Artur Świątek

University of the National Education Commission, Krakow
artur.swiatek@up.krakow.pl
ORCID: 0000-0001-7264-3003

The influence of the Internet on contemporary forms of communication

Introduction

This article juxtaposes numerous studies that consider the issue of modern communication and its features of temporariness and of being a subject of daily transformation on the part of the interlocutors involved in any communication act via Internet environments. Modern communication has been profoundly impacted by the evolution of Internet environments which comprise an unlimited number of applications, chat platforms, media, and cyber newspapers (the term which refers to newspapers transformed onto the Internet environment and available for Internet users who seek such forms of news provision), to name but a few.

The article also aims to demonstrate and discuss these studies, which will centre our attention on how differently modern communication is formed, how it differs to its forms in the 1990s (a very significant period in this respect) and eventually how temporal and inevitable its form and processing will be in the years to come.

The intention of the author of this article is also to acquaint the reader with the new terms, notions, and labels coined by different scholars; these terms have not yet reached a global audience but they contain interesting

ideas and it is only a matter of time before they rest on the lips of every layperson connected with this topic.

Communication can be divided between that before the Internet, and that subsequent to the emergence of the Internet in its popular form in the 1990s. The rapid development of the Internet and Internet-enabled technology in that period has resulted in an increasing reliance on the Internet and technology, which either enriches or impoverishes our communication acts, depending on the context.

Bearing all this in mind, let us proceed to our discussion on the numerous terms, labels, and notions related to modern communication and processing information.

Commencing with the most rudimentary terms, let us begin with *linguistic communication*. According to The Free Dictionary, *linguistic communication* is:

> a systematic means of communicating by the use of sounds or conventional symbols, e.g. "he taught foreign languages", "the language introduced is standard throughout the text", "the speed with which a major programme can be executed depends on the language in which it is written.[1]

This definition raises the question of what *conventional symbols* are. These can be understood as:

> widely recognized signs or sign systems that signify a concept or idea that all members of a group understand based on a common cultural understanding.[2]

Considering this definition above, we may pose another question: Are Internet environments or, more generally, the Internet, as the source of many up-to-date environments, examples of conventional symbols and a systematic means of communication? Or, in other words: are they already unconventional, denoting that most but not all of us might use them daily as well and be satisfied with successful modern communication?

These questions need further elaboration. This article will seek to answer these questions, but also to provide relevant evidence of how

---

[1] "Linguistic communication," The Free Dictionary, accessed May 15, 2023. https://www.thefreedictionary.com/linguistic+communication.

[2] "What are conventional symbols?," Reference, last updated March 27, 2023. https://www.reference.com/world-view/conventional-symbols-9f2b0950a49fb649.

profoundly modern communication and the processing of modern information is impacted by such advancing environments.

Literature review and terms applied

It has become a truism that the information we want can be found on the Internet. However, just because that information can be found on the Internet does not mean that it is complete, or as exhaustive as we may wish it to be. This commonly-experienced situation can turn our feeling of satisfaction into one of disappointment or frustration. Added to that is the issue of the sheer quantity of information available online, making choice difficult, and making any assessment of the relevance of that information problematic. Certainly, when we try to process more information than our cognitive system is able to hold the result is *infoxication*, described as "the information overload resulting from the empowerment provided by digital technologies to users."[3] The result here is that it can take longer to process the work we are doing, as we spend an inordinate amount of time sifting through the available data, and in extreme cases this could lead to the abandonment of our work.

Relying on the previous research on *infoxication* conducted by Cornella[4], Benito-Ruiz[5], and Urbano[6] we come across another term, *infosaturation,* denoting the situations in which people favor information that supports their viewpoints while rejecting material that presents other viewpoints, and they also favour configuring their social networks to include people who have similar interests and affinities.

The next term worth discussing here is *cyberpragmatics,* coined by Yus[7] to denote "a cognitive pragmatics study of Internet-mediated communication." Its basic premise is an examination of how information is created and understood in the context of the Internet. Additionally,

[3] Patricia Dias, "From 'infoxication' to 'infosaturation': a theoretical overview of the cognitive and social effects of digital immersion," *Ámbitos. Revista Internacional de Comunicación*, no. 24 (2014).

[4] Alfons Cornella, "Cómosobrevivir a la infoxicación". In *Conferencia del Acto de Entrega de Títulos de losProgramas de Formación de Posgrado de la Universidad Oberta de Catalunya*, 2000.

