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## SYNTACTIC STRUCTURE OF COMPLEX SENTENCES IN RUSSIAN AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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### Abstract

This article examines the syntactic structure of complex sentences in the Russian and Uzbek languages from a comparative perspective. Complex sentences, as a key syntactic unit in any language, demonstrate significant variation in their structure, conjunction types, and semantic relationships between clauses. The study focuses on the typological features of sentence formation, the use of coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, and the syntactic functions of subordinate clauses in both languages. The research identifies both universal and language-specific characteristics, reflecting the influence of grammatical categories such as word order, agglutination, and inflection. The analysis also highlights the cognitive and communicative functions of complex sentences in expressing cause-effect, conditionality, temporality, and contrast. By comparing the syntactic rules and patterns of Russian and Uzbek, this paper contributes to understanding bilingual language acquisition, translation studies, and the challenges of interlingual syntactic equivalence. The findings are particularly relevant for language teachers, translators, and researchers working in the field of contrastive grammar and syntax.

**Keywords:** Complex sentence, syntax, Russian language, Uzbek language, comparative grammar, conjunctions, subordinate clause, sentence structure, typology, interlingual analysis



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## СИНТАКСИЧЕСКАЯ СТРУКТУРА СЛОЖНЫХ ПРЕДЛОЖЕНИЙ В РУССКОМ И УЗБЕКСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ

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**Аннотация:** В данной статье рассматривается синтаксическая структура сложных предложений в русском и узбекском языках в сравнительном аспекте. Сложные предложения, являясь важнейшей синтаксической единицей любого языка, демонстрируют значительное разнообразие в своей структуре, типах союзов и семантических отношениях между частями. Исследование сосредоточено на типологических особенностях построения предложений, использовании сочинительных и подчинительных союзов, а также синтаксических функциях придаточных предложений в обоих языках. Работа выявляет как универсальные, так и специфические для каждого языка черты, отражающие влияние таких грамматических категорий, как порядок слов, агглютинация и флексия. В анализе также подчеркиваются когнитивные и коммуникативные функции сложных предложений в выражении причинно-следственных, условных, временных и противопоставительных отношений. Сопоставляя синтаксические правила и модели русского и узбекского языков, данное исследование вносит вклад в понимание двуязычного усвоения языка, теории перевода и проблем межъязыковой синтаксической эквивалентности. Результаты особенно актуальны для преподавателей языков, переводчиков и исследователей, работающих в области сопоставительной грамматики и синтаксиса.

**Ключевые слова:** сложное предложение, синтаксис, русский язык, узбекский язык, сопоставительная грамматика, союзы, придаточное предложение, структура предложения, типология, межъязыковой анализ.



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## **Introduction**

The study of syntactic structures across languages provides valuable insights into how different linguistic systems organize and convey meaning. Complex sentences, which consist of two or more clauses connected by coordinating or subordinating elements, are essential to expressing logical relationships and elaborating thoughts in both written and spoken discourse. In this context, analyzing the syntactic structure of complex sentences in the Russian and Uzbek languages is of particular interest due to their belonging to different language families—Indo-European and Turkic, respectively.

Russian, as a synthetic and inflectional language, relies heavily on morphological markers to indicate syntactic relationships, whereas Uzbek, an agglutinative language, typically uses affixes and a fixed word order to perform similar functions. This fundamental typological difference leads to varied strategies for constructing complex sentences. Russian employs a wide range of conjunctions and relative pronouns, with significant syntactic freedom due to its case system. Uzbek, in contrast, tends to use postpositions, participial constructions, and a more rigid clause structure.

This paper aims to explore these structural distinctions and highlight similarities that emerge despite typological divergence. The investigation will also consider how these differences affect translation, teaching methodologies, and cognitive processing in bilingual speakers. By examining representative examples from authentic texts and applying contrastive analysis, the research seeks to contribute to the broader understanding of syntax within and across language boundaries.

