

## THE USE OF LEXICAL DOUBLETS IN UZBEK TEXTS

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**Abstract:** This article provides a comprehensive analysis of lexical doublets in the Uzbek language from linguistic, semantic, historical, and linguocultural perspectives. It examines their formation mechanisms, development stages, and functional features in different types of texts. Particular attention is given to language contact, borrowing processes, dialectal influence, and socio-cultural factors that shape lexical doublets. The study also explores semantic changes in borrowed words and their role in synonymy, stylistic variation, and text formation.

**Keywords:** lexical doublets, Uzbek linguistics, semantics, borrowing, linguoculturology, synonymy.

### Introduction

Modern linguistics is increasingly expanding the boundaries of language research by integrating it with other scientific disciplines. As a result of combining linguistics with cultural studies, ethnology, and ethnography, linguoculturology has emerged as an interdisciplinary field. This approach considers language not only as a system of communication but also as a reflection of culture, worldview, and national identity.

In comparative linguistics, the study of different languages and cultures leads to the identification of national specificity in language systems. Language reflects both linguistic and extralinguistic realities, while also shaping how speakers perceive the world. Through their native language, individuals acquire cultural knowledge and interpret reality.

Lexical doublets are among the linguistic phenomena that reflect this interaction between language and culture. They have been partially studied in general linguistics, Germanic and Roman linguistics, Russian linguistics, and Turkology. In English, lexical and etymological doublets were formed mainly under the influence of Latin, Greek, and Scandinavian languages. In Uzbek, however, Arabic, Persian, and Russian languages played a key role in their formation and development.

### Borrowing as a Source of Lexical Doublets

When a foreign word enters a language, it undergoes a complex adaptation process. This includes phonetic, orthographic, grammatical, and semantic changes. However, the classification of borrowed words remains a difficult issue in linguistics.

Early German linguists emphasized that distinguishing foreign words from native vocabulary is challenging because borrowed elements gradually integrate into the structure of

the receiving language. Despite this, extensive research has been conducted on the classification and nature of borrowings.

A borrowed word is not simply transferred from one language to another; it is reshaped according to the phonological and grammatical rules of the receiving language. As a result, it may acquire new pronunciation, spelling, word formation possibilities, and even new meanings.

Thus, lexical doublets often emerge when both native and borrowed words coexist in the language with similar or identical meanings.

#### **Formation of Lexical Doublets in Uzbek**

Lexical doublets in Uzbek have formed under the influence of various historical, social, and geographical factors. Dialectal variation plays an important role in this process. When dialectal words enter the literary language, they often form doublets with standard lexical units.

For example, the words *narvon* and *shoti* function as lexical doublets. However, dialectal words such as *zangi* cannot form doublets with *narvon* because they are not part of the literary language system.

A fundamental condition for lexical doublet formation is that both components must belong to:

the same literary language, or

the same dialect, or

the same sociolect.

If this condition is not met, true lexical doublets cannot be formed.

#### **Lexical Doublets, Synonymy, and Dialectal Influence**

Lexical doublets are closely related to synonymy but are not identical to it. Synonymic chains often include dialectal variants, but only one dominant form is usually accepted in the literary language.

For example:

*chap* – *so'l* → *chap* is dominant in standard Uzbek

*o'rnak* – *namuna* – *ulgi* → *o'rnak* is the standard form

Dialectal words such as *ulgi* or *so'l* remain stylistically marked and are not dominant in literary usage.

Some dialectal lexical units, such as *chot* (Karshi dialect) vs *tesha*, do not form absolute synonymy due to differences in usage, distribution, and stylistic function.

Similarly, dialectal terms like *julg'irs*, *qoln*, and *tasirlovuq* are regionally restricted and cannot be considered absolute synonyms in the literary language.

Thus, lexical doublets should be distinguished from partial synonymy and dialectal variation.

#### **Historical and Socio-Cultural Factors**

The development of lexical doublets is closely connected with socio-political and linguocultural processes. Language contact throughout history has significantly influenced

the Uzbek lexicon.

The historical development of lexical doublets can be divided into several stages:

**Arabic and Persian influence**

With the spread of Islam, many Arabic and Persian words entered Uzbek, especially religious, philosophical, and administrative terms. These borrowings often replaced native words or coexisted with them, forming doublets.

**Russian influence**

During the 19th–20th centuries, Russian borrowings entered Uzbek. In some cases, native and borrowed words coexisted:

*universitet* – *dorilfunun*

*grajdanin* – *fugaro*

*oblast* – *viloyat*

*samolyot* – *uchoq*

However, not all borrowed terms remained active in modern usage.

**Semantic Development of Borrowed Words**

One of the most important aspects of lexical doublets is semantic change in borrowed vocabulary. Arabic loanwords in Uzbek demonstrate various types of semantic evolution.

**1. Semantic shift**

*istiqlol* originally meant “meeting, welcoming,” later acquired the meaning “future.”

*battol* changed from “cruel” to “stubborn, obstinate.”

**2. Semantic reversal**

*basir* in Arabic meant “sharp-eyed,” but in Uzbek it came to mean “blind.”

**3. Semantic specialization**

*ojiz* shifted from general “weak” to “visually impaired.”

*asar* developed the meaning “literary work” in addition to “trace, sign.”

**4. Intensification and expressive forms**

*ziyo* → *zim-ziyo* (complete darkness)

These examples show that lexical meaning is not static but dynamic and context-dependent.

**Stylistic and Functional Features**

Lexical doublets serve several important functions in Uzbek texts:

**Stylistic enrichment** – increasing expressiveness

**Semantic emphasis** – strengthening meaning

**Avoidance of repetition** – improving textual cohesion

**Emotional coloring** – enhancing reader impact

**Functional differentiation** – separating stylistic registers

In literary texts, lexical doublets are widely used to create emotional depth and artistic imagery, while in scientific texts they improve clarity and precision.

**Conclusion**

Lexical doublets in the Uzbek language are a complex linguistic phenomenon shaped by historical development, language contact, dialectal variation, and socio-cultural processes. They arise through the coexistence of native and borrowed words, semantic change, and stylistic differentiation.

Their study demonstrates that language is a dynamic system reflecting cultural identity and historical transformation. Lexical doublets not only enrich the expressive potential of Uzbek but also play a significant role in synonymy, stylistics, and text formation.

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