[5] Elena Benito-Ruiz, "Infoxication 2.0," in *Handbook of Research on Web 2.0 and Second Language Learning,* ed. Michael Thomas, (Hershey: IGI Global, 2009), 60–79.

[6] Cristobal Urbano, "Algunasreflexiones a propósito de la 'infoxicación," In *AnuarioThinkEPI* 4 (2010): 304–308.

[7] Franciso Yus, *Cyberpragmatics. Internet-mediated communication in context* (Amsterdam, Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2011), 13 .

it focuses on how people obtain contextual data (often constrained if compared to other context-saturated situations). Yus[8] states that *cyberpragmatics* analyzes communication between users of the Internet who utilize the many cyber-media accessible. He further acquaints us with two auxiliary labels, namely: "sender users" and "addressee users." The former comprises those who assume their interlocutors will obtain the required contextual knowledge to reach meaningful conclusions. The same applies to the latter, labelled as "addressee users," who will examine the relevance of the statements (or images, videos, podcasts, etc.) that they process. As a result, the creation and interpretation of information on the Internet both heavily depend on context, just as with face-to-face interactions.

Having demonstrated the issue of *cyberpragmatics,* as well as the notions of "sender users" and "addressee users," we may now focus on another term that recurs in the literature: CMC, which stands for Computer-Mediated Communication. This is defined as "a written natural language message sent via the Internet."[9] However, this is not the only definition of CMC. There are more definitions, but one should be quoted as it sheds more comprehensive and accurate light on the scope CMC has on modern communication. December states that

> CMC is the process by which people create, exchange, and perceive information using networked telecommunications systems (or non-networks) that facilitate encoding, transmitting and decoding messages.[10]

Even though this is a slightly older definition, the significance of the medium and the interactions that take place during the process are still important today and are respected by many academics. But it is not just the concept of CMC that matters; today's use of a particular language is equally significant. Herring[11] highlights the unique nature of communication through technological media. One would struggle to make the case that

---

[8] Francisco Yus "Relevance equations of effective Internet communication." in *Interdisciplinarity and Languages. Current Issues in Research, Teaching, Professional Applications and ICT*, ed. Barry Pennock and Tina Suau (Berlin: Peter Lang, 2011), 65–85.

[9] Naomi S. Baron, "Assessing the Internet's Impact on Language," in *The Handbook of Internet Studies*, ed. Mia Consalvo and Charles Ess (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2011), 118.

[10] John December, accessed May 17, 2023. https://johndecember.com/john/study/cmc/what.html.

[11] Susan C. Herring, "Computer-mediated communication on the Internet," *Annual Review of Information Science and Technology* 36, no. 1 (2002): 109-168.

CMC and its language are homogeneous occurrences. There are numerous variations depending on various elements such as:

- the technology used;[12]
- context;[13]
- the similarity between the speech and writing;[14]
- synchrony vs. asynchrony of interactions;[15]
- the number of participants;[16]
- the nature of communication.[17]

The quantity of linguistic alterations, their quality, and how frequently they are utilized in CMC might vary based on the individual, the technology used, the situation, or the language applied.[18] If we intend to provide some exemplification of CMC, we find that the majority of CMC language is lowercase with sparse punctuation,[19] which denotes that distinct functions can be assigned to both capital letters and punctuation marks.

In terms of spelling and orthography, it can profoundly vary from the default, e.g.:

- the use of a plural form - "z" substituting "s" (e.g. *filez*, *gamez*);[20]
- the use of spelling imitating punctuation (e.g. *nope*, *yup*);[21]
- the practice of using spelling to compensate for the absence of prosody or other linguistic-sounding noises (e.g. *zzzzzzzzz* – for sleeping);[22]
- the use of "eye dialect" (e.g. *sez* for *says*);[23]

---

[12] John December, "Units of analysis for Internet communication," *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication* 1, no. 4 (1996).

[13] December, "Units."

[14] December, "Units."

[15] Naomi S. Baron, "Language of the Internet," in *The Stanford Handbook for Language Engineers,* ed. Ali Farghali, (Stanford: CSLI Publications, 2003), 59–127.

[16] Baron, "Language."

[17] Yuliang Liu, "What does research say about the nature of computer-mediated communication: task-oriented or social-emotion-oriented?" *Electronic Journal of Sociology* 6, no. 1 (2002).

[18] Herring, "Computer-mediated."

[19] David Crystal, *Language and the Internet.* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001).

