century, the number of works related to the study of abbreviations began to increase. The definition of the concept of abbreviation and the functions of abbreviations, the classification of abbreviations, and their processing in different types of discourses were the object of research. Elliptical words of the English language have been investigated, efforts have been made to clarify the issues related to the problem of abbreviations. The importance of considering attention to similarity in word acquisition is noted⁷.

The phenomenon of abbreviation in German studies was studied by J. Algeo, R. Quirk, Ch. Kreidler, L. G. Heller, J. Makris, A. Steinhauer and others. In his research, J. Algeo mentions five different types of reduction of lexical units - borrowings, abbreviations, compound words, contaminated words, assimilated units⁸.

Ch. Kreidler divides all abbreviations into three categories: acronyms, opposite word correction units, abbreviated words⁹. A. Steinhauer, in his proposed different classification, takes into account both the reduction itself and the parts taken from the word in the process of reduction¹⁰.

⁶ Алексеев, А.В. История исследования лексических сокращений в германских языках / А.В. Алексеев, А.В.Ленец. // – Нижний Новгород: Язык и культура. Выпуск 28. – 2014. – с. 13.

⁷ Sunden, K. Contributions to the Studies of Elliptical Words in Modern English. / K.Sunden – Uppsala, –1984.

⁸ Algeo, J. The Acronym and Its Congeners //The First LACUS Forum, 1974 / Ed. A. and V. Makkai. – Columbia, SC: Hornbeam Press, –1975. – p. 217-234.

⁹ Kreidler, Ch. W. Creating New Words by Shortening // Journal of English Linguistics, –1991. v. 13. – p. 33.

The rapid development and application of abbreviations in the German, especially English and German languages, their spread through the English language, the creation of initial variants of abbreviations used in the system of international relations in English, the acquisition of international abbreviation status, and their standardization have greatly increased the interest in the study of the abbreviation process and abbreviations in English and stimulated new research.

In the second subchapter of the I chapter entitled "**The main problems of the study of abbreviations**", the directions of the study of abbreviations, determination of their types, their classification and typology, despite being based on certain criteria, have not yet been resolved, their separation into groups and types based on different principles, the anthropocentric scientific paradigm encouraging the study of abbreviations from the perspective of cognitive linguistics, reasons for replacing complex abbreviations with simple forms are investigated.

The analysis shows that there are the following research directions of abbreviations in modern times: 1) study of the history of abbreviations and abbreviations; 2) clarification of the reasons for the creation of abbreviations; 3) determination of development tendencies of abbreviation; 4) arrangement of concepts and terms of the abbreviation system; 5) classification and typology of abbreviations; 6) study of structural-semantic as well as phonetic features of abbreviations; 7) determination of possible abbreviation models and clarification of their participation in the abbreviation system of different languages; 8) clarifying the development trends of abbreviation as a method of word creation with a non-morphological

¹⁰ Steinhauer, A. Kürze im deutschen Wortschatz // Linguistik: Impulse und Tendenzen. Sprachliche Kürze. Konzeptuelle, strukturelle und pragmatische Aspekte / J.A. Hrsg. Bär, Th. Roelcke, A. Steinhauer. – Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, – 2007, - p. 139

method; 9) study of the characteristics of the use of abbreviations in different types of discourses; 10) study of the cognitive science of abbreviations. In our opinion, the listed covers only the main directions of the study of abbreviations. Abbreviations are also being researched in other directions.

The most relevant practical issues of abbreviations include their collection, preparation of explanatory, bilingual and multilingual abbreviation dictionaries, elaboration of abbreviations orthography and spelling norms, unification and standardization of abbreviations, and creation of an international abbreviation fund.

The subchapter entitled **1.3."Principles of distinguishing the main types of abbreviations"** discusses the reasons for the intensive use of abbreviations in the language, various criteria for distinguishing and dividing abbreviations into types, correcting abbreviations through apheresis, syncope and apocope, the relationship between the classification of abbreviations and correction techniques, and analyzing the issues of decoding initial abbreviations is made, the influence of the spelling and orthography of abbreviations on the variety between their types is clarified.

