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EXPRESSIVE POTENTIAL OF INTERJECTIONAL WORD-SENTENCES IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract

This article is devoted to the study of the semantic-stylistic features and pragmatic functions of interjectional word-sentences in the English and Uzbek language systems. The research analyzes the expressive possibilities of interjections in speech, their role in conveying emotional states, and their communicative impact. Interjections are classified into emotional, appellative, and evaluative types, and their functional characteristics are illustrated through examples from both languages. The article also examines the use of interjections in literary, journalistic, and colloquial discourse, paying special attention to their intonational and pragmatic peculiarities. The study reveals that interjections not only serve as emotional markers but also reflect national-cultural mentality and communicative traditions.

Keywords: interjections, Uzbek language, English language, emotionality, expressiveness, pragmatic function, stylistic devices, speech culture, discourse.

Introduction

Language is a cultural phenomenon closely connected with the identity and heritage of every nation. It is not merely a means of communication but also a reflection of national spirituality, worldview, and mentality. Through language people express not only information but also emotions, attitudes, and psychological states. Therefore, language serves as one of the most important tools for representing human thought and emotional experience.

Speech communication reflects not only logical meaning but also emotional coloring. In this respect, interjectional word-sentences occupy a special place in the linguistic system because they reveal the speaker's emotional condition, excitement, fear, joy, anger, surprise, or disappointment. Interjections constitute one of the most expressive layers of language and significantly enrich the emotional and stylistic potential of speech.

The communicative function of language is realized through speech acts. According to N.I. Zhinkin, "Language is created and constantly repeated in speech" (Zhinkin, 1982, p. 32). Human communication involves not only the transmission of information but also the expression of intention, evaluation, persuasion, and emotional reaction. In spoken discourse, people easily distinguish requests, commands, exclamations, or rhetorical questions due to the emotional and intonational signals embedded in speech.

Interjections represent a unique category because they usually do not participate in traditional syntactic relations but nevertheless perform important communicative and pragmatic functions. They intensify emotionality and increase the expressive effect of speech. The present article aims to analyze

the semantic, stylistic, and pragmatic features of interjections in English and Uzbek languages and to compare their expressive possibilities in different communicative contexts.

Discussion and Analysis. The effectiveness of speech largely depends on emotional influence. In oral communication, speakers choose expressive means according to the listener's psychological state, age, cultural background, and communicative situation. Emotional speech often includes pauses, incomplete constructions, and interjections that intensify meaning and attract attention. Many linguists have emphasized the significance of dialogic speech in the functioning of interjections. Russian linguist L.B. Shcherba considered dialogue as a special syntactic phenomenon distinct from monologic speech. A.A. Shakhmatov and A.M. Peshkovskiy noted that incomplete sentences are characteristic of dialogue. Uzbek linguist S. Usmonov also pointed out that emotional interjections occur more frequently in conversational discourse. Interjections are especially active in colloquial communication because they directly reflect the speaker's psychological state. A. Hazratqulov stated that emotional speech often demonstrates interruptions and incomplete structures since strong emotions interfere with logical sentence formation. In such cases, interjections become the primary means of expressing emotional experience. In Uzbek linguistics, scholars such as Sh. Rakhmatullayev, N. Mahmudov, and A. Rajabov have studied interjections from grammatical, stylistic, and psychological perspectives. Sh. Rakhmatullayev classified interjections as an independent part of speech and emphasized their expressive nature. N. Mahmudov analyzed their grammatical and stylistic functions, while A. Rajabov investigated the relationship between language and emotion. In Western linguistics, Charles Bally and Roman Jakobson highlighted the expressive function of language and considered interjections as important markers of emotional communication. Modern linguistic studies increasingly approach interjections not only as grammatical units but also as pragmatic units whose meaning depends on communicative context and speaker intentions.

Semantic Classification of Interjections. Interjections in Uzbek and English can be classified according to their semantic and functional characteristics.

1. Emotional Interjections. These interjections express feelings such as joy, fear, surprise, anger, pain, or sorrow.

Uzbek examples:

Voy!

Eh!

Dod!

Obbo!

Uh!

English examples:

Ah!

Oh!

Wow!

Alas!

Ouch!

