



IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK PROVERBS EXPRESSING THE NOTION OF DEIXIS: PERSON, TIME AND PLACE

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For information to be clearly understood in communication, the categories of person, time, and place play a crucial role. For example, if the sentence "*I lost*" is given, the answers to such questions as "*Who lost?*", "*When did they lose?*", and "*Why did they lose?*" remain ambiguous. The interpretation of these questions depends on who utters the sentence and at what time it is spoken. Similarly, in the sentence "*It is cold outside,*" although the coldness of the outside environment is expressed, it is difficult to determine exactly when and where it is cold without additional contextual information.

The notion of deixis in linguopragmatics addresses precisely this issue by helping to clarify how information is explicitly anchored in context.

As the Russian scholar N.Arutyunova emphasizes, deixis belongs to the field of pragmatics because it is dependent on the speech situation and context. [N.Arutyunova, 1988] According to Ch. Fillmore, deixis is a factor that indicates the identity of the speaker and the listener, as well as the place and time of communication.[Ch.Fillmore, 1966] The linguist J.Lyons defines deixis as the location of persons, objects, events, processes, and actions that are discussed or referred to in conversation.[J.Lyons, 1977] Uzbek scholars have also provided theoretical definitions of deixis. In particular, the linguist A. Kuchiboyev notes that the original meaning of the word "deixis" derives from the Greek word meaning "pointing" or "indicating," and in scientific literature it is used in the sense of "reference to reality" or "indication." [A. Kuchiboyev, 2015] Linguistic units that perform the function of pointing or indicating are also referred to as deictic expressions or indicators.

Moreover, deixis, as one of the key concepts of linguopragmatics, can be defined as linguistic elements that refer to categories such as person, time, and place in communication. In this regard, S.Levinson states that the traditional categories of deixis are person, place and time. [S.Levinson, 2006] In other words, there are three classical categories of deixis: person, place, and time. Later, based on the theoretical approaches of J.Lyons and Ch.Fillmore, discourse deixis and social deixis were added to the classification of deictic types.

The category of person determines the roles of participants in speech activity. According to S.Levinson, the first person refers to the speaker; the second person indicates one or more addressees; and the third person refers to individuals who are neither the speaker nor the listener within the communicative act. [S.Levinson, 2006] As explained by the scholar Sh. Safarov, place deixis refers to the position occupied by participants in the process of communication. Sh.Safarov illustrates place deictic expressions in several languages as follows [Sh.Safarov, 2008]:

1. Adverbs of place: *here, there, over there* (English); *hier, da, dort* (German); *здесь, там, там* (Russian); *shu (bu) yerda, u (o'sha) yerda* (Uzbek).



2. Demonstrative pronouns: *this (these), that (those)* (English); *этом (эту), том (me)* (Russian); *bu (bular), o'sha (o'shalar)* (Uzbek).

Additionally, N. Abdullayeva clarified that deixis can also occur in proverbs and provided the following proverbs as examples of person, time and place deixis:

"Many are called but few are chosen.

Erta turgan ish bitirar, kech qolgan armon qilar.

Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

Bugungi ishni ertaga qo'yma.

Where there is a will, there is a way.

*Bir kun tuz ichgan joyga qirq kun salom ber."*¹

In communication, when conveying any information, it is essential to indicate the time of the event. The linguistic means that express temporal reference are referred to as temporal deixis. All languages possess specific expressions and grammatical devices for indicating temporal deixis.

Additionally, the use of person, time, and place deixis is also widely observed in proverbs in both English and Uzbek languages. Here are the tables of deixis in English and Uzbek proverbs:

Table 1. Person deixis

Language	Proverb	Deixis unit	Grammatical form
English	You reap what you sow	You	Personal pronoun
English	He who laughs last laughs best	He	Personal pronoun
English	We learn by doing	We	Personal pronoun
Uzbek	Nima eksang, shuni o'rsan	Sen (hidden)	Personal pronoun
Uzbek	O'zingga ravo ko'rmaganni boshqaga ravo ko'rma	O'zingga	Reflexive pronoun
Uzbek	Kim mehnat qilsa, u topar	U	Personal pronoun

Table 2. Time deixis

Language	Proverb	Deixis unit	Grammatical form
English	Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today	never, tomorrow, today	adverb
English	Strike while the iron is hot	While	conjunction
English	Better late than never	late, never	adverb
Uzbek	Bugungi ishni ertaga qo'yma	bugungi, ertaga	adverb
Uzbek	Vaqtida qilingan ish – unumli ish	Vaqtida	adverb
Uzbek	Erta turgan – ishini bitirar	Erta	adverb

¹ Абдуллаева Н. Инглиз ва ўзбек халқ мақолларидаги градуонимик муносабатларнинг лингвопрагматик хусусиятлари. – Т.: Nurafshon business, 2021. – 70 б.



Table 3. Place deixis

Language	Proverb	Deixis unit	Grammatical form
English	Here today, gone tomorrow	here	adverb
English	East or west, home is best	East, west	noun
English	What goes up must come down	Up, down	preposition
Uzbek	U yerda osh bor, bu yerda qosh bor	U yerda, bu yerda	demonstrative pronoun
Uzbek	Qayerda birlik bo'lsa, o'sha yerda baraka bor	Qayerda	interrogative pronoun
Uzbek	Bu yerning odami boshqa	Bu yer	demonstrative pronoun

The comparative analysis of English and Uzbek proverbs demonstrates that deixis plays a significant pragmatic role in both languages. Person, time and place deixis function as universal linguistic mechanisms that connect proverbial meaning to context, speaker perspective, and implied participants.

Similarities

First, both languages employ time deixis to express general wisdom through time markers such as *today, tomorrow, never* in English and *bugun, ertaga, hech qachon* in Uzbek. Although proverbs express universal truths, temporal markers create situational immediacy and didactic force. Second, person deixis in both languages frequently appears through generalized second-person reference. English proverbs often use the pronoun "you" (e.g., "You reap what you sow"), while Uzbek commonly uses either the explicit pronoun *sen* or implicit personal reference through verb morphology (e.g., *eksang, o'rasan*). In both cases, the reference is generic rather than specific, addressing people universally. Third, place deixis occurs in both languages through demonstratives and locative adverbs such as *here, there, this, that* in English and *bu, u, shu, bu yerda, u yerda* in Uzbek. These elements symbolically structure moral contrast (near vs. far, here vs. there).

Differences

Despite structural similarities, important typological differences exist. 1. Morphological expression: Uzbek, as an agglutinative language, frequently encodes personal deixis in verb endings (e.g., *-san, -man*), whereas English relies more on independent pronouns.

2. Pronoun omission: Uzbek often omits explicit subject pronouns because they are grammatically marked in the verb, while English generally requires overt pronouns.

3. Demonstrative system: Uzbek has a richer demonstrative distinction system (*bu, shu, u*), reflecting proximity and discourse relevance more explicitly than English.

Moreover, not only proverbs, but phraseological units like idioms or set-expressions can include person or time deixis: "the day after the fair, to ditch somebody".²

² Mirsagatova P.A. Comparative Analysis of Thematic Classifications In English Phraseology. //Central Asian journal of Literature, philosophy, and culture.// Volume: 05 Issue: 04 | July 2024 ISSN: 2660-6828. P.107-113.



In conclusion, deixis in English and Uzbek proverbs serves similar communicative and pragmatic purposes: it universalizes experience while anchoring meaning in implied context. However, differences arise primarily from typological structure (analytic vs. agglutinative language systems) and cultural-pragmatic conventions. Thus, while deixis is a universal semantic-pragmatic category, its grammatical realization varies across languages.

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