Differentiation of abbreviation types can be done according to different criteria. The analysis shows that a distinguishing feature based on the technique of formation of abbreviations can be the complete removal of the initial grapheme syllable, part of the word and component as an abbreviation element from the full form. In the process of abbreviation, a certain number of graphemes from the first, middle and last part of the word can be selected as abbreviation elements. Sometimes, if the abbreviation element taken from the beginning of the word has a syllable + grapheme structure, in some cases the last grapheme of the syllable is not selected as an element for the abbreviation.

Abbreviation is a complex and confusing process of word reduction or re-nomination. When differentiating the existing abbreviations according to the abbreviation element, quite a lot of

forms are obtained. This aspect confirms that the classification and typology of abbreviations is one of the complex issues.

In the subchapter entitled **1.4. "Typology and classification of abbreviations"**, the classification of abbreviations according to the elements of the concrete form, the level of development, origin, frequency of development, scope, factors complicating typological classification, types of abbreviations, classifications based on different criteria are analyzed and studied.

When we compare different classification schemes of abbreviations according to the abbreviation technique, we observe that they are built on the basis of similar mechanisms. We believe that the typology of abbreviations should be based on the elements involved in them. These elements are as follows: 1) initial grapheme/phoneme; 2) grapheme/ phoneme; 3) syllable; 4) syllable-grapheme; 5) syllable+grapheme; 6) part of the word; 7) point, hyphen, dash and other signs; 8) word (multicomponent concrete form). Period, hyphen, etc. signs are not taken from the full form, abbreviations are inserted from the outside, not from the full form.

In the fifth subchapter entitled **"The Place of Abbreviation in Media Discourse"** of the I Chapter, the concept of discourse is explained, the theoretical definition of the identification of speech acts with discourse, the scope of media discourse, the leading newspapers of Great Britain and America media discourse, and the need to use abbreviations in media discourse are discussed. It is noted that the history of the British press began in the 16th century. In Britain, 200 newspapers and magazines are printed per day and 1300 per week. The BBC broadcasting agency was founded in 1922. Great Britain's newspapers intended for mass readers can be divided into two groups: serious press (quality paper, broadsheets) and boulevard press (popular press, tabloids). The first serious press of Britain - "The Times" newspaper has been published since 1785. The serious press was formed in Britain in the 19th century, and during this period, the newspapers that would later become the country's influential press -

"The Financial Times" (1886), "The Guardian" (1821), "The Daily Telegraph" (1885), "The Independent" (1886) has seen the light. Currently, the most popular British newspapers are: "The Times", "The Financial Times", "The Guardian", "The Daily Telegraph", "The Independent", "The Daily Mail", "The Mirror", "The Sun", "The Express".

The most popular American English-language newspapers are "The New York Times", "The Wall Street Journal", "The Washington Post", "Los Angeles Times", "USA Today", "The Herald Tribune", "New York Post", "Houston Chronicle", "The Star Tribune", "Newsday", "The Chicago Tribune", "The Boston Globe" newspapers.

The mentioned British and American newspapers are daily newspapers and have a large volume and circulation. The material given in the newspaper pages stands out for its brevity and specificity. This aspect of complex words, administration, enterprise, party, etc. reveals the requirement to give their names in the form of abbreviations. The second reason for using abbreviations in media discourse is the repetition of the multicomponent name in the text. Such repetitive and highly functional names are replaced by abbreviations through re-nomination.

Each language has an accepted system of abbreviations. Elements of this system are widely used in media discourse. Mass media plays a fundamental role in creating new abbreviations. The study of abbreviations used in media discourse is of particular importance in this regard.

