



COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS, COMPARISON OF RUSSIAN AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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ABOUT ARTICLE

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Abstract: In this article, it involves the analysis and comparison of languages, detailed exploration of the comparison between Russian and Uzbek languages that wasn't explicitly covered in the previous ages. The information provided highlighted general aspects that could be considered in a comparative linguistic study between any two languages.

INTRODUCTION

Comparative linguistics is a field of study that involves comparing and analyzing languages to identify their similarities and differences. Linguists in this field investigate the historical and structural relationships between languages, aiming to uncover their common origins and evolutionary paths. Key aspects of comparative linguistics include:

1. **Language Families:** Comparative linguistics classifies languages into families based on shared linguistic features. For example, the Indo-European language family includes languages like English, Spanish, and Hindi.
2. **Phonological and Morphological Comparisons:** Linguists compare the sound systems (phonology) and word structures (morphology) of languages to identify patterns and commonalities.
3. **Etymology:** Comparative linguists study the origins and historical development of words to trace their evolution across languages. This helps reveal connections between languages.
4. **Grammar and Syntax:** Comparative analysis extends to the study of grammatical and syntactic structures. Researchers investigate how languages handle sentence construction, verb conjugation, and other grammatical features.
5. **Lexical Correspondences:** By comparing the vocabulary of different languages, linguists can identify cognates—words with a common origin. This aids in reconstructing linguistic histories.
6. **Reconstruction of Proto-Languages:** Comparative linguistics involves reconstructing proto-languages, hypothetical common ancestors from which modern languages within a family have evolved.
7. **Historical Linguistics:** The field incorporates historical linguistics, exploring language changes over time and understanding the reasons behind linguistic shifts.

A well-known example of comparative linguistics is the reconstruction of Proto-Indo-European, the common ancestor of the Indo-European language family. By comparing the phonological, morphological, and lexical features of languages like Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, and English, linguists can infer the characteristics of this ancestral language.

Overall, comparative linguistics provides valuable insights into the relationships between languages, contributing to our understanding of linguistic diversity and the historical connections among different language groups.

Comparative linguistics involves analyzing and comparing languages to identify similarities and differences. Russian and Uzbek, though belonging to different language families (Russian – Indo-European, Uzbek – Turkic), share historical and linguistic connections due to various factors.

Phonetics and Phonology:

- Both languages use the Cyrillic script, but there are differences in phonetic systems. For instance, Russian has vowel reduction, while Uzbek has a more straightforward vowel system.

Grammar:

- Russian and Uzbek exhibit distinct grammatical structures. Russian, as a Slavic language, is known for its complex system of verb conjugation and grammatical gender. Uzbek, being a Turkic language, relies on agglutination, with extensive use of suffixes and prefixes.

Vocabulary:

- Despite historical influences, Russian and Uzbek have diverse vocabulary due to their different language families. Russian has borrowed extensively from Slavic and other European languages, while Uzbek has Turkic and Persian influences.

Historical Influences:

- Russian's history involves interactions with various languages, such as Old Church Slavonic, Greek, Mongolic, and later Western European languages. In contrast, Uzbek has been influenced by Turkic languages, Persian, and Arabic.

MORPHOLOGY

- Morphologically, Russian exhibits a rich system of inflections, impacting nouns, adjectives, and verbs. Uzbek, with its Turkic agglutinative nature, relies on suffixes and prefixes to convey grammatical relationships.

Language Evolution:

- The evolution of Russian has been shaped by political, cultural, and literary influences. Uzbek, as a Turkic language, has developed within a different historical and cultural context.

Certainly, let's delve into a more detailed comparison between Russian and Uzbek languages across various linguistic features with examples:

Phonetics and Phonology:

- Russian: Vowel reduction is a prominent feature, where unstressed vowels are pronounced more neutrally. For example, the word "магазин" (magazin) has reduced vowels in unstressed syllables.

- Uzbek: Vowel harmony is a key aspect, where vowels within a word harmonize in terms of backness or frontness. For instance, the word "kitoblar" (books) showcases vowel harmony.

Grammar:

- Russian: Complex verb conjugation is notable. The verb "говорить" (govorit') meaning "to speak" changes forms based on the subject, like "я говорю" (ya govoryu) - "I speak."

- Uzbek: Agglutinative nature is evident, especially in verb conjugation. The verb "o'qimoq" (to read) changes forms by adding suffixes, such as "men o'qayman" (I read).

Vocabulary:

- Russian: Extensive borrowing from various languages, for example, "ресторан" (restoran) for "restaurant."

- Uzbek: Turkic roots and influence from Persian and Arabic, e.g., "kitob" for "book."

Word Order:

- Russian: Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) word order is common. For example, "Я читаю книгу" (Ya chitayu knigu) - "I am reading a book."

- Uzbek: Subject-Object-Verb (SOV) word order is typical. "Men kitob o'qiman" (I read a book) follows this structure.

Case System:

- Russian: Nouns decline based on grammatical case, e.g., "стол" (stol) in the nominative case and "столу" (stolu) in the dative case.

- Uzbek: Limited case markings, with context often determining the function of a noun in a sentence.

Alphabet:

- Russian: Uses the Cyrillic script.

- Uzbek: Also uses the Cyrillic script, although there has been a historical transition to the Latin script.

These examples illustrate key linguistic differences between Russian and Uzbek, showcasing the varied structures, phonetics, and vocabulary inherent to each language.

In summary, while Russian and Uzbek share Cyrillic script and historical connections, their linguistic roots, phonetics, grammar, vocabulary, and cultural influences make them distinct languages. Comparative linguistics allows for a deeper understanding of these differences, shedding light on the rich linguistic diversity present in the world.

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