ТИЛНИНГ ЛЕКСИК-СЕМАНТИК ТИЗИМИ, ҚИЁСИЙ ТИПОЛОГИК ИЗЛАНИШЛАР ВА АДАБИЁТШУНОСЛИК МУАММОЛАРИ
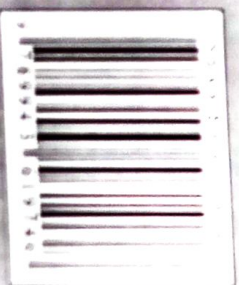
МАТЕРИАЛЛАР ТЎПЛАМИ

XII

ЎЗБЕКИСТОН РЕСПУБЛИКАСИ ОЛИЙ ВА ЎРТА МАХСУС ТАЪЛИМ ВАЗИРЛИГИ

БУХОРО ДАВЛАТ УНИВЕРСИТЕТИ

ТИЛНИНГ ЛЕКСИК-СЕМАНТИК ТИЗИМИ, ҚИЁСИЙ ТИПОЛОГИК ИЗЛАНИШЛАР ВА АДАБИЁТШУНОСЛИК МУАММОЛАРИ

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XII

Тўпламда Республикамиз олимлари, илмий тадқиқотчиларининг филологик мавзулар доирасидаги, жумладан, муайян тил доирасидаги лингвистик қарашлари; қиёсий-типологик изланишлари; тилларни ўқитиш назарияси ва миллат, миллий маданиятнинг амалий глобаллашуви даврида тилдан фойдаланиш муаммолари, шунингдек, тилларни ўқитиш усуллари; адабиётшунослик, таржимашунослик истиқболлари борасидаги фикр-мулоҳазалари ўз ифодасини топган.

Тўплам филология йўналишидаги илмий изланувчилар, катта илмий ходим изланувчилар, тадқиқотчилар, магистрантлар ва талабаларга мўлжалланган.

MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ENGLISH AND GERMAN GRAMMAR

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Abstract: *the article discusses different point of view on the differences between English and German grammar, features of two languages*

Keywords: language, *grammar, umlaut, gender, verb, branch, culture*

Annotatsiya: *maqolada ingliz va nemis tillaridagi farqlar, ikki tilning xususiyatlari muhokama qilingan.*

Kalit so'zlar: *til, grammatika, amlaut, grammatik jins, fe'l, turkum, madaniyat*

German is spoken by about 95 million people worldwide, and is the official language of Germany, Austria and parts of Switzerland. English and German both belong to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European language family. Because they are so closely related, they share many features. Furthermore, the English language is pervasive in German media and popular culture. It is not surprising, therefore, that many Germans learn English quickly and easily.

Within this article the most general and basic of the occurring differences will be summarized and analyzed by taking John Hawkins' "A Comparative Typology of English and German". Hawkins argues that where German and English contrast the latter tends to show less correspondence between form and meaning. This is due to his central hypothesis which says that it is possible to establish general principles which unite the major contrasts between both languages. Hawkins assumes that the differences within the grammatical structures are not accidental ones. However, there are a number of aspects of German that commonly interfere with the correct production of English. [1]

English and German are languages that both originate from the Germanic language family. Although they come from a *similar place*, they are still completely distinct languages with many core differences. There is a quick overview of grammar differences between English and German.

Differences between English and German grammar

To get a descriptive and lucid image of the contrasts between the two languages, we first start on the level of individual words by considering their morphological structure, i.e. we will examine the inflection of the verb and the case marking of noun phrases. This will lead us directly to questions concerning word order and basic grammatical relations on the syntactical level. Finally, a short analysis of verb-first-structures in English and German will round off the discussion.

1.Noun genders (der, die, das vs the)

One of the first differences you'll notice is that while English only uses the word "the" to describe nouns, German has three noun genders: der (masculine), die (feminine), and das (neutral). For example:

die Katze (cat)

das Pferd (horse)

der Hund (dog)

These noun genders are absolutely essential when *learning German,* because they change according to the rest of German grammar (more on this in the next section). The good news for English is that you always use the word "the", as the concept of noun genders doesn't exist.

