



International Conference on Modern Science and Scientific Studies

Hosted online from Madrid, Spain

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20th April, 2025

CONTRASTIVE STUDY OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS WITH A FOOT COMPONENT IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract

Phraseological units are an essential part of any language, reflecting national culture, traditions, and worldviews. The concept of "foot" is frequently used in phraseology to convey various meanings related to movement, stability, and social status. This article examines the similarities and differences between phraseological units containing the "foot" component in English and Uzbek languages, analyzing their semantics and cultural significance.

Keywords: phraseological units, foot, semantics, linguocultural analysis, English, Uzbek

In linguistics, **phraseology** is the study of set or fixed expressions, such as idioms, phrasal verbs, and other types of multi-word lexical units (often collectively referred to as *phrasemes*), in which the component parts of the expression take on a meaning more specific than, or otherwise not predictable from, the sum of their meanings when used independently. For example, 'Dutch auction' is composed of the words *Dutch* 'of or pertaining to the Netherlands' and *auction* 'a public sale in which goods are sold to the highest bidder', but its meaning is not 'a sale in the Netherlands where goods are sold to the highest bidder'; instead, the phrase has a conventionalized meaning referring to any auction where, instead of rising, the prices fall. Phraseological units, including idioms and fixed expressions, play a crucial role in shaping a language's cultural identity. The "foot" component appears in many expressions in both English and Uzbek, symbolizing movement, position, stability, and even status. This study aims to compare phraseological units containing "foot" in both languages, highlighting their semantic similarities and cultural distinctions.

Phraseological units with "foot" in both languages can be grouped into three main categories:



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English: Put one's best foot forward (To act in the best possible way)

Uzbek: Oyog'ini qayerga qo'yishini bilmoq (To be careful about one's actions)

English: Stand on one's own two feet (To be independent)

Uzbek: Oyog'ida mustahkam turmoq (To stand firmly on one's feet)

English: Have one foot in the grave (To be near death)

Uzbek: Oyog'i go'rda (One foot in the grave)

English: Get a foot in the door (To gain an initial opportunity)

Uzbek: Oyog'ini bir joyga qo'yib olmoq (To secure a position)

English Culture: The "foot" concept often relates to personal initiative, independence, and ambition. Many phrases focus on taking action and seizing opportunities.

Uzbek Culture: The "foot" component is linked to stability and social belonging. Uzbek expressions tend to emphasize careful movement and maintaining one's place in society.

English: Focuses more on personal efforts, progress, and self-sufficiency.

Uzbek: Highlights caution, social responsibility, and communal values.

Uzbek: Oyoq uchida yurmoq. Entering without warning. "It's okay, Khumpar, since he's asleep," said Jora, pleased. But he was sensitive, and he suspected that if he found out, he would scream. He slowly, tiptoed into the large stable.

Uzbek: Oyog'i bilan turtmoq. *To touch the ground. — If you don't like Leningrad, go to Yalta.*

— *To Yalta? Now? What, are you laughing at me, my dear?*

— *I'm not laughing at you, I'm laughing at you? — Kesakpolvon said and pushed him again with his foot: — Okay, what do you think?*

— *By the way, Oisanakhon is going to Japan.*

The comparative study of phraseological units with "foot" in English and Uzbek reveals both linguistic similarities and cultural distinctions. While both languages use "foot" as a metaphor for movement, status, and stability, English favors an individualistic perspective, whereas Uzbek places greater emphasis on social context and careful movement in life.



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