For instance: “Ahhhhh. They felt so good.” (A. Brashares, The Second Summer of the Sisterhood) In this example, the interjection Ah expresses pleasure and satisfaction. “Ah, now I understand.” Here the interjection conveys realization and comprehension. “Ah, my dear. You’ve won!” In this sentence, the interjection expresses surprise and admiration. Interjections often change meaning depending on intonation. For example, the English interjection Ah may express fear, realization, objection, or pleasure according to pronunciation and context.

2. Appellative Interjections. These interjections are used to attract attention, call someone, or give warnings. Uzbek examples:

Hoy!

To‘xta!

Yur!

English examples:

Hey!

Look!

Hush!

Behold!

Examples:

“Hey! Nice to see you here at the party.” “Hush! She is coming.” Such interjections play an important role in establishing communication and directing the listener’s attention.

3. Evaluative Interjections. These express approval, disapproval, praise, or criticism. Uzbek examples:

Barakalla!

Ofarin!

Ajoyib!

English examples:

Bravo!

Well done!

Brilliant!

Examples:

“Well done! You win the race.”

“Bravo! The first rank is yours.”

Evaluative interjections strengthen positive or negative assessment and create emotional interaction between communicate. Interjections in English and Uzbek: Comparative Analysis. Comparative analysis demonstrates that many English and Uzbek interjections are semantically close despite cultural differences. For example:

English

Uzbek Equivalent

Meaning

Ah

Ah / Eha

Realization, understanding

Wow

Vau / Voy

Surprise, admiration

Alas

Afsus

Regret

Ouch

Voy / Ooh

Pain

Hurray

Urra

Joy, victory

Some English interjections have recently entered Uzbek youth speech without translation. For example, the interjection Wow is commonly pronounced as Vau among Uzbek speakers:

“Wow! It’s great.”

“Vau! Zo‘r-ku!”

This phenomenon reflects globalization and intercultural influence in modern communication. The English interjection huh also demonstrates multiple pragmatic meanings: “Today we are going to learn some words.”

“Huh?”

Here it expresses misunderstanding.

“Huh. That’s strange.”

In this case, it conveys mild surprise.

At the end of a sentence, huh? may function as a request for agreement:

“They did a pretty good job, huh?”

Thus, interjections are highly context-dependent and pragmatically flexible. Stylistic and Pragmatic Functions of Interjections. Interjections perform important stylistic functions in literary and publicistic texts. They intensify dramatic effect, reveal characters’ emotions, and make speech more vivid and natural. In Uzbek literary discourse, writers such as Cho‘lpon and Abdulla Qodiriy actively used interjections to portray psychological tension and emotional states. For example:

“Dod, ne qilay endi, hayotim zavol topdi!” In this sentence, the interjection Dod intensifies despair and emotional suffering. Interjections are also widely used in journalistic discourse to influence readers emotionally:

“Voy, qanday dahshatli voqea!”

“Obbo, narxlar yana oshdi!”

Such constructions increase emotional impact and attract audience attention. From a pragmatic perspective, interjections function as markers of speaker attitude rather than carriers of factual information. They communicate emotional evaluation, interpersonal relations, and communicative intentions. Interjections and Speech Etiquette. Speech etiquette formulas also contain interjectional elements expressing politeness, warmth, and emotional attitude.

Uzbek etiquette expressions:

Assalomu alaykum!

Salom!

Xush kelibsiz!

English etiquette expressions:

Hello!

Good morning!

Welcome!

Although these expressions may serve similar communicative purposes, they differ structurally and culturally according to national traditions and communicative norms. Speech etiquette develops under the influence of social environment, family upbringing, and cultural values. Therefore, interjections and etiquette formulas reflect not only linguistic but also ethnocultural peculiarities.

Conclusion

The analysis demonstrates that interjections in both English and Uzbek languages perform significant communicative, emotional, and stylistic functions. They express joy, fear, surprise, admiration, regret, hesitation, and many other emotional states. Despite universal emotional functions, interjections also reveal national-cultural worldview and mentality.

Interjections constitute one of the most expressive layers of language. Although they are not grammatically connected with other sentence elements, they considerably strengthen communicative influence and emotional coloring in speech. Their semantic flexibility, pragmatic diversity, and stylistic richness make them important objects of linguistic research.

Modern communication, especially internet discourse, advertising language, and media communication, creates new forms and functions of interjections. Therefore, further comparative and pragmatic studies of interjections remain highly relevant in contemporary linguistics.

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