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The use of English neologisms in social media: A case of Facebook language in Iraqi Kurdistan

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Abstract---This study examines a linguistic phenomenon, which is using English neologisms by Iraqi Kurdish Facebook users on their Facebook platforms. Nowadays, hundreds of newly established English lexical units such as blogger, tweet, Facebook, WhatsApp, share, etc.... flow into English lexicon daily due to the innovative technology, internet websites, and all sorts of social media; hence, some of these new words find their way into world language's vocabulary through the netzines communications. The paper aims to (1) explore the extent of using English neologisms by Iraqi Kurd Facebook users on Facebook, (2) determine the morphological classes of these words (3) reveal the most prominent reasons and factors behind using such English neologisms, and (4) pinpoint their significance in Kurdish lexicon. To achieve the aims of the study, data are obtained in two ways; first, compiling a list of 500 English neologisms through a thorough observation from numerous Kurdish public page posts and updates and comments of a reliable number of personal FB accounts of Iraqi Kurd FB users. Second, ask 56 active FB users, who are all BA, MA and PhD holders with good English background to tick the English neologisms from the list above. Thus, only 356 neologisms remained as the data for the study analysis. To verify the data authenticity, the list of 356 neologisms is compared to the Kurdish Corpus Pewan. Simultaneously, the participants are questioned to state their favor of using English neologisms and expose whether they are aware of the meaning of the newly coined words or not. The results of the study achieved the aims since the data analyses reveal different outcomes such as, numerous English neologisms are used by Iraqi Kurd FB users on FB that fall under eleven morphological processes based on Murray's (1995), and they are categorized into different semantic classes, another outcome obtained suggests that different linguistic and non-linguistic factors are behind Kurd Iraqi FB users' favor in using such neologisms, and that these neologisms are of importance in Kurdish vocabulary.

Keywords--English neologisms, Iraqi Kurds, social media, FB, word formation.

Introduction

Recently social media has become the source of news, ideology, information, power, economic, marketing and educational dissemination for all groups, ages, educational backgrounds and ethnic groups. They are where people enhance all the above verities of daily needs. Every day, new words evolve in all fields of human life in all languages. Accordingly, languages grow and different linguistic verities develop whether spoken or written that can be labeled as new languages, due to the invent of new technology that develops like hay in the grass, such as the internet language. English has become the language of technology, tens of words evolve daily to meet the needs of the new trend of life, such as *artificial intelligence, machine learning, gig economy, avatar* and more. In fact, English is the predominant and the global language in the world that lexical items are in rapid updates daily, it is postulated that approximately 1000 words are added to the English dictionary as The Guardian reports.

Concerning the Iraqi Kurds with the different dialects such as Sorani (central dialect), Kurmanji, Gorani, Hawrami, Luri, Mukruani, and more, are also moved by the new trend of globalization, technological innovation and world Englishes that carries English terms and concepts to their language in return. As a result, Kurdish language has been decorated with English neologisms that have newly penetrated the lexicon, due to the use of internet APPs, especially FB by Kurdish individuals. Therefore, it has become normal to see hundreds of new coined English words on Kurd individual Facebook (, henceforth FB) statues, updated profiles, comments and even in their chat, as is the case with any individual of the globe that communicates incautiously. And this has become a normal phenomenon, since these words are means to fill the communications gaps.

The Problem

This study is conducted on English neologisms used by Iraqi Kurd FB users. The social media of FB is chosen for the study, since it is one of the most widely utilized platform by Iraqi Kurds in all ages, genders and educational backgrounds, and is considered as the popular networking site that is visited and accessed daily by millions of users. Plentiful studies have been conducted tackling neologisms in local and social media taking different linguistic aspects of neologisms, their historical development, morphological processes that create them, their morphosyntactic aspects in different languages such as in Kenya, Arabic, Malesia, Indonesia, Turkish, Persian...etc., but no studies are observed to be done in the field of linguistics in Kurdish that can tackle this linguistic aspect. Purposefully and to fill that gap in the literature, this study is intended to uncover the extent of English neologism that Iraqi Kurd FB users use when they update their profiles or even, comment on their co-users posts, and to uncover whether the users know the Kurdish equivalents of these neologisms in their mother tongue and discern the reasons of using them as alternative words of Kurdish words.

The Aims

The study aims to explore the extent English neologisms are used by Iraqi Kurd FB users, identify their morphological and semantic classification, shed light on their importance in Kurdish language, and demonstrate the reasons behind using such words by FB users of the area.

Research Questions

Based on the aims of the study, several research questions would be raised here:

1. To which extent English neologisms are used by Iraqi Kurd FB users?
2. What are the morphological categories of the English neologisms used by Iraqi Kurd FB users?
3. What class of these neologisms are more frequently in use by Kurd FB users in Iraqi Kurdistan?
4. What are the plausible factors behind using such neologisms in the context of Iraqi Kurdistan?
5. To which extent are these neologisms institutionalized? And then lexicalized

The Procedures

To arrive at the aims and answer the questions of the study, data are collected in two authentic methods; first, compiling 500 English neologisms from a trustworthy number of FB users and the most common public Kurd pages on FB. And asked 56 Iraqi Kurd Facebook users who are competent in English as a real sample to tick the neologisms they use within the list above, thus only 356 English neologisms remained as the data for analysis. Second, posing a number of questions to the participants of the study associated with the research question.

Methodology

To conduct and achieve the aims of the study, qualitative and quantitative research methodology is adopted through which data are collected, systematically and statistically classified, and then analyzed.

The Limitations

This study is limited to the analysis of:

1. the neologisms used on the FB platform by Iraq Kurd FB users with Sorani dialect only, other Kurds with other dialects are not handled.
2. FB neologisms ;(. i.e.,) the neologisms in other social media like Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat are not scrutinized.

The Value

It is hoped that the results of the study would be of value for:

1. Kurd lexicographers: the results of this study can be used as a resource to update the lexicon, vocabulary and dictionaries, and even to be a basis of FB corpora of the language.
2. Researchers who work in the field of neologisms used in FB or any other social media due to the lack of studies in Kurdish.

