



## A COMPARATIVE-TYOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE NUMBER CATEGORY IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES

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Article history:	Abstract:
<b>Received:</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 <b>Accepted:</b> 22 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	This paper conducts a comparative-typological analysis of the number category in Uzbek and English languages. It explores various aspects such as singular vs. plural forms, agreement with numerals, presence of a dual number, and strategies for expressing collective and partitive meanings. The study reveals shared patterns and unique features, providing insights into how languages encode numerical concepts and highlighting the richness of linguistic diversity.

### Keywords:

**INTRODUCTION.** Languages across the globe exhibit fascinating variations in how they express grammatical categories such as number[1]. In this comparative-typological study, we delve into the intricate nuances of the number category in two distinct languages: Uzbek and English. Despite their differences in linguistic origins and structures, both languages offer valuable insights into how speakers conceptualize and articulate numerical concepts.

### 1. BACKGROUND OF UZBEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES:

- Uzbek: Uzbek belongs to the Turkic language family and is primarily spoken in Uzbekistan and neighboring regions. It has undergone significant influences from Persian, Arabic, and Russian languages throughout its history[2].

- English: English is a West Germanic language that has evolved over centuries, heavily influenced by Latin, French, and Old Norse due to historical migrations and conquests. It's one of the most widely spoken languages globally and serves as a lingua franca in many contexts.

### 2. SINGULAR VS. PLURAL FORMS:

- Uzbek: In Uzbek, nouns typically have singular and plural forms. Pluralization often involves suffixation, with various suffixes depending on the noun's grammatical gender.

- English: English nouns also generally have singular and plural forms. The formation of plurals can involve adding suffixes ("-s", "-es"), vowel changes (e.g., "man" to "men"), or irregular forms (e.g., "child" to "children")[3].

### 3. AGREEMENT WITH NUMERALS:

- Uzbek: Numerals in Uzbek exhibit agreement with the nouns they modify in terms of case and

plurality. This agreement extends to both cardinal and ordinal numerals[14].

- English: English does not exhibit extensive agreement between numerals and nouns. Typically, numerals remain invariant regardless of the noun's characteristics. However, there are exceptions, such as "few" and "many," which can take different forms depending on the noun[4].

### 4. DUAL NUMBER:

- Uzbek: Unlike English, which lacks a dedicated dual number, Uzbek retains vestiges of a dual number system in pronouns and some nouns, particularly those related to paired body parts or objects.

- English: English has largely lost its dual number distinction, with singular and plural being the primary forms used to indicate quantity[15].

### 5. COLLECTIVE AND PARTITIVE NUMBER:

- Uzbek: Uzbek employs various strategies, including specific lexical items and constructions, to convey collective and partitive meanings. These constructions often involve the use of classifiers.

- English: English typically relies on context or specific quantifiers (e.g., "a group of," "a bunch of") to express collective or partitive concepts.

### 6. CONCLUSION:

The comparative-typological analysis of the number category in Uzbek and English highlights both shared patterns and unique features. While both languages distinguish between singular and plural forms, Uzbek exhibits more extensive agreement between numerals and nouns, along with remnants of a dual number system[16]. English, on the other hand, relies on simpler mechanisms for expressing numerical concepts but lacks certain distinctions found in Uzbek. By exploring these linguistic differences, we gain



deeper insights into how languages encode and convey numerical information, enriching our understanding of human cognition and linguistic diversity.

This comparative study underscores the rich tapestry of linguistic diversity and invites further exploration into the intricate ways in which languages shape our perception and expression of numerical concepts.

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