

ALBANIAN LANGUAGE `` OCCUPIED`` BY SMS LANGUAGE

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Abstract

With the development of various means of communication, we can say that there is a change in the perception of it. The development of technology and communication has been crucial in the twentieth century from radio, television, telephone and even the Internet. This large amount of information has made the change of interpersonal communication, evolution and especially to young people who are the main users of these means of communication. Certainly, among different means of communication, text messaging (SMS) is the most important one. According to Louise-Amélie Cougnon and François Thomas, about 95% of the youth have mobile phones and 79% of them prefer to send a SMS than make a call. However, this way of communication has made the youth to write as shorter as they can and with many spelling mistakes. Nevertheless, a question arises. Does this process have a negative effect on the standard language? Are these abbreviated text messages (SMS) an obstacle or a new type of `` language`` among youth? The aim of the paper: Identification of the problems that SMS-language brings to Albanian standards especially to Albanian youth. The objectives of the study are: To understand that the new ways of communication or this ``new language`` is bringing an evolution. To educate young people that SMS ``language`` will affect their standard language.

Keywords: *albanian language, communication, sms language.*

Methodology

The study will be based on a mix of research, the primary and secondary methods.

- *Primary search will be based on a questionnaire addressed to young people*

- *Secondary search is based on existing scientific research, articles and scientific journals, scientific publications.*

Key words: Communication, SMS, Albanian Language.

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Introduction

Our study will address issues that technology brings to the development of the Albanian language orthographic of youth. The goal is to point out some phenomenon that undergoes Albanian language by the use of very large SMS from Albanian youth. Everything has changed with the development of technology including every field and aspect of society. It must be said that the language undergoes different changes. This happen due to the fact that the language is not static but it is evolving at any time. Even in the Congress of Orthography of the Albanian Language in 1974 is predicted such a thing¹. The communication with the SMS has created a new use of language which differs from traditional use and its standard. It is important to emphasize that we are not dealing with a new language but only with the issue of re-using of an existing language. The communication via SMS is a mixture of the spoken language with that of written (Peyret, 2001). The introduction of SMS dated around the year 2000. The first text message was sent in 1992 in Great Britain. In 1995, each user sends one SMS for month. (Mia Kjar Jessen, May 2009)

« In the culture of European and American adolescents the SMS is not only a tool to distribute information effectiveness and practical manner. But we are dealing with a verbal performance thanks to which they build and maintain contacts with each other. » (Fairon, et al., 2006). It is understood that it is important to preserve youth and to create physical contact which serves to maintain and build social relationships and spirituality.

As in social networks as well as in academic and scientific environments exist numerous debates concerning damages that may cause ``SMS`` language standard Albanian language. So there is a fear that perhaps teens in a near future will not know how to write correct native language. It is really worrying because SMS language is also used in the different assignments or essays which teens create and where they find some difficulties to notice these problems.

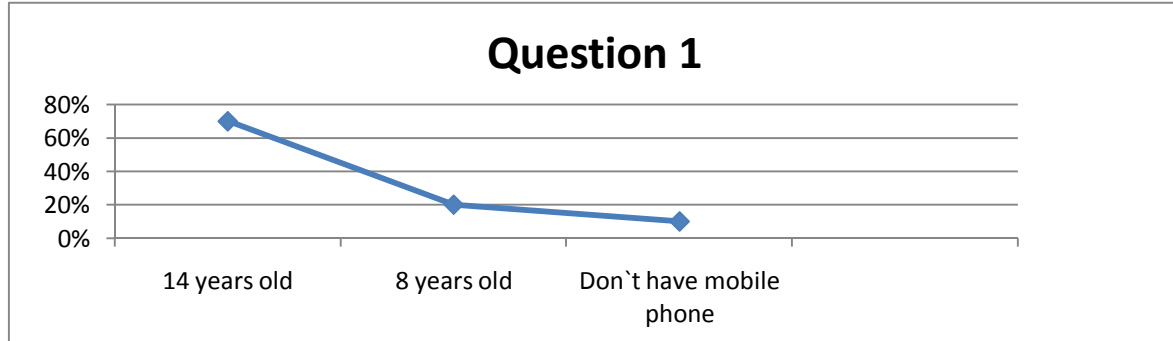
Conrad Ouellon says: « When I perorate at a conference, I don't use the same language as the register when I go out fishing with friends. In the same way the young people will not use the ``language`` of the SMS when they need to write a formal letter. » (Dion-Viens, le 28 June 2008) It is understandable that young people are those who are inclined to experiment the language they use every tool and a way to express what you think and feel.

