

Study of The Phenomenon of Economy in Korean And Uzbek Languages

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Abstract: This article examines the phenomenon of economy in the Korean and Uzbek languages. It explores the research works of linguists on language economy, focusing on the shortening of words, phonetic and morphological reductions. The study compares the linguistic principles of economy, highlighting different approaches in both languages, including the transformation of word forms and abbreviations. Key concepts like 줄임말 (shortened words) and 약어 (acronyms) are discussed in detail.

Keywords: Economy, abbreviation, shortened forms, 줄임말, 준말, 약어, 두자어.

Introduction: The principle of economy in language arises from the need of the speaker (individual) to save their mental and physiological energy by shortening or omitting linguistic units, reducing the time spent on communication, and eliminating redundancy. Examples of this phenomenon can be seen in expressions such as “Op keling” (come), “buyam” (this too), and “qong” (stay). The economy in language manifests in both phonetic and morphological forms. Phonetic economy includes reductions like “yirik-irik” (big) or “yigit-igit” (young man), where sounds are omitted. Morphological economy includes cases like “Olib ber” (give) → “Ober”, “bizim” (our) → “bizning”, and “sizing” (your) → “sizning”.

METHOD

Economy in language can be categorized as either linguistic or speech-related. For instance, the direction case form, which initially was represented as [-qaru], has today shortened to [-ga]. This is an example of linguistic economy. Shortened forms like “Olib ber” (give) → “Ober”, “bizim” (our) → “bizning”, and “sizing” (your) → “sizning” are examples of speech-related economy. In linguistics, there is a tendency to recognize only speech-related abbreviations as instances of economy.

The phenomenon of economy serves to ease communication but does not negatively affect the

scope of the information being conveyed.

The study of language and its changes may have begun during early human societies, driven by changes in language systems and the emergence of new vocabulary, phrases, and expressions. Linguists from various periods, especially in the 11th century, such as Mahmud Kashgari, noted the presence of shortened forms in Turkic languages. For example, Kashgari described how certain phrases were shortened, like “ol ewge barag’an ol” (the person who continuously goes home) and “urag’an” (hit) becoming “uran.”

In the 19th century, as linguistic research developed into a more scientific field, the need to analyze the reduction of linguistic units in various languages emerged. In Uzbek linguistics, the occurrence of shortened forms was noted as early as the creation of descriptive and scientific grammars of the language. Scholars like V.N. Nalivkin, N.P. Ostroumov, A.Fitrat, and others discussed reductions in words and affixes in Uzbek. A.N. Kononov’s research in “Grammatika sovremennogo uzbekskogo literaturnogo yazika” (Grammar of Modern Uzbek Literary Language) highlighted the issue of abbreviation and reduction.

V.V. Reshetov’s study “O’zbek tilining fonetikasi” (The Phonetics of the Uzbek Language) is considered a significant contribution to the understanding of phonetic reductions. His research emphasized the

reduction of vowels and consonants, with an understanding that such reductions arose to make pronunciation easier, thus showing a tendency toward economy in language.

The issue of abbreviation and reduction is also discussed in the works of contemporary Uzbek linguists such as D. Nurmonov, whose dissertation focused on phonetic reductions in the Uzbek language. R.K. Kungurov and F. Abdullaev also investigated the stylistic properties of abbreviation in Uzbek, especially in the case of personal names and other expressions used in different contexts.

In Korean, abbreviations are classified into two categories: 줄임말 and 약어. The distinction between the two is significant, as junmal refers to all forms of abbreviation, while yakeo specifically refers to abbreviations formed from initial letters.

Korean linguistic research on the phenomenon of abbreviation includes the works of scholars such as Min-seop Woo (1974), Seung-myung Li (1987), Cheol-ui Song (1993), Geum-hyeon Moon (2000), Li Ji Yang (2003), and others. Woo Min-seop, for example, distinguished between broad and narrow abbreviations, categorizing them into five types:

1. 생략 (Omission): Abbreviation through the omission of syllables, compound words, particles, or endings.
2. 탈락 (Elision): Omission of consonants or vowels.
3. 변이 (Variation): A form of change in the word structure.
4. 축약 (Shortening): Reduction of the word.
5. 생략과 변이 (Omission and variation): Combining omission and variation processes.

Seung-Myung Li (1987) classified abbreviation into two types based on the syllable and phoneme level, highlighting syllable and phoneme reductions.

Cheol-ui Song (1993) argued that the term abbreviation should be more precisely defined due to its broad scope. He proposed that the relationship between abbreviation, morphology, and phonology be considered in greater detail.

Li Soyong (1996) and Geum-hyeon Moon (2000) focused on the occurrence of abbreviations in spoken Korean and how certain forms tend to appear more frequently in oral speech.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The phenomenon of language economy, characterized by the shortening of words, forms, and structures in both Korean and Uzbek languages, demonstrates

common trends and distinct features. In both languages, linguistic economy is driven by the human need to optimize communication, saving time and effort while maintaining the clarity of meaning. This is particularly evident in the process of word and affix reduction.

In the Korean language, the phenomenon of economy manifests in two primary types of reductions: 줄임말 and 약어. 줄임말 refers to the general shortening of words or phrases, which occurs frequently in informal speech, while 약어 refers specifically to abbreviations formed from initial letters of words. The study shows that Korean scholars, such as Woo Min-seop (1974) and Seung-myung Li (1987), have categorized reductions based on their phonetic and morphological transformations. This distinction is important for understanding how Korean speakers simplify their speech, particularly in casual and digital communication.

On the other hand, in the Uzbek language, reductions have been observed both in phonetic and morphological forms. For example, the dropping of vowels and consonants in certain word forms, such as “bizim” becoming “bizn” and “sizing” becoming “sizn”, reflects a phonetic economy that simplifies pronunciation without losing the essential meaning of the words. The research highlights that such reductions are common in colloquial speech, especially in fast-paced or informal communication.

Both languages, while showing similarities in the phenomenon of economy, reveal differences in the types of reductions and the linguistic rules governing them. In Uzbek, the focus is often on phonetic simplification, while in Korean, there is a more defined structure for abbreviations based on their function (e.g., 줄임말 vs 약어). The study emphasizes that these linguistic phenomena play an essential role in enhancing communication efficiency, especially in modern and informal contexts, including digital communication.

The research also points out that while linguistic economy aids in faster communication, it does not necessarily lead to any loss of information. In fact, it often makes language more accessible and relatable to speakers, particularly in fast-paced or casual environments. Additionally, the study stresses the importance of understanding how these phenomena evolve with changes in society, technological advancements, and shifts in communication patterns.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the phenomenon of economy in both the

Korean and Uzbek languages demonstrates the dynamic nature of language as it adapts to the needs of its speakers. Further research could explore how technological developments, such as texting and online communication, continue to influence language economy and the creation of new forms of abbreviations and reductions. The phenomenon of economy, as observed in both the Korean and Uzbek languages, showcases how speakers tend to simplify their speech for greater efficiency. This simplification does not reduce the scope of communication, but rather makes it easier and quicker to convey information. The study of abbreviations and reductions in both languages highlights the universal nature of this phenomenon and the different ways it has been studied and categorized by linguists across cultures.

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