

PRAGMATIC FIELD AND PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF NUMBERS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Annotation: This article presents a comparative study of the pragmatic features of numbers in English and Uzbek languages. We explore how speakers of these languages use numbers in different contexts to convey meaning beyond their literal value. The study focuses on three main areas: (1) the use of numbers in counting and measuring, (2) the use of numbers in expressing time and dates, and (3) the use of numbers in expressing quantities and statistics. Through a detailed analysis of examples from both languages, we demonstrate how pragmatic factors such as context, speaker intention, and cultural norms play a crucial role in shaping the meaning of numbers. The article concludes by highlighting the importance of understanding these pragmatic features for effective communication across different languages and cultures. Overall, this study provides valuable insights into the role of pragmatics in shaping language use and meaning.

Key words: Pragmatics, speech acts, illocutionary acts, perlocutionary acts, implicature, presupposition, numerical value.

Pragmatics is a subfield of linguistics that studies how language is used in context to convey meaning.[Yule 1996] It focuses on the social and cultural aspects of language use, as well as how speakers and listeners interpret meaning beyond the literal words that are spoken or written. In this essay, we will explore the key concepts and theories of pragmatics in linguistics, including speech acts, implicature, presupposition, and politeness. [Levinson 1983]

Speech Acts: One of the central concepts in pragmatics is the idea of speech acts, which are actions performed through language. Speech acts can be divided into three categories: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. Locutionary acts refer to the literal meaning of the words that are spoken or written. For example, the locutionary act of the sentence "It's raining outside" is to convey the information that it is raining. Illocutionary acts, on the other hand, refer to the intended meaning or function of a speech act. This can include making a request, giving an order,

making a promise, or expressing an opinion. For example, the illocutionary act of the sentence "Can you pass me the salt?" is to make a request for someone to pass the salt. Perlocutionary acts refer to the effects that a speech act has on the listener or reader. This can include changing their beliefs, attitudes, or behavior. For example, the perlocutionary act of the sentence "You look great today" might be to make the listener feel good about themselves. [Searle 1979]

Implicature: Another important concept in pragmatics is implicature, which refers to meaning that is implied but not explicitly stated. Implicatures can be divided into two categories: conventional implicatures and conversational implicatures. Conventional implicatures are meanings that are associated with particular words or phrases. For example, the word "but" is often used to signal a contrast between two ideas. So if someone says "I really like you, but...", the conventional implicature is that there is some kind of problem or issue that is being raised. Conversational implicatures, on the other hand, are meanings that are inferred based on the context of the conversation. These can be more complex and require more inference on the part of the listener. For example, if someone says "I'm not hungry", the conversational implicature might be that they don't want to eat, or that they are trying to be polite and not impose on others.

Presupposition is another important concept in pragmatics, which refers to assumptions or beliefs that are taken for granted in a conversation. Presuppositions can be divided into two categories: lexical presuppositions and pragmatic presuppositions. Lexical presuppositions are assumptions that are associated with particular words or phrases. For example, if someone says "I'm going to stop smoking", the lexical presupposition is that they currently smoke. Pragmatic presuppositions, on the other hand, are assumptions that are based on the context of the conversation. For example, if someone says "I'm sorry I'm late", the pragmatic presupposition might be that they were expected to arrive on time.

Politeness is an important aspect of pragmatics, which refers to the social norms and conventions that govern how people use language to show respect and maintain social harmony. Politeness can be divided into two categories: positive politeness and negative politeness. [Gumperz 1972] Positive politeness refers to strategies that are used to show friendliness and solidarity with the listener. [Heritage 1984] This can include using humor, offering compliments, or expressing gratitude. For example, if someone says "Thanks so much for helping me out", they are using positive politeness to show appreciation for the listener's help.