Chapter II of the thesis entitled **"Functional characteristics of abbreviations in media discourse"** consists of three subchapters. In the first subchapter, called **2.1."Structural typology of abbreviations used in media discourse"**, it is noted that the structural typology of abbreviations was made based on the elements included in the abbreviation created from the full form. Given the structural typology creates certain difficulties if any reduction process is accepted as an abbreviation. Nevertheless, three main types are

defined: 1) initial type; 2) syllable type; 3) complex syllable type. Out of the three types mentioned, only the second is accurate in name. In other words, when we say syllabic type, we mean abbreviations taken from the components of the full form and formed with selected syllables.

An initial type refers to the initial grapheme, phoneme, or syllable of the components of the full form. Indeed, we can distinguish the concepts of initial phoneme, initial grapheme and initial syllable.

The abbreviation OPEC – *The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries* is made on the basis of initial phonemes. Although the full form consists of 7 components, the initial phoneme of four lexically meaningful words was used in the abbreviation. O – Organization, P – Petroleum, E – Exporting, C – Countries are read as abbreviations. Abbreviations read like words are called acronyms. Thus, it is clear that only abbreviations composed of initial phonemes meet the acronym requirement. FATF - *The Financial Action Task Force (on Money Laundering)* - an international group fighting against the legalization of "dirty" money, recorded in the British and American media discourse, PACE - *The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*, NATO - *The North Atlantic Treaty Organization*, NASA - *The National Aeronautics and Space Administration*, USAF - *The United States Air Forces*, etc. abbreviations are acronym type, read like a word, formed on the basis of initial phonemes.

*"The Asperger's sufferer is wanted in the US for hacking NASA and defense systems"*¹¹.

In both British and American media discourse, the violation of accepted standards and the variability of measurement units are evident. Variability comes from putting a period after a unit, capitalization and lowercase letters. For example, KR.; KR, Kr; cr.; kr etc. According to the latest rules, if it is a personal name, it is written

¹¹ The Independent, 29.03.2012, p. 21

with a capital letter: *Ampere* - *A*, *Kelvin* - *K*, *Kuloc* - *K*, etc. A period is not placed after the abbreviation of the unit. Units such as gram, kilogram, meter, centimeter, millimeter are written in lower case letters without a period after them. In a special case, if there is an abbreviation of the unit at the end of the sentence, a period is placed after it. We are facing the violation of these rules in the media discourse¹².

A person's first name, last name, and initials are also abbreviations. It is accepted to write them with a capital letter, separated by a period. Although a period after initials and a pause after a period are accepted in some orthographies, it is technically flawed and violates the principle of economy.

Abbreviations used in English, foot - ft, inch - in, mile - mi, yard - yd, are adopted. Their variability is registered in the media discourse. Such variation is a violation of spelling rules.

"The budget for security has reached a "jaw-dropping", close to £1bn¹³" . "Investigator was paid £1m to snoop for Fleet Street"¹⁴.

We believe that *millimeter* - *mm*, *meter* - *m*, *kilometer* - *km*, *gram* - *g*, *kilogram* - *kg*, *centimeter* - *cm* should be written in English. The structural forms of these abbreviations are based on a certain rule: kilo+meter=km; kilo+ gram=kg; milli+meter=mm; centi+meter=cm; milli+gram=mg.

Abbreviations that express aspects in media discourse have a systematic structure and are initial abbreviations: *S* - *South*, *N* - *North*, *W* - *West*, *E* - *East*; *SW* – *Southwest*, *NE* – *Northeast*, *SE* – *Southeast*, *NW* – *Northwest*.

¹² Баран, Ю.А. Сокращенные слова и сокращения, встречающиеся в английских газетах и общественно-политических журналах / Ю.А. Баранов. – Москва: Высшая школа, –1999, с. 165; Сергеева, Т.С. Аббревиатуры в современных англоязычных текстах массовой информации // – Тамбов: Филологические науки. Вопросы теории и практики, –2015. №6, – ч.11, - с. 70

¹³ Independent, 29.03. 2012, p.5

¹⁴ Independent, 29.03. 2012, p.6

In this subchapter, structural types and different reading types are defined according to the component composition and number of abbreviations, and the degree of productivity of structural types and their reasons are clarified.

