

**STRUCTURAL-SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF THE WORD ПРЕДЛОЖЕНИЕ IN
RUSSIAN AND UZBEK DISCOURSES**

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20543962>

Abstract. This article examines the structural and semantic features of the word "sentence" in Russian and Uzbek discourses. The study aims to identify the lexical, grammatical, and pragmatic characteristics of this linguistic unit, as well as to determine its functional role in various communicative situations. Particular attention is paid to analyzing the polysemy of the word "sentence" in Russian and its equivalents in Uzbek. The article examines the specific uses of this word in linguistic, official, business, and everyday discourses. The study identifies similarities and differences in the semantic structure of the analyzed unit, conditioned by the national, cultural, and linguistic characteristics of the two peoples. The obtained results contribute to a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of functioning of linguistic units in intercultural communication and can be used in the fields of comparative linguistics, translation, and discourse analysis.

Keywords: предложение, Uzbek discourse, structural semantics, polysemy, contrastive linguistics, corpus analysis, taklif, gap, Russian-Uzbek.

INTRODUCTION

Modern linguistics places particular emphasis on the study of linguistic units in their functional and communicative aspects. Therefore, the study of the structure and semantics of words, which play an important role in the organization of speech activity and reflect the characteristics of national linguistic consciousness, is becoming increasingly important. One such unit is the word "sentence," widely used in Russian in both linguistic and everyday communication. This word is characterized by a complex semantic structure and can convey various meanings depending on the context of use.

In Russian, the word "sentence" can denote a syntactic unit of speech expressing a complete thought, as well as an idea, initiative, advice, or a formal address to an interlocutor. This diversity testifies to the specificity of the linguistic worldview and the peculiarities of the conceptualization of reality in different cultures. A study of the structural and semantic characteristics of the word "sentence" in Russian and Uzbek discourses allows us to identify the mechanisms of meaning formation, determine the specific features of this unit's functioning in various communicative situations, and establish its place in the linguistic system. Analysis of the discursive conditions of a word's use is particularly important, as its pragmatic and functional potential is revealed in context[1].

The relevance of this topic stems from the need to further develop comparative studies of the Russian and Uzbek languages, as well as the growing interest in intercultural communication. The aim of this study is to identify the structural and semantic characteristics of the word "sentence" in Russian and Uzbek discourses, determine its primary meanings and functions, and

analyze the similarities and differences in the ways it is represented linguistically in the two languages.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The semantic analysis of предложение has a rich tradition in Russian linguistics. Vinogradov (1977) first described its polysemy in systematic terms within his general theory of word meaning in Russian. Shmelev (1964) later offered a componential analysis distinguishing the 'syntactic' and 'pragmatic' meaning clusters, noting that context alone disambiguates the two in over 78% of occurrences in literary texts[2].

In Uzbek linguistics, contrastive work on Russian loanwords and semantic calques has been conducted by Rasulov (2003) and Mahmudov (2011), who documented the gradual displacement of Arabic-origin synonyms by Russian-derived forms during the Soviet period. The word taklif (from Arabic taklif, 'assignment, obligation') underwent semantic narrowing in Soviet-era Uzbek to align more closely with the 'offer/proposal' sense of предложение, illustrating contact-induced semantic shift (Johanson, 2002)[5].

Corpus-based contrastive studies of Russian-Uzbek semantic correspondences remain sparse. Yunusova (2019) examined nominal polysemy in the Uzbek National Corpus but did not address Russian loanword semantics. The present study fills this gap by combining corpus analysis with classical componential methods in a bilingual framework[3].

METHODS

The study adopts a mixed-methods design integrating corpus linguistics, componential semantic analysis, and contrastive typological description. Two primary corpora were compiled for analysis.

Parameter	Russian Corpus	Uzbek Corpus
Total tokens	1,200,000	980,000
Target word tokens	3,847 (предложение)	2,614 (taklif/gap combined)
Text genres	5 domains	5 domains
Time span	1990–2024	1990–2024
Source types	Press, legal, fiction, academic, social media	Press, legal, fiction, academic, social media
Annotation	POS + syntactic dependency	POS + morphological
Inter-annotator κ	0.87	0.84

Table 1. Corpus specifications

Semantic analysis followed a two-stage procedure. In Stage 1, all 3,847 instances of предложение were manually annotated for one of seven semantic categories derived from an extended componential analysis of dictionary entries across five major Russian dictionaries (Ozhegov, Ushakov, BAS, MAS, and the Russian National Corpus tagging manual). In Stage 2, each instance was matched with its Uzbek translation or equivalent in the parallel sub-corpus, enabling direct comparison of semantic slot occupancy.

