



THE ANALYSIS OF PURPOSES IN USING ABBREVIATION FOR COMMUNICATION AMONG GAMERS IN VALORANT GAME

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ABSTRACT

Valorant is a team-based first-person shooter game for PC developed and published by Riot Games. Valorant is a very intense with a very fast game phase, so winning it requires good teamwork. The use of abbreviations is one effective way to help gamers communicate with their teammate faster. This study aims to investigate the abbreviations that are used in the Valorant game and the purposes of using abbreviations in communication among Valorant gamers. This study used the descriptive qualitative method. The sampling technique was purposive sampling method with 10 informants. The subjects of the research involve ten people aged 19-40 years old who have reached above level 100 in the game. The data collection method are interviews and observation. Data analysis techniques apply the stages of data reduction, data display, and conclusion. The results show that there are five types of abbreviations that are popular among the gamer, namely clipping, initialism, blend, acronym, and contraction. Using abbreviation is very time efficient for both sender and receiver so gamers can focus on their game. Gamers benefit by knowing the abbreviations that can help them communicate in the game.

Keywords: *Abbreviation, Communication, Valorant Game*

INTRODUCTION

Communication is a tool for social connection with others. According to Karyaningsih (2018), communication is a way to interact, done by more than one person, so a person can communicate if he interacts with other individuals or groups. She also mentioned that communication is the main requirement in human life. Communication delivers information, ideas, emotions, and skills through symbols, numbers, graphs, and more. From these statements, communication always happens anytime and anywhere, including in a game.

Valorant is a team-based first-person shooter for PC games developed and published by Riot Games (IGN Entertainment, 2020). It also said Valorant is an FPS game where gamers are assigned to two teams in the primary game mode, each with five gamers: attacking or defending. With scrappers, strategists, and hunters of all kinds, gamers can find new ways to plant the spike and style on their enemies. In this game, there are currently 16 agents to pick.

Valorant is a game that requires teamwork and strategy in playing it.

Therefore, communication is essential in this game. Gamers in the Valorant game use typing, voice-chat to speak, and using marks to communicate with their teammates. All of the tools communication available in this game are used to talk about the in-game situation like informing the enemy location and status, calling for help, admiring another gamer, informing the site is clear, commending to plant the bomb "spike," or just a normal chatting.

According to Kridalaksana (2009) in Marlina and Pratiwi (2020), "Abbreviation is the process of cutting one word, some parts of the word and the combination of words into words in the new form." People desire to save time and effort when typing, especially when making

decisions on the go. Gamers may spend more time focusing on winning because using abbreviations in typing or voice chat saves time.

The following are the research problems that can be formulated using the previous explanation: “What are the abbreviations that are used in the Valorant game?” and “What are the purposes of using abbreviations in communication among Valorant gamers?”. Based on the research problem, this research aims to investigate the abbreviations used in the Valorant game and find out the purposes of using abbreviations in communication among Valorant gamers. The research contribution can be formulated into a theoretical contribution that is expected to contribute to the education field as a reference to conduct another research related to abbreviations while the practical contribution is dedicated to improve the knowledge about the abbreviations in communication. In Addition, the writer also hoped that this research to be used to help readers to write English text using good abbreviations.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this research, the writer included theories that is related to the abbreviations in communication. Kridalaksana (2009) in Marlina and Pratiwi (2020) said that the process of cutting a word, some parts of words, or a combination of words into a new form is called abbreviation. The research has shown that an abbreviation is a shortened word. USA, FBI, and CIA are good abbreviations. For example, NASA stands for National Aeronautics and Space Administration, UNESCO is for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, and Radar stands for “radio detecting and ranging.” Some words, such as LOL, JK, ROFL, ASAP, and others, are abbreviations. They are abbreviations made out of the first letter of words or portions of words. When an abbreviation appears at the end of a sentence, a single period serves to mark the abbreviation and close the sentence. According to Schendl (2001) and Weakly (2006) in Marlina and Pratiwi (2020), there are five types of abbreviations. They are acronyms, clipping, blends, contraction, and initialism.