Literature Review

A Plethora of studies have been tackled dealing with the emergence of English neologisms and their leaking to other world languages; however, no specific studies on neologisms are done on social media on Kurdish language to figure out the importance of English neologisms and their handling by Kurd net users, except that of Abdulla (2015) who approaches FB analysis in terms of socio-linguistic aspect which is code-switching. However, researches, systematic and corpus analysis and even books on social media and net language neologisms are incalculable in the majority of languages, and most specifically on English neologisms. In English, one of the prominent works on net language, Crystal (2004) sheds the light on the importance on technology and raises the concept of net- speak as a new term; he believes that English language will be affected by the trend of the internet in the 21st century. And Nelkoska (2020) conducts a morpho-semantic analysis to the new words that are sprung in English language under the influence of social media platforms. In Arabic, Hamdan and Al-Salman (2021) examine how Arabic neologisms are used in all sorts of social media and conclude that Arabic is heavily influenced by the thrust of social media platforms.

Several studies are conducted in terms of the morphological analysis of neologisms used in social media, for instance, in Malay language, Shahlee and Mustaffa (2019) restricted their study on neologisms used by youth. Another morphological analysis of neologisms on Zabian online social media is conducted by Nkhata and Jimaima (2020) tackle and conclude that such social Apps like FB and WhatsApp and that new words have been coined with time and social media neologisms should be seen as an outcome of the creativity of language as well as productivity. Mworira (2015)'s study takes a lexical pragmatical approach to the use of English neologisms on Twitter only and arrives at certain conclusions, such as social media neologisms deviate from the standard use of Standard English at different levels and such deviations makes online communications easier.

On the translation aspect of neologisms, a number of researchers conducted research in this area in Arabic, such as Hameed (2002), who explores the strategies used by Arab translators when dealing with English neologisms that do not readily have apparent counterparts in Arabic, and concludes that the strategies like Derivation and Metaphor are employed more often to render English neologisms than other strategies like Arabicization and Omission.

Social Media

Since this study is on neologisms on social media, social media would be the focal point. Social media (such as FB, WhatsApp, Twitter, Instagram, snapchat, tick tock, and more) are network platforms millions of people use around the world to

build network social relations whether on social, professional, economic, or educational levels. Additionally, they are the pathway that people from different places of the globe interact, communicate, exchange ideas and thoughts, share information, to the extent that it became a good market where business-men can present their products and sell them to their sellers. Nurtaev and Martova, 2019: 60) state that in this sort of media people deliver “advertisements along with the relevant content”, which makes it different from the traditional media. Therefore, social media is unlike the traditional media that people used to know them. However, one cannot deny that such media have negative sides and effects on society members as reported by Akram and Kumar (2017). Social media are known to have different forms such as social network sites, image and video sharing, messaging, social bogging, podcasts, widgets,...etc..that are daily updating.

Nowadays social media alternates emails, and telegram as they are faster and people can freely share what they want to share. In terms of age social media have become a part of everyone’s life of all ages; children play social media games on iPad and smartphones, adults check their computers and other clever devices to check statueses, and profile updates by their friend groups from different social Apps. Even the old make use of it to track daily news and instant information. Having all the above unique features, there must be a language special to its users which is different from other languages.

Facebook

FB is the largest, explosive, social networking site that is visited by millions of active users daily. FB was founded by Mark Zuckerberg, a college student at Harvard University in 2004. It is reported that FB has 175 million users around the globe, currently. The most important feature of FB is the wall, the caner of users’ profiles, where statues are updated. In this forum, users can post and share an unlimited amount of quotes, thoughts, photos, videos and albums and similarly others can like, react and share the written posts, photos, videos and live videos and reers are posted by other users in one of the updated features of FB. the FB users are free to choose the language (s) they communicate with. FB has also messenger service that enables the users to instantly chat privately with other users or leave them messages, and sometimes share a photo, linked files, videos and Gifs. When messages have a mass of users “this mode of communication develop its own variety of language that it has its own features.”, (Hussein and Akhtar,2013: 2)

Facebook Language

The web-based sites affected human life in all its aspects, whether positively or negatively. So, one can observe the impact of the internet on all life sectors, such as education, health, business, social life and even on our daily language generally and on indivual language at its specific level. Hence, the concept of individual variety is to be exposed here, since linguistic variety means “a system of linguistic expression whose use is governed by situational fact”, Crystal (2004: 6). FB language is a sort of netspeak; it is the language that its users speak. This language category is interesting since it shares features of natural spoken and

written languages. Crystal (2004: 48) terms the net language as the ‘hybrid of speech and writing’, stating that netspeak as “A type of language displaying features that unique to the internet, and encountered in e-mail, chat group, virtual world and worldwide web, arising out of its character as a medium which is electronic, global, and interactive.”

In the new world of social interactions, there are numerous varieties of words and abbreviations. Porter (2000:62) describes net words as follows: “There are words, but they often seem to be words stripped of context”. Consequently, FB language can be considered a sort of new language variety. Crystal (2004: 67) supports this claim on his part, stating “The range at which they have been coining new terms and introducing playful variations into established ones has no parallel in contemporary language”. Even the neologisms are accepted as a new language on FB as Peterson and Ray (2013:81) conclude; “So neologisms can become accepted language in several ways such as by word-of-mouth, in the social media, or in the mass media, but another path to acceptance is through academic discourse.”

Therefore, it can be observed that FB language is a sort of net language characterized by its simple spelling, violation of punctuation marks and grammatical sentence structure, formality and even informality, and language standardization that can meet the needs of technology. Additionally, FB language is the language of other websites like Twitter. Furthermore, in terms of vocabulary and spelling, this sort of language variety is characterized by having a large number of abbreviations, lowercase spelled words, and non-standard words that reflect their pronunciations such as ‘oops, yaaaa,’ and divert spelling.