[20] Crystal, *Language.*

[21] Crystal, *Language.*

[22] Susan C. Herring, "Grammar and electronic communication," in *Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics,* ed. Carol A. Chapelle (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011), 2338–2346.

[23] Herring, "Grammar."

- the substitution of numbers for letters or other phonologically comparable components of words (e.g. *18er*, *gr8*);[24]
- omitting the apostrophe (e.g. *cant*, *dont*);[25]
- spelling with a purpose to mimic an accent (e.g. *wanna*, *gonna*);[26]
- so called "*leetspeak*" where "some of the letters of a word are substituted by non-alphabetic symbols based on graphic resemblance";[27]

In the case of morphology, the following phenomena may be observable:
- clipping (e.g. *nickname*);[28]
- blending (e.g. *netiquette*);[29]
- semantic shifts (e.g. *flame*, *spam*);[30]
- shortenings (e.g. *jan* for *January*);[31]
- contractions (e.g. *thx* for *thanks*);[32]
- prefixes (like *cyber-*, *e-*) and suffixes (like *–icon*);[33]
- innovations / inventions – completely new words (e.g.*ecruiting*, *etailing*, *to mouse*, etc.).[34]

Additionally, these CMC characteristics are listed:
- the use of lowercase "*i*" instead of "*I*" and "*u*" instead of "*you*";[35]
- the use of personal pronouns – the overuse of 1st personal pronoun;[36]
- abbreviations which are written short forms of words (*e.g. – for example*, *asap – as soon as possible*);[37]

---

[24] Herring, "Grammar."

[25] Francesca Farina and Fiona Lyddy, "The Language of Text Messaging: "Linguistic Ruin" or resource? *The Irish Psychologist* 37, no. 6 (2011): 144–149.

[26] Farina and Lyddy, "The Language."

[27] Herring, "Grammar and electronic."

[28] Herring, "Grammar and electronic."

[29] Herring, "Grammar and electronic."

[30] Herring, "Grammar and electronic."

[31] Francesca Farina and Fiona Lyddy, "The Language of Text Messaging: Linguistic Ruin or resource?" *The Irish Psychologist* 37, no. 6 (2011): 144–149.

[32] Farina and Lyddy, "The Language."

[33] Sanel Hadziahmetovic-Jurida, "Some distinctive lexical features of Netspeak," *Linguistics (Jezikoslovlje)* 8, no. 2 (2007): 193–210.

[34] Hadziahmetovic-Jurida, "Some distinctive."

[35] Sali Tagliamonte and Derek Denis, "Linguistic ruin? LOL! Instant messaging and teen language," *American Speech* 83, no. 1 (Spring 2008): 3–34, 2008.

[36] Tagliamonte and Denis, "Linguistic ruin?"

[37] Yylva Hard Segerstad, "Instant Messaging with Web Who," *International Journal of Human- Computer Studies* 56 (2002):147–171.

- acronyms which are words coined by taking the initial letters of the words (e.g., *LOL – laughing out loud*; *TTYL – talk to you later*; *BBS – be back soon*; *F2F – face-to-face*;).[38]

Apart from what CMC comprises, and how it is applied by its users, it is worth focusing at present on the issue of Internet-based communication. According to December,

> to say that communication is Internet-based means that, at the data level, it conforms to a particular set of data communications protocols. A protocol is a set of rules for exchanging information.[39]

Additionally, Internet-based communication is defined differently by this scholar as the one:

> facilitating changes which have been developing for decades in the ways people contact, interact and obtain resources with each other[40]

No matter how we approach and comprehend the above definitions, either as more generally or more specifically, we may observe a resemblance but not the identicality in the scopes of CMC and Internet-based communication. The former mostly concerns networks and non-networks in communication, whereas the latter is related to communication based on networked applications. What does this have to do with modern communication? A lot. Language is an indispensable means of communication. With these two notions, we will attempt to demonstrate how it evolved and keeps on evolving, how temporal it is, how fragile it may be, and how imperfect it inevitably becomes when we commence its in-depth analysis.

Transposing discourses to the Internet: newspapers and cyber newspapers

Having provided the definitions of CMC and Internet-based communication as well as the preliminary exemplification of the language of CMC,

---

[38] Neil Randall, "Lingo Online: A report on the Language of the Keyboard Generation," 2002, accessed May 12, 2023. http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/~nrandall/LingoOnline-finalreport.pdf.

[39] December, "Units."

