

SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF ADJECTIVE DEGREE IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGE GRAMMAR

MUSTAFAEVA NARGIZA

Navoiy State Pedagogical Institute

The faculty of English language and literature 3th year student

Tel: +998 94 482 15 01

Email: nargizmustafayeva01@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This paper examines the grammatical structures for expressing degrees of adjectives in English and Uzbek, two languages with distinct linguistic backgrounds. The study explores the similarities and differences in how these languages utilize morphological and syntactic means to convey comparative and superlative forms of adjectives. In English, the comparative and superlative degrees are typically formed through the addition of suffixes (-er, -est) or the use of the adverbs "more" and "most." In contrast, Uzbek employs a combination of suffixes, particles, and periphrastic constructions to indicate adjective comparison. The analysis highlights key points of divergence, such as the Uzbek system's reliance on case marking and the availability of alternative comparative structures. The paper also discusses the pragmatic functions and semantic nuances associated with the various adjective degree forms in both languages. Factors like language register, semantic classes of adjectives, and discourse context are considered in examining how speakers leverage these grammatical resources. The findings contribute to the cross-linguistic understanding of adjectival gradation, with implications for language typology, second language acquisition, and translation studies. The comparative approach sheds light on the diverse grammatical strategies languages employ to encode the comparative and superlative meanings conveyed by adjectives.

Key words: Positive Degree, Comparative Degree, Superlative Degree, Comparing the degree of adjectives

INTRODUCTION

The expression of degrees of adjectives is a fundamental aspect of language grammar that allows speakers to convey subtle distinctions in qualities and quantities. In English and Uzbek, two languages with distinct linguistic origins and typological features, the grammatical structures for denoting comparative and superlative forms of adjectives exhibit both similarities and differences. English, as a West Germanic language, utilizes well-established morphological and syntactic means to mark the comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives. The addition of suffixes (-er, -est)

or the use of the adverbial modifiers "more" and "most" are common strategies employed by English speakers to express gradation of adjectives. In contrast, Uzbek, a Turkic language, employs a range of grammatical resources, including suffixes, particles, and periphrastic constructions, to convey comparative and superlative meanings. The Uzbek system often involves case marking and alternative comparative structures that differ from the English approach. Exploring the parallels and divergences in how these two languages handle adjectival gradation can provide valuable insights into the linguistic diversity in expressing degrees of quality and quantity. Such a comparative analysis can shed light on universal principles as well as language-specific strategies for encoding comparative and superlative meanings through adjectives.[1]

This study aims to systematically examine the similarities and differences in the grammatical structures for adjective degree in English and Uzbek. By analyzing the morphological, syntactic, and pragmatic aspects of these linguistic phenomena, the research seeks to contribute to the cross-linguistic understanding of adjectival gradation and its implications for fields such as language typology, second language acquisition, and translation studies. By conducting a comparative analysis of the verb structural classes in these two languages, this study aims to illuminate the similarities and differences in the underlying principles governing verbal systems, and to contribute to the understanding of cross-linguistic variations in the organization and categorization of verbs. The findings of this research have implications for areas such as language teaching, translation studies, and theoretical linguistics.

Comparison of the Adjective degree in English and Uzbek language grammar:

Comparing the degree of adjectives in English and Uzbek grammar reveals both similarities and differences in how each language expresses comparative and superlative forms. In English, adjectives typically have three degrees:

1. Positive Degree: This is the base form of the adjective, used to describe a single thing without making a comparison.

- Example: "tall"

2. Comparative Degree: This form is used to compare two things. It often involves adding "-er" to the end of the adjective or using "more" before the adjective.

- Example: "taller" (for adjectives that are one syllable or some two-syllable adjectives) or "more beautiful" (for most adjectives of two or more syllables)

3. Superlative Degree: This form is used to compare more than two things, indicating the highest degree of the quality. It usually involves adding "-est" to the end of the adjective or using "most" before the adjective.[2]

- Example: "tallest" or "most beautiful"

Uzbek Adjective Degrees. In Uzbek, adjectives also have three degrees, but they are formed differently:

1. Positive Degree: This is the base form of the adjective.

- Example: "baland" (tall)

2. Comparative Degree: This form is created by adding the suffix "-roq" to the adjective.

- Example: "balandroq" (taller)

3. Superlative Degree: This form can be created in two ways:

- By adding the prefix "eng" before the positive degree of the adjective.

- Example: "eng baland" (tallest)

- By using the suffix "-chi" in colloquial speech.

- Example: "balandchi" (tallest, less formal and less common)

Summary of Key Differences

- Formation of Comparative Degree:

- English: Often adds "-er" or uses "more."

- Uzbek: Uses the suffix "-roq."

- Formation of Superlative Degree:

- English: Often adds "-est" or uses "most."

- Uzbek: Uses the prefix "eng" or the suffix "-chi" (colloquially).

