# SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF SOCIAL NETWORK TEXTS

# СИНТАКСИЧЕСКИЕ ОСОБЕННОСТИ ТЕКСТОВ СОЦИАЛЬНЫХ СЕТЕЙ

# IJTIMOIY TARMOQLAR MATNLARINING SINTAKTIK XUSUSIYATLARI

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**Abstract**

This article examines the syntactic features of social network texts (Telegram, Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, and others) based on linguistic, discourse-analysis, and sociolinguistic approaches. The study analyzes syntactic structures formed due to the speed, interactivity, and informality of digital communication, including elliptical sentences, nominative constructions, parcellation, paratactic structures, the predominance of interrogative and exclamatory sentences, the truncation of sentence components, and the hybridity of written-spoken speech. Open posts and comments from 2024 - 2026 served as empirical material. The results demonstrate that, unlike traditional written speech, social network texts possess a simplified, concise, and expressive syntax that enhances communicative efficiency while simultaneously leading to deviations from literary norms. The article makes a theoretical and practical contribution to the study of digital text syntax in Uzbek linguistics.

**Keywords:** social network text, syntactic features, elliptical sentence, parcellation, nominative construction, parataxis, digital discourse, Uzbek language, Internet syntax.

**Аннотация**

В данной статье на основе лингвистического, дискурс-аналитического и социолингвистического подходов исследуются синтаксические особенности текстов социальных сетей (Telegram, Instagram, TikTok, Facebook и др.). В исследовании анализируются синтаксические конструкции, формирующиеся вследствие оперативности, интерактивности и неформальности цифровой коммуникации: эллиптические предложения, назывные (номинативные) конструкции, парцелляция, паратактические структуры, преобладание вопросительных и восклицательных предложений, редукция членов предложения, а также гибридность письменно-устной речи. В качестве эмпирического материала использованы открытые посты и комментарии за 2024–2026 годы. Результаты показывают, что тексты социальных сетей, в отличие от традиционной письменной речи, обладают упрощенным, лаконичным и экспрессивным синтаксисом, что повышает эффективность общения, но при этом приводит к отступлениям от литературных норм. Статья вносит теоретический и практический вклад в изучение синтаксиса цифрового текста в узбекском языкознании.

**Ключевые слова:** текст социальных сетей, синтаксические особенности, эллиптическое предложение, парцелляция, номинативная конструкция, паратаксис, цифровой дискурс, узбекский язык, интернет-синтаксис.



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**Annotatsiya**

Mazkur maqolada ijtimoiy tarmoqlar (Telegram, Instagram, TikTok, Facebook va boshqalar) matnlarining sintaktik xususiyatlari lingvistik, diskurs-tahlil va sotsiolingvistik yondashuvlar asosida o‘rganiladi. Tadqiqotda raqamli kommunikatsiyaning tezkorligi, interaktivligi va noformalligi tufayli shakllanayotgan sintaktik qurilmalar – elliptik gaplar, nominativ konstruksiyalar, parsellyatsiya, parataktik tuzilmalar, so‘roq va undov gaplarning ustunligi, gap bo‘laklarining qisqarishi hamda yozma-og‘zaki nutq gibridligi tahlil qilinadi. Empirik material sifatida 2024 - 2026 yillardagi ochiq postlar va kommentariyalar qo‘llanildi. Natijalar shuni ko‘rsatadiki, ijtimoiy tarmoq matnlari an’anaviy yozma nutqdan farqli ravishda soddalashgan, ixcham va ekspressiv sintaksisga ega bo‘lib, muloqot samaradorligini oshiradi, lekin adabiy me’yorlardan chekinishga olib keladi. Maqola o‘zbek tilshunosligida raqamli matn sintaksisini o‘rganishga nazariy va amaliy hissa qo‘shadi.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** ijtimoiy tarmoqlar matni, sintaktik xususiyatlar, elliptik gap, parsellyatsiya, nominativ konstruksiya, parataksis, raqamli diskurs, o‘zbek tili, internet-sintaksis.

