



COMPARATIVE AND CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13767369>

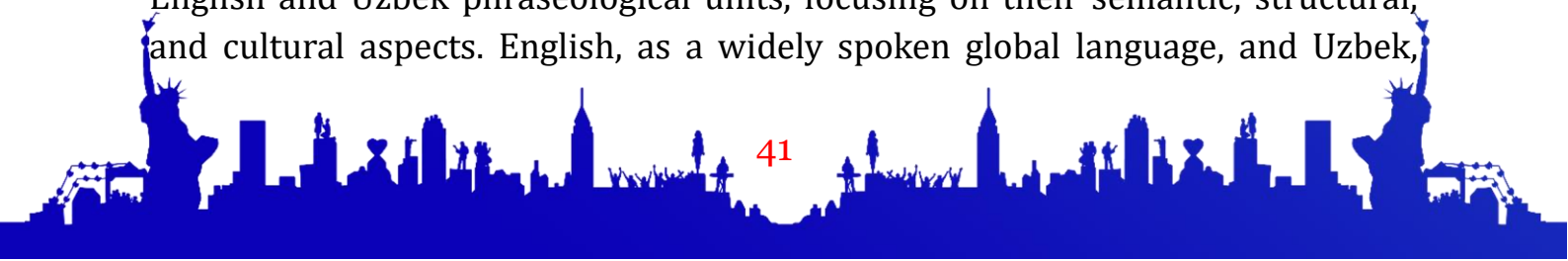
Annotation. This paper presents a comparative and contrastive analysis of English phraseological units (PUs) and their equivalents in Uzbek, exploring the linguistic, cultural, and structural similarities and differences between the two languages. The study highlights how phraseological units, such as idioms and proverbs, are used to convey meanings that are deeply embedded in the cultural and historical contexts of each language. Through the analysis of semantic equivalence, structural variation, and cultural specificity, the paper demonstrates that while some PUs in English and Uzbek share common meanings and universal themes, many are shaped by distinct cultural values and experiences.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada ingliz tilidagi frazeologik birliklar va ularning o'zbek tilidagi ekvivalentlarining qiyosiy tahlili berilgan, ikki til o'rtasidagi lingvistik, madaniy va tarkibiy o'xshashlik va farqlar o'rganilgan. Tadqiqotda har bir tilning madaniy-tarixiy kontekstida chuqur singib ketgan ma'nolarni ifodalash uchun idioma va maqol kabi frazeologik birliklar qanday qo'llanishi ko'rsatilgan. Maqola semantik ekvivalentlik, strukturaviy o'zgaruvchanlik va madaniy o'ziga xoslikni tahlil qilish orqali ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi ba'zi frazeologik birliklar umumiy ma'noga ega bo'lsa-da, aksariyati o'ziga xos madaniy qadriyatlar va tajribalar asosida shakllantirilishini ko'rsatadi.

Keywords. Phraseological units (PUs), fixed expressions, grammatical patterns, syntactical flexibility, figurative metaphors

Introduction

Phraseological units (PUs), commonly referred to as idioms, proverbs, and fixed expressions, form an integral part of any language, encapsulating cultural wisdom, historical experiences, and social values. In the study of phraseology, a comparative and contrastive analysis of PUs between different languages reveals not only the linguistic structures but also the cultural peculiarities embedded within them. This paper aims to explore the similarities and differences between English and Uzbek phraseological units, focusing on their semantic, structural, and cultural aspects. English, as a widely spoken global language, and Uzbek,





deeply rooted in Central Asian traditions, present unique challenges and insights when analyzed together. By examining equivalent or near-equivalent PUs in both languages, we can uncover how cultural contexts, historical influences, and linguistic patterns shape the usage and meaning of these expressions. Through this analysis, we will gain a better understanding of the shared human experiences that transcend language, as well as the distinct cultural values that define each linguistic community.

