A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF WORD ORDER IN QUESTIONS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract. *This article examines the structural differences and similarities between English and Uzbek question formation. English follows a Subject-Auxiliary Inversion (SAI) rule, whereas Uzbek, an agglutinative language, primarily relies on question particles and intonation. This study highlights the syntactic patterns, typological contrasts, and implications for language learners.*

The research employs a comparative linguistic approach, analyzing syntactic patterns, typological contrasts, and the implications for language learners. The findings highlight key differences, such as the role of auxiliary verbs in English and the reliance on question particles in Uzbek. Additionally, similarities, such as the use of interrogative pronouns and intonation for yes/no questions, are discussed.

Understanding these structural differences is crucial for learners transitioning between the two languages, as English speakers may struggle with the absence of auxiliary-dependent inversion in Uzbek, while Uzbek speakers may find the English inversion rule challenging. This study contributes to linguistic research by providing insights into the syntactic strategies employed by both languages and their impact on second-language acquisition.

Keywords*: Word order, question formation, English, Uzbek, syntax, Subject-Auxiliary Inversion, SOV, SVO, yes/no questions, wh-questions, question particles, auxiliary verbs, typological comparison, linguistic differences, language learning.*

Annotatsiya. *Ushbu maqolada ingliz va oʻzbek tillarida savol shakllanishi oʻrtasidagi tarkibiy farqlar va oʻxshashliklar koʻrib chiqiladi. Ingliz tili Subject-Auxiliary Inversion (SAI) qoidasiga amal qiladi, aglutinativ til bo'lgan o'zbek tili esa, birinchi navbatda, savol zarralari va intonatsiyaga tayanadi. Ushbu tadqiqot sintaktik naqshlar, tipologik qarama-qarshiliklar va til o'rganuvchilar uchun ta'sirlarni ta'kidlaydi.*

 Tadqiqotda sintaktik qoliplarni, tipologik qarama-qarshiliklarni va til oʻrganuvchilarga ta'sirini tahlil qiluvchi qiyosiy lingvistik yondashuv qoʻllaniladi. Topilmalar ingliz tilidagi yordamchi fe'llarning oʻrni va oʻzbek tilidagi savol zarrachalariga tayanish kabi asosiy farqlarni koʻrsatadi. Bundan tashqari, so'roq olmoshlarining ishlatilishi va ha/yo'q savollarining intonatsiyasi kabi o'xshashliklar muhokama qilinadi.

Ushbu strukturaviy farqlarni tushunish ikki til o'rtasida o'tayotgan o'quvchilar uchun juda muhim, chunki ingliz tilida so'zlashuvchilar o'zbek tilida yordamchiga bog'liq inversiyaning yo'qligidan qiynalishi mumkin, o'zbek tilida so'zlashuvchilar esa ingliz tilidagi inversiya qoidasini qiyin deb bilishlari mumkin. Ushbu tadqiqot ikkala til tomonidan qo'llaniladigan sintaktik strategiyalar va ularning ikkinchi tilni o'zlashtirishga ta'siri haqida tushuncha berish orqali lingvistik tadqiqotlarga hissa qo'shadi.

Kalit so'zlar*: So'z tartibi, so'roq yasalishi, ingliz tili, o'zbek tili, sintaksis, predmet-ko'makchi inversiya, SOV, SVO, ha/yo'q savollar, wh-savollar, so'roq zarralari, yordamchi fe'llar, tipologik taqqoslash, lingvistik farqlar, til o'rganish.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Word order plays a crucial role in forming questions in any language. English, as an Indo-European language, follows a fixed Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order, while Uzbek, a Turkic language, predominantly exhibits a Subject-Object-Verb (SOV) structure. This typological difference affects how questions are formed in both languages.

English employs subject-auxiliary inversion and auxiliary verbs to form questions, whereas Uzbek relies on question particles like -mi and maintains its basic word order. This study explores these differences and their implications for language learners transitioning between the two languages.[1,58].

