



## PLURAL FORMS OF NOUNS IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH

*Teacher of the Practical English Course Department, Fergana State  
University*

***Adamboyeva Nafisa Qodirberganovna***

*2nd-year student of the Faculty of Foreign Languages, Fergana State  
University,*

*Major: Philology and Language Teaching (English)*

***Murotaliyeva Maftunaxon Alisher qizi***

**Abstract:** *This article examines the plural forms of nouns in Uzbek and English. The category of number plays an important role in the grammar of both languages, as it helps to express quantity and distinguish between singular and plural nouns. In the Uzbek language, plural nouns are mainly formed by adding the suffix “-lar.” In English, plural forms are generally created by adding the suffixes “-s” or “-es.” The study applies comparative and analytical methods to identify similarities and differences between the plural formation systems of the two languages. Examples from both languages are used to illustrate how plural forms function in practice. The results show that although both Uzbek and English use suffixes to express plurality, English also contains irregular plural forms, while Uzbek plural formation is more regular and predictable. Understanding these similarities and differences can help learners better understand the grammatical structure of both languages.*

**Keywords:** *Plural nouns, plural suffix, Uzbek language, English language, grammar, noun forms, linguistic comparison.*

### **Introduction**

Language is an important tool of communication, and grammar plays a key role in understanding how languages function. One of the fundamental grammatical



categories in many languages is the category of number<sup>1</sup>. It helps speakers distinguish between singular and plural forms of nouns. The study of plural noun formation is important because it allows us to understand how different languages express quantity. Uzbek and English belong to different language families and have different grammatical systems. However, both languages have specific ways of forming plural nouns. In the Uzbek language, plural nouns are mainly formed by adding the suffix “-lar.” In the English language, plural nouns are usually formed by adding the suffix “-s” or “-es.” At the same time, English also contains irregular plural forms that differ from regular patterns. Therefore, studying plural noun formation in Uzbek and English is relevant because it helps learners better understand the grammatical structures of both languages and improves their language learning skills.

## Methodology

This research is based on several linguistic research methods that allow for a systematic analysis of plural noun formation in Uzbek and English. These methods help to examine grammatical structures, identify similarities and differences, and provide a clear explanation of plural forms in both languages.

First, the comparative method was applied in order to compare the plural forms of nouns in Uzbek and English. Comparative analysis is widely used in linguistic studies because it helps identify both common and distinctive grammatical features of different languages. In this research, the comparative method was used to analyze how plural meaning is expressed in the two languages and to determine the similarities and differences in their grammatical structures. Second, the analytical method was used to study the grammatical rules related to plural noun formation. This method made it possible to examine the structure and function of plural suffixes in both languages. Special attention was given to the main plural markers in Uzbek and English, such as the suffix “-lar” in Uzbek and the suffixes “-s” and “-es” in English. In addition, irregular plural forms in English were analyzed in order to better

---

<sup>1</sup> Jespersen, O. Essentials of English Grammar. London, 1933, p.120.



understand the complexity of plural formation in that language. Third, the descriptive method was applied to provide a clear explanation of plural noun usage in both languages. This method involves describing linguistic phenomena in a systematic and understandable way. Through this approach, the rules of plural formation were explained step by step. Finally, the example-based method was used to illustrate how plural forms function in real language usage. Various examples from both Uzbek and English were provided to demonstrate the practical application of grammatical rules. These examples help clarify how plural nouns are formed and used in everyday communication. The analysis of this study is based on established grammatical rules and linguistic sources related to Uzbek and English languages<sup>2</sup>. Academic literature, grammar books, and linguistic studies were consulted to ensure the reliability and accuracy of the research findings.

## Results

The results of the study show that plural noun formation in Uzbek and English has both similarities and differences. In both languages, plural meaning is mainly expressed through the use of suffixes. However, the structure and complexity of plural formation differ between the two languages.

### Plural Nouns in Uzbek

The analysis shows that in the Uzbek language, plural nouns are generally formed by adding the suffix “-lar” to the base form of the noun.<sup>3</sup> This suffix is considered the main grammatical marker of plurality in Uzbek. It is widely used in both spoken and written language and can be applied to most nouns without significant changes to the root word.

For example:

kitob → kitoblar (books)

bola → bolalar (children)

daraxt → daraxtlar (trees)

o‘qituvchi → o‘qituvchilar (teachers)

<sup>2</sup>Quirk, R. et al. A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language. London, 1985, p. 233

<sup>3</sup>Azimov, A. O‘zbek tili grammatikasi. Toshkent, 2010, 56-bet.



The research also indicates that the plural suffix “-lar” does not usually change the structure of the root word. This makes plural formation in Uzbek relatively simple and regular compared to many other languages. In addition to the suffix “-lar,” plural meaning can also be expressed through quantitative expressions. These include words that indicate number or quantity.

