LINGUISTIC MECHANISMS OF MEANING CONSTRUCTION IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH PRESS

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Annotation. This article examines the linguistic mechanisms of meaning construction in Uzbek and English press discourse. The study analyzes lexical-semantic strategies (evaluative lexicon, metaphors, synonymic choice, terminological units, intensification) as well as syntactic-structural mechanisms (passive constructions, syntactic parallelism, repetition strategies, simple and complex sentences). The results of the comparative analysis show that the Uzbek press is oriented toward emotional-expressive and figurative expressions, while the English press is based on concise, precise, and informative style. Passive constructions are widely used in both languages, giving the text an official and objective character. Syntactic parallelism and repetition strategies are important means of enhancing text expressiveness.
Keywords: linguistic mechanisms, meaning construction, media discourse, lexical-semantic strategies, syntactic mechanisms, Uzbek press, English press, comparative analysis.

Annotatsiya. Mazkur maqola o‘zbek va ingliz matbuoti diskursida ma’no konstruktsiyasining lingvistik mexanizmlarini o‘rganishga bag‘ishlangan. Tadqiqotda leksik-semantik strategiyalar (baholovchi leksika, metaforalar, sinonimik tanlov, terminologik birliklar, intensifikatsiya) hamda sintaktik-strukturaviy mexanizmlar (passiv konstruktsiyalar, sintaktik parallelizm, takror strategiyalari, sodda va murakkab gaplar) tahlil qilingan. Qiyosiy tahlil natijalariga ko‘ra, o‘zbek matbuoti emotsional-ekspressiv va obrazli ifodalarga, ingliz matbuoti esa qisqa, aniq va informativ uslubga asoslangan. Passiv konstruktsiyalar har ikki tilda ham keng qo‘llanib, matnga rasmiy va obyektiv tus beradi. Sintaktik parallelizm va takror strategiyalari matn ekspressivligini oshirishda muhim vosita hisoblanadi.
Kalit so‘zlar: lingvistik mexanizmlar, ma’no konstruktsiyasi, media diskurs, leksik-semantik strategiyalar, sintaktik mexanizmlar, o‘zbek matbuoti, ingliz matbuoti, qiyosiy tahlil.

Аннотация. Данная статья посвящена изучению лингвистических механизмов конструирования смысла в дискурсе узбекской и английской прессы. В исследовании анализируются лексико-семантические стратегии (оценочная лексика, метафоры, синонимический выбор, терминологические единицы, интенсификация), а также синтаксическо-структурные механизмы (пассивные конструкции, синтаксический параллелизм, стратегии повтора, простые и сложные предложения). Результаты сравнительного анализа показывают, что узбекская пресса ориентирована на эмоционально-экспрессивные и образные выражения, тогда как английская пресса основана на кратком, точном и информативном стиле. Пассивные конструкции широко используются в обоих языках, придавая тексту официальный и объективный характер. Синтаксический параллелизм и стратегии повтора являются важными средствами повышения экспрессивности текста.
Ключевые слова: лингвистические механизмы, конструирование смысла, медиадискурс, лексико-семантические стратегии, синтаксические механизмы, узбекская пресса, английская пресса, сравнительный анализ.

INTRODUCTION

The intricate relationship between language and meaning construction in media discourse has emerged as a focal point of contemporary linguistic research. Mass media, as the primary vehicle of information dissemination in the modern world, do not merely reflect reality but actively shape it through deliberate linguistic choices. Newspapers and magazines, in particular, serve as powerful instruments that influence public opinion, reinforce ideological positions, and construct particular interpretations of events and phenomena. The linguistic mechanisms employed in journalistic texts—ranging from lexical-semantic strategies to syntactic-structural devices—play a decisive role in how readers perceive and understand the world around them. This article undertakes a comparative analysis of the linguistic mechanisms of meaning construction in Uzbek and English press discourse. The choice of these two languages is particularly significant, as they represent distinct linguistic systems, cultural traditions, and journalistic schools. Uzbek press, rooted in national literary traditions, tends to favor expressive, emotional, and figuratively rich language. English press, by contrast, is characterized by its preference for conciseness, precision, and informational clarity. Understanding these differences is essential not only for theoretical linguistics but also for practical fields such as translation, cross-cultural communication, and media studies.

