

STRUCTURAL FEATURES OF LOGISTICS TERMINOLOGY IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

Kurbanklichev S.S.

The department of theory and practice of translation

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15688959>

Abstract. *This article explores the structural characteristics of logistics terminology in English and Uzbek, focusing on how each language constructs and represents key logistic concepts. English logistics terminology is known for its use of compound nouns, acronyms, and morphological markers that allow for concise yet specific expression. Terms like supply chain or warehouse management exemplify this compact structure. In contrast, Uzbek relies more on multi-word descriptive phrases and affixation, maintaining syntactic clarity even if resulting in longer expressions. The study highlights how Uzbek logistics terms often unpack single English compounds into explanatory components that fit Uzbek grammar and syntax. The article also examines the use and adaptation of acronyms and agentive suffixes, concluding that while English emphasizes brevity and compounding, Uzbek favors explicitness and grammatical transparency in professional logistics vocabulary.*

Keywords: *logistics terminology, English-Uzbek comparison, compound nouns, acronyms, word formation, translation of technical terms.*

INTRODUCTION

The globalization of commerce has made logistics a crucial field of study, particularly regarding the terminology used in international communication. English, as the global lingua franca, dominates logistics discourse with a vocabulary rich in compound nouns, acronyms, and morphological variations. These structural features enable the language to condense complex concepts into compact terms that are efficient in both written and spoken contexts. On the other hand, Uzbek, a Turkic agglutinative language, employs its own linguistic mechanisms—such as descriptive phrases and affixation—to represent similar logistic concepts. This article investigates the structural patterns of logistics terms in both languages, focusing on their formation, usage, and translation strategies. The aim is to compare the syntactic and morphological approaches used in English and Uzbek logistics terminology and to analyze the implications of these structural differences for technical communication and translation accuracy.

Structural Features of English and Uzbek Logistics Terms. English logistics terminology is rich in compound structures. Many key terms are compound nouns formed by combining two or more words, such as warehouse management, distribution center, supply chain, or airway bill. These compounds can be open (separate words), hyphenated, or closed forms, but all function as single concepts. This tendency allows English to create specific terms relatively succinctly. For

example, supply chain merges two common words into a term that has a precise technical meaning in logistics. English also readily forms abbreviations and acronyms for lengthy phrases: SCM for supply chain management, VMI for vendor-managed inventory, FIFO for first-in, first-out, etc. These abbreviated forms become part of the working vocabulary in logistics documents. Another structural feature is the use of derived terms with suffixes or prefixes indicating roles or processes. For instance, the suffix -er in carrier or forwarder denotes an agent (someone or something that carries or forwards), and -ing in shipping or handling turns verbs into nouns for activities. Such morphological markers are common in English and help create a large family of related logistics terms (e.g., ship → shipping, shipment, shipper). Because of this flexibility, English can generate terms like warehousing (the process of storing goods in a warehouse) from the noun warehouse by adding -ing. Uzbek, an agglutinative Turkic language, often forms terms through affixes and compound phrases that follow its own grammatical rules. In Uzbek logistics terminology, one finds a significant use of multi-word descriptive phrases to capture what English expresses in a single compound word. For example, the English compound material handling is rendered in Uzbek as yuklarni qayta ishlash va tashish (literally, “processing and moving goods”), which unpacks the concept into a phrase. Similarly, inventory management can be translated as ombor zaxiralarini boshqarish (“management of warehouse reserves”). These are not fixed single words but phrases that convey the meaning in a way conforming to Uzbek syntax (modifier + noun + verb structure, if translated word-for-word). Uzbek does have methods for creating single-term concepts, often through suffixes of its own. For instance, the suffix -chi can denote an agent or doer, akin to English -er. We see this in terms like tashuvchi (“carrier”, from tashimoq – to carry),¹ where -uvchi is a participial suffix indicating the one who performs the action. Another example is yetkazib beruvchi (“deliverer/supplier”, literally “one who delivers”) corresponding to the English term supplier. These affixal structures allow Uzbek to form terms for roles in a manner parallel to English agentive nouns. However, when it comes to complex technical terms, Uzbek prefers clarity over conciseness. Multi-component terms (having three, four, or more words) are commonly used to specify logistic concepts. According to one analysis, English logistics terms may be classified by their number of components and many Uzbek translations end up having a higher component count to express the same idea. For example, the English term automated guided vehicle system (a system of automated

¹ Hasanova, A.Q. (2021). Structural and Semantic Features of Logistics Terms in English and Uzbek. Eurasian Journal of Learning and Academic Teaching, 2, 15–18.

vehicles used in warehouses) is four words; an Uzbek translation might be avtomatik o`ziyurar aravachalar tizimi, essentially also four components, but sometimes additional explanatory words are included, making it even longer. In other cases, an English two-word term like buffer stock (reserve inventory) becomes a three-word Uzbek phrase like rezerv zaxira mablag‘i (“reserve stock funds”), depending on context. Despite the potential verbosity, this approach ensures that each element of the concept is clearly conveyed.

