

THE REPRESENTATION OF VISUAL PERCEPTION IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK PROVERBS AND IDIOMS

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Abstract

This study explores the representation of visual perception in English and Uzbek proverbs and idioms, analyzing how both languages utilize visual metaphors to convey cultural values and shared human experiences. Through a comparative analysis, the research identifies common themes and unique expressions that highlight the role of visual perception in shaping linguistic expressions. The findings reveal that while both languages employ visual imagery to encapsulate wisdom and societal norms, cultural nuances influence the specific usage and interpretation of these expressions.

Keywords: Visual perception, proverbs, idioms, English, Uzbek, comparative analysis, cultural linguistics.

Introduction

Proverbs and idioms are integral components of language, encapsulating cultural wisdom, societal norms, and shared human experiences. They often employ sensory perceptions, particularly visual imagery, to convey abstract concepts in a relatable manner. This study focuses on the representation of visual perception in English and Uzbek proverbs and idioms, aiming to uncover how both languages utilize visual metaphors to reflect cultural values and cognitive processes.

The use of visual perception in proverbs and idioms has been a subject of interest in linguistic studies. Otamurodova (2023) emphasizes that proverbs and sayings are culturally specific, yet their meanings possess universality, allowing individuals to relate to them across cultures. In the context of English and Uzbek languages, comparative analyses have revealed both similarities and differences in proverbial expressions. For instance, To'layeva and Panjiyeva (2022) conducted a comparative analysis of meaningful proverbs in English and Uzbek, highlighting how life experiences, societal attitudes, and mental states are reflected in these expressions. Additionally, studies on the usage of somatisms in proverbs, such as the work by Hamroyev and Jumayeva (2023), shed light on how body-related expressions, including those related to visual perception, are employed in both languages.

This research employs a qualitative comparative analysis of English and Uzbek proverbs and idioms that incorporate elements of visual perception. Data were collected from various linguistic databases, proverb dictionaries, and scholarly articles. The selected proverbs and

idioms were analyzed to identify visual metaphors and to interpret their meanings within cultural contexts. The analysis also considered the frequency and contexts in which these expressions are used in both languages.

The analysis revealed several proverbs and idioms in both English and Uzbek that utilize visual perception to convey deeper meanings. These expressions often reflect cultural attitudes towards knowledge, understanding, and human behavior.

English Proverbs and Idioms:

1. **"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder."** This proverb suggests that the perception of beauty is subjective, varying from person to person.
2. **"The eyes are the windows to the soul."** This expression implies that one can understand a person's true feelings or character by looking into their eyes.
3. **"In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king."** This proverb conveys that among people with a particular disadvantage, the person with a slight advantage can dominate.

Uzbek Proverbs and Idioms:

1. **"Ko'r-ko'rona ish qilma."** (Translation: "Don't act blindly.") This proverb advises against taking action without proper understanding or consideration.
2. **"Ko'zi ochiq."** (Translation: "Open-eyed.") This idiom describes a person who is aware and knowledgeable.
3. **"Ko'rgan ko'rmas, eshitgan bilmas."** (Translation: "The one who sees doesn't see, the one who hears doesn't know.") This proverb suggests that merely seeing or hearing something doesn't equate to understanding it.

Discussion

The findings indicate that both English and Uzbek languages employ visual metaphors in proverbs and idioms to convey insights about perception, understanding, and human behavior. Expressions like "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder" and "Ko'zi ochiq" highlight the importance of individual perception and awareness in both cultures. However, cultural nuances influence the specific usage and interpretation of these expressions. For instance, the English proverb "In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king" emphasizes relative advantage, while the Uzbek proverb "Ko'rgan ko'rmas, eshitgan bilmas" underscores the difference between sensory perception and true understanding.

These proverbs and idioms reflect shared human experiences and cognitive processes, yet they also reveal distinct cultural perspectives on perception and knowledge. The use of visual metaphors serves as a powerful linguistic tool to encapsulate complex ideas in a relatable and memorable manner.

Conclusion

This study highlights the significant role of visual perception in the proverbs and idioms of both English and Uzbek languages. While there are common themes that reflect universal human experiences, cultural nuances shape the specific expressions and their interpretations. Understanding these linguistic representations provides deeper insights into the cognitive and cultural frameworks of both language communities.

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