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Odjel za anglistiku
Sveučilišni preddiplomski studij Anglistika

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Izjava o akademskoj čestitosti

Ja, **Ivan Lujo,** ovime izjavljujem da je moj **završni** rad pod naslovom **Neologisms coined during the COVID-19 pandemic** rezultat mojega vlastitog rada, da se temelji na mojim istraživanjima te da se oslanja na izvore i radove navedene u bilješkama i popisu literature. Ni jedan dio mojega rada nije napisan na nedopušten način, odnosno nije prepisan iz necitiranih radova i ne krši bilo čija autorska prava.

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Zadar, 28. rujna 2023.

Table of contents

1. INTRODUCTION

The topic of this thesis paper is “Neologisms coined during the COVID-19 pandemic”. To fully understand the topic, it is necessary to first define COVID-19 and the circumstances regarding its emergence. The severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) caused the COVID-19 pandemic, which first appeared in December 2019 and spread quickly over the world. This prompted the World Health Organization (WHO) to classify it as a pandemic on March 11, 2020, after classifying it as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020. In addition to the pandemic's terrible impact on people’s lives, it also put a strain on healthcare systems, threw off economies, and stimulated widespread actions like lockdowns and travel restrictions. While preventing the spread of the virus, these steps had unexpected repercussions such as difficulties in educational or work settings, problems with mental health, and social isolation. Additionally, the crisis gave rise to many neologisms, which reflect the changing vocabulary used to express innovative concepts related to public health, remote work, virtual relationships and other. Investigating this topic entails examining how these linguistic modifications convey the unique complexities of the pandemic and its ongoing influence on global issues.

The subject, aim and purpose of the research, as well as the methodology and structure of the paper, are stated in the introductory part. In the second part, the basic concepts related to neologisms are presented in order to better understand their role during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the third part, background research papers are presented, after which the current research is presented as well as its main goal and research questions. In the fourth part, the methodology of the research part of the work is presented. The fifth part is a continuation of the fourth part, and it presents a detailed analysis of the obtained results. The sixth part of this work is the conclusion, which is a synthesis of theoretical and research parts.

The goal of this bachelor’s thesis is to identify some of the neologisms that appeared during the COVID-19 pandemic and to study their representation in the selected corpus.

2. NEOLOGISMS

Every year, a considerable number of new words is created in every language, and these words are called neologisms. In general, it can be difficult and complex task to define and count all neologisms because many of them fluctuate between acceptance and disappearance, and many of them are not accepted and are only short-lived ideas and inventions that never become part of the lexicon of a specific language (Newmark, 2003, p. 140). What is certain is that their number is constantly increasing. The origins of neologisms can be traced back to history, but what can be claimed with certainty, is that they most frequently occur in newly developed, unexpected situations in which people react to something new and unknown precisely by creating new words, and so it has been from the past to the present time. Such situations are, for example wars, pandemics, and others. This paper focuses on the emergence of newly coined words that are called neologisms in the period of the COVID-19 pandemic. The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic caused great problems among people, and so they adapted to such a situation in many ways, and in many different fields of their life, including language. In the field of language many new terms were created to name and describe everything that was not familiar. In other words, COVID-19 pandemic was very beneficial for the coining of neologisms.

To understand how neologisms function and how they arise, it is important to first define them. Neologisms are newly coined words or already existing words that acquire a new meaning (Newmark, 2003, p. 140). Many neologisms that occur are completely new words, never seen or heard before, but some of them are already existing words, provided with a new meaning, completely different from the one they had before.

2.1. Classification of neologisms

As it was mentioned in the previous chapter, neologisms can be new words that are completely new and unique, as opposed to those neologisms that correlate to new meanings for existing word forms (Cook, 2010, p. 2). An example of a neologism which occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic can be the most obvious one, the term *COVID-19* itself. *COVID-19* would then be defined as an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which first appeared in Wuhan, China in December 2019. On the other hand, an example of a word which existed before the pandemic, but which was provided with a new or in a way more profound meaning is *lockdown*. *Lockdown* can be defined as a state in which movement

or access to go somewhere is restricted because of some interests, mostly connected to public safety or health (URL 1). Its meaning in the COVID-19 pandemic did not change in the way that it means something completely different, but in the way that it was provided with a more profound sense. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the term *lockdown* was specific as it meant a ban on public spaces for all people without exception and it was a phenomenon for the masses. Also, that term had the connotation of something very important, because if the lockdown was not respected, it would lead to serious consequences, including the possibility of dying. If we consider it from this aspect, then the term *lockdown* is definitely a neologism. In the present time, if someone mentions the word *lockdown*, everyone will probably associate it with COVID-19 pandemic before with anything else. So, it can be said that COVID-19 greatly marked this word, and many others. All these new words, neologisms are coined by various word-formation processes. There are many different word-formation processes. Some of these are abbreviation, affixation, blending, clipping, compounding, conversion, coinage, and derivation. Before analyzing all these processes and supporting them with examples, it is first important to understand the concept of word formation.

2.2.Word-formation processes in neologisms

The process of creating new lexemes is known as word-formation. This frequently entails incorporating morphemes that are already present in a language. A word-formation element is introduced to a word-formation base throughout this process. The word-formation base must have at least one root morpheme (free or bound), but the word-formation element can be either a root or a derivational morpheme. As a result, word-formation analysis will always be concerned with determining two pieces: the base and the word-formation element. The morphological study of words, on the other hand, is concerned with discovering all the word's possible morphemes (Pavlík, 2017, p. 24). The final product of every word-formation process is a word form. In a more literal sense, a word form is a word which has a specific sense. It is a sound sequence that expresses the combination of a lexeme and a set of grammatical meanings (or grammatical functions) that correspond to that lexeme (Haspelmath & Sims, 2010, p. 15).

Understanding the concept of "derivation" is crucial for getting a better grasp of how lexemes are formed. It helps us make sense of the processes involved in the creation of lexemes. So, derivation is a lexical process that is concerned with the formation of new lexemes, or words that differ from their bases in either syntactic category or meaning. For

example, adding the suffix –ness to an adjective changes both the word class and the lexical meaning of the root, examples: blindness, happiness, goodness, and so on (Pavlík, 2017, p. 21).

As already noted before, there are multiple word-formation processes. They can be divided into two main categories: morphemic and non-morphemic word-formation processes. Morphemic processes include affixation and compounding, while non-morphemic processes encompass abbreviation, blending, clipping, conversion, coinage, back-formation, eponymy, etc. (Katamba & Stonham, 2006, p. 48–49). While most of these processes involve the creation of new lexemes with altered meanings or different grammatical categories by adding affixes, and thus falling under the scope of derivation, affixation stands out as the only process that can be both inflectional and derivational. Notably, not all these processes were applicable or effective during the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, as key word-formation processes, understanding and defining each of them remains important.

The first process that will be defined is affixation. Affixation is one of the two main ways new words enter the language. It refers to the supplementary use of derivational affixes. The first thing that is most often examined regarding specific morphemes is whether they can exist independently or if they necessitate attachment to a base morpheme and thus we examine the process of affixation (Twain, 2013, p. 40). Affixation can be divided into two main subcategories: prefixation and suffixation (Haspelmath & Sims, 2010, p. 34). Prefixation involves the attachment of a bound morpheme to the front of a root or stem. An example of prefixation would be *anti-vaxxer* (1). Nonetheless, in the context of the current pandemic, this example can be considered a revived word because it has begun to be used again and denotes an opponent of coronavirus vaccination. Lastly, in suffixation, a bound morpheme is attached to the end of a stem. Suffixation can be presented on the example of the term *lockdown*. By adding the suffix -er, the lexeme *lockdowner* (2) will be coined, and this term is connected to the term lockdown itself.

