

ABBREVIATION

Module I. Lecture 7

Plan

1. **Definition**
2. **Graphical abbreviations**
3. **Lexical abbreviations**





Introduction

1. Definition of Abbreviation

2. Linguistic and Extra-linguistic Causes for Shortening

Linguistic Causes

- Influence of Rhythm
- Shortening of Borrowings from Other Languages



Types of Shortenings



Graphical Abbreviations



Lexical Abbreviations

Graphical Abbreviations: Graphical abbreviations involve the shortening of words and word-groups primarily in written communication, optimizing space and effort in writing. Examples include Latin-origin abbreviations like a.m. (ante meridiem) and native-origin abbreviations for days of the week (Mon, Tue).

Lexical Abbreviations: Lexical abbreviations, on the other hand, result from clipping a part of a word, creating new units with either different lexical meanings or styles compared to their full forms. This form of abbreviation, unlike conversion or affixation, maintains the part-of-speech meaning, with nouns being the primary candidates for abbreviation, occasionally extending to verbs and adjectives.

Graphical Abbreviations

Latin Origin Abbreviations

- e.g., a.m., No, p.a.

Native Origin Abbreviations

- Days of the week, Months, Counties, States, Address

MORE GRAPHICAL ABBREVIATIONS

Military Ranks, Scientific Degrees, Units of Time,
Length, Weight

Context-Dependent Reading

Ambiguities in
Graphical
Abbreviations

e.g., "m" could
mean male,
married, etc.

Initialisms



Types: Alphabetical, Word-like, Acronyms



Translation Challenges

Initialisms in English come in various forms:

1. Alphabetical Reading:

1. Examples like UK, BUP, and CND are read letter by letter.

2. Word-like:

1. Some initialisms are pronounced as if they are words, such as UNESCO, UNO, NATO.

3. Acronyms:

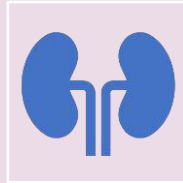
Acronyms are initialisms that coincide with English words in their sound form. For instance, CLASS stands for "Computer-based Laboratory for Automated School System.«

Translation Challenges

Translating initialisms poses challenges, and often, they are expressed in the way they are pronounced in their language of origin. This can lead to various translation variants, with some initialisms being borrowed as is, while others undergo a translation process. The dynamic nature of initialism translation is evident in examples like ANZUS (Australia, New Zealand, United States) and SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks).

Initialism

Transformations



Wordbuilding: Affixation,
Conversion, Composition



Compound-Shortened
Words

Lexical Abbreviations

1

Clipping for
Different Lexical
Meanings

- e.g., "fantasy" vs. "fancy"

2

Clipping for
Different Styles

- e.g., "laboratory" vs. "lab"

Clipping for Different Lexical Meanings: Lexical abbreviations through clipping involve shortening a part of a word, resulting in new lexical units with distinct meanings from their full forms. For instance, consider the difference between "fantasy" and "fancy." The abbreviation process here leads to not just a shorter form but a shift in the underlying lexical meaning.

Clipping for Different Styles: In the realm of style, abbreviation through clipping can be observed in words like "laboratory," which transforms into the more casually styled "lab." Here, the abbreviation doesn't alter the fundamental meaning but introduces a shift in the formality and style of expression. This showcases how abbreviation can serve not only semantic but also stylistic purposes.

Types of Lexical Abbreviations



Apocope: End of the word
clipped



Apheresis: Beginning of the
word clipped



Syncope: Middle of the word
clipped

Apocope: End of the Word Clipped: In the process of apocope, the end of a word is clipped, resulting in a shortened form. For example, words like "disco" (from "discotheque"), "expo" (from "exposition"), and "intro" (from "introduction") showcase apocope in action. Interestingly, this type of abbreviation has led to the development of new words in Modern English, where "o" is added as a pseudo-suffix to the shortened form, as seen in "combo" (from "combination") and "Afro" (from "African").

Apheresis: Beginning of the Word Clipped: Apheresis involves the clipping of the beginning of a word. Examples include "chute" (from "parachute"), "varsity" (from "university"), "copter" (from "helicopter"), and "thuse" (from "enthuse"). This form of abbreviation provides a concise way of expressing familiar concepts.

Syncope: Middle of the Word Clipped: Syncope, on the other hand, entails the clipping of the middle of a word. Instances of syncope include "mart" (from "market"), "fanzine" (from "fan magazine"), and "maths" (from "mathematics"). Such abbreviations demonstrate the flexibility of English in adapting and condensing words for efficient communication.

Advanced Lexical Abbreviations



A top-down view of a desk with a spiral notebook, a green pen, black glasses, and a small plant. The spiral notebook is open, showing two lined pages. The left page has the text "Thank You For Your Attention" written in black cursive. The right page is blank. A green pen lies vertically to the left of the notebook. A pair of black-rimmed glasses is positioned in the bottom left corner. A small green plant with yellow flowers is in the top left corner.

Thank You
For Your
Attention