# Digitalizing Grammatical Terminology in Uzbek: Toward an Electronic Dictionary of Borrowed Terms

**Khalilova Maftuna Azamat qizi**
Master's student of Shakhrisabz State Pedagogical Institute
xalilovamaftuna53@gmail.com
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**Abstract :** The present article discusses the importance and urgency of developing an electronic dictionary of borrowed grammatical terms in Uzbek linguistics. Despite recent efforts toward the indigenization of certain terms, the fundamental grammatical terminology remains largely influenced by Greek and Russian origins. Existing explanatory dictionaries, widely used by researchers and educators, are not yet available in digital form, which limits their accessibility and usability in modern linguistic studies and education. This study proposes a systematic approach to compiling a comprehensive electronic dictionary that includes a database of borrowed grammatical terms, methods of their assimilation, and detailed linguistic analysis covering etymology, semantics, and phonology. Furthermore, it emphasizes the integration of modern linguistic technologies such as annotation, lemmatization, parsing, and tagging to enhance the dictionary's functionality and searchability.

**Key words:** Uzbek linguistics, grammatical terminology, borrowed terms, electronic dictionary, lexicography, terminology standardization, NLP, linguistic corpus, linguistic database, digital linguistics

In recent years, it is not surprising that electronic dictionaries have become a subject of research. These types of dictionaries have become a topic of study not only for linguists but also for specialists in various other fields. As O.S. Rubleva notes, in recent years, the development of electronic dictionaries, the advancement of the internet, and the growing trend of storing information in digital formats have significantly expanded the possibilities available to users.[1]

However, a complete linguistic description of the various ways users utilize electronic dictionaries is still lacking.

In this context, it is important to expand the linguistic description of electronic dictionaries, better articulate their capabilities, and make them more user-friendly. Electronic dictionaries are not merely "digital versions" of traditional dictionaries; rather, they represent a new generation of tools enriched with interactive and multimedia features, making them a more effective resource for language learning and vocabulary acquisition. Research in terminography — a subfield dealing specifically with the selection and usage of terms as lexical units — has laid the groundwork for dictionaries to emerge as a significant area not only in global but also in Uzbek lexicography.

In Russian linguistics, issues concerning the development, compilation, and use of various types of dictionaries have been raised much earlier in the field of lexicography. However, despite the active use of the terms *lexicography* and *terminography*, academic sources and studies indicate uncertainty and ambiguity regarding the definitions of these terms and the boundaries between these two fields.

One of the main objectives of this research is to clarify the scientific concepts behind the terms *lexicography* and *terminography*.

Initially, regarding the distinction between lexicography and terminology, A. Gerd defines lexicography as "the theory and practice of developing and compiling various types of dictionaries."[2]

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[1] RublevaO.S.∗Sovremennyyrusskiyyazyk:Leksikologiya∗(ModernRussianLanguage:Lexicology),2004;FarEastFederalUniversity, Vladivostok.–pp.88–90.

[2] GerdA.S.∗Terminologicheskoyeznacheniyeitipyterminologicheskikhznacheniy∗//∗Problematikaopredeleniyterminovvslovaryakhr aznykhtipov∗(TheTerminologicalMeaningandTypesofTerminologicalMeanings//IssuesinDefiningTermsinDifferentTypesofDictio naries).–Leningrad:Nauka,1976.–pp.101–107.Gerd A.S. *Terminologicheskoye znacheniye i tipy terminologicheskikh znacheniy* // *Problematika opredeleniy terminov v slovaryakh raznykh tipov* (The Terminological Meaning and Types of Terminological Meanings // Issues in Defining Terms in Different Types of Dictionaries). – Leningrad: Nauka, 1976. – pp. 101–107.

Indeed, lexicography is the theory and practice of creating and developing dictionaries of various types. Gerd emphasizes that the term *lexicography* often appears in contexts involving spelling, orthoepy, the foundations of speech culture, and language teaching methodology, and more broadly, in areas reflecting the applied aspects of linguistics.

More precisely, **lexicography** is a branch of linguistics. The object of **scientific-technical lexicography** is the theory and practice of creating specialized (terminological) dictionaries. These specialized dictionaries define and explain the terminology and nomenclature of particular sciences and fields of knowledge as found in production documents of factories, plants, technical and economic enterprises, computer programs, as well as official documentation from ministries, departments, and higher education institutions.

