txtng: a nu POV Human Drivers of Modern Language Change

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Recommended Citation
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English

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While writing systems serve only as a record of what has been said or thought, language encapsulates the spoken word as well: that is, speaking and listening in turn. Since 2010, text talk, or textese, has been categorized as a language rather than a writing system. Although languages and writing systems are two distinct aspects of communication and serve different purposes, text talk incorporates both fields of communication equally and flexibly. Never before has a language been able to serve multiple functions from both areas. Previous studies have been analytical studies of a single point in time studying vernacular and syntax: an analysis of the writing system that textese was believed to be. Because the language of texting fills a unique niche in communication, a Psychological analysis method was applied to work within the parameters of texting.

A timeline comparison of the physical, psychological, and sociological drivers of language was used to determine the effects of various changes in textese. This form of analysis takes into account effectors such as keyboards, context, and people involved in the conversation that have driven the growth and change of the text talk language since its birth twenty years ago, allowing for an interweaving of historical change that led to the language used today while demonstrating linguistic growth based on external factors. The “change over time” model is an analysis not frequently used that is designed to determine the “health” of language, that is, whether the language is growing or stagnating based on environmental context of the use of the language. Using this new paradigm, the language of textese is found to be not only retaining the original user base; it is gaining new users as both the language itself and the identity it represents change over time.