

ONOMATOPOEIA PHENOMENON IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK FICTION

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Abstract: This study investigates the onomatopoeia phenomenon in English and Uzbek fiction. The study further explores the phonetic, semantic, and stylistic characteristics of onomatopoeic expressions in both languages. While English onomatopoeic forms tend to be concise and structurally simple, Uzbek forms often display morphological complexity and expressive variation. Despite these differences, both languages employ onomatopoeia as an effective stylistic device to engage readers, evoke sensory experiences, and reinforce the aesthetic value of fictional texts. The findings of this comparative analysis demonstrate that onomatopoeia serves not only as a means of sound imitation but also as a powerful artistic tool shaped by linguistic structure and cultural context. Understanding the similarities and differences in the use of onomatopoeia in English and Uzbek fiction contributes to broader studies in stylistics, comparative linguistics, and literary translation.

Key words: *onomatopoeia, stylistics, comparative linguistics, literary translation, onomatopoeic units, folklore, narratives.*

Onomatopoeia - i.e., imitative words - is one of such living language units, which serve as a bridge between language and culture, speech and thought. Imitative words (onomatopoeic units) appear as a form of speech expression of external real phenomena, such as sound, noise, movement, state. They are an embodiment of human speech, actively participate in the creation of images of a phonetic, stylistic and mental nature.

Speaking about the linguocultural significance of onomatopoeia, the following can be mentioned. First, national mentality and cultural images: onomatopoeia expresses a cultural feeling, mood, and worldview through language-specific sound images. For example, through words that imitate sounds heard in nature, the speaker of the language brings his environment to life in his speech. This, in turn, reflects the respect, knowledge, and imagination of the culture for nature, animals, and movements.

Onomatopoeia refers to words whose sounds resemble the sounds they describe. These may imitate:

- Sounds of nature (rain, wind, animals);
- Human sounds (laughter, crying);

- Mechanical or sudden sounds (explosions, impacts).

Example:

- English: *buzz, bang, splash;*
- Uzbek: *g'uvillamoq, qarsillamoq.*

We will consider a comparative analysis of imitative word forms and structural features of the Uzbek language with the Ingiz language. In the Uzbek language

- Imitative words for sound: words such as “inga-inga”, “pixpix”, “vov”, “uv”, “qag‘-qag‘”, “taq”, “gurs”, “gumbur”.
- Imitative words for action and state: repetitive or rhythmic structures such as “yalt”, “lip”, “lik-lik”, “yalp-yalp”, “bij-bij”.
- Idiomatic and repetitive forms: Idiomatic forms convey the meaning of continuity or repetition (“lip-lip”, “g’ir-g’ir”).
- Location (context): In Uzbek, idiomatic words are most often found in colloquial speech, folklore, children's speech, and everyday communication.

In English

- In English, onomatopoeias are often short, local (isolated) forms: such as “pop”, “bang”.
- Stylistically, they are widely used in advertising, children's literature, cartoons, and texts that create a serious or dramatic effect.
- Morphologically, onomatopoeias in English are usually considered as interjections (closely related to the meaning of an exclamation) or as independent words.

In English fiction, onomatopoeia is widely used to create dynamic scenes. For example, *the door creaked open.*

Apart from this, onomatopoeia is used to enhance realism. In this example we can see this phenomenon: *The bees buzzed in the garden.*

Furthermore, onomatopoeia is used to express emotions and actions vividly. For instance, *water splashed onto the floor.*

English onomatopoeic words are often short and phonetically expressive. They are especially common in children’s literature, comics, poetry, and modern novels.

Uzbek fiction also makes rich use of onomatopoeia, particularly in:

- Folklore and oral narratives;
- Descriptions of nature;
- Emotional and dramatic scenes;

Examples from Uzbek fiction:

- *Yomg’ir tomchilari shildir-shildir yog’ardi.*
- *Eshik qars yopildi.*
- *Shamol g’uvillab esardi.*

Uzbek onomatopoeia often uses repetition (reduplication) to intensify meaning, which is a distinctive stylistic feature of the language.

There are a few similarities and differences between the onomatopoeia phenomenon in English and Uzbek languages. The first difference is the word structure. While onomatopoeia phenomenon is expressed in mostly simple forms in English fiction, it is often reduplicated in Uzbek language. Second difference is its usage. It is common in modern fiction in English language, but it is common in fiction and folklore in Uzbek language. Another difference is expressiveness of onomatopoeia phenomenon. On the one hand, direct sound imitation is used in English fiction, on the other hand, not only sound but also emotional coloring is used in Uzbek Fiction. Last one is cultural influence: natural sounds are described in English fiction, while nature-based imagery is used in Uzbek fiction. Despite differences, both languages use onomatopoeia to make fiction more expressive and engaging.

In both English and Uzbek fiction, onomatopoeia serves several stylistic purposes:

- Enhances imagery and realism
- Creates emotional impact
- Brings readers closer to the scene
- Adds rhythm and sound symbolism to the text

Writers use it to “make the reader hear” what is happening in the story. The phenomenon of onomatopoeia is an important expressive device in both English and Uzbek fiction. While the specific forms and phonetic patterns differ, the core function remains the same: to vividly represent sounds and enhance artistic expression. Studying onomatopoeia comparatively helps us better understand the linguistic and cultural uniqueness of each language.

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