And as for using new coined words and neologisms, it can be observed that FB users proliferated them to the extent that neologisms ‘flout’ the established word formation processes that can be classified under new proposed ‘processes of pseudo-elliptical construction’, as Nkata and Jimain (2020:9) has claimed, as the following examples:

Wanna= i want to

Itx= it is

Kinda= kind of

Dunno= don’t know

Neologisms

Neology is an activity, that is, a process, a dynamic field, producing new lexical units in a language system, in a cultural body, or a social group. This may be due to the desire to control an evolving world, where new objects or kinds of objects appear; or due to the desire to rename things that had already been given a name for reasons that are difficult to analyze, and which can account for totally subjective and collective phenomena such as snobbism, as well as the internal need to renew the lexical stock, as Rey (1988) believes. ‘neologism’ is of French origin; it refers to any word or set of expressions formed according to the productive word-formation rules in English (Kubara: 2010). The term ‘néolismé’, was coined in (1772) and is from Greek words ‘neo’ and ‘logos’, that is interpreted as ‘new words. According to Oxford Dictionary (2015), neologism is defined as a new word or expression or a new meaning of a word. For the classical lexicologists

such as Rondeam (1983) and Guilburt (1975) neology deals with the study of “linguistic phenomena that appear in a given time in the development of a language”, cited by Cabré (1999:204) and this phenomenon can be in any descriptive level of a language; phonetics, phonology, morphology or word level, and syntax or lexicon.

It is of importance to distinguish neologisms from nonce-formation words. Some scholars like Hameed (20009: 26) view languages’ dynamicity and vitality through these linguistic units, therefore he (Ibid :26) describes neology as the ‘productive power’ in the morphology of a language. Accordingly, scholars, linguists and lexicographers provide different definitions for the term neologisms, since they are newcomers to languages.

For instance, Rey (1995) describes neology as a ‘pseudo- concept’ since he observes that neologism as a result of a process is vague and it is the result of subjective and relative opinion. Accordingly, he (ibid: 20) defines neologisms from the psychological viewpoint stating that neologisms are psychological formation of words. This view is supported by Merriam Webster’s dictionary and the term is defined as ‘meaningless’ a new word that is coined especially by a person affected with schizophrenia. Another view is of Newmark (1985:140) who defines neologisms from a linguistic perspective as newly coined lexical items or existing lexical units that acquire new sense. The most comprehensible definition of the term is proposed by Herberg (1980: 110):

“A neologism is such a lexical unit (or such a formative or meaning) that is formed at a certain stage of language development, on the basis of communicative needs in a certain communicative community, spreads, becomes accepted as a language norm, and at this stage of language development most language users perceive it as new.” Worth noticing, in all the above definitions the concept of ‘new’ is highlighted and focused on the terms ‘new’ and ‘novelty’. Today, innovation of technology allows linguistic neology breaks the borders of the spoken and written forms of language, and millions of neologisms are registered by corpora that are used for linguistic analysis purposes.

And in terms of formal and semantic aspects of neologisms Schmid (2008:4) states that “context and co-text tend to reduce the ambiguity of the intended meaning to such an extent that it can generally be considered more or less clear-cut for both the initial speaker and his or her hearers”, but for those language users, the case is different. The result is that both the meaning of the neologism, which at this stage is still context-dependent and ambiguous and its orthographic and phonological form may be subject to modifications by new users “(Schimid: 2008:4). In this stage semantic ambiguity and context dependence changes into semantic autonomy and context-independence that enables the speakers to discern the meaning.

Linguists and lexicographers propose different criteria and parameters for a unit to be counted as neology. Cabré (1999:205) provides the following criteria:

1. diachrony: a unit is a neologism if it has arisen recently
2. lexicography: a unit is a neologism if it is not in dictionaries

3. systematic instability: a unit is a neologism if it exhibits signs of formal instability (e.g., morphological, graphic, phonetic) or semantic instability
4. psychology: a unit is a neologism if speakers perceive it as a new unit.

Word Formation Processes

Language community requires maintaining discourse rather than being interlocutors in their daily life. To do so, people invent and coin new words to name new objects and as it is realized creativity is one of the distinguishing feature of language that enables them to produce new words. Generally, neologisms are created and fabricated in multiple ways as (Peterson and Ray, 2013: 81) propose. Murray (1995) states that “new words can enter English in only two general ways: either they are borrowed from another language or they are created from elements that already exist in English.”. He (1995) proposes eleven morphological processes that create neologisms; affixation, compounding, acronyms, blending, abbreviation, clipping, conversion, reduplication, onomatopoeia, antonomasia, and borrowing.

Neologisms in social media, especially those on FB are formulated by various word-formation processes found in the morphology of the language. since this study is aimed at using English neologisms on FB, a light would be shed on the major processes of word-formation found in standard English with special reference to neologisms on FB.

1. Conversion: comprises using the “existing vocabulary and assigning new meaning to the vocabulary”, (Mworia: 2015: 29). Accordingly, numerous words can be considered neologisms, such as:
 - Request=asking to make friends on FB.
 - Poke= to make someone aware that you are there.
 For Derby (2016: 1) conversion involves “pairs or sets of word forms which share both their phonological (and orthographic) form as well as some elements of meaning, but which seem to belong to different word classes.”, for instance:
 - a. Noun converted to verbs: email
 - b. Adjectives converted to verbs: clean
 - c. Verbs converted to nouns: smell
2. Backformation: means removing the affixes from a word to form a new word with the same meaning, such as:
 - Edit-editor
 - Follower-follow
3. Compounding: means a combination of two or more free roots to make a new meaningful word.
 - FB, FB user.
4. Affixation: it is creating new words from the existing bases by adding suffixes, prefixes, or even infixes. Affixation has different types,
 - a. prefixation: a bound morpheme is added to the free base in pre-position, such as: redo, repost, unfriend
 - b. suffixation: in which s suffix is added post-position of a free base, as i: bulkers.

