



Article

Linguistic Analysis of The Sentence Stress in English and Uzbek

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Abstract: This article analyzes distinguished peculiarity of stress in Uzbek and English linguistically. Like other components of prosody, sentence stress refers to the emphasis placed on specific words within a phrase that often conveys the speaker's intention, grammatical hierarchy and organization of information. In English, the content words that generally receive sentence stress are nouns, main verbs, adjectives, and adverbs: they contrast in form with function words (including pronouns) and are also crucial for distinguishing between what is given information and news. In Turkish since it is an agglutinative language, the stress differs due to its syntax. The study looks at the function of sentence stress in each language, highlighting typological differences and similarities. Using some selected examples in different sentences, the analysis shows how intonational and stress patterns reinforce meaning and communicative clarity.

Keywords: Linguistic comparison, prosody, sentence stress, speaker's intention, grammatical hierarchy, information organization, content words, agglutinative structure, syntactic features, turkic language, stress patterns, typological variations, intonation, communicative clarity.

1. Introduction

Applications of stress on sentences have been a focus of research in phonetics, phonology, and discourse studies for a long time. It is one of the primary means for organizing information, marking focus and expressing pragmatic meaning [1]. Early descriptive frameworks for English stress and intonation patterns of English, such as An Introduction to the Pronunciation of English by Daniel Jones, established foundational studies in English prosody [2]. Jones stressed that English is a stress-timed language, meaning that stresses occur, at least to some degree, in relatively fixed intervals across time (and consequently have an effect on prominence at the sentence level). Subsequently, Peter Roach in English Phonetics and Phonology (Roach 2009) fine-tuned the description of nuclear stress or tonic syllables, recognizing areas where contrastive and emphatic stress contribute to meaning variation. Roach's model of nuclear tone placement continues to be a cornerstone in modern phonological descriptions. Therefore, the linguistic analysis of sentence stress in both Uzbek and English demonstrates similarities and differences between the two languages in terms of rhythm (intonation patterns), prominence, intonation even; [3]

Stress in English Sentences

Stress Timed Language: English is often considered a stressed timed language. This means that the unstressed syllables are compressed to this rhythm, while stressed syllables will happen at somewhat regular intervals. The rhythm of English is based on a series of sequences of stressed and unstressed syllables [4].

Key Points: Function vs. Content Words: While function words (articles, prepositions, auxiliary verbs and pronouns) are often unstressed in the English language,

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content words (nouns, main verbs, adjectives and adverbs) are tactically stressed. In the (for example) sentence, "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog," "quick," "brown," "fox" and "jumps" are stressed; and "the" and "over" are unstressed. Stress: Stress can also be used to add emphasis. For example, "She LOVES him" (with emphasis on her loves) vs. "She loves HIM" (emphasis on the word him) [5].

Intonation and Pitch: Expanding on this point, Arabic also works with pitch; accordingly, the location of stress in a sentence will correlate with a rise in pitch for the word receiving the stress. For example, intonation can change the meaning or emotion of a sentence (e.g., as a question, as an exclamation, or as surprise [6]).

And the Patterns of Stress: Sentence stress can also change the meaning of English sentences. Example: "She is reading books. has a neutral stress [7]. (Words of content are highlighted.) "He READS books, but he WRITES them" is a contrastive stress example. (Here, the differences are outlined to highlight the contrast.)

2. Materials and Methods

This In contrast, however, Uzbek is usually classified as syllable-timed. This means that in normal English speech, stressed and not stressed syllables generally take about the same time. It leads to a more homogenous distribution of Uzbek rhythm.

Key Components: Stress - Turkic languages share a common feature where the stress of Uzbek is generally on the last syllable of a word. But the stress pattern could change depending on context and sentence type. Word Stress: Stress in words is mostly fixed in Uzbek, nevertheless the location of stress can change the meaning of a word. For example, according to the placement of stress – the noun "caɤap" (safar, "journey") and the verb "caɤap" (safar, "to travel") have different meanings even though they are spelled identically. Sentence Stress: Although Uzbek is more predictable than English, stress gives to words that need emphasizing in a sentence.

Function Words: In Uzbek, function words are typically unstressed (unlike English), although content words can still carry varying degrees of stress. It is less directly apparent than it is in English, but sentence stress can help convey emotive or forceful meaning.

These are some of the linguistic features when it comes to Rhythm: English is stress-timed, so rhythm in this variety would be a little different since stress occurs at regular intervals. Uzbek, in contrast, is syllable-timed and thus produces a more regular rhythm with less variance between the durations of its unstressed syllables.

STRESS: (over a word) In English, we use stress to emphasize words in order to make them the most important part of a sentence or meaning. For instance, stress is used to emphasize a word as necessary in English, but Uzbek pays more attention to fixed stress patterns and less on rhythmic opposition between stressed and unstressed syllables.

