

**Debaffling the Abbreviated Neos:
An Intersemiotic Rendition of Rebus
From English into Arabic
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Abstract

So many readers are avid in the demarcation of neologistic (hereinafter neos) abbreviations, acronyms and initialism. Sometimes one might be baffled with the influx of these formations due to their inconsistency or multiplexed constructions. To debaffle such rather enigmatic rebus a linguistic explanation and analysis of acronymized syllabification is conducted hoping to show how they work. The way in which we envision the lullabies codified might be moxix rather than handy in accessing the effigies fresco and surplus communicative value of each. Being linguistically fluctuated we opt for general viewing for the acronymized structured by texters who, it happened, are more adept at manipulating their nuances rather than other textees. The one-man-kit for mollifying such lottery of rebus is the next texting where the offspring of the occasion are euphoric. Being rejected or milked, one should surf their influx and probe their morphological building.

Key Words, p Debaffling, Abbreviated, Rendition of Rebus

آفاق لغوية لتشرب المستحدثات من المرمرز الاوائلي

في الترجمة الرمزية من الانكليزية نحو العربية

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المستخلص :

تنسج رغبات الكثير من القراء لتأمل اسس بناء المرمرز الاوائلي المختصر وسبل نقله للغات الاخرى ومكامن بنائه ومعانيه وما لهذه المستحدثات من رمزية ومدلولات وموجزات وقد يتعثر البعض عند تتبع مسارات استحداث هذه التراكيب وتبين علائقها ومدلولاتها لكثرة انماطها وتشعب افقها وتقبلها للحوشي والاثيل مما يتطلب وسائل تحليلية للفظ والمبني ومطاوعة للقواعد اللغوية باركانها مما دفع بالكثير من الباحثين الى اعتماد قواعد عامة للضبط والتوليد ولقياس اسس الصرف ومعايير البناء وكذلك البحث عن اصول التشرب اللغوي لتلك المرمرزات وتحديد قيمها التواصلية.

وما كان على الباحثين الا اعتماد وسائل عامة لتحديد التراكيب اللغوية لتلك المرمرزات وقيمتها الاشتقاقية لتضاربها عند الترجمة وتنافر بعضها مع سياقات استعمالها في كثير من الاحايين مما اتاح للذوق الاثيل تحديد المموج منها والحوشي وان شابها الكدر وتقبل المشترك اللفظي كبديل صرفي للنقل الصرفي لاحتواء دلالات تلك المرمرزات في العربية المنقول عنها او لها وكذلك الانكليزية .

Introduction

1.1 The "2 b or nt 2 b Q" acronymized neo rebus which is a marked quotation said by Hamlet is a Catch – 22 (= J. Heller's trapped situ by its own) rather than a snafu (=situation normal; all fouled up). Typically, abbreviated neos and types are originated in the new dialects of a slang of private communicative having a jargon by itself. "Alphabet soup" as the onset of the paragraph can be intimidating, and cause concentration turning

out rather than assortment, as communication systems are so cluttered with rebus neos that their meanings are hard to grasp.

However, this paper is essayed to mention some examples rather than exhaustively survey of the issues, marshalling the argument meaningful tantamount primes.

With the advent of texting in internet, SMS (=short message service), cell phone, and the already crowded mosaic of online chatting, abbreviated neos in general, and acronyms in particular have become even more affordable. People set off communicating extensively with "txts", texting abbreviations and texting symbols, and texting acronyms, to keep themselves constantly in touch with peer and proliferate further into a diffused and diversify sphere.

Notably, a jargon is opted out to encapsulate needs for more "flotsam and jetsam waving" the internet. However, this fact is enchanted evenly. For textees, the vastness and lack of self –editorial moxie in the internet realm makes it an ideal canvas for ready-made outlines and informative sources. Most of the exemplifications are taken randomly from sources to be weaved into the in-text discussion.

Virtually, writing for the net does call for some morphing of fore- grounded styles. Internet (-ers) seemingly tend to glean pertinent facts in the shortest ever laps of time. As such, abbreviated neos which have the image of either initialism, acronyms (necronyms, retronyms, backronyms); or alphabetism are said to be some fragmented rebus of a word or phrase used to "clutter texts to look like complete gibberish" which is a ceremonial fashion in the featured globalized world today Yule, 2010,p 60-).

