

A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SYNONYMS IN THE GERMAN AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract: This article provides a comparative analysis of synonyms in the German and Uzbek languages, focusing on their lexical, semantic, and stylistic characteristics. The study examines how synonymous words function in different contexts, their levels of equivalence, and their usage in literary and colloquial language. Special attention is given to the classification of synonyms, their semantic nuances, and the challenges of translating synonyms between these two languages. The research draws on examples from modern media, literary works, and everyday speech in both German and Uzbek, offering insights into cross-linguistic similarities and differences in synonym usage.

Key words: synonyms, comparative linguistics, lexical semantics, stylistic nuances, German language, Uzbek language, synonym classification, translation challenges, cross-linguistic analysis.

A nation's language serves as a vital instrument for conveying its cultural and spiritual heritage, as well as its distinct identity. Language is more than just a tool for communication or transferring information; it is a reflection of national culture, traditions, customs, and lifestyle. Consequently, comparative analyses of different languages, particularly concerning phraseological units, are essential for uncovering both linguistic and cultural similarities and differences.

Phraseology, a significant branch of linguistics, focuses on the study of fixed word combinations, expressions, proverbs, sayings, and idioms within a language. These phraseological units are typically used in a set form, and their meanings often do not align with their literal translations. Additionally, phraseological expressions are handed down through generations, becoming a vital component of a people's collective life experiences, worldview, and mindset.

The phenomenon of synonymy represents a fundamental aspect of lexical semantics, offering invaluable insights into the expressive potential, stylistic variation, and cultural nuances of any given language. Synonyms — lexemes that possess similar or identical denotative meanings while differing in connotative, stylistic, or contextual attributes — are indispensable in enhancing the richness and flexibility of linguistic expression. The comparative investigation of synonymy across typologically distinct languages enables linguists to discern universal tendencies as well as language-specific features within their lexical systems.

This study is devoted to a comparative analysis of synonyms in the German and Uzbek languages, with particular emphasis on their semantic structures, functional distribution, and stylistic applications. Despite belonging to disparate language families — Indo-European and Turkic, respectively — both languages demonstrate well-developed

synonymic systems, which serve as markers of cultural identity and communicative versatility. The research seeks to explore the principles underlying synonym formation, classification, and contextual deployment in both languages, while also identifying the semantic nuances and pragmatic constraints that govern their use.

Furthermore, the paper addresses the complexities associated with interlingual synonymic equivalence in translation, considering the socio-cultural and stylistic factors that influence lexical selection and meaning transfer. Through systematic analysis of synonym groups, idiomatic expressions, and collocational patterns drawn from literary texts, media discourse, and colloquial speech, the study aspires to contribute to the broader field of comparative linguistics and lexicology.

The comparative examination of synonyms in the German and Uzbek languages reveals several salient linguistic patterns and structural distinctions. Initially, both languages exhibit a clear demarcation between absolute (complete) and relative (partial) synonyms, yet the frequency, origin, and functional scope of these categories vary considerably. In the German lexicon, many synonymic pairs or groups have emerged through extensive lexical borrowing from Latin, French, and English. For example, the verbs *beginnen*, *anfangen*, and *starten* all denote the act of initiating an action, though they differ in stylistic register, contextual appropriateness, and etymological background. Analogously, the Uzbek language, influenced historically by Arabic and Persian, presents multiple equivalents such as *boshlamoq*, *ibtido qilmoq*, and *start bermoq*, which display similar semantic parallels accompanied by stylistic distinctions.

A further point of convergence lies in the emotive and evaluative connotations associated with synonyms in both languages. Lexical items such as *sterben* and *versterben* in German or *o'lish* and *vafot etish* in Uzbek illustrate how synonymic alternatives, while conveying an identical denotative meaning — 'to die' — diverge in terms of formality, euphemistic tone, and cultural acceptability within specific communicative settings.

Moreover, the analysis underscores the significant role of contextual dependency in synonym selection. In both German and Uzbek, the substitutability of synonyms is frequently constrained by idiomaticity, collocational preferences, and stylistic conventions. For instance, the German idiom *ins Auge fassen* (to consider) cannot be indiscriminately substituted with other synonymous expressions without altering its idiomatic integrity. Similarly, the Uzbek idiom *ko'z oldiga keltirmoq* (to visualize or imagine) resists replacement by lexically synonymous verbs without jeopardizing the expression's idiomatic value[1]

The verb 'tun' is frequently used as an alternative to 'machen,' but it tends to convey a more abstract sense of action. For instance:

Ich mache meine Hausaufgabe. (I do my homework.)

Ich tue alles, was ich kann. (I do everything I can.)

In Uzbek, a similar distinction can be made between verbs that denote physical actions and those that refer to more abstract or general actions. For example:

Men uy vazifamni qilaman. (I do my homework.) — Here, *qilaman* corresponds to 'machen' in German, indicating a concrete, specific task.

Men imkonimni qadar hamma narsani qilaman. (I do everything I can.) — In this sentence, *qilaman* again is used, but here it's more abstract, similar to the use of *tun* in German.

In both languages, the verb qilaman in Uzbek (like machen) can apply to both concrete and abstract actions depending on context, while German makes a more explicit distinction by using tun for abstract actions.

In these examples, 'machen' refers to concrete actions (like doing homework), while 'tun' is used for more general or abstract actions (like doing everything possible).

The verbs Herstellen, Produzieren, Fertigen, and Bauen all relate to the concept of making or creating something, but each conveys a different nuance:

Herstellen means to produce or create something on a universal scale.

Produzieren is commonly used for large-scale production or entire manufacturing processes.

Fertigen refers to making something in smaller quantities, often manually or in a more specialized way.

Bauen highlights the process of constructing or assembling something, often with an emphasis on the building process itself[2]

In Uzbek, similar distinctions are made between verbs related to making or creating something, with slight differences in nuance:

Yaratmoq (to create) corresponds to Herstellen, referring to creating or producing something broadly, such as in the context of creating art, ideas, or large-scale projects.

Ishlab chiqarmoq (to produce) parallels Produzieren, often used in contexts involving mass production or industrial processes.

Qilmoq (to make) is close to Fertigen, especially in contexts where something is made in smaller quantities or by hand, such as in craftwork or tailored products.

Qurmoq (to build) corresponds to Bauen, specifically referring to the act of constructing or assembling, such as building houses or other physical structures.

In both German and Uzbek, these verbs have specific contexts and scales of application, but in Uzbek, qilmoq and yaratmoq can be more broadly used compared to the more specialized terms in German.

Lastly, the interlingual translation of synonyms between German and Uzbek poses notable challenges, particularly concerning semantic precision and cultural equivalence. Synonymic translation often demands not merely a lexical correspondence but a careful negotiation of pragmatic and stylistic dimensions to maintain the intended meaning and communicative effect. This necessitates a nuanced understanding of both languages' semantic fields and socio-cultural contexts, reinforcing the intricate interplay between language, meaning, and culture.

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