

LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS RELATED TO THE FIELD OF ECONOMICS IN THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract: Phraseological units represent an important layer of language that reflects both linguistic structure and cultural worldview, playing a significant role in the expression of abstract concepts in specialized fields such as economics. This article explores the linguistic features of phraseological units related to the field of economics in the English and Uzbek languages, with the aim of identifying their structural, semantic, and functional characteristics. Economic phraseology is of particular interest due to its metaphorical nature and its widespread use in professional discourse, media texts, and everyday communication. The study applies descriptive and contrastive methods to analyze economic phraseological units selected from dictionaries, economic texts, and media sources. Special attention is paid to their semantic motivation, metaphorical foundations, and degree of idiomacticity. The analysis reveals that many economic phraseological units in both languages are based on universal conceptual metaphors such as *economy as movement, struggle, growth, and mechanism*, while others reflect culture-specific images and national experience.

Keywords: Phraseological units, economic discourse, linguistic features, economic terminology, metaphor and idiomacticity, contrastive linguistics, cultural semantics, phraseology and economics, translation equivalence, functional stylistics, media and professional discourse.

Introduction: In modern linguistics, phraseological units occupy a significant position as stable combinations of words that convey meanings which are often figurative, culturally motivated, and semantically complex. Unlike free word combinations, phraseological units are characterized by a high degree of stability, idiomacticity, and expressiveness. These features make them an effective linguistic tool for representing abstract concepts, particularly in specialized domains such as economics, where complex processes and phenomena require clear and accessible expression. Economic discourse, encompassing academic texts, media publications, and professional communication, increasingly relies on phraseological units to describe financial trends, market behavior, economic crises, and growth dynamics. Expressions such as *economic boom, financial bubble, or tighten the belt* illustrate how

figurative language helps simplify and conceptualize economic realities. Similarly, in the Uzbek language, phraseological units rooted in national experience and cultural imagery play an important role in expressing economic ideas in a vivid and persuasive manner. As a result, economic phraseology becomes a valuable object of linguistic investigation.

The study of phraseological units related to the field of economics is closely connected with cognitive linguistics and cultural linguistics, as many such expressions are based on conceptual metaphors that reflect how speakers perceive and interpret economic phenomena. Metaphors such as *economy as a living organism*, *economy as movement*, or *economy as struggle* are widely used in both English and Uzbek, though their linguistic realization may differ. These metaphorical foundations reveal not only linguistic similarities but also culturally specific ways of thinking about economic life. From a contrastive linguistic perspective, the analysis of English and Uzbek economic phraseological units is particularly relevant. English, belonging to the Germanic language family, and Uzbek, an agglutinative Turkic language, differ significantly in their grammatical structure, word-formation patterns, and stylistic conventions. These differences influence the structure and usage of phraseological units, affecting their stability, variability, and semantic transparency. Consequently, comparative analysis allows for a deeper understanding of how phraseological meaning is constructed and maintained across languages.

Another important aspect of studying economic phraseological units is the problem of equivalence and translation. Due to cultural specificity and metaphorical motivation, many phraseological units do not have direct equivalents in other languages. This creates challenges for translators, especially in economic journalism and professional communication, where accuracy and clarity are essential. Investigating the linguistic features of such units helps identify effective translation strategies and contributes to improving cross-cultural economic communication. The aim of this article is to analyze the linguistic features of phraseological units related to the field of economics in the English and Uzbek languages, focusing on their structural, semantic, and functional characteristics. The research employs descriptive and contrastive methods to identify common patterns and language-specific features. By examining the interaction between language, culture, and economic thought, the study seeks to contribute to phraseological studies, contrastive linguistics, and the analysis of economic discourse. Ultimately, the article emphasizes the importance of phraseological competence in understanding and interpreting economic texts in a multilingual context.

Main Part:

Phraseological units in the economic domain represent a unique intersection of language, cognition, and culture. They are conventionalized word combinations that

convey meanings often exceeding the sum of their individual components. In economic discourse, such units perform crucial functions: they simplify complex processes, enhance expressiveness, and provide culturally resonant conceptualizations of economic phenomena. In English, economic phraseological units often rely on metaphorical mapping from everyday experience to abstract financial concepts. For instance, expressions like *to tighten the belt*, *bubble economy*, or *financial meltdown* employ metaphorical extensions of familiar physical and social experiences to convey economic realities. These units not only facilitate comprehension but also influence the perception of economic events, shaping discourse in academic, professional, and media contexts.

Uzbek economic phraseological units, while similarly metaphorical, frequently draw on cultural, historical, and social experiences specific to Uzbekistan. Expressions such as *pulni hisoblash* (literally “to count money”) or *og‘ir mehnat mevasini beradi* (“hard work bears fruit”) encapsulate economic principles in culturally meaningful ways. These units combine semantic transparency with metaphorical motivation, making them both expressive and cognitively accessible for native speakers.