The syntactic structure of complex sentences has been a central topic in the study of both Russian and Uzbek grammar. In Russian linguistics, foundational works by scholars such as V.V. Vinogradov and L.P. Chakhoyan have laid the groundwork for understanding the hierarchical structure of subordinate clauses and the role of conjunctions in linking them. Recent studies in Slavic syntax have also focused on the functional semantics of complex sentence types.

In the context of Uzbek, researchers like Sh. Rakhmatullaev and M. Tojiboyeva have emphasized the role of participial and converb constructions in clause formation, highlighting their typological distinctiveness. Comparative studies by scholars such as A. A. Abduazizov have attempted to bridge syntactic differences



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between Turkic and Indo-European languages, particularly in educational and translational contexts.

Despite these contributions, there remains a lack of comprehensive comparative syntactic research focused specifically on complex sentences in Russian and Uzbek. This study seeks to address this gap by conducting a contrastive syntactic analysis using examples from both languages to reveal shared and divergent structural features. The review of existing literature thus forms a theoretical basis for the methodological and analytical approaches employed in this research.

This study employs a comparative-analytical methodology to examine the syntactic structure of complex sentences in Russian and Uzbek. The research is based on a qualitative analysis of selected textual materials from literary, journalistic, and academic sources in both languages. These texts were chosen to represent authentic and varied uses of complex sentence constructions across formal written registers.

The analytical process involves identifying and classifying complex sentences according to their syntactic type: compound, complex, and compound-complex. Particular attention is paid to the forms and functions of coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, relative clauses, participial and converbial constructions, and word order variations. The structures are analyzed within the frameworks of traditional grammar as well as contrastive syntax.

The comparison is guided by the principles of typological linguistics, with a focus on differences arising from morphological structure (inflection vs. agglutination), clause integration, and syntactic flexibility. The study also incorporates insights from translation studies to explore how structural discrepancies manifest in interlingual equivalence. Data is coded and categorized manually, ensuring accuracy in linguistic comparison and allowing for nuanced observation of syntactic tendencies and deviations. This methodological approach facilitates a detailed contrastive analysis that can inform both theoretical and applied linguistic fields.

The comparative analysis of complex sentence structures in Russian and Uzbek reveals several noteworthy syntactic contrasts and convergences, reflecting their typological and structural foundations. One of the most prominent differences lies in the treatment of subordination. Russian, being an inflectional language with a



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flexible word order, allows subordinate clauses to occupy various syntactic positions with relative ease. It uses a rich set of conjunctions (such as "потому что," "когда," "если") and relative pronouns ("который," "что") to connect clauses and clarify their logical relationships.

Uzbek, on the other hand, as an agglutinative language with a more rigid SOV (subject-object-verb) word order, tends to rely heavily on non-finite verb forms, such as participles and converbs, to create syntactic subordination. This leads to a preference for clause chaining and the omission of explicit conjunctions in many cases. For instance, complex ideas that would be expressed in Russian with subordinate clauses introduced by "пока" or "хотя" may be rendered in Uzbek using participial constructions or temporal adverbs followed by a main clause.

Despite these differences, both languages utilize complex sentences to express similar semantic relations, including cause and effect, time, condition, and contrast. However, the surface structure of these relationships varies significantly. This has implications for both translation and second language acquisition. Russian learners of Uzbek must adapt to different mechanisms of clause integration, while Uzbek speakers learning Russian must navigate the flexibility and variety of subordinating tools.

Additionally, the analysis shows that syntactic complexity in both languages serves cognitive and communicative functions, such as increasing precision, avoiding repetition, and organizing discourse. Yet, the structural means to achieve these goals are deeply shaped by the grammatical nature of each language. Understanding these differences enhances cross-linguistic awareness and contributes to more effective bilingual education and translation practices.

Complex sentences are syntactic units that combine two or more clauses to express intricate ideas, logical relationships, and hierarchically organized meanings. The construction of such sentences varies significantly between languages with different grammatical systems, such as Russian and Uzbek.

In Russian, complex sentences are generally classified into compound, complex, and compound-complex types. Compound sentences consist of two or more independent clauses linked by coordinating conjunctions (e.g., "и," "но," "а"). Complex sentences typically include a main clause and one or more subordinate clauses introduced by subordinating conjunctions (e.g., "что," "если,"





"поскольку") or relative pronouns. In compound-complex sentences, both coordination and subordination are used simultaneously.