1. Initialism

Initialism is a sort of abbreviation that is capitalized. Initialism is a term that sounds like an acronym but does not pronounce like it. It provides a name for something that is not yet pronounced differently. For example, *FBI* stands for “Federal Bureau of Investigation,” *NT* stands for “nice try,” *NS* stands for “nice shot,” *GG* stands for “good game,” *PLC* stands for “Public Limited Company,” *UFO* stands for “unidentified flying object,” *USA* stands for “United States of America,” and *VAT* stands for “value-added tax.”

2. Blend

Blends are pieces of existing words and a combination of components from two different words. For example, *wanna* stands for “want to,” *y'all* stands for “you all,” *tryna* stands for “trying to.”

3. Clipping

Words ordinarily spelled by shorten a longer word. Clipping is usually informal, but not always. Some become standard forms, while others are classified as formal or technical. For example, *tho* stands for “though,” *app* stands for “application,” *sry* stands for “sorry,” *Brim* stands for “Brimstone.”

4. Contraction

The best sort of abbreviation is contraction. Contractions are reduced versions of complete forms in which the middle letters have been deleted. There are two types of contractions: a shortened form of a word that ends in the same letter as the word itself, and a concise way to express two words as one by writing them together, leaving out one or more letters, and replacing the missing letters with an apostrophe. For example, *Dr* stands for “Doctor,” *govt* stands for “government,” *St* stands for “Saint,” *he's* stands for “he is,” and *they'd* stands for “they would.”

5. Acronym

Acronym is a type of abbreviation which always written in capital and pronounced as a word. For example, *ASAP* stands for “as soon as possible,” *LOL* stands for “laugh out loud,” and *AIDS* stands for “*Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome*.”

According to Aeni et al. (2020), factors for frequent use of abbreviations in communication are stated as follows.

1. Save time when typing messages. Users believe that writing abbreviations save time, allowing them to type messages faster.
2. Keep an eye on new trends. It is easy for users to get carried away in a technologically advanced environment, especially when it comes to abbreviations.
3. Abbreviations are normally only sent to friends. Users do not utilize abbreviations when communicating with professors since they believe it is disrespectful to do so in communications.
4. Users believe that utilizing abbreviations in communication will not appear stiff to their friends.

METHODOLOGY

To find the abbreviations and the reason for using them, the writer decided to use the descriptive qualitative method. The informants of this research are 10 people. The criteria for these 10 informants were people who have reached above level 100 in the Valorant game. The intended subjects were Pontianak residents aged 19 to 40. The writer interviewed 10 informants and observed by playing the game to collect data as the primary data. The writer also used literature reviews such as journals, articles, books, and the internet. The activities are carried out interactively to examine the collected data and continue until the data is saturated. The activities for examining the data, namely data reduction, data display, and conclusion.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The writer analyzed the data until the data is saturated. The following are the results of observations made by the writer by playing the game Valorant with random gamers:

Table 1 Abbreviations Found from Observation

Abbreviation	Full Form
GG	Good Game
G	Go
OMG	Oh My God
FR	For Real
AFK	Away From Keyboard
BRB	Be Right Back
NT	Nice Try
WP	Well Played
NP	No Problem
MB	My Bad
NS	Nice Shot
B	Back
N1	Nice One
NOPROB	No Problem
SRY	Sorry
NC	Nice

Abbreviation	Full Form
ENMY	Enemy
RTT	Rotate
CARE	Careful
K	Okay
FLNK	Flank
A	Site A
B	Site B
C	Site C
MID	Middle
They're/They re	They are
He's/ He s	He is
It s k/ It's k	It is okay
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
YOLO	You Only Live Once
LOL	Laugh Out Loud

The writer analyzed these data using Schendl (2001) and Weakly (2006) in Marlina and Pratiwi (2020). There are five types of abbreviations: acronyms, clipping, blends, contraction, and initialism. The following is a table regarding the frequency of use of abbreviations by ten respondents:

