

**INTERLANGUAGE VARIATION AND STRUCTURAL COMPARISONS IN  
COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS****Tasheva Nafisa Zaynitdinovna**

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**Abstract:** This research investigates the field of comparative linguistics, focusing on the structural, phonological, and semantic divergences and convergences among languages. Comparative linguistics examines historical development, typological classification, and interlanguage phenomena, enabling linguists to understand language evolution and contact. The study analyzes theoretical perspectives from renowned linguists such as Ferdinand de Saussure, Noam Chomsky, and Joseph Greenberg. Structural comparison, interlanguage mapping, and typological categorization are applied to English, Uzbek, and Russian, illustrating similarities, divergences, and mechanisms of language change. The research emphasizes reader-centered analysis, where interpretation and understanding of linguistic data contribute to broader comprehension of linguistic universals and variations.

**Keywords:** comparative linguistics, structural comparison, phonology, morphology, syntax, typology, historical linguistics, interlanguage, linguistic universals, language contact, semantic mapping, cross-linguistic analysis.

**Introduction**

Language evolves via dynamic interactions with other languages and socio-cultural contexts. Comparative linguistics systematically examines correspondences and divergences between languages to uncover historical, typological, and functional relationships. By analyzing phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic structures, comparative linguists aim to identify universal principles and mechanisms of change. Comparative studies are crucial for understanding language families, reconstructing proto-languages, and exploring interlanguage phenomena arising from bilingualism or language contact.

Ferdinand de Saussure’s structuralist theory laid the foundation for systematic language comparison, emphasizing *langue* and *parole* as analytical tools. Noam Chomsky’s generative grammar framework further contributes by identifying universal syntactic principles across languages. Joseph Greenberg’s typological approach offers cross-linguistic classification, allowing systematic comparison of structural patterns among unrelated languages. These theoretical approaches guide the present study, focusing on English, Uzbek, and Russian.

**Research Purpose**

This study aims to enhance understanding of linguistic similarities and differences across languages by examining phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic structures. The research also seeks to identify typological patterns and language universals, highlighting mechanisms of language contact, borrowing, and convergence. The comparison focuses on English (Indo-European, Germanic branch), Uzbek (Turkic family), and Russian (Indo-European, Slavic branch).

**Materials and Methods**

The methodology combines historical-comparative analysis, typological classification, and structural mapping. Primary data include written corpora, recorded spoken samples, and lexical databases of English, Uzbek, and Russian. Structural comparison evaluates phonemes, morphemes, sentence structures, and semantic roles. Typological analysis follows Greenbergian criteria: word order, morphological type, and syntactic alignment. Interlanguage mapping

examines cross-linguistic influence in bilingual speakers, emphasizing code-switching, borrowing, and calques.

### **Phonological comparison**

English exhibits a stress-timed rhythm with vowel reduction and diphthongs. Uzbek is syllable-timed, with vowel harmony influencing morpheme structure. Russian has a stress-timed rhythm similar to English, but with extensive palatalization and consonant clusters. Comparative analysis reveals:

- Consonant clusters: English permits complex onset clusters, Uzbek simplifies clusters through vowel insertion, Russian allows multiple consonant sequences.
- Vowel systems: English has 12–14 vowel phonemes with diphthongs; Uzbek has 9 vowels with systematic harmony; Russian has 5 vowel phonemes with reduction in unstressed positions.

### **Morphological and syntactic comparison**

English morphology is analytic, with limited inflection and reliance on word order. Uzbek is agglutinative, using suffixation extensively for case, tense, and mood. Russian is fusional, combining inflectional markers for gender, number, and case. Syntactic comparisons highlight:

- Word order: English follows SVO; Uzbek allows SOV with flexible order; Russian is relatively free due to inflectional marking.
- Agreement: English shows minimal agreement; Uzbek marks for person and number in verbs; Russian marks for gender, number, and case extensively.

### **Semantic and lexical comparison**

Lexical borrowing occurs frequently in all three languages due to historical and cultural contact. English borrows from French and Latin; Uzbek from Arabic, Persian, and Russian; Russian from Church Slavonic and French. Semantic shifts reveal polysemy, calques, and loanword adaptation. Interlanguage studies show bilingual Uzbek–English speakers often transfer syntactic and lexical patterns, illustrating structural convergence.

### **Discussion**

Comparative linguistics elucidates both universals and specificities in language structures. English, Uzbek, and Russian exhibit diverse typologies, reflecting different morphological, syntactic, and phonological patterns. Historical contact, migration, and bilingualism contribute to convergence, loanwords, and structural adaptation. Structural and semantic comparison informs language teaching, translation studies, and computational linguistics.

### **Conclusion**

Comparative linguistics provides a systematic framework to understand the evolution, convergence, and divergence of languages. Structural, phonological, syntactic, and semantic analysis reveals patterns that highlight universals and specificities in English, Uzbek, and Russian. Typological classification and interlanguage studies demonstrate the dynamic nature of languages in contact. This research underscores the importance of comparative approaches for both theoretical linguistics and practical applications, fostering a deeper understanding of human communication and cognition.

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