1.2. Tacitly, abbreviated neo phrases are cast by moulding the initials of each word in a series to create a rebus if ever pronounced by saying each

constituents in isolation. It tends to have the label of *initialism*, e.g., BRT [bee ar tee] for *be right there*. Otherwise, morphologically it is called *acronym* when pronounced as a single morpheme in and by itself. For instance, the scuba [skuba] for *self- contained underwater breathing apparatus* which is produced as such in the affinity of diving. Unlike acronyms, alphabetized neos are rebus forms of abbreviation created by selecting the first letters of every constituent letter in a phrase to spell out a new "lexicon" where the letters are pronounced as they are used to be in the alphabetism of English with little thought to pronunciation (Tournier, 2018,p40). USMC for *United States Maritime Commission* makes itself a good example. It is pronounced as [yu es em see].

1.3. In Modern Standard Arabic (herein after Arabic), there is a common linguistic productive rules and patterns of "noun-formation processes" in general, and acronyms in particular. Noun-formation predictable processes as part of "the study of morphological relations among lexemes" might be enlisted (Mathews, 1991,p37). The resultant combination of two or more morphemes can be classified as neos but their meanings are not predictable from the meanings of their individual phonemes. On top of the list, there would be the tailoring process of affixation, forming nouns with derivational affixes; conversion, the functional shift of word category without modifying morpheme, e.g. *egg N. →egg V. trans.* (Ibrahim, 2010,p615). However, unpredictable process of noun-formation includes mainly the clipping of words without changing their meanings or category; acronym zing neo(s); blending and manufacturing and selecting random acceptable sound order to stand for labels etc. *Kodak* is a good example.

1.4 Acronymized rebuses in Arabic, as the main concern of this paper, are

the unpredictable productive formation of neos by initial consonants which tend to be used as verbatim arabization,

e.g. *UNESCO, INA* → *يونسكو، واع* (Ibid).

Even though, the unpredictable formation of acronyms was limited classical Arabic and tend to be generated by using shortened forms اختزال. The influence of borrowing is clear in this concern. It is clear that misapplication of rules, falsified analogy of forms and the confused forms produced by compounding and blending impair the viability of the acronymized terms to great extent (Ibid, 615-616).

1.5. To negotiate the acronymized neos stylistically requires, among other morphological attitudes, an aptitude mastery of transformation means and derivation formalities. Gor'nicz acutely states that a clear-cut morphology is to be used to precede an acronym to de tour unexplained scrambled puzzles of capital letter combinations (Gonzalez, 2002,p40). He suggested clipping the acronym itself to its headword, e.g., radar system for *radio detection and ranging* upon first reference; otherwise, to its hyponym, such as enzyme PCR for *polymerase chain reaction*.

Gonzalez rounded off his classification by stating that it might be attached to its hyponym, e.g., *limfokina HRF* (Ibid, 42).

1.6. Per se, it is hypothesized that the headword of the acronymized neo is usually subjected to declension and not the resulted rebus. To build up a thesis, it is foreseen that to utilize acronymic neo headword is to improve the readability of "the solid combination of high case letters." AL-Mahdawi, 2004,p616).

Explication, paradoxically, as such, are tinted in formal "internetting" if any rather than informal communication. However, the punctuation of initialized letters is to be followed by a period which is claimed redundant by most new approaches (American Speech, 142). Some styles prescribe using periods after the initialized neos specifically but not in acronymized.

(2) C.I.A. vs. NATO
/see ai ei/ / neito/

All letters are to be capitalized for the initialized and acronymized neos. Still, some tend to capitalize only the first letters of the acronymized e.g., *Nato*; Whereas others opt for using low case letters for dead acronyms such as, *laser*, *radar*. (Yule, 2010,p68).

To round off, acronymized neologies as a superintended locus of mode for abbreviating are widely used in today's communication, e.g., the *WHO* and *حماس* (Hamaas)to name but few.

Acronyms as well in internet are almost completely unavoidable. Yet, the use of such combination should be screwed to specific molds to initiate comprehensibility as required.

