

LINGUISTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS RELATED TO THE FIELD OF ECONOMICS IN THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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***Annotation.** Phraseological units are stable word combinations that carry figurative or specialized meanings, and they play an important role in shaping economic discourse. Beyond their linguistic structure, such expressions reflect cultural values, historical development, and social changes within a speech community. Since economics is one of the most active and globally interconnected fields today, it continuously produces new expressions that enter both professional and everyday communication. The main purpose of this study is to analyze the structural, semantic, and functional features of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek and to compare how economic concepts are expressed in the two languages. Particular attention is given to metaphorical patterns commonly used in economic language, such as describing the economy as a living organism, a battlefield, a machine, or a moving object. The research also considers issues such as borrowing, adaptation, and the relationship between technical terminology and idiomatic expressions. In addition, the study examines translation equivalence, identifying cases of full correspondence, partial similarity, and non-equivalence between English and Uzbek phraseological units. The research is based on comparative and contextual analysis of materials drawn from academic texts, media sources, and business communication.*

***Key words:** phraseological units, economic discourse, linguistic characteristics, comparative linguistics, economic terminology, metaphorical models, semantic analysis, structural analysis, translation equivalence.*

INTRODUCTION

In modern linguistics, the study of phraseological units occupies an important place due to their semantic richness, structural stability, and cultural significance. Phraseological units are not merely fixed combinations of words; they represent complex linguistic phenomena that reflect national mentality, historical development, and conceptual models of a speech community. In professional spheres, especially in economics, phraseological expressions function as powerful tools for conceptualizing abstract processes, simplifying complex financial mechanisms, and influencing public perception. The rapid development of global economic relations has significantly expanded the lexical and phraseological resources of many languages. Economic discourse today is characterized not only by precise terminology but also by metaphorical and idiomatic expressions that shape both academic and media communication. English, as the dominant language of international business and finance, has generated a wide range of economic phraseological units that are actively disseminated worldwide. At the same time, the Uzbek language, developing within its

own socio-cultural and historical context, demonstrates unique features in the formation and adaptation of economic phraseology, while also reflecting the impact of globalization and borrowing.

The comparative study of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek is particularly relevant in the context of increasing intercultural communication, translation practice, and professional mobility. Understanding the linguistic characteristics of such units including their structural models, semantic composition, metaphorical basis, and pragmatic functions contributes to more accurate interpretation and translation of economic texts. Moreover, analyzing similarities and differences between the two languages allows us to identify universal cognitive mechanisms as well as language-specific patterns in the conceptualization of economic reality. Despite the growing interest in economic discourse and terminology, insufficient attention has been paid to the systematic comparative analysis of phraseological units in this field, particularly between English and Uzbek. Therefore, this study aims to examine the linguistic characteristics of economic phraseological units in both languages, to classify them according to structural and semantic features, and to determine their functional roles in professional communication.

MAIN PART

The linguistic analysis of phraseological units related to the field of economics in English and Uzbek demonstrates that economic discourse is not limited to strict terminology and numerical precision. On the contrary, it actively incorporates figurative expressions, stable word combinations, and metaphorical constructions that help speakers conceptualize complex financial processes in more accessible and expressive ways. These phraseological units function as an intermediate layer between specialized terminology and everyday language, ensuring both professional accuracy and communicative efficiency. From a structural perspective, economic phraseological units in both English and Uzbek show relative stability, reproducibility, and semantic integrity. In English, many economic expressions are formed through noun phrases (e.g., “market forces,” “price war”), verb-object combinations (e.g., “bear the cost,” “freeze assets”), and compound constructions (e.g., “cash flow,” “brain drain”). Uzbek economic phraseological units also demonstrate structural stability, often realized through noun-based combinations, verb-centered constructions, and analytically formed expressions. Despite typological differences between the two languages English being predominantly analytical and Uzbek being agglutinative both languages employ fixed syntactic models to express economic realities.