Examples include:

ko‘p odam (many people)

bir nechta kitob (several books)

bir qancha talabalar (some students)

These expressions show that plurality can sometimes be indicated without using a plural suffix.

Plural Nouns in English

The analysis of English plural noun formation shows that plural forms are usually created by adding the suffix “-s” or “-es” to the base form of the noun.

Examples:

book → books

student → students

class → classes

box → boxes

However, the research also shows that English plural formation is more complex than Uzbek because it includes irregular plural forms. In these cases, the noun changes its internal structure instead of simply adding a suffix.

Examples include:

child → children

man → men

woman → women

foot → feet

In addition, plural meaning in English can also be expressed through quantifiers, which indicate quantity.

Examples include:



many books

a few students

several people

These findings demonstrate that while suffixation is the main method of plural formation in both languages, English contains additional irregular patterns that make its system more complex.

## Discussion

The comparative analysis of plural noun formation in Uzbek and English reveals both similarities and differences in the grammatical systems of these languages. One of the main similarities is that both languages primarily use suffixation to indicate plurality. In Uzbek, the suffix “-lar” is added to the noun, while in English, “-s” or “-es” performs the same function. This shows that, despite belonging to different language families, both Uzbek and English share a common linguistic strategy for expressing plural meaning. Furthermore, in both languages, plural meaning can also be expressed through quantitative expressions.<sup>4</sup> For instance, phrases such as “ko‘p odam” (many people) in Uzbek and “many people” in English serve the same grammatical and communicative purpose. This demonstrates that plurality is not solely dependent on suffixation but can also be indicated contextually using numerical or quantifying words.

Despite these similarities, there are notable differences in the complexity and variability of plural formation. English contains a significant number of irregular plural forms, such as child → children or foot → feet, which do not follow standard suffixation rules.<sup>5</sup> These irregular forms add a level of complexity that requires memorization and practice for language learners. In contrast, Uzbek plural formation is highly regular and predictable, with most nouns simply adopting the “-lar” suffix without changes to the root. This regularity makes the plural system in Uzbek more straightforward for both native speakers and learners. Another difference lies in the phonological and spelling adjustments associated with plural formation. In English,

<sup>4</sup> Karimov, I. O‘zbek tilida otlarning ko‘plik shakllari. Toshkent, 2012, 34-bet.

<sup>5</sup> Swan, M. Practical English Usage. Oxford, 2005, p. 45.



nouns ending with certain sounds require adding “-es” (e.g., box → boxes, class → classes), and irregular forms may involve internal vowel changes (e.g., man → men). In Uzbek, such adjustments are rare; the suffix “-lar” is attached consistently without altering the original word form. These findings have important implications for language learners. Learners of English must pay attention to irregular plural forms and spelling changes, which can pose challenges in both writing and speaking. Conversely, learners of Uzbek benefit from a simpler and more regular plural system, which can facilitate faster acquisition of grammatical competence. Moreover, understanding the similarities between the languages, such as the use of quantitative expressions to indicate plurality, can help learners transfer knowledge from one language to another, enhancing bilingual or multilingual proficiency. In summary, plural noun formation in Uzbek and English demonstrates both cross-linguistic similarities and language-specific differences. While suffixation is the primary method in both languages, the English system exhibits more irregularity and complexity, whereas the Uzbek system is highly regular. These insights are valuable not only for theoretical linguistics but also for practical language education, providing guidance on how plural nouns can be taught effectively to learners of both languages.

## Conclusion

The present study has examined the formation of plural nouns in Uzbek and English, highlighting both similarities and differences in their grammatical systems. The analysis shows that in both languages, suffixation is the primary method for indicating plurality. In Uzbek, the suffix “-lar” is consistently used, making plural formation highly regular and predictable. In English, plural nouns are mainly formed with “-s” or “-es”, but the system also includes irregular plural forms such as child → children and man → men, which add complexity to the language. Additionally, both languages can express plural meaning through quantitative expressions, such as “ko‘p odam” in Uzbek and “many people” in English, which demonstrates that plurality can be indicated not only morphologically but also contextually. The study concludes that while the core principle of using suffixes is shared between Uzbek



and English, the level of regularity and the presence of irregular forms make the plural system in English more complex. These findings are important for linguistic theory, as they illustrate cross-linguistic similarities and differences in grammatical structures. Moreover, the study has practical implications for language learners and teachers, providing guidance on effective teaching and learning of plural nouns in both languages.

## REFERENCES:

1. Azimov A. O‘zbek tili grammatikasi. – Toshkent: Fan, 2010.
2. Jespersen O. Essentials of English Grammar. – London: George Allen & Unwin, 1933.
3. Karimov I. O‘zbek tilida otlarning ko‘plik shakllari. – Toshkent: Akademiya nashriyoti, 2012.
4. Quirk R., Greenbaum S., Leech G., Svartvik J. A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language. – London: Longman, 1985.
5. Swan M. Practical English Usage. – Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.