

THE ROLE OF NUMBERS IN LANGUAGE: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH
AND UZBEK

Mukhamadiyev Aziz Shavkatovich

teacher of the Navoi State Pedagogical Institute

Zokirova Toshbuvi Dilmurodovna

*Navoi state pedagogical institute 3rd year student of the faculty of foreign
languages and literature*

Abstract: *Numbers are fundamental to language, enabling precise communication and structuring of information. This article delves into the grammatical and cultural significance of numbers in English and Uzbek. By comparing number words and their usage in both languages, we explore their similarities, differences, and the essential roles numbers play in modern English, extending beyond basic counting to encompass measurement, identification, and more.*

Keywords: *Numbers, quantification, counting, number structure, pronunciation, grammatical category of number, measurement.*

Numbers are essential in language, providing a way to quantify, count, and order. This article explores numbers as a part of speech, focusing on their role in English and comparing them with the number word series in Uzbek. Additionally, we will discuss the significance of using numbers in Modern English.

The grammatical category of number in nouns indicates whether a noun is singular or plural. This distinction is crucial for understanding and conveying precise information.

The Number Word Series: English and Uzbek Comparison

Numbers as words play a crucial role in both languages. Here is a comparison of number words in English and Uzbek:

One: Bir

Two: Ikki

Three: Uch

Four: To'rt

Five: Besh

Six: Olti

Seven: Yetti

Eight: Sakkiz

Nine: To'qqiz

Ten: O'n

This comparison highlights the linguistic similarities and differences between English and Uzbek in their numerical expressions.

The Meaning of Using Numbers in Modern English. In Modern English, numbers are not only used for counting and quantification but also have various other important functions:

Quantification and Measurement: Numbers provide precise information about quantity and measurement. For example, "She has three cats" or "The building is 100 feet tall."

Order and Ranking: Numbers are used to indicate order and ranking. For instance, "He finished first in the race" or "Chapter 5 is about grammar."

Identification: Numbers are essential for identification purposes, such as phone numbers, addresses, and social security numbers.

Mathematical and Scientific Communication: Numbers are crucial in mathematics and science for calculations, data representation, and scientific communication.

Time and Date: Numbers help specify time and dates. For example, "The meeting is at 3 PM" or "Her birthday is on June 5th."

Economic and Financial Transactions: In business and finance, numbers are vital for transactions, pricing, and accounting.

In modern contexts, the use of numbers extends beyond simple counting. They are integral to technology, education, economics, and virtually every aspect of daily life.

Number Structure

Uzbek:

11-19: Formed by combining ten (o'n) with the units: o'n bir (11), o'n ikki (12), etc.

20, 30, ... 90: Tens are unique words: yigirma (20), o'ttiz (30), qirq (40), ellik (50), oltmish (60), yetmish (70), sakson (80), to'qson (90).

21-29: Formed by combining the tens and units: yigirma bir (21), yigirma ikki (22), etc.

100: yuz

1000: ming

English:

11-19: These numbers have unique names: eleven (11), twelve (12), thirteen (13), etc.

20, 30, ... 90: Tens are unique words: twenty (20), thirty (30), forty (40), fifty (50), sixty (60), seventy (70), eighty (80), ninety (90).

21-29: Formed by combining the tens and units: twenty-one (21), twenty-two (22), etc.

100: one hundred

1000: one thousand

Cultural Aspects and Usage

Uzbek:

Counting and Daily Use: Numbers are used in daily transactions, ages, dates, and times. Traditional counting may influence how numbers are perceived and used in everyday language.

Number Systems: The Uzbek language uses the Arabic numeral system, similar to English.

Cultural Significance: Some numbers might have cultural significance, such as lucky or unlucky numbers, which could be tied to local traditions and beliefs.

English:

Counting and Daily Use: Similar to Uzbek, numbers in English are used in transactions, measurements, ages, dates, and times.

Number Systems: English also uses the Arabic numeral system.

Cultural Significance: English-speaking cultures might have superstitions or cultural beliefs about certain numbers (e.g., 13 is often considered unlucky).

Pronunciation and Orthography

Uzbek:

Pronunciation: Uzbek pronunciation of numbers follows consistent phonetic rules. For example, "bir" is pronounced as [bir].

Orthography: Uzbek uses a Latin alphabet with some unique characters (e.g., 'o' and 'q') to represent sounds.

English:

Pronunciation: English pronunciation can be less predictable due to its diverse linguistic influences. For example, "one" is pronounced [wʌn].

Orthography: English spelling of numbers can be irregular, especially in the teens and multiples of ten.

Both Uzbek and English have structured systems for numbers with unique terms for basic numbers and similar methods for constructing larger numbers. Cultural influences affect the use and significance of numbers in both languages, although the specific beliefs and traditions may differ. Pronunciation and orthography reflect the phonetic and spelling conventions of each language, making them distinct despite underlying similarities in number usage.

In Conclusion, numbers are indispensable in language, serving multiple functions from basic counting to complex scientific communication. Comparing the number words in English and Uzbek illustrates both the universality and uniqueness of numerical language. In Modern English, the use of numbers transcends mere quantification, becoming a vital part of ordering, identification, and various fields of knowledge.

REFERENCES:

1. H. Sweet. A New English Grammar. Logical and Historical. Oxford.
2. Irisqulov A. T. Theoretical grammar of English. T.: "Nashriyot", 2006. 64 p
3. <https://www.oed.com/>