

## SOME TECHNIQUES USED TO COLLECT TOPONYMS

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**Abstract :** It is known that toponyms are a unique spiritual heritage of each nation and are linguistic units that speak about the past, way of life, culture of this nation. Collecting toponyms and sorting them into a collection takes a long time. This article presents some common and effective methods for collecting toponyms. The procedure for using each method is mentioned and explained with examples. The necessary resources have also been provided. We hope that these methods will be of great help in collecting toponyms.

**Key words:** toponymemes, toponymy, toponymic survey, crowdsourcing, gamification, COCA, BNC, OpenStreetMap.

### INTRODUCTION

Place names, i.e. toponyms, are the only proper names that cover the history, origin, lifestyle, culture, and beliefs of each nation and form a certain part of the lexical layer of the language. They are formed through words and suffixes that exist in this lexical layer. Toponyms are important linguistic units that have been studied with special attention since ancient times. Toponyms did not appear only yesterday, they do not appear spontaneously. Toponyms are formed and polished over the years, as a product of a certain period, in connection with the life of the people, based on certain laws.

We know that toponyms are more specific to the indigenous people living in that area, and it is through them that they appear, form, and spread. There are even cases when only the indigenous population of a place can provide information about a particular place. Therefore, in the study of toponyms, in their collection,

scientists conducted a separate survey with the population of the area, conducted scientific research. To date, not only Uzbek scientists but also scholars from around the world are conducting extensive research on the collection, collection, and study of habitats in their area based on scientific and theoretical methods. In particular, as a result of scientific researches carried out in our country by such well-known scientists as A.Ishaev, K.Nazarov, T.Enazarov, H.Kuchkarov, T.Nafasov, A.Otajonova, S.Koraev, L.Karimova, N.Okhunov, Z.Dusimov dissertations, special manuals, books were written.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

We think that in the collection of toponyms, special attention should be paid to place names that have not been scientifically studied, not yet studied, or not recorded on maps. The reason is that the names of such places, in many cases, are small in terms of area, but in terms of meaning, etymologically, they contain a cultural, spiritual, and historical heritage not only for science but also for the region itself.

Scholars have used a variety of methods to collect toponyms, organize them, and include them in the dictionary. The most common of these is the survey (i.e., a survey in modern terms). The first survey on toponyms in Uzbekistan was conducted by A. Ishaev. He made a special mention of this in his article "On the collection of materials from Uzbek toponymy." [16]

Later, K. Nazarov and T. Enazarov paid special attention to this and created a methodical manual on the collection and collection of toponyms. It discusses in detail what to look for when collecting toponyms, communication with the indigenous population of the identified toponyms, questions asked to them and other important work to be done. The queries required during the collection of toponyms are noted. Methods of studying the science of toponymy and the classification of place names are also discussed. [17]

In addition to the above, T. Enazarov presents his methodological manual "Issues of nomenclature" and fills the information with new ones. [18]

To date, innovative methods of collecting and compiling toponyms are being used. New directions and technologies of mapping and surveys of toponyms create great opportunities for local experts to share their geographical and linguistic knowledge about toponyms and expand their contribution to the study of toponyms.

This can also be seen in the work of foreign scholars. In 2013, British and Spanish experts jointly developed a new program for collecting place names - the Gamification Program. This application is implemented in the form of a game and it is mainly done through a computer game based on a smartphone. Through this game, ie through the Geymification technique, users will be able to make changes to the database of given toponyms.[7]

With this new approach proposed by scientists, citizens will be able to easily revise place names without any boredom. This mechanism provides an interesting way to achieve the set goal, that is, to collect toponyms without difficulty. It would not be wrong to say that such a modern view of the collection of toponyms is useful in the realization of the scientific goals of all anonymous scientists. Another expert also developed a scientific approach to citizens based on crowdsourcing in the collection of toponyms. This approach, i.e. public participation in the collection of toponyms, solves some of the problems that arise in the management of toponyms. These problems can include problems with the limited availability of human-related resources, access to these resources, and the completeness of toponymic data.[21]

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

It is well known that collecting and compiling large-scale place names takes a long time and is tedious. This in turn poses a challenge for any researcher. However, it is much easier to search the site locally, to collect it through indigenous sources, or to conduct a survey on the names of places that are the object of research, or to conduct simple questions and answers.