(1) anti-vaxxer ‘anti-vaccination activist’
(2) lockdowner ‘person that must be in lockdown’

The next word-formation process is compounding, in which two lexemes, neither of which is an affix, combine into one by juxtaposition. They are otherwise realized independently. The meaning of compounds is not always obvious from the meaning of their

constituent elements. Compounds are distinguished by the fact that they frequently juxtapose some words while leaving the meaning of the entirety unclear (Kracht, 2007, p. 82–83). Examples of compounds would be *lifetime* (3), *football* (4), *earthquake* (5), *sometimes* (6), *skateboard* (7), etc. An example associated with the COVID-19 pandemic would be an adjective *COVID-resistant* (8) 'COVID + resistant'.

(3) lifetime 'life + time'
(4) football 'foot + ball'
(5) earthquake 'earth + quake'
(6) sometimes 'some + times'
(7) skateboard 'skate + board'
(8) COVID-resistant 'a person who is immune and cannot be infected by the coronavirus disease'

Another process is blending, in which the constituent parts that form the meaning are not entirely present in the word, and hence the meaning cannot be recovered from these constituents. It supposes that two different terms merge to produce a single distinct term (Booij, 2007, p. 21). Examples of blending from everyday life are *brunch* (9), *smog* (10) or *workaholic* (11). An interesting example of blending that took place during the COVID-19 pandemic is *blursday* (12) in the coining of which the verb "blur" and the noun "Thursday" were combined.

(9) brunch 'breakfast + lunch'
(10) smog 'smoke + fog'
(11) workaholic 'work + alcoholic' 'a person who works compulsively'
(12) blursday 'any day of the week that feels not much different from the one before'

The following is clipping, which is the process of creating a new word by reducing an existing one. This newly coined word has no semantic difference from its full counterpart (Aronoff & Fudeman, 2002, p. 122). They are frequently utilized on less formal occasions. Some examples are *info* (13), *lab* (14) or *maths* (15). An example of a clipping associated with the COVID-19 pandemic is *Rona* (16).

(13) info 'information'

(14) lab ‘laboratory’
(15) maths ‘mathematics’
(16) Rona ‘coronavirus’

Conversion refers to the process by which a lexeme from one class can be 'converted' into a different class without any apparent change in shape (Carstairs-McCarthy, 2002, p. 48). Meaning is essential in the conversion process. Conversion occurs when a term undergoes no structural change but changes grammatical categories (and thus, to some extent, meaning). Examples below best show how conversion functions - in (17) the lexeme host functions as a noun, and in (18) it takes the role of a verb.

(18) John is the host for today’s meeting.
(19) John will host his partners for today’s meeting in his house.

One of the least common processes of word formation in English is coinage. According to Kalsum et al. (2021), it refers to the creation of entirely new terms (p. 69). One example of coinage that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic would be the term *COVID-19* (20), as it is a completely new term brought up for the purpose of naming the newly found disease.

(20) COVID-19 ‘coronavirus disease 2019’

3. RESEARCH ON NEOLOGISMS COINED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Research on neologisms generated during the COVID-19 pandemic has drawn the interest of many scholars and researchers because language reflects the changing global discourse surrounding this extraordinary crisis. The discovery of new words and language innovations has provided useful insights into the pandemic's linguistic and cultural contributions. Scholars have used a variety of approaches to investigate neologisms, including analyzing word-formation processes and the impact of social media on the lexis. Researchers have enhanced our understanding of the linguistic responses to global crises and the role of language in capturing and addressing uncommon concerns by exploring the vast terrain of neologisms during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.1. Previous research on neologisms coined during the COVID-19 pandemic

For the purpose of this paper, some background studies were analyzed to better understand the crucial facts and concepts associated with neologisms that occurred during the pandemic and also to create some specific research questions for this very research paper. Moreover, this paper aims to provide a concise overview of selected research studies, highlighting the key aspects of interest in the field of neologisms during the COVID-19 pandemic. By examining these studies, we can gain valuable insights into the linguistic and cultural impact of the pandemic and the role of neologisms in capturing the evolving global discourse.

One of these papers is Asif et al. (2021). The paper utilizes a theoretical framework based on three components of neologism: word formation, borrowing, and lexical deviation. The research methodology consists of gathering secondary data from various sources such as articles, books, the Oxford Corpus, social media, and websites. The period in which the data was collected extends from January 2020 to April 2020. The study combines qualitative and quantitative analysis to analyze the neologisms related to COVID-19. In addition to offering definitions for the provided neologisms, this research paper also presents monthly keywords and a list of the most frequently associated terms, known as collocates, specifically top twenty of them.

The second research paper that this paper draws upon is written by Katherine B. Akut (2020). This study explores the morphological structures and processes of neologisms that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic. These neologisms, according to the study, show the dynamic character of language and adhere to the common patterns seen in the English vocabulary. Most of these recently generated terms are nouns, giving names for distinct components of the pandemic, according to a review of neologisms related to COVID-19. Verbs that describe behaviors or activities connected to the outbreak are also available. These neologisms are most frequently produced by the word-formation processes of compounding, blending, and affixation. The above processes reflect the language modifications brought forth by the pandemic and add to the vocabulary. The study links to a prior study by Asif et al. (2021) that examined the linguistic analysis of neologisms associated with COVID-19. Both studies are interested in learning more about neologisms used during the pandemic. But unlike this second study, Asif's study did not directly explore the morphemic structures of the detected neologisms. Instead, it looked at word creation, borrowing, and lexical variation.

Another notable research study that warrants attention within the scholarly discourse surrounding neologisms in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic is Al-Salman and Haider (2021). This study also observed the emergence of neologisms during the COVID-19 pandemic. The researchers investigated how these words were produced and compiled a dataset of 208 COVID-19-related neologisms from diverse sources. They discovered that these new words were created through various processes, such as making up entirely new words, adding prefixes or suffixes to existing words, combining two words together, shortening words, creating new words based on existing ones, borrowing words from other languages, using abbreviations, acronyms, and even folk etymology. These were instances of single word-formation processes. The research also discovered instances of dual word-formation mechanisms such as compounding.

Among the extensive literature concerned with the phenomenon of neologisms arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is noteworthy to highlight additional research by Al-Azzawi and Ali Haleem 2021 which highlights the importance of social media on the creation of neologisms. The study's dataset included over 5 million tweets collected between January and June 2020, with a focus on COVID-19-related tweets in English. The tweets were sorted by relevance, yielding approximately 2.8 million messages. COVID-related hashtags were divided into three groups: borrowing and jargon language, word formation, and lexical

variation. Borrowing entailed non-specialists adopting medical terms, whereas word formation entailed the production of new words through blending and coinage. Lexical variation entailed using existing terms in novel situations. These neologisms represented the pandemic's changing cultural and social milieu, functioning as a way of expression, comedy, and coping.

3.2. The current research

Based on the insights gained from the studies on neologisms during the COVID-19 pandemic that were mentioned in the previous chapter, this current research aims to build upon and further investigate the linguistic and cultural impact of the pandemic by making a corpus-based analysis of neologisms which emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic. By drawing upon the methodologies employed in these studies, which include examining word formation processes, borrowing, lexical deviation, and the role of social media, this research seeks to explore the evolving language and discourse surrounding the pandemic. Furthermore, this work intends to broaden the period of interest beyond the preliminary stages of the pandemic reported in previous studies, providing a broader knowledge of the neologisms that have come into existence throughout time. The following chapter will give a complete and extensive analysis of the methods used in this research, as well as a comprehensive assessment of the current study. The research design and analytical framework will be thoroughly examined, providing a clear grasp of the qualitative and quantitative approaches used to analyze the language innovations that have evolved as an outcome of the global crisis caused by the COVID-19.