The results of the classification of structural types of abbreviations in the media discourse can be summarized in the form of a table as follows.

№	Structural types	Samples
1.	Initialisms	AI, UK, NATO, NASA, OPEC, ID
1.1.	Initialisms read with the name of the letter	MP, DNA, NPR, BBC, GNQ
1.2.	Initialisms (acronyms) read according to the phonetic principle	OPEC, PACE, NATO, NASA
1.3.	Mixed initialisms	UNICEF, UNESCO
2.	Contractors	Ms, Mr, Dr
3.	Abbreviations / Abbreviations	flu, max, min, prof

The second subchapter entitled **"Component analysis of abbreviations in media discourse"** of the II chapter shows that abbreviations with different components are used in media discourse. It is possible to approach the component analysis of abbreviations in at least three ways: 1) according to the number of components of abbreviations; 2) based on the component diversity of the abbreviation; 3) comparative analysis of abbreviation and full form components.

The study of the structure of abbreviations shows that their components can be grapheme, phoneme, phoneme combination, grapheme combination, syllable, word, period, hyphen, number and

other signs. It is possible to form an abbreviation from the same and mixed components. Here, "of the same type" means grapheme, phoneme, phoneme combination, syllable, word, etc. in terms of homogeneity is meant. For instance, *"The UK Film Council which has been absorbed by the BFI, developed the picture with backing from film companies Studio Canal and Aegis, plus sponsorship from Aviva, Nike and Puma"¹⁵* . In this example, the *UK* abbreviation has two initial graphemes and the *BFI* abbreviation has three initial graphemes. *UK* is a two-component abbreviation and *BFI* is a three-component abbreviation. Both abbreviations are composed of homogenous elements. *"Lilyhammer, a Norwegian comedy drama about a New York mobster, starts on BBC4 later this year"*¹⁶ . The *BBC4* abbreviation in this example has four components. Three of the components are an initial grapheme - *BBC*, and one is a number - *4*. We will call such abbreviations component heterogeneous abbreviations.

Abbreviations whose components are of the same type can consist of 1, 2, 3 or more components.

One-component abbreviations. In British and American media discourse, single-component abbreviations *A, C, D, E, F, K, L, M, N, P, T, G, S, W* are used. Four of them are abbreviations of words denoting aspects: *E* (East), *N* (North or Northern), *S* (South or Southern), *W* (West).

Two-component abbreviations can be divided into two groups: 1) abbreviations consisting of the same type of component: *UK, UC, MP, PC, BP, GP, AG, AF, CF, PR, RC*, etc. Two-component initial combinations are recorded in *VV, VC, CV, CC* types according to vowel and consonant processing.

2) abbreviations consisting of different types of components. *Mr., Dr., 8kg*, etc.

¹⁵ The Daily Mail, 30.03.2012, p.69

¹⁶ The Daily Mail, 30.03.2012, p.61

Three-component abbreviations. Initial abbreviations are the main part of them. For example: NGN, INT, RWE, GMB, TUC, APR, RMI, HGV, ONS, NHS, NTK, FSA, ISM, BBC, Ltd, Dfs, USA, etc. The analysis carried out on the basis of three-component initial abbreviations shows that the number of words contained in their full forms often exceeds three. Words whose initials are not included in the abbreviation include prepositions, conjunctions, and articles.

Four-component abbreviations. Such abbreviations used in British and American media discourse are composed of initial graphemes or phonemes. OECD, GCSE, HFEA, NATO, NASA, ISII, IRGC, ISIS, OPEC, CAAT, DCAS etc. These abbreviations are divided into letter, sound and letter-sound abbreviations according to reading.

In the third subchapter, entitled **"Quantitative characteristics of the use of abbreviations in media discourse"** of the II chapter, the quantitative characteristics of abbreviations were investigated both separately and comparatively based on British and American newspapers. Abbreviations denoting state names are used variously in British and American media discourse. UK is the most frequently used abbreviation in British media discourse.

