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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF GRAMMATICAL SYSTEMS OF ADJECTIVES IN THE ENGLISH AND KARAKALPAK LANGUAGES

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Abstract: The article presents a comparative analysis of the grammatical systems of adjectives in English and Karakalpak, focusing on their structure, morphology, and syntactic functions. The study aims to identify similarities and differences in the use of adjectives in these two languages, which belong to different language families (Indo-European and Turkic), and to determine how these features influence grammatical organization. The research employs methods of comparative typological analysis and descriptive grammar. Key aspects of adjective morphology are examined, including word formation, degrees of comparison, and the use of affixes. In English, adjectives form degrees of comparison synthetically (using suffixes -er, -est) or analytically (using more, most), while in Karakalpak, suffixes (-рак/-рек) and analytical constructions (ең + adjective) are used. Special attention is given to the morphological regularity of Karakalpak adjectives compared to the irregular forms in English (e.g., good/better/best). The syntactic analysis focuses on the position of adjectives in sentences and their functions. In both languages, adjectives typically precede nouns, but Karakalpak shows greater flexibility in their placement. Differences in the use of adjectives as predicates and attributes are also explored. Contextual analysis and transformational testing methods are used to examine syntactic functions. The results demonstrate that, despite differences in grammatical organization, adjectives in both languages play a crucial role in describing the attributes of objects and phenomena. The study is of interest to linguists specializing in language typology, as well as to educators and students of English and Karakalpak.

Key words: Comparative analysis, Adjective grammar, Morphology, Syntactic functions, Degrees of comparison, English language, Karakalpak language.

Introduction

Language typology studies reveal fascinating patterns in how different linguistic systems express similar concepts. This article presents a comparative analysis of adjectives in English and Karakalpak languages, offering insights into both their structural similarities and distinctive grammatical mechanisms.

Adjectives serve as essential descriptive elements across languages, yet their morphological behavior, syntactic position, and semantic nuances can vary significantly between language families. The English language, representing the Indo-European family, and Karakalpak, belonging to the Turkic group, demonstrate this linguistic diversity while simultaneously exhibiting certain universal tendencies in adjectival systems.

Our analysis systematically examines the adjectival properties in both languages through multiple dimensions: positional characteristics, comparative and superlative formations,

intensification strategies, diminution mechanisms, substantivation processes, semantic categorizations, and word-formation patterns. Through this structured comparison, we highlight how English often employs analytical constructions where Karakalpak utilizes agglutinative morphology, particularly in expressing degrees of comparison and feature intensity.

The comparative table presented in this article serves as both a reference tool and a basis for theoretical discussion. It illustrates how languages from different families can achieve similar communicative goals through distinct grammatical mechanisms. For instance, while English uses both synthetic and analytical forms for comparisons depending on word length, Karakalpak consistently applies suffixation for comparative forms and analytical constructions for superlatives.

This research contributes to our understanding of typological patterns in descriptive language systems and offers practical applications for language teaching methodologies, translation practices, and cross-linguistic studies. By examining these parallel yet distinct adjectival systems, we gain valuable insights into the fundamental principles underlying human language structure while appreciating the unique evolutionary paths of individual languages.

The Role of Adjectives in Enriching Language: How Descriptive Words Make Speech Vivid and Expressive

Adjectives provide semantic enrichment by conveying information about properties such as size, color, shape, quantity, emotional state, or other descriptive features, thereby enhancing the precision and expressiveness of language. For instance, in the phrase *a beautiful flower*, the adjective *beautiful* functions to characterize the noun *flower*, attributing a specific aesthetic quality to it [3, 4].

Syntactically, adjectives can occupy distinct positions within a sentence, fulfilling either attributive or predicative roles. In the attributive position, adjectives precede the noun they modify (e.g., *a tall building*), while in the predicative position, they follow a copular or linking verb (e.g., *The building is tall*). Additionally, adjectives can express gradation through morphological or analytical means, forming degrees of comparison to indicate variations in intensity or quality, such as *big*, *bigger*, and *biggest*.

In summary, adjectives constitute a fundamental component of linguistic systems, playing a critical role in enriching communication by adding descriptive detail and specificity to nominal elements. Their syntactic flexibility and semantic versatility make them indispensable for constructing nuanced and contextually appropriate utterances.

Adjectives in the Karakalpak Language

Adjectives in the Karakalpak language describe various attributes of objects and do not change with affixes related to number, case, or possession. They function as modifiers in sentences, expressing attributive meanings. Adjectives in Karakalpak have unique semantic and morphological characteristics, with a distinctive feature being the presence of intensifying forms, such as *үн-үлкен* (very big), *кип-кишкене* (very small), and *жан-жақсы* (very good).

