

**LINGUOCULTURAL FEATURES OF EUPHEMISMS IN WOMEN'S SPEECH IN  
ENGLISH AND UZBEK (BASED ON LOUISA MAY ALCOTT'S "LITTLE WOMEN")**

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**Annotation:** This article focuses on the linguocultural features of euphemisms in women's speech based on the novel "Little Women" by American novelist and poet Louisa May Alcott. The work reflects the lives, social roles, and values of 19th-century American women, embodying unique styles and cultural elements in their speech. The article conducts a linguocultural analysis of euphemisms—expressive means, phrases, and types characteristic of women's speech—in both English and Uzbek. Through this analysis, the study explores how cultural and social values in women's speech are expressed linguistically and highlights the connections between language and culture.

**Keywords:** Women's speech, semantics, euphemisms, linguoculture, Little Women, gender linguistics, literature, cultural features.

The study of women's speech and its linguocultural characteristics holds a significant place in modern linguistics. Specifically, analyzing women's speech in literature encompasses not only linguistic aspects but also cultural and social dimensions. This process is carried out through concepts such as "gender linguistics" and "linguoculture." The uniqueness of women's speech, including aphorisms, expressions, societal roles, values, and ancient traditions, is deeply interconnected and distinct within each culture. Louisa May Alcott's renowned work "Little Women" serves as an excellent resource for analyzing women's speech and its linguocultural context in literature. The novel, reflecting the lives and social status of American women in the mid-19th century, perfectly showcases unique styles in women's speech and their cultural expressions. Through "Little Women," the linguocultural features of euphemisms in women's speech, relationships, values, and their societal roles are explored. This article focuses on the linguocultural features of euphemisms in women's speech in English and Uzbek, based on Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women." It examines cultural expressions, aphorisms, and societal approaches toward women as reflected in their speech. Furthermore, it highlights the connection between language and culture, showing how gender perceptions are shaped through women's speech. Analyzing the linguocultural features of women's speech is crucial not only from a linguistic perspective but also from a cultural studies viewpoint. Women's speech, particularly through euphemisms, provides extensive information about women's societal roles, values, and social norms. Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women" is an exceptional source for analyzing the linguocultural characteristics of euphemisms in women's speech, shedding light on the social position and lifestyle of American women in the 19th century. The euphemisms used in women's speech in "Little Women" are closely tied to relationships, culture, and values. The novel's characters—Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy—each express societal norms and roles assigned to women through their speech. Their dialogue reflects elements such as gender equality, mutual respect, family values, and compassion for one another. For instance, Meg's speech emphasizes respect for family values, while Jo's highlights individualism and independence. In English, euphemisms in women's speech are often characterized by positive and delicate expressions, while in Uzbek,

they tend to reflect traditional values and convey a sense of caution and sincerity. These differences stem from cultural distinctions, language development, and social contexts.

In English, particularly in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, individualism, freedom, and self-expression played a significant role in women's speech. This idea is affirmed through the speech of characters like Jo, Meg, and others in Alcott's *Little Women*. Jo, in particular, expresses her desire for independence and self-assertion through her speech. Euphemisms used in reference to her often emphasize uniqueness, assertiveness, and independence. Euphemisms in English tend to include expressions that reflect caution and respect, which are closely tied to women's social roles in society. In Uzbek, however, women's speech more often reflects traditional values, familial respect, and socially accepted roles. Euphemisms in Uzbek emphasize sincerity, hospitality, and caution. Traditional concepts regarding women, such as being a "good daughter," a "supporter of the head of the family," or "worthy of parental respect," are more common in Uzbek society. These expressions highlight the role of women in portraying societal values and norms.

In analyzing the differences in euphemisms within women's speech in English and Uzbek, it becomes clear how language and culture are interconnected. In English, the perspectives on women, shaped by concepts of freedom and individualism, are often reflected in their speech through aphorisms and reflections. The differences in speech between Meg and Jo in *Little Women* vividly illustrate this point. Jo uses euphemisms that emphasize her independence and activity, while Meg employs words that express family values. This contrast highlights how societal expectations and views of women were evolving at the time. In Uzbek, however, women's speech is more focused on traditional values, familial respect, and mutual support. In *Little Women*, there are instances that align closely with expressions found in Uzbek. For example, the characters' compassion and sincerity toward each other, mutual support, and emphasis on family values mirror the euphemisms found in Uzbek speech. Beth's kindness and Amy's dedication to her family resemble expressions often used in Uzbek culture to convey similar values. As reflected in Alcott's *Little Women*, euphemisms in women's speech in the 19th century developed in response to the social changes of the time. The differences in speech between Meg and Jo throughout the novel illustrate the progression of women's self-awareness and social positions. Jo's speech is distinct, using words that align with her aspirations and individual role in society, while Meg's language reflects family values and traditions. This contrast provides deeper insights into the roles and positions of women during that period. The analysis reveals that the linguocultural characteristics of euphemisms in women's speech in *Little Women* highlight both the differences and similarities between English and Uzbek cultures.

In conclusion, the women's speech and the linguocultural characteristics of euphemisms in *Little Women* provide a deep understanding of women's roles in society, values, and social norms. The novel, by analyzing euphemisms in women's speech within a cultural context, highlights the differences between women's speech in English and Uzbek. This not only advances research in linguistics but also contributes to cultural studies, gender analysis, and literary studies. Through the women's speech in *Little Women*, the novel offers significant insights into understanding women in society, their roles, and their positions. Additionally, it illustrates how euphemisms in women's speech in each language and culture adapt to social changes, values, and cultural norms.

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