



LINGUISTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS RELATED TO THE FIELD OF ECONOMICS IN THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

Muxiddinova Hilola Toxir qizi

Student of foreign language and literature, University of exact and social sciences

E-mail address: hilolamuxiddinova@gmail.com

Annotation. *Economic discourse, while traditionally associated with precision and terminological clarity, widely employs stable word combinations and metaphorical expressions that contribute to conceptualization, evaluation, and persuasion. Phraseological units in this domain serve not only as stylistic devices but also as cognitive instruments that structure economic knowledge and shape professional as well as public understanding of financial processes. The purpose of this research is to identify and compare the structural patterns, semantic features, and pragmatic functions of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek. The study explores their formation mechanisms, including metaphorization, idiomatization, terminologization, and borrowing. Special attention is given to dominant conceptual metaphors that underlie economic phraseology, such as economy as movement, struggle, growth, or stability. The research also analyzes the degree of cross-linguistic equivalence between the two languages, highlighting cases of structural similarity, semantic correspondence, and culturally specific divergence. The methodological framework combines comparative analysis, semantic modeling, contextual examination, and elements of cognitive linguistics. The empirical material consists of examples extracted from academic publications, business media, financial reports, and public economic discourse in both languages.*

Key words: *economic phraseology, financial discourse, idiomatic expressions, comparative analysis, cross-linguistic study, semantic structure, metaphorization, terminologization, lexical borrowing.*

INTRODUCTION

Language plays a central role in shaping and transmitting economic knowledge. Although economics is commonly perceived as an exact and data-driven discipline, its discourse is far from purely technical. Alongside precise terminology, economic communication actively employs phraseological units — stable, reproducible word combinations that carry figurative, evaluative, and culturally embedded meanings. These units contribute to the interpretation of economic realities, making abstract financial processes more understandable and expressive for both specialists and the general public. In contemporary globalized society, economic interaction has intensified across national and linguistic boundaries. English functions as the dominant language of international finance, trade, and business communication, significantly influencing the development of economic vocabulary worldwide. At the same time, the Uzbek language, undergoing rapid socio-economic transformation and integration into the global market, has expanded its economic lexicon and phraseology. This dynamic development creates favorable conditions for a comparative linguistic study of economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek.



Phraseological units in economic discourse are particularly interesting because they combine elements of metaphor, evaluation, and conceptual modeling. Through expressions that depict economic growth, crisis, competition, or stability, speakers construct a coherent picture of economic processes. These constructions often rely on universal cognitive patterns while simultaneously reflecting language-specific and culture-bound features. Therefore, analyzing the linguistic characteristics of such units allows researchers to identify both shared conceptual foundations and distinctive structural or semantic properties in the two languages. Despite considerable research in the fields of phraseology, cognitive linguistics, and discourse analysis, comparative studies focusing specifically on economic phraseological units in English and Uzbek remain limited. Most existing works address terminology or general idiomatic expressions without systematically examining their functional role within economic communication. This gap highlights the relevance and timeliness of the present research.

MAIN PART

The study of phraseological units in economic discourse reveals that language does not merely describe financial reality but actively constructs and interprets it. In both English and Uzbek, economic communication relies on a system of stable expressions that function as ready-made cognitive models. These phraseological units allow speakers to conceptualize abstract processes such as inflation, recession, investment, profit, and competition through familiar and concrete images. Thus, economic phraseology represents a bridge between specialized knowledge and everyday understanding. One of the central linguistic characteristics of economic phraseological units is their semantic integrity. Although composed of several lexical elements, these expressions function as single semantic units whose meaning often cannot be fully deduced from the meanings of their components. In English economic discourse, combinations such as those describing market fluctuations or financial strategies frequently develop idiomatic or semi-idiomatic meanings. Similarly, in Uzbek, economic expressions often acquire figurative shades of meaning that go beyond literal interpretation. This semantic cohesion ensures clarity and efficiency in professional communication while maintaining expressive potential.

