

Technology and English Vocabulary

Abstract

The intent of the present paper is to study the emerging and existing new English vocabulary. English has become an international language. Thousands of words are taken from other languages into English and thousand of words are coined everyday into English language. With the advent of technology, many new words are coined into English language. Thus, the thesaurus of English vocabulary has become very wide and vast.

Key Words

Technology, Mobile, Download, Upload, Crack, Inbox, Selfie, Unlike, Tweet , Block, Pendrive, Memory Card, Card Holder, Soft Copy, Hard Copy, Hike, Whatsapp, Instagram, Facebook, Tweeter, Voice Message, Text Message

[1] Introduction

English language has become an international language. In each and every corner of the world English is accepted as a language of communication, trade and commerce. Native speakers and foreigners speak English very fluently without any hesitation. Now a days, English has become a language of status also. To learn English, one must have enough collection of vocabulary because vocabulary is considered as a backbone of any language. Thousands of words are coined and accepted in English language. With the advent and development of technology, thousands of words are coined and accepted in English language. All these words are freely used not only English language but also in vernacular languages. With the maxim use of computer and mobile, many new words are coined into English language. Some of them are discussed in the present paper.

[2] Role of Technology in the Development of English Vocabulary

Technology is a blessing for the modern age. The immense effect of technology has found in each and every field of the world. Now without technology we cannot even imagine life on the world because technology has become an integral part of the human being. From early morning to till late night, people are very dependent on the technology. It is eternal truth that technology has reduced the human efforts and has made life easy and lavish. Now a days, technology is not only limited upto the machineries but it is also useful in education. With the help of technology, learning and teaching process can be made interesting and effective too. Learners and teachers can take advantages of technology at every walk of life. It can be said that the invention of computer, internet and mobile are boon of technology. With the help of these three, one can make contact with anybody in the world at anytime. One can get any information about anything with in no time with the help of technology. One can learn many things with the help of technology. If we talk about education, even Indian Government promotes digital education. As far as the topic of the paper is concerned, I would like to focus on the role of technology in the development of English vocabulary. Technology has also affected languages of the world. However, we can find the effect of one language on the other language. Many words have been taken from one language to other languages. Thus, vocabulary of the language has increased with the passage of the time. Vocabulary is considered as the backbone for any language. To learn any language, one has to learn vocabulary of the particular language.

Vocabulary is main aspect of language learning. According to Hunt and Beglar, “the heart of language comprehension and use is the lexicon” (2). Cummins (1999) has stated four distinct forms of vocabulary i.e. reading vocabulary, listening vocabulary, writing vocabulary, and speaking vocabulary. Reading vocabulary includes all the words a person is able to know while reading any text. Listening vocabulary is vocabulary that an individual is able to understand while listening to speech. Writing vocabulary encompasses the words a person makes use of in writing while speaking vocabulary consists of words which an individual uses in speech (Herrel 125). Many new words and phrases from the field of technology are accepted in English language. Some of them are discussed below in the present paper.

2.1 Words from Technology

Technology is a very huge and wide umbrella which covers the entire world. Internet, computer and mobile are the initial need of the modern generation. This internet service and technical devices have coined many words and these words are freely accepted and used in English language. Many words are already existed in English language but their meaning in those days was somewhat different and in the modern time the meaning of that word has changed. For example the word ‘Inbox’, actually this is not a new word, it has been in English for many decades. In the past time, ‘Inbox’ was used a Noun means inbox of e mail, inbox of text messages etc but now a days, it is used as a Verb. As a Verb the meaning of Inbox is – to send a private message or an email to someone, typically another member of a social networking website or Internet

message board. For example, "Inbox me" means "send me a private message". Here few words are discussed below;

Selfie: It is used as a Noun. It means a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a Smartphone or webcam and uploaded to a social media website. Self-portrait photography has existed for more than a century, but the popularity of Selfies has only surged in recent years, when Smartphones allow you to take a photograph of yourself easily then upload and share such photographs on your various social media websites.

Unlike: It is a Verb. Unlike means withdraw one's liking or approval of a web page or posting on a social media website that one has previously liked. Actually, Unlike is not a new word in English language, but with the innovation of Facebook, the meaning of Unlike has changed. The button is already available on other social networking sites, Internet forums and websites, even before Facebook incorporated it, but there is no doubt that Facebook was the one that promoted the feature to the world.

Tweet : It is used as a Noun and some time as a Verb too. It means a posting made on the social media website Twitter. The Oxford English Dictionary officially included the "tweet" in June, bypassing their requirement for new words (and meanings) to be in use for a minimum of 10 years before they can even enter the dictionary. Still, the incredible fifty-fold jump of the usage of the word "tweet" from 2006 to 2012 seems to justify breaking that rule.

