

**STRUCTURAL EQUIVALENCE IN ENGLISH–UZBEK JOURNALISTIC  
TRANSLATION: LEXICAL, SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC ANALYSIS**

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes structural equivalence between English and Uzbek journalistic texts at lexical, syntactic, and semantic levels. Challenges of maintaining structural balance in media translation are highlighted through specific comparative examples and comprehensive analytical tables.

**Keywords:** structural equivalence, journalistic style, lexical analysis, syntactic transformation, semantic congruence, media discourse, translation strategies, grammatical shifts.

**Аннотация:** В данной статье анализируется структурная эквивалентность между английским и узбекским языками в публицистических текстах на лексическом, синтаксическом и семантическом уровнях. Проблемы сохранения структурного баланса в переводе освещены с помощью конкретных примеров и таблиц.

**Ключевые слова:** структурная эквивалентность, публицистический стиль, лексический анализ, синтаксическая трансформация, семантическое соответствие, информационная трансформация, стратегии перевода.

**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu maqolada ingliz va o'zbek tillari o'rtasidagi jurnalistik matnlarning tarkibiy ekvivalentligi leksik, sintaktik va semantik darajalarda tahlil qilinadi. Tarjimada strukturaviy muvozanatni saqlash muammolari aniq misollar va jadvallar yordamida yoritib berilgan.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** strukturaviy ekvivalentlik, jurnalistik uslub, leksik tahlil, sintaktik transformatsiya, semantik muvofiqlik, axborot transformatsiyasi, tarjima strategiyalari.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In the contemporary era of globalized mass communication, journalistic translation occupies a pivotal position in shaping public discourse, cross-cultural perceptions, and international information exchange. The rapid dissemination of news requires high fidelity, speed, and linguistic precision, making the concept of translation equivalence a central focus of modern translatology. Journalistic texts possess distinct stylistic features, such as dense informational structures, headlines designed for psychological impact, extensive use of political idioms, and syntactically complex sentences.

When translating these texts from English, an analytic language with fixed word order, into Uzbek, a synthetic, agglutinative language with a predominantly subject-object-verb (SOV) structure, achieving absolute structural equivalence becomes a sophisticated challenge. Structural equivalence does not merely entail word-for-word substitution; rather, it demands a systematic harmonization of lexical units, syntactic configurations, and semantic parameters to ensure that the target text functions in the same manner as the source text.

The primary objective of this article is to examine the multidimensional nature of structural equivalence within English-Uzbek journalistic translation, identifying the core discrepancies and evaluating the translational strategies employed to bridge these linguistic gaps.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY**

The theoretical foundations of structural and dynamic equivalence have been extensively discussed in classical and contemporary translation studies. Eugene Nida initially demarcated the boundaries between formal equivalence, which focuses on the message form and content, and dynamic equivalence, which prioritizes the equivalent

effect on the target audience [1, B. 12]. In the context of linguistic typology, Mona Baker emphasized that grammatical structures across languages often impose specific constraints on translators, necessitating structural shifts to avoid artificiality in the target text [2, B. 84].

Furthermore, within the specific domain of Uzbek translatology, scholars like G‘aybulla Salomov have noted that translation between non-cognate languages, such as Germanic and Turkic, requires deep structural transformations because a literal rendering often disrupts the communicative value and stylistic norms of the recipient language [3, B. 45].

The methodology of this research is grounded in a comparative-typological and contrastive linguistic approach. A corpus of 100 journalistic articles from prominent English media outlets (e.g., *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *Reuters*) published between 2024 and 2026, along with their professional translations in Uzbek digital media (e.g., *Kun.uz*, *Daryo.uz*), was compiled and qualitatively analyzed.

The analytical framework categorizes translation phenomena into lexical adaptations, syntactic shifts (such as passive-to-active voice transformations and clause rearrangements), and semantic alignment techniques. Statistical quantification was applied to determine the frequency and success rates of specific structural adjustment patterns.

