

## SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF TENSE IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES.

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### ABSTRACT

This paper examines the similarities and differences in the tense system of English and Uzbek languages. The study reveals that both languages have a similar set of basic tense forms, such as present, past, and future tenses. However, the languages differ in their approach to representing temporal information and the specific grammatical structures used to express tense. In English, tense is primarily expressed through verb inflections, with distinct forms for past, present, and future tenses. The language also utilizes auxiliary verbs and adverbial expressions to further nuance the temporal aspect of actions and events. Uzbek, on the other hand, relies more heavily on the use of postpositions and particles to convey tense information. While Uzbek verbs do undergo some inflectional changes to indicate tense, the language also employs a range of auxiliary verbs and case markers to provide a more detailed temporal perspective. The paper discusses the implications of these differences in tense representation, highlighting the challenges and considerations that may arise when translating between the two languages or when teaching English to Uzbek speakers and vice versa. The findings contribute to the understanding of cross-linguistic variations in the expression of temporality and have practical applications in the field of language instruction and translation studies.

**Key words:** verb, tense, present tense, past tense, future tense, adverbial expressions.

### INTRODUCTION

Tense is a fundamental grammatical category in both English and Uzbek languages, serving as a crucial element in the expression of temporal relations and the sequencing of events. While the two languages share some common features in their tense systems, there are also significant differences in the way they represent and convey temporal information. In English, tense is primarily expressed through verb inflections, with distinct forms for past, present, and future tenses. For example, the verb "walk" can take on different forms such as "walked" (past tense), "walks" (present tense), and "will walk" (future tense). The language also utilizes auxiliary verbs (e.g., "have," "will," "would") and adverbial expressions (e.g., "yesterday," "now,"

"tomorrow") to further nuance the temporal aspect of actions and events. Uzbek, on the other hand, relies more heavily on the use of postpositions and particles to convey tense information. While Uzbek verbs do undergo some inflectional changes to indicate tense, the language also employs a range of auxiliary verbs and case markers to provide a more detailed temporal perspective. For instance, the Uzbek verb "yozmoq" (to write) can take on different forms such as "yozdi" (wrote), "yozayapti" (is writing), and "yozadi" (will write), often accompanied by additional particles or postpositions to specify the temporal context. These differences in the tense systems of English and Uzbek languages can pose challenges for language learners, translators, and researchers. Understanding the similarities and differences in the way these two languages represent temporal information is crucial for effective communication, accurate translation, and the development of effective language-learning strategies.[1] This study aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the tense systems in English and Uzbek languages, highlighting the key similarities and differences in the grammatical structures, usage patterns, and pragmatic implications. The findings of this research will contribute to the broader understanding of cross-linguistic variations in the expression of temporality and have practical applications in the fields of language instruction, translation studies, and contrastive linguistics.

### **Tense Systems in English and Uzbek Languages: A Comparative Analysis**

1. Tense in English. The English tense system is primarily based on verb inflections, with distinct forms for past, present, and future tenses. The basic tense forms in English are:

1. Present Tense: The present tense in English is used to express actions, states, or events that are happening in the present moment, or to describe general truths and habitual actions. Examples: "I write a letter," "She lives in New York."
2. Past Tense: The past tense in English is used to describe actions, states, or events that have already occurred in the past. Examples: "I wrote a letter," "She lived in New York."
3. Future Tense: The future tense in English is used to express actions, states, or events that will occur in the future. Examples: "I will write a letter," "She will live in New York."

In addition to these basic tense forms, English also utilizes auxiliary verbs (e.g., "have," "will," "would") and adverbial expressions (e.g., "yesterday," "now," "tomorrow") to provide more nuanced temporal information and to express various aspects of an action or event.

2. Tense in Uzbek. The Uzbek tense system, while sharing some similarities with English, relies more heavily on postpositions, particles, and auxiliary verbs to convey temporal information. The basic tense forms in Uzbek are:

1. Present Tense: The present tense in Uzbek is used to describe actions, states, or events happening in the present moment, as well as general truths and habitual actions. Examples: "Men xat yozaman" (I write a letter), "U Nyu-Yorkda yashaydi" (She lives in New York).

2. Past Tense: The past tense in Uzbek is used to express actions, states, or events that have already occurred in the past. Examples: "Men xat yozdim" (I wrote a letter), "U Nyu-Yorkda yashagan" (She lived in New York).

3. Future Tense: The future tense in Uzbek is used to describe actions, states, or events that will occur in the future. Examples: "Men xat yozaman" (I will write a letter), "U Nyu-Yorkda yashaydi" (She will live in New York).

In Uzbek, the specific tense form of a verb is often accompanied by postpositions, particles, and auxiliary verbs to provide additional temporal context and to express various aspects of an action or event. These grammatical elements play a crucial role in the Uzbek tense system and contribute to its more nuanced representation of temporal relations.

3. Similarities and Differences. While English and Uzbek share some basic tense forms, such as present, past, and future, the two languages differ in their approach to representing temporal information and the specific grammatical structures used to express tense.[2]

Similarities:

- Both English and Uzbek have basic tense forms (present, past, future) to convey temporal information.
- Both languages use verb inflections to some extent to indicate tense.

