

## 62 basic knowledge items of terminology

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1. **object**: anything perceivable (by the human senses) or conceivable (by the human mind) at a given moment
2. **characteristic**: mental abstraction of a property of a single *object* or a common property of a group of *objects*
3. **concept**: unit of knowledge created by a unique combination of *characteristics*
4. **extension**: totality of objects corresponding to a *concept*
5. **intension**: set of *characteristics* that constitute a *concept*
6. **type of characteristic**: category of *characteristic* that serves as the criterion of subdivision of *concepts*
7. **essential characteristic**: *characteristic* indispensable to understanding a *concept*
8. **common/shared characteristic**: *characteristic* indicating similarity of concepts and used to determine if an *object* belongs to the *extension* of a *concept*
9. **delimiting characteristic**: *essential characteristic* used for distinguishing a *concept* from related *concepts*
10. By adding *delimiting characteristics* in the *intension* → decreasing the number of *objects* in the *extension*.
11. Based on the *common characteristics* two *objects* are included in the *extension* of the same *concept*, while based on the *delimiting characteristics* they are included in the *extensions* of different *concepts*
12. **individual concept**: *concept* whose *extension* contains one *object*. *Individual concepts* are verbally represented by **names** or **appellations**
13. **general concept**: *concept* whose *extension* contains more than one *object* General concepts are verbally represented by **terms**
14. **hierarchical relation**: *concept relation* between two *concepts* **A – B** due to which A belongs to a higher level and B belongs to a lower level. **A: superordinate concept, B: subordinate concept**. Two *subordinate concepts* **B1, B2** under the same *superordinate concept* **A**, with the **same** criterion of subdivision are: **coordinate concepts**.
15. Main **hierarchical relations** between concepts **A – B**: **generic relation** (*genus–species relation*) and **partitive relation** (*whole–part relation*).
16. In the **generic relation**: **A: generic concept, genus, B: specific concept, species**.  
*intension of B = intension of A + delimiting characteristic(s)*
17. In the **partitive relation**: **A: comprehensive concept, the whole, B: partitive concept, the part**
18. **associative relation**: any *concept relation* which is not *hierarchical relation*
19. **sequential relation**: *associative relation* based on spatial, temporal or other proximity and successiveness
20. **Sequential relations**: **spatial relation** (relative location in space), **temporal relation** (events in time), **causal relation** (cause–effect relation).
21. **concept field**: unstructured set of thematically related *concepts*
22. **concept system**: set of *concepts* structured according to the *concept relations* among them
23. Types of *concept systems*: *generic concept system, partitive concept system, associative concept system, mixed concept system*
24. **generic concept system**: all *concept relations* in any vertical series of *concepts* are *generic relations*
25. **partitive concept system**: all *concept relations* in any vertical series of *concepts* are *partitive relations*
26. **associative concept system**: all *concept relations* in it are *associative relations*
27. **mixed concept system**: all types of *concept relations* are used in it
28. **representation** of a mental entity: rendition/depiction/presentation of the entity by perceptible (verbal, symbolic, graphical or other) means
29. **concept diagram**: graphical representation of a *concept system* (*generic relation* → tree diagram, *partitive relation* → rake diagram, *associative relation* → arrow diagram)
30. **definition** and **designation**: two *representations* of a *concept* in communication
31. **definition**: descriptive *representation* of a *concept* (descriptive statement: written, oral or other)

32. **intensional definition:** *definition* which describes the *intension* of a *concept* (giving the *superordinate concept* and the *limiting characteristic(s)*)
33. **extensional definition:** *definition* which enumerates all the *subordinate concepts* under one criterion of subdivision
34. **designation:** conventional *representation* (verbal, symbolic or other) of a *concept*
35. **verbal designation** of a *concept*: *designation* of a *concept* consisting of one or more words
36. **term:** *verbal designation* of a *general concept*
37. **name, appellation:** *verbal designation* of an *individual concept*
38. **symbol:** a non verbal *designation*
39. **simple term / simple name:** it contains only one *root*
40. **complex term / complex name:** it contains more than one *root*
41. **blend:** *term* formed by clipping and combining two separate *terms*
42. **compound name:** *complex name* or *blend* designating an *individual concept*
43. **compound term:** *complex term* or *blend* designating a *general concept*
44. **abbreviated form:** it is formed by omitting parts of the *full form* of a *designation*, or it is a short independent form used as a synonym of the *full form* (**dependent abbreviated form, independent abbreviated form**)
45. **initialism:** it is pronounced with the names of its letters, letter by letter (e.g. UN, USB)
46. **acronym:** it is pronounced syllabically as a normal word (e.g. laser, UNESCO)
47. **short form:** *abbreviated form* containing fewer words than the *full form* of a *designation*
48. **synonyms:** *terms* (or *names*) representing the same *concept* in a given language
49. **equivalents:** *designations* which represent the same *concept* in different languages
50. **mononymous concept:** *concept* which is represented by only one *designation* in a given language
51. **omonymous concepts:** unrelated *concepts* which are represented by the same *designation* in a given language
52. **monoseme:** *designation* which represents only one *concept* in a given language
53. **polyseme:** *designation* which represents two or more related *concepts* (*concepts* with certain common characteristics) in a given language
54. **principles for term formation** (after ISO): *transparency, consistency, appropriateness, linguistic economy, derivability and compoundability, linguistic correctness, preference for native language*
55. **term-formation methods** (after ISO): *creating new forms, using existing forms, translingual borrowing*
56. **term-formation mechanisms for Greek terms:** *creating new forms (derivation, compounding, abbreviation), using existing forms (conversion, terminogization, transdisciplinary borrowing, semantic transfer), translingual borrowing (direct borrowing, loan translation)*
57. **The Analogue Rule:** When forming a *term* in a language (target language) in order to name a new concept that has been primarily named in another language (source language), the namer's first choice should be to apply a *term-formation mechanism* analogous to the *term-formation mechanism* used for the source language term
58. **term component:** part of a *term* which is a *term* by itself or denotes a *characteristic*
59. **terminological analysis:** analysis of a *term* into its *term components*
60. **immediate components:** the two *term components* of a *complex term* which result from the first phase of the *terminological analysis* of the term: **determined component, determining component**
61. **determined component:** the *immediate component* which expresses a *genus* of the *concept* designated by a *complex term*
62. **determining component:** the *immediate component* which expresses a *delimiting characteristic* added to the *intension* of the *genus* (determined component) to denote a *species*.