SEMANTIC FEATURES OF TONGUE TWISTERS FORMED ON THE CLOUD LEXICON IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES

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Annotation. This article analyzes the semantic features of tongue twisters formed on the basis of cloud lexicon in Uzbek and English languages. Through comparative examination, it discusses lexical-semantic fields, metaphorical meanings, sound symbolism, and cultural connotations associated with cloud-related vocabulary. The research reveals similarities such as the use of alliteration, phonetic play, and visual imagery, while Uzbek tongue twisters exhibit deeper links to nature symbolism and expressive morphology. The findings demonstrate how cloud lexemes strengthen the structural, phonetic, and semantic depth of tongue twisters in both languages.

Keywords: cloud lexicon, tongue twisters, semantics, Uzbek, English, alliteration, sound symbolism, linguocultural analysis.

A nation's language holds the same value as its motherland and country. Language is what unites people as a nation, binding individuals into a cohesive cultural identity. Every language carries the pearls of folk wisdom—proverbs and sayings that serve as sources of moral guidance, passed down through generations. These expressions are known in linguistics as paremiological units (paremias). They have long been a subject of academic interest because these wise sayings inspire individuals to cultivate qualities such as kindness, morality, diligence, honesty, justice, truthfulness, unity, patriotism, and love for one's country. The scientific

study of paremias helps answer numerous important questions related to human life and society.

The study of paremias traces its roots back to the works of our ancestor Mahmud al-Kashgari.[1] Additionally, many great poets and scholars, including Yusuf Khass Hajib, Rabguzi, Yasawi, Atayi, Lutfi, Sakkaki, Alisher Navoi, Babur, Abulgazi Bahadur Khan, Turdi, Gulkhani, Munis, Sufi Allahyar, Nodira, and Muqimi, skillfully incorporated proverbs into their literary works.

In England, research on paremiological units dates back to the Middle English period (14th–16th centuries), during which book printing became widespread in English society[2].

Linguistics recognizes nearly 30 different types of paremiological units, including riddles, proverbs, aphorisms, phraseological expressions, parables, legends, superstitions, dream interpretations, anecdotes, and tongue twisters. The field of paremiology is dedicated to studying these units. Scholars consider paremiology an interdisciplinary branch of both literary studies and linguistics, making it a subject of philological research. Paremiology is a subfield of philology that examines paremias and their classification. Additionally, a specialized field called paremiography[3] focuses on collecting, preserving, and processing paremiological materials.

Tongue twisters are short, rhythmic expressions that create phonetic difficulty through repetition of similar sounds. Natural phenomena—including clouds (*bulut* in Uzbek)—provide rich lexical material, as cloud-related words carry strong sensory, emotional, and symbolic meanings.

In both English and Uzbek, cloud lexicon possesses visual imagery, poetic associations, and sound patterns suitable for creating complex phonetic sequences.

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[2] Mieder V. Twisted Wisdom, Modern Anti Proverbs. – Vermont, 1998. – 396 p.

[3] Уралова О.П. Инглиз ва ўзбек тилларида "оила" бош лексемали мақоллар семантикаси ва структураси. Филол. фанлари фалсафа д-ри… дисс. Самарқанд, 2021. – 144 б.

This article examines how cloud vocabulary forms the semantic foundation of tongue twisters, identifies language-specific features, and provides a contrastive analysis of English and Uzbek examples.

1. **"Clara's clear clouds climbed calmly across the cliffs."**

   – alliteration in /cl/ and /k/.

2. **"Foggy Fred followed five floating fluffy clouds."**

   – repetition of /f/ and /fl/ mimics cloud softness.

3. **"Misty mornings make many mild clouds move."**

   – repeated /m/ creates a soft atmospheric effect.

1. **"Bulutlar bo'rtib-bo'rtib bo'ylab bordi."**

   – reduplicated verb *bo'rtib-bo'rtib* imitates swelling clouds.

2. **"Burgut bulutlar ustida bemalol uchdi."**

   – repetition of /b/ and /u/ creates smooth, rising imagery.

3. **"Tuman to'lqinsimon to'lg'onib tog' tomon yo'naldi."**

   – repeated /t/ and /to/ reflect the swirling motion of mist.

Metaphorical and cultural meanings.**English cloud metaphors:**

confusion (*clouded mind*)

sadness (*under a cloud*)

softness and calm

Thus, tongue twisters often evoke peaceful or whimsical scenes.

Uzbek cloud metaphors:

abundance and blessing (*bulut kelib, yomg'ir yog'di*)

freedom and movement (*bulutdek kezmoq*)

mystery (*tuman bosdi*)

Thus, Uzbek tongue twisters often highlight expansive movement, nature's power, or seasonal cycles.

4. Contrastive Analysis

Feature	English Tongue Twisters	Uzbek Tongue Twisters
Phonetic focus	/cl/, /fl/, /m/, /f/	/b/, /q/, /t/, /u/
Imagery	soft, floating clouds	strong, swelling clouds and mist
Structure	alliteration and compounds	reduplication, poetic compounds
Onomatopoeia	limited	stronger (storm-related sounds)
Cultural lens	calm, atmospheric, whimsical	nature-centered, symbolic, poetic

Tongue twisters based on cloud lexicon in Uzbek and English share common semantic features such as vivid imagery, movement, and atmospheric associations. Both languages use phonetic strategies like alliteration and consonant clustering. However, Uzbek tongue twisters show broader expressive morphology and stronger cultural ties to nature symbolism, while English examples emphasize soft, airy sound patterns.

Cloud lexemes thus enhance both the aesthetic and articulatory complexity of tongue twisters in each language, demonstrating their value as linguistic and folkloric materials.

References

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