

LINGUO-PRAGMATIC ROLES OF COMPLIMENTS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LITERARY WORKS

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Annotation: *This thesis analyzes the linguo pragmatic features of compliments in English and Uzbek literary works. The function of compliments as a speech acts, the purpose of their use in social settings, and their culturally specific forms of expression are studied comparatively. The research reveals the role of compliments in the speech of characters from selected English and Uzbek literary works in strengthening social relations between people and expressing respect and sincerity.*

Keywords: *compliment, linguo-pragmatics, speech act, communicative task, English literature, Uzbek literature, culture, pragmatics.*

INTRODUCTION

Language is the main tool of human communication.[5] As a result of the fact that some Oxford scholars focused their research on the acquisition of ordinary human language in natural conditions, the theory of speech acts was formed, which studies not only the structure of language, but also its social functions.[2] In the 1960s and 1970s, this theory was founded, and Austin, Searle, and Grece contributed to the development of this theory. In general, speech act theory understands language not only as a system of rules but also as a means of performing actions in society. Each speech unit has a specific purpose and function and plays an important role in interpersonal relationships.[6] One of such speech units is a compliment. A compliment is a speech tool that expresses a positive assessment of a person's appearance, character, abilities or activity. Linguistic pragmatics studies the use of language units in real communicative situations. In this regard, compliments are important not only as a physical aesthetic or emotional tool, but also as a pragmatic tool that controls social communication. In other words, compliments in fiction are widely used to reveal the inner world of characters, truthfully depict the relationships between them, and develop national culture.

The expression of compliments in English and Uzbek literature is closely related to different cultural values. While in English literature compliments are used more to emphasize individuality, etiquette and personal qualities, in Uzbek literature they serve to express respect, sincerity and social closeness. Linguistic-pragmatic essence of compliments Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies the emotional impact of language units on the listener in a particular speech process.

Compliments are pragmatically considered “expressive speech act”. Because through them the speaker expresses his positive attitude towards the listener.[1]

The famous scientist John Searle divided speech acts into several types and included compliments in the expressive acts. In such acts, the speaker’s emotional state and assessment play an important role.

For example: “*You are very beautiful today.*” This statement is not just information, but a compliment intended to encourage the listener and have a positive effect on him. In Uzbek, compliments are also often used as an expression of respect and sincerity: “*You are a very wise person.*” Here, a compliment enhances communicative intimacy by highly appreciating the listener’s intellectual potential. Linguistically, compliments perform the following functions:

- creating a positive psychological environment;
- reducing the distance between the interlocutors;
- expressing respect and attention;
- continuing communication;
- mitigating conflicts.

Therefore, compliments are not just beautiful words, but also a powerful communicative strategy.

The use of compliments in English literature

In English literature, compliments often serve to express romantic relationships, etiquette, and social status. Especially in 19th-century English novels, compliments were an important tool in revealing the characters of the characters.

For example, in *Pride and Prejudice*, compliments in the dialogues between Mr. Darcy and Elizabeth express complex emotional relationships. Darcy's famous statement is an example of this:

“She is the most beautiful creature I ever beheld!” (Jane Austen. *Pride and Prejudice*. p.16)

Although this compliment is not a direct praise, it pragmatically indicates a positive attitude. In English literature, compliments are often expressed in an indirect form. This is due to the gentleness and caution in English communicative culture.

Another important point is that compliments in English are often focused on appearance, style of dress, or personal achievements. For example:

- “*You look wonderful.*”
- “*Your work is impressive.*”
- “*You are incredibly talented.*”

Such compliments serve to appreciate the individuality of the listener. Compliments are also used in English literature as a means of developing romantic

relationships. In the dialogue between male and female characters, compliments enhance emotional intimacy and influence the development of the plot.

The uniqueness of compliments in Uzbek literature

In Uzbek literature, compliments are closely related to the national mentality, principles of respect and etiquette. In the speech culture of the Uzbek people, respecting elders, etiquette and sincerity play an important role. For example, in the novel *Bygone Days*, compliments are widely used in the speech of heroes to express respect and reverence. In the image of Kumush, her beauty, etiquette and gentleness are highlighted through numerous compliments. Compliments in Uzbek literature have the following characteristics:

1. The predominance of respect Compliments are often used in relation to older people:

"... bu kungacha siz yolg'iz meninggina emas, bizning oilamizga otaliq mavqe'ida turib, yaxshilikdan boshqani sog'inmay kelasiz."

(O'tkan kunlar, p.12)

2. Sincerity Artificial or overly formal compliments are rare in Uzbek speech.

3. Praising moral qualities A person's manners, upbringing, and kindness are praised more than their appearance:

"Sen dunyoning issiq-sovug'ini tatig'an va manim ishong'an kishimsan."

(Qodiriy, A. O'tkan kunlar. p.39-128)

4. National imagery In Uzbek literature, compliments are often enriched with metaphors and similes:

"O'zining otidek bir narsaning tovushi kabi qilib kuladi."

(Qodiriy, A. O'tkan kunlar..39-128)

This reflects the poetic thinking and aesthetic views of the Uzbek people. Comparative analysis of compliments in English and Uzbek literature Although compliments are a means of expressing a positive attitude in the literature of both peoples, there are some differences in their pragmatic characteristics.

English literature	Uzbek literature
Indirect and cautious compliments, often perform a manipulative function	Direct and sincere compliments prevail
Individuality and personal achievements are valued	Moral qualities and respect are important
Actively used in romantic communication	Widely used in family and social relationships
Short and simple expressions are common	Strong figurative and artistic expressions

These differences are explained by the national mentality and communicative culture of each people. While maintaining personal territory is important in the English communicative style, intimacy and sincerity are a priority in Uzbek culture.

Conclusion

Compliments are an important communicative tool in linguo-pragmatic terms. They serve to strengthen social relationships between people, create a positive communicative atmosphere, and express emotional closeness. A comparative analysis of compliments in English and Uzbek literature shows that compliments perform an important communicative function in both cultures. However, their form of expression and pragmatic purpose are expressed differently under the influence of national values. While in English literature compliments reflect more individuality and politeness, in Uzbek literature respect, sincerity and moral values prevail. Therefore, studying compliments from a linguo-pragmatic perspective is of great importance not only for linguistics, but also for understanding intercultural communication.

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