### ***1. Conducting a survey.***

This method is one of the traditional methods and is mainly carried out using the local people or indigenous people living in the area of the existing place names. As you know, English is a foreign language for us. As mentioned above, toponyms are a unique spiritual heritage of each nation. Therefore, although we can identify information about these language toponyms using internet sources and or dictionaries, we can also collect names with unusual or unusual meanings that are not found in internet networks and books using the information provided by indigenous peoples.

Each researcher should prepare separately before conducting the survey and form the basis of the work to be done. This ensures that the research work carried out in the field is effective and useful.

To do this:

a) a plan of the survey is developed

b) an initial survey is conducted (this is done at the researcher's place of residence). For example, an initial and general survey on toponyms can be conducted with English learners.

c) conducting on-site surveys. This survey form is conducted with the local population. At this stage, questions on the toponyms of the studied area are compiled. The names of the places identified through these questions are recorded and their compatibility or differences with other sources for research are compared.

This survey is conducted in the form of an interview. In an interview, we may get an unexpected answer because usually only the respondent in the interview is unprepared and is forced to answer as he or she knows. This allows us to gather more and more interesting resources.

d) entering and editing the collected data. In this case, all the collected data is recorded in the desired place and reviewed and edited, checking for compatibility or differences with existing sources. In general, what is not found in the sources is recorded as a new name.

f) confirmation of the information collected. In this case, the collected toponyms are reviewed and accepted after their actual existence is determined.

j) publication of sources. This is the final step, as the resources for the meeting are compiled and published as a toponymic reference or dictionary. This data set will be made available to the public in book form or digital, i.e. electronic application mode.

At this point, we found it necessary to cite examples from the questions asked in the survey on English toponyms.

➤ for the initial survey (this survey will be conducted in the area where English is a foreign language):

1. What is a toponym?
2. In what branch of linguistics are toponyms studied?
3. What other sciences are used in the study of toponyms?
4. What can we call toponyms when they are studied linguistically?
5. Do you know the difference between toponymy and toponymic?
6. Have you heard of toponymeme?
7. What is the difference between a toponym and a toponymeme?
8. Name 10 of the English toponyms you know?
9. What toponyms do you know in East England?
10. What do you know about the toponym Norwich?
11. On which side of the world map is the name Norfolk located?
12. Do you think toponyms are mentioned in English lessons, and if so, in what topic or section?
13. Does the higher education institution where you study or work have a separate faculty that teaches toponyms?
14. Are there any universities in your area that teach toponyms, can you list them?
15. Are toponyms related to tourism?
16. What methods would you use to collect toponyms?

➤ for a survey conducted in the area where toponyms are collected (this survey is conducted with indigenous or residents of the area by vernacular names):

1. How many cities are there around the area where you live and what are they?
2. Is the area where you live a city or a country or a hamlet?
3. Is the area where you live divided into parts, and if so, how many parts?
4. Do you know the name of the area where you live, what does it mean?
5. Do you know the origin of the name of the place where you live?
6. Do you like the name of the place where you live?
7. Is the spelling of the name of the place where you live correct? What would you like it to be if it was wrong? How can you prove it?
8. How accurate is it to give place names, i.e. their first names or nicknames? How do you feel about that?
9. Some places have historical names and they are still preserved, but some places with historical names are being changed to new modern names, how do you feel about that?
10. What names do you think should be given to the new areas that are currently being developed?
11. Are names given to places shorter or longer?
12. What are your thoughts on naming places?
13. How important do you think toponymic dictionaries, including place names, are?
14. Can toponymic dictionaries be a necessary resource for tourists?
15. What is the role of the local population in the collection of place names?
17. Would you contribute to the collection of toponyms, as well as the creation of toponymic and tourist dictionaries with their help?

## ***2. Survey with the help of social networks and messengers.***

Facebook, telegram, and even Instagram are the most popular social networks in the world today. So through them, we can reach out to the whole world and get the answers we need.

First of all, we can distribute our survey on these networks and get anonymous answers. All you need to do is know how to use the special buttons set for the survey on these networks and send it to the desired address. Besides, if you enter the desired keywords in the search button on Facebook pages, the corresponding group or source will appear.

Using the same method, two groups of toponyms were identified on our Facebook pages as the object of our research: a) Place Names of Britain and b) American Name Society Special Interest Group: Place-Names. The resources provided in them are entered into the database. If the survey is sent to exactly these groups, we think we will have at least some of the information we need. The reason is that 90% of users in such groups are speakers of this language.