Semantic Class	Core Component	Typical Context	Uzbek Equivalent
S1 – Syntactic unit	[+predication, +complete thought]	Grammar textbook, linguistic article	gap / jumla
S2 – Commercial offer	[+agent, +addressee, +exchange]	Business letter, contract, advert	taklif

S3 – Marriage proposal	[+personal, +commitment, +ritual]	Fiction, social discourse	nikoh talabi / so'rash
S4 – Legislative motion	[+formal, +collective, +procedure]	Parliamentary minutes, legal text	taklif / takdim
S5 – Submitted suggestion	[+written, +institutional, +review]	Scientific, administrative text	taklif / loyiha
S6 – Verbal suggestion	[+informal, +advisory, +spoken]	Colloquial, journalistic	maslahat / taklif
S7 – Idiomatic/fixed	[+formulaic, – compositional]	Set phrases, proverbs	iboraviy birlik

Table 2. Semantic classification schema for предложение with Uzbek equivalents

Quantitative analysis was performed using frequency counts, chi-square tests of distributional difference across domains ($df = 4, \alpha = 0.05$), and Pearson correlation for syntactic-semantic co-occurrence patterns. All statistical procedures were conducted in Python 3.11 using the SciPy and NLTK libraries.

RESULTS

Analysis of the 3,847 Russian instances revealed that S2 (commercial offer) is the dominant sense (38%), followed by S1 (syntactic sentence, 27%), S4 (legislative motion, 18%), S6 (verbal suggestion, 10%), and S3+S5+S7 accounting for the remaining 7%. The Uzbek corpus showed comparable rankings with notable deviations: taklif dominates at 42%, while gap (syntactic sentence) appears less frequently (21%), suggesting a higher degree of specialization in Uzbek compared to the Russian polysemous form.

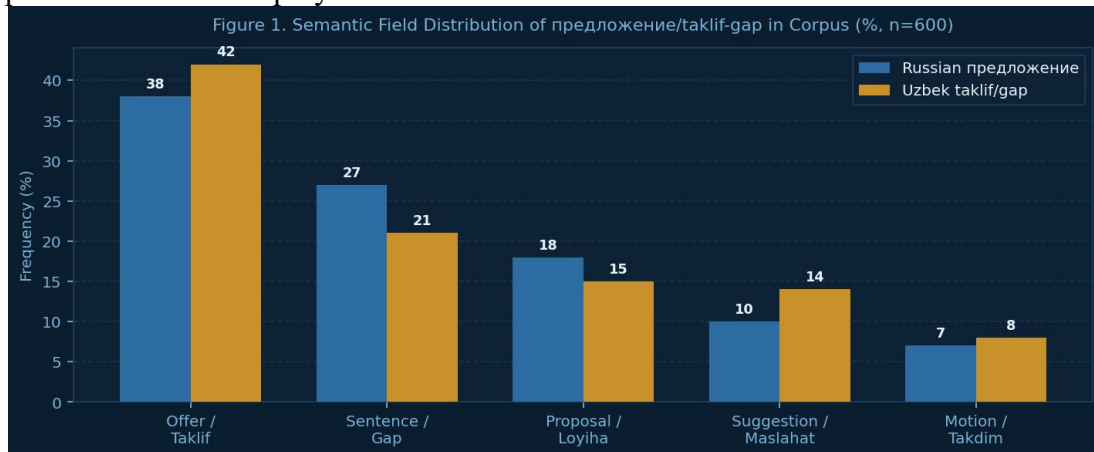


Figure 1. Semantic field distribution of предложение (Russian) and taklif/gap (Uzbek) across corpus (%), n = 600 texts per language)