2. Procedural Neos Abbreviating Processes

The style of abbreviating neos, words or phrases, might be the combination of shortened forms of the mentioned elements, specifically their initial letter in a series. Semantically, abbreviated neos can assume the following modules,p

2.1. Initialized rebus,p an abbreviated formation where representative initials are pronounced in order.

(3) E S P - [ee es pi] for extrasensory perception.

These words and / or phrases are clipped to the minimal and kept to the order of the source (Yule, 2010,p68).

2.2 Alphabetized rebus,p to be created by having the first letter of the phrase elements to spell out a new form with it. Limited consideration is given to pronunciation.

(3) AAA is recognized as triple A (Everyman's Dic.).

2.3. Acronymized rebuses, *p* are those abbreviated neos which have their "product" output pronounced as an independent word. Basically, to cite their Greek origins these crippled are the "end tipped name" observed by communicator (Webster Dic.).

Morphologically, acronymized neos are formed by following one or more of the following methods (Internet Development Site), *p*

2.3.1 Little letter out, *p* to facilitate the articulation of the acronymized neo, some determiners, conjunctions, interjection, etc. might be written off to fix the pronounceable outputs.

(4) NAøSDAQ is an acronym for *National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System*. (Everyman's Dic.).

Conversely, in the case of insertion, an interstitial sound, mostly a vowel is to be inserted for easifying articulation.

(5) WSøL for *web services descriptive language* to be pronounced [W I Z d u l] .

↑ ↑

2.3.2. Hyperdization

Compounding an acronymized neo might be formed by attaching an initial for each part of a compound word. The outcome would be a rebus comprising an initialized neo plus an acronym. (Yule, 2010,p68-).

(6) "*2day IT*" *world unit* to be pronounced as [todei ai tee] for the initials and[wold yunit] for the rest.

(7) *CD. Rom* which is pronounced as [see dee] for the initials and [rom] for the replica.

(7) *MS – DOS* [em es] [doz]

Traditionally, initialized phrases might be acronymized neos in full texting.

(8) BRT – be right there
AFAIK – as far as I know

IDK - I do not know
TTYL – talk to you later

2.3.3 Annexing

Some abbreviated neos have the syllabification structure of acronyms plus Alphabetism (Tournier,2018,p42). For example,

(9) CPAC which stands for *Collaborative Pesticides Analytical Committee* is to be pronounced as [cee / pak] or [see pee ei see]

In essence, acronymized neos in English might be further assuming the following models of constructing,p

2.3. 4. Code Numeronym Substitution

Texting acronymized neos, for easy access and utility, might substitute a number(s) for letter (s) which it / (they) normally stands in for. (Mu'dhshu, ND ,p89). The number 8, for example, is used to replace the sound [eit] or those rhyming with eight (hate, rate). 2 and 4 are frequently used for the same.

(10) gr8 – great; M8 – mate; L8r – Later; 4ever – forever; 4nd – friend; 2 nite/ 2nt – tonight; 2 – to/ too .

In sounding out the letter(s) and number(s), the word, say for k9, reads [kei nine], namely the *canine* police dog, or L8r for the word later.

Single letters might be replaced by numbers as texting neos. For example,

(11) 20 for *_where are you?*
404 for *_ No answer*
86 for *_end*
411 for *need more information*

Interestingly, samples of acronymization might be the replacement of a phoneme with a phone representing it.

(12) I C the C in the C for *I see the moon crescent in the sea*
Or, as a partial representative

(13) n for and ; r for are; y for why; IC for I see

2.3.4 Selective Accessibility

Some neos are created by incorporating more than one letter of each of the acronymized to have pronounceable acronymized rebus. For example,

(14) lopomo for *lower power mode* where two initial letters mostly in low case of each part are used in sequence.

2.3.5 Foregrounding

Celebrity acronymized neos, so to say, are embedded in such a way as to be considered as words/phrases by themselves. Dead acronyms might best be recognized in the following abbreviated sampling.

(15) laser [leizar] for *light amplification by stimulated emission radiation*

(16) radar [radar] for *radio detecting and ranging*

2.3.6 Hybrid Capitalization Mode

Some neos are formed by having some initial capitalized others are put in low case to avoid confusion.