It is also possible not only to conduct a survey on social networks but also to have the necessary information. As an example, we would like to share the information we found with the help of Place Names of Britain.

It is about nine villages located in the county of Norfolk in East England and almost uninformed. They are:

1. Didlington
2. Fastyweed
3. Howe
4. Barmer
5. Bale
6. Tatterford
7. Wormegay
8. Beeston
9. Bixley

Brief information about these 9 villages and their history of origin is also given.

[ <https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/secret-norfolk-villages-7563768> ]

### **3. Online survey through Google Docs platform.**

As we all know, distance education has become widespread due to the pandemic. This, in turn, requires a good knowledge of educational technologies. Therefore, we also considered the use of this technology as one of the effective methods in collecting toponyms.

Questions that need to be asked through this platform are delivered to the right person via the internet. To do this, the person to whom the questionnaire is to be sent is contacted via the Internet and a link to the questionnaire is sent. Once you receive this link, all questions will be answered and additional information will also be available.

### **4. Online corpus on the American and British English**

This is referred to in English as the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) British National Corpus (BNC). (Figure 1-2) [ <https://www.english-corpora.org/bnc/> ]

The function of these platforms is to determine how often a given word is used. The purpose of our use of these platforms is to determine the extent to which the collected toponyms have been used, in short, to focus on the number of uses of the toponyms. We have reviewed the number of users of the 9 English toponyms mentioned above through this platform and have obtained the results in the following table:

<b>Жойлар</b>	<b>(BNC бўйича)</b>	<b>(COCA бўйича)</b>
Didlington	-	-
Fastyweed	-	-
Howe*	465	2862
Barmer	-	3**
Bale	142	1653
Tatterford	-	-



Beeston	56	134
Bixley	-	5

\* this toponym exists in both England and America.

\*\* this toponym (according to COCA) was identified in 3 places, but turned out to be a toponym belonging to Rajasthan in India, not exactly a place in England.

As can be seen from the table, the 9 place names listed above are among the really rare names.

### ***5. OpenStreetMap website.***

Through this site, we can write the desired toponym where the search icon of the given digital map is located and find out its location. The advantage of this site is that it will be possible to identify toponyms that are small in area and almost unheard of in other sources. It also outputs the given toponym to which country or city it is located. For example, when we searched for the toponym Howe, we were once again convinced that it existed in both England and America. (Figure 3)

## **CONCLUSION**

As a result of the above data and our research, it should be noted that the collection and compilation of toponyms is a time-consuming process. We hope that the use of the listed methods will speed up and make this process a little more efficient.

Summarizing all the given information, we can conclude as follows:

- one of the most effective and reliable ways to study toponyms and collect them is to conduct a traditional survey. The reason is that during the survey it is possible to know not only the names of the available toponyms, but also their origin and meanings, and this can give about 90-100% of the result we expect;
- through social networks such as Facebook and Telegram, it is possible to conduct both a survey and to know the meaning and origin of toponyms, the expected result is 70-80%;
- only surveys can be conducted through GoogleDocs, the expected result is about 60%.

- COCA and BNC. The number of uses of the existing toponym is determined by these corpora. The result - about 50-60%
- OpenStreetMap website. Through this site you can find out exactly where the toponyms are located.

In our next work, we will continue our research using exactly these methods.

The screenshot shows the COCA website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for home, search, PDF, accessibility, help, print, download, and a user profile. Below this is a menu with four tabs: SEARCH, FREQUENCY, CONTEXT (which is highlighted), and OVERVIEW. The main content area shows search results for the word 'Howe'. At the top left of the results, it says 'FIND SAMPLE: 100 200 500 1000' and 'PAGE: << < 1 / 29 > >>'. There are buttons for 'CLICK FOR MORE CONTEXT', 'SAVE LIST', 'CHOOSE LIST', 'CREATE NEW LIST', and 'SHOW DUPLICATES'. The results are presented in a table with columns for rank, year, source, and context. The context column shows several examples of the word 'Howe' used in various contexts, such as 'Jeff Howe', 'Lord Howe', and 'Caleb Howe'.