Block: It is used as a Verb. However, this is not a new word in English dictionary. The actual meaning of this word in the past days was "to be placed in front of something, such as a road or path, so that people or things cannot pass through." Now a days, the meaning of this word has changed. Now Block means, "to prevent someone from contacting you on a social network like Twitter, Whatsapp or from viewing your profile."

Pendrive: It is used as a Noun. Pendrive is a device that can store the data. There are various kinds of Pendrive are available in the market. It has different store capacity i.e. from 1 GB to 64 GB. It is used to save or transfer the data from one device to another device. It can store any kind of soft data in any soft form. It has long life but some time due to technical deformity, it is corrupted. Sometime it can be reused by formatting or repaired it.

Memory Card: It is a Noun. It works like a Pendrive. The basic difference between Pendrive and Memory Card is that Pen Drive is long device in size than Memory Card. Memory Card is inserted in mobiles and other devices to save the data where as Pendrive is inserted to transfer the data. In the market various kinds of Memory Card are sold. It has various storage capacity ranging from 1 GB to 62 GB or more than that.

Card Holder: It is a Noun. As the name itself suggests it holds the cards i.e. Memory Card. It is used like Pendrive but without Memory Card it is useless. In this Card Holder, Memory Card is inserted and this Card Holder is inserted in SD Port. Generally, SD Port is available in computers, laptops and cameras.

Download, Upload, Install, Uninstall, Crack, Soft Copy, Hard Copy, Hike, Whatsapp, Instagram, Facebook, Tweeter, Voice Message, Text Message and many more words are taken from the field of technology especially from internet, computer and mobile. Apart from these words, many Phrasal Verbs are also coined and accepted in English language which are listed below.

| Phrasal Verbs for Technology and Computers | | |
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| Phrasal Verb | Meanings | Example |
| log in sign in sign-in | v. connect to a computer using a username and password n. page or act of registering permission to use a program | To begin, log in to your desktop system. |
| hook up | to connect wires from machines to a power source or other machines | Would you please help me hook up the Internet cable? |
| power up turn on | provide power to a machine | Press the red button to power up your tablet. |
| boot up start up | begin running a computer system | Wait a second, my computer is booting up . |
| set up | v. to install a new computer program or assemble a computer system n. the process of adding information using a computer program | This application took a long time to set up . |

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| pull down pulldown | v. choose from a menu of options in a computer application extending down from the action bar like a window blind <i>n.</i> a menu of options | Look for the file menu and pull down to “Save As...” |
| click on | move a mouse over an item and press to select | Click on the start menu to begin. |
| scroll up scroll down | to move slowly to the top or bottom of a text | The news story was so long I had to scroll down a lot to read it all. |
| run out of | exhaust a supply of something | You will run out of disk space if you save copies of all your emails. |
| back up backup | v. make an extra copy of a file <i>n.</i> an extra copy of a file | Be sure you back up your files before you change systems. |
| print out printout | v. send an electronic document to a printer <i>n.</i> a printed document | I have to print out the directions before I leave home. |
| hack into | enter a computer or network illegally | Someone hacked into my bank and stole millions of dollars. |
| go down | stop operating properly | I cannot send any emails because the server went down . |
| wipe out | completely erase or delete files | Before you donate your computer, be sure you wipe out the hard drive. |
| pop up popup | v. to appear suddenly <i>n.</i> an advertisement that appears suddenly | If you do not want to see the ads, turn on your pop up blocker. |

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| | on a computer screen | |
| plug in plug-in | v. insert a cord into an outlet or port n. an addition to a software program that performs a certain task | Plug in your laptop over there. |
| sign up | register with a service | She signed up for an online dating service. |
| key in | type or enter characters using a keyboard | It takes too much time to key in that long password. |
| opt in / out | choose to receive advertising or messages | The company asked me to opt in to get special offers by email. |
| filter out | remove unwanted email messages | Can we filter out all the spam on this account? |
| turn off shut down power down | end a session on the computer by closing an application or removing power | I'm tired, so I'm going to shut down the computer for today. |
| go online/offline | to use the Internet / not use the Internet | I will send you that information as soon as I can go online . |

[3] Conclusion

Technology plays a vital role in the development of English vocabulary. Many new words and phrases are coined and accepted in English language. These words have become so popular that they are used in vernacular languages of the world. People freely use these words in their day to day life and many scholars of English intentionally use these words in their conversation to make their communication effective and impressive. Thus, English language borrows many words from other languages of the world and enriches her vocabulary.

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