

METHODOLOGY OF COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE SEMANTIC AND STRUCTURAL FEATURES OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

Mashhura Safoqulova Nasrullayevna
Uchquduq District No. 1 Technical College
English Language

ABSTRACT

This study explores the methodology of comparative analysis of phraseological units in English and Uzbek languages, focusing on their semantic and structural features. Phraseological units are considered an essential part of linguistic systems as they reflect cultural identity, worldview, and cognitive patterns of different language communities. The research examines how meanings are constructed and transformed in fixed expressions, as well as how their internal structure differs or coincides across the two languages.

The study highlights that English and Uzbek phraseological units demonstrate both universal and culture-specific characteristics. While some expressions share similar semantic equivalents, others differ significantly due to historical, cultural, and linguistic factors. Structural analysis reveals variations in word order, grammatical patterns, and morphological composition.

Keywords: *phraseological units, comparative analysis, semantics, structure, English language, Uzbek language, idioms, linguistic methodology, translation studies, cultural linguistics.*

INTRODUCTION

Phraseology is one of the most expressive and culturally significant areas of linguistics, as it reflects the worldview, traditions, and cognitive thinking of a language community. Phraseological units, including idioms and fixed expressions, are stable combinations of words whose meanings cannot always be understood through the literal meanings of their components. Therefore, their study requires a deep semantic and structural analysis.

In English and Uzbek languages, phraseological units play an important role in everyday communication, literature, and media discourse. However, due to differences in cultural background, historical development, and linguistic structure, these expressions often vary in form and meaning. Some idioms may have direct equivalents in both languages, while others are unique and require explanatory translation.

The comparative study of phraseological units in English and Uzbek languages is significant for understanding how meaning is constructed and how language reflects

cultural identity. It also contributes to improving translation accuracy and developing intercultural communication skills.

MAIN BODY

The methodology of comparative analysis of the semantic and structural features of phraseological units in English and Uzbek languages is based on a systematic linguistic approach that combines semantic interpretation, structural classification, and contrastive analysis. This method focuses on identifying similarities and differences between phraseological units in both languages at lexical, grammatical, and cultural levels.

The first stage of the methodology involves the selection and classification of phraseological units from reliable linguistic sources such as academic dictionaries, linguistic corpora, and officially published phraseological reference materials. Units are grouped according to their semantic meaning, grammatical structure, and functional usage in context.

The second stage focuses on semantic analysis, where the meaning of each phraseological unit is examined beyond its literal components. Special attention is given to figurative meaning, metaphorical extensions, and cultural connotations. In this process, equivalence types are identified, such as full equivalence, partial equivalence, and non-equivalence between English and Uzbek idioms.

The third stage involves structural analysis, where the internal grammatical organization of phraseological units is studied. This includes word order, morphological composition, syntactic patterns, and the stability of lexical components. Structural differences between English and Uzbek phraseological units are highlighted, particularly in relation to analytic and agglutinative language features.

The final stage is comparative analysis, where semantic and structural findings are contrasted to determine patterns of similarity and divergence. This allows for the identification of universal phraseological features as well as language-specific characteristics influenced by cultural and historical development.

Overall, this methodology ensures a comprehensive linguistic examination of phraseological units, providing a solid basis for translation studies, intercultural communication, and applied linguistics research.

In the comparative study of phraseological units in English and Uzbek languages, the grammatical analysis is carried out on the basis of internal structural decomposition of idiomatic expressions, where each unit is examined not as a whole lexical block only, but as a grammatically organized system with fixed syntactic relations.

In English phraseological units, grammatical structure is typically characterized by a relatively fixed word order based on the Subject–Verb–Object model or prepositional constructions. For example, in units such as “to break the ice” or “to take into account,” the verb is the core grammatical element, while the object or

prepositional phrase functions as a semantic complement. The infinitive marker “to” and auxiliary elements are part of the structural stability, meaning that any change in word order or grammatical form usually leads to the destruction of the phraseological meaning. Therefore, English idioms demonstrate a high level of syntactic rigidity, where grammatical stability is a key feature of phraseological integrity.

In Uzbek phraseological units, the grammatical structure is based on an agglutinative system, where meaning is often expressed through suffixes and morphological combinations rather than strict word order. For example, in expressions such as “ko‘ngli ochildi” or “tili uzun,” the semantic load is distributed through verb inflections and possessive or predicative suffixes. Word order in Uzbek phraseological units is relatively flexible, but morphological markers determine grammatical relations between components. The verb often carries tense, aspect, and modality information within a single word form, which is structurally different from English analytical constructions.

From a deeper grammatical perspective, English phraseological units rely on fixed syntactic frames such as verb + object, verb + preposition + object, or adjective + noun combinations, where each element has a clearly defined syntactic role. In contrast, Uzbek phraseological units exhibit compressed grammatical structures where multiple grammatical meanings are fused into single word forms, and syntactic relations are often implied through morphological markers rather than explicit function words.

