

## SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF GRAMMATICAL CATEGORY GENDER IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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**Annotation:** This article provides a comparative analysis of the grammatical category of gender in English and Uzbek languages, highlighting both similarities and differences. It explains that while English employs a system of natural gender with specific pronouns (“he,” “she,” “it”) and some gendered nouns, Uzbek lacks grammatical gender entirely, using the same pronoun (“u”) for all genders and making no gender distinctions in nouns or adjectives. The article discusses how English is evolving towards gender-neutral language to promote inclusivity, whereas Uzbek’s inherent gender neutrality simplifies its grammatical structure. Cultural and linguistic implications of these differences are also explored, emphasizing how language can reflect and influence societal views on gender.

**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu maqolada ingliz va o‘zbek tillaridagi jinsning grammatik kategoriyasi qiyosiy tahlil qilinib, o‘xshash va farqli tomonlari ko‘rsatilgan. Unda aytilishicha, ingliz tilida o‘ziga xos olmoshlar (“he”, “she”, “it”) va ba’zi jinsli otlar bilan tabiiy jins tizimi qo‘llanilsa-da, o‘zbek tilida barcha jinslar uchun bir xil olmosh (“u”) qo‘llanib, grammatik jinsga to‘liq ega emasligi tushuntiriladi va otlar yoki sifatlarda hech qanday jins farqiga yo‘l qo‘ymaslik. Maqolada ingliz tili inklyuzivlikni targ‘ib qilish uchun gender-neytral til tomon qanday rivojlanayotgani, o‘zbek tiliga xos bo‘lgan gender neytralligi esa uning grammatik tuzilishini soddalashtirgani muhokama qilinadi. Ushbu farqlarning madaniy va lingvistik ta’siri ham o‘rganilib, tilning jinsga nisbatan jamiyat qarashlarini qanday aks ettirishi va ta’sir qilishi ta’kidlangan.

**Key words:** Grammatical gender, English language, Uzbek language, pronouns, gender neutrality, natural gender, nouns, linguistic comparison, cultural implications, gender inclusivity, gender-specific pronouns, language structure.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** Grammatik jins, Ingliz tili, o‘zbek tili, olmoshlar, gender betarafligi, tabiiy jins, otlar, lingvistik taqqoslash, madaniy ta’sirlar, gender inklyuzivligi, jinsga xos olmoshlar, til tuzilishi.

### INTRODUCTION

Grammatical gender, a system in which nouns are classified as masculine, feminine, or neuter, varies widely across languages. English and Uzbek, despite both being part of the Indo-European and Turkic language families respectively, showcase interesting similarities and differences in their treatment of gender in

grammar. This article explores these aspects in detail, providing a comparative analysis.

**Grammatical Gender in English:** In modern English, grammatical gender is relatively straightforward. English does not have a pervasive system of gendered nouns; instead, it uses natural gender, which refers to the actual gender of the person or animal being described [1. p 112-114]

**Pronouns:** The primary reflection of gender in English grammar is in pronouns. The third-person singular pronouns “he,” “she,” and “it” denote masculine, feminine, and neuter genders respectively. For example: He is a teacher. (Masculine). She is a doctor. (Feminine). It is a book. (Neuter).

**Nouns:** English nouns themselves are not gendered; they do not change form based on gender. However, there are some instances where different words exist for male and female counterparts, often seen in animals or familial terms: Actor/Actress, Bull/Cow, Father/Mother.

**Gender Neutrality:** Modern English increasingly adopts gender-neutral language, aiming to avoid unnecessary gender distinctions. Terms like “firefighter” (instead of “fireman”) and “chairperson” (instead of “chairman”) reflect this trend [2. p 165-166]

**Grammatical Gender in Uzbek:** Uzbek, a member of the Turkic language family, does not have grammatical gender. Nouns, pronouns, and adjectives do not change form based on gender, making it a gender-neutral language in terms of grammar.

**Pronouns:** Uzbek uses the same pronoun for he, she, and it: “u”. Context typically clarifies the gender when needed. For example: U o’qituvchi. (He/She is a teacher.) U shifokor. (He/She is a doctor.)

**Nouns:** Uzbek nouns do not change form based on gender. There is no differentiation in noun forms to indicate male or female, even in professions or roles. For instance, the word “muhandis” means “engineer” and applies equally to both male and female engineers [ 3. p 178-180]

### **Similarities:**

**Pronoun Usage:** Both languages use pronouns to denote gender, but the context and specificity vary significantly. English pronouns explicitly indicate gender, whereas Uzbek pronouns are gender-neutral and rely on context.

**Natural Gender Influence:** In both languages, when referring to people or animals, the natural gender can influence word choice or context, although this influence is much more pronounced in English [ 4. p 75-76]

### **Differences:**

**Presence of Grammatical Gender:** The most significant difference is the presence of grammatical gender in English, where certain pronouns and some nouns

are gender-specific. Uzbek lacks grammatical gender entirely, making no distinctions in nouns, pronouns, or adjectives based on gender.

Adaptation of Gender-Neutral Language: English is actively evolving towards gender neutrality in professional and social terms, whereas Uzbek inherently possesses this characteristic due to its lack of grammatical gender [ 5. p 139-141]

### **Cultural and Linguistic Implications**

English: The gender-specific elements in English reflect and sometimes reinforce societal roles and perceptions. The movement towards gender-neutral language in English mirrors changing societal values around gender equality and inclusivity.

Uzbek: Uzbek’s grammatical structure, which lacks gender differentiation, inherently supports a more neutral approach to gender. This linguistic characteristic might influence or reflect societal views on gender roles differently compared to languages with grammatical gender distinctions [6. p 211-213]

### **CONCLUSION**

The grammatical category of gender in English and Uzbek languages presents a fascinating contrast. English, with its gender-specific pronouns and some nouns, shows a clear distinction influenced by natural gender, while also moving towards more inclusive language use. Uzbek, on the other hand, naturally embodies gender neutrality, reflecting a linguistic simplicity and an egalitarian approach to gender. Understanding these differences enhances our appreciation of how languages shape and are shaped by cultural and social norms.

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