

EXPLORING ENGLISH AND PERSIAN, EMBRACING THE JOYS OF LANGUAGE LEARNING

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Annotation. “Bridging Worlds: Exploring English and Persian, Embracing the Joys of Language Learning,” provides a comprehensive comparison between the English and Persian languages, focusing on script, grammar, vocabulary, and phonetics. It highlights common challenges language learners face—such as adapting to new writing systems and grammatical structures—while offering practical strategies to overcome them. The article also emphasizes the cognitive, cultural, and career-related benefits of learning a new language, supported by credible academic and educational sources. Special attention is given to the theme of seasons to demonstrate vocabulary differences, making the piece both practical and engaging. Designed for aspiring polyglots and especially those interested in Persian, the article encourages readers to see language learning as a rewarding and transformative journey.

Keywords: language learning, English vs Persian, Persian script, grammar differences, vocabulary (seasons), language challenges, bilingual benefits, cognitive development, cross-cultural communication, Persian for beginners, second language acquisition, motivation for language learning, SOV vs SVO, Persian grammar, ezafe construction, language and brain function, learning Farsi, multilingualism benefits.

Annotatsiya. “Bridging Worlds: Exploring English and Persian, Embracing Joys of Language Learning” nomli maqolada yozuv, grammatika, lug‘at va fonetikaga e‘tibor qaratilib, ingliz va fors tillari o‘rtasida keng qamrovli taqqoslash berilgan. U til o‘rganuvchilar duch keladigan umumiy qiyinchiliklarni, masalan, yangi yozuv tizimlari va grammatik tuzilmalarga moslashishni ta’kidlab, ularni yengish uchun amaliy strategiyalarni taklif qiladi. Maqolada, shuningdek, ishonchli akademik va ta’lim manbalari tomonidan qo‘llab-quvvatlangan yangi tilni o‘rganishning kognitiv, madaniy va martaba bilan bog‘liq afzalliklari ta’kidlangan. Lug‘atdagi farqlarni ko‘rsatish uchun fasllar mavzusiga alohida e‘tibor beriladi, bu asarni amaliy va qiziqarli qiladi. Poliglotlar va ayniqsa fors tiliga qiziquvchilar uchun mo‘ljallangan maqola o‘quvchilarni til o‘rganishni foydali va o‘zgaruvchan sayohat sifatida ko‘rishga undaydi.

Kalit so‘zlar: til o‘rganish, ingliz va fors, fors yozuvi, grammatika farqlari, lug‘at (fasllar), til muammolari, ikki tilli imtiyozlar, kognitiv rivojlanish, madaniyatlararo muloqot, yangi boshlanuvchilar uchun fors tili, ikkinchi tilni o‘zlashtirish, til o‘rganish uchun motivatsiya, SOV vs SVO, fors grammatikasi, ezafe qurilishi, til va miyaning ko‘p funktsiyali o‘rganish.

Introduction

Language is more than a means of communication; it's a gateway to understanding diverse cultures, histories, and perspectives. Embarking on the journey to learn a new language, such as English or Persian (فارسی – fârsi), opens doors to personal growth, cognitive development, and deeper human connections. This article explores the distinctive features of English and Persian, the challenges learners may face, and the profound benefits of embracing new languages.

Contrasting English and Persian: A Linguistic Overview

● Script and Directionality

English utilizes the Latin alphabet, written from left to right, comprising 26 letters. In contrast, Persian employs a modified Arabic script, written from right to left, consisting of 32 letters. This fundamental difference requires learners to adapt to new reading and writing orientations.

● Grammatical Structures

English: Follows a Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order.

Example: *She reads a book.*

Persian: Typically follows a Subject-Object-Verb (SOV) order.

Example: او کتاب می‌خواند (u ketâb mi-khânad) – *She reads a book.*

Additionally, Persian lacks grammatical gender and articles like “a” or “the,” relying on context and word order to convey meaning.