[40] Barry Wellman, Jeffrey Boase and Wenchong Chen, "The networked nature of community: online and offline," *IT & Society* 1, no. 1 (2002): 151–165.

it is time to focus on the issue outlined in the introduction to this article, which is cyber newspapers - newspapers transferred into the Internet and modified in form and scope for the ease and comfort of application by Internet users.

Before we centre on the outlined issue, we need to analyse the definition of discourse. Relying on the definition from the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, discourse is

> the verbal interchange of ideas, formal and orderly and usually extended expression of thought on a subject, connected speech or writing or a mode of organizing knowledge, ideas, or experience that is rooted in language and its concrete contexts.[41]

When any discourse is transposed to the Internet, then it becomes Internet discourse, a blend of both written and spoken discourse, thus written and spoken interaction. That is why Internet users expect and apply this blend when exposed to the content of newspapers presented online.

Newspapers are a good illustration of how users search for and evaluate the relevance of information, and how the design must be modified to satisfy those expectations when transferred to another media (from the printed page to the Internet). Diachronically, without making any format changes, print newspapers were simply scanned and uploaded to a website. Although the scanned print newspaper can still be read on a different part of the portal, cyber newspapers have evolved into news portals in modern times (often under a subscription). Notably, the evolution of the news format from paper to electronic on the Internet has had significant effects on how relevance is determined and how much attention Internet users give to news in the print and electronic media: these include digital, video, and audio recordings, slide presentations, CD-ROM and online content, as well as the media of television, radio, telephone, and the computer.[42] Additionally, there are differences in the amount of user involvement

---

[41] "Discourse," Merriam-Webster, accessed May 11, 2023. https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/discourse.

[42] "Electronic media," Oxford reference, accessed May 13, 2023. https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/oi/authority.20110803095746382.

required to complete the information that the news story has already provided.[43]. As Mobrand and Spyridakis, emphasize,

> traditional print-based signals do not translate easily to such hypertexts, and the reader finds no comforting boundaries or sense of closure in the malleable web environment. The reader must share his or her limited pool of cognitive resources available for reading between comprehending the text, manipulating the reading tool, and making decisions about the path to take through the text.[44]

Online newspapers have undergone many stages in their development. Each stage has influenced the readers' interpretations and their evaluation of relevance. As the online format evolved into a distinct genre with no resemblance to its print version and with greater opportunities for reader interaction, these differences have become crucial. The following differences deserve special attention:[45]

1. *Immediacy*. The quick "real-time updating" of Internet news portals is too quick for the print newspaper to keep up with. Maybe the only benefit of print news is that it gives the reader a more refined and thorough account of a noteworthy event. In general, the writers of print news must anticipate whether the event already belongs in the reader's cognitive environment or not, as well as the extent to which the information it conveys combines in relevant ways with this cognitive environment, because the relevance in each case will vary greatly. The information in the news story will be irrelevant if the reader is already familiar with the event.

2. *Universality*. The print newspaper is often purchased and read at specific physical places, whereas the cyber newspaper can be accessed from any point in the globe with an Internet connection.

3. *Scroll factor*. As we scroll down to read the news, the top portion of the screen's text vanishes. Many people prefer to click on links that take them to smaller, screen-sized text chunks rather than moving the text so that the unframed portion of the text appears on the

---

[43] FrancisoYus, "La lengua de los medios en la red y su interpretación," in *Manual de redacción ciberperiodística*, ed. Javier Díaz Noci and Ramón Salaverría (Barcelona: Ariel, 2003), 309–352.

[44] Kathryn Mobrandand Jan H. Spyridakis, "Explicitness of local navigational links: Comprehension, perceptions of use, and browsing behavior". *Journal of Information Science* 33: 41–61, 2007.

[45] Yus, *Cyberpragmatics*.

screen. Because of this, it is frequently required to "fragment" print news when transferring it to the Internet in order to make it fit the size restrictions of the screen.

4. *Interactivity*. The reader has access to a level of interaction through the cyber newspaper that is not available through traditional newspapers. This is a system-to-user kind of interaction, what Chung[46] labels as *medium interactivity*. The type of engagement the user has when accessing the cyber newspaper varies on their demands. High information seekers are more likely to click hyperlinks to arrive at mediated materials or messages (i.e., *medium interactivity*). However, those that place a high value on social connection will be more likely to engage in conversation with other readers, such as by posting comments on a journalist's blog or sending emails (i.e., *human interactivity*)[47].