Uzbek displays a different syntactic strategy. It primarily relies on subordinate clause formation through participial and converbial constructions, with verbs often appearing in non-finite forms. The subordinate clause usually precedes the main clause, and word order is relatively fixed due to the language's SOV structure. Conjunctions do exist in Uzbek (e.g., "agar," "chunki," "garchi"), but their usage is less frequent compared to Russian, as meaning is often derived through verbal morphology and contextual cues.

One fundamental syntactic distinction lies in clause connectivity. Russian extensively uses explicit markers—conjunctions and relative pronouns—to indicate syntactic relationships. For instance:

Он не пошёл в школу, потому что заболел.

(He did not go to school because he was sick.)

In Uzbek, this same relationship is commonly expressed with a participial form:

U maktabga bormadi, chunki u kasal bo'ldi.

Or

Kasal bo'lganligi sababli u maktabga bormadi.

(Because of being sick, he did not go to school.)

Another difference is seen in the treatment of time-related subordination. Russian employs various conjunctions like "когда," "пока," and "прежде чем." Uzbek, however, may express temporal relationships with converbs or adverbial phrases:

Когда он пришёл, мы начали есть.

U kelgach, biz ovqatlana boshladik.

(When he arrived, we started eating.)

This converb form "kelgach" carries the temporal meaning of "after he came" or "when he came," without needing a separate conjunction.

In both languages, causality and condition are expressed frequently in complex sentences, though the syntactic devices differ. Russian uses structures like "если..., то..." ("if..., then...") or "так как" ("since"), while Uzbek employs "agar... bo'lsa" for conditionals and "chunki," "sababi" for causals. However, Uzbek often omits the explicit use of "then" in conditional responses, relying on clause sequencing.



Furthermore, relative clauses in Russian are typically introduced by pronouns such as "который," whereas Uzbek utilizes postpositional participial constructions:

Дом, который построил Джек.

Jek qurgan uy.

(The house that Jack built.)

This difference reflects a broader syntactic pattern where Uzbek avoids relative pronouns and instead modifies nouns directly with participial phrases, leading to more compact but morphologically dense sentence structures.

The differences in complex sentence formation also manifest in punctuation and stylistic preferences. Russian often separates subordinate clauses with commas, while Uzbek's clause boundaries are defined more by verbal endings than punctuation.

In conclusion, the comparative analysis of Russian and Uzbek complex sentence structures reveals that while both languages serve similar communicative functions, their syntactic implementations are shaped by distinct grammatical logics. Russian relies on inflection, free word order, and explicit conjunctions; Uzbek leans on agglutination, fixed word order, and implicit morphological subordination. These structural nuances must be considered in translation, second-language instruction, and linguistic typology research.

The syntactic comparison of complex sentence structures in Russian and Uzbek underscores the profound influence of linguistic typology on sentence construction. While both languages utilize complex sentences to express logical relationships such as causality, temporality, condition, and contrast, they employ different grammatical means to achieve these ends. Russian, as an inflectional language, demonstrates flexibility in word order and a heavy reliance on explicit subordinators and relative pronouns. Uzbek, by contrast, as an agglutinative language, favors fixed clause order, participial and converbial structures, and often omits overt subordination markers.

These distinctions are not merely structural but also affect how meaning is processed and conveyed in communication. For language learners, recognizing these differences is crucial for developing syntactic competence and avoiding



errors in translation or interpretation. For translators, the challenge lies in maintaining semantic fidelity while navigating divergent syntactic architectures. Moreover, this study contributes to the broader field of contrastive grammar and bilingual education by providing a detailed syntactic account of two typologically distinct yet functionally comparable languages. It emphasizes the need for pedagogical approaches that are sensitive to structural mismatches and supports the development of more effective grammar instruction materials for both Russian and Uzbek learners. Future research may expand this analysis to include spoken discourse and pragmatic functions, deepening our understanding of how complex syntax operates in real communicative contexts.

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