- c. infixation: in which the bound morpheme is inserted within the free base as in *bitcoin*.
5. Abbreviation: is a shortened form of a word or phrase. FB users tend to read texts which are short and understandable to save time, even those who write would prefer using a short space in their profiles.
 - Lol= laughing out loudly
 - BRB= be right back
 - Congrats= congratulations
 6. Acronyms: words formed from the initial letters of complex words and pronounced as one actual word such as NASA, BBC, LASER. Neologisms have proliferated and become a wide-spread word-formation process due to the science, military and political complex that require these catchy terms that are easy to pronounce. And this process of word formation is increasing today as technology develops and this field requires more words like these.
 7. Blending: another word-formation process in which “two or more words are merged into one so that the blended constituents are either clipped or partially overlap.” (Lieber 2009: 52). For instance
 - Netspeak (n)= internet+speak
 8. Onomatopoeia: The morpheme indicates the sounds involved in the meaning of that morpheme. Such morphemes are also known as echoism, (Shahlee and Ahmad,2020:217), for instance:
 - Bomb → boom
 9. Antonomasia: there are different definitions for the term, (Shahlee and Ahmed: 2020:2517) define it as a process when a personal name, a place name, or a brand name adapts a new meaning usually referring to a common noun related to the proper noun, for example *WhatsApp, Avatar*. It is reported that ‘avatar’ is “originated in Hinduism and is adapted from the Sanskrit word for “descent.” an avatar is the human embodiment of a ‘deity or a spirit’ which allows them to experience earth from the perspective of, or to interact with human, (Nowak and Fox, 2018:33).
 10. Borrowing: borrowing means the “introduction of a word or some other linguistic features from one language or dialect into another”, (Crystal:1992:46)
 11. Clipping: another category of the word-formation process is done through shortening or reducing a word without word meaning change. This process is used by speakers in the daily conversation for the economy of use; such as:
 - Copter=helicopter
 - Burg =burger
 - Plane= airplane
 - Bike=bicycle
 - Phone=telephone
 - gym =gymnastic

Institutionalizing and lexicalization of Neologisms

On one hand, the institutionalization of neologisms means “an integration of a lexical item, with a particular form and meaning, into the existing stock of words as a generally acceptable and current lexeme”, (Lipka, 1990: 50), cited in

Kerreman (2015:37). On the other hand, lexicalization is known as the final stage of neologisms and it is the period when the new word “gives up its novelty and passes into formal linguistic acceptance, or become culturally dated in its use”, Hameded (2009:29). Kerrremen (2015:43) points out how institutionalization states that a proof of institutionalization of lexemes is that:

1. the meaning is known by the speakers and this is one of the steps of institutionalization.
2. Also, the meaning of the lexeme is known means that there is the topicality of the lexeme and there is no need for paradigmatic clues such as hyponyms or antonymy, thus the neologisms have passed this stage.
3. The frequency of uses indicates that the neologisms have reached the pick and in this stage, the lexemes appear in ‘headlines’.

The Kurds and Kurdish Language in Iraqi Kurdistan

The Kurds are one of the large nations in the Middle East. Historically, Kurdish homeland has been divided among different countries; Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Syria and Armenia. Additionally, Caucasus, Lebanon and central Asia are also the areas where Kurds inhabited. And “each state has treated Kurdish under different policies from outright prohibition of the language” Sheyholislami (2015:30). It is only Iraq that recognizes Kurdish as the official language of the country since 1990’s. Though Kurds populations are about 30-40 million speakers, as estimated, they are well-known as being the largest stateless nation in the contemporary world,

Concerning their language, Kurdish is one of an Indo-European language belongs the Western Iranian family, it has its own varieties as any world languages. Kurdish dialects are divided into three major groups¹ The Northern or Kurmanji, Central or Sorani or sometimes it is termed like and the Southern group. The Northern Kurdish or Kurmanji dialect is spoken by the Kurdish community in eastern Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Thus, it is the dialect spoken in most areas of the Middle east. Kurmannji is further divided into two dialect groups; Badini, or Southeastern Kurmanji and the second group embodies three dialects; central Kurmanji, western Kurmanji and Northern Kurmanji, (Sheyholislami: :2015: 32). Noteworthy, Kurdish, scribal, print and both literary and media culture started in Kurmanji in the turn of the 16th century, and efforts of standardization of Kurmanji has been done during 1930 to 1940, as (Sheyholislami, *ibid*:32) reports. the Central or Sorani dialect, it is spoken in Iraq, Kermanshah and West Azerbaijan in Iran. Edmonds (2012:2) documents that, “Sorani is named for the province from which it originated,”. Sorani is also referred to as Mukri. In this concern Soane (1920:375), a British orientalist who wrote about Kurdish dialects, stated that “The Mukri claim that

¹ There are other classifications by scholars, for instance, Sheyholislam (2015:30) refers to Kurdish as a macro-language consisting of five dialect groups: Northern Kurdish (Kurmanji), Central Kurdish (Sorani), Southern Kurdish (Kirmashani/Faili/Kalhuri), Zazaki and Gorani/Hawrami.

their dialect is the most ancient of all, and while its antiquity is probably not greater than that of its neighbors, its excellent preservation of ancient forms gives it a claim to be considered the standard by which to compare other dialects.”, cited by (Edmonds, 2012). Sorani also has sub-branches; Babani, Halweri, Mukiani, and Ardalani. Hence, it is spoken in Iraq and Iran and it is accepted as the main variety in Iraqi Kurdistan Region lately. Accordingly, it is the official language of mass media, schooling, administrations, education, parliament, even stamps. Sorani has also sub-braches; Babani, Halweri, Mukiani, and Ardalani.

As far as the Southern group or Pehlewani dialect is predominantly spoken in eastern Iraq and western Iran. It is also diversified into; Kirmashani, Garusi, Lakki, and Faili . However, Allison (2007) notes that” Lakki’s position as a dialect of Kurdish could be debated, however, it is close enough to Kurdish that a reasonable claim can be made that it is in fact a dialect” cited by (Edmonds: 2012: 3). Two other branches are found under the Kurdish language dialects which are Zaza or Zazaki which is considered a Kurdish dialect in some resources; however, Allison (2007), claims this ‘language’ is closely related to Kurdish but not a dialect of it”, and also Gorani or Harami “falls under the same classifications” cited by Edmonds (2012:3). The justification he (ibid: 2007) proposes is that “they have their distinct heritage and their many phonological, phraseological and syntactic similarities”. Their areas lie in Iran and Iraq. Hawrami speakers identify themselves as Kurdish and this truth is supported by most Kurd scholars.

