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THE HIDDEN ENGLISH IN UZBEK DAILY SPEECH: THE INFLUENCE OF ANGLICISMS ON MODERN UZBEK COMMUNICATION

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Abstract

In the modern era of globalization, the English language has become one of the most influential languages in the world. Its impact can be observed not only in education and technology but also in everyday communication. In Uzbekistan, especially among young people, English words and expressions are increasingly integrated into Uzbek daily speech. This phenomenon is known as “anglicism,” which refers to the adoption of English lexical items into another language. The present article examines the hidden presence of English in Uzbek daily communication, identifies the main areas where anglicisms are commonly used, and analyzes their sociolinguistic influence on Uzbek youth culture. The study also discusses the positive and negative consequences of this linguistic interaction. The research demonstrates that social media, technology, entertainment, and globalization are the main factors contributing to the spread of English expressions in Uzbek speech.

Keywords: anglicism, Uzbek language, English influence, sociolinguistics, youth culture, globalization, bilingualism

Introduction

Language is constantly changing under the influence of social, cultural, and technological developments. In the 21st century, English has become the global language of communication, science, business, and entertainment. As a result, many languages around the world have borrowed English vocabulary and expressions. Uzbek is not an exception.

Today, English words are widely used in Uzbek daily speech, especially among young people. Words such as online, chat, trend, story, blogger, like, comment,



super, and zoom have become common in informal conversations. In many cases, speakers use these expressions unconsciously, without realizing that they are borrowing elements from English.

The influence of English on Uzbek communication has increased significantly because of globalization, the internet, social media platforms, music, films, and modern technology. Applications such as Instagram, TikTok, and Telegram expose young people to English vocabulary every day. Consequently, English expressions gradually become part of their active vocabulary.

This article aims to investigate the hidden English elements in Uzbek daily speech and analyze their sociolinguistic impact on modern communication.

Literature Review

The influence of English on other languages has been studied by many linguists and sociologists.

According to David Crystal, English has achieved global status because of political, technological, and economic power. Crystal (2003) states that globalization and digital communication accelerate the spread of English vocabulary into local languages.

Similarly, Jennifer Jenkins emphasizes that English is no longer limited to native speakers; instead, it has become an international language used across cultures. This situation increases lexical borrowing and code-switching in multilingual societies.

In the Uzbek linguistic context, several researchers have discussed anglicisms and their role in modern Uzbek communication. Scholars argue that technological progress and social media significantly contribute to the popularity of English expressions among Uzbek youth. The adoption of English words often reflects prestige, modernity, and global identity.

Furthermore, sociolinguistic studies demonstrate that young people tend to use foreign words to appear fashionable, educated, or technologically aware. As a result, English borrowings become symbols of social status and modern culture.

The Concept of Anglicism

An anglicism is a word or phrase borrowed from English sentence structure. Some common anglicisms in Uzbek include:

- English
- Uzbek
- Online

Word
Usage



- online dars
- Story
- story qo‘ymoq
- Like
- like bosmoq
- Chat
- chat yozmoq
- Trend
- trendga chiqmoq
- Blogger
- blogger bola
- Zoom
- zoom meeting
- Super
- super gap
- Manager
- menejer
- Design
- dizayn

These words are actively used in daily conversations, advertisements, and social media communication.

Factors Influencing the Spread of English in Uzbek Speech

Social

Media

Social media platforms play a central role in spreading English vocabulary. Young people spend considerable time on applications such as YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok where English terms dominate digital communication.

Expressions

like:

- “story tashladim”
- “post joyladim”
- “comment yoz”
- “like bos” have become part of Uzbek online culture.

Technology

and the

Internet

Most technological devices and applications operate primarily in English. Words such as download, wifi, link, browser, login, and password are frequently used even when Uzbek equivalents exist.



For

example:

“Linkni

tashavor.”

“WiFi

ishlamayapti.”

“Passwordni

unutdim.”

These expressions demonstrate how English terminology becomes normalized in daily speech.

Entertainment

Industry

Movies, music, and games also contribute to English influence. Many Uzbek teenagers listen to English songs, watch Hollywood films, and play online games where communication occurs mainly in English. Popular global artists like Taylor Swift and Billie Eilish indirectly affect vocabulary acquisition among youth audiences.

Education

System

English is now considered one of the most important foreign languages in Uzbekistan. Schools, universities, and private learning centers encourage students to improve English proficiency. Consequently, students often mix English words with Uzbek during conversations.

Code-Switching

in

Uzbek

Communication

Code-switching refers to the alternation between two or more languages within a conversation. In Uzbekistan, bilingual speakers frequently switch between Uzbek and English.

Examples

include:

“Bugun

meeting

bor

ekan.”

“Assignmentni

tugatdingmi?”

“Presentation

juda

qiyin

ekan.”

This linguistic behavior is especially common among university students and office workers.

Researchers believe that code-switching may occur for several reasons:

Lack of equivalent vocabulary

Prestige and modern identity

Convenience

Influence of digital culture



Although code-switching enriches communication, excessive use may weaken native vocabulary competence.

Positive Effects of English Influence

The integration of English into Uzbek speech has several advantages.

Expanding Vocabulary

English borrowings help speakers express modern concepts related to technology, science, and media. International Communication Knowledge of English expressions facilitates communication with people from different countries.

Educational Opportunities

Students who are familiar with English terminology can access international educational resources and research materials more easily.

Cultural Exchange

English enables Uzbek youth to participate in global culture and interact with international communities.

Negative Effects of English Influence

Despite its benefits, excessive use of anglicisms may create linguistic and cultural concerns.

Decline of Native Vocabulary Some Uzbek words gradually lose popularity because English alternatives become fashionable.

For example: “foydalanuvchi” is replaced by “user” “izoh” by “comment” “yoqtirmoq” by “like”

Language Dependency

Young speakers may become overly dependent on English expressions even when Uzbek equivalents are available. Cultural Identity Issues



Some linguists fear that uncontrolled borrowing could weaken national linguistic identity and traditional cultural values.

The Role of Youth Culture

Young people are the main carriers of linguistic change. Uzbek youth actively adopt modern expressions from social media and internet culture. Using English words often symbolizes modernity, education, and social prestige. For instance, phrases like: “trendda” “online” “cool bola” are widely used in youth communication. This phenomenon demonstrates that language is closely connected to identity and social belonging.

Discussion

The hidden presence of English in Uzbek speech reflects broader global sociolinguistic processes. English no longer functions solely as a foreign language; it increasingly operates as part of everyday communication in multilingual societies.

The Uzbek case illustrates how globalization transforms local linguistic practices. While some people consider anglicisms harmful to national language purity, others view them as natural linguistic development.

A balanced approach is necessary. Uzbek speakers should preserve their native language while also benefiting from international communication opportunities provided by English. Educational institutions can play an important role by promoting conscious and appropriate language use. Teachers should encourage students to appreciate Uzbek linguistic richness while developing English proficiency.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the influence of English on Uzbek daily speech has become increasingly visible in the era of globalization and digital communication. Social media, technology, entertainment, and education significantly contribute to the spread of anglicisms among Uzbek speakers, especially youth.

The study demonstrates that English borrowings enrich communication and facilitate international interaction. However, excessive dependence on English



vocabulary may negatively affect native linguistic identity and vocabulary preservation.

Therefore, it is important to maintain a balance between adopting useful international terminology and protecting the richness of the Uzbek language. Language change is a natural process, but conscious language use remains essential for preserving cultural identity in a globalized world.

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