

Linguistic characteristics of phraseological units related to the field of economics in English and Uzbek

Muxiddinova Hilola

Master's student at the University of Exact and Social Sciences

Supervisor: Mannonova Saodat Artiqovna

Abstract: This article investigates the linguistic features of phraseological units in economic discourse in English and Uzbek. It examines the structural and semantic characteristics of economic phraseologisms and their role in conveying specialized concepts in both languages. The study explores how idiomatic expressions, metaphorical language, and fixed phrases reflect cultural and contextual differences in economic communication. Through comparative analysis, it identifies similarities and contrasts in the usage, meaning, and translation of these units. The findings deepen the understanding of economic terminology and offer insights for linguists, translators, and learners of both languages.

Keywords: phraseological units, economic discourse, English-Uzbek comparison, idioms, metaphorical expressions, linguistic characteristics, translation, semantics, terminology

Introduction: Language is pivotal in shaping and communicating knowledge across domains, particularly in economics. As a field rich in conceptual abstraction and metaphorical expression, economics relies heavily on phraseological units—idioms, collocations, and fixed expressions—to convey complex ideas concisely and vividly. These units often reflect cultural, historical, and linguistic norms, making their study essential for understanding domain-specific communication.

In English and Uzbek, phraseological units in economic discourse serve as both linguistic tools and cultural markers. For example, expressions like “bear market” in English or “pul ko‘zga ko‘rinmaydi” in Uzbek encapsulate not only



economic phenomena but also attitudes, experiences, and values embedded in societal worldviews.

This paper explores and compares the linguistic features of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek. By analyzing their structure, semantics, and translation challenges, the research enhances understanding of economic language, cross-cultural communication, and the practical difficulties of bilingual economic translation.

The study's significance lies in its potential to assist language learners, translators, and economists in navigating specialized phraseology. It also sheds light on how languages encode economic realities, offering insights into the interplay of language, thought, and society. In an era of globalization and expanding international economic ties, effective cross-linguistic communication is increasingly vital. Economic discourse, saturated with metaphorical, idiomatic, and culturally bound phraseological units, plays a critical role in professional discussions, business negotiations, academic publications, and financial media.

Studying economic phraseological units is relevant because their figurative, contextual, and cultural implications extend beyond literal meanings. Misinterpreting these expressions can lead to communication breakdowns or conceptual errors, particularly for non-native speakers, translators, economists, and students.

By comparing English, a global lingua franca, with Uzbek, a Turkic language gaining prominence in regional economic studies, this research bridges linguistic and cultural divides. It highlights shared metaphoric models and divergent linguistic strategies in economic expression, fostering cross-linguistic competence. Given the growing need for accurate economic translation, bilingual education, and intercultural communication, this study offers timely and practical value for linguistics, translation studies, lexicography, and economic communication.

Relevance of Work: In today's global economy, multilingual communication is essential, particularly in economics. Economic texts frequently contain idiomatic and phraseological expressions, making their understanding



critical for accurate interpretation, translation, and application. Phraseological units in economics reflect a society’s cultural, historical, and cognitive perspectives, providing deeper insights into how economic concepts are linguistically framed across languages.

English, a dominant international language, and Uzbek, the state language of Uzbekistan with increasing global market involvement, both feature rich sets of economic phraseologisms. However, cultural and structural differences often render direct translation inadequate. Linguistic analysis of these units is necessary to enhance cross-cultural communication, improve translation accuracy, and develop educational materials for economics students and language learners.

Purpose: The primary purpose of this study is to analyze the linguistic characteristics of phraseological units in economic discourse in English and Uzbek. Specifically, it aims to:

- Identify and classify common economic phraseological units in both languages;
- Compare their structural and semantic features;
- Examine the cultural elements embedded in these units;
- Highlight challenges and strategies for their translation;
- Provide linguistic and methodological insights for educators, translators, and learners engaged in economic discourse.

By achieving these objectives, the study enhances understanding of economic language and supports bilingual competence in specialized terminology.

Materials and Methods of Research: This study employs a comparative-descriptive linguistic methodology. The research materials include:

- Economic textbooks, business articles, and financial reports in English and Uzbek;
- Bilingual and monolingual phraseological dictionaries;
- Academic papers and digital corpora (e.g., the British National Corpus and, where available, the Uzbek Language National Corpus).