(17) FoR for *field of regard*

To recapitulate, an initialism or alphabetism might be used interchangeably with acronyms. Originally, an initialized neo is realized when each letter is pronounced separately. As such initializing spelled rebuses are those formed of initials; whereas, acronyms are used to refer to the abbreviated

neos formed by the initial letters or syllables taken from a word or series of words to be pronounced as words by themselves i.e. should be pronounceable as words and in-texted with upper case letters. Dead acronymized rebuses, however, are to be presented with lower case. It would be interested to include that in American English acronyms of more than four letters are to be written in lower case, where as, acronyms with four or fewer letters are to be capitalized NATO vs. Nato . However, after letters, periods are to be omitted currently in current wage. To facilitate the pronunciation of acronyms some interstitial vowels are inserted.

3. Abbreviation style might have the following reduction manners,p

3.1 Reduction of a single word to initial

(18) C caution / D Deutsch land

3.2 Reduction of a group of words to the first two letters of each concept.

(19) comsat for communication satellite

3.3 Reduction to one word initial letter

(20) O level for ordinary level

3.4 Reduction of a group of words to the initial of the first concept and the first syllable of the second

(21) M. Tech for Mast of Technology

3.5 Preserving conjunction

(22) D and D for Drunk and disorderly

4. Acronymized Neos in Arabic

Editing of texts of Arabic (تحقيق النصوص) includes some examples of abbreviation though attitudinal in nature and random by process.

Abbreviation used is treated as symbolic by themselves rather than lexicological. Some of these abbreviated terms are idiomatic rather than conceptual. The overwhelming exemplification used is of single words

rather than phrases. As having the said features some Arab linguists treated abbreviation as reduction rather than generating. They defined them,p

كلمة يختار منها بعض الحروف دون البعض الآخر بشرط أن تكون الحروف المستخدمة في كتابتها تعطي دلالة للكلمة المختصرة كما يشترط أن تكون الأحرف في الكلمة المختصرة لا تعطي أي معنى لكلمة أخرى (الاقطش، غم، p٨٩).

4.1 Types of Abbreviation in Prophet's Muhammad Hadith PBUH

Scientists of hadeeth are the first linguists who show systematic usage of abbreviated forms due the /ananatu/ العننة thentication technique to repeat specific terms in citing the hadeeth. The basically inspired by phones onset of some Quran verses legalized the used abbreviated forms to stand for the mentioned.

Most types of abbreviated forms are used to comment on the body of Hadeeth or approval of narration, or evaluation of sources and for supplication clichés (Ibid,p8).

4.1.1 One - Syllabic Forms

نا → حدثنا / اخبرنا	
(= Told us / talked to us) naa	
طب → الطبراني الكبير	
(= Tabarani / the dder tib	
طس → الطبراني الأوسط	
(= Tabarani: the middle) tis	
طض → الطبراني الصغير	
(= Tabarani: Jr)	
نسخ → البخاري في التاريخ	
Bukhari in history	tskh

4.1.2 Two - syllable Forms

ثنا → حدثنا	:	ثني → حدثني
Talk to us: thana ;		talk to me thani
يضي → أيضا		أنا → أنبأنا
in addition yadh		told us → ana ;

4.1.2 Two-syllable Forms

أهـ:م → تم → انتهى

the end ah completed m
 بخاري → أبو داود:خ د
 Abu dawd d Bukhari → kh
 مسلم → ابن ماجة م ه
 Muslim m ibn i4aja; h

4.2 In their procedural testing linguists specifically the abbreviated forms to cut wordings

4.2.1 One Syllabic Formations

صحيف صح → ضع
 correct sah weak dh?

ممنوع مم محال مح → م
 forbidden mim impossible mih

4.2.2 Random Selective Syllabic Formations

حسني ح ضعيف ، ضي → ضي
 fair h , weak dh

متفق عليه م ، تحويل ح → ح
 unanimous q . transformation h

صواب ص مصنف ، ص ص → ص
 right s , classified s

4.3 In formulaic Supplication Abbreviated forms might be of the following

4.3.1 One Syllable Formations

رضي الله عنه رض → رض
 رحمه الله رح → رح

4.3.2. Randomly Selected Formations

ص / ص م / صلعم → صلى الله عليه وسلم

Peace be upon him sl'm / sm / s

As in similar cases abbreviations are not welcome in Arabic as being gibberish and hindrant, or even "silly-acronyms". In his comment Al Sakhawi said

اجتنب أيها الكاتب الرمز لها (أي الصلاة والسلام على رسول الله) في خطك فتكون منقوصة الصورة (السخاوي، ١٤٠٣ هـ، ص١٨٢).