Abbreviations recorded in one issue of two British newspapers were analyzed based on abbreviations with $F > 5$. The total number of abbreviations with a frequency of 5 and more in one issue of "The Guardian" newspaper is 43, and this number is equal to 45 for "The Independent" newspaper. Although 50 pages of the first and 72 pages of the second newspaper of the same format were included in the research, almost the same number of abbreviations were recorded.

Chapter III entitled **"Functional characteristics of abbreviations used in media discourse"** consists of four subchapters. In the first subchapter, called **"Thematic division of abbreviations"**, abbreviations in British and American media discourse are studied according to thematic groups, and aspects and opinions of researchers such as S.A.Nikishina, S.D.Alekseyev, M.A.Yarmashevich, M.Adilov,

M.M.Segal, G.Rukhan on the issue of thematic division of abbreviations are reported. It is noted that the thematic division of abbreviations is identified due to their semantics. Such a division is similar to the semantic classification of lexical units. As the semantic area covered is very wide, it is difficult to define the exact thematic division.

The analysis of British and American newspaper materials shows that the following thematic groups of abbreviations can be distinguished in the media discourse: 1) Abbreviations denoting the names of state and state unions. In this system, the name of the state to which the media belongs is decided in the center, in the nucleus. In the immediate vicinity, there are states that have close ties and cooperation with the core state. Towards the periphery, there are countries that play an important role in world politics and economy. 2) Abbreviations denoting the names of state bodies, departments. 3) Abbreviations denoting the names of parties, unions, organizations and movements. 4) Medical abbreviations. 5) Economic and financial abbreviations. 6) Sports abbreviations.

The second subchapter **3.2. "The Functionality of Abbreviations in British Media Discourse"**, consists of three sections. In the first section, **"Abbreviations denoting the names of the state and state associations"**, the orthographic structure of the names of the state and state associations used in the British media discourse, types of abbreviations, compliance of abbreviations with international standards (ISO) and frequency of use are analyzed. Abbreviations for the names of a number of countries are used in British media discourse. It is the abbreviation of the country's name (UK) that is most often applied. The abbreviation is made on the basis of the initial graphemes of the first two words of the full form and is read by the name of the letters. The International Organization for Standardization assigns two- and three-letter codes for country or state names based on the initials of the Latin alphabet. According to the ISO 3166 standard, the two-letter code of the United Kingdom is

considered as GB, and the three-letter code is regarded GBR. Coding was done due to the abbreviation mechanism. However, it is not based on a specific rule. For example, Great Britain – GB – GBR; Azerbaijan - AZ - AZE, Vietnam - VN - VNM, Burkina Faso - BF - BFA, United States of America - US - USA, etc.

In the second section **3.2.2."Abbreviations denoting the names of international organizations"**, it is concluded that it is possible to define numerous groups based on the directions of activity, origin and thematic classification of international organizations. British media discourse uses abbreviations denoting the names of the UN and its specialized agencies, international sports organizations, military, political and economic associations, alliances: UN // UNO, WTO, IOC, NGO, NATO, UCI, etc.

Abbreviations denoting the names of international organizations are based on the full form of the name, and since the working language in such organizations is international languages such as English, French, Spanish, they, as a rule, cover similar structural types. Such abbreviations are used in most languages of the world, in some languages they have been taken as they are, they have kept their graphic scope, and in some languages they have been transliterated or transcribed. In a number of languages, abbreviations are verbalized by means of the national language with the same abbreviation mechanism based on the full form modeled on the national language. For example, *USA - United States, UNO - UN, UNESCO - UNESCO, WTO - DTT*, etc.

Abbreviations from the groups listed in the third section **3.2.3."Abbreviations of British government, private, as well as public organizations and offices used in media discourse"** are analyzed in the form of separate thematic groups of abbreviations of the sector they belong to.