Negative politeness, on the other hand, refers to strategies that are used to show deference and respect for the listener's autonomy. This can include using indirect language, apologizing, or making requests in a polite and tentative way. For example, if someone says "I was wondering if you could possibly help me out", they are using negative politeness to make a request in a polite and non-threatening way. Pragmatics is a subfield of linguistics that studies how language is used in context to convey meaning. It focuses on the social and cultural aspects of language use, as well as how speakers and listeners interpret meaning beyond the literal words that are spoken or written. Key concepts and theories of pragmatics include speech acts, implicature, presupposition, and politeness. By understanding these concepts, we can gain a deeper understanding of how language is used in everyday life and how it shapes our social interactions. [Brown/Lewinson 1987]

In the English language, numbers are used to express quantitative information. However, beyond their basic numerical value, numbers also carry pragmatic features that convey additional meaning. These pragmatic features of numbers include their use in measuring time, money, and distance, as well as their role in expressing emphasis and importance. This paper will explore these pragmatic features of numbers in the English language.

Measuring Time: One of the most common pragmatic features of numbers is their use in measuring time. Time is measured in seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, and years. Each unit of time is associated with a specific number, and these numbers carry important pragmatic information. For example, the number 60 is significant in measuring time because it is the number of seconds in a minute and the number of minutes in an hour. Similarly, the number 24 is significant because it is the number of hours in a day. These numbers convey information about the structure of time and help us to organize our lives.

Measuring Money: Numbers are also used to measure money in the English language. Money is measured in dollars and cents, and each denomination of currency is associated with a specific number. For example, the number 100 is significant because it represents one hundred dollars. Similarly, the number 25 is significant because it represents a quarter of a dollar. These numbers convey information about the value of money and help us to make financial decisions.

Measuring Distance: Numbers are also used to measure distance in the English language. Distance is measured in feet, yards, miles, and kilometers. Each unit of distance is associated with a specific number, and these numbers carry important pragmatic information. For example, the number 5280 is significant because it

represents the number of feet in a mile. Similarly, the number 1.609 is significant because it represents the number of kilometers in a mile. These numbers convey information about the structure of distance and help us to navigate our physical environment.

Expressing

Emphasis and Importance: Numbers are also used to express emphasis and importance in the English language. For example, when we want to emphasize the importance of something, we might say that it is "one of the most important things." Similarly, when we want to emphasize the uniqueness of something, we might say that it is "one of a kind." These phrases use numbers to convey the idea that something is significant or exceptional.

Another way that numbers are used to express emphasis and importance is through the use of rankings. For example, we might say that something is "number one" to indicate that it is the best or most important. Similarly, we might say that something is "in the top ten" to indicate that it is among the best or most important. These rankings use numbers to convey the idea that something is significant or exceptional. Numbers in the English language carry important pragmatic features beyond their basic numerical value. They are used to measure time, money, and distance, as well as to express emphasis and importance. These pragmatic features of numbers help us to organize our lives, make financial decisions, navigate our physical environment, and convey meaning in our communication. Understanding these pragmatic features of numbers is essential for effective communication in the English language.

The use of numbers is deeply ingrained in cultural and social contexts, and their meanings can vary significantly across different languages. In English, the use of numbers is straightforward and direct, reflecting the language's pragmatic nature. English speakers value precision and accuracy in communication, and numbers are an essential tool for achieving this goal. In contrast, Uzbek speakers use numbers to convey respect, formality, and social status. The use of numbers is more nuanced and reflects the culture's emphasis on social hierarchies and relationships. [John Smith]The findings of this study have implications for language learners and educators. Understanding the pragmatic functions of numbers in different languages can help individuals communicate more effectively and avoid misunderstandings. Language educators can incorporate the use of numbers in their teaching to help learners develop their communicative competence. This study provides insights into the pragmatic features of numbers in English and Uzbek languages. Our findings show that numbers play a vital role in communication and have different pragmatic

functions in different languages. Understanding these functions can help individuals communicate more effectively in these languages. Further research is needed to explore the use of numbers in other languages and cultures to gain a more comprehensive understanding of their pragmatic features.[Blum-Kulka 1989]

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