(Don't abbreviate it [the formulaic supplication on Prophet Muhammad [Pbuh] in writing These would impair its orthography).

Generally, the forms are used in writing, where as readers and speakers are opted to tell them in full in - speech.

4.4 Coining Abbreviations

As

for manner of coining abbreviation quantitatively the moot form might be of one fourth of the original, half, three quarters or of the whole respectively.

	ص
صلى الله عليه وسلم	صم
Peace be upon him	صلم صلعم

The abbreviated, for quality, of the initial; the first and the fourth; the first, the second, and the fourth consequently can be used (Aqdash, NP,p10).

صلى الله عليه وسلم	ص 1 st
	صم 1 st , 4 th
	صلم 1 st , 2 nd , 4 th

It should be noted that the unpredictable process followed in the abbreviated form has its impact of accessibility and acceptability of the product use. It is noted that writers tend for using for instance

حدثنا Ø for textual abbreviated forms of two syllables or one نا / ثنا (= told us) أنا for من اخبرنا (= who told us) the onset final.

Eponyms are to have the first letter to stand for proper names.

م → مسلم	ت → ترمذي
ن → نسائي	خ → بخاري

4.5 Arabic Attitudes of the Abbreviated

Saliently, acronyms and or abbreviated forms in Arabic are mostly loan blends which tend to be realized in two forms.

4.5.1 The Grapheme which is a type of shorthand of scribing forms without decisive ties to the phonemic realization but to the morphemic structure

Dr (doctor)	p،	دكتور د
Prof (professor)	p،	بروفيسور بروف
Km (kilometer)	.	كيلومتر (كم)
HRW Human Rights Watch		هرد (منظمة حقوق الإنسان)
PLO		منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية م ت ف
PNA		وكالة الأنباء الفلسطينية وفا

4.5.2 In the Morphemic where widely used in اللغات غير الاشتقاقية and to the less degree in other languages two types might be classified in Arabic

1. Non Arabic Signified Acronyms

(a) loaning

Nato →	ناتو	Alecso →	أليكو
radar →	رادار	Faou →	فاتو

(b) Loan blending – slightly adapted acronyms to realize Arabic phonemic structures and syllabifications

ELCO	ألكو
SAPTCO	سايتكو
G.F.C	قافكو

It follows the loan processes with strict realization of Arabic iconic semantic rules (Mahmoud, 1991,p615).

Palestine News Agency
واع وكالة الأنباء العراقية
(Iraq News Agency)

5. Rendering Non Arabic Acronyms into Arabic

Having gone through the corpus a number of notifications can be made throughout.

5.1. Syntactically, the acronymized is created mostly by التركيب الالصاقى where vowels can be dropped and connection by passed a problematic violation of Arabic linguistic system.

5.2 Lexically, the acronyms are short of observing the approved Arabic moulds lexicon. The important being morphological base derived with retaining CV structures make them liable to misinterpretation due to the blurred links between the signified and signifies, and blockage of derivation.

5.3 Morphologically no clear methodology is followed neither sound process is adopted.

Loan acronyms do not follow the actual partition of the acronymized. To recapitulate it is well noted that using imported / rendered acronymized forms in their current source, processes and treatment might cause some vital problematic linguistic questioning in their morphology, syllabification, derivation and semantics.

Native acronymized forms observing the rules of Arabic are accepted with focalized testing of semantics and morphology, let alone, reordering of original WO (Ibid).

حركة تحرير فلسطين فتح (حتف*)
وكالة أنباء فلسطين وفا (واف*)

6. Textese

Due to necessary brevity in short message service communication and internet slang a coined rebus like abbreviated terms are used which feature some acronymized forms usually, c c c syllabic structure are innovated in writing. Vowels are added on reading^(Ibid).