Based on the British media discourse, the research reveals material and facts about the absorption of abbreviations at the syntactic level in the language. In the language system, word combinations are

considered the primary units of the syntactic level. Research shows that abbreviation combinations also form a certain layer in the language system. Various structural models of abbreviation combinations are recorded: 1) abbreviation + abbreviation: *BBC TV*, *BBC HD*, etc.; 2) abbreviation + word: a) *BBC radio*, *BBC News*, *BBC World*, *BBC Weather*, *BBC Sport*, etc., b) *Labor MPs*, *Investigator DC*, *Tory MP*, *firm A4e*, *City PR*, *Britain's DHA*, etc.; 3) abbreviation + number: *G20*, *Cop26*, etc.

The third subchapter of the III chapter entitled **"Thematic analysis of abbreviations used in American media discourse"** consists of two sections. State, country, district, region, territory, postal abbreviations used in the American media discourse were included in the research in the section called **"Abbreviations of the names of states and state associations"**. The structural composition of the abbreviations from the listed groups, their functionality in the American media discourse, spelling rules and the orthographic structure of these abbreviations were analyzed on the basis of examples.

U.S. and U.K. are the most used abbreviation for state names in American media discourse. In the British media discourse, these abbreviations do not have a dot structure, while in the American media discourse, these abbreviations have a dotted structure: *US* – *U.S.*, *UK* – *U.K.*

In the American media discourse, the usage of U.S. and USA abbreviations are recorded in parallel, as well as the use of the full form of these abbreviations. It should also be noted that in some American newspapers, U.S.A. dotted abbreviation is also recorded.

In the United States, abbreviations of state names have been adopted as standard. The standard abbreviation of some state names has been adopted as the name itself. For example, Alaska - Alaska, Idaho - Idaho, Ohio - Ohio, etc. If the name of the state is just a word, then the selected abbreviation element is followed by a period. For example, *Arizona* - *Ariz.*, *California* - *Calif.*, *Louisiana* - *La.* and so

on. In the abbreviation, the initial grapheme is capitalized. State names with two-word names are mostly formed with a dot-initial abbreviation pattern: *Rhode Island – R.I., North Carolina – N.C.* etc. However, a uniform rule is not expected here either. The abbreviation of West Virginia is W.Va. The second component was formed by the blending method. Initial grapheme and final grapheme combined: West Virginia.

Standard abbreviations and full forms of state and territory names are used in parallel in American media discourse.

"The University of S. Calif fired Lane Kiffin a few hours after the Trojans lost, 62-41, at Ariz. State University, ending the coach's tumultuous tenure"¹⁷.

In the second section **3.3.2."Abbreviations denoting the names of international organizations"**, abbreviations denoting the names of international and interstate organizations used in the American media discourse, abbreviations of the names of national state and private organizations, non-governmental organizations, abbreviations used in connection with judicial activity, the type of organization, commissions, various profile offices and abbreviations that express the names of organizations, companies, and institutions operating in the banking field and their homonymy feature were included in the research.

In the American media discourse, abbreviations are used depending on the information topic. An abbreviation that is active in a certain issue of the newspaper may not be registered in the next issue or issues.

The fourth section, entitled **"Other abbreviations used in media discourse"** of the III chapter, examines abbreviations other than those listed above. The analysis of abbreviations used in media discourse in three thematic groups for British newspapers and two thematic groups for American newspapers shows that the most used

¹⁷ Herald Tribune, 01.10.2013, p.14

abbreviations belong to the type of initial abbreviations. This structural type itself is divided into three substructural types: 1) initial-letter; 2) initial-vowel; 3) initial-letter sound. Abbreviations with initial sounds are accepted at the word level and are also called initial acronyms. Research shows that initial-letter abbreviations are productive in media discourse. As there are many consonants and graphemes representing them in the alphabet of the language, the number of double, triple, and quadruple grapheme combinations is also large. This leads to more literal abbreviations. Mixed initial abbreviations (letter-sound) are in the second position, and abbreviations with an initial sound are in the third position.