3.3.Main goal of the research and research questions

By delving into the linguistic innovations and lexical creations related to COVID-19, the main goal of this research is to determine which are the most prominent neologisms that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic and what is their status in the lexis. This will be examined by trying to answer the following research questions:

RQ1: *What were the most frequently used word-formation processes in the creation of neologisms during the COVID-19 pandemic?*

RQ2: *What are the most frequent neologisms that occurred during the COVID-19 in 2020., 2021. and 2022.?*

RQ3: *Are the pandemic-related neologisms likely to persist or fade away from the everyday language as the pandemic evolves?*

As mentioned earlier, the primary objective of this research is to identify the neologisms that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic and examine their place in everyday lexicon. The main hypothesis is that through this research, it will be determined that the neologisms that originated at the onset of the pandemic were most used right then, and as time passes and the situation stabilizes, their usage will decrease in line with the diminishing global severity of the disease. If we provide these facts with numbers, the year 2020 will be remembered as the year when COVID-19 was most severe, and the neologisms that emerged during that time reached their peak usage, with everyone employing them. However, from 2021 onwards, until today, the question remains: what is the current situation of these neologisms, and has there been a significant change in their usage? The answer to this question will be provided by the realization of this research.

4. METHODOLOGY

After processing the concepts important for understanding neologisms in general, corpus-based research was carried out. The research provides insight into the neologisms that arose during the pandemic and the place they have found in the overall lexicon. The research was conducted in July 2023 within the corpus manager and text analysis software *Sketch Engine*. The corpus that was used for data analysis was *COVID-19 corpus from Open Research Dataset (CORD-19)*. This corpus, which contains over 370,000 papers on coronavirus and related issues, is a significant resource for research and analysis. For this research, a list of eighty (80) neologisms was created[1]. Some of these neologisms are the following *COVID-19, coronavirus, coronaviral, infodemic, lockdown, blursday*, etc. The whole list of neologisms can be found in the *Appendix*.

The sample for this research is random because the list of neologisms was created without a specific pattern and there are no exclusive norms. The only criterion considered while compiling the list was that the neologisms can be found and analyzed within the selected corpus as there were many of them that emerged during the pandemic, but never gained prominence. The design of the research is cross-sectional which means that are a few different variables that will be compared and analyzed at the same time. There is one independent variable: the frequency of neologisms coined during the COVID-19 pandemic, and there is one independent variable. The independent variable is word-formation process by which a neologism was coined will be used for the analysis of the first research question. Then, for the second research question there is also one dependent variable, which is the frequency of occurrence of neologisms, and there is one independent variable: year/time period, and it will be divided into three levels, namely 2020, 2021, and 2022. This analysis will provide the most frequent neologisms in all three years and show possible differences. The time frame of the research is January 2020 to December 2022. The results will be provided on interval scale.

The method that will be used is called concordances, which offers various search options in the selected corpus. It can locate and identify words, phrases, tags, documents, text types, or structural elements within a corpus. These findings are then presented in the form of a concordance, providing the surrounding context in which they appear. In Sketch Engine,

[1]The list comprises neologisms derived from the four aforementioned background research papers, as well as various online sources such as Twitter, encompassing numerous articles that address neologisms pertaining to COVID-19.

concordances can be searched at two levels: basic and advanced. For this research, the advanced search level was utilized. When conducting a search, the user needs to select the query type, which determines the approach used to match the search criteria. The available options include simple matching, lemmatization, and others. In the case of this paper, the selected query type is CQL (Corpus Query Language). CQL allows for more complex and specific searches by using a structured query language designed for working with corpora. When searching for the selected words or patterns, precise formulae and rules must be followed after selecting the query type (CQL in this example). These formulas and rules govern how search criteria are built and interpreted in the corpus. They outline how to specify the necessary patterns, such as word order, proximity, part of speech, or other linguistic characteristics. For example, if one wants to find all concordances of the word infodemic and specify that the word class of this word is noun, the formula would be next: [lemma=”infodemic” & tag=”N.*”]. A lemma is a positional attribute that represents the fundamental form of a word, usually the form listed in dictionaries. When a corpus is lemmatized, it enables searching based on the basic form of a word and includes all its different inflected forms in the search results. On the other hand, the term "tag" refers to the part of speech categorization assigned to each word in the corpus. In this way, all 80 neologisms from the list were examined to find out the results.

The results of a search can vary depending on the corpus used. In this particular research, a specific corpus was employed to obtain the results. However, if a different corpus had been used, the outcomes might have been different. This variation occurs because each corpus comprises its own unique set of texts and represents a specific domain, genre, or time period. As the corpus selected for this research is specifically created to collect terms associated with COVID-19 pandemic, it will give accurate and contextually relevant interpretation of the data.

5. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

After analyzing all eighty (80) neologisms in *Sketch Engine*, the results will be presented by identifying and highlighting the most frequently occurring neologisms in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these neologisms will be extracted from the list and discussed in the findings. Additionally, the research questions that were posed will be addressed and answered based on the insights gained from the analysis of the whole list of neologisms. The first results will be presented by showcasing the overall findings of the analysis. This will involve listing the 5 most frequent neologisms and the 5 least frequent neologisms identified from the dataset. So, the 5 most frequent neologisms are *COVID-19*, *SARS-CoV-2*, *lockdown*, *MERS-CoV*, and *WFH*. On the other hand, there are 10 neologisms that appeared in the corpus just once, and some of them are *blursday*, *corona coaster*, *mask-shaming*, *pandy*, and *workation*. These results accompanied with the meaning of the given terms and their frequencies can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Most frequent and least frequent neologisms

Neologism	***Meaning***	***Frequency***	***Frequency per million***
COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019	3911492	2179,65542
SARS-CoV-2	severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	1439800	802,3199
lockdown	a state or period in which movement within or access to an area is restricted in the interests of public safety or health	290365	161,80415
MERS-CoV	Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus	109190	60,84547
WFH	work from home	6129	3,41535
blursday	any day of the week that feels not much different from the one	1	0,00056

	before		
corona coaster	the emotional ups and downs experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic	1	0,00056
mask-shaming	the act of criticizing, mocking, or stigmatizing individuals who choose to wear or not wear face mask	1	0,00056
pandy	pandemic	1	0,00056
workation	a situation where an individual combines work responsibilities with a vacation or leisure time	1	0,00056

The most prominent word was the term *COVID-19* itself, but also other words which were used to define the disease, such as *SARS-CoV-2* or *MERS-CoV*. Also, it is important to state that most of the new lexemes that emerged during COVID-19 are nouns, and some are adjectives, while other word classes were not affected. This data can be seen in Figure 1. Also, all eighty (80) neologisms and their corresponding word classes are listed in the *Appendix*.

