

PROCESSES OF NEW WORD FORMATION IN THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

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Abstract: This article analyzes the emergence of new words in the Uzbek language, their structure, semantic aspects, and areas of application. It examines the growth of lexical richness in language development and highlights modern methods of word formation—such as affixation, abbreviations, translation-based words, and terms created through folk creativity—with examples.

Keywords: Uzbek language, word formation, neologism, lexical system, affixation, abbreviations, modern language

Introduction

Language is a social phenomenon that is constantly evolving and enriching alongside the development of society. In today's global information era, new words are increasingly emerging in the Uzbek language to express newly introduced concepts. This process calls for new approaches to word formation.

Main Part

Do we need new words?

Absolutely. There is a growing need in Uzbek for words that describe new social, political, and technological concepts. For example, terms like artificial intelligence, mobile app, blogger, and online education are products of this need.

Main methods of word formation:

a) Affixation

New words are formed by adding suffixes to existing words:

dars (lesson) + lik → darslik (textbook)

yosh (youth) + lar → yoshlar (young people)

xalq (people) + ora → xalqaro (international)

b) Based on word combinations

Words like mobile phone, social network, and open source are combinations of two or more words that function as single lexical units.

c) Abbreviations

OAV (mass media), XTV (Ministry of Public Education), TATU (Tashkent University of Information Technologies)

d) Borrowed words and their adaptation

Blog, computer, scanner—these are borrowed from other languages and adapted to Uzbek phonetics and grammar. For example: bloggerlik qilish (to blog), kompyuterchi (computer specialist).

Problems related to new words:

- Incorrect translation and usage
- Usage without proper adaptation to the Uzbek language
- Absence from official dictionaries
- New words as a sign of development

The enrichment and modernization of a language prove its vitality and power as a social tool. Today, words like blogger, startup, and online services have become firmly rooted in our daily lives.

The formation of new words in the Uzbek language involves several processes, reflecting the language's rich morphological and lexical characteristics. Here are some key processes of new word formation in Uzbek:

1. Derivation: This process involves creating new words by adding prefixes, suffixes, or infixes to existing roots. For example, the suffix "-lik" can be added to nouns to create new nouns that denote a state or quality (e.g., "go'zallik" from "go'zal" meaning "beauty").
2. Compounding: New words can be formed by combining two or more existing words. For instance, "kitobxon" (book + reader) means "reader" or "book lover." Compounds can express complex ideas succinctly.
3. Borrowing: Uzbek has borrowed many words from other languages, particularly Russian, Persian, Arabic, and English. These borrowed terms often undergo adaptation to fit the phonetic and morphological rules of Uzbek (e.g., "kompyuter" from "computer").
4. Conversion: This involves changing the grammatical category of a word without altering its form. For example, a noun can be converted into a verb or vice versa, depending on the context.
5. Abbreviation: New words can also be formed through abbreviation, where longer phrases are shortened into acronyms or initialisms. For example, "O'zbekiston Respublikasi" is often abbreviated as "O'zR."

6. Neologism: The creation of entirely new words to describe modern concepts, technologies, or phenomena. This is particularly evident in fields like technology and science, where new terms are needed to describe innovations.

7. Semantic Shift: Sometimes, existing words acquire new meanings due to changes in culture or technology. This process can lead to the emergence of new word senses that reflect contemporary realities.

8. Calque: This involves translating the components of a foreign term into Uzbek rather than borrowing it directly. For example, translating "skyscraper" into "osmon qirqich" (literally "sky cutter").

These processes contribute to the dynamic and evolving nature of the Uzbek language, allowing it to adapt to cultural changes and technological advancements while maintaining its unique identity.

Conclusion

Word formation is a creative linguistic process that reflects the development of society. Managing this process scientifically while preserving the richness of our language and adapting it to modern needs is one of the urgent tasks of today.

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