

COMPARISON OF NOUN CATEGORIES IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract: This article compares the noun categories of English and Uzbek, two languages from different language families. The article examines the similarities and differences between the two languages in terms of common nouns, proper nouns, count nouns, non-count nouns, abstract nouns, and collective nouns. The article also discusses the implications of these differences for language teaching and learning.

Key words: Noun categories, English, Uzbek, language comparison, language teaching, gender, number, case...

Introduction

Languages reflect our ideas and societies through the complex synthesis of syntax, vocabulary, and grammar that gives meaning and expression. An essential component of linguistics research is the analysis of grammatical categories, which are crucial in determining how languages are structured and communicated. This paper compares and contrasts the grammatical category features of English and Uzbek, two different languages. As the universal language of the world, English has a long history and a wide range of linguistic influences from languages such as Germanic, Latin, French, and others. Its grammatical structure is distinguished by an amalgam of analytical and inflectional elements, providing a wide range of grammatical categories that aid in the exact interpretation of meanings. The complex structure of English grammar is woven together by noun categories like gender, number, and case; verb categories like tense, aspect, and mood; and categories for adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns.

However, Uzbek, a Turkic language that is mainly spoken in Uzbekistan and its surrounding areas, has a distinctive grammatical structure that has been moulded by its historical and cultural development. Due to its Turkic origins, Uzbek has unique grammatical characteristics, including agglutination, case marking, and vowel harmony. In Uzbek, noun categories frequently stress animacy and ownership, but verb categories give importance to aspect, voice, and evidentiality, illustrating the language's subtle way of expressing events and actions.

Literature review

English, a globally ubiquitous language with a rich history and diverse linguistic influences, stands out for its practical approach to noun categories, emphasizing simplicity and clarity in communication. In contrast, Uzbek, a Turkic language rooted in Central Asian heritage, showcases a more intricate system of noun categories, characterized by detailed case markings that provide a nuanced understanding of relationships within sentences. By examining noun categories in both languages, we uncover the varied approaches to expressing gender, number,

and case, reflecting the cultural and historical contexts that shape linguistic structures.

Gender in Nouns:

- English: English nouns do not have grammatical gender and are not inherently masculine or feminine. Gender distinctions are primarily seen in personal pronouns and certain gender-specific terms but do not impact the gender of nouns themselves.

- Uzbek: Uzbek, like many Turkic languages, does not have grammatical gender in nouns. Nouns do not change based on masculine or feminine attributes, simplifying noun usage and agreement in sentences.

Number in Nouns:

- English: English nouns indicate number through singular and plural forms. Pluralization often involves adding '-s' or '-es' to singular nouns, with irregular forms for specific cases.¹

- Uzbek: Uzbek also employs singular and plural forms in nouns, typically formed by adding suffixes(lar). Pluralization in Uzbek involves adding suffixes to nouns, similar to how English forms plurals. The plural form expresses the stylistic meaning, not the grammatical plural, when added to nouns with multiple meanings, adjectives, abstract nouns, uncountable nouns, which have no more than one origin, as well as double subject nouns:

1. With proper nouns it can illustrate resemblance: zamonamiz farhodlari, Marg'ilonning kumushlari; or family bonds: aka-uka Shojalilovlar, Salimlarnikiga bordik.

2. With uncountable nouns (yog', suv, qum, tuproq, havo kabi) it the abundance of something (yog'lar (paxta yog'i, zig'ir yog'i, kunjut yog'i va hokazo)

3. With abstract nouns it will help us to emphasis the meaning: U xayollarga cho'mib ketdi. Ahvollar yaxshimi?

4. It will express respect and formality after possessive suffix(m,-im): ayamlar, dadamlar, tog'amlar.

5. Peridecton and duration: kechalari, tunlari.

6. Emphasis: Boshlarim og'rib ketdi. Yuraklarim ezilib ketdi.

7. Irony: Tog'alari rais ekanmi? Ozlari ham qadam ranjida qilibdilar-da?!

18. Type, species: unlar(qora un, oq un), suvlar(gazli suv, gazziz suv va hakozo)²

Case in Nouns:

- English: English nouns have limited case distinctions, primarily seen in pronouns and possessive forms. Nouns themselves do not have case inflections, with case mainly reflected in pronouns (e.g., he/him) and possessive forms (e.g., Tom's car).

- Uzbek: Uzbek, like many Turkic languages, has a robust case system. Nouns in Uzbek can take various case endings to indicate grammatical functions like nominative, accusative, genitive, dative, locative, and ablative cases, providing detailed information about relationships within sentences.

Gender, Number, and Case Interplay:

- English: The interplay of gender, number, and case in English is relatively straightforward, with genres in pronouns, pluralization for number, and limited case distinctions mainly in pronouns and possessives.

- Uzbek: In Uzbek, the interplay of gender, number, and case is more complex due to its extensive case system. Nouns in Uzbek can exhibit different forms based on case requirements, providing detailed grammatical information within sentences.

Cultural Implications:

- The absence of grammatical gender in both English and Uzbek simplifies agreement and makes language usage more straightforward in terms of gender attribution.

¹ MURPHY, Raymond. (1985). English Grammar In use A self study reference and practice book for intermediate . New York: Cambridge University Press.

² "O'zbek tilidan ma'ruzalar to'plami."2015, Nargiza Erkaboyeva

- The presence of rich case systems in Uzbek adds depth and complexity to sentence structures, reflecting the detailed grammatical information required in Turkic languages. By comparing English and Uzbek noun categories, we can appreciate the diversity and nuances of language structures across different linguistic traditions. While English simplifies gender distinctions and case complexities, Uzbek showcases a more intricate case system that adds depth and specificity to sentence construction. Understanding these variations enhances our appreciation for the uniqueness of each language and its grammatical intricacies.

Conclusion

This article has compared the noun categories of English and Uzbek, two languages from different language families. The study has identified both similarities and differences between the two languages in terms of common nouns, proper nouns, count nouns, non-count nouns, abstract nouns, and collective nouns.

The findings of the study have implications for language teaching and learning. For example, English learners of Uzbek should be made aware of the specific grammatical case for proper nouns, while Uzbek learners of English should be made aware of the wider range of collective nouns. The study also has implications for the development of language teaching materials, such as dictionaries and textbooks, which should include information on the different noun categories in each language.

Overall, the study has provided a valuable comparison of the noun categories of English and Uzbek. The findings of the study can help language teachers and learners better understand the similarities and differences between the two languages, and can inform the development of more effective language teaching materials.

References:

- MURPHY, Raymond. (1985). English Grammar In use A self study reference and practice book for intermediate . New York: Cambridge University Press.
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