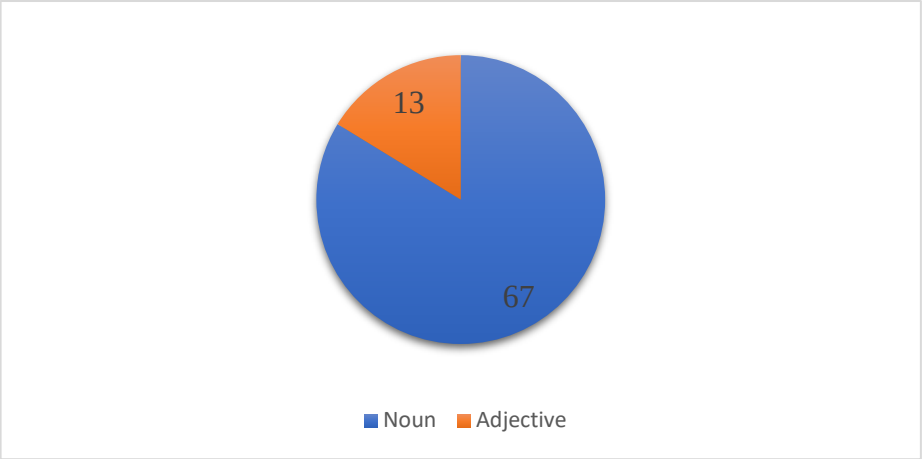


Figure 1. The distribution of eighty (80) neologisms categorized by word class to which they belong.

Regarding the presentation of the neologisms with the greatest amount of representations, as well as those with the lowest frequency within the corpus, the following phase entails an in-depth analysis of the obtained results in relation to the three research questions.

The first research question (**RQ1**) was: *What were the most frequently used word-formation processes in the creation of neologisms during the COVID-19 pandemic?* To address this question, it is crucial to grasp the terminology related to the process of word formation, which is elaborated in the section dedicated to the word-formation processes.

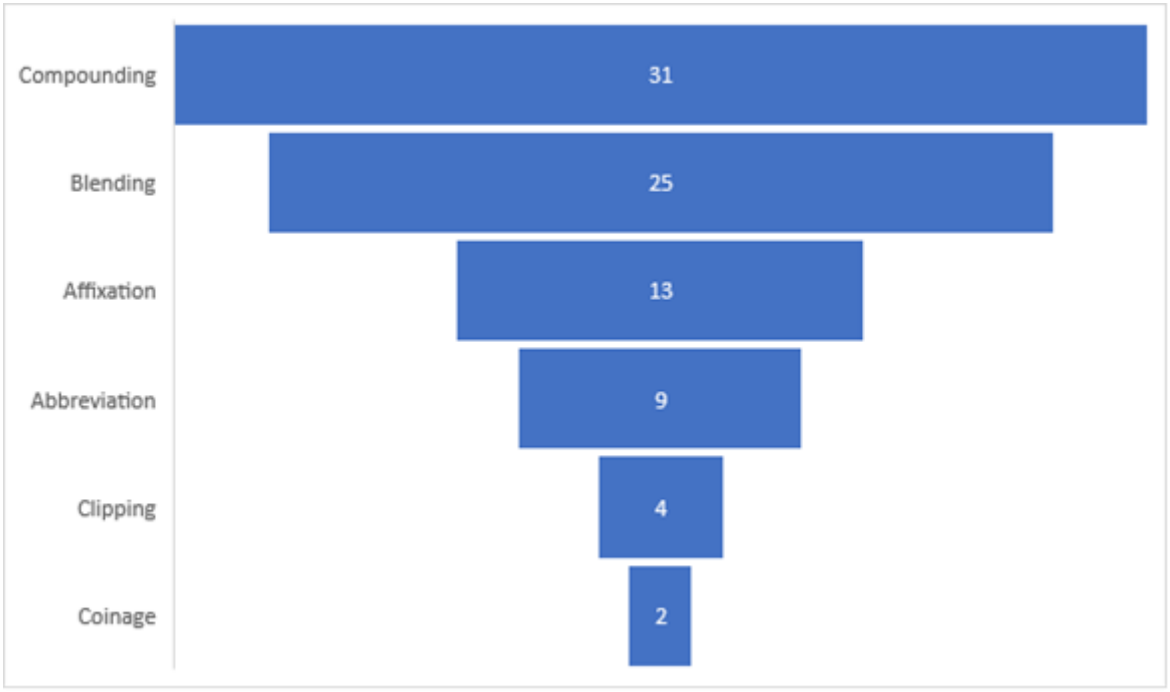


Figure 2. The distribution of eighty (80) neologisms categorized by word-formation process by which they were coined.

According to the results, as illustrated in Figure 2, the most productive word-formation process in creating neologisms is compounding; 31 neologisms from the list are compounds. Some of the neologisms that are constructed by compounding are *boomer remover*, *contact tracing*, *coronaviral*, *doomscrolling*, and *security theater*. Some compounds that were predominant were *contact tracing* (contact + tracing), *COVID-related* (COVID + related), *elbow bump* (elbow + bump) and *social distancing* (social + distancing). The second most prominent word-formation is blending with 25 words extracted. Some blends from the list are *covidient*, *covidiot*, *quarantini*, *pancession* and *moronavirus*. Affixation is also a fruitful process, and some examples are *anti-masker*, *coronaviruslike*, and *non-covid*. Abbreviation, coinage, and clipping, in comparison to other word-formation processes, demonstrated relatively low productivity. Some examples of abbreviation are *COVAX* 'COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access', *nCoV* 'novel coronavirus', *PASC* 'post-acute sequelae of COVID-19' and *WFA* 'work from anywhere'. There were four lexemes that were coined by clipping and they are *roni* and *Rona* which both stand for coronavirus, *pandy* 'pandemic' and *coronavac* 'corona vaccine', but it is important to note that in the coining of this lexeme, compounding was also involved. Finally, there were just two lexemes regarding the process of coinage. These are *covid* and *coronavirus* which are lexemes that are completely new and used to name the recently discovered disease.

The second research question (**RQ2**) was: *What are the most frequent neologisms that occurred during the COVID-19 in 2020, 2021 and 2022?* As with the first question, the concordances method was used for this as well, but it was necessary to create three sub-corpora based on time period to enable a parallel analysis of the same neologisms in three different time periods during which the COVID-19 pandemic was predominant. The analysis of all 80 neologisms spans across the entirety of three consecutive years. The presentation of results will focus on a selection of the ten most prevalent lexemes from each of these distinct time periods. The supplementary findings pertaining to the remaining lexemes from the list are provided in the *Appendix* section.

Table 2. Ten most frequent neologisms in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

	2020.	**2021.**	**2022.**
1.	COVID-19	COVID-19	COVID-19
2.	SARS-CoV-2	SARS-CoV-2	SARS-CoV-2
3.	coronavirus	coronavirus	lockdown

4.	lockdown	lockdown	coronavirus
5.	social distancing	social distancing	social distancing
6.	MERS-CoV	MERS-CoV	MERS-CoV
7.	contact tracing	contact tracing	contact tracing
8.	new normal	COVID-related	PASC
9.	COVID-related	post-COVID	WFH
10.	self-quarantine	pre-COVID	post-COVID

The obtained data in Table 2 reveals the ten most frequent neologisms in the *COVID-19 corpus from the Open Research Dataset (CORD-19),* selected in three sub-corpora based on time periods. The data show that the lexemes *COVID-19* and *SARS-CoV-2* were the most prevalent across all three years. Following them, *coronavirus* and *lockdown* were also among the most prevalent lexemes, with *coronavirus* being predominant in 2020 and 2021, and *lockdown* in 2022. Next in line are the lexemes *social distancing*, *MERS-CoV*, and *contact tracing*, which hold equal positions in all three periods. Of particular interest are the lexemes that are at the last three spots among the most frequent ones, as they significantly varied across the three years. In 2020, *new normal*, *COVID-related*, and *self-quarantine* are among the most frequent ones, while in 2021, *COVID-related*, *post-COVID*, and *pre-COVID* took their place. In 2022, *PASC*, *WFH*, and *post-COVID* emerged as frequent lexemes.