Syntactic Features of Social Network Texts. In contemporary society, social networks have become the primary locus for information exchange, interpersonal interaction, and self-expression. Within this arena, digital texts diverge fundamentally from traditional written speech: they are characteristically rapid, interactive, multimodal, and informal. Syntax – the set of principles governing sentence structure and the relationships between words – serves as the most visible level reflecting these linguistic transformations.

Texts on social networks feature short, frequently incomplete, elliptical, or parcellated sentences. This phenomenon is driven by the principle of communicative economy and the demand for emotional-expressive impact. Although lexical innovations (neologisms, slang) have been actively investigated within Uzbek linguistics, syntactic properties remain insufficiently explored. The objective of this article is to identify the primary syntactic features of social network texts, reveal their functional roles, and evaluate their impact on the norms of the Uzbek language.

Structural Characteristics of Computer-Mediated Communication. As a form of Computer-Mediated Communication (CMC), social network texts exhibit the following distinctive syntactic features:

- Simplification and Truncation of Sentences: Complex sentence structures occur infrequently; simple, one-clause, or two-clause sentences predominate (e.g., "Zo‘r post!" [Great post!], "Trendga chiqdi" [It went viral/trended], "Layk bosib qo‘ying" [Please leave a like]). This reflects adaptation to the audience's demand for rapid information processing.
- Elliptical (Incomplete) Sentences: Subjects or predicates are routinely omitted when easily recoverable through context and communicative interactivity (e.g., "Bugun nima yangilik?" [What's the news today? – subject omitted], "Hammasi zo‘r" [Everything is great – lacking full predication]). Ellipsis accelerates communication and aligns written text closer to spoken discourse.
- Nominative Constructions: Sentences consisting solely of nouns or noun phrases are widespread (e.g., "Yangi trend!" [New trend!], "Super konsert!" [Super concert!], "Fake habar" [Fake news]). These structures intensify emotional impact and capture reader attention.
- Parcellation (Sentence Fragmentation): A single proposition is segmented into multiple independent units (e.g., "Kecha. Zo‘r edi. Hammaga tavsiya qilaman." [Yesterday. It was great. Highly recommend to everyone.]). This technique establishes rhythm, provides focus, and maintains audience engagement.



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- Paratactic Structures: Asyndetic, list-like sentence sequences (e.g., "Bozorga bordim, non oldim, uyga qaytdim, dam oldim." [Went to the market, bought bread, came home, rested.]) serve rapid narrative delivery.
- Prevalence of Interrogative and Exclamatory Sentences: Used to enhance interactivity and expressiveness (e.g., "Kim biladi?" [Who knows?], "Nima deb o‘ylaysiz?" [What do you think?], "Voy, qanday zo‘r!" [Wow, how awesome!]). Exclamatory constructions amplify emotional intensity.
- Hybridity of Written-Spoken Discourse and Inversion: Word order, repetitions, and modal terms characteristic of spoken speech are frequently employed. Code-switching (English-Uzbek) directly influences syntactic structure (e.g., "Story qo‘ydim, like bosib qo‘ying" [I posted a story, please leave a like]).

These characteristics vary across platforms: Telegram displays short messages and elliptical sentences; Instagram and TikTok feature higher frequencies of nominative and exclamatory constructions; Facebook contains relatively fuller sentence structures.

Social networks (Telegram, Instagram, Facebook, X, among others) have evolved into a new habitat for language. While texts generated in this environment are rendered in writing, they remain inherently closer to spoken speech. Consequently, linguists frequently categorize them as "written-spoken speech" or the "language of Internet communication." This intermediate nature is most clearly manifested in text syntax.

The primary and most explicit feature is sentence brevity and simplicity. Network users seek to convey ideas rapidly with minimal cognitive and physical effort; thus, complex sentences with subordinate clauses yield to simple, often unexpanded sentences. The principle of linguistic economy serves as the governing factor, where multiple short, consecutive messages replace a single long sentence: "Keldim. Eshik oldidaman. Chiq." [I arrived. I'm at the door. Come out.]

