

GRAMMATICAL NUMBER CATEGORY IN THE NOUN PHRASE IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract:

This article reveals the similarities and differences between the forms of numbers in English and Uzbek. The grammatical structure and explanations of both languages are presented. While English has complex rules for expressing numbers, Uzbek offers a simpler and simpler way of expressing them. This comparative analysis will help teachers and language learners to understand the content of number concepts more deeply, and will clarify the relationship between artistic language and culture.

Keywords

Noun phrase, number forms, grammatical category, morpheme, singular and plural, irregular plural form, affix, infix, suffix.

Introduction

The grammatical category of number indicates the number of things and objects, whether they are singular or plural. This grammatical category consists of two specific meanings in most languages: singular and plural. A grammatical category is a set of concepts or rules that play an important role in the grammatical structure of a language, defining the grammatical function of words in languages. They mainly determine the meaning of words and how they are used. We can include the following grammatical categories: [1]

1. Gender: Indicates the gender of words (masculine, feminine, neuter).
 2. Number: Represents singular or plural (apple, apples).
 3. Case: Determines the syntactic function of words (noun, possession).
 4. Tense: Indicates when an action or event occurs (present, past, future tense).
 5. Person: Indicates who is performing the verb (first person, second person, third person).
- These categories further clarify the structure and meaning of language, as well as the process of understanding and expression in communication, by helping us to understand the relationships between words and their interactions. [4]

In English, the grammatical number category appears in two main forms: singular and plural.

In English To make a noun plural, the suffix "s" is added to it. For example,

1. a habit → habits (odat → habits) The quality of our lives often depends on the quality of our habits. [7] Chapter 7.

If a noun ends in the letters "s, ss, ch, sh, x", the suffix "es" is added to the noun to form the plural. For example,

1. a dish → dishes, Must I wash the dishes now? [2] p. 95.

2. a class – classes, My sister gets up early every day so as not to be late for her classes. [2] p. 114.

If a noun ends in the letter “y”, to form the plural, the letter “y” is replaced with the letter “i” and the suffix “es” is added. For example,

1. a memory – memories, Different people can have different memories and thus different habits – associated with the same place. [7]

2. a responsibility – responsibilities (responsibility – responsibilities). Admittedly, I often lead walking parties in remote places, so perhaps my added responsibilities cause me to carry more. [8] p. 88.

However, in English, some words that are apparently plural (for example, “news”, “mathematics”) are used in the singular form, and vice versa. Such words can also be called “uncountable nouns”. There are also nouns in English that are pluralized not by a suffix, but by a change in the root of the word. This form of plural formation is called an incorrect plural form, because such a form does not comply with any of the general rules. For example,

1. a man - I think that they are good men. [2] p. 104.

In English, some words do not change their plural form (sheep – sheep), while in Uzbek there are no such words, but the plural meaning may be understandable in the sentence. In general, the number forms of nouns in English are more complex (due to the presence of irregular plurals and invariable forms).

In Uzbek both grammatical number and plural forms are included, and these forms, unlike many languages, are formed using auxiliary verbs. Forming the plural form of a noun is easier than in English. The advantage of the Uzbek language here is that there are no irregular plural forms. In Uzbek, the suffix “-lar” is usually used to add a plural suffix to nouns. For example,

2. "Book" is singular, "books" is plural.

3. "Tree" is singular, "trees" is plural.

Although some words in Uzbek are used with a plural suffix, most of these words can be considered singular (i.e., uncountable nouns): "bread", "water".

The combination of a number with a noun has its own characteristics in languages. In Uzbek, the indefinite plural is indicated by the affixal morpheme "-lar", while in the definite plural, that is, when the number comes before the noun, the suffix "-lar" at the end of the noun is dropped (not "ikkita stol", "ikkita stollar"). This is not the case in English. In English, grammatical affixal morphemes indicating the plural are retained in the noun even when indicating the exact number of things (in this case, "Ten books", the English plural suffix "-s" is retained). [1]

In linguistics, an affix (Latin for "attached") is a part of a word. A morpheme that is placed opposite the root and serves to form a word or grammatical expression. Accordingly, it is divided into two types: Word-forming and form-forming. Depending on its location in relation to the root, it comes at the beginning of the word (affix), in the middle of the word

(infix), or at the end of the word (suffix). In the Uzbek language, it mainly comes after the root (ishchi, olmazor), and sometimes before the root (noto'gori, beish). [5]

Morpheme (Greek: morphe - form) - a linguistic unit that has a specific form and meaning, cannot be divided into other meaningful parts, and serves to form a word (lexema) or form a word. Morphemes in the Uzbek language are mainly in the affix position. For example, -chi (wrestler), -shunos (politician), -q (comb), -ki (kick), -li (smart), -chan (business), -la (salt), -illa (salt), -lar (children), -roq, (older), -mtir (darker), etc. [6]

It is also worth noting that in Uzbek, the suffix "-lar" is sometimes used to express respect. This is especially important in Uzbek, where it is used to show respect and honor to the person in question. This form is often used when talking about teachers, parents, elders, or people in high positions.

1. Personal respect:

The teachers are coming today. (One teacher is being mentioned, but it is said respectfully.)

Dads are waiting at home. (One dad, but said with respect.)

2. Respect for rank and position:

The governors made this decision. (Respect for the governor.)

The imams delivered sermons today. (One imam was spoken of with respect.)

3. Respect for elders:

The grandparents said sweet words. (One grandfather is being spoken about.)

Mothers are more experienced people. (Speaking respectfully of mothers.)

In conclusion, this article was written to provide a clearer understanding of the essence of the grammatical number category, to present the common and different features that exist in English and Uzbek, and to present the unique structures and grammatical systems of the two languages.

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