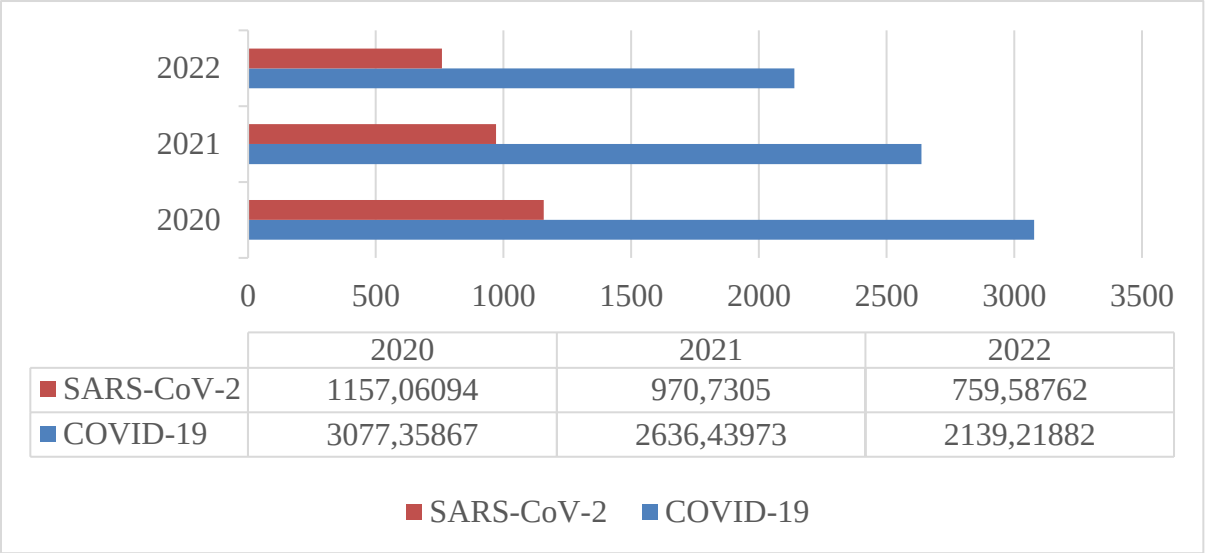
The reason these lexemes have the highest token count in the mentioned corpus can be attributed to the fact that *COVID-19*, *SARS-CoV-2*, *coronavirus*, and *MERS-CoV* are terms directly representing the names of the disease and its causative agents, conveying their significance. Additionally, *lockdown*, *social distancing* (21), and *self-quarantine* (22) stood out as prominent medical terms widely used during the pandemic. Understanding and implementing these terms were essential, as they represented fundamental protective measures during the COVID-19 outbreak. Another predominant lexeme according to the results is *new normal*. This could be because people used this lexeme to express the pandemic's substantial and long-lasting impacts in social, economic, and everyday life.

(21) social distancing ‘maintaining a physical distance from others, particularly to reduce the risk of spreading contagious diseases'

(22) self-quarantine ‘a precautionary measure where an individual stays isolated from others to prevent the spread of infectious diseases’

The third and final research question (**RQ3**) was as follows: *Are the pandemic-related neologisms likely to persist or fade away from the everyday language as the pandemic evolves?* This research question is related to the one that was posed before. Because these two questions are interconnected, **RQ2** attempted to portray the data qualitatively, whereas **RQ3** will focus on a more quantitative representation of data. Therefore, the results for this question will not only identify which lexemes are more likely to persist in the language and which may fade away, but it will also provide quantitative data on their occurrence in the specified corpus to support the previously described examples provided in the analysis of the **RQ2**, as well as other examples. This will provide a better understanding of the position of each lexeme and the differences among them.

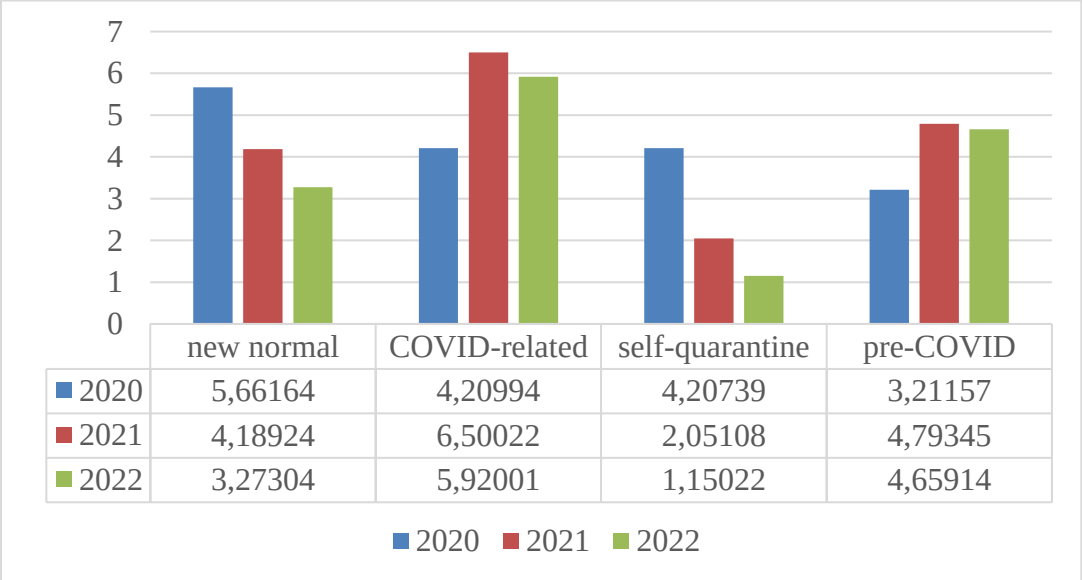
To begin, neologisms *COVID-19* and *SARS-CoV-2* will be considered, as they were the most prominent in all three time periods, as revealed by the second research question. As provided in Figure 3, both lexemes had the highest relative frequency (tokens per million) in 2020. Then, in 2021 their frequency was also very high, but it was lower than in the first year. Also, there is a change in the number of token; we can see how in 2022 the number of tokens has decreased in comparison to first two examined years. Concretely, lexeme *COVID-19* had a relative frequency of 3077,35867 tokens in 2020, then 2636.43973 tokens in 2021 and finally 2139,21882 tokens in 2022. which is a reduction of nearly 500 tokens per year. The decrease of tokens for the lexeme *SARS-CoV-2* is also recorded from 2020 to 2022 and it is around 200 tokens per year. These two examples indicate how the vast majority of the other examples on the list were most typically the case.



	2020	2021	2022
SARS-CoV-2	1157,06094	970,7305	759,58762
COVID-19	3077,35867	2636,43973	2139,21882

Figure 3. Relative frequency of lexemes COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 in three measured time periods.

The neologisms that will be analyzed and that were also presented in **RQ2** are *new normal*, *COVID-related*, *self-quarantine* and *pre-COVID*.



	new normal	COVID-related	self-quarantine	pre-COVID
2020	5,66164	4,20994	4,20739	3,21157
2021	4,18924	6,50022	2,05108	4,79345
2022	3,27304	5,92001	1,15022	4,65914

Figure 4. Relative frequency of lexemes *new normal*, *COVID-related*, *self-quarantine* and *pre-COVID* in three measured time periods.

