

COMPARATIVE-TYPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF PRONOUNS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract

This article conducts a comparative study of the pronoun systems in English and Uzbek. The research primarily analyzes grammatical categories of pronouns in languages belonging to two different language families, specifically focusing on gender, number, and case relations. The inflective characteristics of English pronouns and the agglutinative nature of Uzbek pronouns are demonstrated through examples. Furthermore, the article details the functional-semantic similarities and differences of pronouns in both languages. The research results serve as an important resource for studying the grammar of both languages and for use in the field of comparative linguistics.

Keywords

pronoun, comparative-typological analysis, agglutination, inflection, English language, Uzbek language.

Introduction

In English, pronouns are defined in various ways in scientific literature. In traditional English linguistics, pronouns are considered a group of words used in place of a noun or noun-equivalent words. "Pronouns are words used instead of nouns to avoid repetition in a text." Pronouns in English have a highly generalized meaning: they indicate or point to any objects, beings, or abstract concepts without naming them. The issue of morphological classification of world languages is based on studying their grammatical features—more precisely, the opposition of roots and affixes. According to this classification, languages are grouped not by their history of origin or kinship, but by their word construction and structure. The major German scholar Friedrich Schlegel (1772–1829) laid the foundation for the morphological classification of languages. Later, this was revised by his brother V. von Humboldt. He divided languages into three types: a) inflective languages; b) agglutinative (affixal) languages; d) amorphous (non-affixal) languages. In this article, the grammatical nature of two different systemic languages is analyzed through the example of pronouns. In Uzbek, which belongs to the agglutinative languages, affixes are attached to the root in succession, and each suffix expresses a single grammatical meaning. For example, in Uzbek pronouns: "Biz" (personal pronoun) + "-ga" (dative case) = "Bizga" (the affix and root are distinct). Conversely, in English, which belongs to inflective languages, a single affix can represent several meanings, or new forms are created through internal inflection (sound change). For example, in English, plural and tense forms occur through vowel changes in the root: "Tooth-teeth", "Write-wrote".

Morphological Classification of Languages and the Pronoun System. According to sources, English and Uzbek belong to groups that differ fundamentally in their structure.

Uzbek Language (Agglutinative type): In this language, the pronoun root remains stable, and grammatical suffixes (affixes) are attached in a specific order. Affixes express a single meaning; each affix participating in the word structure is attached one after another while representing only one meaning. For example, in the word "bizlarga" (to us), the suffix "-lar" denotes plurality, and "-ga" denotes the dative case. Here, each morpheme performs a strict function. Affixes are added to the root mechanically but do not fuse deeply with the base; they remain distinct from the root.

English Language (Inflective type): Primarily Indo-European languages fall into the inflective category, where the formation of morphological forms through inflection is considered the main morphological feature. In English analysis, internal inflection (sound change within the word) is prominent. For example: "foot - feet". This feature is observed more complexly in pronouns.

The System of Person-Number in Personal Pronouns and Suppletivism

In English, singular and plural meanings are expressed through roots that are not mutually related. The category of plurality is expressed via pronouns—specifically personal and demonstrative pronouns:

I (Men) - We (Biz)

He/She/It (U) - They (Ular)

Me (Menga) - Us (Bizga)

Here, a complete change of the root (suppletivism) is observed.

Agglutinative method in Uzbek: In Uzbek, the plural meaning is logically created by adding the plural affix to the pronoun root: U + lar = Ular.

In English, because it belongs to the Indo-European language family, there were formerly three grammatical genders. However, in modern English, grammatical gender has disappeared across all parts of speech, preserved only in the belonging of personal pronouns (he, she, it) to a certain gender. It is known that the category of grammatical gender does not exist in Uzbek. One of the specific features of English pronouns is the necessity of matching the gender of the noun they replace. In Uzbek, the personal pronoun "U" does not distinguish gender; it is used equally for males and females in speech. In English, the personal pronoun "U" (3rd person singular) is expressed by "He", "She", and "It". Sources point to the category of gender as the most fundamental differential (distinguishing) sign between these languages:

In English: In the third person singular, biological gender is strictly separated:

He - for the male gender.

She - for the female gender.

It - for objects, animals, and abstract concepts.

In Uzbek: The category of gender does not exist morphologically. Regardless of the gender of the person or object, a single pronoun "U" is used. According to the source, the concept of gender is clarified only through lexical units (e.g., o'quvchi qiz - female student).

In the paradigm of Case and Possessive relations, the declension of pronouns in cases reveals the synthetic and analytic features of both languages:

Cases: While in English pronouns appear in only two forms (Subjective - I, Objective - me), in Uzbek they are declined with 6 case suffixes (men, mening, menga, meni, menda, mendan).

Possession: In English, the possessive relationship is expressed unilaterally (prepositional): "My book". In Uzbek, this relationship is reinforced bilaterally: "Mening kitobim".

In the analysis of Reflexive Pronouns, we can also find distinct differences between the two languages. In Uzbek, this type of pronoun consists of a single word-"o'z". The pronoun "o'z" is used in place of personal pronouns in all three persons, singular and plural, usually indicating a person and sometimes an object. In the nominative case, it can be inflected with possessive suffixes to express different persons. For example: o'zim bajardim (I did it myself), o'zing bajarding (you did it yourself), o'zi bajardi (he/she did it himself/herself)...

English: The morphemes "-self" (singular) and "-selves" (plural) are added to the possessive or objective form of personal pronouns: Myself, Ourselves.

Uzbek: It is expressed through the independent word "o'z" and the corresponding possessive suffixes added to it: o'zim, o'zimiz.

In English, pronouns agree in person and number just as in Uzbek. For example, the sentence "Men kecha singlim bilan futbol o'ynadim" is correctly constructed based on the grammatical laws of the Uzbek language. The personal pronoun "men", as the subject, agrees with the predicate of the sentence in the 1st person, and therefore the predicate is expressed with the 1st person suffix "-m". Now let's look at the English version of the same sentence: "I played football with my sister yesterday". We know that in English, unlike Uzbek, person-number forms are not expressed in the predicate of the sentence. That is, while in Uzbek the person-number suffixes in the predicate change in proportion to the subject (pronoun) as in "Men o'yladim", "Sen o'ylading", "U o'yladi", in English, the predicate remains in a stable state. A change in the subject does not affect the form of the predicate (in the past tense).

In Uzbek, possessive pronouns can be dropped and replaced by possessive suffixes or pronouns like o'zinning, o'zingning, o'zining..., but in English, possessive pronouns are never dropped or replaced by anything else: Men ruchkamni sindirib qo'ydim. - I have broken my pencil.

Conclusion

Based on the evidence presented in the article, it can be said that the pronoun system is analytic-inflective in English and synthetic-agglutinative in Uzbek. Especially the differences in the expression of possessive relations and the formation of reflexive pronouns require a unique approach in the translation process and in language teaching. This comparative analysis helps to systematize the mutual differential features of the grammars of both languages.

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