● Verb Tenses and Usage

English distinguishes between simple and continuous tenses, such as “I eat” vs. “I am eating.” Persian, however, does not have a direct equivalent of the continuous tense.

Example:

English: I am going to school.

Persian: من به مدرسه می‌روم (man be madrese mi-ram) – *I go to school.*

● Pronunciation and Phonetics

Persian includes sounds absent in English, such as ق (q) and خ (kh), which can be challenging for English speakers. Conversely, English's diverse vowel sounds may pose difficulties for Persian speakers.

Navigating the Challenges of Language Learning:

● Adapting to New Scripts

For English speakers, mastering the Persian script involves learning new letter forms and connecting letters within words. Consistent practice through writing and reading is essential.

● Grasping Different Grammatical Concepts

Understanding Persian's use of the ezâfe (اضافه) construction, which links nouns and adjectives, requires attention.

Example: کتاب خوب (ketâb-e khub) – *Good book.*

● Building Vocabulary .(i wanted to explain differences between vocabularies in two languages with words depending on season)

Learning thematic vocabulary aids retention. For instance, exploring the seasons:

Spring: بهار (bahâr)

Summer: تابستان (tâbestân)

Autumn: پاییز (pâyez)

Winter: زمستان (zemestân)

There are examples of sentences in persian language in order to understand the building of sentences structure:

1. Spring – بهار (bahâr)

من فصل بهار را دوست دارم چون هوا لطیف و خنک است.

(man fasl-e bahâr râ doost dâram chon havâ latif va khonak ast)

I like spring because the weather is gentle and cool.

2. Summer – تابستان (tâbestân)

در تابستان هوا خیلی گرم می‌شود.

(dar tâbestân havâ kheyli garm mishavad)

In summer, the weather becomes very hot.

3. Autumn / Fall – پاییز (pâyez)

برگ‌ها در پاییز می‌ریزند و زمین رنگارنگ می‌شود.

(barg-hâ dar pâyez mi-rizand va zamin rangârang mishavad)

Leaves fall in autumn and the ground becomes colorful.

4. Winter – زمستان (zemestân)

در زمستان بچه‌ها با برف بازی می‌کنند.

(dar zemestân bache-hâ bâ barf bâzi mikonand)

In winter, children play with snow.

5. Season – فصل (fasl)

هر فصل زیبایی خاص خود را دارد.

(har fasl zibâyi-ye khâs-e khod râ dârad)

Each season has its own beauty.

To improve language learning and skills such as speaking, listening, writing and reading in foreign languages, there are recommendations to use:

- Developing Listening and Speaking Skills

Engaging with native speakers, listening to music, and watching films in the target language enhance comprehension and pronunciation.

- The Cognitive and Cultural Rewards of Language Learning

- Enhancing Brain Function

Learning a new language stimulates the brain, improving memory, problem-solving skills, and cognitive flexibility. Studies have shown that bilingual individuals often experience delayed onset of dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

- Boosting Creativity and Decision-Making

Multilingual individuals tend to exhibit greater creativity and better decision-making abilities, as they can view problems from multiple perspectives.

- Expanding Career Opportunities

Proficiency in multiple languages opens doors to diverse career paths, including international business, diplomacy, and translation services.

● Fostering Cultural Empathy

Understanding a new language deepens appreciation for different cultures, promoting empathy and cross-cultural communication.

Embarking on the journey to learn English, Persian, or any new language is a transformative experience. It challenges the mind, enriches the soul, and connects individuals across cultures. Despite the initial hurdles, the rewards—cognitive, professional, and personal—are immense. Learning English or Persian is a journey filled with discovery. Although the differences may seem big at first, they also make learning interesting and rewarding. By focusing on one theme at a time—like فصل‌ها (seasons)—you can build your vocabulary and confidence step by step. Remember: practice, patience, and passion are your best allies. As the Persian proverb goes:

ز گهواره تا گور دانش بجوی (ze gahvâre tâ gur dânes̄h bejuy) – *Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave.*

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