Types and Functions of Adjectives in the Karakalpak Language

Adjectives in Karakalpak are divided into qualitative and relative types. Qualitative adjectives describe attributes such as color, size, shape, and other properties, for example, *ақ* (white), *қара* (black), and *қызыл* (red). They can form degrees of comparison using affixes like *-рақ/-рек* (e.g., *ағырақ* — whiter) and intensifying forms (*жан-жақсы* — very good). Relative adjectives, on the other hand, express attributes through relationships to other

objects or phenomena, such as *сусыз* (without water) and *шыдамсыз* (impatient). Unlike qualitative adjectives, relative adjectives typically do not form intensifying forms or combine with affixes indicating degrees of comparison.

Degrees of Comparison and Intensifying Forms in the Karakalpak Language

Adjectives in Karakalpak can express four degrees of comparison: positive, comparative, superlative, and diminutive [6, pp. 139-146]. The positive degree denotes a quality without comparison, such as *үлкен* (big). The comparative degree expresses an increase in quality using affixes like *-рақ/-рек* (e.g., *үлкенірек* — bigger). The superlative degree indicates the highest degree of a quality, often using intensifying forms like *үн-үлкен* (very big). The diminutive degree expresses a reduction in quality using affixes like *-ғыш/-гилі* and *-шыл/-шил* (e.g., *қызығыш* — reddish). Intensifying forms of adjectives are created by repeating the root or adding intensifying particles, such as *қан-қара* (very black) and *сан-сары* (very yellow), which emphasize the intensity of the attribute [6, pp. 139-146].

Adjectives in the Karakalpak language play a crucial role in describing the attributes of objects and phenomena [5, 7]. Their flexibility in forming degrees of comparison and intensifying forms allows for precise expression of nuances, making the language rich and expressive. Whether describing colors, sizes, shapes, or relationships, adjectives in Karakalpak provide a versatile tool for detailed and vivid communication.

Unlike Karakalpak language, adjectives in the English language do not agree with nouns in gender, number, or case. This significantly simplifies the grammatical structure of sentences, as the form of the adjective remains unchanged regardless of the noun's characteristics. English primarily uses qualitative adjectives, which describe properties, characteristics, or states of objects, such as *big*, *happy*, and *beautiful*. Relative adjectives, which indicate a relationship to something, are less common and are mainly used in scientific, technical, or specialized vocabulary, for example, *chemical* or *biological*.

Possessive adjectives, which in some languages express possession, are absent in English. Instead, possessive pronouns like *my*, *your*, and *his* are used to serve a similar function.

Regarding degrees of comparison, English forms them in two main ways: synthetically and analytically. The synthetic method involves adding the suffixes *-er* and *-est* to form the comparative and superlative degrees, for example, *big – bigger – biggest*. The analytical method uses the words *more* and *most* for the same purpose, for example, *beautiful – more beautiful – most beautiful*. The choice of method depends on the length and structure of the adjective: short adjectives typically form degrees of comparison synthetically, while longer ones do so analytically.

Thus, the system of adjectives in English is characterized by simplicity and universality, making it accessible for learners while maintaining sufficient flexibility to express various shades of meaning.

Бибер, Д. Student Grammar of Spoken and Written English / Д. Бибер, С. Конрад, Дж. Лич. – Harlow : Longman, 2002. – 487 p.

C. 191-192

The Process of Adjective Formation through Suffixation in the English language

According to D. Biber, S. Conrad, and G. Leech [2, pp.191-192], many adjectives are formed by adding a suffix to a noun or verb. For example, from the noun *cord* with the suffix *-less*, the adjective *cordless* is derived, while from the verb *continue* with the suffix *-ous*, the

adjective *continuous* is formed. Adjectives can also be derived from other adjectives using negative prefixes such as *un-*, *in-*, and *non-*, as in the words *unhappy*, *insensitive*, and *nonstandard*.

Derived adjectives are most commonly found in academic texts, whereas they are rarely used in fiction and conversational speech. Among the suffixes, *-al* is the most productive, forming many specialized adjectives such as *adrenocortical* or *tubulointerstitial*, although some, like *central* or *general*, are widely used across all registers.

The suffixes *-ent*, *-ive*, and *-ous* are also relatively common. Adjectives with *-ent*, such as *different* or *persistent*, are often derived from verbs, while adjectives with *-ive* can originate from both verbs (e.g., *active*) and nouns (e.g., *instinctive*). Adjectives with *-ous*, such as *serious* or *obvious*, although sometimes highly specialized, also include a number of commonly used words [2, pp.191-192].