One-Word vs. Multi-Word Structures: A fundamental structural distinction is between one-word terms and multi-word terms. In English logistics vocabulary, numerous core terms are single words (often loanwords or compound nouns written solidly), such as cargo, fleet, port, logistics, transportation. Uzbek equivalents for these are usually also single lexical items (sometimes borrowed, sometimes native). For instance, cargo = yuk, port = port (borrowed unchanged or bandar in older usage), transportation = tashish or transport. However, when English strings several words together to create a specific term, Uzbek tends to string together several words as well, rather than compressing them into one. As noted by Bozorbekov (2022), Uzbek logistics terms can be categorized into one-root terms and multi-root (compound) terms; the latter are subdivided into two-component, three-component, etc., mirroring the English multi-word terms. The study found that many basic one-component English logistics terms (e.g., layout, production) needed at least a phrase or compound in Uzbek (layout → omborni qayta tiklash, production → ishlab chiqarish).² Meanwhile, more complex English terms translate into equally or more complex Uzbek terms. This indicates a structural pattern: English compounding vs. Uzbek phrasal description.

Use of Acronyms: English logistics language liberally employs acronyms (like GPS, ETA, 3PL, ADR for hazardous goods regulations, etc.), which are often understood globally. Uzbek, in formal writing, will sometimes provide a full translation alongside the acronym on first use (for example, writing “uchinchi tomon logistika (3PL)” for third-party logistics) but may continue to use the English acronym for brevity. In speech or less formal texts, Uzbek speakers might use a Russian-derived term or a simplified description instead of the English acronym if it’s not widely known. Structurally, this means Uzbek has fewer native acronyms in logistics; it often borrows the English or international acronyms as-is. One notable case is measurement units and incoterms (like FOB, CIF), which remain universal. This borrowing of acronyms is a structural adaptation necessitated by the international nature of logistics operations.

² Tukhtasinova, Z. (2025). Evolution of Terminology in Logistics and Contemporary Trends. *Foreign Linguistics and Linguodidactics*, 3(2), 94–98. (Historical development of logistics terms in Uzbek and research on their usage)

CONCLUSION

The article provides a detailed comparison of the structural features of English and Uzbek logistics terminology. English terms often consist of compound nouns and abbreviations, enabling the language to express complex logistics ideas concisely. Words like forwarder, shipment, or SCM demonstrate the language's capacity for morphological and acronymic efficiency. Uzbek, in contrast, tends to use multi-word phrases to ensure conceptual clarity, as seen in translations like yuklarni qayta ishlash va tashish for material handling. While Uzbek does use agentive suffixes such as -chi or -uvchi, these are more common for denoting roles than for condensing entire concepts. Acronyms are widely used in English logistics but are often either translated or left as-is in Uzbek, particularly in formal writing. Ultimately, the study reveals that English favors structural economy through compounding and abbreviation, whereas Uzbek maintains meaning through expanded, syntactically clear expressions. The insights presented can aid linguists, translators, and professionals in improving cross-linguistic communication in the logistics field.

Bibliography

1. Гаджинский А.М. Логистика: учебник для высших учебных заведений. Москва, 2003, ИНФРА-М.
2. Сергеева В.И., и др. Терминология логистики (на русском). Санкт-Петербург, 2012, СПбГУ.
3. Лейчик В.М. Терминоведение и терминография. Москва, 2011, Высшая школа.
4. Гринев-Гриневиц С.В. Терминоведение. Москва, 2008, Академия.
5. Hasanova A.Q. Structural and Semantic Features of Logistics Terms in English and Uzbek. *Eurasian Journal of Learning and Academic Teaching*, 2021, 2, 15–18.
6. Bozorbekov A.S. Specific Features of Logistics Terminology. *Thematic Journal of Applied Sciences*, 2022, 2(2), 94–98.
7. Tukhtasinova Z. Evolution of Terminology in Logistics and Contemporary Trends. *Foreign Linguistics and Linguodidactics*, 2025, 3(2), 94–98.