## **DISCUSSION AND RESULTS**

The empirical analysis reveals that achieving structural equivalence requires comprehensive adjustments across all three designated linguistic strata. At the lexical level, English journalistic prose frequently employs compressed nominal clusters and neologisms that do not possess direct structural counterparts in Uzbek. Consequently, descriptive translation or lexical transposition must be deployed. For instance, the English journalistic phrase "*sustainability-oriented policy*" cannot be translated using a

single parallel compound modifier in Uzbek; instead, it undergoes a structural extension into an analytical construction: *"barqarorlikni ta'minlashga qaratilgan siyosat"*. [4, B. 12]

Syntactically, the divergence between English and Uzbek is particularly pronounced in the positioning of subordinate clauses and the usage of the passive voice. English media relies heavily on passive structures to maintain objectivity or conceal the agent of an action. In contrast, Uzbek journalistic style favors active constructions, transforming the grammatical subject and moving the predicate strictly to the absolute end of the sentence.

To illustrate these transformations systematically, Table 1 displays quantitative data regarding the frequency of specific structural adjustments observed within our analyzed corpus of 100 media texts.

**Table 1. Frequency and Distribution of Structural Transformations**

Transformation Category	Specific Linguistic Operation	Frequency of Occurrence (%)	Primary Structural Driver
Syntactic	Passive to Active Voice Conversion	42%	Typological avoidance of passive agents in Uzbek
Syntactic	Clause Rearrangement (SVO to SOV)	35%	Strict final-predicate rule in Uzbek grammar
Lexical	Nominal Cluster Expansion	13%	Lack of synthetic compound adjectives in Uzbek

Transformation Category	Specific Linguistic Operation	Frequency of Occurrence (%)	Primary Structural Driver
Semantic	Idiomatic and Metaphorical Modulation	10%	Cultural and stylistic contextualization

Furthermore, the structural shifts can be analyzed qualitatively through explicit textual examples. Table 2 contrasts the source English journalistic sentences with their translated Uzbek equivalents, explicitly defining the exact nature of the structural and semantic realignments performed. [5, B. 113]

**Table 2. Comparative Linguistic Analysis of English-Uzbek Journalistic Transpositions**

Source Text (English)	Target Text (Uzbek)	Level of Analysis	Typological and Structural Explanation
"The bill was fiercely debated by lawmakers for hours."	"Deputatlar qonun loyihasini bir necha soat davomida qizg'in muhokama qildilar."	Syntactic & Semantic	The English passive construction is transformed into an Uzbek active voice layout. The agent ( <i>lawmakers / deputatlar</i> ) is shifted to the initial subject position, conforming to standard Uzbek journalistic syntax.
"A consensus-building approach is required to"	"Mavjud inqirozni bartaraf etish uchun o'zaro kelishuvga erishishga"	Lexical & Syntactic	The pre-nominal compound modifier " <i>consensus-building</i> " is expanded into a post-

Source Text (English)	Target Text (Uzbek)	Level of Analysis	Typological and Structural Explanation
resolve the ongoing crisis."	qaratilgan yondashuv talab etiladi."		positional relative clause construction ( <i>o'zaro kelishuvga erishishga qaratilgan</i> ) to preserve the core semantic value.
"The government faced back-to-back challenges in implementing the reform."	"Hukumat islohotni amalga oshirishda ketma-ket qiyinchiliklarga duch keldi."	Semantic & Lexical	The idiomatic compound adverb " <i>back-to-back</i> " is structurally integrated as a quantitative modifier ( <i>ketma-ket</i> ) modifying the central direct object ( <i>qiyinchiliklarga</i> ).

The data implies that semantic equivalence is deeply contingent upon syntactic reorganization. If a translator attempts to maintain structural parallelism by preserving the English SVO (Subject-Verb-Object) sequence in Uzbek, the resulting text suffers from severe syntactic interference, rendering the journalistic report unnatural, ambiguous, and difficult for the target audience to digest. [6, B.98]

### CONCLUSION

This comprehensive research underscores that structural equivalence in English–Uzbek journalistic translation is an intricate, non-linear process that demands absolute flexibility across lexical, syntactic, and semantic levels. The typological divergence between the analytical nature of English and the agglutinative parameter of Uzbek makes literal or formal syntax replication completely unviable in high-quality media discourse.

The study demonstrated that over 40% of journalistic sentences undergo passive-to-active voice modifications, and nominal clusters systematically require analytical expansion to preserve informational accuracy.

Ultimately, structural equivalence is achieved not by preserving the physical grammatical form of the source text, but by reconstructing the message using the natural, stylistically appropriate structural templates of the Uzbek language.

Translators working within contemporary digital journalism must be trained to recognize these systemic divergences, prioritizing dynamic structural transformations to deliver clear, precise, and culturally fluent news to the domestic audience.

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