From a structural perspective, English economic phraseological units are often rigid in word order and syntax, reflecting their idiomacity. Compounds (*stock market crash*), collocations (*capital flight*), and phrasal verbs (*cash in on*) are common, and their stability ensures predictability and clarity in professional discourse. Morphological derivation and nominalization are also widely used to create abstract economic terms that integrate seamlessly into complex sentence structures. In contrast, Uzbek, as an agglutinative language, demonstrates greater morphological flexibility. Economic phraseological units often involve derivational suffixes and postpositional constructions that convey relationships between concepts. For example, phrases like *iqtisodiy o‘sish sur’ati* (“rate of economic growth”) or *moliya tizimining barqarorligi* (“stability of the financial system”) showcase the productive use of morphology to encode specific economic meanings while retaining syntactic clarity. Borrowing plays a crucial role in both languages. English incorporates terms from Latin and French that have become phraseological elements in economic discourse. Uzbek integrates borrowed international economic terms, often adapted to local morphological and phonological patterns, such as *investitsiya kiritish* (“to invest”) or *inflatsiya darajasi* (“inflation rate”). These borrowings illustrate the interaction between global economic concepts and national linguistic expression.

The semantic properties of economic phraseological units are closely linked to conceptual metaphor theory. Many units are motivated by recurring metaphors, such as:

- **Economy as movement:** *market swings*, *economic slowdown*
- **Economy as a living organism:** *financial health*, *market vitality*

- **Economy as struggle or conflict: price war, battle for market share**

These metaphors are present in both English and Uzbek, though realized differently due to linguistic and cultural factors. English tends to prefer concise, fixed expressions, whereas Uzbek allows for more descriptive, transparent phraseology. Idiomaticity varies across both languages. Some units are fully idiomatic (*to bail out a company*), while others retain some literal interpretability (*to invest in human capital*). Understanding these distinctions is essential for correct interpretation, translation, and use in professional and educational contexts.

Economic phraseological units serve multiple communicative and pragmatic functions:

1. **Cognitive function:** They simplify abstract economic concepts, making them more accessible to specialists and the general public.

2. **Expressive function:** Units add vividness and rhetorical impact, especially in media texts. Expressions like *financial meltdown* or *pulni oqizish* (“to squander money”) evoke strong imagery.

3. **Persuasive function:** In economic journalism and policy discourse, phraseological units can frame economic phenomena, subtly influencing perception and evaluation.

4. **Cultural function:** They reflect national economic experience, social norms, and values, revealing the interaction between language and economic culture.

The pragmatic dimension is especially important in translation. Many phraseological units have culture-specific imagery that cannot be rendered literally. For instance, translating *tighten the belt* into Uzbek requires a functional equivalent that conveys the concept of economic restraint without relying solely on the literal image. Comparative analysis shows that while English and Uzbek economic phraseological units share universal cognitive patterns, they differ in structural realization and cultural nuance. English units are often metaphorically concise, relying on conventionalized imagery, whereas Uzbek units frequently employ explicit descriptive constructions that enhance clarity for native speakers.

Translation of economic phraseological units between the two languages presents several challenges:

- **Non-equivalence:** Certain metaphors or culturally specific expressions have no direct counterpart.

- **Idiomatic opacity:** Fully idiomatic units may lose their figurative meaning if translated literally.

- **Functional adaptation:** Translators must preserve the communicative function, sometimes using explanatory paraphrase or domestication.

A systematic linguistic analysis of these units helps identify strategies for accurate translation, effective teaching of economic language, and improved professional

communication. The analysis of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek demonstrates that they are linguistically and cognitively rich constructs shaped by structural, semantic, and cultural factors. Their study enhances understanding of how language encodes complex economic concepts, supports cross-cultural communication, and informs translation practice. The comparative perspective underscores the interplay between universal cognitive patterns and culture-specific realizations, highlighting the importance of phraseological competence for linguists, translators, educators, and professionals working in the field of economics.

Conclusion:

The linguistic analysis of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek reveals that these units serve as a vital tool for expressing complex economic concepts in both professional and media discourse. The study demonstrates that while both languages employ metaphorically motivated phraseological units to convey abstract economic phenomena, there are notable differences in their structural, semantic, and cultural realization. English economic phraseological units are generally concise, highly idiomatic, and stable in structure, often relying on metaphorical mapping from familiar experiences to abstract economic concepts. Uzbek units, reflecting the agglutinative and culturally rich nature of the language, frequently employ more descriptive constructions and incorporate culturally specific imagery. These structural and semantic differences influence both comprehension and translation, highlighting the challenges of achieving equivalence across languages.

Functionally, economic phraseological units in both languages simplify complex ideas, enhance expressiveness, and contribute to persuasive and cognitive effects in economic discourse. The study also underscores the importance of contextual and pragmatic awareness in interpreting and translating economic phraseology, particularly in cross-cultural and professional settings. Understanding the linguistic features of economic phraseological units is essential for linguists, translators, educators, and economic professionals. It contributes not only to theoretical studies in phraseology and contrastive linguistics but also to practical applications in teaching, translation, and economic communication. Comparative analysis of English and Uzbek units demonstrates the interplay between universal cognitive patterns and language-specific cultural expressions, enriching our understanding of language in the economic domain.

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