Thus, derived adjectives play an important role in enriching the language, particularly in academic contexts, where precision and specialization are required.

Structure and Functions of Adjectives and Adverbs

Angela Downing and Philip Locke highlight the following key characteristics of adjectives in the English language [1, pp.498-517]:

Adjectives (AdiGs) and adverbs (AdvGs) share a similar structure: they consist of a head, a pre-modifier, and a post-modifier. For example, *clear* (head), *very clear* (with a pre-modifier), and *very clear indeed* (with a post-modifier). Both types of groups are often realized by the head alone, as in the examples *a fast train* (adjective) and *drive fast* (adverb). However, their functions differ: adjectives describe people, places, and things, while adverbs characterize actions expressed by verbs.

Formally, adjectives can be simple (*tall*), prefixed (*unhappy*), suffixed (*beautiful*), participial (*interesting*), or compound (*home-made*). They function syntactically as attributives (*hot water*) or predicatives (*the water is hot*), and can also express states (*lonely*), qualities (*narrow*), subclasses (*northern*), or properties (*creative*). Many adjectives can take post-head complements, such as *good at chess*.

Comparison, Intensification, and Description

Adjectives form degrees of comparison using the suffixes *-er* and *-est* or the words *more* and *most*, and also have irregular forms (*better*, *worse*). Intensification can be high (*very*, *extremely*), medium (*quite*, *rather*), or attenuated (*slightly*, *a bit*). Quantification can be exact (*one-mile*) or non-exact (*not that long*). Description can be achieved using adjectives (*dark blue*), adverbs (*strangely silent*), or nouns (*pitch black*) [1, pp.498-517].

Thus, adjectives and adverbs in English possess a flexible structure and a wide range of functions, allowing for precise expression of various shades of meaning.

The comparison of adjectives in English and Karakalpak reveals both striking similarities and notable differences, reflecting the unique linguistic features of each language. Both languages share remarkable structural parallels in their adjectival systems. This can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Key Differences and Structural Similarities Between English and Karakalpak Adjectives

Category	English	Karakalpak
Position in a sentence	Usually before the noun: <i>"a big house"</i>	Usually before the noun: <i>"үлкен үй"</i>
Gender and number	Do not change according to gender and number: <i>"big house, big houses"</i>	Do not change according to gender and number: <i>"үлкен үй, үлкен үйлер"</i>
Degrees of comparison	Positive: big. Comparative: bigger. Superlative: the biggest. For polysyllabic: more beautiful, most beautiful	Positive: үлкен (big). Comparative: үлкенирек (bigger). Superlative: ең үлкен (biggest)
Formation of comparative degree	1. One-, two-syllable: suffix -er. 2. Polysyllabic: more + adjective	Suffixes -рақ/-рек, -ырақ/-ирек: жақсы → жақсырақ (better). үлкен → үлкенирек (bigger)
Formation of superlative degree	1. One-, two-syllable: suffix -est. 2. Polysyllabic: most + adjective	Analytical method: word "ең" + adjective: ең жақсы (the best)
Irregular forms	<i>good → better → best,</i> <i>bad → worse → worst many/much → more → most</i>	No irregular forms
Intensification of feature	Adverbs: very, extremely, really + adjective: <i>very big</i>	1. Intensifying adverbs: <i>жүдә, күтә, дым, оғада</i> + adjective. 2. p-form repetition: <i>қан-қара</i> (very black)
Diminution of feature	Adverbs: <i>slightly, somewhat, a bit</i> + adjective: <i>slightly red</i>	Suffix -лаў/-леў: <i>қызыллаў</i> (reddish)
Substantivation	With article "the": <i>the rich</i>	Adding noun affixes: <i>жақсы+лар</i> (the good ones)
Semantic categories	1. Qualitative: <i>big, small</i> . 2. Relative: <i>wooden, daily</i> . 3. Possessive: <i>my, your</i>	1. Сапалық (qualitative): <i>үлкен, киши</i> . 2. Қатнастық (relative): <i>ағаштан, күнделік</i>
Word formation	1. Affixation: <i>help → helpful</i> . 2. Compounding: <i>dark + blue → dark-blue</i>	1. Affixation: <i>күш → күшли</i> . 2. Compounding: <i>қара + көк → қара-көк</i>

Adjectives in English and Karakalpak occupy similar syntactic positions, primarily appearing before nouns, and do not inflect for gender or number. They also share comparable semantic categorizations, distinguishing between qualitative and relative adjectives, and utilize similar word-formation patterns, particularly through affixation and compounding. These similarities highlight universal tendencies in how languages express descriptive qualities, despite English belonging to the Indo-European family and Karakalpak to the Turkic family.