The research reveals that, although the languages differ in their syntactical and metaphorical constructions, they both utilize phraseology to express shared human concerns such as morality, wisdom, and social values. The study ultimately underscores the importance of understanding phraseological units within their cultural frameworks and how this can enhance cross-linguistic communication and translation efforts.

Literature analysis and methodology.

A comparative and contrastive analysis of phraseological units (PUs) in English and Uzbek helps reveal both the similarities and differences in how fixed expressions, idioms, and sayings function in these two languages. Here's an outline of the key aspects for comparison and contrast:

1. Definition of Phraseological Units

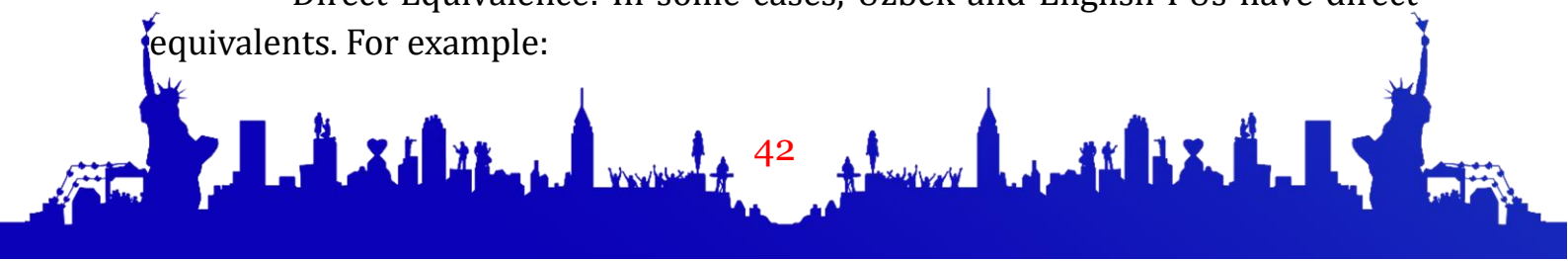
- English Phraseological Units (PUs): These are fixed expressions whose meanings cannot be deduced from the meanings of the individual words. Idioms, proverbs, and collocations fall into this category (e.g., "kick the bucket" for dying).
- Uzbek Phraseological Units: Similarly, Uzbek PUs are stable word combinations whose meaning is not directly inferable from the words used. Uzbek has a rich variety of idioms (*maqollar* and *topishmoqlar*) embedded in cultural and historical contexts.

2. Cultural and Historical Influence

- English PUs: Many English idioms and proverbs are influenced by Western history, literature, religion (Christianity), and everyday experiences. For example, "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" reflects hunting traditions.
- Uzbek PUs: Uzbek phraseology is deeply influenced by Eastern traditions, Islamic culture, and pastoral nomadic life. Phrases often carry agricultural, familial, and moral meanings. For instance, "*tilloga teng vaqt*" ("time is equal to gold") emphasizes the importance of time in a predominantly agrarian society.

3. Lexical Equivalence

- Direct Equivalence: In some cases, Uzbek and English PUs have direct equivalents. For example:





- English: "Actions speak louder than words."

- Uzbek: "Ish so'zdan kuchliroq."

Both expressions convey that deeds are more important than words.

- Partial Equivalence: Some phraseological units are only partially equivalent. They may have similar meanings but differ in metaphor or cultural references. For instance:

- English: "To cry over spilled milk."

- Uzbek: "O'tgan ishga salavot."

Both mean that one should not lament over something that cannot be changed, but the Uzbek version carries a religious connotation (a prayer for past events).

4. *Non-equivalence*

- Unique Expressions: Some phraseological units in each language do not have direct counterparts in the other due to cultural differences. For example:

- English: "Break the ice" (to initiate conversation in an awkward situation).

- Uzbek: No direct equivalent phrase, though similar phrases like "suhbatni boshlash" (start the conversation) exist.