Structurally, economic phraseological units in English tend to demonstrate analytical patterns, including attributive noun combinations, phrasal verbs, and compound constructions. Uzbek, as an agglutinative language, forms phraseological units through syntactic combinations supported by morphological markers that express grammatical relations. Despite these typological differences, both languages show a tendency toward structural stability and reproducibility. Once established, phraseological units are consistently used in similar forms across texts and genres, which reinforces their recognizability and communicative



effectiveness. A defining feature of economic phraseology in both languages is its metaphorical foundation. Economic processes are frequently conceptualized through metaphorical domains that structure abstract knowledge in more tangible terms. The metaphor of growth and decline is especially prominent. Economic development is associated with upward movement, expansion, or strengthening, while crisis and recession are linked to decline, contraction, or weakening. This vertical spatial metaphor reflects universal cognitive associations in which “up” corresponds to improvement and “down” to deterioration.

In addition to spatial metaphors, economic discourse in both English and Uzbek employs the metaphor of mechanics and construction. The economy may be portrayed as a machine that can “function,” “break down,” or “be repaired.” Financial systems are often described as structures that require “support,” “foundation,” or “stability.” These metaphorical models highlight rational organization and technical control, reflecting the perception of the economy as a system governed by laws and regulations. The metaphor of competition as conflict or struggle also plays a significant role. Market relations are described through expressions that evoke rivalry, confrontation, and strategic action. Such phraseological units are particularly common in media discourse, where economic news is framed dynamically to attract attention and emphasize urgency. In Uzbek economic texts, similar figurative constructions appear, although their frequency and stylistic intensity may vary depending on genre and communicative purpose.

Another important linguistic process observed in the formation of economic phraseological units is terminologization. Some expressions that originally emerged as metaphors gradually lose their vivid imagery and become standardized technical terms. Over time, they are perceived less as figurative language and more as neutral elements of professional vocabulary. In English, due to its global role in finance and business, this process is especially visible. Uzbek economic discourse also demonstrates terminologization, often influenced by international models and translation practices. Borrowing and adaptation constitute additional mechanisms shaping Uzbek economic phraseology. With the expansion of international trade and financial cooperation, numerous English-based expressions have entered Uzbek usage either directly or through calque translation. However, borrowed units undergo phonetic, morphological, and semantic adaptation to align with the norms of the Uzbek language. This interaction between external influence and internal linguistic structure creates a hybrid phraseological system that reflects both global integration and national identity. From a functional perspective, economic phraseological units perform several communicative roles. First, they serve a cognitive function by organizing complex information into structured conceptual patterns. Second, they fulfill an expressive function, especially in journalistic and political discourse, where evaluative and persuasive effects are



important. Third, they have a didactic function in educational contexts, helping students and professionals internalize economic concepts more effectively.

The comparative analysis also reveals differences in stylistic distribution. English economic phraseology often shows high variability across academic, media, and informal contexts. Certain expressions move freely between professional and everyday usage. In Uzbek, while similar tendencies exist, some phraseological units remain more strongly associated with formal or institutional discourse. These distinctions highlight the role of socio-cultural context in determining the scope and frequency of phraseological usage. Translation equivalence remains a crucial issue in the comparative study of economic phraseological units. While some expressions demonstrate close structural and semantic correspondence, others require adaptation or explanatory translation. Cultural nuances, metaphorical associations, and stylistic conventions must be carefully considered to preserve meaning and pragmatic effect. Therefore, understanding the linguistic characteristics of economic phraseology contributes significantly to improving translation accuracy and intercultural communication.

CONCLUSION

The conducted comparative analysis confirms that phraseological units related to the field of economics represent a significant and dynamic component of both English and Uzbek linguistic systems. Although economic discourse is often associated with objectivity and terminological precision, it is deeply enriched by stable figurative expressions that structure, interpret, and evaluate economic reality. These phraseological units demonstrate that language in the economic sphere is not purely technical but cognitively and culturally shaped. The research has shown that economic phraseological units in both languages share several common linguistic characteristics, including structural stability, semantic cohesion, metaphorical motivation, and functional versatility. Universal conceptual metaphors such as economy as growth or decline, movement, struggle, or mechanism form the cognitive foundation of many expressions in both English and Uzbek. This similarity indicates shared human cognitive patterns in understanding abstract financial processes. At the same time, important differences emerge due to typological distinctions between the languages, as well as their historical and socio-cultural development. English economic phraseology demonstrates a high level of productivity and international dissemination, reflecting the global role of English in finance and business. Uzbek economic phraseological units, while increasingly influenced by global trends, maintain distinctive structural and cultural features shaped by national linguistic traditions and internal word-formation processes.



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