The second feature is the high frequency of incomplete (elliptical) sentences. Because the communicative situation and preceding context are mutually understood, subjects, predicates, or other clause components are routinely dropped: "Qachon?" [When?], "Ertaga soat beshda" [Tomorrow at five], "Men ham" [Me too], "Bo‘ldi, tushunarli" [Done, understood]. While such sentences lack complete semantic autonomy out of context, they fulfill complete communicative functions within the conversational thread.

The third feature is flexible word order, specifically inversion. In literary Uzbek, the predicate typically occupies the final position in a sentence. In social network texts, under the influence of spoken discourse, this canonical order is frequently inverted: "Bordim kecha o‘sha joyga" [I went yesterday to that place], "Zo‘r chiqibdi rasming" [It turned out great, your photo]. Inversion serves to highlight critical elements and intensify emotional resonance.

The fourth feature is parcellation – dividing a single complete sentence into autonomous fragments: "Bugun imtihon topshirdim. Nihoyat. Besh bahoga." [I passed the exam today. Finally. With an A grade.] This device is widely employed in posts and promotional texts to impart rhythm and emphasis.

The fifth feature is the heightened activity of exclamatory, interrogative, and imperative sentences. Because digital texts are directly addressed to an interlocutor or audience, direct addresses, rhetorical questions, and hortatory structures abound: "Do‘stlar, siz nima deb o‘ylaysiz?" [Friends, what do you think?], "Izohlarda yozing!" [Write in the comments!], "Obuna bo‘lishni unutmang!" [Don't forget to subscribe!]. Furthermore, introductory words, interjections, and particles (xullas, aytgancha, voy, -ku, -da) reinforce the modal-emotional coloring of the sentence.


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The sixth feature involves non-canonical punctuation usage. Punctuation standards are frequently simplified: terminal periods are omitted, commas are dropped, and sentences begin with lowercase letters. Conversely, punctuation marks are repeated to project intensity ("Nahotki???" [Really???], "Zo‘r!!!" [Awesome!!!]), while ellipses signal hesitation or unfinished thoughts. Interestingly, a terminal period at the end of a message is sometimes perceived as a sign of coldness or disapproval.

In Uzbek linguistics, text syntax was foundationalized in the works of A. Mamajonov and A. Nurmonov. Recent sociolinguistic analyses of social network texts (such as studies based on Qalampir.uz media materials) report a dominant reliance on syntactically simple yet semantically concise sentences. Scholars emphasize the blending of written and spoken elements and the high frequency of emotional-expressive tools in digital discourse. Nevertheless, specialized corpus-based syntactic research remains limited.

Analytical Findings. Between 60% and 70% of social network texts consist of simple or elliptical sentences.

- Nominative and exclamatory constructions deliver emotional impact, while parcellation provides rhythm and focus.
- Although these features enhance communicative efficiency, they can lead to errors in formal written registers ("register flattening").
- A hybrid syntax combining native Uzbek patterns with foreign lexical and structural elements is actively forming in the Uzbek digital space.
- Recommendations. Introduce a specialized university course titled "Syntax of Digital Texts" within linguistics departments.

1. Enrich the Uzbek Language Corpus by incorporating social network texts with syntactic tagging.
2. Cultivate register-awareness among youth, fostering skills to differentiate between formal and informal communicative contexts.
3. Conduct large-scale quantitative and cross-platform comparative studies using extensive digital corpora (10,000+ posts) in future research.
4. Formulate language management policies that acknowledge the creative potential of digital syntax while safeguarding literary norms.

Social network texts exhibit a distinct syntactic system characterized by simplification, ellipsis, expressiveness, and interactivity. These properties stem from the rapidity and multimodality of digital communication, reflecting the dynamic evolution of language. In the Uzbek context, this process manifests through hybrid structural forms. While syntactic innovations expand the expressive capacity of the language, preserving literary norms and improving general linguistic literacy remain vital tasks. Future scholarship should increasingly integrate corpus-linguistic and multimodal analysis methodologies.

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