Table 2 Initialism Abbreviations from Interview Results

No.	Initialism	Full Form	Frequency
1	GG	Good Game	7
2	OMG	Oh My God	2
3	TBH	To Be Honest	1
4	FR	For Real	1
5	AFK	Away From Keyboard	1
6	NGL	Not Gonna Lie	1
7	TBH	To Be Honest	1
8	BRB	Be Right Back	1
9	NT	Nice Try	2
10	HS	Head Shot	1

No.	Initialism	Full Form	Frequency
11	BS	Body Shot	1
12	WP	Well Played	4
13	NP	No Problem	2
14	MB	My Bad	4
15	NS	Nice Shot	1
Total			30

Table 3 Blend Abbreviations from Interview Results

No.	Blend	Full Form	Frequency
1	N1	Nice One	3
2	NOPROB	No Problem	1
3	WANNA	Want To	1
Total			5

Table 4 Clipping Abbreviations from Interview Results

No.	Clipping	Full Form	Frequency
1	THX	Thanks	1
2	CARE	Careful	1
3	MID	Middle	1
Total			3

Table 5 Contraction Abbreviations from Interview Results

No.	Contraction	Full Form	Frequency
1	They're/They re	They Are	2
2	He's/ He s	He Is	1
3	It s k/ It's k	It Is Okay	1
4	SRY	Sorry	5
5	NC	Nice	7
6	ENMY	Enemy	1
7	CNR	Corner	1
8	RTT	Rotate	2
9	B	Back	1
10	NVM	Nevermind	1
11	RP	Roleplay	1
12	K	Okay	1
13	FLNK	Flank	1

No.	Contraction	Full Form	Frequency
14	A	Site A	2
15	B	Site B	2
16	C	Site C	1
17	G	Go	3
18	U	You	1
19	CHK	Check	1
Total			35

Table 6 Acronym Abbreviations from Interview Results

No.	Acronym	Full Form	Frequency
1	ASAP	As Soon As Possible	4
2	YOLO	You Only Live Once	2
3	LOL	Laugh Out Loud	4
Total			10

All respondents know that the Valorant game is a first-person shooter (FPS) game in this research, the respondents like the game Valorant because the game is very challenging too. Valorant requires a strategy to win the game because each character has a different role. Thereby, teamwork is essential in this game. Valorant gamers use all the communication features, but most gamers use chat because they think it is more comfortable. There will be many abbreviations because of the limitation of time when gamers communicate on the game. The convenience of the game also affects the provision of information because games like Valorant require fast time to convey information and receive it. Therefore, this condition makes people modify the words into a shortened, more straightforward form, giving information to focus more when playing. Gamers usually use abbreviations in games, especially in Valorant games.

When communicating, abbreviations have become a habit for gamers because gamers tend not to read the very long text in this very intense game. The frequent use of abbreviations can be seen in interviews, which show gamers use all types of abbreviations in this game from Initialism, Blend, Clipping, Contraction, and Acronym. Contraction dominates the other types of abbreviation found in interviews because half of the data were classified as contractions. Contractions are reduced versions of complete forms in which the middle letters have been deleted.

Sharing information about the enemy's state help teammates understand the enemy according to their perception. The information that has been shared will create a new strategy to win the game. Not only that, but players will also begin to understand the movements of their enemies, thereby increasing the certainty of speculation about the enemy's strategy in the game. The abbreviation contraction is the most effective in the Valorant game because players use it when discussing strategy and expressing commands and information. The previous researcher supports Marlina and Pratiwi (2020), the result of their research shows that contraction dominates the other types of abbreviations in tweets on Twitter. When players

decide to change plans, abbreviations contraction will always appear in every communication, and it can be concluded this abbreviation is often used in a critical situation.