The results in Figure 4 display that these four lexemes had significantly smaller number of tokens, with none of them reaching seven thousand tokens per million. Lexeme *new normal* had 5,66164 tokens in 2020, 4,18924 tokens in 2021, and 3,27304 tokens in 2022, which once again showcase a gradual decrease in the number of tokens from the first year of interest,

2020 to the last year of interest, 2022. *COVID-related* had 4,20994 tokens in 2020, 6,50022 tokens in 2021 and 5,92001 tokens in 2022 which demonstrates an important difference from other results that were presented before. It is because it gives a grasp at how one lexeme had an increase in the number of tokens from the first year of interest to the last year, in other words, from 2020 to 2022. The same situation is with the lexeme *pre-COVID* which had 3,21157 tokens in 2020, 4,79345 tokens in 2021 and 4,65914 tokens in 2022. Lastly, lexeme *self-quarantine* is yet another example of gradual reduction in the number of tokens per million in the span of three years. It had 4,2074 tokens in 2020, 2,0511 tokens in 2021 and 1,502 tokens in 2022.

The last step in the analysis of the third research question will be presenting the results of some of the least frequent neologisms in all three years listed in Table 3.

Neologism	2020		2021		2022	
disinfodemic	2	0,00509	3	0,00402	0	0
moronavirus	1	0,00255	2	0,00268	0	0
coronacoma	1	0,00255	0	0	0	0
Covidsomnia	0	0	1	0,00134	1	0,00291
plandemic	0	0	6	0,00804	0	0
coronapocalypse	0	0	2	0,00268	0	0
corona baby	0	0	2	0,00268	0	0
blursday	0	0	1	0,00134	0	0
workation	0	0	1	0,00134	0	0
corona coaster	0	0	1	0,00134	0	0

Table 3. Frequency and relative frequency of some of the least frequent neologisms

The table above represents some of the neologisms that had the smallest number of tokens in the corpus. They are *disinfodemic* (23), *moronavirus* (24), *coronacoma* (25), *Covidsomnia* (26), *plandemic* (27), *coronapocalypse* (28), *corona baby* (29), *blursday*, *workation* (30) and *corona coaster* (31). It is important to note that there are more neologisms with similar results, and they will be displayed as a part of the full list of all eighty (80) neologisms in *Appendix*. Considering the results of the 10 selected neologisms, it can be acknowledged that there are many neologisms that were invented during the COVID-19 pandemic that did not stand out prominently or see widespread use during the initial stages of the pandemic. The frequency of occurrence of each neologism is quantified in terms of its concrete frequency and relative frequency. The lexeme *disinfodemic* was used twice in 2020, with a relative

frequency of 0.00509, and three times in 2021, with a relative frequency of 0.00402. In contrast, *moronavirus* emerged once in 2020 (relative frequency of 0.00255) and again in 2021 (relative frequency of 0.00268) before disappearing completely in 2022. The lexemes *coronacoma* and *Covidsomnia*, both referring to pandemic-induced disorders, were used sparingly. *Coronacoma* was used once in 2020 (relative frequency of 0.00255), but it was not used again in succeeding years. *Covidsomnia* first appeared in 2021, with one instance and a relative frequency of 0.00134, and its usage climbed somewhat in 2022, with two instances and a relative frequency of 0.00291. Notably, the lexeme *plandemic* appeared six times in 2021 (relative frequency of 0.00804) before disappearing in 2022. Similarly, lexemes like *coronapocalypse*, *corona baby*, *blursday*, *workation*, and *corona coaster* were used sporadically in 2021, with relative frequencies ranging from 0.00134 to 0.00268, but they were no longer used in 2022. The data demonstrates the fluid nature of language change throughout the pandemic, with certain neologisms acquiring momentum while others fell into oblivion, showing the fast shifts in society discourse and concerns over time. These examples are presented precisely to demonstrate how a plethora of new words emerged during the pandemic; however, only a small fraction of them managed to gain substantial prominence, while the majority remained recognized but were sparingly employed. Thus, most of these neologisms began to fade from usage as early as 2022.

(23) disinfodemic ‘The widespread dissemination of false or misleading information related to the COVID-19 pandemic, often leading to confusion and public health risks’
(24) moronavirus ‘expression used to criticize individuals who exhibit reckless or ignorant behavior during the pandemic, disregarding safety measures’
(25) coronacoma ‘a state of boredom, lethargy, or lack of motivation experienced by some individuals due to the extended periods of isolation and restricted activities during the pandemic’
(26) Covidsomnia ‘the inability to sleep or experiencing disrupted sleep patterns as a result of stress, anxiety, or other pandemic-related factors’
(27) plandemic ‘the notion that the COVID-19 pandemic was planned or fraudulent’
(28) coronapocalypse ‘the widespread impact and disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, likening it to an apocalyptic event’
(29) corona baby ‘a baby born during the COVID-19 pandemic’
(30) workation ‘a situation where individuals work remotely from a vacation or leisure destination’

(31) corona coaster ‘the emotional ups and downs experienced by individuals during the pandemic, as they navigate through various challenges and uncertainties’

Taken together, the entirety of the results underscores the confirmation of the main research hypothesis. The hypothesis was that the highest number of neologisms would be present during the year when the coronavirus emerged, which is 2020. After that, the number of neologisms would remain significant and stabilize in 2021 but would significantly decline in 2022. This was roughly the case, although according to the results, 2021 was the year with the highest recorded neologism count. It is highly likely that most of these neologisms appeared in 2020, considering that in that year, according to the results, many neologisms had a high token count. Then, they stabilized and were even more widely used in 2021 when everyone had already heard of them and began using them extensively. A significant drop occurred in 2022, as expected. The assumption is that this decline occurred due to the reduced severity of the pandemic. As the number of infections decreases and the situation becomes less serious, there is a decrease in the usage of words related to COVID-19. For this reason, it is possible that a large pool of words that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic will eventually disappear or become words that were only used and created during this period before ceasing to be used.

However, it is possible that not all words will completely vanish. Words that have proven to be the most frequent during the research, such as *COVID-19*, *SARS-CoV-2*, *coronavirus*, and similar terms, will likely remain in the language. These terms are used to name the disease and will continue to be the most used when discussing it, as over time, COVID-19, much like now, will become a disease like any other and will no longer be as alarming as it was when it first emerged.

6. CONCLUSION

Ultimately, this study has investigated the remarkable field of neologisms that developed under the unique conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning with an overview of COVID-19 itself, including its origins and historical context, the study was motivated by previous background research studies that underscored the linguistic significance of this global event and gave motivation for this current paper.

The research approach entailed selecting eighty (80) neologisms and extensively analyzing them in the selected corpus in accordance with three research questions. This thorough examination not only identified the neologisms that emerged during the pandemic, but also investigated their word-formation processes, word types, and prevalence over three time periods: 2020, 2021, and 2022. The objective of the comparative analysis of their frequencies in the chosen corpus was to determine whether the hypothesis regarding the neologisms' place in ordinary language is correct.

The studies revealed an important pattern: neologisms proliferate within extreme events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Notably, many neologisms such as COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus have consistently high frequencies and are likely to be used in discusses on the virus in the future. However, as the virus gradually becomes less severe, some neologisms may fade into obscurity, as evidenced by the analysis results. The results along with the Appendix contain neologisms with zero occurrences in the 2022 corpus, which indicates that they are already near disappearance. Some of these neologisms are *security theater*, *plandemic*, *blursday*, *workation*, *mask-shaming*, *quarantini*, *COVID-resistant*, and other.

This paper did not only provide an insight into the origins and characteristics of pandemic-related neologisms, but it also indicated their future progressions within the language landscape. The study's value is in highlighting the dynamic interplay between language and global events, which has important implications for the long-term survival and relevance of neologisms. As the world navigates the post-pandemic era, the destiny of these linguistic inventions demonstrates the transitory character of language, affected by the fluctuating nature of societal changes.

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8. APPENDIX

Table 1. Glossary of neologisms coined during the COVID-19 pandemic.