- Culturally-Specific Units: Some Uzbek PUs reflect deep-rooted traditions or historical experiences. For instance:

- Uzbek: "Eshakdan tushganda ot eshak bo'lib ko'rinadi." (After getting off the donkey, the donkey looks like a horse). This idiom reflects modest expectations after a difficult situation, which has no direct English equivalent.

5. *Grammatical Structure*

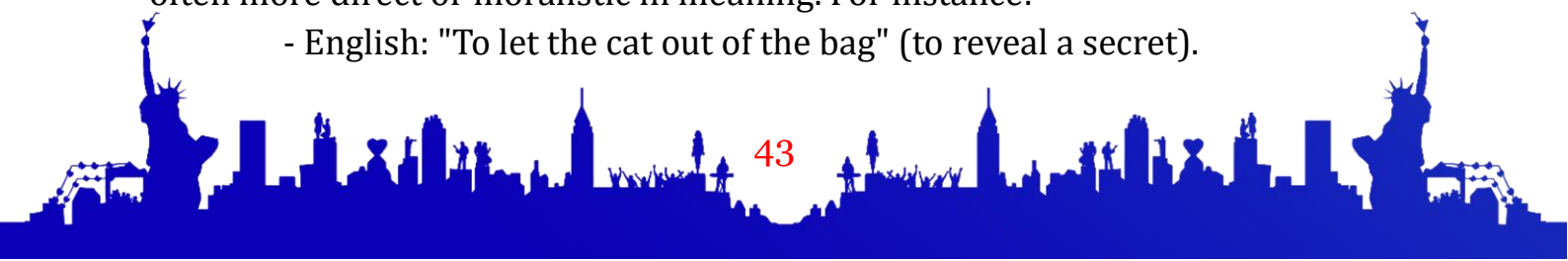
- English PUs: English phraseological units often follow specific grammatical patterns, such as verb phrases (e.g., "to turn a blind eye"), noun phrases (e.g., "a piece of cake"), or prepositional phrases (e.g., "under the weather").

- Uzbek PUs: Uzbek phraseology also includes various structures but sometimes shows more syntactical flexibility. For example, verbs in Uzbek PUs often appear in a broader variety of forms and can be modified to fit tense and person, unlike their English counterparts.

6. *Semantic Differences*

- Literal vs. Figurative: Both languages use figurative meanings in PUs. However, English tends to rely on more figurative metaphors, while Uzbek PUs are often more direct or moralistic in meaning. For instance:

- English: "To let the cat out of the bag" (to reveal a secret).





- Uzbek: "Sir oshkor bo'ldi" (the secret has been revealed), which is more literal.

7. Animal Metaphors

- English: Animal metaphors are common in English idioms, often with universal meanings, such as "the early bird catches the worm" (early initiative leads to success).

- Uzbek: Uzbek also uses animal metaphors, but they may reflect different cultural values. For instance, "Yo'lbars bilan sherning farqi yo'q" (there's no difference between a tiger and a lion) speaks to equality between strong entities.

8. Proverbs and Sayings

- English Proverbs: English proverbs often serve moral, practical, or philosophical purposes, reflecting Western life's focus on individualism, success, and pragmatism. For example, "Time is money" stresses efficiency.

- Uzbek Proverbs: Uzbek proverbs often carry messages about collective values, patience, and respect for elders, given the communal nature of Uzbek culture. For example, "Katta joyning ketidan kichik joy topiladi" (following a big place, a smaller one is found) emphasizes patience and accepting one's position in society.