5. *Multiple formats on the same page*. News portals provide information in many discourse forms (visual, verbal, graphics, audio, video, etc.) whereas the printed page has a smaller selection of formats.

6. *Updating*. Internet portals can be constantly updated, but there is a deadline after which that information must be printed and sent to newsstands for the print newspaper.

7. *Trans-temporality*. In cyber newspapers, although articles are frequently archived, users can always view them. This leads to a novel method of news processing that mixes old and new data to produce more precise relevance outputs.

8. *Personalization*. Users occasionally alter the web portal's content in accordance with their information requirements or look for news sources that specifically appeal to them and work well with their cognitive settings.

It is clear that the current differences between print and online news sources make it inevitable that future relevance will depend on how (and how much) information is accessed and digested. The reader's inferential gap-filling of information to transform the schematic words into fully

---

[46] Deborah S. Chung, "Interactive features of online newspapers: Identifying patterns and predicting use of engaged readers," *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication* 13 (2008): 658–679.

[47] Chan Yoo, "Modeling audience interactivity as the gratification-seeking process in online newspapers, "*Communication Theory* 21 (2011): 67–89.

contextualized and relevant interpretations is a task that always applies to both formats, however. In Dor, the example presented below in the form of a simple and brief paragraph, requires a great deal of inferential augmentation, during which the reader must infer what information is new and what information is previously obvious, as well as combining both:

> The bodies of John Kennedy Jr., his wife Caroline and his sister-in-law Lorraine were discovered yesterday in the ocean, at a depth of 30 meters, 10 kilometers away from Martha's Vineyard Island, where they were headed on Saturday. Senator Edward Kennedy, John's uncle, arrived at the site where the bodies were found, in order to identify them. John Kennedy Jr. will be buried in NY in the coming days.[48]

The reader's participation is crucial since the language of any news piece always underdetermines the information that its author wishes to communicate with it (i.e., it is always less informative than the intended interpretation). Because readers have such a wide range of cognitive settings, attitudes, information demands, and interests, the author can only make approximate predictions about how interesting a news piece will be. The reader will likely start by flipping through the pages, focusing on the cover, or visiting a particular area they appreciate. When the reader stops surfing and reads an article with potentially relevant content, they tend to process each component of the piece (title, lead, first paragraph, etc.).[49]

The online format, on the other hand, affects the reading order significantly, which results in a totally different communication of the content to the reader. Firstly, in cyber newspapers it is common to see that authors have also used the Internet to filter content that could be a useful addition to their articles. Relevant examples include the following: El Pais, The Guardian, The Times, The Washington Post, Le Monde, Gazeta Wyborcza.[50] Secondly, contemporary users are increasingly demanding in their need for immediacy and interconnection of information since they are fully aware of all the possibilities that the Internet offers. They have become accustomed to multitasking and tend to click on any link that suggests potential relevance. In order to gather and disseminate information today,

---

[48] Daniel Dor, "On newspaper headlines as relevance optimizers, "*Journal of Pragmatics* 35, no 5 (2003): 695–721.

[49] Dor, "On newspaper."

[50] The links to the websites of theses cyber newspapers are available in these cyber newspapers.

we must once again learn to read and write. Today, information is often gathered in the form of networks, or navigable spaces, where many forms (such as text, audio, video, images, and animations) are connected and subject to the choices and contributions of the user. The information era has created a fractured, dispersed, and hyper-specialized body of knowledge. As Tewksbury[51] claims, the Internet gives the audience more considerable influence over the information selection process than traditional media tend to offer. Internet users in particular are prone to acting in accordance with their own interests and are resentful of conforming to the demands of news editors or producers. But the ease of access to knowledge comes at a price in terms of mental work. D'Haenens et al.[52]draw the conclusion that consumers spend too much time figuring out the layout of the website and mapping out their own routes through the material, and there is no assurance that this effort will be offset by more interest.

There are often three different versions of each news article at the current stage of the development of cyber newspapers. The initial draft differs from the printed form and, as such, may be categorized as *novel cybergenre* in Shepherd and Watters'[53] terminology. The second comprises the identical information as the printed document, but with additional elements (video, links to other pages, etc.). And the third is an exact replica of the news article as it appeared in print, such as those found in news portals. These versions match the notion of *extant cybergenres,*[54] especially two variants: the second would be a different genre since it is "based on existing genres but [has] evolved by exploiting the capabilities afforded by the new medium,"[55]the third, however, would be an illustration of a genre that has been copied because it is comparable to a previously published genre.