Kurdish speakers have not a unified system of writing, this might be due to the geographical, socio-political powers of the countries that rule them. Two types of script are used by Kurds; in Turkey and Syria Roman/Latin is used, whereas in Iraq and Iran Perso-Arabic or Arabic-based alphabet is used. In conclusion, despite the numerous of speakers, language varieties, geographical diversities, Kurdish language lacks standardization in speaking and writing system. The diversity makes the nation more fragmented.

Social Media in Iraqi Kurdistan

The Social media platform is the most well-known and prevalent platform that people use daily to get information, chat, track news updates, and more that alternates the traditional media such as TV, satellite, radio. In Iraqi Kurdistan, the access to the internet has increased after the fall of Saddam’s regime in 2003, which had a savage and strict control over all media in the country then; including TV, newspaper, journals, radio and even satellite. As a result, the Iraqi individual was deprived of all updates on the world surrounding.

Presently, a Kurd individual can access to the internet without any restrictions and use this technology through various devices such as smartphones, laptops, iPad and access different websites like FB, Google, YouTube, Twitter, and more to catch up with the new updates of the world. And as is the case with any global society, the Iraqi Kurd who uses the internet, and especially FB are in needs to coin and create new words as a response to what they need. Worth noting, today access to this social platform has gained momentum as it is the source of the dissemination of updating ideology and knowledge of Kurd individuals to the

extent that its effects can be observed on cultural and political attitudes, and this impact is on every single individual; regardless of age, gender, political or even educational backgrounds. According to Social Media Statsⁱ of 2021, the Iraqis use FB more than any other website as it arrives 73.7% of users. It has become a personal tool today that the users connect with family fellows and friends.

Data Collection and Analysis

Data collection for this study is obtained through two major steps: first, the researcher compiled a list of 500 English neologisms, then investigated for the selected neologisms from FB platforms of (1) various common public pages that each tackle a certain life facet, such as: political, social, domestic, educational, stylistic, business, economic, web, tourist, health, architectural and design, manufacture updates such as Yerevana Travel, جوانکاری نیودموله‌ی کلیفر, KurdSat Shar press, Jar Media, SAT Studio, Mani Home, Dr. Halwan's Clinc, Nami Institute, Rudaw, University of Sulaimani, Poshaki Alvini, Ras Group, Smart Health Tower, and others. The posts and comments are of two moths. (2) a reliable number of the Kurd FB users who have a good mastery English. They are from age groups (22- 55), different genders, various educational backgrounds and frequent FB users who visit their FB daily, and use English neologisms on their FB remarkably.

Thus, 356 newly English words are filtered out from the first two steps, taking into the following criteria and parameters:

1. Time frame: the list covers those English neologisms that appear within the last decades of this century in English. To verify this, the compiled list has been checked out in: dictionaries of new words, EOD available at <http://public.oed.com>), collection of new words are available at (<http://wordspy.com>) and new words of 2021-2022, Meriam webster dictionary of neologisms (available at <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/neologism>), and the listed neologisms by Onyedum (2012); Shahlee and Mustaffa (2019), Plauc and Čilić (2021).
2. Diversity: the list picked out is from different subject matters and life domains.
3. Relevance: only those neologisms are selected used on FB rather than on any sort of social media.
4. Frequency: the selected neologisms are those that have the most frequent use by Iraqi Kurd FB users, (, i.e.), observed in different contexts. to meet this criterion, the frequency of the selected neologisms is tested in Pewan Corpus, as indicated in the table (1).

The following are extracts from the selected pages:

Rudaw: دهقی پرۆژه‌که بخوێنه‌روه ، پرۆژه‌که بۆ کوران و کچانه.
 په‌رله‌مانی کوردوستان دوو مانگ پشوو ده‌بێت.
 Yerevan Travel دابینه‌کردنی حسابی بانکی
 University of Sulaimani: کونسولی گشتی ویلایه‌ته‌ به‌گرتووه‌کانی ئهممه‌ریکا پیرۆزبایی له زانکۆی سلیمانی دمکات.
 Shar press توشبون و گیان له‌ده‌ستدان به‌ کۆرۆنا له هه‌رێم دوو هینده زیاد ده‌کات
 Shar press به‌ گوێره‌ی راپۆرتیکی ریکخراوی تهن‌دروستی جیهانی WHO ...

Jar پریکھوتمی ستراتیژی و پۆستی سەرۆک کۆمار
 SAT Archetectoral studio : دیزاین کردنی بەشی ناوھەوی خانوویەک. ناوێشانی ئۆفیسێ سەرەکی..
 Poshaki Alvina : باشترین براند جوانترین مۆدیل
 Mani Home : پەیکەری : مۆدێرن، میژووی ، نایبی، ھونەری، خۆشەویستی...
 لە لامان دەست دەکەوێت بە باشترین کوالیټی مەواد، رەنگیان جێگیر و تێکنایټ، ھەلبژاردنی رەنگ و دیزاین ...
 بۆ داواکردنی نرخ یان ھەر زانیاریەک نامە بنێرە بۆ پەنج یاخود پەڕوونەمان پێوەبکەن بە ژمارە مۆبایلی:
 Nami Institute: بۆ جاری سێم پەیمانگای نامی، پەیمانگای نامی...خولی سەرکردایەتی پەروەردەیی
 (Educational Leadership) لە شاری سلێمانی دەکاتەو. دەرئۆت بە ستانداردی جیھانی...
 Halwan's Clinic : لە کلینیكە نوێ یەكەمان بەردەوام دەبین لەگەڵتان..
 Kurdui : لە مەولا وینەیی چاتی ماسنجر بگرت، ئاشکرا دەبێت!
 Face bazar : فەیس بازار داشکاندنی گەورە کردووہ..
 Ras Group: گەورەترین بازاری ئۆنلاین