However, significant differences emerge in the systems of comparison and morphological complexity. English employs a hybrid approach to forming degrees of comparison, using synthetic methods (*-er*, *-est*) for shorter words and analytical methods (*more*, *most*) for longer ones. In contrast, Karakalpak consistently uses suffixes (*-paq/-pek*) for the comparative degree and an analytical construction (*eñ + adjective*) for the superlative. Additionally, Karakalpak demonstrates greater morphological richness, particularly in its system for expressing degrees of intensity through specialized suffixes and reduplication (e.g., *қан-қара* — very black). English, on the other hand, contains numerous irregular comparative forms (e.g., *good/better/best*), while Karakalpak maintains morphological regularity across its adjectival system. Another key difference lies in the expression of feature diminution: Karakalpak uses a dedicated morphological marker (*-лаў/-леў*), whereas English relies on adverbial modifiers like *slightly* or *somewhat*.

These differences reflect broader typological distinctions between the two languages. English exhibits characteristics of an analytical language, increasingly relying on word order and helper words, while Karakalpak showcases typical agglutinative features of Turkic languages, using consistent suffixation patterns. For language learners, understanding these parallels and differences provides a structured approach to mastering adjectives in either language. Translators, too, can better preserve semantic nuances by recognizing the unique expressive capabilities of each system. This comparative analysis not only enriches linguistic understanding but also offers practical insights for language education and translation work.

Conclusion

Adjectives in Karakalpak and English serve a similar function—they describe the attributes of objects, phenomena, and people, making speech more expressive and precise. However, there are significant differences in grammar, word formation, and usage between these languages, reflecting the unique characteristics of each.

In Karakalpak, adjectives do not change according to number, case, or possession, which simplifies their use compared to Russian, where adjectives agree with nouns. For example, in Karakalpak, the adjective *aq* (white) remains unchanged when paired with different nouns: *aq yū* (white house), *aq yūlep* (white houses). In English, adjectives also remain unchanged, as in *a white house* and *white houses*. However, in English, adjectives can only occupy specific positions in a sentence (before a noun or after a linking verb), whereas in Karakalpak, their position is more flexible.

The formation of adjectives in both languages involves the use of suffixes and prefixes. In Karakalpak, suffixes are actively used to form degrees of comparison, such as *-paq/-pek* (e.g., *aғырақ* — whiter) and intensifying forms (*жан-жақсы* — very good). In English, degrees of comparison are formed using suffixes *-er* and *-est* (e.g., *bigger*, *biggest*) or the words *more* and *most* (e.g., *more beautiful*, *most beautiful*). Intensifying forms in Karakalpak are created by repeating the root or adding particles (*қан-қара* — very black), while in English, adverbs are used for this purpose (*very black*).

Another important difference lies in the semantics of adjectives. In Karakalpak, adjectives are often used to describe specific attributes, such as color, size, or shape, as well as to express relationships between objects (e.g., *сусыз* — without water). In English, adjectives can be both qualitative (*big*, *happy*) and relative (*chemical*, *biological*), making them more versatile in usage.

Thus, adjectives in Karakalpak and English, despite differences in grammar and word formation, play a key role in enriching the language. They allow for precise descriptions of the

attributes of objects and phenomena, making speech more expressive and clear. Understanding these differences helps to explore the features of each language more deeply and use adjectives more effectively in various contexts.

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THE HERITAGE OF THE STEPPE: KARAKALPAK CHILDREN'S FOLKLORE

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Annotation: This article examines Karakalpak children's folklore, focusing on lullabies, songs, and games. It explores lullabies as expressions of maternal love and cultural values, while also analyzing the educational and developmental roles of songs and rhymes. The study highlights the unique characteristics of these traditions, their historical context, and their contribution to language skills and cognitive growth. The research underscores the lasting importance of this folklore in cultural preservation and children's development.

Key words: Child folklore, lullabies, poetry, children's games, songs, question-and-answer.

Popular oral tradition, as it appears in various literary forms and genres, is a highly functional form of verbal art, holding both social and aesthetic importance in human history. Child folklore is a distinct branch of this tradition, having developed into a comprehensive system of games, songs, and musical-poetic genres that have come about through the interaction between the world of children and the world of adults.

Lullabies. The upbringing of a child begins in the cradle. A mother, dividing her night's sleep into four parts and rocking the cradle, had all sorts of hopes for the future of her young baby. Any mother could perform this song. Although the young newborn did not understand it, the rocking of the cradle and the pleasantness of the mother's voice would completely soothe it, compelling it to sleep peacefully. As Robert Graves, poet and mythologist notes in "The White Goddess", "The lullaby is the most ancient of all poetic forms, and is still living and evolving."