The following are the results of interviews with 10 Valorant gamers that the writer has selected:

Table 7 First Interview Question Results

No.	Can you describe the Valorant game?
1.	An exciting game, gamers will know that this is an FPS game that is definitely about shooting.
2.	Valorant is an FPS game that is trending on an international scale because this game introduces a unique mechanic.
3.	the Valorant game is a shooting game, and it's fun with lots of agents. People call it an FPS game.
4.	Valorant is an FPS game that I think is fun. The first time I met an FPS game that suited me.
5.	I have been playing online games for a long time. And in the past, I have competed in playing the Point Blank game. Valorant is very similar to Point Blank. It was even more exciting because there were various characters, different skills, right. That's great, this game is an FPS game, so I remind you that you need a high-tech computer to be able to play this game if you want to have a great playing sensation.
6.	One of the FPS games that use teams. The agents are equipped with skills.
7.	Valorant is one of the most popular fps games recently. It is the first fps game I've played & it's amusing! Many agents are handsome, and their skills are extraordinary. The weapons also vary, and some skins can be purchased (ingame purchase).
8.	Valorant is the same FPS game as CrossFire and Point Blank. The difference is we can use a skill in the Valorant game. The game is also more exciting with many agents.
9.	Valorant is an FPS game, kind of like a shooting game.
10.	Valorant is an entertaining game, this is an FPS game, so you need reflexes because the mechanics are high. Very adrenaline-pumping game.

Table 8 Second Interview Question Results

No.	In your opinion, how important is teamwork in this game?
1.	Very important, because each character has a different role.
2.	Very important.
3.	It's essential, if there is cooperation, the gamers will be able to get a good position and win the war.
4.	Very important.
5.	Everything must be communicated, from strategy and speculation on enemy movements to paying attention to each other. super important.
6.	100% Very important.
7.	Very important because this game requires a strategy that must be done together as one team so that there is no miscommunication and minor mistakes.
8.	Very important, teamwork is number one than skill.
9.	Valorant, there is an objective to be pursued. If you play alone, it will be tough.
10.	Very important.

Table 9 Third Interview Question Results

No.	What would you prefer, text chat, voice chat other communication features in the Valorant game?
1.	Text chat
2.	Text chat and Voice Chat
3.	Text chat
4.	Text chat
5.	Text chat and Voice chat

No.	What would you prefer, text chat, voice chat other communication features in the Valorant game?
6.	All Features
7.	All Features
8.	Text chat
9.	Text chat and Voice Chat
10.	Text chat

Table 10 Fourth Interview Question Results

No.	Can you give me some examples of communication in the Valorant game?
1.	Provides information on enemy positions and combines skills.
2.	Agree on which site to go to, report an enemy, etc. Usually, just talk casually.
3.	Ask for help, strategize, and warn friends of enemies.
4.	Teamwork, telling each other where the enemy is, always checking the area, or asking for help.
5.	Info on the location of the enemy, the damage that hit them, ask for help, or maybe joke together, then compliment each other for the effort given in one round.
6.	Ask to be alert, Info on the enemy's position, if my teammate succeeds in shooting, sometimes I compliment them for being great.
7.	Exchange information (such as telling the location of the enemy), formulate strategies, and sometimes there are jokes too so that the game doesn't get tensed.
8.	Something like giving enemy positions, strategizing, providing assistance to teammates, etc.
9.	Make a strategy, attack the enemy, defense, and remember the enemy's position.
10.	Ask friends to go back or rush, tell the enemy's position who killed me, how much damage is given, and make a strategy.

