



STRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF THE CATEGORY OF TIME IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract

This study explores the structural aspects of the category of time in English and Uzbek, focusing on its linguistic and extralinguistic characteristics. The research delves into the role of temporal semantics, grammatical structures, and cultural contexts in the conceptualization and expression of time in both languages. Key findings reveal that temporal marker in English and Uzbek exhibit both similarities and unique features, reflecting cultural perspectives on time. The article highlights the relationship between temporal markers, aspectual semantics, and their pragmatic functions in linguistic contexts. These findings contribute to a deeper understanding of how time is represented linguistically across diverse cultures.

Key Words: Time, Temporality, Temporal Markers, Temporal Semantics, Aspectual Semantics, Pragmatics, Linguistic Representation of Time, Cross-Cultural Linguistics, Temporal Systems.

Time, as an extralinguistic category, is a universal concept that exists independently of language. However, its linguistic representation, through tense and temporal markers, varies significantly across languages and cultures. According to R. Deklerk, time is an extralinguistic notion, while tense is a linguistic concept that adapts verb forms to temporal contexts [1]. Temporal markers in English and Uzbek provide insights into the ways these languages encode temporal relationships, revealing the interplay between grammar, semantics, and cultural context.

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This article examines the structural and functional aspects of time in English and Uzbek, focusing on temporal markers, their categorization, and their linguistic implications. The study also addresses how cultural factors shape the linguistic representation of time in both languages.

The study draws on linguistic data from English and Uzbek, including temporal adverbials, verb forms, and syntactic constructions. Examples in English: last week, yesterday, every hour, within an hour. In Uzbek: o'tgan hafta, kecha, har soat, bir soat davomida.

Data sources include grammars, linguistic research articles, and temporal expressions used in written and spoken texts in both languages. A comparative linguistic approach was adopted to analyze the similarities and differences in the temporal systems of English and Uzbek. The analysis focuses on:

- **categorization of temporal markers:** Identifying and classifying temporal expressions into specific groups based on their function and meaning [2].
- **Semantic analysis:** Examining how temporal markers convey meaning and context [3].
- **Pragmatic analysis:** Exploring how temporal markers align with cultural and contextual usage in both languages [4].

The research incorporates established theoretical frameworks in linguistics, particularly focusing on temporal semantics and pragmatic adaptation, as presented in the works of R. Deklerk, I.G. Koshevaya, and N.A. Potaenko. These scholars have made significant contributions to understanding the relationship between temporal expressions, their linguistic representations, and cultural implications.

Temporal markers in English and Uzbek fall into three major categories (see figure 1.):

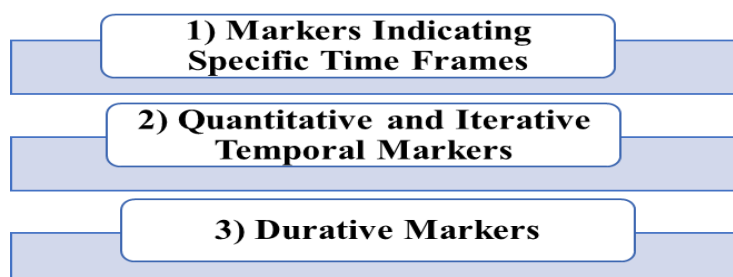


Figure 1. Representation of Temporal markers in English and Uzbek



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Markers Indicating Specific Time Frames. These markers describe the time span of events and situations. Examples in English: last week, next month, yesterday, now. In Uzbek: o'tgan hafta, kelasi oy, kecha, hozir. Specific time markers in both languages may include precise references, such as on June 7, 1848 in English or 1941-yil 22-iyun tongida in Uzbek [5].

Quantitative and Iterative Temporal Markers. These markers convey frequency or repetition: Examples in English: twice, annually, once a month. In Uzbek: ikki marta, har yil, oyiga bir marta. English uses idiomatic expressions like from time to time or every once in a while, while Uzbek equivalents include vaqti-vaqti bilan, har zamonda [6].

Durative Markers. These markers express the duration of events. Examples in English: for an hour, within an hour. In Uzbek: bir soat davomida, bir soat ichida. Durative markers in English often use prepositions like for or within, while Uzbek employs auxiliary constructions or case markers [7].

Temporal and Aspectual Semantics. The semantic interplay between temporality and aspect in English and Uzbek is significant. Temporal markers indicate the timing of an event (yesterday, soon), while aspectual markers convey the nature of the event during that time (completed, ongoing) [8]. Examples: She worked for an hour. U bir soat davomida ishladi. Aspectual markers in both languages reflect the duration, repetition, or completion of events. For instance, Uzbek often uses affixes or auxiliary constructions to express similar meanings to English aspectual forms.

The pragmatic use of temporal markers reflects cultural differences in conceptualizing time. English temporal markers often include idiomatic expressions (on occasion, very often), while Uzbek equivalents tend to rely on simpler, more direct expressions (tez-tez, ba'zan) [9].

Cultural factors influence how certain time markers are understood and used. For example: "The ball is in your court." (metaphorical, culturally specific). Uzbek equivalent: "Endi qaror sizda" (pragmatically adapted). These findings underscore how linguistic expressions of time are shaped by cultural perspectives.

The comparative analysis reveals both shared and distinct features in the temporal systems of English and Uzbek. Both languages employ temporal markers to



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express timing, frequency, and duration, yet their structural and semantic implementations vary.

English relies heavily on prepositions (for, within, during), while Uzbek frequently uses case markers and auxiliary constructions. Iterative and durative markers in English are often idiomatic, whereas Uzbek equivalents are more literal.

Pragmatic adaptation is essential when translating culturally bound temporal expressions, ensuring semantic and contextual alignment.

The study highlights the importance of temporal semantics and pragmatics in linguistic research. Understanding how different languages encode time offers insights into cultural worldviews and cognitive processes.

The structural aspects of the category of time in English and Uzbek reveal a rich interplay between grammar, semantics, and pragmatics. Temporal markers serve as linguistic tools for conceptualizing and expressing time, reflecting cultural perspectives and cognitive patterns. This study contributes to the broader understanding of how language encodes universal concepts like time while accommodating cultural and linguistic diversity.

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