2. Cases

Cases are another German grammar concept that doesn't exist in English, otherwise known as: nominative, accusative, dative, and genitive. To give a quick summary of German cases:

Case	Use	German	English
Nominative	Subject does the action	Die Frau lebt in Deutschland.	The woman lives in Germany.
Accusative	Direct object receives the action	Das Kind isst einen Apfel.	The child eats an apple.
Dative	Indirect object receives the action	Ich schenke dir eine Blume.	I give you a flower.
Genitive	Possession	Der Koffer des Mannes	The man's suitcase

When your sentence uses a noun, then you need to make sure you use both the correct gender and change it for the appropriate case. Here is a summary of noun genders per each case:

Case	Masculine	Feminine	Neutral	Plural
Nominative	der	Die	Das	Die
Accusative	den	Die	Das	Die
Dative	dem	Der	Dem	Den
Genitive	des	Der	Des	Der

Points one and two on this list may in fact be the hardest part of learning German if you're a native English speaker, because for each case and noun, you would only use the word "the". But as a native English speaker who has learned German, I feel your pain, and it does get easier to recognise the differences over time.

3. Capitalisation

Capitalisation rules have distinct differences in English and German, and it is extremely important to note when writing in either language.

- The first letter of each new sentence
- Places
- Days of the week
- Months
- Proper nouns
- Holidays

- Planets
- Races and nationalities
- Religions
- Organisations and companies

Das **Pferd** isst einen **Apfel**. (German)

vs

The **horse** eats an **apple**. (English)

The nouns in these sentences are "horse" and "apple", and you can see that in

4. Formal "you" (Sie)

If you're learning German, you'll soon learn that they've got a word for literally everything! While English only uses the term "you" to refer to a person, in German there is the option for "Sie" (formal) or "du" (informal). Du is the equivalent of calling someone by their first name and Sie is the same as Mr or Mrs, but in addition you use it with the actual personal pronoun.

For example:

Can you please help me?

Können emir bitte helfen? (formal)

Kannst du mir bitte helfen? (informal)

The basic rule of thumb is that you use the "Sie" form with anyone you don't know, when someone is further up the hierarchy (such as your manager), and in generally formal settings such as speaking with a doctor, lawyer, or politician. Sometimes it can get a bit confusing as to which one is correct, so the method I use is to start with "Sie" and then change to "du" if the person uses it with me or directly says it's ok to use.

5. Umlauts

German has a few additional letters in their alphabet known as umlauts: ä, ö, and ü. There are similar pronunciation equivalents in English, but they're not 100% accurate. For me, I did have to learn how to move my mouth slightly differently to pronounce umlauts, but as with everything in the language learning process, the more you practice the easier it gets!

6. Silent letters

As a former English teacher, I can confirm through many of my students that one of the most difficult parts of learning English is our obsession with silent letters and strange pronunciation. In German, pronunciation is pretty cut and dry: you see the word and that's how it sounds. But not with English!

A few examples are:

- knife (silent k)
- wrap (silent w)
- crumb (silent b)
- listen (silent t)

This is only a sliver of the many examples that exist. My advice for English learners in this case is to listen to native speakers as much as possible, because then you'll know how to pronounce the word. I can also admit though, that even

native English speakers make pronunciation mistakes on tricky words with silent letters!

7. Verb placement

The last major element I'll mention that's different between German and English is verb placement. In <u>English</u>, a sentence with two verbs places both those verbs at the beginning. But in <u>German</u>, the first verb comes at the beginning, while the second goes at the end of the sentence. For example:

I **want** to **bake** a cake. (English)

vs

Ich **will** einen Kuchen **backen**. (German)

Even for German verbs that have two parts (trennbare Verben), the second half of the verb still goes to the end.

Ich **komme** morgen **an**. (I will arrive tomorrow)

The verb here is "ankommen" but it splits into "kommen" and "an". You can find a more <u>comprehensive list of German trennbare Verben here.</u>

The biggest difference between English and German here is that while English speakers adhere to this distinction fairly strictly even in colloquial speech, in German you will only find such a distinction in formal writing (and even then it seems German grammarians argue about the "proper" role of the Präteritum in writing, because it's not very intuitive to the average German speaker). In less formal registers, German speakers tend to avoid the simple past except for modal verbs and some other common verbs like 'sein', 'haben' and 'werden'. (There's also some dialectal variation: North Germans use the simple past somewhat more readily.) The difference between a past and present narrative is instead conveyed (if necessary) with adverbs.

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