

## CONVERSION AS A TYPE OF WORD FORMATION

Nafisa Isomidinovna Sattorova

Master Student of SSIFL

fine-2014@mail.ru

### ANNOTATION

This article includes information about conversion which converts words into other parts of speech without any changes in the English and Uzbek languages and exemplifies the word formation process.

**Keywords:** zero derivation, functional shift, syntactic category, convert, productive, word formation, process

### INTRODUCTION

It is well understood that languages differ due to a system of distinctive characteristics or features. The languages of English and Uzbek are not exceptions. This article discusses word formation based on conversion in both languages.

Conversion is a type of word formation. In this way, words without any formal changes change their grammatical category and acquire new meanings (lexical and grammatical). Semantically, as a word moves to another lexical-grammatical group, it changes its meaning and syntactic function. In addition, the place of the word in the sentence and its interaction with other parts of speech changes.

It is one of the most productive type of word formation in English. This process is also called zero derivation or a functional shift. But in Uzbek this type of word formation is not productive. As due to the fact that the typological and genetic components of the English and Uzbek grammatical systems differ significantly. If English is classified as an Indo-European language, Uzbek is classified as a Turkic language [Rahimov, 2016, p. 100]. It indicates their grammatical systems are completely different. In terms of grammatical structure, English is an analytical language. As regard to the Uzbek language, it is agglutinative. So, grammatical system of any language plays a great role in its functioning.

Main part: Much has been written on the nature of conversion, a word-formation process that produces identical word pairs in various categories, such as water (n) – water (v).

Linguists have yet to come up with a definitive term for this phenomena, despite the fact that several have been proposed. The first distinction to be addressed is between those who believe conversion is a derivational process and those who argue conversion is a change in word syntactic behavior. They refer to a functional shift in the latter case, which occurs "when a (already) existing term takes on a new meaning." while preserving the same shape" [Balteiro 2007, 15]. Among the proponents of this viewpoint are Koziol, Nida, Hockett, and Spencer. The majority of them believe that the phenomena should be investigated within the purview of Syntax and that no derivational relationship is involved [Hockett 1958, 225-227]

A totally diverse approach is examined by another set of language specialists, who maintain that conversion is clearly a word-formation handle which there's a derivational relation between the two individuals included within the prepare.

Isabel Balteiro made room for a syntactic interpretation of the phenomenon by establishing, along with the contribution of other linguists, a distinction between the so-called total and partial conversion. I will illuminate the both types of conversion using the following examples: The word pair water(n) - to water(v), in which the denominal verb may take any inflectional form typical of its new category (-ed, -ing and third person singular -s).

The word kurash (n)- kurash (v) in the Uzbek language is also an example of total conversion (watered, watering – kurashdi, kurashyapti)

On the other hand, the de-adjectival noun poor, as in the poor, can only take some of the characteristics belonging to the nominal category, such as the definite article. Even so, it cannot take any inflectional suffix to create the plural (poors), which serves as evidence that the word cannot be entirely regarded as a noun. As regard to the Uzbek language. We can find plenty of examples of partial conversion in Uzbek. For instance: kasal, qari, yosh, boy the words cannot be accepted as a complete noun. In these cases, we speak of partial conversion, which, according to Balteiro, "it is often viewed as a syntactic rather than a morphological matter" For this research, we will attach to Balteiro's definition of total conversion, with the inclusion of those pairs with stress-shift –as in address (v) - address (n). But we should keep in our mind that in Uzbek the word hozir(adj)-hozir(adv) is not an example such kind of conversion. The example is considered as homonym.

Linguists are still debating which came the first: noun or verb? Linguist Barry Blake has to say about this confusion. "Almost all the examples are of shifts between noun, verb, and adjective. In some instances the direction of the shift is clear.

I can clearly say about text or e-mail that these words belong to noun originally. but they have come to be used as a verb only recently with reference to sending messages full of abbreviations by means of mobile phone.

For example: The text (n) you sent me was very long  
Please, don't text(v) me.

The conversion method is also found in Shakespeare's work. Some of his conversions seem really daring. Even the name of a person can become a verb. For example:

'Petruchio is Kated.'

But all he was doing was tapping into a natural everyday usage that is still with us. We can see this clearly in the following example:

He sits, / And useless barns the harvest of his wits. (Luc.859)

In the example Shakespeare uses the noun 'barn' as a verb. As expected, this conversion gives rise to new meanings. The word 'barn' literally means a place where animals, harvest and old things can be kept, but in this poem it means 'store up in a barn' or 'gather in'

Conversion in Uzbek literature is found in Mahmud Kashgari's "Devoni lugati turk" for instance:

Kichikda qatıg`lansa, ulg`azu sevnur.

The word "kichik" in this example has been moved from the adjective to the noun by means of the conversion method and means youth.

## CONCLUSION

Conversion is a very common process of word-formation in English. It is the derivational process whereby an item changes its word-class without the addition of any affix. It is done by converting a lexeme belonging to one class to another, without any overt change in shape. However, it is not easy to determine the original and the converted word in a pair of words that are exactly the same in spelling. There are some elements that are to be considered: the semantic dependence, the range of usage, the semantic range, and also the phonetic shape. Conversion almost always involves open-class vocabulary, especially noun, verb, and adjective. The converted words produced by this process are also in these three classes. The original words, compared to the converted ones, usually have broader range of meaning and usage

## REFERENCES

1. Aitchison, Jean. "Language Change: Progress or Decay?" Cambridge University Press, 1991.
2. Bauer, Laurie, and Salvador Valera Hernandez. "Conversion or Zero-Derivation: An Introduction." *Approaches to Conversion/Zero-Derivation* Waxmann Verlag, 2005.
3. Baayen, Harald. 1993. "On Frequency, Transparency and Productivity." In *Yearbook of Morphology*. Edited by Geert Booij and Jaap van Marle, 181-208.
4. Balteiro, Isabel. "On the Status of Conversion in Present-Day American English: Controversial Issues and Corpus-Based Study." *Atlantis* 23 2: 7-29. 2007. "Lexical
5. Hockett, Charles Francis "Frequency in morphology: Is everything relative?" *Linguistics*, 1041-1070. 1958.
6. Sarab kadir mugair "A stylistic study of conversion in William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar and the rape of Lucrece" 18; 2015
7. Crystal, David. *The Story of English in 100 Words*. St. Martin's Press, 2012.
8. Graham, Lindsey. "Face the Nation." CBS Broadcasting. 9 Aug. 2009.
9. Sayers, Dorothy L. *The Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club*. Ernest Benn, 1928.
10. Abdurahmonov X. O'zbek xalq og'zaki ijodi asarlarining sintaktik xususiyatlari bo'yicha kuzatishlar. T., «Fan», 1971.