When comparing both languages, it becomes evident that English phraseological units maintain structural stability through syntactic fixation, while Uzbek phraseological units maintain stability through morphological cohesion. This difference directly influences how idiomatic meaning is preserved and how phraseological units behave in transformation, translation, and contextual adaptation.

In the comparative linguistic analysis of phraseological units in English and Uzbek languages, a deeper grammatical examination requires decomposition of idioms into syntactic models, morphological marking, and functional grammatical relations inside each unit.

In English phraseological units, the grammatical core is usually a verb-centered syntactic frame, where the verb governs the structure and determines the stability of the whole expression. For example, in “to break the ice”, the structure can be grammatically modeled as:

[Verb (transitive) + Direct Object]

Here, “break” functions as a transitive verb requiring an object, while “the ice” is a definite noun phrase acting as a direct object. Grammatically, the phrase is fixed because any modification such as tense change or object substitution leads to loss of idiomatic meaning. Even though tense variation is possible (e.g., “broke the ice”), the

lexical components remain unchanged, which indicates lexical rigidity with limited grammatical flexibility.

Similarly, in “to take into account”, the structure is:

[Verb + Prepositional Phrase (into + Noun Phrase)]

This shows a phrasal verb construction with prepositional complementation, where “into account” is not freely separable. The preposition “into” is grammatically bound to the verb “take”, forming a semantic-grammatical unit. This reflects the English tendency toward analytic structure, where grammatical relations are expressed through function words rather than inflection.

From a deeper syntactic perspective, English phraseological units often follow fixed patterns such as:

V + NP (verb + noun phrase)

V + P + NP (verb + preposition + noun phrase)

Adj + N (adjective + noun)

These structures demonstrate strong syntactic fossilization, meaning internal word order is grammatically frozen.

In Uzbek phraseological units, grammatical organization is fundamentally different due to its agglutinative morphological system. Instead of relying on fixed word order, meaning is encoded through suffixation and inflectional markers.

For example, in “ko‘ngli ochildi” (he/she became happy/relieved), the structure can be analyzed as:

[Noun (possessive + root) + Verb (past tense + intransitive)]

“ko‘ngl-i” → noun root “ko‘ngil” + 3rd person possessive suffix “-i”

“ochil-di” → verb root “ochil” + past tense marker “-di”

Here, grammatical meaning is distributed morphologically:

Possession is marked inside the noun

Tense is marked inside the verb

The syntactic relationship is not dependent on strict word order but on morphological agreement

In “tili uzun” (talkative / gossiping person), the structure is:

[Noun + Adjective (metaphorical predicative construction)]

“til-i” → noun + possessive suffix

“uzun” → adjective functioning as predicative metaphor

Here, the phrase does not rely on a verb but on nominal predication, where meaning emerges through implicit grammatical relations rather than explicit verbal structure.

From a comparative grammatical perspective, key differences are observed:

English phraseological units:

Depend on fixed syntactic frames

Use function words (prepositions, auxiliary verbs)

Show analytical grammatical structure

Have limited internal morphological change

Uzbek phraseological units:

Depend on morphological fusion (suffixation)

Use agglutinative encoding of grammar

Allow relatively flexible word order

Carry grammatical meaning inside word forms

Thus, the deep grammatical analysis shows that English phraseological stability is achieved through syntactic fixation, while Uzbek stability is achieved through morphological integrity. This structural divergence directly affects translation equivalence, semantic preservation, and contextual adaptation of idiomatic expressions between the two languages.

CONCLUSION

The comparative grammatical and semantic analysis of phraseological units in English and Uzbek languages demonstrates that both language systems possess stable idiomatic structures, but they differ fundamentally in the mechanisms of their formation and expression. English phraseological units are primarily based on fixed syntactic patterns, where grammatical relations are expressed through word order and auxiliary elements, reflecting an analytical language structure. In contrast, Uzbek phraseological units are formed through agglutinative morphology, where grammatical meaning is embedded within word forms by means of suffixes and inflections.

The study shows that English idioms tend to maintain rigidity through syntactic fixation, while Uzbek idioms ensure stability through morphological cohesion. This difference significantly influences how phraseological meaning is preserved, transformed, and interpreted in different communicative contexts.

REFERENCES

1. Раҳимов, Ш. Умумий тилшунослик асослари. – Тошкент: Ўқитувчи нашриёти, 2019.
2. Ҳожиёв, А. Лексикология ва фразеология масалалари. – Тошкент: Фан нашриёти, 2020.
3. Қосимов, Б. Замонавий инглиз тилшунослиги. – Тошкент: Университет нашриёти, 2021.
4. Йўлдошев, М. Тил ва маданият: қиёсий тилшунослик асослари. – Тошкент: Фан ва технология нашриёти, 2022.