



THE FORMATION OF ADJECTIVE DEGREES IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract: *This article examines the formation of adjective degrees in English and Uzbek languages, focusing on their morphological and syntactic structures. In English, adjective degrees are typically formed through inflectional morphemes (-er, -est) for monosyllabic and some disyllabic adjectives, or through periphrastic constructions using "more" and "most" for polysyllabic adjectives. Conversely, Uzbek employs a more consistent use of suffixes (-roq for the comparative and -eng for the superlative), alongside analytic methods for degree formation. The study highlights similarities, such as the fundamental role of modification in adjective degree formation, and differences, including the prevalence of suffixation in Uzbek compared to English. By comparing these linguistic mechanisms, the article provides insights into the typological characteristics of both languages and their approaches to expressing comparative and superlative degrees. This comparative analysis not only enriches our understanding of the grammatical systems in English and Uzbek but also contributes to broader discussions in comparative linguistics and language typology.*

INTRODUCTION

Adjectives play a crucial role in both English and Uzbek languages, serving to modify nouns and provide additional information about their attributes. In English, adjectives are relatively straightforward, typically appearing before the noun they modify and remaining unchanged regardless of the noun's number or gender. English adjectives can describe qualities (e.g., "happy"), quantities (e.g., "few"), and can be gradable, allowing for the expression of different degrees of comparison. These degrees are usually formed by adding inflectional morphemes (-er, -est) for shorter adjectives, or by using the periphrastic "more" and "most" for longer adjectives (e.g., "happier," "happiest" versus "more beautiful," "most beautiful").

In contrast, Uzbek adjectives, known as *sifatlar*, also precede the nouns they modify but exhibit unique features aligned with the agglutinative nature of the language. Unlike English, Uzbek adjectives do not change form based on the noun's characteristics but can take on various suffixes to indicate degrees of comparison. The comparative degree is typically formed by adding the suffix -roq, while the superlative is marked by -eng (e.g., "chiroyliroq" for "more beautiful" and "eng chiroyli" for "most beautiful"). Additionally, Uzbek employs analytic methods similar to English, though the usage patterns and frequency can differ significantly.

Both languages exhibit gradability in adjectives, enabling speakers to compare and intensify descriptions. However, the methods of forming these degrees reflect their distinct grammatical frameworks. English relies heavily on inflection and periphrasis, while Uzbek uses a combination of suffixation and analytic constructions. This article explores these mechanisms in detail, providing a comparative analysis of adjective degree formation in English and Uzbek. By examining these linguistic features, we aim to highlight the



typological characteristics and unique approaches each language employs in the realm of adjectives. This comparative study not only enhances our understanding of the specific languages but also contributes to broader linguistic theories on adjective usage and modification.

Main part

The formation of adjective degrees in English and Uzbek languages reflects their unique linguistic characteristics and typological differences. This analysis will delve into the morphological and syntactic mechanisms employed by both languages to express comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives.

In English, adjectives can be inflected to express degrees of comparison: positive, comparative, and superlative.

Positive Degree. The base form of the adjective, used to describe a noun without any comparison (e.g., "happy").

Comparative Degree. This degree indicates that one noun has a higher degree of the quality than another. English typically forms the comparative degree in two ways:

-By adding the suffix *-er* to the adjective (e.g., "happier"). This method is generally used for monosyllabic and some disyllabic adjectives ending in *-y*.

-By using the word "more" before the adjective (e.g., "more beautiful"). This method is preferred for adjectives with two or more syllables that do not end in *-y*.

Superlative Degree. This degree indicates that one noun has the highest degree of the quality among a group. English forms the superlative degree in two ways:

-By adding the suffix *-est* to the adjective (e.g., "happiest"). This is used for monosyllabic and some disyllabic adjectives ending in *-y*.

-By using the word "most" before the adjective (e.g., "most beautiful"). This is used for adjectives with two or more syllables that do not end in *-y*.

In Uzbek, adjectives (*sifatlar*) also express degrees of comparison, but the formation methods differ due to the language's agglutinative nature.

Positive Degree. The base form of the adjective, used to describe a noun without comparison (e.g., "baxtli" - "happy").

Comparative Degree. This degree indicates that one noun has a higher degree of the quality than another. Uzbek forms the comparative degree primarily through suffixation:

-By adding the suffix *-roq* to the adjective (e.g., "baxtliroq" - "happier"). This method is consistent across most adjectives.

While less common, Uzbek can also use analytic methods similar to English (e.g., "chiroyliroq" - "more beautiful").

Superlative Degree. This degree indicates that one noun has the highest degree of the quality among a group. Uzbek forms the superlative degree through:

- By adding the suffix *-eng* to the adjective (e.g., "eng chiroyli" - "most beautiful"). This method is standard and universally applied.

- Similar to the comparative degree, an analytic approach can be used but is less frequent (e.g., "eng chiroyli" - "most beautiful").

English tends to use a mix of inflectional and periphrastic methods, whereas Uzbek relies more heavily on suffixation, showcasing its agglutinative nature.



Uzbek demonstrates a more uniform approach with consistent suffixes for comparative and superlative forms. English, in contrast, has more variability, requiring both morphological changes and additional words based on syllable count.

Conclusion

The formation of adjective degrees in English and Uzbek reveals the inherent typological differences between an inflectional language and an agglutinative one. English employs a combination of inflectional endings and periphrastic constructions based on syllable count and adjective length, leading to a more varied system. In contrast, Uzbek's reliance on suffixation for both comparative and superlative degrees highlights its morphological consistency and simplicity. This comparative analysis not only sheds light on the grammatical structures of English and Uzbek but also enhances our broader understanding of linguistic typology and the diverse mechanisms languages use to express comparison.

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