

LEXICAL FEATURES OF RIDDLES WITH ZOONYMS IN THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract.

Introduction. *This thesis provides information on the linguistic features of riddles and their place in linguistics, the level of study and a comparative analysis of animal – hidden riddles in Uzbek and English languages. The basis of comparative analysis is based on lexical analysis, and they are substantiated on the basis of examples.*
Research methods. *A contrastive method is used to contrast the two non-related languages, and through them their similarities and differences are identified. The observation method is also useful in collecting bilingual information. As well as data in the same direction in the two languages are compared using the translation method.*

Results and discussions. *In this thesis, riddles with zoonyms in English and Uzbek languages belonging to two different language families are analyzed lexically on the basis of examples, and words describing the same animals in them are analyzed and discussed.*

Conclusion. *The researcher makes a lexical analysis of the riddles based on the data and examples, makes recommendations on the problems in it, and provides on the basis of the examples that the riddles with animal names hidden in both different languages are very active in speech.*

Key words. *Riddles, zoonyms, lexical features*

Riddles – it is statement or word combinations that are hidden something in it or have extra meaning which one should find from them. Basically, it is a fun game among the children who are 9-14 year-old. When someone uses a riddle, it can be a thought-provoking challenge to figure it out on your own, or it can be a funny comment that makes you laugh. They require critical thinking — and a sense of humor — to solve correctly. Keep reading for examples of riddles for kids, adults and anyone who loves solving puzzles. Riddles have been studied among ethnographers and folklorists. But, it has already been a new researching field to the linguists also. In linguistics, riddles are studied according to these features:

- special codes, e.g., archaic or esoteric language, reserved for and diagnostic of performance;
- special formulae that signal performance, such as conventional openings and closings, or explicit statements announcing or asserting performance;
- figurative language, such as metaphor, metonymy;
- formal stylistic devices, such as rhyme, vowel harmony, other forms of parallelism;
- special prosodic patterns of tempo, stress, pitch;
- special paralinguistic patterns of voice quality and vocalization;
- appeal of tradition;
- disclaimer of performance.¹

The etymology of the word riddle is *read*, both stemming from the Common Germanic verb *rēdanq*, which meant 'to interpret, guess'. From this verb came the West Germanic noun *rādislī*, literally meaning 'thing to be guessed, thing to be interpreted'. From this comes Dutch *raadsel*, German *Rätsel*, and Old English **ræðels*, the latter of which became modern English *riddle*.² A number of scientists pay attention to the research of riddles, including P. Robert, Robert A. Georges, A. Dundes, A. Taylor, A. Aarne, Erin Sebo, R. Fernandez Manzano, Charles T. Scott, Ch. Luz, D. Petrain, W. Mieder, B. Jean and Z. Xusayinova, M. Abdurahimov, R. Sirojiddinov, H. Ne'matov, P. Rasulov, M. Safarniyozova, U. Begimqulov and others. Riddles have been a fun game among children for many years. There were the riddles in both historical Uzbek and English languages, included ancient literature. Here are some examples:

¹ Pepicello W. J and Thomas A. Green The language of riddles p.19

² Oxford English Dictionary Online, 3rd edn (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010).

Four dilly-dandies (teats on the udder)
 Four stick standies (legs)
 Two crookers (horns)
 Two lookers (eyes)
 And a wig wag (tail) (the answer is – a cow)
 My home is not quiet but I am not loud.
 The lord has meant us to journey together.
 I am faster than he and sometimes stronger,
 But he keeps on going for longer.
 Sometimes I rest but he runs on.
 For as long as I am alive I live in him.
 If we part from one another
 It is I who will die. (the answer is a fish in a river)³

