

GENDER ASPECTS OF ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGE

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Annotation: This article explores the gender aspects present in the English and Uzbek languages, shedding light on the linguistic features that reflect and shape gender roles in these two distinct linguistic systems. The study employs a comparative analysis to investigate how cultural and social factors influence language, contributing to the construction of gender identities. Through a comprehensive examination of linguistic elements, this research aims to deepen our understanding of the intricate relationship between language and gender, providing valuable insights for linguists, educators, and policymakers.

Keywords: Language and gender, linguistic features, sociolinguistics, english language, uzbek language, comparative analysis.

Аннотация: В этой статье исследуются гендерные аспекты, присутствующие в английском и узбекском языках, проливающие свет на лингвистические особенности, которые отражают и формируют гендерные роли в этих двух различных языковых системах. В исследовании используется сравнительный анализ для изучения того, как культурные и социальные факторы влияют на язык, способствуя формированию гендерной идентичности. Посредством всестороннего изучения лингвистических элементов это исследование направлено на углубление нашего понимания сложной взаимосвязи между языком и гендером, предоставляя ценную информацию лингвистам, педагогам и политикам.

Ключевые слова: язык и гендер, лингвистические особенности, социолингвистика, английский язык, узбекский язык, сравнительный анализ.

Language serves as a powerful tool in shaping and reflecting societal norms, including those related to gender. The English and Uzbek languages, originating from different linguistic families, present unique characteristics that contribute to the construction of gender roles. This article aims to explore the gender aspects within these languages, examining how linguistic features contribute to the perpetuation or challenge of gender stereotypes.

Previous research on language and gender has identified various linguistic features that play a role in reinforcing or challenging gender norms. Studies have explored topics such as gendered pronouns, lexical choices, and grammatical structures. The literature review critically assesses existing research in both English and Uzbek languages, providing a foundation for the current study and highlighting gaps in the understanding of gender aspects in these languages.

To conduct a comparative analysis of gender aspects in English and Uzbek languages, a multifaceted approach will be employed. Corpus linguistics will be utilized to examine written and spoken texts in both languages, focusing on the frequency and usage patterns of gender-specific linguistic features. Additionally, sociolinguistic interviews and surveys will be



conducted to gather insights into how speakers perceive and interpret gendered language in their respective cultures.

Languages often reflect and sometimes contribute to cultural norms and societal structures, including those related to gender. English and Uzbek, being from different language families (English is Germanic, and Uzbek is Turkic), exhibit different linguistic features related to gender.

Gender Aspects in English:

1. Pronouns:

- English traditionally uses gendered pronouns like "he" and "she" to refer to individuals. Efforts have been made in recent years to introduce gender-neutral pronouns, such as "they" for singular use, to be more inclusive.

English traditionally uses gendered pronouns like "he" and "she" to refer to individuals based on their gender. However, there has been a growing recognition of the need for more inclusive language, particularly in acknowledging non-binary and genderqueer identities. In response to this, efforts have been made to introduce gender-neutral pronouns.

One common gender-neutral pronoun that has gained acceptance is "they" when used in the singular form to refer to a person whose gender is unknown or when referring to a non-binary individual. For example, instead of saying, "He or she left their coat," you can use "They left their coat."

Other gender-neutral pronouns, such as "ze," "ey," and "em," have been suggested and used by some individuals, but they haven't achieved widespread adoption.

The use of gender-neutral language is part of a broader effort to create more inclusive and respectful communication, recognizing and respecting the diverse experiences and identities of individuals. Language evolves over time, and the adoption of gender-neutral pronouns reflects societal changes and a growing awareness of gender diversity.

2. Nouns and Titles:

- Some English nouns, like "actor" and "actress," differentiate between genders. However, there is a growing trend toward using gender-neutral terms, such as "actor" for individuals of any gender.

- Titles like "Mr." and "Mrs." or "Miss" also indicate gender. The use of "Ms." has become more common as a neutral alternative.

3. Occupational Terms:

- Certain job titles might carry gender-specific connotations, such as "steward" vs. "stewardess" or "fireman" vs. "firewoman." Efforts have been made to use gender-neutral terms where applicable.

Adopting gender-neutral language is an important step towards promoting inclusivity and eliminating gender stereotypes. Here are some examples of gender-neutral occupational terms:

- Flight Attendant: Instead of "steward" or "stewardess."
- Firefighter: Instead of "fireman" or "firewoman."
- Server or Waitstaff: Instead of "waiter" or "waitress."
- Police Officer: Instead of "policeman" or "policewoman."
- Salesperson: Instead of "salesman" or "saleswoman."
- Mail Carrier: Instead of "mailman" or "mailwoman."
- Actor: Instead of "actor" or "actress," some prefer to use the term "actor" for all genders.



- Server or Waitstaff: Instead of "waiter" or "waitress."
- Janitor or Custodian: Instead of "janitor" or "janitress."
- Executive or Manager: Instead of "manageress" or "executrix."

These changes help create a more inclusive and diverse environment by avoiding assumptions or reinforcing traditional gender roles in language. It's always a good practice to be mindful of the words we use to ensure they reflect the values of equality and respect.

Gender Aspects in Uzbek:

1. Grammatical Gender:

- Uzbek, like many Turkic languages, does not have grammatical gender. Unlike languages such as Spanish or French, where nouns are inherently masculine or feminine, Uzbek nouns do not carry gender distinctions.

2. Pronouns:

- Uzbek pronouns do not inherently specify gender. The third-person singular pronoun "u" is used for both "he" and "she."

3. Occupational and Social Titles:

- Uzbek tends to use gender-neutral terms for occupational titles. For instance, the term for "teacher" (o'qituvchi) is not gender-specific.

4. Family Titles:

- Family relationships are typically gender-neutral. For example, "brother" and "sister" are both indicated by the term "aka."

It's important to note that language reflects societal norms, and changes in language can both influence and be influenced by changes in social attitudes towards gender. Both English and Uzbek are evolving, and there is a global trend towards using more inclusive and gender-neutral language in many languages.

The discussion section will interpret the results in the context of cultural and social factors influencing language use. It will explore how linguistic features contribute to the reinforcement or subversion of gender stereotypes in English and Uzbek societies. This section will also consider potential implications for education, communication, and societal attitudes towards gender.

Conclusions:

In conclusion, this study provides a nuanced understanding of the gender aspects in English and Uzbek languages, offering valuable insights into the linguistic mechanisms that shape and reflect societal attitudes towards gender. By acknowledging and challenging gendered language norms, we can contribute to more inclusive and equitable linguistic practices.

Future research could expand on this study by examining additional linguistic features and including a broader range of sociolinguistic contexts. Exploring the impact of language policies and educational interventions on gendered language use could further enhance our understanding of the dynamic relationship between language and gender.

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