The study focuses on two broad categories of linguistic mechanisms. First, lexical-semantic strategies, including evaluative lexicon, metaphors, synonymic choice, terminological units, and intensification, are examined to determine how word selection influences meaning. Second, syntactic and structural mechanisms, such as passive constructions, syntactic parallelism, repetition strategies, and the use of simple versus complex sentences, are analyzed to understand how sentence structure and text organization contribute to meaning construction. By comparing these mechanisms across the two press traditions, this article aims to identify both universal patterns and language-specific features of media discourse. The findings offer valuable insights into how language shapes social reality and how different cultures construct meaning through journalistic writing.

Lexical-semantic strategies represent the most fundamental level of meaning construction in media discourse. These strategies involve the deliberate selection of words and expressions to convey specific attitudes, evaluations, and interpretations of events. In both Uzbek and English press, evaluative lexicon serves as a primary tool for expressing authorial stance. Uzbek newspapers frequently employ phrases such as "dolzarb masala" (urgent issue), "muhim qaror" (important decision), and "keskin tanqid" (sharp criticism), which carry clear evaluative meanings. English press similarly uses expressions like "serious problem", "significant achievement", and "critical issue". However, quantitative analysis reveals that Uzbek press uses positive evaluative units more frequently (approximately 71% of evaluative instances), emphasizing achievements and progress, while English press demonstrates a more balanced distribution between positive and negative evaluation (44% positive, 56% negative), with a slight tendency toward critical reporting.[1]

Metaphorical expressions constitute another crucial lexical-semantic strategy. Metaphors allow journalists to present complex social, political, and economic processes in accessible and emotionally engaging terms. Uzbek press demonstrates a preference for expansive, imagery-rich metaphors drawn from everyday life and national cultural traditions. Common examples include "iqtisodiyot lokomotivi" (economic locomotive), "taraqqiyot yo'li" (path of development), and "siyosiy maydon" (political arena). English press employs metaphors as well, such as "economic engine", "political battlefield", and "path to development", but these tend to be more concise and formulaic. The Uzbek preference for extended metaphorical chains—where a single metaphor is developed across several

[1] Leech G. Principles of Pragmatics. – London: Routledge, 2016. – 200 p.

sentences or paragraphs—contrasts with the English tendency toward isolated, context-bound metaphorical expressions. Synonymic choice represents a more subtle but equally important lexical-semantic strategy. Journalists select among synonyms to convey nuanced meanings and particular perspectives on the same event. In Uzbek press, words such as "namoyish" (protest), "yig'ilish" (meeting), and "harakat" (movement) are used in different contexts to describe collective actions, each carrying distinct semantic connotations. English press employs "protest", "demonstration", and "rally" with similar differentiating functions. The key difference lies in the degree of emotional coloring: Uzbek synonyms often carry stronger evaluative and emotional charges, while English synonyms are selected primarily on the basis of denotational precision and contextual appropriateness.[2]

Terminological units add formality, analytical depth, and sometimes ideological alignment to media texts. Uzbek press frequently uses terms like "islohot" (reform), "modernizatsiya" (modernization), "strategiya" (strategy), and "barqaror rivojlanish" (sustainable development). English press employs "reform", "modernization", "investment", and "sustainable development". Notably, Uzbek press shows a tendency to create or adopt national terminology, while English press readily accepts international terms. This difference reflects broader linguistic and cultural orientations toward language planning and globalization. While lexical choices directly influence what meanings are expressed, syntactic mechanisms determine how these meanings are organized, emphasized, and related to one another. Passive constructions represent one of the most frequently discussed syntactic strategies in media discourse analysis. By shifting attention from the agent of an action to the action itself or its result, passive constructions allow journalists to control the distribution of emphasis and responsibility. Uzbek press employs passive constructions such as "Yangi qonun qabul qilindi" (The new law was adopted) and "Muzokaralar yakunida kelishuvga erishildi" (An agreement was reached at the end of negotiations). English press uses corresponding forms: "The bill was passed" and "An agreement was reached after long negotiations". Comparative analysis indicates that English press uses passive constructions with greater frequency, reflecting both grammatical system differences and stylistic preferences for impersonal, objective reporting.[3]