All in all, to define the characteristics of this cybergenre, it is interesting to examine cyber newspapers in comparison to their printed counterparts.

---

[51] David Tewksbury, "What do Americans really want to know? Tracking the behavior of news readers on the Internet," *Journal of Communication* 53, no. 4 (2003): 694–710.

[52] D'Haenens, Leen, Nicholas Jankowski and Ard Heuvelman, "News in online and print newspapers: Differences in reader consumption and recall," *New Media & Society* 6, no. 3 (2004): 363-382.

[53] Michael Shepherd and Carolyn Watters, "The evolution of cybergenres," in *Proceedings of the Thirty-First Annual Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS '98),* vol. II, 97–109, Hawaii, 1998.

[54] Shepherd and Carolyn Watters, "The evolution."

[55] Shepherd and Carolyn Watters, "The evolution."

Orlikowski and Yates[56]suggest the term of *genre interdependence* to identify any relationships or linkages across genres that might exist when they are used in communicative action. Ihlström and Henfridsson investigate any potential sequential relationships between the Internet and print newspaper genres using this word:

> Given the long-established genre elements and rules of the printed newspaper genre, it is plausible to assume that the evolution of the online newspaper genre to a large extent overlaps with its printed counterpart.[57]

While this is going on, the medium is always changing and leading to changes in how relevance is determined. The contemporary cyber newspaper has transitioned from computer screens to smart phones, requiring that news producers and readers provide content that is

> comfortable in a new format, on a smaller screen, where the issue of where you are may also become part of how you are reading or reporting or watching. This is […] a permanent shift in communications consumption. It is ripping the format of journalism and potentially other media so far away from the page-centric world we all grew up reading and writing so that it raises the question of how long it will be before even the concept of a website becomes old hat.[58]

Traditional formats and new innovations compete for methods to present information and provide useful results on the computer screen. According to numerous researchers, editors will eventually need to create at least five different types of content for the "electronic newsstands," including alerts, articles, podcasts, video reports, and news on social networking sites. Each of these will lead to variances in content processing and accessibility, and consequently on users' efforts and their balance of results.

---

[56] Wanda Orlikowski and Joanne Yates, "Genre repertoire: The structuring of communicative practices in organizations," *Administrative Science Quarterly* 39 (1994): 541–574.

[57] Carina Ihlström and Ola Henfridsson, "Online newspapers in Scandinavia. A longitudinal study of genre change and interdependency," *Information Technology & People* 18, no. 2 (2005): 172–192.

[58] Emily Bell, "The long and the short of print and Internet content," *The Guardian*, January 11, 2010, 4.

Conclusions

Summing up these elaborations and the proposed theoretical background, we may state that modern communication is largely different from the communication which was regarded as the standard twenty, ten, or even five years ago. The article has introduced and described many important terms that may have been unfamiliar to the reader, including *infoxication, cyberpragmatics, CMC* and *the Internet-based communication, linguistic communication, cyberliteracy.* All these selected notions have profoundly altered and are still modifying our contemporary communication, which comprises numerous abbreviations, emoticons, demonstrates many brevities, abounds in incompletions and is, perhaps, subjectively regarded as imperfect when juxtaposed with the forms that communication has previously taken. The new world can be bewildering to those accustomed to the old, but for those with an interest in this domain, it is important to keep up with new terms and usages.

It is believed that the theories presented, along with the descriptions of differences between the contemporary use of newspapers and cyber newspapers, constitute only a single tree in the forest of contemporary communication.

It is thought as well that the content of the present article could provide the reader with sufficient awareness related to the eternal but simultaneously contemporary communication being profoundly modified, both in terms of its application as well as in its everyday processing and the inference of relevant information to enable and maintain any explicit modern communication.

Artur Świątek

Abstract

The objective of the article will be the theoretical elaboration on the highly significant issue of the Internet as the multitude of environments having an indisputable impact on modern communication, intertwined with such intriguing notions as *cyberpragmatics* (based on the new terminology coined by F. Yus), *infoxication, CMC* or *Internet-based communication, modern communication,* and *cyberliteracy*, among others. Communication undergoes constant change; it is never permanent, it is always temporal, being profoundly influenced by the most contemporary way in which Internet users perform their communicative acts based on the different tools offered to them through Internet web searches, applications, etc.

Keywords: modern communication, the Internet, influence

Słowa kluczowe: współczesna komunikacja, Internet, wpływ