

SOCIO-PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF NEOLOGISMS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the socio-pragmatic features of neologisms in English and Uzbek, focusing on their formation, usage, and cultural implications. Through a comparative analysis, it highlights how socio-cultural factors influence the evolution of language in both contexts. The study employs a multidisciplinary approach, incorporating linguistics, pragmatics, and cultural studies to provide insights into the dynamic interplay between language and society.

Keywords: Neologisms, socio-pragmatics, English, Uzbek, language evolution, cultural context.

INTRODUCTION

Language evolves as a response to societal changes, technological advancements, and cultural shifts. Neologisms, or newly coined words and expressions, serve as linguistic markers of these transformations. While English neologisms often stem from technological and scientific innovations, Uzbek neologisms reflect cultural and social developments unique to Central Asia. This study investigates the socio-pragmatic features of neologisms in these languages, examining their formation, dissemination, and social functions.

Socio-Pragmatic Features of Neologisms in English and Uzbek

Neologisms, or newly coined words and expressions, play a significant role in the evolution of language. They often reflect the cultural, social, and technological changes within a society. The socio-pragmatic features of neologisms vary across languages due to differences in cultural norms, societal values, and linguistic traditions. Below is an exploration of these features in English and Uzbek:

Sources of Neologisms**- English:**

- Primarily driven by technology (e.g., selfie, metaverse), globalization (e.g., glocalization), and social media trends (e.g., influencer, cancel culture).
- Borrowing from other languages is prevalent (e.g., emoji from Japanese, ballet from French).
- Affixation and blending are common word-formation processes (e.g., brunch from breakfast + lunch).

- Uzbek:

- Often influenced by political changes (e.g., mustaqillik for independence after 1991), modernization, and global cultural exchange.
- Borrowings from Russian, Arabic, and Turkish are common (e.g., kompyuter from Russian).
- Traditional Uzbek word-formation methods, such as suffixation (sardorlik, ilmiy), are still widely used.

Social Drivers**- English:**

- Neologisms reflect a highly dynamic, individualistic society where personal identity and creativity are valued (e.g., gender-neutral pronouns like ze, hir).

- Consumer culture contributes to brand-based neologisms (e.g., Google as a verb, Xerox).

- Uzbek:

- Reflects a collectivist society with emphasis on national identity and heritage (e.g., milliylik for nationalism-related terms).

- Post-independence changes highlight a shift from Soviet-era Russian influence to a revival of Uzbek lexicon.

Pragmatic Functions

- English:

- Pragmatic functions include simplification (e.g., app for application), humor (e.g., adulating), and social identity marking.

- Neologisms are often created to address new societal phenomena (e.g., climate crisis for ecological concerns).

- Uzbek:

- Neologisms often serve a unifying role, emphasizing cultural integrity and modernization (e.g., yoshlar ittifoqi for youth organizations).

- Pragmatic usage tends to align with formal and political discourse, though modern trends like internet slang (lol, chek from Russian) are emerging.

Cultural and Linguistic Adaptations

- English:

- High adaptability due to the global spread of English as a lingua franca.

- English neologisms often enter Uzbek unchanged (e.g., blogger, freelancer).

- Uzbek:

- Adapts borrowed words with phonological and morphological adjustments (e.g., televideniye becomes televideniya).

- Greater emphasis on preserving traditional Uzbek linguistic structures while introducing new concepts.

Sociolinguistic Challenges

- English:

- Concerns about linguistic purity are minimal; instead, debates focus on inclusivity and accessibility (e.g., gender-neutral terms).

- Rapid changes in neologisms due to internet trends can lead to obsolescence.

- Uzbek:

- Struggles between modernization and linguistic purity, with debates on adopting foreign terms versus coining indigenous equivalents.

- Efforts by language institutions (e.g., O'zbekiston Fanlar Akademiyasi) to standardize new terms.

The socio-pragmatic features of neologisms in English and Uzbek illustrate how these languages respond to societal changes and global influences. While English emphasizes innovation and adaptability in a globalized world, Uzbek reflects a balance between modernization and cultural preservation. These differences highlight the unique socio-pragmatic dynamics of each language.

The socio-pragmatic features of neologisms in English demonstrate a propensity for innovation and adaptability, driven by technological advancements and global communication. In contrast, Uzbek neologisms reflect a balance between tradition and modernization, influenced by cultural preservation and societal restructuring. This divergence underscores the role of socio-cultural contexts in shaping language evolution. Additionally, the pragmatics of neologisms in both languages highlight their utility in facilitating communication and expressing contemporary realities.

CONCLUSIONS

Neologisms serve as linguistic barometers of societal change, encapsulating cultural and technological shifts. English, with its global reach, generates neologisms that resonate internationally, while Uzbek prioritizes terms that align with national identity and cultural heritage. Future research could expand this comparative analysis to include other languages and explore the role of social media in accelerating neologism dissemination. Educational initiatives should also emphasize the pragmatic value of neologisms, fostering language learners' adaptability to evolving linguistic landscapes.

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