

## PHONETIC ELEMENTS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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**Annotation:** This article examines the phonetic elements of English and Uzbek, highlighting both differences and similarities between the two languages. It provides a detailed comparison of their consonant and vowel inventories, noting the presence of unique sounds in each language. The article discusses stress and intonation patterns, showing how English has more complex and variable stress compared to the predictable stress patterns in Uzbek. It also covers phonotactics, indicating that English allows more complex consonant clusters than Uzbek. Additionally, the article explores phonological processes like assimilation and elision, demonstrating their occurrence in both languages albeit with different frequencies and contexts. Overall, this comparison underscores the distinct phonetic characteristics rooted in the linguistic heritages of English and Uzbek, while also recognizing shared phonetic processes.

**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu maqola ingliz va o‘zbek tillarining fonetik elementlarini o‘rganib, ikki til o‘rtasidagi farq va o‘xshashliklarni ko‘rsatib beradi. Unda har bir tilda o‘ziga xos tovushlar mavjudligi qayd etilgan holda ularning undosh va unlilar inventarlari batafsil qiyoslanadi. Maqolada urg‘u va intonatsiya ko‘rib chiqilib, o‘zbek tilidagi urg‘u naqshlariga nisbatan ingliz tilida qanday qilib murakkabroq va o‘zgaruvchan urg‘u borligi ko‘rsatilgan. Shuningdek, u fonotaktikani ham qamrab oladi, bu esa ingliz tili o‘zbek tiliga qaraganda murakkabroq undoshlar klasterlariga ruxsat berishini ko‘rsatadi. Bundan tashqari, maqola assimilyatsiya va eliziya kabi fonologik jarayonlarni o‘rganadi, ularning har xil chastotalar va kontekstlarda bo‘lsa ham, ikkala tilda paydo bo‘lishini namoyish etadi. Umuman olganda, bu taqqoslash ingliz va o‘zbek tillari lingvistik merosida ildiz otgan o‘ziga xos fonetik xususiyatlarni ta’kidlab, umumiy fonetik jarayonlarni ham tan oladi.

**Key words:** Phonetic elements, English language, Uzbek Language, consonants, vowels, stress patterns, intonation, phonotactics, assimilation, elision, linguistic comparison, phonological processes, sound system.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** Fonetik elementlar, ingliz tili, o‘zbek tili, undoshlar, unlilar, urg‘u qoliplari, intonatsiya, fonotaktika, assimilyatsiya, eliziya, lingvistik taqqoslash, fonologik jarayonlar, tovush tizimi.

### INTRODUCTION

Phonetics, the study of speech sounds, provides a fascinating lens through which to examine and compare languages. English and Uzbek, belonging to the

Germanic and Turkic language families respectively, offer distinct phonetic characteristics. This article explores the phonetic elements of these two languages, highlighting their differences and similarities.

Consonants: English boasts a rich array of consonants, with sounds that are both voiced and voiceless. Some common consonants in English include:

Plosives: /p/, /b/, /t/, /d/, /k/, /g/

Fricatives: /f/, /v/, /θ/, /ð/, /s/, /z/, /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /h/

Affricates: /tʃ/, /dʒ/

Nasals: /m/, /n/, /ŋ/

Liquids: /l/, /r/

Semivowels: /w/, /j/ [1. p 112-114]

Uzbek, while having a slightly simpler consonantal system, also includes both voiced and voiceless sounds:

Plosives: /p/, /b/, /t/, /d/, /k/, /g/, /q/

Fricatives: /f/, /v/, /s/, /z/, /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /x/, /ɣ/, /h/

Affricates: /tʃ/, /dʒ/

Nasals: /m/, /n/, /ŋ/

Liquids: /l/, /r/

Semivowels: /w/, /j/

A notable difference is the presence of the uvular plosive /q/ and the velar fricative /x/ in Uzbek, which do not exist in English. Conversely, English features the dental fricatives /θ/ (as in “think”) and /ð/ (as in “this”), which are absent in Uzbek [2. p 165-166]

Vowels: The vowel systems in English and Uzbek also exhibit notable differences. English vowels are characterized by their extensive use of diphthongs and a distinction between tense and lax vowels:

Monophthongs: /i/, /ɪ/, /e/, /æ/, /ɑ/, /ɒ/, /ɔ/, /ʊ/, /u/, /ə/, /ʌ/

Diphthongs: /eɪ/, /aɪ/, /ɔɪ/, /aʊ/, /oʊ/, /ɪə/, /eə/, /ʊə/

Uzbek, on the other hand, has a simpler vowel system, comprising mainly of:

Monophthongs: /i/, /e/, /æ/, /ɑ/, /o/, /u/

Uzbek vowels do not exhibit the same level of diphthongization seen in English. Additionally, vowel length is not as phonemically significant in Uzbek as it is in English [3. p 75-76]

Stress: In English, stress is a critical phonetic feature, influencing both word meaning and sentence structure. English words often have primary and secondary stress (e.g., ‘record as a noun vs. Re’cord as a verb), and sentence stress can highlight the most important part of a message.

Uzbek, while also using stress, does not employ it in as complex a manner as English. Stress in Uzbek words is typically more predictable, often falling on the last

syllable of the word. This regularity in stress patterns makes Uzbek prosody less variable compared to English [4. p 42-43]

**Intonation:** Intonation patterns in English are varied and play a significant role in conveying different types of sentences (statements, questions, commands) and emotional nuances. Rising and falling tones can significantly alter the meaning of a sentence.

Uzbek intonation, while still important, is generally more straightforward. Statements usually end with a falling intonation, and questions with a rising intonation, similar to English. However, the range and variation in pitch may not be as pronounced in Uzbek as in English [ 5. p 155-157]

**Phonotactics:** Phonotactics refers to the rules governing the possible phoneme sequences in a language. In English, complex consonant clusters are common, both at the beginning (e.g., “str-“ in “street”) and at the end of words (e.g., “-nkts” in “links”). This flexibility allows for a vast array of syllable structures.

Uzbek phonotactic rules are more restrictive, especially concerning consonant clusters. Consonant clusters at the beginning of words are rare, and syllable structures tend to be simpler, typically alternating between consonants and vowels [6. p 95-96]

**Phonological Processes. Assimilation:** Both languages exhibit assimilation, where a sound becomes similar to a neighboring sound. In English, this can be seen in phrases like “input” [ˈɪnpʊt], where the /n/ assimilates to the following /p/. Uzbek also shows assimilation, such as in the word “bir-bir” [bɪrˈbɪr] (“each other”), where the first /r/ influences the second.

**Elision:** Elision, the omission of sounds, occurs in both languages but is more prominent in English. For example, “I am going to” often becomes “I’m gonna” in casual speech. In Uzbek, elision occurs but is less common, generally limited to rapid or informal speech [7. p 214-216]

## CONCLUSION

The phonetic elements of English and Uzbek highlight both differences and similarities rooted in their distinct linguistic heritages. English, with its complex consonant clusters, diphthongs, and variable stress patterns, contrasts with the more straightforward phonotactic and prosodic characteristics of Uzbek. However, both languages share fundamental phonetic processes like assimilation and elision. Understanding these elements enriches our appreciation of each language’s unique sound system and offers insights into their respective linguistic structures.

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