According Ditte Laursen SMS you send young people to present a more advanced linguistic skills for young people have the ability to experiment with language.

We have prepared a questionnaire and survey for group of 60 young people 15-18 old years. These young people we have made some questions about who may suffer deformities Albanian language and if they use abbreviated words when they send text messages but also in different

¹ Orthography of Albanian Language, Prishtine 1974, Pg.11

social networks (facebook, twitter). Referring to the first question, about the age they are equipped for the first time with mobile phone about 70% have got mobile phones at 14 years old, about 20% of the askers are fitted at 8 years old and about 10% did not still have a mobile phone.

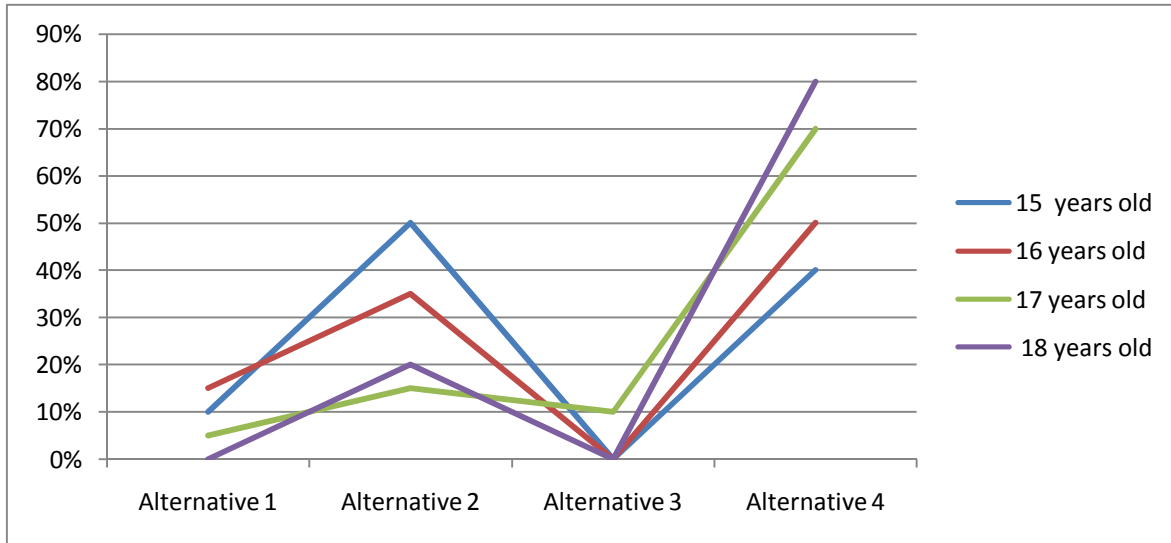


The next question is: how is the number of SMS that Albanian youth send for a day on average ranges from 3 to 60 SMS. But the largest numbers of text messages send through social networking given that the biggest users of them are young. And there are some, who acquire better soon and the latest technology that exists today in our society. It is disturbing the fact that 100% of questioners send text messages with abbreviations, where they have given some examples of words you use most often and therefore also shorten. For example:

S`ka gje – <i>Skgj</i>	Kalofsh mire – <i>Klm</i>	Te kam xemel – <i>TKX</i>	
S`ka perse – <i>SPS</i>	Ckemi – <i>CKM</i>	Te zente frymen – <i>TZF</i>	
Mirembrema - <i>MRB</i>	Asgje interesante – <i>ASI</i>	Per zotin – <i>PZ</i>	
Te lutem – <i>TLT</i>	Normale – <i>NRM</i>	Neser – <i>NSR</i>	Te dua shume - <i>TDSH</i>
Seriozisht – <i>SRZ</i>	Cfare po ben – <i>CPB</i>	Tani – <i>TN</i>	Per - <i>X</i>
<3 – <i>Te dua, te kam zemer</i>	☺ - <i>buzeqeshje</i>	☹ - <i>merzitje</i>	Vertete – <i>ver8</i>