Rank	Year	Source	Context
1	2012	BLOG btweenthecovers.com	detailed information! #1book140 is an international Twitter book club, created by Jeff Howe and hosted by The Atlantic. Anyone is welcome to join, and
2	2012	BLOG travel.cnn.com	home to critters such as white and orange clown nudibranchs, scorpion fish, Lord Howe coralfish and multihued schools swimming through the fauna.
3	2012	BLOG thetriangle.org	, despite starting its season 0-11, won two out of three matches at the Howe Cup later against Vanderbilt University and Northeastern University. The m
4	2012	BLOG yankees.lhblogs.com	low risk and possible good upside is why you would consider anyone. Why stvee howe the 8 time drug user or strawberry or doc, cuz they were cheap ar
5	2012	BLOG theonering.net	production was stored!) These included some beautiful drawings by Alan Lee and John Howe, as well as stacks and stacks of Polaroid photos taken on th
6	2012	BLOG btweenthecovers.com	detailed information! #1book140 is an international Twitter book club, created by Jeff Howe and hosted by The Atlantic. Anyone is welcome to join, and
7	2012	BLOG redstate.com	ballot. He should step aside in favor of one of them. # Breeanne Howe # Aaron, you have won the internet today with this post. Amazingly powerful
8	2012	BLOG redstate.com	his best option was to attack in skirmishes and avoid large battles. Cornwallis and Howe were of the European school where armies had it out on the fiel
9	2012	BLOG ...retirementextreme.com	I am old gen-x and many of my contemporaries have fared poorly. Strauss & Howe's books say that the Nomad generations have striking inequality with
10	2012	BLOG redstate.com	was a great success. I could not have put this event together without Caleb Howe. He is an indispensable part of the success of the event. This year
11	2012	BLOG redstate.com	Guerrero at Eagle Publishing really helped out too. And, of course, Donna Howe deserves special thanks for keeping Caleb and me in line. # Our speake
12	2012	BLOG lewrockwell.com	the FBI and other federal agencies (including the ATF, which had planted Carol Howe at Elohim City) had abundant and detailed advance intelligence of t
13	2012	BLOG lewrockwell.com	Elohim City was a wholly owned subsidiary of the FBI. In addition to Carol Howe (whose cover was blown by her handler when she actually tried to expo
14	2012	BLOG redstate.com	. Political correctness has destroyed this country. Are you supporting that? # Caleb Howe # Who or what are you referring to? # uncleherbert # She is a
15	2012	BLOG redstate.com	arrested. If there is any justice left, LET IT HAPPEN. # Caleb Howe # Your comment seemed to be in reply to Erick's post. I could
16	2012	BLOG cs.bloodhorse.com	stab at one this year. # I think Dullahan will knock off Hansen and Howe Great in the Bluegrass. In fact, I am very sure he will.