No.	Neologism	Word class	Word-formation process	Frequency	Frequency per million
1.	COVID-19	Noun	Abbreviation (coronavirus disease 2019)	3911492	2179,65542
2.	SARS-CoV-2	Noun	Abbreviation (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2)	1439800	802,3199
3.	coronavirus	Noun	Coinage	432250	240,8687
4.	lockdown	Noun	Compounding (lock + down)	290365	161,80415
5.	social distancing	Noun	Compounding (social + distancing)	126621	70,55879
6.	MERS-CoV	Noun	Abbreviation (Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus)	109190	60,84547
7.	contact tracing	Noun	Compounding (contact + tracing)	26002	14,48946
8.	COVID-related	Adjective	Compounding (COVID + related)	8542	4,75998
9.	new normal	Noun	Compounding (new + normal)	6547	3,64828
10.	pre-COVID	Adjective	Affixation (pre- + COVID)	6439	3,58809
11.	post-COVID	Adjective	Affixation (post- + COVID)	6413	3,57361
12.	WFH	Noun	Abbreviation (working from home)	6129	3,41535
13.	PASC	Noun	Abbreviation (Post-acute sequelae of COVID-19)	4567	2,54493
14.	BCV	Noun	Abbreviation (bovine coronavirus/ before coronavirus)	4417	2,46135
15.	self-quarantine	Noun	Affixation (self- + quarantine)	3641	2,02893
16.	covid	Noun	Coinage	3171	1,76702
17.	infodemic	Noun	Blending (information + pandemic)	3163	1,76256
18.	COVAX	Noun	Abbreviation (COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access)	3104	1,72969
19.	coronaviral	Adjective	Compounding (corona + viral)	2691	1,49954
20.	nCoV	Noun	Abbreviation (novel coronavirus)	2421	1,34909
21.	super-spreader	Noun	Affixation (super- + spread + -er)	2309	1,28668
22.	zoom fatigue	Noun	Compounding (zoom + fatigue)	457	0,25466
23.	anti-vaxxer	Noun	Affixation (anti- + vaxxer)	427	0,23794
24.	coronaphobia	Noun	Compunding (corona + phobia)	407	0,2268
25.	COVAXIN	Noun	Blending (COVID-19 + vaccine)	294	0,16383
26.	WFA	Noun	Abbreviation (work from anywhere)	209	0,11646
27.	corona-related	Noun	Compounding (corona + related)	207	0,11535
28.	post-quarantine	Noun	Affixation (post- + quarantine)	180	0,1003
29.	non-covid	Adjective	Affixation (non- + covid)	176	0,09807
30.	coronial	Adjective	Blending (corona + millenial)	130	0,07244
31.	Rona	Noun	Clipping (coronavirus)	101	0,05628
32.	staycation	Noun	Blending (stay + vacation)	87	0,04848
33.	maskne	Noun	Blending (mask + acne)	78	0,04347
34.	Anti-masker	Noun	Affixation (anti- + masker)	72	0,04012
35.	coronaviruslike	Adjective	Affixation (coronavirus + -like)	53	0,02953
36.	covidiot	Noun	Blending (covid + idiot)	51	0,02842
37.	vaccinomics	Noun	Blending (vaccine + economics)	48	0,02675
38.	covid-19-related	Adjective	Compounding (covid-19 + related)	44	0,02452

39.	coronasomnia	Noun	Blending (corona + insomnia)	24	0,01337
40.	unlockdown	Noun	Affixation & compounding (un- + lock + down)	24	0,01337
41.	Coronabonds	Noun	Compounding (corona + bonds)	21	0,0117
42.	prequaratine	Noun	Affixation (pre- + quarantine)	21	0,0117
43.	boomer remover	Noun	Compounding (boomer + remover)	19	0,01059
44.	elbow bump	Noun	Compounding (elbow + bump)	18	0,01003
45.	coronatime	Noun	Compounding (corona + time)	16	0,00892
46.	covidisation	Noun	Affixation (covid + isation)	16	0,00892
47.	doomscrolling	Noun	Compounding (doom + scrolling)	16	0,00892
48.	twindemic	Noun	Blending (twin + pandemic)	14	0,0078
49.	covid-positive	Adjective	Compounding (covid + positive)	13	0,00724
50.	zoombombing	Noun	Compounding (zoom + bombing)	12	0,00669
51.	covid-free	Adjective	Compounding (covid + free)	11	0,00613
52.	security theater	Noun	Compounding (security + theater)	9	0,00502
53.	coronavac	Noun	Compounding & clipping (corona + vaccine)	6	0,00334
54.	plandemic	Noun	Blending (plan + pandemic)	6	0,00334
55.	roni	Noun	Clipping (coronavirus)	6	0,00334
56.	covidient	Noun	Blending (covid + obidient)	5	0,00279
57.	disinfodemic	Noun	Blending (disinformation + pandemic)	5	0,00279
58.	covid-safe	Adjective	Compounding (covid + safe)	4	0,00223
59.	quaranteam	Noun	Blending (quarantine + team)	4	0,00223
60.	lockdowner	Noun	Compunding & affixation (lock + down + -er)	3	0,00167
61.	moronavirus	Noun	Blending (moron + coronavirus)	3	0,00167
62.	teleschool	Noun	Blending (television + school)	3	0,00167
63.	coronapocalypse	Noun	Blending (coronavirus + apocalypse)	2	0,00111
64.	COVID-resistant	Adjective	Compounding (COVID + resistant)	2	0,00111
65.	Covidsomnia	Noun	Blending (Covid + insomnia)	2	0,00111
66.	corona baby	Noun	Compounding (corona + baby)	2	0,00111
67.	pancession	Noun	Blending (pandemic + recession)	2	0,00111
68.	quaranteen	Noun	Blending (quarantine + teenager)	2	0,00111
69.	quarantini	Noun	Blending (quarantine + Martini)	2	0,00111
70.	Wuhan shake	Noun	Compounding (Wuhan + shake)	2	0,00111
71.	blursday	Noun	Blending (blur + Thursday)	1	0,00056
72.	covideo	Noun	Blending (covid + video)	1	0,00056
73.	covideo party	Noun	Blending & Compounding (covid + video + party)	1	0,00056
74.	covid-secure	Adjective	Compounding (covid + secure)	1	0,00056
75.	corona coaster	Noun	Compounding (corona + coaster)	1	0,00056
76.	coronacoma	Noun	Compounding (corona + coma)	1	0,00056
77.	coronopticon	Noun	Blending (corona + opticon)	1	0,00056
78.	mask-shaming	Noun	Compounding (mask + shaming)	1	0,00056
79.	pandy	Noun	Clipping (pandemic)	1	0,00056
80.	workation	Noun	Blending (work + vacation)	1	0,00056

Table 2. Occurrence of neologisms based on frequency and relative frequency in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