2. METHODS

The research employs a comparative linguistic approach, analyzing English and Uzbek question structures based on:

a.   Syntax Analysis: Examination of word order rules in both languages.

b.   Typological Comparison: Identification of similarities and differences in interrogative structures.

c.   Language Learning Implications: Investigation of difficulties faced by learners when acquiring question structures in a second language.

The data sources include grammar books, linguistic studies, and examples derived from natural language usage.

3. RESULTS

The results highlight significant structural differences in the formation of questions in English and Uzbek, particularly in terms of word order, auxiliary verb use, question particles, and negation. These differences influence both spoken and written language, affecting how learners of either language acquire interrogative structures.

3.1 Yes/No Questions

Yes/No questions are formed differently in English and Uzbek. English relies on auxiliaries (is, do, has, etc.) and requires subject-verb inversion to form Yes/No questions. Uzbek does not require auxiliaries, instead using the particle -mi at the end of the verb. The word order remains unchanged in Uzbek, making question formation structurally simpler compared to English.

3.2 Wh-Questions

Wh-questions follow different syntactic rules in both languages. English requires both wh-words and auxiliaries (What is she doing?), often changing word order. Uzbek uses wh-words (kim, nima, qayer, qachon, etc.) but keeps the normal SOV word order. The absence of inversion in Uzbek makes it easier for Uzbek learners to form wh-questions in their native language, whereas English learners must memorize auxiliary placement and inversion rules.

3.3 Negative Questions

Negative questions differ in structure and negation markers between English and Uzbek. English negation requires "not" with an auxiliary verb (Doesn't he know?).

Uzbek combines negation within the verb using -ma and still uses the particle -mi (U bilmaydimi?). Uzbek speakers learning English may struggle with auxiliary negation, while English speakers may find verb suffix negation unfamiliar in Uzbek.

3.4 Intonation and Context

English relies on sentence structure and auxiliary verbs rather than intonation to indicate questions. Uzbek allows for intonation-based question formation in informal speech.

Example: Sen kelyapsan? (You are coming?) – Can be a statement or a question depending on tone. [4,120].

This can make it difficult for English speakers learning Uzbek to recognize spoken questions without clear question words.

Feature	English	Uzbek
Word Order in Yes/No Questions	Requires auxiliary verbs or inversion	Uses *-mi* particle, no inversion
Word Order in Wh-Questions	SVO order, with inversion	SOV order, no inversion
Use of Question Particles	No question particles, relies on auxiliaries	Uses *-mi* and *-chi* to mark questions

4. DISCUSSION

The findings highlight fundamental differences between English and Uzbek due to their typological classifications. English, as an SVO language, employs auxiliaries and inversion for question formation. In contrast, Uzbek, an SOV language, maintains its word order and adds question particles.[5,5].

These differences create challenges for learners:

a.   Uzbek speakers learning English may struggle with inversion and auxiliary usage.

b.   English speakers learning Uzbek may find the lack of inversion and the role of -mi unusual.

By understanding these structural contrasts, educators and learners can develop targeted teaching strategies to facilitate second-language acquisition.

5. CONCLUSION

English and Uzbek exhibit distinct syntactic strategies for forming questions. While English relies on auxiliary verbs and inversion, Uzbek employs question particles without altering word order. Despite these differences, both languages share the use of wh-words and intonation for informal yes/no questions. Recognizing these linguistic contrasts aids in effective language learning and cross-linguistic understanding. This comparative analysis of

English and Uzbek question formation highlights key structural differences arising from their distinct typological classifications. English, as an SVO (Subject-Verb-Object) language, relies on auxiliary verbs and subject-auxiliary inversion to form questions. In contrast, Uzbek, an SOV (Subject-Object-Verb) language, maintains its word order and utilizes question particles (-mi) to indicate interrogative sentences.

The findings show that while both languages share certain similarities, such as the use of wh-words and intonation for yes/no questions, their syntactic approaches to question formation differ significantly. English learners of Uzbek may struggle with the absence of auxiliary verbs and inversion, while Uzbek learners of English may find the inversion rule and do-support challenging.

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