figure 1

British National Corpus (BNC)			
SEARCH	FREQUENCY	CONTEXT	OVERVIEW
(SHUFFLE)			
CLICK FOR MORE CONTEXT <input type="checkbox"/> [?] <input type="button" value="SAVE LIST"/> <input type="button" value="CHOOSE LIST"/> <input type="button" value="CREATE NEW LIST"/> [?] <input type="button" value="SHOW DUPLICATES"/>			
1	KCY S_conv	A B C	a good day then? (SP:PS0HB) Good day, yeah (pause) well I was in <b>Beeston</b> all morning preparing it, there's a programme on (SP:KCYPSUGP) (unclear) (SP:PS0HB
2	FY4 S_interview_oral_history	A B C	out with the whole of the (---) rating committee, to houses at Eastwood and <b>Beeston</b> , and other places, and m-- in effect measuring them by counting how man
3	GSK S_meeting	A B C	well. A competition player. But I went to a pipe bag championships in <b>Beeston</b> and I (unclear) myself completely. I says it's even ruined me for (unclear)
4	K6W S_meeting	A B C	, you'll remember that the A C C ops meeting thanked us for providing <b>Beeston</b> with a U V lamp for M O T examination. It was a success
5	K6W S_meeting	A B C	had three letters now, one from David, one from you and one from <b>Beeston</b> all assuming that I seem to be dealing with this subject, erm it's
6	K6W S_meeting	A B C	assuming that I seem to be dealing with this subject, erm it's a <b>Beeston</b> commitment (SP:PS5MB) Yeah (SP:PS5M9) I've left a message for Beest- Chris (---) to rin
7	K6W S_meeting	A B C	this afternoon, but it's May day and I I've no doubt that <b>Beeston</b> won't be authorising their C P Os to work on a bank holiday (pause)
8	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	Village Hall. Six till seven this evening the youth and junior group of the <b>Beeston</b> Red Cross are meeting at a hundred and fifty six High Road in Beeston that
9	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	the Beeston Red Cross are meeting at a hundred and fifty six High Road in <b>Beeston</b> that's the Red Cross Centre at six. Seven o'clock an evening of entertainment
10	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	thirty Slimmers Clubs U K are meeting at the Age Concern Centre (---) Street in <b>Beeston</b> and seven thirty as well until eight thirty a mixed ability aerobics class is
11	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	Partners our pub quiz er we're in the Star Inn on Middle Street in <b>Beeston</b> and the evening there starts at eight o'clock. (music) Albert Hammond that is and
12	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	and Spencers yes? (SP:PS32B) Well I was thinking maybe we could bring it to <b>Beeston</b> with the other one. (SP:PS329) Do you think so what (tape-change) (SP:PS3
13	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	(SP:PS32B) Match up one each end. (SP:PS329) I like that one that's in <b>Beeston</b> of the old man sitting on the bench there. (SP:PS32B) Oh that's nice
14	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	little extremities. (SP:PS32B) That's right. (SP:PS329) So you'll have it in <b>Beeston</b> will you Katherine? (SP:PS32B) Yes (SP:PS329) Maybe you could present it to those
15	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	suggest that we ought to have a statue like just been mentioned to somebody from <b>Beeston</b> they've got a nice man on a bench there. I suggested putting an
16	HMA S_brdcast_discussn	A B C	Afternoon Special I'll see you tonight at the Star Inn on Middle Street in <b>Beeston</b> at eight o'clock for Drinking Partners if you want to come along and watch there
17	AHC W_newsp_brdsh_t_nat_misc	A B C	League will be settled tomorrow when four teams set out to join Harleston Magpies and <b>Beeston</b> , who have already qualified. Taunton Vale, Sun Life West Leagu

figure 2

Посёлок Howe, South Norfolk, Норфолк, Восточная Англия, Англия, Великобритания

Соседство Howe, Longfellow, Миннеаполис, Непперин County, Миннесота, Соединённые Штаты Америки

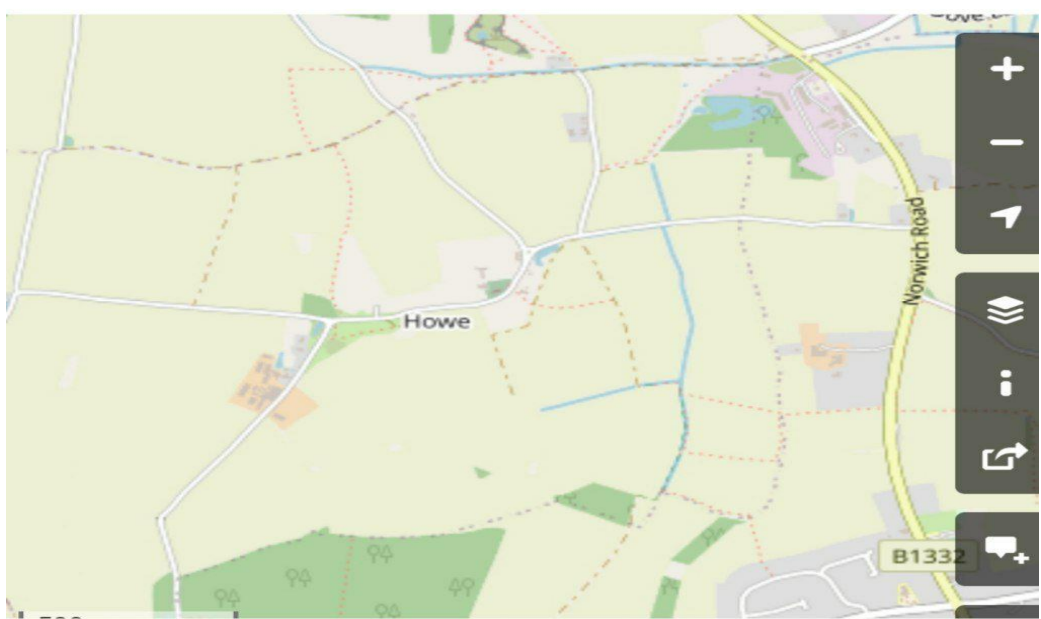


figure 3

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