

THE TYPOLOGICAL FEATURES OF THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK VERBS

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Abstract: *This article provides a comprehensive comparative analysis of the typological features of English and Uzbek verbs. It explores morphological, syntactic, and semantic differences and similarities between the two languages. Particular attention is paid to tense, aspect, mood, voice, and transitivity. The study aims to reveal the implications of these typological distinctions for language teaching, translation, and linguistic theory.*

Key words: *tense, aspect, mood, voice, nucleus, morphology, verbs, language.*

Verbs are central to the grammatical and semantic structure of a sentence. They denote actions, states, or occurrences and function as the nucleus around which sentence elements revolve. English, a Germanic language of the Indo-European family, and Uzbek, a member of the Turkic language family, exhibit distinct typological characteristics due to their genealogical divergence. Despite this, both languages share universal linguistic functions of verbs. This paper aims to examine the morphological, syntactic, and functional features of verbs in both languages to highlight their typological patterns and teaching implications.

English verbs display relatively simple inflectional morphology. The majority of verbs take a limited set of inflections: -s for the third person singular present tense (walks), -ed for the past tense (walked), and -ing for the present participle (walking). Irregular verbs deviate from this pattern but are limited in number. English depends heavily on auxiliary verbs (do, have, will, etc.) to express tense, negation, and interrogative forms.

Uzbek verbs, by contrast, follow an agglutinative pattern where multiple suffixes are attached to a verb root to indicate tense, aspect, negation, person, number, and mood. For example, yurmayapman (I am not walking) combines the root yur- (walk), the negation marker -ma-, the progressive aspect -yap-, and the first-person singular suffix -man. This morphological transparency allows for a more systematic verb conjugation compared to English.

English verbs distinguish between various tenses and aspects through periphrastic constructions involving auxiliary verbs. The basic tense categories include present, past, and future, and each can be modified by aspectual forms such as simple, continuous (progressive), perfect, and perfect continuous (e.g., have been walking).

Uzbek verbs also express tense and aspect, although the aspectual distinctions are less grammaticalized. Tense is marked through suffixes: -di (past), -moqda (present continuous), -ar (habitual present/future). Aspectual differences, such as completion or continuation, are often indicated contextually or by using auxiliary verbs (e.g., yurib turibdi - "he is in the process of walking repeatedly").

English expresses modality through modal verbs (can, must, may, should), which precede the base form of the verb and modify its meaning to express ability, obligation,

permission, or probability. Additionally, mood distinctions such as indicative, imperative, and subjunctive exist, though the subjunctive is rare and often identical in form to the base verb.

Uzbek indicates modality both lexically and morphologically. Modal verbs like *kerak* (necessary), *mumkin* (possible), and *shart* (mandatory) combine with the verb in infinitive form. Moreover, the language marks imperative, conditional, and optative moods using suffixes like *-sin*, *-sa*, and *-yliq*, respectively. For instance, *boraqolsin* (let him go) includes the optative suffix *-sin*.

Voice refers to the relationship between the action expressed by the verb and its participants. English marks the passive voice with the auxiliary *be* plus the past participle (The book was written). Uzbek forms the passive voice using suffixes like *-in*, *-il*, or *-l* (e.g., *yozilgan* – "written").

In addition to active and passive voices, Uzbek has a rich system of causative and reflexive voices. Causation is marked with suffixes such as *-tir* and *-dir*, transforming a verb like *ochmoq* (to open) into *ochtir* (to cause to open). Reflexive verbs are formed using *-in* or *-n*, as in *yuvinmoq* (to wash oneself).

English follows a rigid Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) word order due to its limited inflectional morphology. This fixed structure aids in maintaining clarity in sentence roles. Auxiliary verbs and word order changes are used to form questions and negative constructions (e.g., Do you like it?).

Uzbek, on the other hand, uses a Subject-Object-Verb (SOV) order, and its case system allows for relatively free word order. Grammatical relations are marked by suffixes attached to nouns, making word order more flexible and often pragmatically driven. The verb typically concludes the sentence, especially in formal writing.

In both English and Uzbek, verbs can be transitive, intransitive, or ditransitive. English uses verb complementation patterns (e.g., She gave him a book) to distinguish these types. Uzbek similarly differentiates verb types, but transitivity can also be modified morphologically. For example, the suffix *-tir* can make an intransitive verb transitive: *o'tir* (sit) → *o'tir-tir* (seat someone).

Understanding the typological differences between English and Uzbek verbs is essential for second language acquisition, particularly in translation, curriculum design, and grammar instruction. Uzbek learners of English often face challenges with tense-aspect combinations and auxiliary usage, while English learners of Uzbek must master complex suffixation patterns and morphological nuances.

English and Uzbek verbs, though performing similar grammatical functions, reflect their respective language families through divergent morphological and syntactic structures. English relies on auxiliary verbs and a rigid syntax, while Uzbek uses agglutinative morphology and flexible word order. A comparative understanding of these typological features enhances bilingual competence, supports linguistic theory, and provides insights for more effective teaching methodologies.

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