And the following are samples of a number of personal FB posts and comments that have been extracted by the permission of the FB users:

- مە پێنج بەرنامە و ویبسايتە پێویستیەکی سەرەکی کە خودی خۆش بەکاریان دەهێنم
- linktr.ee
- ویبسايتی کۆکردنەوی لینکەکانە کەوا دەتوانی گشت پلانتفۆرمەکانی تێدا دا بنییت، نمونەکی لە باپۆی ئینستاگرامەکەمدا بەر دەستە
- Lightroom
- دەستکاری کردنی رەنگی وینەکان و بەکارهێنای فلتەر بۆیان دەکریت ناستی وینەکانت بەرزبکاتەو و سەرئەگرتیش دەربکەون.
- Canva
- ویبسايت و ناپیکی زۆر ناسان لە بەکارهێنان و دەوڵمەند لە گرافیکدا کەوا بۆ کەسێک زۆر گونجاو کە هیچ شارەزایی لە گرافیک دیزایندا نەبێت.
- Mojo
- یەکنیکە لە ناپە بەهێزەکانی دروستکردی ستۆری جولۆ کەوا دەتوانی وینە و فیدۆ و دەنگی بۆ زیاد بکە!
- CapCut
- بۆ ئێدتی فیدۆ و مۆنتاژکردن بەکار دەهێنیت کەوا دەتوانی ریل و تیک تۆک و ستۆری زۆر جوانی پێ دروست بکەیت (خودی خۆم بۆ زۆرینەمی کارمەکانم بەکاری دەهێنم)
- Business Suite
- نامرەزی بەرئۆبەردن و سەرپەرشتی کردنی گشتی چەند پەنجیک یاخود فەیسبووک و ئینستاگرام لە ھەمان کاتدا.
- سەرچاو و ناپیک بۆ کارناسانی لە تۆرە کۆمەڵایەتیەکاندا
- ە روژی جیھانی بەرئۆبەردنەوی توندوتیژی ستافی رادیۆی XFM بە ھاوبەشی لەگەڵ ریکخراوی CDO و ریکخراوی Fost Youth Organization ھەڵدەستی بە نەجام دانی ئیقینتیکی تاییەت بۆ کەمپی پیرمەگروون.

- Thank youkaka
- Good info
- Thx for the compliment
- Hahaha indedd XD
- Well if a chicken made a duck's egg then does that means itz a dukin?!
- I wanna graduate without studying
- congrats

The second main method for the data collection is by posing a number of questions to the sample of the study, (i.e.), the 56 participants.

Data Analysis and Discussion of the Results

The lack of linguistic tools to identify and observe web neologisms such as NeoCrawler² stands an obstacle in front of Kurd reaches and forces them to do analysis manually. For the sake of the data analysis, a mixed (qualitative and quantitative) research method has been conducted. Qualitatively, the data consists of 356 neologisms retrieved from a reliable number of common public and personal FB accounts whose personal information are in safe, that are carefully studied and compared within the two lists above, and responses from 56 participants as forementioned. Noteworthy, the 56 responses are used for verification and authenticity of the data, and further verification of the frequency, the data is compared with the Kurdish Corpus Pewan to ensure validity and reliability.

Table 1: Frequency of the neologisms in this study according to Pewan Corpus

images	336	Refresh	220	ئۆفیسى	1946	فەیسبۆک	1092
FB	322	سەیل	216	کەمپینى	1929	پۆستەکان	1080
داتاو	316	کۆد	213	ئەفسەرى	1880	فۆرم	1060
ئۆدیو	316	دیکۆمێنت	209	مۆبايل	1793	کلێپ	1043
Title	316	مۆبايله	209	پروفیسۆر	1762	کۆلیژى	1022
post	305	مستەر	204	پروسه	1762	Sport	1007
ئایفون	292	کۆل	203	ئەرشیف	1726	فایرۆسى	1001
gmail	281	tv	194	رەپۆرتە	1681	Published	953
سەمینار	281	فان	189	تەکنەلۆژیای	1581	لایكى	953
مۆبیل	278	لۆک	186	ئەکادیمیای	1573	Net	947
OK	273	کلێپکردنى	175	رەپۆرتەکە	1537	members	892

² The idea for the NeoCrawler was" sparked by Hans-Jörg Schmid at the Chair of Modern English Linguistics at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich. Work on the development of the NeoCrawler by Susanne Stegmayr." Kerremen (2015:73).

options	267	Updated	163	دیزاینی	1496	net	786
ناد	246	Tel	161	تەلەفونى	1436	info	772
گوگل	263	لاپتوپ	153	سىستىم	1408	پۇلىس	766
ھالوس	249	وۆرگىشۈپە	135	سات	1393	address	745
Search	249	قايرۇسە	132	كۆپى	1320	Tweet	739
ئۇنلاين	247	History	128	تېخى	1268	settings	738
ناھ	247	Mobile	124	بودجە	1257	رادىئو	3725
list	242	كلىپە	121	پراكتىكى	1226	راپۇرت	3711
فون	240	ئۇفيسەكانى	119	News	1217	دىنار	12722
پۇستانەى	239	TAB	118	پلانى	1212	پۇستى	12568
واو	243	پەيچە	115	فۇرمى	1196	پىرۇژە	12552
Interview	227	پلاتفۇرمى	115	مىليار	11049	گروپى	12302
feed	226	پىرۇژە	3577	مىدىيا	6100	سىكرىتىرى	12040
كۆپى	223	پەرلەمانتار	3537	گروپە	6094	فىدرال	12011
دۆكۈمىنتى	593	پىرۇسىيەكى	3528	كۆمىتەى	6073	گروپە	7499
لىستەكە	591	تەلەفۇنۇنى	3464	مىدىياى	5857	كۆمىتەى	7216
فەيس	583	mail	3446	بودجە	5596	مىدىياى	6100
رادىئو	580	گروپ	3419	كۆمىسىيۇنى	5587	بودجە	6094
سايت	571	كولتورى	3358	دىموكراتى	5423	كۆمىسىيۇنى	6073
كاندىدىكى	556	پىرۇژەى	3342	سىستەمى	16756	دىموكراتى	5857
بوجەى	548	مۇدىرن	3322	بودجەى	16636	سىستەمى	5596
بايگۇنكردىنى	508	مىتر	3248	com	16443	com	5423
مەيل	490	لىنكىەى	749	پۇلىس	16102	پۇلىس	16636
Email	488	comment	3207	سايتى	13817	سىستەمى	5596