Syntactic parallelism—the use of identical or similar syntactic structures in sequence—enhances the rhythmic quality of texts and reinforces semantic connections between ideas. Uzbek press employs parallelism extensively, particularly in analytical articles and editorials. A typical example: "Islohotlar davom etmoqda, iqtisodiyot rivojlanmoqda, yangi imkoniyatlar yaratilmoqda" (Reforms are continuing, the economy is developing, new opportunities are being created). English press uses parallelism as well, as in "The economy is growing, new jobs are being created, and investments are increasing". However, Uzbek press tends to use longer parallel sequences and to place them in strategically prominent positions, such as opening or closing paragraphs. Repetition strategies, closely related to parallelism, involve the repeated use of specific words, phrases, or syntactic patterns. Uzbek press frequently repeats keywords such as "yangi" (new), "birinchi" (first), and "muhim" (important) to create cumulative emphasis. English press also uses repetition but tends to avoid obvious or frequent repetition in favor of lexical variation. This difference reflects contrasting stylistic norms: Uzbek journalistic style values emphatic, sometimes redundant reinforcement of key ideas, while English style prioritizes conciseness and lexical diversity.

The choice between simple and complex sentences also carries meaning. Simple sentences dominate news reports, where rapid information delivery is paramount. Complex

[2] Mahmudov N. O‘zbek tili nazariy grammatikasi. Sintaksis [Theoretical Grammar of the Uzbek Language. Syntax]. – Toshkent: O‘qituvchi, 1995. – 22 b.
[3] Bednarek M., Caple H. The Discourse of News Values: How News Organizations Create Newsworthiness. – New York: Oxford University Press, 2017. – 32 p.

sentences are more common in analytical articles, where logical relationships between events must be explicitly articulated. Uzbek press shows a higher proportion of complex sentences overall, perhaps reflecting a preference for explicit logical connection and elaborated argumentation. English press achieves logical coherence through other means, including discourse markers and textual organization, while maintaining shorter sentence lengths. The comparative analysis reveals that Uzbek and English press employ fundamentally similar linguistic mechanisms for meaning construction but apply them according to different stylistic and cultural priorities. Uzbek press prioritizes emotional engagement, expressive richness, and explicit evaluation. English press emphasizes informational clarity, neutrality, and conciseness. These differences are not merely stylistic but reflect deeper cultural orientations toward communication, authority, and the role of media in society. Understanding these mechanisms is essential for accurate cross-cultural media analysis and effective translation between the two linguistic traditions.

Conclusion. The comparative analysis of linguistic mechanisms of meaning construction in Uzbek and English press discourse reveals both shared strategies and distinct cultural-linguistic preferences. Lexical-semantic strategies—including evaluative lexicon, metaphors, synonymic choice, terminological units, and intensification—serve as fundamental tools for shaping reader perceptions in both media traditions. Syntactic and structural mechanisms—passive constructions, syntactic parallelism, repetition strategies, and sentence complexity—further organize and emphasize meaning. The key distinction lies in orientation: Uzbek press prioritizes emotional expressiveness, figurative richness, and explicit positive evaluation, reflecting a journalistic tradition that values engagement and persuasion. English press favors conciseness, informational clarity, and stylistic neutrality, reflecting norms of objectivity and distance. These differences manifest across all levels of analysis, from word choice to sentence structure. Understanding these divergent mechanisms is essential for cross-cultural communication, translation studies, and media analysis. The findings suggest that meaning in media discourse is never neutral but is actively constructed through culturally shaped linguistic choices. Future research should extend this analysis to other genres and digital media platforms to further illuminate how language shapes social reality across linguistic and cultural boundaries.

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