Phraseological units were selected based on their relevance to economic concepts and frequency of use. They were classified into structural categories (e.g., idioms, collocations, set expressions) and semantic categories (e.g., metaphoric, evaluative, functional).

The methods applied include:

- Comparative Analysis: To identify similarities and differences between English and Uzbek economic phraseologisms;
- Semantic Analysis: To interpret meanings, connotations, and figurative elements of selected expressions;
- Contextual Analysis: To examine the use of phraseological units in authentic economic discourse;
- Translation Evaluation: To assess the equivalence and adequacy of translations between the two languages.

This multi-method approach provides a comprehensive understanding of how economic phraseologisms function across languages and cultures.

Results and Discussion: The comparative analysis yielded several key findings:

1. Structural Variation: English economic phraseological units often manifest as idioms (e.g., “tighten one’s belt,” “market crash”) or noun-based collocations (e.g., “inflation rate,” “economic downturn”). In contrast, Uzbek tends to use proverb-like expressions and descriptive set phrases, such as “pul suv bo’ldi” (money became like water – inflation) or “narx osmonga chiqdi” (the price went to the sky – price surge).
2. Metaphorical Patterns: Both languages employ metaphorical language, but the metaphors are culturally distinct. English expressions often use zoomorphic or natural metaphors (e.g., “bull market,” “economic storm”), while Uzbek phraseologisms are more anthropocentric or tied to everyday life (e.g., “bozor qizidi” – the market heated up).
3. Translation Challenges: Literal translations frequently result in loss of meaning or cultural mismatch. For example, translating “cash cow” directly into Uzbek fails to convey the intended economic metaphor

without cultural adaptation. This highlights the need for context-based, culturally sensitive translation strategies.

4. Semantic Overlap and Gaps: While some universal economic concepts have equivalent phraseological forms, culturally specific expressions often lack direct counterparts. Functional translation or descriptive paraphrasing is recommended in such cases.

These findings illustrate that economic phraseologisms are not only linguistic constructs but also cultural artifacts. Understanding their usage enhances translation, interpretation, and the teaching of economic content in bilingual or multilingual contexts.

Conclusion: The comparative linguistic analysis of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek reveals both universal patterns and language-specific features in the conceptualization of economic phenomena. Phraseological units are powerful tools for expressing abstract economic ideas vividly and in culturally resonant ways. They reflect the worldview of a speech community and play a significant role in shaping professional and public economic discourse.

The study demonstrates that, while English and Uzbek both employ metaphors, idioms, and fixed expressions in economic language, their structural forms, imagery, and cultural references often differ. These differences pose challenges for translation and language learning, particularly in specialized communication like economics.

Thus, economic phraseologisms should be approached as culturally loaded units requiring contextual understanding and functional translation strategies. The findings are valuable for translators, economists, linguists, and educators working in bilingual or multilingual settings.

Ultimately, this research underscores the importance of phraseological competence in professional language use and the value of cross-linguistic studies in enhancing intercultural communication in economic contexts.



References

1. Oxford Business English Dictionary. (2005). Oxford University Press.
2. Kunin, A. V. (1996). Frazeologiya: Teoriya va amaliyot. Moskva: Rus tili nashriyoti.
3. Axmedova, M., & Xaydarova, S. (2019). Iqtisodiy matnlarni tarjima qilishda frazeologizmlarning o‘rni. Filologiya masalalari, 2(1), 45–50.
4. Komilova, G. (2021). Ingliz va o‘zbek tillarida iqtisodiy frazeologik birliklarning semantik xususiyatlari. O‘zbek tilshunosligi jurnali, 3(4), 87–92.
5. Crystal, D. (2010). The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
6. Sayfullayeva, Z. (2020). O‘zbek tilidagi iqtisodiy frazeologizmlarning tarjima muammolari. O‘zbek tili va adabiyoti, 5(2), 33–40.
7. British National Corpus (BNC). (n.d.). Economic texts and phraseological data. www.natcorp.ox.ac.uk
8. O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Iqtisodiy taraqqiyot va kambag‘allikni qisqartirish vazirligi. (2023). Iqtisodiy atamalar lug‘ati. Toshkent: «Iqtisodiyot» nashriyoti.
9. Lakoff, G., & Johnson, M. (1980). Metaphors We Live By. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
10. UzCorpora. (n.d.). O‘zbek milliy korpusi. www.uzcorpus.uz

Research Science and
Innovation House