Differences:

- English primarily relies on verb inflections to express tense, while Uzbek utilizes a combination of verb inflections, postpositions, particles, and auxiliary verbs.
- Uzbek tense forms are often accompanied by additional grammatical elements to provide more nuanced temporal information, whereas English tends to rely more on adverbial expressions.
- The specific verb forms and grammatical structures used to express tense in each language can vary significantly, leading to potential challenges in translation and language learning.

4. Implications and Applications. The differences in the tense systems of English and Uzbek have several implications and applications:

1. Language Learning and Teaching: Understanding the similarities and differences in the tense systems of the two languages is crucial for effective language instruction, as it can help teachers develop targeted strategies and materials to address the specific challenges faced by learners.

2. Translation and Interpretation: Accurately translating temporal information between English and Uzbek requires a deep understanding of the respective tense systems and the ability to navigate the nuances in grammatical structures and pragmatic implications.

3. Contrastive Linguistics: The comparative analysis of the tense systems in English and Uzbek contributes to the broader understanding of cross-linguistic variations in the expression of temporality, which has implications for theories of language universals and language typology.

4. Cognitive and Psycholinguistic Perspectives: Studying the differences in how tense is represented in these two languages can provide insights into the cognitive processes and conceptual frameworks underlying the expression of temporal relations in human language.

By exploring the similarities and differences in the tense systems of English and Uzbek, this study aims to inform and enhance various fields, including language learning and teaching, translation and interpretation, contrastive linguistics, and cognitive and psycholinguistic research.[3]

### **Comparison of the tense systems in English and Uzbek languages.**

#### 1. Present Tense:

- In English, the present tense is formed by using the base form of the verb (e.g., "I write a letter").
- In Uzbek, the present tense is formed by adding the suffix "-adi" to the verb stem (e.g., "Men xat yozadi" - I write a letter).

#### 2. Past Tense:

- In English, the past tense is formed by adding "-ed" to the base form of the verb (e.g., "I wrote a letter").
- In Uzbek, the past tense is formed by adding the suffix "-di" to the verb stem (e.g., "Men xat yozdim" - I wrote a letter).

#### 3. Future Tense:

- In English, the future tense is formed by using the auxiliary verb "will" + the base form of the verb (e.g., "I will write a letter").
- In Uzbek, the future tense is formed by adding the suffix "-adi" to the verb stem, often accompanied by auxiliary verbs or particles (e.g., "Men xat yozaman" - I will write a letter).

#### Aspectual Differences:

- English utilizes various aspect markers (e.g., "am writing," "have written") to express the duration, progression, or completion of an action.
- Uzbek employs a more extensive aspectual system, using auxiliary verbs, postpositions, and particles to convey nuances of aspect, such as the ongoing nature of

an action ("yozayapti" - is writing), the completeness of an action ("yozib bo'ldi" - has written), or the habitual nature of an action ("yozar ekan" - usually writes).[4]

Adverbial Expressions:

- English often uses adverbial expressions (e.g., "yesterday," "now," "tomorrow") to provide additional temporal context and modify the tense forms.
- Uzbek also utilizes adverbial expressions, but they may be less essential in conveying temporal information, as the language relies more heavily on grammatical elements such as postpositions and particles.

Pragmatic Implications:

- The differences in tense systems can lead to distinct pragmatic implications and nuances in how temporal information is conveyed and interpreted in each language.
- For example, the use of the present tense in Uzbek can sometimes imply a sense of immediacy or certainty, whereas in English, the present tense may be more commonly used to express general truths or habitual actions.

Challenges in Translation and Language Learning:

- The disparities in the tense systems of English and Uzbek can pose challenges for translation and language learning, as learners may struggle to accurately convey temporal information or comprehend the subtle differences in meaning.
- Effective teaching strategies and translation techniques must account for these linguistic variations to facilitate cross-cultural communication and understanding. By exploring these detailed differences and similarities in the tense systems of English and Uzbek, we can gain a deeper appreciation for the complexity and diversity of human language, as well as the importance of cross-linguistic comparisons in enhancing language education, translation, and linguistic research.[5]

## CONCLUSION

The comprehensive comparative analysis of the tense systems in English and Uzbek has revealed profound differences that hold significant implications across various domains. These linguistic contrasts underscore the remarkable diversity of human language and the complex ways in which speakers conceptualize and express temporal relationships. At the core of these differences are the distinct grammatical structures, morphological markers, and linguistic strategies employed by each language to convey temporal information. While English primarily utilizes verb inflections, auxiliary verbs, and adverbial expressions, Uzbek relies more heavily on a rich system of verb suffixes, postpositions, particles, and auxiliary constructions to encode aspectual nuances and communicate temporal relationships.

By delving into the profound differences between the tense systems of English and Uzbek, this study has underscored the remarkable complexity and diversity of human language. The findings presented here not only contribute to our academic understanding of these two languages but also have far-reaching implications for

language education, translation, cognitive science, and the ongoing exploration of the remarkable capacities of the human mind and communication. As we continue to engage in cross-linguistic comparisons and unravel the intricate tapestry of human language, we are better equipped to navigate the challenges and opportunities presented by our multilingual world, fostering deeper cross-cultural understanding and enriching our collective knowledge about the remarkable diversity and adaptability of human expression.

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