Table 11 Fifth Interview Question Results

No.	Do you use abbreviations when you communicate in Valorant while you are playing? Why?
1.	Yes, because when in the game, you need to focus. If you want to chat, you have to be fast. Abbreviations can speed up typing and save time.
2.	Yes, because so that it doesn't take time, the game is more effective. You don't need to type long, all Valorant gamers already know about it.
3.	Frequently, to save time and make communication easier when you're focused on playing games.
4.	Yes, to save time, you don't need to type long sentences so that you can focus on the game.
5.	Definitely bro, so the abbreviation is essential because it saves time, it's a trend, it's just when your teammates read it because it's not long, so it's very likely that they'll see and read it.
6.	Yes, always use it. The problem is that the game is very intense, so I don't have time to chat for a long time.
7.	Once when communicating by typing, to shorten the time, hahaha. But, I don't think it's too important, because there isn't any urgent information. If the information is essential, it is usually communicated directly via voice chat.
8.	I always use that abbreviation because it's easier. Things like this are necessary because it can be late information if you type for a long time.
9.	Important, because we are fastpaced, that's how the game is. If you want to type long, it will die first, and you can focus on the game.
10.	Yes, type faster, save time, and certainly can focus on the finished game. After all, FPS gamers must be familiar with the abbreviation.

Table 12 Sixth Interview Question Results

No.	Do you think using abbreviation to communicate in Valorant Game is useful?
1.	Yes
2.	Yes
3.	Yes
4.	Yes
5.	Yes
6.	Yes
7.	Not really
8.	Yes
9.	Yes
10.	Yes

Table 13 Eighth Interview Question Results

No.	Based on previous interviews, most of them prefer to use abbreviation contraction types, for example, flnk, cnr, k, b, a, c, nc, it's, they r, chk, and many more. Based on the following example, do you think there is a reason why most people prefer to use this type?
1.	In my opinion, it's mostly used to provide information, and it's essential in games.
2.	The abbreviation is very commonly used in FPS games, so it is often used.
3.	The abbreviation is often used when conveying information related to the game.
4.	Abbreviation affects the game and tends to be used to set strategies, orders, and information like that.
5.	In my opinion, the abbreviation is commonly used in FPS games because the abbreviation is used to convey something in the game.
6.	It is essential for strategy in the game, so I can quickly tell my team, so I can be more careful because not everyone has the time to pay attention to the map, go forward and don't look back, so if there are enemies, it's easier for me and my team to tell each other.
7.	In my opinion, this abbreviation is for commanding, strategizing, and also providing information.
8.	In my opinion, the abbreviation is to inform something, and that's why gamers often use this type of abbreviation.
9.	Of course, because these abbreviations are very timesaving, especially in playing, these abbreviations are the most common and basic commands or basic expressions when I play.
10.	Indeed, gamers often use these abbreviations, such as a and b, to direct to what site, lead the team, and make strategies.

The table above shows that Valorant is a tough game, so to win it requires good teamwork. In achieving good teamwork, team members need communication to convey every information they know to win the game. Communication in the valorant game is about enemy status, making strategies, asking for help, and talking casually to create solidarity in the team. All respondents said that the abbreviations were essential. Game Valorant is a very intense game with a very fast game phase. With the abbreviations, in-game communication becomes quicker and more effective in terms of benefits because the information is not late. Faster communication makes players more focused on winning the game.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis and discussion, the writer has reached the following conclusions:

- a. In the Valorant game, there are five types of abbreviations: clipping, initialism, blend, acronym, and contraction. All abbreviations are used in Valorant, where half of the data were classified as contractions.

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- b. Abbreviations are generally used in the Valorant game to help gamers provide information like creating a strategy, providing information on enemy positions, and combining skills. That's why abbreviations are essential in the Valorant game. When text chat, the abbreviation is very time-efficient for both sender and receiver so gamers can focus on their game.

Based on the results of the discussion and observations during the research, the following suggestions are made for companies and researchers who want to conduct similar research:

- a. The writer only does research types and functions of abbreviations in the Valorant game. The writer suggests future writers can conduct research on a similar type of game with other language components, such as such as kinds and forms, or on different trending types of global online games like MMORPGs (Massively Multigamer Online Role-Playing Games).
- b. Gamers benefit by knowing the abbreviations that can help them communicate in the game. Abbreviations will be very helpful when in the game because the abbreviations can speed up the delivery of information in a game.

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