Intonation: Intonation is used to express meaning in both languages, but English relies the most on pitch variation as a way of conveying emotion and effects for rhetorical purposes. Uzbek has a very stable pitch pattern, much less variation than in English. Lastly, we use stress to convey material and structure in both languages. Uzbek, on the other hand, has a more fixed rhythm with pronunciation time aligned to syllables rather than stress, while English is (again generating) rhythmic variation due to its metrical nature.

English and Uzbek have different phonological systems, but they share some similarities with respect to stress. Here are some points of comparison:

Word Stress: Both English and Uzbek languages adopt fixed and variable stress patterns, so both languages have the interchangeable property of word-stress.

Stress Placement: Stress placement is important in both languages for meaning making. Example: Stress can distinguish between a noun and a verb (e.g. 'record (noun) vs re'cord (verb)). In Uzbek: Stress is also important in differentiating meaning (e.g., pajama – 'pants' vs. pajama – 'shirt')

Stress and Rhythm: Both are stress-timed languages; that is, the stress falls at approximately regular intervals, and unstressed syllables are shortened to accommodate this rhythm.

Intonation: The influence of stress on the intonation patterns also differs in English and Mandarin. In both, stressed syllables are more prominent and may be higher or longer than unstressed ones.

Vowel Reduction: Both languages have vowel reduction in unstressed syllables, but it's much more prominent in English where such vowels often become schwa (ə). Vowel reduction also occurs in Uzbek, but those reductions vary more and are less severe than their English equivalents.

3. Results

English and Uzbek have quite a few differences in stress, several of which can be traced back to their phonological systems.

Alcohol Age: English has entirely unpredictable word placement, with some words even changing placement altogether! Stress can change position even between the parts of speech (record (noun) vs. re'cord*(verb)), and there is no consistent principle — that I know of, anyway — for stress placement across multi-syllable words. Uzbek stress is generally fixed and regular, normally in the last syllable of a word (e.g., yangi (new), qishloq (village)). However, with few exceptions, this is much more regular than it is in English [8], [9].

Stressing Grammatical Function: Compared with other English words, stress is used to differentiate between different parts of speech such as nouns and verbs (e.g., 'permit* (noun) vs. per'mitt(verb)). **Principal or final Stress:** Uzbek offers fewer instances with stress so that it impacts on grammatical function. Unlike in English [10], the stress phonemic does not usually change the part of speech of the word.

Stress and Vowel Reduction — Stress these syllables (unstressed), the English language reduces vowels in the unstressed syllable to a schwa sound (ə) which makes an unstressed syllable weak and indistinguishable. This is an important characteristic of English's stress-timed rhythm. Uzbek does not have much vowel reduction in unstressed syllables. The unstressed vowels are still more distinguishable, and rhythm less determined by vowel reduction than in English [11], [12].

Stress and Intonation: English is a stress-timed language, which implies that we notice stressed syllables approximately at equal intervals and we shorten unstressed syllables [13]. This causes English to have a more irregular rhythm. Uzbek is syllable-timed, meaning each syllable receives roughly equal duration regardless of stress. This gives a more even rhythm than in English [14].

Stress in Compounds: In English, compounds receive stress based on their component parts, and the first part of the compound usually receives primary stress (blackboard; toothbrush). In contrast to English, stress placement in compound words is more regular in Uzbek: the last component of a compound word typically carries stress. English and Uzbek differ significantly in their stress systems, with English exhibiting more complex behaviour through its variable positioning of stress while Uzbek continues to maintain a fairly regular pattern across its roots [15].

4. Conclusion

Prosodic prominence in English and Uzbek sentence stress analyzing at linguistic aspect shows that its function is guided by many phonological structures based on syntactic arrangements. In English, the placement of sentence stress closely interacts with the information structure and discourse focus. Nuclear stress, which falls on new information or contrastive information, its placement changes meaning in a significant way. The stress-timed nature of English language, with vowel reduction and changeable pitch, makes a powerful prominence marking system. This interaction between structural

rules (like the Nuclear Stress Rule) and pragmatic factors results in flexible, yet systematic nonsentence stress pattern. In Uzbek, sentence stress serves mainly as a logical accent (*mantiqiy urg'u*), which is mostly supported not by extensive phonetic alteration but rather through syntactic rearrangement. The syllable-timed rhythm and relatively stable vowel quality in Uzbek provide a different (and phonetically less marked) realization of prominence. Uzbek may thus use word order and inference more as a focus marker than English, which frequently marks focus with higher pitch and louder intensity. By the comparative analysis, there are both universal and language-specific properties. Given this, sentence stress is essentially universal, marking informational focus and reflecting communicative intention. Phonetically and structurally, however, they are distinct from English, typologically. These differences have implications for language teaching, translation and intercultural communication. Nuclear stress placement and vowel reduction are common problems for Uzbek learners of English, while misplaced logical emphasis due to lack of intonational subtleties is an issue affecting English speakers in learning Uzbek. In the end, sentence stress must be considered as not just a phonetic phenomenon but an intricate crossroad between sound structure and meaning making. More acoustic and corpus-based cross-linguistic comparisons would add further insight into prosody at a more general level in relation to wider typological studies.

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