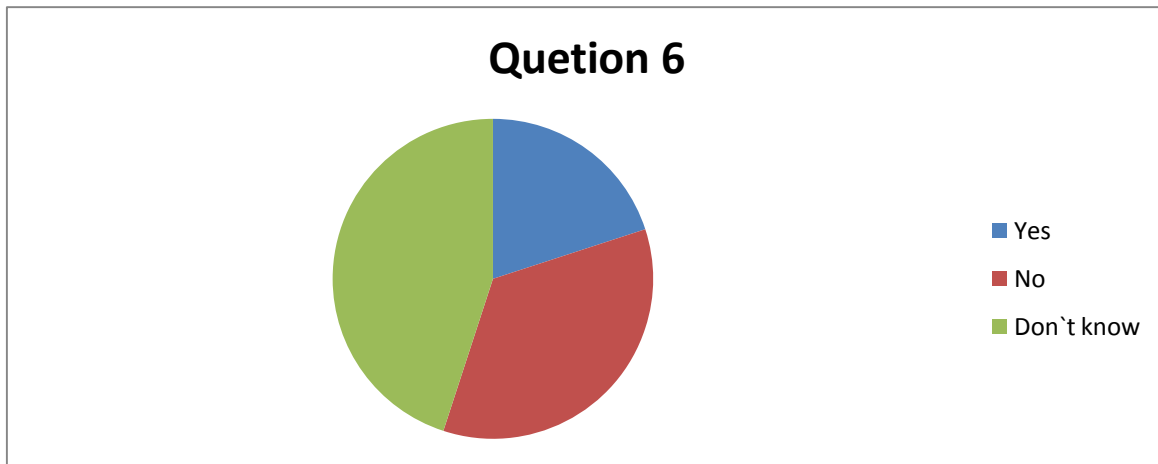
So Albanian youth now communicate not only with abbreviations but also with symbols that give a message.

The next question concerned the reason why young people use SMS, where we had submitted four alternatives. The first alternative was thought that one of the factors why teenagers prefer to use words with abbreviations is because the number of letters in text messages is restricted. The second option is the fact that it is a language of youth and they need to create a language of their own that most adults do not understand. But development itself with galloping steps of technology has led to adults with difficulty to acquire this language. Alternative penultimate aimed to seek an opinion from the youth if standard Albanian language have to lead the use of written language abbreviations or this will undermine the Albanian language. And last alternative has to do with the reason that we spend more time to write correctly the words.

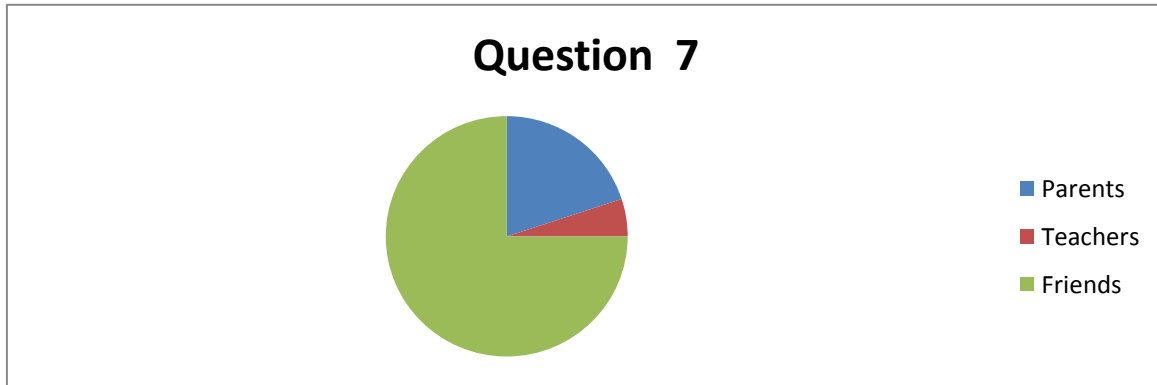


All those who were part of the survey, when were asked if these abbreviations have been an obstacle at the moment that they had to write an essay and did they have difficulties in many cases to distinguish them orthographic mistakes? Around 50% answered that probably they have prevented these abbreviations, 20% answered that they were prevented and only 30% said that this has not been very influential in the correct orthography of an essay.