youtube	467	فایله	3162	کمناله	2400	com	5423
په‌یجی	440	Share	3127	لیست	2208	کۆمپانیای	16756
سمایل	421	Add	3055	سایتی	13817	com	5423
نوتیل	419	نیمه‌یل	3052	کمناله	2400	کۆمپانیای	16756
کودی	417	ئینتەرنیت	3021	ماستەر	2036	پۆلیس	16636
asp	404	text	2946	پەرله‌مانی	48064	com	5423
تۆف	396	گازی	2881	پەرله‌مان	43660	کۆمپانیای	16756
نۆ	363	بۆرۆ	2859	فیلمی	39471	پۆلیس	16636
کاندیدی	5225	Send	2803	لیستی	38368	Online	3848
رادییۆ	4525	Cancel	2798	ملیۆن	30348		
پروژه‌که	4400	follow	2796	دیموکراسی	22531		
کاندید	4370	ئەکادیمی	2555	پۆلیسی	22293		

The corpus involves thousands of words, of course; but only the above selected words are checked for as the process is manually accomplished. When analyzing the list of neologisms, a number of outcomes can be realized: On the Morphological level, the 357 neologisms under study are classified into eleven categories according to the morphological taxonomy proposed by Murray (1995): acronyms, blending, clipping, affixation, onimania, compounding and borrowing. Noteworthy, in the course of the morphological classifications, it has been acknowledged that some neologisms are of multiple-class membership depending on its structural component. For instance, the word 'Facebook' is classified under 'compounding' and 'borrowing' since it is a (1) a two-unit word and (2) it is borrowed from English into Kurdish through borrowing process, simultaneously. And the form 'FB' falls under abbreviation process. In table (2) bellow the types of English neologisms are demonstrated:

Table 2 : Classification of the neologisms based on Murray (1995)

Abbreviations	acronym	Blending	clipping	affixation	onomatopoeia	compounding	Reduplication	Antonomasia	borrowing	Conversion
dm	LOL	bunch	Gas	request	boom	hashtag	chit chat	WhatsApp	post	befriend

bro	ASAP	Pictionary	pub	selfie	hahaha	slow food	tic tok	FB	add	google
tmrw=tomorrow	BBT	webinar	lab	unfriend	buzz	photomob	hip hop	Instagram	friend	pock
w/a (WhatsApp)	IG	Freemium	bro	undo	click	FB	ping pong	google	hall	email
plz	FB	sheep	prof	repost	tik tok	screenshot	zig zag	friend	room	access
ru	TW	camcorder	doc	replay	ah	FB friend	yummy yummy	lit	zoom	download
4m (from)	YT	instafam	movie	unblock	ouch	FB profile	ding dong	story	new	robot
nt (not)	LI	dya	memo	resubmit	offf	book store	fifty fifty	history	year	security
a.m.	DM	blog	flue	reuse	noooo	Appstore	slip slop	follow	like	Add
p.m.	TOS	microscope	dom	blogger	total:11	online	willy nilly	follower	share	profile
n8 =(night)	URL	microscope	bus	twitter		offline	bye bye	request	emoji	check
srsly	OMG	blog	bike	follower		decor home	tatal:11	hack	smile	rules
net	idc	motel	burger	user		web-designer		live	home	total:11
dr.	total:14	total:13	auto	gaming		ceremony		zoom	screen	
proff			ad	FB user		goodbye		total:14	statues	
asst.			mike	reporter		coronavirus			comment	
ID			gym	deactivate		face mask			live	
FB			Copter	unfollow		trade war			story	
total: 19			admin	unlike		make up			event	
			congratats	congratulations		hidden chat			congratulations	
			total:21	followers		distance learning			request	
				redo		online learning			gallery	
				unsend		class mate			profile	
				conversation		social distance			account	
				reaction		covid 19			follow	

									page	
									hide	
									tower	
									institute	
									archive	
									area	
									sponsor	
									top	
									degree	
									filter	
									hack	
									notify	
									close	
									open	
									total:112	

The classification in the table (1) answers the second research question of the study, that the major classes of English neologisms used by Iraqi Kurd FB users are eleven.

Furthermore, the frequency of neologisms of each group in the table reflects that the main source of English neologisms by Iraqi Kurd FB users is through borrowing, that covers (112) words from the whole list, and this result answers the second research question raised. Borrowing (or sometimes termed as loan words) by Kurds is a normal and natural linguistic phenomenon. Kurds tend to borrow lexical items from different languages to fulfill their communication needs, such as from Arabic, Turkey and Iran. Since Iraqi Kurds live on the same land with Iraqi Arabs, and in return they borrowed hundreds of words, in a way that Kurdish literature, especially the poetry is full of these words. The old borrowed words have become part of the Kurdish lexicon, in such a way that the new generations consider them as part of their vocabulary since they are amalgamated into the language entirely.