Semantically, economic phraseological units are strongly motivated by metaphorical thinking. One of the most productive conceptual models in both languages is the metaphor of the economy as a living organism. Expressions that describe economic growth, decline, recovery, or stability frequently rely on biological imagery. The economy may “grow,” “recover,” “collapse,” or “suffer.” Similarly, in Uzbek discourse, economic processes are often described using verbs that denote vitality, development, or weakness. This metaphorical mapping simplifies abstract financial processes by transferring them into the domain of human physical experience. Another widespread conceptual model is the metaphor of war and struggle. Economic competition is frequently framed as a battle, with references to “price wars,” “market battles,” or “fighting inflation.” In Uzbek economic discourse, similar patterns appear when competition or crisis is described through conflict-related vocabulary. Such metaphorical framing reflects the dynamic and sometimes aggressive nature of market relations and highlights the persuasive function of phraseological units in media and political discourse.

The metaphor of movement and direction is equally productive. Economic change is conceptualized as upward or downward movement: markets “rise,” “fall,” “plunge,” or “stabilize.” In Uzbek, similar spatial metaphors are used to indicate growth, decline, or fluctuation. This vertical orientation (up as positive, down as negative) demonstrates universal cognitive tendencies shared across languages. However, the frequency and stylistic usage of such metaphors may vary depending on the communicative context and genre. A significant linguistic characteristic of economic phraseological units is their dual nature: they may function as semi-terminological expressions within professional contexts while retaining figurative meaning in general language. For instance, certain English expressions originally metaphorical have gradually undergone terminologization and become standardized components of financial vocabulary. In Uzbek, many economic expressions have developed either through internal lexical resources or through borrowing and adaptation from international economic terminology. This process reflects the influence of globalization and the growing integration of Uzbekistan into the world economic system.

Borrowing plays a particularly important role in the formation of modern economic phraseology. English, as the dominant language of global finance, serves as a primary source of economic terminology and phraseological models for many languages, including Uzbek. However, borrowed units are often adapted phonologically, morphologically, and semantically to fit the structural norms of the Uzbek language. In some cases, direct borrowing is preferred; in others, descriptive

translation or calque formation is used. This creates varying degrees of equivalence between English and Uzbek phraseological units. From a comparative perspective, three types of equivalence can be observed: full equivalence, partial equivalence, and non-equivalence. Full equivalence occurs when both languages share similar structural and semantic models. Partial equivalence is found when the general meaning coincides but structural or stylistic features differ. Non-equivalence arises when a phraseological unit in one language lacks a direct counterpart in the other and requires descriptive explanation. These differences highlight the importance of cultural and cognitive factors in shaping economic discourse.

Pragmatically, economic phraseological units perform several important functions. They enhance expressiveness in media communication, simplify complex financial information for a wider audience, and serve persuasive purposes in political and public speeches. In academic economic texts, phraseological units may be used more cautiously; however, even scholarly discourse cannot completely avoid metaphorical framing. Thus, phraseological units contribute not only to stylistic variation but also to conceptual organization within economic communication. The analysis also shows that while English economic phraseology demonstrates high productivity and international influence, Uzbek economic phraseological units increasingly reflect both national linguistic traditions and global economic trends. The interaction between native lexical resources and borrowed models creates a dynamic and evolving system. As economic reforms and international cooperation expand, new phraseological units continue to emerge in both languages.

CONCLUSION

The comparative analysis of phraseological units related to the field of economics in the English and Uzbek languages demonstrates that economic discourse is shaped not only by strict terminology but also by stable, figurative, and culturally marked expressions. These phraseological units reflect the dynamic nature of economic processes and serve as effective linguistic tools for conceptualizing complex financial realities. Their structural stability, semantic integrity, and metaphorical motivation confirm their important role within both professional and public communication. The research has shown that despite typological differences between English and Uzbek, both languages actively employ similar cognitive mechanisms in the formation of economic phraseology. Conceptual metaphors such as the economy as a living organism, a battlefield, or a moving object appear in both linguistic systems, indicating the presence of universal patterns in economic conceptualization. At the same time, language-specific features influenced by cultural

traditions, historical development, and socio-economic conditions shape the distinctive characteristics of phraseological units in each language.

Economic phraseological units function not only as stylistic devices but also as carriers of conceptual and cultural knowledge. Their analysis contributes to a deeper understanding of how economic realities are linguistically structured and interpreted in different languages. The results of this research may serve as a theoretical foundation for further studies in comparative linguistics, phraseology, cognitive linguistics, and translation studies, as well as provide practical value for translators, economists, educators, and researchers working with economic texts.

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