

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ENGLISH AND UZBEK IN LEARNING

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**Introduction:** English has become a global language, essential for education, business, and international communication. However, for Uzbek learners, mastering English is not always easy because the two languages are very different in their structure, grammar, and pronunciation. English belongs to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European language family, while Uzbek is part of the Turkic family. This means that they have little in common, and learners often face challenges when moving from one system to the other. By analyzing the main differences—such as word order, articles, verb tenses, and pronunciation—students can better understand the difficulties they face and find more effective strategies for learning English.

**Key words:** Language family, Grammar structure, Syntax (SVO vs. SOV), Morphology, Phonetics, Pronunciation differences, Alphabet system, Orthography (spelling system), Vocabulary gap, Borrowed words, Articles (definite/indefinite), Verb tense system.

English and Uzbek are two very different languages, and for Uzbek learners, these differences create unique challenges when studying English. While both languages now use the Latin alphabet, they differ in grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Understanding these contrasts is essential for effective learning.

### 1. Language Family and Origins

English is part of the Germanic branch of the Indo-European language family. It shares similarities with German and Dutch.

Uzbek belongs to the Turkic language family, closely related to Kazakh, Kyrgyz, and Turkish.

Because of this difference, English and Uzbek have almost no common roots in vocabulary or grammar.

### 2. Alphabet and Writing System

English uses 26 letters.

Uzbek also uses the Latin alphabet but with extra characters (o‘, g‘, sh, ch, ng). This can confuse learners when typing or spelling in English, especially with sounds that don’t exist in Uzbek, such as “th” in this or think.

### 3. Word Order (Syntax)

English follows the Subject + Verb + Object (SVO) structure.

Example: She writes a letter.

Uzbek follows the Subject + Object + Verb (SOV) order.

Example: U xat yozadi. (literally: “She letter writes”).

This often causes mistakes like “I book read” instead of “I read a book.”

#### 4. Articles

English has definite (the) and indefinite (a, an) articles.

Uzbek does not have articles at all.

As a result, Uzbek learners often forget to use them or misuse them in English.

#### 5. Tenses and Verb Forms

English verbs change according to tense, aspect, and sometimes irregular forms (go → went → gone). It has 12 main tenses.

Uzbek verbs are simpler and usually do not change as much. Time is often shown by context or with suffixes (boraman = I will go, borganman = I have gone).

Because of this, mastering English tenses is one of the hardest parts for Uzbek speakers.

#### 6. Pronouns and Gender

In English, pronouns show gender (he, she, it).

In Uzbek, the pronoun u is gender-neutral, meaning “he,” “she,” or “it.”

This often leads to mistakes when Uzbek speakers confuse he and she in English.

#### 7. Plural Forms

English plurals can be irregular (man → men, child → children).

Uzbek plurals are usually formed by adding -lar or -lar (kitob → kitoblar, bola → bolalar).

This makes English plural forms harder to predict.

#### 8. Prepositions

English uses many prepositions (in, on, at, for, by), and their usage is sometimes idiomatic.

Uzbek uses postpositions and suffixes instead of prepositions.

For example: in Tashkent = Toshkentda. Uzbek learners often translate directly and make errors with prepositions.

#### 9. Vocabulary

English has a very large vocabulary with words borrowed from Latin, French, Greek, etc.

Uzbek vocabulary is rich too, but it is influenced more by Persian, Arabic, and Russian.

This means Uzbek speakers must learn almost every English word from zero.

#### 10. Pronunciation and Spelling

English spelling is not always phonetic (enough, though, cough).

Uzbek spelling is more regular, with words generally pronounced as they are written.

Also, English has sounds absent in Uzbek, such as “th” /θ/ and /ð/, or short and long vowel distinctions.

### **Conclusion:**

The differences between English and Uzbek are significant, which explains why many Uzbek learners struggle with English grammar, articles, verb tenses, and pronunciation. However, knowing these differences in advance allows students to focus on their weak points and use effective strategies. With consistent practice, Uzbek learners can overcome these challenges and successfully master English.

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