One discernable feature of those historically borrowed words are the phonological changes that the words undergo. the following words that are borrowed from Arabic:

[dinâr]= dinar
[din]=religion
[wasiqa]= document
[sagif]=roof
[ijtima3]=meeting
[jami?a]= university
[muhazara]=lecture

Examples of words that are borrowed from Persian are:

[biro] in Persian is [bûru]= go
[hataw] in persian [hatâv]= the sun
[mâng] in Persian [mâh]= the moon

Report account													
Abusive account													
Abusive posts													
selfie													
request													
unfriend													
undo													
repost													
replay													
unblock													
resubmit													
reuse													
blogger													
twitter													
follower													
FB user													
redo													
unsend													
webinar													
camcorder													
instafan													
vlog													
microphone													

Table (2) reflects those English neologisms have entered all fields of the life of Kurdish individual which is reflected in their FB platforms. And this multidisciplinary of English neologisms in table (2) answers the first research question as it reflects the extent of using neologisms by Iraqi Kurd FB users. One more way that the current research question is answered is thorough a question directed to the participants about the frequency of using neologisms, as the majority answered that they use neologisms in their FB, which covers 98.4% of the answers.

In relation with the phonological aspect of the neologisms used by Iraqi FB users, the majority of them used as they are in English, the same pronunciation and meaning. Campbell (2004) argues that, when languages borrow words from each other the pronunciation of the borrowed words is based on spelling conventions of the source language, and this is also true with neologisms, except for several ones in the list that has undergone phonological changes:

- [ofise]>[afsar] :[o]>[a]
- [dokt] >[diktor] in which the vowel change occurs [o]>[i]
- [boi kot]>[baikot]:[o]>[oi]
- [kampein]> [kampi:n]: [ei].[i:]
- [vait>mi:n]> [vitamin:n]:[ai]>[i]
- [mesid]> [masid3]: [e]>[a]
- However, in certain cases th, as in:
- [kaltûr] the [t] and [û] are not assimilated as the English ['kʌltʃə].
- In some cases, letter and sound omission occurs as in:
- [hotel] > [otél].

And since these changes occur in the borrowing class of neologisms, the reason can be clarified according to the accommodation principle of Campbell (2004) who states that accommodation in borrowing is usually used to fit the phonological patterns of the recipient language. In relation to the research question (5) which concerns the lexicalization and institutionalization of English neologisms, the following argument satisfies the answer:

On the morpho-syntactic level of analyzing the words. it is observed that English neologisms are morphologically adapted into Kurdish language. Examples of such adaptation are when the neologisms are derived and inflected according to the morphological rules of the recipient language. For instance, the words from the noun category are inflected with the definite prefix '[-aka]-the page' and for indefiniteness with [-ek]-a', such in: [faisbükék]-a facebook, [faisbükakak]-the faisbük. And the new English neologisms are also annexed with all the personal pronoun clitics³ of Kurdish language system which are:

[-i] m, -i:n, -(i) -t, n, e, a:n]. For instance:

- [mésicékim nârd]- mäsicékja
Message-a-I sent I sent a message
- [onlainit?]
Onlain-are-you Are you online?

Similarly, they are [i] is annexed to English neologisms with noun categories to derive abstract nouns: ناری واتایی, such as [perlemâni], [demokrati], [etheki], [lojiki]. Furthermore, to attest to the criteria for lexicalization, the participants were asked whether they know the meaning of the neologisms they use on FB. Their answer comes up with the result that almost all of them know the meaning since they are competent in English. One more test to verify the lexicalization criterion is that these neologisms are used in the FB post headlines by the FB pages. Thus, the research question (5) is answered

³ Clitics are” separate independent morphological type on a par with derivational and inflectional affixes, which will be regarded as one and the same category”, (Fttah, 1997, 84)

More to know about the characteristics of neologisms is their orthographical aspect, two sorts of spelling systems are utilized as observed; the source language script and the Kurdish alphabets, which are the Latin alphabet and Sorani alphabet. For instance:

- Bajdy zankoy salahadin la pesh zankoi mousla
- نەبونی ستاف وکشەهێ داریی بەمکێکە لە کێشە گەرمانی پێداکۆجی زانکۆ گەرمان

In terms of the research question (4) that correlates with the factors of using English neologisms on FB. The following answers are summarized from the participants' responses, which are linguistic and non-linguistic;

1. Neologisms such as abbreviations make writing faster, 69.9% of the participants come up with this answer.
2. I do not know the Kurdish equivalent of these new words, (17.9%) provided this answer.
3. The remaining answers state that I feel content and classy, which is estimated 14.2% of the whole answers.

However, one can add that one of the reasons for introduction and widespread of terms among languages is due to the weakness of terminological policy and standardization of Kurdish language. All the above findings and conclusions indicate that English neologisms are highly used by Iraqi Kurd FB users in different modes of life, of different ages and genders to fill the gaps of communication in the new world technology, that relatively enhances Kurdish lexicon.

Conclusions

Kurdish language is floated with English neologisms that come out in individuals' communication through different media, whether local or social. The current study inclusively highlights the use of those English neologisms in Kurdish Public pages and Kurdish individual's FB platforms, as one of the common and popular social media among Kurds of Iraq, and how such words affect Kurdish language in return. When the data of the study are analyzed, some of findings have been arrived at that could achieve the aims of the study. Consequently, the following conclusions and findings have been arrived at: First, English neologisms used by Iraqi FB users fall under the eleven categories proposed by Murray (2014), the Iraqi Kurds mainly utilize the borrowing class of words than others. Second, the neologisms are divers, (i.e.), the majority of disciplines of life are influenced by this linguistic phenomenon, such as: education, politics, health, cosmetics, whether, business, money and more, which is reflected in individuals' posts and comments and public pages. Third, from the participants' responses, it is concluded that to pretend classy, dictate and write smoothly, and save time on FB, Iraqi Kurd FB users favor neologisms as *I wanna, txt me, email, ASAP, unfriend, hack, block*. The use of neologisms is so pervasive, especially among those FB users who have a good background in English, that shapes their daily communications and reaches all the life disciplines and amalgamated into their language, noticeably. Four, when neologisms enter Kurdish, they are diffused in the language and characterized by the Kurdish morpho-syntactic systems to the

extent that they are institutionalized and lexicalized. Though some neologisms might not sustain for a long period in the language, since words come and go, they may enter the corpora and dictionaries for a time or might be replaced with newly coined words, later.

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ⁱ <https://gs.statcounter.com/social-media-stats/all/iraq>