

# The Phenomenon of Conversion in the Phonetic Terminology of English, Russian and Uzbek Languages

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## ABSTRACT

The article deals with the conversion models in English, Russian and Uzbek languages. The subject of the study is the productivity of such a method of word formation as conversion, based on the English language, Russian and Uzbek languages. Given the complexity of interpreting the essence of conversion in linguistics, it seems necessary to consider and analyze the existing points of view of local and foreign linguists on this problem, to substantiate the point of view on conversion as a way of forming new words, and also to consider conversion models in relation to their universality and specificity based on the English language, Russian and Uzbek languages.

**KEYWORDS:** *conversion models, way of forming new words, universality, semantic structures, different languages, language systems, intralinguistic analysis.*

## Introduction

In modern linguistics, the difference in the semantic structures of different languages is already considered a generally accepted fact, and this, along with the fact of the existence of a large number of languages themselves, confirms that the facets of human cognition of the surrounding world are extremely diverse, and the way of thinking inherent in different peoples requires adequate linguistic forms of expression. If the previous era in the development of linguistic science was characterized by the study of the semantic structures of individual languages, without regard to other language systems, then the modern development of language contacts brings to the forefront the problem of studying the plurality of languages and the forms of their interrelation. A comparative study of the semantics of different languages, in addition to its linguistic significance, is also important because it provides the opportunity for a deeper understanding of the entire uniqueness and specificity of the spiritual structure and thinking of the peoples who created these languages. Such a comparison, which is significant both from the point of view of theoretical linguistics and the typology of specific languages, also has a practical significance - it is justified at least by the needs of translation practice, as well as the process of practical and theoretical language teaching. Interest in the comparative study of unrelated languages stems from the increased interest in the content of the language, its semantic structure. If in the case of comparing related languages, the material units of these languages are mainly compared, and then the interest in the "worldview" of the language, the promotion of its "inner form" to the foreground, determined not only the admissibility, but also the necessity of comparative study of unrelated languages.

Comparative study of the semantic structure of languages assumes that language is considered, first of all, not as a means of communication, but as a means of cognition, as a system of correlation of "contents" or a system of linguistic units, which is a manifestation of the national perception of the outside world, and through which the "transition" of reality into their consciousness occurs. Since it is these linguistic phenomena and the peculiarities of their relationships that distinguish the semantic structures of languages, their comparative study allows us to identify facts and patterns that remain unexplored with exclusively intralinguistic analysis. The relevance of the research topic is primarily because conversion models have not yet been considered and analyzed using the material of English, Russian and Uzbek languages. Comparison of conversion models in these languages allows us to identify the universal and specific in the word-formation systems of these languages. The work represents the first attempt at a comprehensive study of such a word-formation process as conversion using the material of various parts of speech in languages with different systems. The study is included, as one of the links, in the sphere of comparative-typological study of semantic structures of different languages, which is one of the most important and relevant areas in modern linguistics.

## METHODS

The theoretical significance of the study lies in the use of a relatively new structural-semantic, theoretical approach to the description of conversion models in such languages of different systems as English, Russian and Uzbek languages. At the same time, the study of conversion models in the corresponding languages contributes to the deepening of the study of the word-formation system of both English and Karachay-Balkar languages. Comparative study of the languages under study revealed a typological pattern: the existence of universal and unique conversion models in these languages. The practical value of the study lies in the fact that the study of word-formation processes, models of formation of new words are a theoretical basis that can help solve practical issues of teaching aimed at mastering the word-formation systems of the languages under consideration. The materials and results of the study can be used in the educational process of universities in order to improve knowledge of the theory of language through special courses devoted to the methods of word formation.

The objectives of this study do not include a detailed study of existing points of view on the problems associated with establishing the status of conversion, its functional features. Therefore, in order to simplify the identification of this method of word formation, in this study, conversion will be understood as such a method of word formation, according

to which one part of speech is formed from another without any accompanying changes in the external form of the word, if we mean the original word form. Thus, the entire single-word array of the macroterm system of English phonetics was analyzed for the purpose of identifying conversion terminology. In total, as a result of the analysis of the terminological array of the study, 95 units of terminology formed by conversion were identified, which is about 4% of the entire terminological array of this study, numbering about 2500 units (or 7% of all single-word terminology).

### ANALYSIS

The largest number of terms formed by conversion belong to the micro-term systems of units of phonetic division of speech (79 units or about 83% of all identified cases of conversion) and phonetic modifiers (9 units or about 10% of all identified cases of conversion). Thus, these two micro-term systems account for about 93% (88 units) of all conversion terminology recorded in the macro-term system of English phonetics. The share of conversion terminology in the micro-term system of graphics and spelling (about 2% of all identified cases of conversion) and the micro-term system of related scientific fields (about 5% of all identified cases of conversion) is small and amounts to about 7% (7 units) in total. In the macro-term system of English phonetics, two most frequent conversion models are recorded: A→N (79 units), V→N (16 units). The most common type of conversion is the substantivization of adjectives.

Let us give examples of terms formed according to these two conversion models:

V→N — hold (v.) — hold (n.), rise (v.) — rise (n.), stop (v.) — stop (n.), tap (v.) — tap (n.);

A→N — labial (adj.) — labial (n.), nasal (adj.) — nasal (n.), obstruent (adj.) — obstruent (n.), interdental (adj.) — interdental (n.).

In summary, we can conclude that, despite the relatively small volume of recorded conversion terminology (about 7% of all single-word terminology), conversion can nevertheless be recognized as one of the most productive ways of forming new linguistic units in the sphere of highly specialized (phonetic) vocabulary. This method of term formation is most frequent in the period of the 19th-20th centuries, and least frequent in the period of the 10th-15th centuries. The increasing role of conversion as a method of term formation in the terminology systems of English phonetics dates back to the beginning of the early modern English period, which indicates the simultaneous nature of conversion processes in the general and highly specialized vocabulary of the English language.

### CONCLUSIONS

Conversion is not a functional phenomenon or syncretism, but a semantic-morphological-syntactic method of word formation, in which a word of one part of speech is formed from a word of another without changing the external form of the original word, and the word-formation means in this case are a semantic shift, morphological paradigm and grammatical design of the word.

Conversion is a productive way of word formation in modern English, Russian and Uzbek languages.

The Adj-N conversion model is universal for English, Russian and Uzbek. The basis for creating derivative nouns are simple, derivative and complex productive stems.

In modern English and Russian, the Adj-Adv conversion model is not widespread due to the existence of a special suffix -ly, which is used to form adverbs. The Adj-Adv conversion model is one of the most common in the Uzbek language. A significant part of adverbs in the Uzbek language is adverbs formed by conversion from adjectives.

Depending on the communication needs, a new word can be formed from any part of speech by conversion in English. The N-V conversion model is the most widespread in English and Russian. About half of all simple verbs are formed by conversion from nouns, which serves as a striking example of the high productivity of conversion in the field of verb formation from nouns. A verb can be formed from almost any noun, if necessary. The group of verbs formed from adjectives is small in English. In the Uzbek language, verbs are not formed by conversion at all.

The V-N conversion model is universal for modern English, Russian and Uzbek languages. In English and Russian, it is relatively poorly represented, and in Uzbek it is a more productive model.

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