Today, as efforts to improve the content of education and to build educational and linguistic corpora continue, there is a growing need for a new approach to the creation of linguistic dictionaries. Modern technologies and scientific approaches — particularly through the use of **electronic dictionaries**, **interactive materials**, and **multimedia tools** — are opening up vast opportunities in the education system.

Although traditional dictionaries have provided necessary knowledge to many users, today's demands and technological advancements require new approaches in this field. Dictionary creation should not be limited to simply providing word meanings; rather, it should integrate with linguistics, pedagogy, and information technologies to make the learning process more interactive and effective. These new approaches play a vital role in enhancing vocabulary, deepening language learning, and organizing the educational process in a more qualitative manner. Moreover, the development and effective implementation of **language corpora** and **educational corpora** can help adapt students to modern knowledge systems. This, in turn, allows linguistic dictionaries and corpora to serve not only language learning, but also the broadening of cultural knowledge and values.

In particular, it is advisable to create **electronic dictionaries** that are categorized based on their level of relevance or importance. For example, in actual speech, **nouns** and **verbs** are used more frequently than other parts of speech. The educational process, too, is increasingly dependent on **digital learning materials** rather than printed sources. In such cases, it is crucial to develop dictionaries based on parts of speech that can **speed up information retrieval** and **save time**.

Especially, a dictionary of proper nouns can be developed in various formats:
1. "Dictionary of Proper Nouns"
2. "Dictionary of Borrowed Proper Nouns"
3. "Dictionary of Place Names"
4. "Dictionary of Active Field-specific Terms"
5. "Dictionary of Organization and Institution Names"

Unlike general and traditional dictionaries, these classified dictionaries will contain frequently used words based on their usage. Each entry will include spelling and pronunciation (transcription) guidelines. Furthermore, in response to societal needs, nouns and verbs are predominantly used in formal communication and documentation. To prevent unnecessary repetition in various styles of texts and documents, "Dictionary of Synonymous Nouns" and "Dictionary of Synonymous Verbs" can be created. These would facilitate ease of language use and improve official writing practices.

To ensure the broader use of native Uzbek words in communication, the following approach can be taken:
1. "Dictionary of Uzbek Proper Nouns"
2. "Dictionary of Uzbek Names"
3. "Dictionary of Uzbek Verbs"
4. "Dictionary of Uzbek Locative Nouns"

These dictionaries will, of course, be developed in electronic format. Each word included will also serve to reinforce spelling and pronunciation norms.[3]

These types of dictionaries can function as convenient electronic content that supports both the development of computational linguistics and corpus linguistics.

Linguistic terminology, in this regard, is no exception. It is well known that Uzbek linguistics — particularly in the formation of grammatical terms — has been heavily influenced by the Russian language. As mentioned

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[3]KhamroyevaSh.∗LinguisticPrinciplesofCreatinganAuthorialCorpus∗.PhDdissertationabstractinPhilology–Karshi,

earlier, in recent years, some progress has been made toward the indigenization of certain terms. However, the core grammatical terminology still predominantly originates from Greek.

In Uzbek linguistics, research dedicated specifically to grammatical terminology has been limited. One of the most widely used sources in this area is Azim Hojiyev's *Explanatory Dictionary of Linguistic Terms*, which is actively utilized by many researchers today. However, this dictionary does not exist in electronic form, which poses certain challenges for researchers. In this context, the development of an electronic dictionary of grammatical terms is becoming increasingly relevant and necessary.

Therefore, in order to create an electronic dictionary of borrowed grammatical terms in the Uzbek language, the following key stages are recommended:

- **Developing a database** of borrowed grammatical terms that have been assimilated into Uzbek grammar;
- **Identifying the method of assimilation** for each grammatical term and, through this, determining its recommended final grammatical form;
- **Establishing the function or role** of each borrowed term based on its morphological and semantic properties;
- **Providing etymological, semantic, and phonological analyses** of each term, including explanatory notes or translations;
- **Performing linguistic processing**, including annotation, lemmatization, parsing, and tagging of each term;
- **Defining the appropriate valency** of each borrowed grammatical term;
- **Ensuring accurate and concise representation** of each term in a user-friendly format that is compatible with electronic search systems;
- **Designing suitable software infrastructure** for the grammatical term database;
- **Integrating the dictionary** into an appropriate linguistic corpus for further analysis and application.
- Such efforts would contribute significantly to the modernization of Uzbek linguistic resources and facilitate easier access to grammatical terminology for researchers, educators, and language learners alike.

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