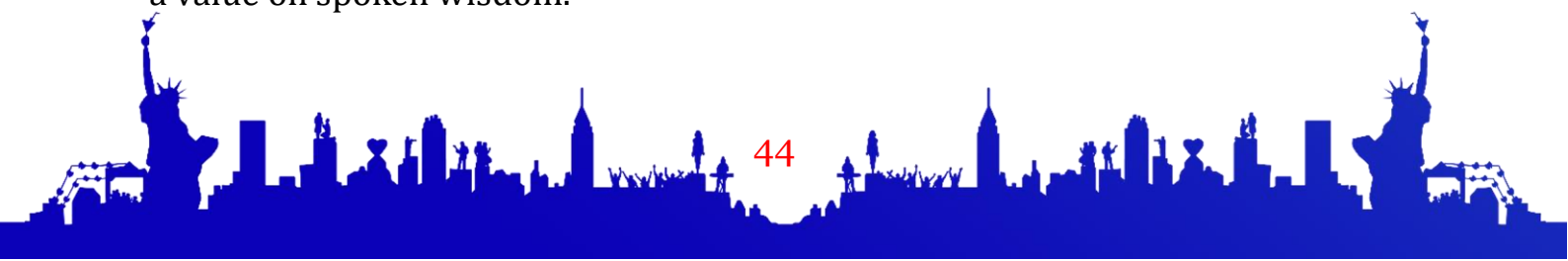
Discussion and results.

The semantic differences between phraseological units in Uzbek and English languages are influenced by culture, history, geography, and worldview. Many idioms in English have origins in Western culture, often reflecting historical events, literary sources (like Shakespeare), or specific elements of British and American life. For example, the idiom "the ball is in your court" comes from sports, specifically tennis, and implies that someone is responsible for the next action.

Uzbek idioms often reflect Central Asian traditions, agriculture, or nomadic life. For example, "Qo'y qo'ra bitta — bozor ko'p" (The sheep pen is one, but markets are many) reflects the importance of trade and livestock in traditional Uzbek life.

Many English idioms use objects or scenarios common in European and American life, such as maritime terms ("smooth sailing" means an easy situation) or industrial imagery.

Uzbek idioms might rely more on agricultural and natural imagery. For instance, "Til bilan yutish, qo'l bilan emas" (Winning with the tongue, not with the hand) emphasizes verbal negotiation or diplomacy over physical action, reflecting a value on spoken wisdom.





English idioms and proverbs often emphasize individualism or personal responsibility. An example is “Every man for himself,” which highlights the importance of self-reliance.

In contrast, Uzbek phraseology frequently emphasizes collective values and community. The proverb “Birlikda kuch bor” (There is strength in unity) illustrates the importance of cooperation and communal strength in Uzbek culture.

English idioms are influenced by Christian values. For example, “Turn the other cheek” comes from the Bible and means to respond to aggression with calmness or forgiveness.

Uzbek phraseology is often shaped by Islamic values. A phrase like “Halollik — yuksaklikka yetkazadi” (Honesty leads to greatness) reflects the deep importance of honesty, a core value in Islamic teaching.

Due to global influence, English absorbs idioms from other languages and cultures, especially as a result of colonialism and international trade. For instance, “Carpe diem” (Latin for “seize the day”) is commonly used in English.

While Uzbek phraseological units are deeply tied to its own culture, the language has also borrowed some Russian idioms due to the Soviet era. For instance, some phrases used in informal speech might have a Russian base but are now adapted to Uzbek.

English idioms often have a more compact or metaphorical structure. For instance, “spill the beans” (reveal a secret) uses simple imagery to convey a deeper meaning.

Uzbek phraseological units can be longer or more descriptive. For example, “Ko'p bilganlar ko'proq anglaydi” (Those who know more understand more) is straightforward but carries deep wisdom about the value of knowledge.

English idioms can be quite humorous or sarcastic. “Break a leg” (good luck) is an example of this type of playful idiom.

Uzbek idioms are often more serious and value-laden. They carry a tone of respect and reflection. An example is “Oltin so'z — og'ir tosh” (A golden word is a heavy stone), emphasizing the weight and value of wise speech.

Conclusion

The comparative and contrastive analysis of English and Uzbek phraseological units reveals both linguistic diversity and cultural nuance. While some expressions share common meanings, reflecting universal human experiences, many others reflect the distinct values, histories, and ways of life of English-speaking and Uzbek-speaking cultures. The analysis highlights the richness of





phraseological units in both languages, illustrating how cultural context shapes language.

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