



**SEMANTIC ADAPTATION OF ANGLO-AMERICANISMS IN RECIPIENT
LANGUAGES: EVIDENCE FROM UZBEK, WITH COMPARATIVE
OBSERVATIONS FROM KOREAN AND RUSSIAN INTERNET DISCOURSE**

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Abstract: *In the context of globalization and digital communication, Anglo-Americanisms increasingly penetrate recipient languages not only at the formal level but also through significant semantic transformations. This article examines the semantic adaptation of Anglo-Americanisms in Uzbek, with comparative references to Korean and Russian, focusing on the most frequent types of semantic change: narrowing, broadening, semantic shift, amelioration, and pejoration. Drawing on descriptive and functional-semantic analysis, the study demonstrates that English-origin lexical units may preserve their original meanings or acquire new, context-specific interpretations shaped by local linguistic and cultural environments. The findings reveal that semantic changes are motivated by cognitive gaps, linguistic economy, international standardization, and the sociocultural prestige of English. The study contributes to understanding how global lexical elements are localized in digital discourse and highlights the role of Anglo-Americanisms as both nominative and evaluative-pragmatic resources in contemporary Uzbek.*

Keywords: *Anglo-Americanisms; semantic change; borrowing; internet discourse; Uzbek language; globalization; language contact*



1. Introduction. In modern linguistics, lexical borrowing is understood as a multidimensional process involving not only formal adaptation but also semantic restructuring. Anglo-Americanisms, entering recipient languages through globalization and digital communication, often undergo semantic modification in accordance with the cognitive, cultural, and pragmatic norms of the receiving linguistic community [6]. In Uzbek internet discourse, English-origin lexical items are increasingly visible and actively used, reflecting broader trends observed in other languages such as Korean and Russian [3].

Semantic change constitutes a central aspect of lexical assimilation. Borrowed words may retain their original meanings, restrict or expand their semantic scope, shift to metaphorical meanings, or acquire positive or negative evaluative connotations [1]. These processes are particularly salient in digital discourse, where communicative economy, stylistic expressiveness, and sociocultural symbolism play a decisive role. This study aims to analyze the principal types of semantic change affecting Anglo-Americanisms in Uzbek, supported by comparative examples from Korean and Russian.



2. Methods. The study employs a qualitative descriptive and functional-semantic methodology. The research material consists of Anglo-Americanisms extracted from Uzbek internet discourse, including online media, social networks, and digital journalism. Comparative examples from Korean and Russian are incorporated to contextualize observed patterns.

Semantic changes are classified according to traditional typologies in historical semantics: semantic narrowing (specialization), semantic broadening (generalization), semantic shift (metaphor and metonymy), amelioration, and pejoration [1] [5]. Each category is illustrated with representative examples and interpreted within a sociolinguistic and pragmatic framework.

3. Results. The analysis shows that Anglo-Americanisms in Uzbek exhibit multiple types of semantic adaptation:

a) **semantic narrowing** occurs when a word's meaning becomes more specific than in the source language. For instance, *killer* in Uzbek (via Russian) refers exclusively to a hired assassin rather than any murderer, mirroring a similar restriction in Russian usage [5].

b) **semantic broadening** is observed when a borrowed term expands its scope. The word *drone* (*dron*) in Uzbek now denotes all types of unmanned aerial devices, including recreational quadcopters, whereas its original English usage was more specialized [3].


c) **semantic shift** often results from metaphorical reinterpretation. Terms such as *virus* have extended from biological contexts to digital ones, while *cloud* (*bulut*) is now used metaphorically to denote cloud-based data storage, reflecting semantic transfer influenced by English technological discourse [2].

d) **amelioration** characterizes many Anglo-Americanisms that acquire positive or prestigious connotations. Words such as *businessman* and *brand* in Uzbek are perceived as more modern and prestigious than their native equivalents, reflecting the high sociocultural status of English [3].

e) **pejoration**, though less frequent, occurs when borrowed words acquire ironic or negative shades. For example, *boss* may be used sarcastically to criticize authoritarian behavior, demonstrating context-driven evaluative change [1].

4. Discussion. The findings confirm that semantic adaptation of Anglo-Americanisms is driven by multiple interacting factors. Cognitive necessity motivates borrowing when no native equivalent exists, while linguistic economy favors concise and internationally recognizable terms [4]. Sociocultural prestige further accelerates adoption, particularly in advertising and youth discourse, where English terms symbolize innovation and modernity [3].

At the same time, resistance to excessive borrowing is evident in public discourse, where concerns about linguistic purity occasionally lead to negative evaluations of English loanwords. This tension illustrates the dual nature of Anglo-Americanisms as both functional linguistic tools and ideologically charged symbols within recipient cultures [6].



5. Conclusion. The study demonstrates that Anglo-Americanisms in Uzbek undergo systematic semantic transformations shaped by linguistic, cultural, and pragmatic factors. Semantic narrowing, broadening, metaphorical shift, amelioration, and pejoration collectively reflect the dynamic integration of global lexical elements into local discourse. While English-origin words primarily serve nominative functions, they also play a crucial evaluative and stylistic role in internet communication. Understanding these processes is essential for describing the evolution of Uzbek in the digital age and for situating it within broader patterns of global language contact.

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