No.	**Neologism**	**2020** ***frequency***	**2020** ***relative frequency***	**2021** ***frequency***	**2021** ***relative frequency***	**2022** ***frequency***	**2022** ***relative frequency***
1.	COVID-19	1208301	3077,36	1967933	2636,4	734632	2139,219
2.	SARS-CoV-2	454311	1157,06	724588	970,73	260851	759,5876
3.	coronavirus	161340	410,908	169216	226,7	50688	147,6014
4.	lockdown	81656	207,965	155091	207,78	53562	155,9704
5.	social distancing	49266	125,473	58811	78,789	17497	50,95056
6.	MERS-CoV	32922	83,8473	24908	33,369	5667	16,50208
7.	contact tracing	9930	25,2902	11737	15,724	2902	8,45051
8.	new normal	2223	5,66164	3127	4,1892	1124	3,27304
9.	COVID-related	1653	4,20994	4852	6,5002	2033	5,92001
10.	self-quarantine	1652	4,20739	1531	2,0511	395	1,15022
11.	pre-COVID	1261	3,21157	3578	4,7935	1600	4,65914
12.	nCoV	1180	3,00528	869	1,1642	293	0,8532
13.	super-spreader	915	2,33037	681	0,9123	199	0,57948
14.	WFH	813	2,07059	3124	4,1852	2184	6,35972
15.	infodemic	730	1,8592	1690	2,2641	742	2,16067
16.	post-COVID	639	1,62744	3596	4,8176	2178	6,34225
17.	coronaviral	589	1,50009	563	0,7543	201	0,5853
18.	covid	579	1,47462	1588	2,1274	1004	2,92361
19.	COVAX	201	0,51192	2055	2,7531	848	2,46934
20.	BCV	164	0,41768	198	0,2653	130	0,37855
21.	coronaphobia	111	0,2827	180	0,2412	116	0,33779
22.	anti-vaxxer	100	0,25468	197	0,2639	126	0,36691
23.	post-quarantine	97	0,24704	73	0,0978	8	0,0233
24.	WFA	91	0,23176	49	0,0657	20	0,05824
25.	zoom fatigue	64	0,163	237	0,3175	156	0,45427
26.	corona-related	61	0,15536	118	0,1581	28	0,08153
27.	pre-quarantine	42	0,10697	52	0,0697	5	0,01456
28.	non-covid	23	0,05858	105	0,1407	48	0,13977
29.	covidiot	21	0,05348	17	0,0228	13	0,03786
30.	covid-19-related	21	0,05348	18	0,0241	5	0,01456
31.	coronial	19	0,04839	58	0,0777	43	0,12521
32.	Coronabonds	18	0,04584	2	0,0027	1	0,00291
33.	coronatime	16	0,04075	0	0	0	0
34.	vaccinomics	15	0,0382	17	0,0228	2	0,00582

35.	unlockdown	12	0,03056	10	0,0134	2	0,00582
36.	PASC	10	0,02547	2309	3,0934	2192	6,38302
37.	boomer remover	10	0,02547	4	0,0054	5	0,01456
38.	Rona	9	0,02292	74	0,0991	13	0,03786
39.	COVAXIN	8	0,02037	161	0,2157	125	0,36399
40.	zoombombing	8	0,02037	4	0,0054	0	0
41.	anti-masker	7	0,01783	38	0,0509	27	0,07862
42.	staycation	7	0,01783	66	0,0884	14	0,04077
43.	coronaviruslike	6	0,01528	6	0,008	4	0,01165
44.	elbow bump	6	0,01528	12	0,0161	0	0
45.	maskne	3	0,00764	29	0,0389	46	0,13395
46.	covid-free	3	0,00764	7	0,0094	1	0,00291
47.	lockdowner	3	0,00764	0	0	0	0
48.	twindemic	2	0,00509	7	0,0094	5	0,01456
49.	disinfodemic	2	0,00509	3	0,004	0	0
50.	COVID-resistant	2	0,00509	0	0	0	0
51.	pancession	2	0,00509	0	0	0	0
52.	covidisation	1	0,00255	9	0,0121	6	0,01747
53.	doomscrolling	1	0,00255	13	0,0174	2	0,00582
54.	quaranteen	1	0,00255	0	0	1	0,00291
55.	moronavirus	1	0,00255	2	0,0027	0	0
56.	Wuhan shake	1	0,00255	1	0,0013	0	0
57.	quarantini	1	0,00255	1	0,0013	0	0
58.	coronopticon	1	0,00255	0	0	0	0
59.	coronacoma	1	0,00255	0	0	0	0
60.	pandy	1	0,00255	0	0	0	0
61.	coronasomnia	0	0	18	0,0241	6	0,01747
62.	coronavac	0	0	1	0,0013	5	0,01456
63.	covid-positive	0	0	9	0,0121	4	0,01165
64.	quaranteam	0	0	1	0,0013	3	0,00874
65.	covidient	0	0	3	0,004	2	0,00582
66.	covid-safe	0	0	3	0,004	1	0,00291
67.	teleschool	0	0	2	0,0027	1	0,00291
68.	Covidsomnia	0	0	1	0,0013	1	0,00291
69.	covideo	0	0	0	0	1	0,00291
70.	covid-secure	0	0	0	0	1	0,00291
71.	covideo party	0	0	0	0	1	0,00291
72.	roni	0	0	0	0	1	0,00291
73.	security theater	0	0	9	0,0121	0	0
74.	plandemic	0	0	6	0,008	0	0
75.	coronapocalypse	0	0	2	0,0027	0	0
76.	corona baby	0	0	2	0,0027	0	0
77.	blursday	0	0	1	0,0013	0	0

78.	workation	0	0	1	0,0013	0	0
79.	corona coaster	0	0	1	0,0013	0	0
80.	mask-shaming	0	0	1	0,0013	0	0

NEOLOGISMS COINED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: Summary and key words

The subject of this thesis paper is *Neologisms coined during the COVID-19 pandemic*. Not only has the COVID-19 pandemic transformed the entire world in terms of public health and global dynamics, but it has also had a major impact on language and communication. This thesis explores the phenomenon of neologisms that emerged during the pandemic. The main goal of this paper is to identify the neologisms that have surfaced during the pandemic and the role they have found in everyday language. The question of their position in the language pertains to whether these neologisms will endure and become commonly used or fade into obscurity. A research study was conducted using a specialized corpus in Sketch Engine to obtain the results. Key findings revealed that terms directly connected to the disease, such as *COVID-19* and *SARS-CoV-2*, are likely to endure. Neologisms like *new normal*, *COVID-related*, and *self-quarantine* displayed usage fluctuations. Conversely, terms like *disinfodemic*, *moronavirus*, and *coronacoma* had limited impact and appeared sparingly in the corpus. This paper will contribute to the understanding of the status and significance of neologisms arising during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing insight into lexical changes and the evolution of neologisms over time.

Key words: neologisms, COVID-19, language, Sketch Engine, lexical changes

NEOLOGIZMI NASTALI TIJEKOM PANDEMIJE BOLESTI COVID-19: Sažetak i ključne riječi

Tema ovoga završnog rada jest Neologizmi nastali tijekom pandemije bolesti COVID-19. Ne samo da je pandemija bolesti COVID-19 promijenila cijeli svijet u vidu javnog zdravlja i globalne dinamike nego je imala i značajan utjecaj na jezik i komunikaciju. Ovim se radom istražuju neologizmi koji su se pojavili tijekom pandemije. Glavni cilj ovog rada jest utvrditi koji su neologizmi nastali tijekom pandemije i kakvo su mjesto pronašli u svakodnevnom jeziku. Pitanje položaja u jeziku odnosi se na to hoće li navedeni neologizmi opstati i postati svakodnevno korišteni ili će pak otići u zaborav. Provedeno je istraživanje u specifičnom korpusu putem Sketch Engine-a kako bi dobili rezultati. Ključni rezultati su otkrili da će pojmovi izravno povezani s bolešću, poput COVID-19 i SARS-CoV-2, vjerojatno opstati.

Neologizmi kao što su new normal, COVID-related i self-quarantine pokazali su variranje u upotrebi. S druge strane, pojmovi poput desinfodemic, moronavirus i coronacoma imali su ograničen utjecaj i u korpusu su se pojavili rijetko. Ovaj će rad doprinijeti razumijevanju statusa i važnosti neologizama nastalih tijekom pandemije bolesti COVID-19 te pružiti uvid u promjene u leksiku i evoluciju neologizama kroz vrijeme.

Ključne riječi: neologizmi, COVID-19, jezik, Sketch Engine, promjene u leksiku