

CROSS-CULTURAL STUDY OF ANTHROPOMORPHISM AS A MEANS OF EXPRESSING EMOTIONS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract. This study examines anthropomorphism as a linguistic and stylistic device used to express emotions in English and Uzbek. Anthropomorphism, which involves attributing human qualities to animals, objects, or natural phenomena, plays an important role in emotional and figurative expression in both languages. The research analyzes examples from literary texts and everyday speech to identify similarities and differences in the ways emotional meanings are conveyed through anthropomorphic imagery. The study demonstrates that although English and Uzbek cultures share universal patterns of emotional conceptualization, cultural and linguistic factors influence the specific forms and frequency of anthropomorphic expressions.

Key words: anthropomorphism, emotional expression, figurative language, cross-cultural linguistics, English language, Uzbek language.

Introduction

In human communication, emotions are often expressed through figurative language. One of the most significant stylistic devices used for this purpose is anthropomorphism, which attributes human emotions, intentions, and actions to non-human entities such as animals, objects, or natural phenomena. This linguistic strategy allows speakers and writers to create vivid imagery and convey emotional states in a more expressive and relatable manner. Anthropomorphism is widely used in many languages and cultures, including English and Uzbek. In English literary and everyday discourse, expressions such as 'the wind whispered' or 'the angry storm' demonstrate how human emotional qualities are transferred to natural phenomena. Similarly, Uzbek language frequently employs anthropomorphic imagery in poetic and conversational contexts, for example in expressions where nature or objects are described as feeling sadness, joy, or anger. The relevance of this study lies in the growing interest in cross-cultural linguistics and the analysis of how emotional meanings are encoded in different languages. Understanding the mechanisms of anthropomorphic expression can contribute to more effective intercultural communication and language learning. The aim of this study is to analyze the use of anthropomorphism as a means of expressing emotions in English and Uzbek from a cross-cultural perspective. In recent decades, the rapid development of digital technologies has significantly transformed communication. Online platforms and messaging applications have created environments where speed and brevity are highly valued [1]. As a result, the English language has undergone noticeable changes, particularly in its written form.

Materials and Methods

The research is based on examples taken from English and Uzbek literary texts, media discourse, and everyday language use. The study applies descriptive, comparative, and semantic analysis methods in order to identify anthropomorphic expressions and examine their emotional and communicative functions. Special attention is given to the semantic categories of emotions represented in anthropomorphic structures, including joy, sadness, anger, and fear. Comparative analysis allows the researcher to determine both universal patterns and culture-specific features of anthropomorphic expression in the two languages.

The study is based on examples from digital communication, including social media and messaging platforms. The research applies descriptive and discourse analysis methods to examine the structure, types, and usage of abbreviations and acronyms in modern English. The classification of linguistic units is based on definitions provided by the Oxford English Dictionary, as well as theoretical approaches developed by David Crystal and Naomi S. Baron.

Results

The analysis demonstrates that anthropomorphism is a productive stylistic device in both English and Uzbek. In English discourse, anthropomorphic expressions frequently appear in literary descriptions of nature and emotional states. For instance, phrases such as 'the smiling sun' or 'the crying sky' illustrate how human emotional characteristics are projected onto natural phenomena. In Uzbek, similar patterns can be observed in poetic language and folklore. Natural elements such as the wind, mountains, or rivers are often depicted as experiencing human emotions, which enhances the emotional intensity of the text.

At the same time, certain cultural differences can be identified. Uzbek anthropomorphic expressions tend to be closely connected with traditional imagery and folklore symbolism, while English examples often appear in descriptive narrative and modern media discourse. The analysis demonstrates that abbreviations and acronyms constitute a central feature of digital English, reflecting the principle of language economy [1]. They can be classified into several types, including initialisms (e.g., "LOL," "IDK"), acronyms (e.g., "NASA"), clippings (e.g., "app," "info"), and hybrid forms (e.g., "gr8," "B4"). These categories illustrate both the efficiency and creativity of language use in digital environments.

Discussion

The findings indicate that anthropomorphism functions as an effective linguistic mechanism for emotional expression in both languages. By attributing human emotions to non-human entities, speakers create a metaphorical bridge between human experience and the surrounding world. From a cross-cultural perspective, anthropomorphic expressions reveal both universal and culture-specific features of emotional conceptualization. While the basic tendency to humanize nature appears to be universal, the specific images and symbolic associations may vary depending on cultural traditions, historical context, and literary conventions. This observation highlights the importance of considering cultural background when analyzing figurative language and emotional expression in different linguistic communities.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the present study has examined anthropomorphism as a means of expressing emotions in English and Uzbek from a cross-cultural perspective. The

analysis has shown that anthropomorphic expressions play a significant role in conveying emotional meanings and enhancing the imagery of discourse in both languages. The findings demonstrate that although English and Uzbek share common tendencies in attributing human qualities to non-human entities, cultural traditions influence the selection of images and the contexts in which anthropomorphic expressions appear. Therefore, the study of anthropomorphism contributes not only to stylistic and semantic analysis but also to a deeper understanding of how different cultures conceptualize and communicate emotions through language.

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