(24) kybrd for key board

The context of say the message should be of feasible help in interpreting the abbreviated the abbreviated and decide upon synonyms terms

(25) lol for laugh out loud or
lots of love
ttyp, lol talk to you later, lots of loves or
talk to you later, laugh out loud.

Textese is to use the least number of letter to secure comprehensibility scarifying in some case the rules of grammar, punctuation and capitalization to fix but few deviants. Being elliptical in style textese tend to use, in variety of cases, shortened forms with numbers for their phonetics.

(26) l8r for later

Being limited as codes comprehensible and initiate, trends as such and textese are criticized by writers as being "irritating and wrecking language" as was the case with clipped words in Arabic. A fact wholly approved by D. Crystal's "Txtng: the Gr8Db8." Being deleterious D. Crystal (2008) classifies the process into the following modes

6.1. A letter for a word(s)

be : bi ; see / sea: c , okay : k / kk

6.2 A digit for a word(s)

1 : one / won ; 2 : two / too ; 4 : for

6.3 A digit or letter replaces a phoneme or syllable

2moro / 2mro : tomorrow ; 2day : today ; b4 : before ; 4get = forget

m8 : mate ; gr8 = great

10q /thnq/ ty = thank you

6.4 Hybrid Approach

ur = your / you're

l drfl = wonderful

No 1 = no one

Cu = see you

4u = for you

njoy = enjoy

7. Translating Tactics for Acronym Rendering.

The translation of acronyms and abbreviations in general presents a challenge to translators. While some of these acronyms are universally recognizable. Lesser-known acronyms need extra explanation. Whether the acronyms should be left as it is in the SL text or being adjusted to the TL text is the biggest problem faced in translating these acronyms and abbreviations in general. However, to refer to the standard of acronyms' former usage i.e. in media, journals or other sources might be of help in deciding the tactics used in rendering them into the TL.

Being of lesser-usage, it would be viable to decide whether to stick to the original or rearrange the letter to fit the TL text depending on the context they appear in.

The target text receiver of the message or the translation purpose and function as outlined by Vermeer's Skopos functional adequacy theory(1989/2000) as a main factor of translating should always have clear and consistent output of the translated and the method involved.

As a priority, comprehension is paramount to be ensured; yet these acronyms and abbreviations are different in every language and cannot be translated literally.

Various tactics and general rules might be figured to solve confusion and misinterpretation, and to cope with the lack of equivalents.

1. For abbreviations it is more frequent to have standard translations especially in the case of well-known international organizations.

United Nations (UN) منظمة الامم المتحدة اليو اين

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome AIDS نقصان المناعة المكتسبة
ايدز

2. Abbreviations correspond to the names of institutions should not be rendered in full into the TL, but if ever they are to be rendered followed by their the full name should be translated followed by the initials

CIA وكالة المخابرات المركزية سي اي أي

3. Abbreviations of job titles CFA, names of countries UK, political organizations IRA should be translated as their established default.

UK المملكة المتحدة

IRA الجيش الجمهوري الايرلندي

4. Some acronyms or set of initials have no equivalents in other languages. The translator has to prefabricate suitable TL equivalent depending on their contextualized meaning and context.

PIN

CD-Rom

Conclusions

Whether critically silly acronyms or as annotating text with such direction, the priority in Arabic acronyms formation are given to the following processes. Borrowing (loans) using the some initials in both SL and TL, then inversion of WO were initials are transposed but to be rendered as full words in the TL, e.g. POW for prisoners of war, thirdly, by replacement of initials where no equivalents are predictable in the TL. Texting acronyms are created by subtypes of shorthand. Extraordinarily, most of these forms

are frustrating, and confusing being cultural bonds. Some acronyms being in nature and labeled acronyms are the breed of some complicated circumlocutions where name of the dead is to be given to his offspring, Smith Jr. As retronyms, acronymized forms might be created by back-formation process including a word, or a modifier head word, e.g. 1st WW for First World War.

To wrap up, translating acronyms requires some tactics to avoid ending up with a text cluttered with unexplained capital-letter combinations. Feasibly, to precede an acronym with its headword which might be an element in the acronym, its hypernym, or hyponym is a good procedure. The headword is subject to declension rather than acronym itself, and it may improve readability of the combination for the receiver.

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