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NEW WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS IN PRESS LANGUAGE: NEOLOGISMS, BORROWINGS AND PHRASEOLOGICAL RENEWAL IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract. This thesis describes three ways in which new units enter press language: neologisms, borrowings and phraseological renewal. English and Uzbek examples are compared, and five criteria for comparison are proposed: source, form, stability, function and adaptation. The study shows that the same process can follow different routes in the two languages.

Keywords: press language; neologism; borrowing; calque; phraseological renewal; comparative linguistics; English; Uzbek

Relevance. The press is the fastest channel through which new words enter a language. Journalists report new events, technologies and ideas, and they must name them quickly. In the last decades the internet, global events and fast contacts between languages have made this process stronger in both English and Uzbek. For comparative linguistics, press texts show which new units the public accepts and which stay temporary.

Aim and methods. The aim is to describe how new words and expressions enter English and Uzbek press language and to suggest criteria for comparing them. The work uses the comparative-descriptive method and the analysis of examples from English and Uzbek newspapers. A corpus procedure for the next stage of the research is also proposed.

Main part. Three processes can be separated. The first is neologism, a new word or a new meaning created inside the language. English uses word formation for this purpose: compounding, blending and conversion (Bauer, 1983). Examples are “doomscrolling” and “Brexit”; the older word “lockdown” also received a new meaning. In Uzbek, many neologisms in the press are calques, that is, word-for-word translations of foreign terms, for example “ijtimoiy tarmoq” (social network), “sun’iy intellekt” (artificial intelligence) and “raqamli iqtisodiyot” (digital economy).

The second process is borrowing, the transfer of a foreign unit into the language (Weinreich, 1953). The English press borrows from many languages but in small numbers; “hygge” from Danish is one example. The Uzbek press takes many units directly from English, often with a changed spelling, such as “onlayn” and “startap”. This process often creates competition between a borrowing and another form. For example, “distansion ta’lim” and “masofaviy ta’lim” are both used for the same idea, and the press helps to decide which one will remain.

The third process is phraseological renewal. It has three forms: the creation of new fixed expressions, such as “cancel culture” and “new normal” in English; the change of old expressions for humour or surprise, which is typical for headlines (Mieder & Tóthné Litovkina, 1999); and the translation of foreign expressions into Uzbek, such as “yumshoq kuch” (soft power) and “yashil chiroq berish” (to give the green light). Fixed expressions are usually less stable than single words, so their life in the press is often short (Moon, 1998).

Table 1 gives a short comparison of the three processes.

Table 1. Ways of renewal in English and Uzbek press language (illustrative examples)

Process	English	Uzbek
Neologism	doomscrolling; Brexit; lockdown (new meaning)	ijtimoiy tarmoq; sun’iy intellekt; raqamli iqtisodiyot (calques)
Borrowing	hygge (from Danish)	onlayn; startap (from English)

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Process	English	Uzbek
Phraseological renewal	cancel culture; new normal	yumshoq kuch; yashil chiroq berish

Five criteria are proposed for comparing such units: (1) source (own resources or foreign language); (2) form (word, phrase or sentence); (3) stability (how long and how often the unit is used); (4) function (naming, evaluation or humour); (5) adaptation (changes in spelling, grammar and meaning). The criteria make it possible to follow a unit from its first appearance in the press to its place in a dictionary.

Conclusion. The comparison shows that English press language relies mostly on its own word-formation resources, while Uzbek press language uses direct borrowing and calquing more often, and this creates variation and competition between forms. The press is therefore not only a mirror of language change but also a place where the change is tested. Further research should follow selected units in a time-based press corpus of English and Uzbek newspapers and measure their frequency and stability.

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