

Socio-Cultural Interpretation of Everyday Vocabulary in Russian and Uzbek Languages

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Abstract. *This article examines the everyday vocabulary of Russian and Uzbek languages from the perspective of socio-cultural interpretation. Semantic groups of words reflecting lifestyles, habits, and cultural traditions of the peoples are analyzed. The study is based on dictionaries, media texts, student writings, and observations. Differences and similarities in the use of everyday words, the influence of globalization and digital environment, and the adaptation of loanwords are identified. The work emphasizes the importance of considering the cultural context when studying everyday vocabulary and its teaching.*

Key words: *everyday vocabulary, Russian language, Uzbek language, socio-cultural interpretation, intercultural communication.*

Introduction

Everyday vocabulary is an essential part of any language as it reflects daily life, habits, and traditions of a people. Studying the everyday vocabulary of Russian and Uzbek languages allows identifying both common cultural features and linguistic differences, influenced by historical development, social organization, and traditions (Krongauz, 2021; Azimov, 2020).

Modern trends of globalization and digitalization contribute to the emergence of new words and expressions, borrowings, and adaptations of traditional words in a new context. In bilingual Uzbekistan, Russian functions as a language of education, science, and interethnic communication, creating a unique linguistic environment for the formation of new lexical units (Institute of the Russian Language RAS, 2024).

Research aim: to identify and analyze the socio-cultural significance of everyday vocabulary in Russian and Uzbek.

Research objectives:

- ✓ Systematize everyday words into semantic groups.
- ✓ Analyze the sources of word formation (borrowings, internal innovations).
- ✓ Compare Russian and Uzbek everyday vocabulary in terms of cultural specificity.
- ✓ Investigate the reflection of traditions, habits, and lifestyles in vocabulary.

The scientific novelty lies in the comprehensive comparative analysis of everyday vocabulary in both languages, taking into account socio-cultural context and the influence of the digital environment.

Materials and Methods

The study uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods.

Methods:

- Descriptive method — identification and classification of everyday words.
- Comparative method — revealing similarities and differences between Russian and Uzbek vocabulary.
- Contextual analysis — examining words in media texts, student writings, and spoken speech.
- Sociolinguistic approach — considering age, social environment, and bilingualism.

Statistical method

Materials:— quantitative analysis of word frequency.

Dictionaries: Krongauz, M. A. (2021), Institute of the Russian Language RAS (2024), Azimov, Sh. (2020), Rustamov, M. (2019).

Media texts: Podrobno.uz, Kun.uz, Daryo.uz (2021–2023).

Student works and observations: 120 students from philology faculties of Tashkent and Samarkand.

Surveys: questions about word usage frequency, sources of borrowings, and perception of cultural meaning.

Results and Discussion

1. Semantic Groups of Everyday Vocabulary

1.1 Food and Drinks

Russian: bread, borscht, compote, salad, tea, pie

Uzbek: non, osh, mastava, shirinlik, choy, lagʻmon

Examples:

Podrobno.uz (2022): “The festive table included plov, salad, and compote.”

Student Telegram channel: “Today my mother cooked mastava and choy—it was very tasty.”

Interpretation: dishes reflect national traditions: plov and osh are festive Uzbek dishes, borscht is everyday Russian food (Sadykov, 2021).

1.2 Home and Interior

Russian: table, chair, bed, sofa, wardrobe

Uzbek: stol, stul, karavot, divan, shkaf

Examples:

“There was an old sofa and a wooden wardrobe in the room.”

“Karavot ustida kitoblar bor edi” (There were books on the bed).

Borrowings and adaptations show the influence of Russian on Uzbek vocabulary.

1.3 Clothing and Footwear

Russian: shirt, trousers, shoes, robe

Uzbek: kofta, shim, tufli, xalat

These words reflect national traditions: “kofta” is a traditional Uzbek shirt, while “shirt” is a common item in Russian.

1.4 Household Actions

Russian: to cook, to clean, to wash, to do laundry, to meet

Uzbek: pishirmoq, tozalamoq, yuvmoq, kir yuvmoq, uchrashmoq

Examples:

“I will clean the room and cook lunch today.”

“Bugun uyimizni tozalaymiz va osh pishiramiz” (Today we will clean our house and cook osh).

Russian emphasizes individual activities; Uzbek emphasizes collective, family actions.

2. Borrowings and Hybrid Forms

Modern everyday vocabulary actively includes Anglicisms:

Russian: mixer, electric kettle, smartphone

Uzbek: mikser, smartfon, online-dars, wifi-chi

Hybrid forms illustrate integration of Russian, Uzbek, and English words in everyday communication (Genius Journals, 2023).

3. Socio-Cultural Interpretation

Everyday words not only denote objects and actions but also reflect lifestyle and cultural norms:

Food: plov is a family and festive dish; borscht is everyday food.

Household actions: “to clean the room” — individual activity; “kir yuvmoq” — collective activity.

Clothing: traditional items reflect national identity.

Student examples:

“On weekends, we cooked osh with the whole family” — Uzbek context.

“On weekends, I baked borscht for my family” — Russian context.

4. Digital Environment and New Forms

Digitalization influences vocabulary:

“Online-dars” — online lesson

“Wifi-chi” — a person connecting devices to Wi-Fi

“Smart-tashkent” — urban context

Young people actively use such forms, creating a dynamic linguistic environment.

Conclusion

The analysis of everyday vocabulary in Russian and Uzbek languages demonstrates that language is not only a means of communication but also a mirror of cultural identity, social norms, and daily life practices. Everyday words encapsulate the values, traditions, and lifestyle patterns of a community, making them a crucial object of socio-cultural linguistic research.

The study revealed that Russian everyday vocabulary emphasizes individual actions, such as personal cooking, cleaning, or personal habits, reflecting a cultural focus on individual responsibility and autonomy in daily life. In contrast, Uzbek everyday vocabulary highlights collective and family-centered activities, such as preparing food together, cleaning the house as a family, or participating in communal events. These differences illustrate how language encodes social organization, family structures, and community-centered norms.

Moreover, the research showed that borrowings, loanwords, and hybrid forms play a significant role in modern communication. Russian and Uzbek languages integrate Anglicisms and neologisms, particularly in digital and urban contexts (e.g., online-dars, smartfon, wifi-chi), reflecting globalization, technological development, and the influence of mass media on everyday speech. These changes also highlight the dynamic nature of vocabulary, which continuously adapts to social and technological transformations.

From a practical perspective, understanding the socio-cultural aspects of everyday vocabulary has several important applications:

Language Teaching: In teaching Russian to Uzbek speakers, it is essential to consider cultural differences in the use of everyday vocabulary. Teachers should include comparative exercises to develop intercultural competence and help students understand both literal and cultural meanings of words.

Curriculum and Material Design: Educational materials, including textbooks and digital content, should integrate examples from real-life contexts, media, and student interactions to enhance relevance and engagement.

Translation and Localization: Translators must be aware of cultural nuances, particularly when translating idiomatic expressions or words reflecting collective versus individual practices.

Further Research: Future studies can explore the impact of social media, youth slang, and urbanization on everyday vocabulary. Longitudinal studies may reveal how globalization and bilingualism influence the evolution of household-related terms over time.

In conclusion, the socio-cultural interpretation of everyday vocabulary reveals the deep interconnection between language, culture, and social behavior. Russian and Uzbek everyday words are not mere lexical units; they are cultural markers that encode historical traditions, social norms, and contemporary lifestyle changes. Recognizing these patterns allows linguists, educators, and language learners to bridge cultural understanding, improve communication, and appreciate the richness and adaptability of language in reflecting human life.

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