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# THE USE OF NEOLOGISMS IN SPEECH IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH

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**Annotatsiya:** Maqolada o‘zbek va ingliz tillarida neologizmlarning nutqda qo‘llanilishi qiyosiy aspektda tahlil qilinadi. Neologizmlarning turlari, hosil bo‘lish yo‘llari, nutqda qo‘llanish xususiyatlari va tarjima usullari misollar asosida yoritilgan.
**Аннотация:** В статье в сопоставительном аспекте анализируется употребление неологизмов в речи на узбекском и английском языках. На примерах рассматриваются виды неологизмов, способы их образования, особенности употребления в речи и приёмы перевода.
**Annotation:** The article analyses the use of neologisms in speech in Uzbek and English from a comparative perspective. The types of neologisms, the ways they are formed, the features of their use in speech and the methods of translating them are examined on the basis of examples.
**Kalit so‘zlar:** neologizm, yangi so‘z, okkazionalizm, kalka, o‘zlashma, nutq.
**Ключевые слова:** неологизм, окказионализм, калька, заимствование, речь, словообразование.
**Key words:** neologism, nonce word, calque, borrowing, word formation, speech.

Language is a living system that constantly responds to changes in society, science, technology and culture. One of the clearest signs of this responsiveness is the appearance of neologisms, that is, new words, new meanings or new expressions that name new phenomena or give familiar ones a new form [1; 2]. In recent decades the spread of the internet, social media and digital technologies has accelerated this process in all languages. A comparison of neologisms in Uzbek, an agglutinative Turkic language, and English, an analytic Germanic language, shows how languages with different structures respond to the same communicative needs.

The term neologism comes from the Greek neos (“new”) and logos (“word”). Researchers usually distinguish lexical neologisms (new words), semantic neologisms (existing words with a new meaning) and phraseological neologisms (new set expressions) [2; 3]. A separate group consists of occasional words, or nonce words, which a speaker or writer creates for a particular context and which often never enter the general vocabulary [2]. In this article, the main attention is paid to lexical and semantic neologisms, since they are the ones that most often occur in everyday speech.

English forms new words mainly by affixation, compounding, conversion, blending, clipping and acronymy [3; 4]. Because English words are short and the language is analytic, compounding, blending and conversion are especially productive:

Blending: brunch (breakfast + lunch), smog (smoke + fog), Brexit (Britain + exit), infodemic (information + epidemic);

Clipping and blending: vlog (video + blog), webinar (web + seminar);

Conversion: to google, to text, to friend;

Prefixation: unfriend, e-commerce, e-government;

Acronymy: FOMO (fear of missing out);

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Semantic shift: mouse, cloud, tweet, viral.

Not every new word survives. Allan Metcalf proposed that the success of a neologism depends on its frequency of use, its unobtrusiveness, the diversity of its users and situations, its ability to generate other forms and meanings, and the endurance of the concept it names [5]. Many neologisms remain nonce words. This is especially typical of literary speech. For example, Lewis Carroll's "Jabberwocky" (1871) contains blends such as chortle (chuckle + snort) and galumph (gallop + triumph); the first has become a regular word of English, and the second is also recorded in dictionaries [6].

In speech, neologisms perform several functions. The first is nominative: they name new objects and concepts. The second is economy: a short new word can replace a long description (selfie, vlog). The third is expressive and stylistic: neologisms make speech lively and original, especially in the language of the media, advertising and young people. Finally, they can express group identity. English vocabulary has always been open to borrowing and creation of new words [7], and the process is now documented every year, when Oxford Languages announces its Word of the Year; for example, selfie (2013), vape (2014) and post-truth (2016) were chosen in this way [8].

In Uzbek, the main period of intensive appearance of neologisms began after independence in 1991, when new social, economic and political realities required new terms, and it received a new impulse with the digitalisation of recent years. Uzbek neologisms are created in four main ways. The first is derivation with suffixes, which is especially productive in an agglutinative language. The second is the formation of word combinations and calques. The third is the semantic extension of existing words. The fourth is borrowing:

Derivation: foydalanuvchi ("user"), tadbirkor ("entrepreneur"), xususiylashtirish ("privatisation");

Word combinations and calques: ijtimoiy tarmoq ("social network"), sun'iy intellekt ("artificial intelligence"), elektron hukumat ("e-government"), raqamli iqtisodiyot ("digital economy"), yagona darcha ("single window");

Semantic extension: tarmoq ("branch, sector" → "network"), ilova ("appendix, supplement" → "application"), sichqoncha ("little mouse" → "computer mouse");

Borrowing: selfi, blogger, startap, onlayn, kontent.

In colloquial Uzbek speech, especially on social networks, new expressions are formed by combining a foreign element with a native verb or by a descriptive compound verb: layk bosmoq ("to like"), obuna bo'lmoq ("to subscribe"), yuklab olmoq ("to download"). Such units are created quickly, spread through messengers and social media, and some of them are later accepted into the standard language.

A comparison shows that the typological features of the two languages influence the way neologisms are created. English relies on compounding, blending, conversion and clipping, which are possible because of its analytic structure and short roots. Uzbek, in contrast, makes wide use of suffixation and of multi-word terms, as well as calques. A second difference concerns the direction of influence. English is the source of a large share of new international vocabulary in information technology, economics and culture, and Uzbek, like many other languages, often receives these words through borrowing or calquing. Thus the English prefix e- corresponds to the Uzbek adjective elektron in elektron hukumat (e-government) and elektron pochta (e-mail).

When translating English neologisms into Uzbek, translators use transliteration, calque or a descriptive equivalent:

Selfie – selfi (transliteration);

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Social network – ijtimoiy tarmoq (calque);
Search engine – qidiruv tizimi (calque);
User – foydalanuvchi (derivation);
Download – yuklab olmoq (compound verb);
E-government – elektron hukumat (calque).

The choice between these methods depends on the register of the text and the audience: transliteration is quick but may be unclear to some readers, while a calque is more transparent but requires time to become established. For this reason an uncontrolled use of unassimilated foreign words in Uzbek speech, as well as the existence of several competing variants of one term, remains a problem. Checking whether a new word has already been codified in dictionaries, for example, in the explanatory dictionary of the Uzbek language [9], and unifying the terminology are therefore important tasks of language planning.

In conclusion, neologisms in Uzbek and English reflect the same need to name new realities, but the ways in which they are created and spread differ. English relies mostly on compounding, blending, conversion and clipping, whereas Uzbek relies on suffixation, word combinations, calques and borrowing. In speech, neologisms perform nominative, economical and expressive functions, and only part of them becomes established in the language. A comparative study of neologisms is useful for lexicology, translation studies, lexicography and language teaching.

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