Other questions who addressed the youth participating in this study that if the number of letters or symbols on phone messages would be unlimited did they used the abbreviations, we have obtained the following data:



Based on this study we found that the youth of this target group exchange in most cases text messages such as mobile phone or social networks with their friends, with teachers less frequently and in very rare cases or only where need the help of their parents. We know the purpose of the parents who in many cases have a tendency to violate the privacy of adolescents and for this reason they choose to communicate less with their parents.



It has been found that our youth are aware that the use of excessively damaging abbreviations of more Albanian language, but of course there are those who think that this phenomenon has a very small impact or almost insignificant. This has been a question that has divided the answered and 50% of them believe undermine and distort Albanian the abbreviations and 50% hesitated about this new phenomenon.

It necessary to note that those who tend to use mostly abbreviations and symbols are teens that are very good knower of language, while young people who are week in the Albanian language learning and use the abbreviations later.

Findings

When we talk about the use of SMS, we often refer to the time consumption which the young people think that writing correctly words they spend a lot of time, the space that has a message and the price of an SMS, in fact, these and other elements youth tends to use mostly abbreviated forms of spelling, symbols and only the stump of a word.² Referring to the survey we can say that the massive use of SMS by teenagers highlight that we have some negative effects, which are as linguistic, social, cultural and educational. But various studies say that the use of SMS maybe can bring some positive effects. It does mean, we have to evaluate the fact that young people write with or without orthographic mistakes, and it is good that they express their feelings by writing.

Conclusions

In conclusion, we can say that whether we know better the youth and their way of using of language we are ready to say that they are too smart to understand the effects that abbreviations and symbols have when they use and send an SMS. It is interesting the fact that adolescents who are very good connoisseur of orthography and grammar tend to write and to use the symbols. Perhaps there is some kind of disagreement between generations' concepts and realities.

² L.-A. Cougnon & T. François: Étudier l'écrit SMS – Un objectif du projet *sms4science*, 2011

According Danièle Manesse: « The SMS language doesn't affect the orthography. Pupils are aware that they use a code, a ``secondary`` language. The low level of orthographic language would be as a result of non commitment to study the language at school. » (Leclair, le 15 février 2008)

One of the causes of the difficulties that SMS language use abbreviations and without fixed rules it is a difficult language to comprehend and read, so it's a kind of language created and used by us and for us.

Perhaps we should not be so skeptical regarding this new trend, but we need to be understandable and probably we have to lead the young people in this new trend but without prejudice and limited spaces and ways of conceiving that teens have for the language. Allowing them to experiment with different linguistic tools because maybe we will have the opportunity to study and conceive new and different viewpoints.

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Annex

Questionnaire

The 2nd International Conference on Research and Education – “Challenges Toward the Future” (ICRAE2014), 30-31 May 2014,

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Your age: 15 years, 16 years, 17years, 18 years

Your Gender: Male Female

1. How old are equipped with mobile phone for the first time?

2. How many SMS on the average do you send on a day?

3. Do you send SMS with abbreviations and what are those words that you abbreviate?

Yes No

Write correctly the words and then write the words that you abbreviate.

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4. Why do you use the abbreviations when you write an SMS?

a. because the number of characters is limited.

b. because it is ``codify`` language only for the young.

c. because the Albanian language should be put in use the abbreviations in written language.

d. because we spend a lot of time writing correctly the words.

5. Did these abbreviations were impediment to write correctly an essay for you?

Yes No Maybe

6. Do you write with the abbreviations or do you use symbols if the number of letters would be unlimited?

Yes No I don`t know

7. Often who do you send SMS?

a. parents

b. teachers

c. friends

8. What do you think, do the abbreviations damage the Albanian language?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Maybe

Thank you for your collaboration!