In Uzbek literature, riddles stand basic role among other fields. Riddles (*topishmoqlar*) The term "*topishmoq*" to the command verb "*top*" - created by adding the suffix "*ish*" and adding the form "*-moq*" to it with which the term genre originated. It could be found out the local features of the places in different parts of the country is also represented by *jumboq*, *jummoq*, *jumoq*, *topmacha*, *topar cho'pchak*, *top-top*, *top-top cho'pchak*, *matal*, *masala*, *ushuk*. We can easily come across the ancient riddles in Uzbek traditional epics: «*Oshiq Oydin*», «*Oshiq Alvand*», «*Xirmondali*» and others. it can be a good example for this from "*Oshiq Oydin*":

— *U nimadir, havodagi do'langan?*
U nimadir, er yuzini suv olgan?
U nimadir, orqasida og'zi bor?
U nimadir, o'rtasida mag'zi bor?
U nimadir, suv ichida joni bor?
 — *Bulut bo'lar havodagi do'langan,*
Yomg'ir bo'lar er yuzini suv olgan,
Tegirmondor, orqasida og'zi bor,
Bug'doy bo'lar o'rtasida mag'zi bor.
Baliq bo'lar suv ichida joni bor.

In both languages, almost all of the riddles are about the animals. Because animals are living creatures as humans and they can help individuals to live perfectly, as well as they are so fun for children to find out. In this table, it can be depicted the riddles which are hidden the same animals in both languages and the analyze of lexical features.

Animal	A riddle in English	Lexical features	A riddle in Uzbek	Lexical features
Horse	<i>You say "hey" but I eat it. I say "neigh".</i>	The answer is based on the animal's sound and their additional feature to humans is eatable.	<i>To'rtidir uning oyog'i, Temir mixli tuyog'i, Manzilga etishtirar, Toshdan qattiq tuyog'i. (Ot.)</i>	The answer is based on the appearance of the animal and special equipment which is used for this animal.
Butterfly	<i>My start goes on toast, and my end's how birds move. My baby eats leaves but I drink flowers.</i>	The answer is based on the duration of the life of the animal.	<i>Ikki yaproq bir tanda, Kezar yozda chamanda (kapalak)</i>	The answer is based on the appearance.

³ Andy Orchard, "Enigma Variations: The Anglo-Saxon Riddle-Tradition," in *Latin Learning and English Lore: Studies in Anglo-Saxon Literature for Michael Lapidge*, ed. by Andy Orchard and Katherine O'Brien O'Keeffe, 2 vols (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2005), 284-304

Fish	My first's in follow but not lead, my second's in write but not in read. My third's in sky but not cloud, my fourth's in humble but not in proud. My all turns circles in a bowl, and lies on a plate fried up whole.	The answer is logically hidden with the special parts of fish and its end like being a meal for humans.	<i>Qanoti bor uchmaydi, Quruqlikda yurmaydi, (baliq)</i>	The answer is hidden with special features of the animal like not being able to fly and walk.
Tortoise	<i>What kind of animal lives longest in zoos?</i>	According to the duration of the life of the animal.	<i>Osti tosh, usti tosh, o'rtasida chandir bosh. (toshbaqa)</i>	According to the appearance of the animal.
deer	<i>I am taller than you, I live in forests and fields. I eat plants, grass, twigs, and buds. When I am nervous I sometimes snort. I can live up to 15 years in the wild, but I make it to 3 or 5. I have antlers. My babies are called fawns.</i>	The riddle is created with according to all the features and characters of the animal.	<i>Shoxlari bor qo'chqordek, bo'yi misli daraxtdek. (kiyik)</i>	In this riddle, there is a comparison of two animals but it is said the special feature of the animal which is different from the other one.

In short, all riddles teach people to think logically, to be resourceful. The riddles also tell about the ancient customs, traditions, customs, way of life and way of life of the people who speak that language. Moreover, through riddles in the historical literature we see that the people also expressed their sorrows and problems in a figurative sense. It is implied that the researcher conducting research on the riddles, despite the superficiality of the riddles, also reveals their inner hidden meanings. we can count hundreds of examples based on animals in both languages, and we aim to reveal its lexical features in more depth in our subsequent research.

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