In terms of graphic formation, there are also the following abbreviation structures: 1) capitalized; 2) capital and lowercase letters; 3) lowercase; 4) dotted; 5) digital; 6) left line; 7) hyphenated; 8) with signs and symbols. The mentioned 8 structural models have various sub-models and sub-structural models formed by the combination of graphic symbols.

The findings of the study in the **"Conclusions"** section are summarized as follows:

1. The problem of abbreviations in German studies is not only limited to their classification and typology, but also includes the definition of various related concepts, the arrangement and unification of the terminological inventory and terms used in this field. The rapid development and application of abbreviations in German languages, especially in English and German, is related to the spread of these abbreviations through the English language, the creation of the initial versions of abbreviations used in the system of international relations in English, and the acquisition of the status of international abbreviations.

2. Abbreviations have the following directions of research in modern times: a) study of the history of abbreviations; b) clarification of the reasons for the creation of abbreviations; c) determination of development tendencies of abbreviation; ç) classification and typology

of abbreviations; d) designation of abbreviation models; e) studying the functionality of abbreviations in different discourses; f) cognitive study of abbreviations.

3. The main problems of the study of abbreviations include studying the abbreviation mechanism, clarifying the principles of formation of abbreviations, determining their structural-semantic types, defining the features of using abbreviations in different functional styles.

4. Abbreviation is considered as a linguistic process in modern English and is called a non-morphological method of word reduction. The initial grapheme, syllable, grapheme combination, parts of words taken from the constituent components of the complete form are used in making the abbreviation.

5. The typology of abbreviations should be based on the abbreviation elements involved in them. These elements are as follows: 1) initial grapheme/phoneme; 2) grapheme/phoneme; 3) syllable; 4) syllable-grapheme; 5) syllable+grapheme; 6) part of the word; 7) period/dot, hyphen, dash and other signs; 8) word (multicomponent full form). Period, hyphen, etc. signs are not taken from the full form, abbreviations are inserted from the outside, not from the full form.

6. Abbreviations used in media discourse can be divided into structural types with 1, 2, 3, 4 or more components according to the number of graphemes in the composition. 24 different structural types (V, C, VV, CC, CV, VC, CCC, CVCV, etc.) are confirmed in British and American media discourse. As there are few abbreviations consisting of five or more components, it is not particularly important to distinguish them as separate structural types according to the sequence of development of vowels and consonants.

7. Abbreviations with different components are used in the media discourse. Therefore, it is possible to approach the component analysis of abbreviations in at least three ways: 1) analysis of abbreviations in the form of groups differing by the number of components; 2) analysis of the abbreviation based on component

diversity; 3) comparative analysis of abbreviation and full form components.

8. Among the abbreviations used in British and American newspapers, single-component ones are a minority. Although such symbols and signs perform the function of abbreviations at the metalanguage level, they are not abbreviations, but are considered signs and symbols.

9. Two-component abbreviations used in British and American media discourse, which are made up of different types of components, are distinguished by capitalization and lowercase letters. Abbreviations in which the first of the components is capitalized, the second is lowercase, and both components are written in lowercase are widespread.

10. In British and American media discourse, three-component abbreviations are mostly formed based on initial combinations. The analysis of three-component initial abbreviations shows that the number of words in their full forms often exceeds three. Words whose initials are not included in the abbreviation include prepositions, conjunctions, and articles.

11. Numbers used in abbreviations and together with abbreviations perform different functions. The component analysis of such abbreviations is carried out both from the full form to the abbreviation and from the abbreviation to the full form.

12. If the structural typology of abbreviations is based on their components, thematic division is determined according to the semantics of abbreviations. 1) governmental institutions; 2) public and private offices; 3) union, party and foundations; 4) scientific institutes; 5) higher education institutions; 6) press, publishing and publications; 7) medicine; 8) military.

13. Abbreviations denoting the names of international organizations are based on the full form of the name, and since the working language in such organizations is international languages such as English, French, Spanish, they, as a rule, cover similar

structural types. Their abbreviated forms are used in many languages.