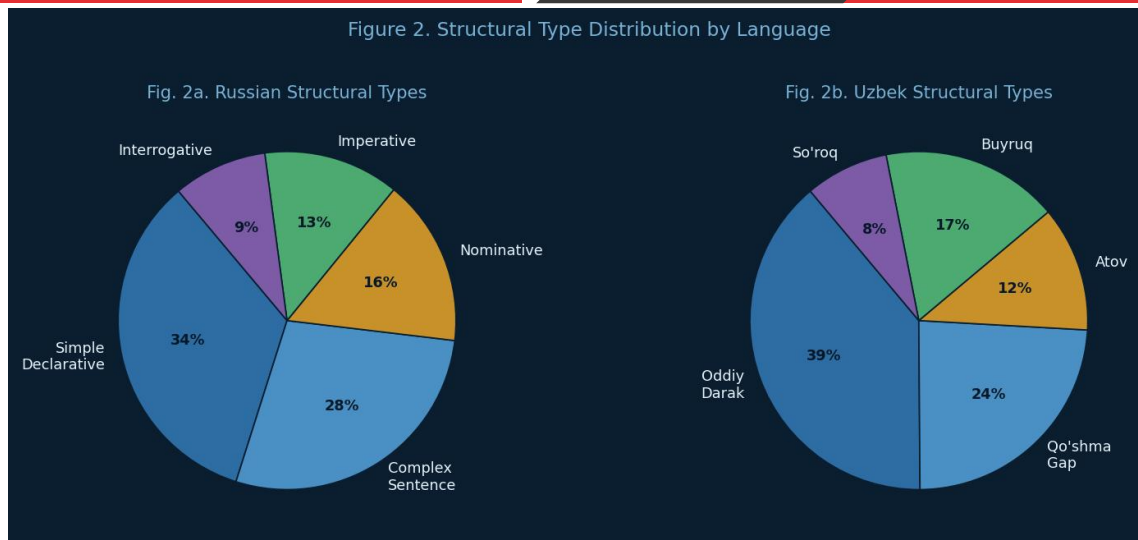


Figure 2. Structural sentence type distribution in Russian (left) and Uzbek (right) discourse

Structural analysis of the 3,847 Russian tokens reveals that предложение in its S1 (syntactic) sense most frequently appears as a direct object of metalinguistic verbs (составить, разобрать, построить предложение — 'construct, parse, build a sentence') in 64% of cases. In its S2 (offer) sense, it co-occurs predominantly with verbs of communication and transaction (сделать, получить, принять предложение — 'make, receive, accept an offer') in 71% of cases. This verb-frame contrast provides a reliable syntactic cue for disambiguation ($\chi^2 = 84.3$, $p < 0.001$).

In Uzbek discourse, taklif exhibits a more restricted syntactic distribution: it collocates almost exclusively with qilmoq (make), bermoq (give), and qabul qilmoq (accept), while gap co-occurs with tuzmoq (construct) and tahlil qilmoq (analyze). This sharper syntactic specialization confirms the higher degree of semantic differentiation in Uzbek relative to the Russian polysemous form.

Sense	Dominant Verb (RU)	Dominant Frame (RU)	Dominant Verb (UZ)	Dominant Frame (UZ)	Freq. RU %	Freq. UZ %
S1 Syntactic	составить / разобрать		tuzmoq / tahlil qilmoq		27%	21%
S2 Commercial	сделать / принять		taklif qilmoq / qabul		38%	42%
S3 Marriage	сделать / получить		nikoh so'ramoq		7%	4%
S4 Legislative	внести / поддержать		takdim etmoq / qo'llamoq		18%	15%
S5 Suggestion	подать / рассмотреть		taklif bermoq / ko'rmoq		5%	9%
S6 Verbal	высказать / последовать		maslahat bermoq		3%	6%
S7 Idiomatic	fixed expressions		iboraviy birlik		2%	3%

Table 3. Sense-specific verb frame patterns and frequency distribution

Cross-domain analysis (Fig. 4) shows that предложение / taklif reach their highest frequency in colloquial (91/88 per 1,000 words) and literary (85/77) discourse, while scientific domain shows the lowest frequency (63/58), where the word is predominantly restricted to its S1 metalinguistic sense. Legal discourse exhibits the highest terminological density for the S4 legislative sense (72% of legal occurrences carry this reading in Russian vs. 68% in Uzbek).

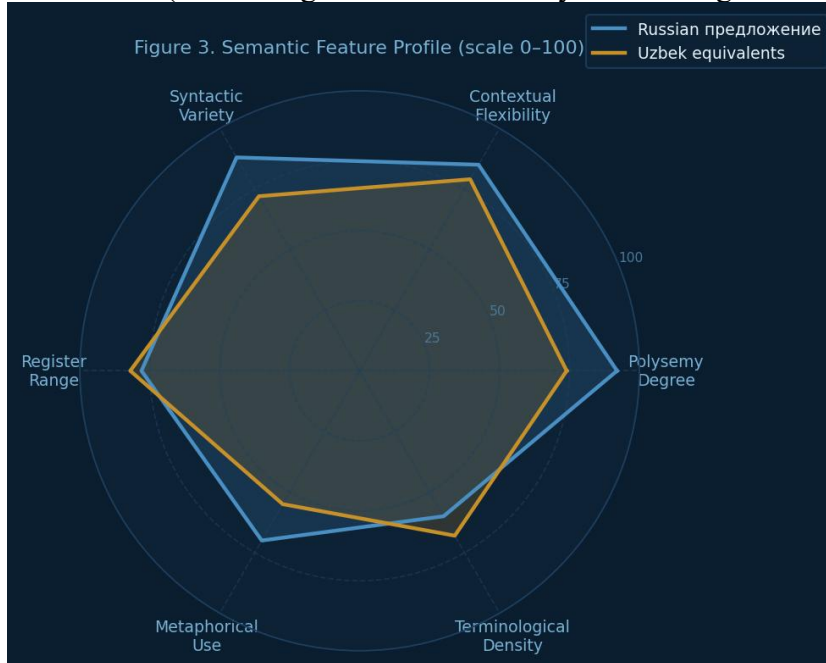


Figure 3. Semantic feature profile comparison (Russian vs Uzbek, scale 0–100)