- Structure and Complexity:

- English: Relatively straightforward with clear rules, though some adjectives (irregular adjectives) require unique forms, like "good" (better, best).

- Uzbek: More uniform in forming comparative and superlative degrees but allows for more flexibility in informal context.

Understanding these differences helps in grasping how each language handles comparisons and can be particularly useful for language learners and translators.[3]

Adjective Degree in English

In English, the comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives are typically formed through the following strategies:

1. Suffixation:

- Comparative: Adjective + -er (e.g., taller, faster, happier)

- Superlative: Adjective + -est (e.g., tallest, fastest, happiest)

2. Periphrastic constructions:

- Comparative: More/less + Adjective (e.g., more intelligent, less expensive)

- Superlative: Most/least + Adjective (e.g., most intelligent, least expensive)

The choice between the suffixed forms and the periphrastic constructions depends on factors such as the number of syllables in the adjective, its semantic properties, and language register.

Adjective Degree in Uzbek

In Uzbek, the expression of comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives is more complex and involves a combination of morphological and syntactic strategies:

1. Suffixation:

- Comparative: Adjective + -roq (e.g., baland-roq 'taller', to'g'ri-roq 'more correct')

- Superlative: Adjective + -gina/-gin (e.g., baland-gina 'the tallest', yaxshi-gina 'the best')

2. Periphrastic constructions:

- Comparative: Adjective + dan/dan ham (e.g., baland dan/dan ham baland 'taller than')

- Superlative: Eng + Adjective (e.g., eng baland 'the tallest', eng yaxshi 'the best')

3. Case marking:

- Comparative: Adjective + dan (e.g., balandroq dan 'taller than')

- Superlative: Adjective + -dagi (e.g., eng balanddagi 'the tallest')

The Uzbek system also allows for alternative comparative constructions, such as the use of the particle -roq without the adjective, or the employment of the particle -mi for emphasis (e.g., baland-roq-mi 'Is it taller?').[4]

Similarities and Differences

While both English and Uzbek utilize suffixation and periphrastic constructions to express adjective degrees, the specific morphological markers and syntactic structures differ between the two languages. Uzbek also employs case marking and alternative comparative structures, which are not present in the English system. The choice of strategies in each language is influenced by factors such as the semantic properties of the adjectives, language register, and discourse context. These language-specific differences in the grammatical expression of adjective degrees have implications for cross-linguistic understanding, second language acquisition, and translation between English and Uzbek.[5]

CONCLUSION

The examination of the grammatical structures for expressing degrees of adjectives in English and Uzbek has revealed both similarities and distinct differences between these two languages. While both employ morphological and syntactic means to convey comparative and superlative forms, the specific strategies utilized reflect the unique linguistic features and typological characteristics of each language. In English, the well-established patterns of suffixation (-er, -est) and the use of periphrastic constructions with "more/less" and "most/least" provide speakers with straightforward and productive means of marking adjective gradation. This system aligns with the analytical nature of the English language and allows for a relatively transparent encoding of comparative and superlative meanings. In contrast, the Uzbek language

utilizes a more complex and multi-faceted approach to adjectival gradation. The combination of suffixes, particles, periphrastic constructions, and case marking demonstrates the language's agglutinative morphology and its reliance on grammatical case to convey semantic and pragmatic nuances. The availability of alternative comparative structures in Uzbek further highlights the diversity of grammatical resources employed to express degrees of adjectives. The findings of this study contribute to the understanding of cross-linguistic variations in the expression of adjectival gradation. The comparative analysis sheds light on the language-specific strategies and the underlying principles that govern the morphosyntactic encoding of comparative and superlative meanings in English and Uzbek.

These insights have implications for various fields, including language typology, second language acquisition, and translation studies. By recognizing the similarities and differences in how these two languages handle adjective degrees, researchers and practitioners can better navigate the challenges and opportunities that arise in cross-linguistic communication, language learning, and translation processes involving English and Uzbek. Overall, the study of adjective degree in English and Uzbek language grammar highlights the rich diversity of linguistic resources available for expressing subtle nuances of quality and quantity, while also underscoring the need for a deeper understanding of the interplay between universal grammatical principles and language-specific structural preferences.

REFERENCES

1. Comrie, B. (1976). *Aspect: An Introduction to the Study of Verbal Aspect and Related Problems*. Cambridge University Press.
2. Johanson, L. (1998). The structure of Turkic. In L. Johanson & É. Á. Csató (Eds.), *The Turkic Languages* (pp. 30-66). Routledge.
3. Korkmaz, Z. (2003). *Türkiye Türkçesi Grameri (Şekil Bilgisi)* [Grammar of Turkish (Morphology)]. Türk Dil Kurumu Yayınları.
4. Quirk, R., Greenbaum, S., Leech, G., & Svartvik, J. (1985). *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. Longman.
5. Usmanov, A. (1966). *Ўзбек тили морфологияси* [Uzbek Language Morphology]. O'qituvchi.