14. Three structural models of abbreviation combinations are recorded in the British and American media discourse: 1) abbreviation + abbreviation; 2) abbreviation + word; 3) abbreviation + number.

15. There are no significant differences in the development of structural types and thematic types of abbreviations in British and American media discourse. The analysis of abbreviations shows that initial abbreviations are the most used ones.

16. In terms of graphic formation in media discourse, there are the following abbreviation structures: 1) capital letter; 2) capital and lowercase letters; 3) lowercase; 4) dotted; 5) digital; 6) left line; 7) hyphenated; 8) with signs and symbols. Differences found in the mechanism of abbreviation and the introduction of additional signs and symbols to the abbreviation are related to the use of the dot type of abbreviations in the American media discourse.

The main content of the dissertation are reflected in the following published scientific works:

1. Böyük Britaniya və Amerika media diskursunda işlənən abreviaturaların təsnifi // – Bakı: Elmi iş. Beynəlxalq elmi jurnal // Humanitar və ictimai elmlər üzrə I Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları (24 iyul 2020), – 2020, – s. 103-106. (DOI: 10.26719/24.07.20/01/103-106)

2. Germanşünaslıqda abreviasiyanın tədqiqi tarixi // – Naxçıvan: Naxçıvan Dövlət Universitetinin Elmi Əsərləri, Humanitar elmlər seriyası, – 2020. № 1 (102), – s. 109-114.

3. [Amerika media diskursunda işlənən beynəlxalq təşkilat adlarını bildirən abreviaturalar](#) // – Bakı: Elmi iş. Beynəlxalq elmi jurnal.– 2022, Cild 16, Say 3, – s. 44-48. DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.36719/2663-4619/76/44-48>

4. Abreviasiyanın tədqiqinin əsas məsələləri // – Bakı: Filologiya məsələləri, – 2022. №6, – s. 338-346.

5. Dildə abreviasiya hadisəsi haqqında // “Təhsil, tədqiqat və innovasiyanın vəhdəti” mövzusunda doktorant və magistrantların IV Respublika elmi konfransı, – Naxçıvan: Naxçıvan Müəllimlər

İnstitutu, – 29 aprel 2022, – s. 316-321.

6. Abreviaturların media diskursda işlənməsinin bəzi xüsusiyyətləri // The XXVI International Scientific Symposium: “Şuşa: Triumph of Victory”, May 29, 2022, – Eskişehir / Turkey – 2022, – s. 109-112.

7. Media diskursunda işlənən abreviaturların tematik bölgüsünə dair // – Naxçıvan: AMEA Naxçıvan Bölməsinin İncəsənət, Dil və Ədəbiyyat İnstitutu, Axtarışlar, – 2022, cild 16, – s. 59-65.

8. The place of abbreviation in a media discourse // Deutsche internationale Zeitschrift für zeitgenössische Wissenschaft / German International Journal of Modern Science, Germany, – 2022. №32, – pp 61-64.

9. Amerika və Böyük Britaniya media diskurslarında işlənən və struktur baxımından müxtəliflik göstərən abreviaturlar// – Bakı: Dil və Ədəbiyyat, Beynəlxalq elmi-nəzəri jurnal, – 2022, seriya 2 (119), – s. 66-69.

10. Mətbuat materiallarının tərcüməsi zamanı abreviaturların törətdiyi çətinliklər// “Xarici dilin tədrisi və tədqiqində ənənəviləşən və müasirliyin vəhdəti” mövzusunda respublika elmi konfransının materialları (16 iyun 2022) // Naxçıvan, Qeyrət nəşriyyatı, – 2022, – s. 67-68

11. Typology and classification of abbreviations // Buxoro Davlat Universiteti Ilmiy Axboroti, Ilmiy-nazariy jurnal / Scientific reports of Bukhara State University, Bukhara, Uzbekistan, – 2023. № 6, iyul (100), – pp 143-150. UDC:811.https://buxdu.uz/http://buxdu.uz/media/jurnallar/ilmiy_axborot/ilmiy_axborot_6_son_2023.pdf

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