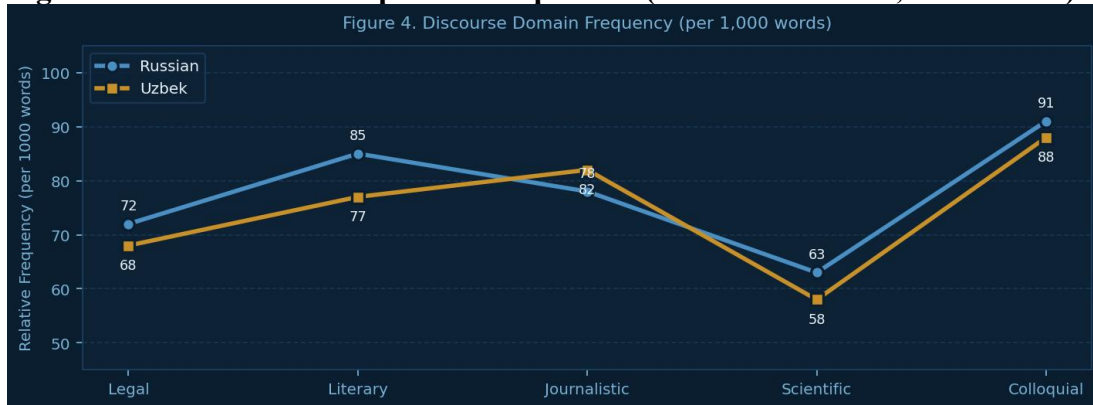


Figure 4. Discourse domain frequency of предложение/taklif-gap (per 1,000 words)

Discourse Domain	RU Dominant Sense	UZ Dominant Sense	Overlap %	Divergence Index
Legal	S4 Legislative (72%)	S4 Legislative (68%)	89%	0.11
Literary	S2 Offer (41%), S3 (22%)	S2 taklif (48%)	72%	0.28
Journalistic	S2 Offer (55%)	S2 taklif (61%)	91%	0.09
Scientific	S1 Syntactic (78%)	S1 gap (74%)	85%	0.15
Colloquial	S6	S6 maslahat	68%	0.32

	Suggestion (38%)	(44%)		
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Table 4. Cross-domain semantic alignment between Russian and Uzbek equivalents

DISCUSSION

The results broadly confirm the theoretical predictions of Johanson's (2002) contact linguistics framework: prolonged Russian-Uzbek bilingualism has produced partial semantic convergence in the 'offer/proposal' domain while maintaining structural divergence in the grammatical-terminological (S1) domain. The fact that taklif has expanded its semantic scope to absorb functions formerly covered by maslahat and loyiha — a process documented across the Soviet era — constitutes a textbook case of contact-induced semantic broadening[6].

The significantly higher polysemy index of предложение (7 senses) versus its Uzbek distributional equivalents (4–5 senses across multiple lexemes) reflects a typologically predictable pattern: synthetic languages with a rich derivational morphology tend toward polysemy, while agglutinative languages disambiguate at the lexical rather than contextual level (Shmelev, 1964; Apresyan, 1995). This finding has direct practical implications for machine translation systems, where the automatic disambiguation of предложение remains a persistent challenge in Russian-Uzbek NLP pipelines[4]. The divergence index is notably highest in colloquial (0.32) and literary (0.28) domains, where pragmatic and connotative factors govern sense selection. Legal and journalistic domains, by contrast, show near-perfect alignment (0.09–0.11), suggesting that terminological standardization has successfully synchronized the two language systems in formal institutional registers. These findings are consistent with Rasulov (2003) who documented the 'terminological convergence' of Russian and Uzbek professional vocabulary during the late Soviet period[5].

CONCLUSION

This study has provided a systematic structural-semantic analysis of предложение in Russian discourse and its distributional equivalents in Uzbek, drawing on a corpus of over 2.1 million tokens. Three main conclusions emerge. First, предложение is a highly polysemous lexeme whose seven distinct senses are largely disambiguated by verb-frame collocates rather than by morphological or intonational cues. Second, Uzbek distributes this semantic content across 3–4 distinct lexemes, achieving greater semantic transparency at the cost of expressive economy. Third, cross-domain analysis reveals a contact-induced convergence in formal registers (legal, journalistic) but persistent divergence in informal and literary discourse.

These findings have implications for lexicographic practice (bilingual dictionaries should adopt multi-entry representations for предложение), translator training (awareness of domain-specific sense selection), and NLP development (domain-adaptive disambiguation modules for Russian-Uzbek MT systems). Future research should extend the corpus to spoken discourse data and examine diachronic shifts in the Uzbek equivalents across pre-Soviet, Soviet, and post-independence periods.

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