


# Functional-Semantic Features of Adjectives in Uzbek and English

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	<p><b>Abstract</b></p> <p>This article compares the morphological features and degree formation methods of adjectives in Uzbek and English. Adjectives have specific morphological characteristics, being formed through affixation and composition. The article discusses the different degrees of adjectives: simple degree, superlative degree, comparative degree, and diminutive degree, along with various methods of their formation (morphological, lexical, phonetic). It also examines the compound, repetitive, and complex forms of adjectives in Uzbek and compares them with English adjectives. Furthermore, the article provides information about affixes and synonyms used in the formation of adjective degrees.</p>
<p><b>Keywords:</b> Adjective, morphological features, degrees of adjectives, simple degree, superlative degree, comparative degree, diminutive degree, affixation, composition, compound adjectives, repetitive adjectives, complex adjectives, lexical method, phonetic method, Uzbek and English languages.</p>	

## Introduction

Adjectives possess the following distinctive functional-semantic features: a) The primary morphological feature of adjectives is their formation. Adjectives are formed in two ways: **affixation** and **composition**. There are approximately 50 suffixes used to form adjectives.

b) Another important morphological feature of adjectives is their ability to express comparison and gradation of qualities. Adjectives have the following degrees: **simple degree**, **superlative degree**, **comparative degree**, and **diminutive degree**.

## I. Simple Degree

In the simple degree, a quality is not compared to the same quality in other objects. This degree shows that the quality is at its normal level and does not require a specific suffix: round table, good day, broad street, green leaf, good person.

## II. Superlative Degree

The superlative degree indicates that a particular quality in an object is the most prominent compared to the same quality in other objects. It is formed using the following methods:

## 1. Morphological method:

a) Repetition of the word with modifications in its structure. For example:

round and round (in English, adjectives can sometimes be repeated for emphasis), dum-dumaloq (perfectly round), pak-pakana (very short).

b) Adding p or m sounds to the first two phonemes of the word, followed by repetition: yap-yangi (brand new), ko‘m-ko‘k (deep blue) (this is not found in English).

c) Adding -ppa after the first syllable: soppa-sog‘ (perfectly healthy), to‘ppa-to‘g‘ri (absolutely correct).

## 2. Lexical method:

a) Using intensifiers: very, high, too, extremely, absolutely, utterly; juda, eng, g‘oyat, nihoyatda, zap, cheksiz, nihoyasiz.

Example: His unparalleled beauty left me in awe as an ordinary person. (S. Ahmad)

b) Using repetitive compound words: baquvvat (strong), qars-qars (sharp), oltin rangli barmoqday-barmoqday (golden, finger-like) (Oybek).

c) Idiomatic expressions to enhance meaning: Ellik yoshlardagi haddan ziyod cho‘tir (extremely freckled) (Oybek).

## 3. Lexical-semantic method:

Using words from other categories to express qualities: honey girl, wooden spoon; zahar (bitter), olov (fiery).

## 4. Phonetic method:

a) Prolonging vowels: riight, nooow, tooza (clean), chuquur (deep).

b) Doubling consonants: tekkis (flat), mazza (delight), yumshoq (soft).

## III. Comparative Degree

The comparative degree expresses that a particular quality in one object exceeds the same quality in another. In Uzbek, it is formed by adding the suffix -roq to the adjective or by using words like bir-biridan, undan ham, yanada: The apple tree is taller than the peach tree.

In English, the comparative degree is formed as follows:

## IV. Diminutive Degree

The diminutive degree shows that the quality is below average or less prominent. It is formed as follows:

### 1. By suffixes:

-ish, -g‘ish, -mtir: oqish (whitish), qizg‘ish (reddish), qoramtir (blackish).

-roq can also indicate diminution without comparison: eskiroq (slightly old).

2. **By modifiers before the adjective:** yarim (half), nim (semi), och (pale), xiyol (slightly), sal (a bit), uncha, u qadar...emas (not very): yarim ochiq (half-open), uncha katta emas (not very big).

## Synonymy of Adjective-forming Suffixes

The diminutive suffix -roq has synonyms like -ish, -mtir, -imtir, which convey a similar sense of reduced intensity but lack comparative implications. For example: Sendan yuksak nima bor, Yulduz? (What is higher than you, Star?)

## Structure of Adjectives in Uzbek

Adjectives in Uzbek are categorized into four types: simple, compound, repetitive, and composite.

### 1. Simple Adjectives

- **Root simple adjectives:** yaxshi (good), shirin (sweet), oq (white), baland (high).
- **Derived simple adjectives:** ishchan (hardworking), maqtanchoq (boastful).

### 2. Compound Adjectives

Examples: aql-hushli (intelligent), baland-past (high-low), achchiq-chuchuk (sweet-sour).

### 3. Repetitive Adjectives

Examples: katta-katta (big-big), oppoq-oppoq (pure white).

### 4. Composite Adjectives

Examples: xomkalla (naive), sho‘rpushona (unlucky).

## English Adjectives

English adjectives are classified as **simple**, **derived**, and **compound** based on their structure:

### 1. Simple Adjectives

Examples: good, bad, hard, long.

### 2. Derived Adjectives

Formed with suffixes or prefixes: helpful, uncomfortable, useless.

Common suffixes:

- -able: adorable (charming)
- -ful: colourful (vivid)
- -less: lifeless (inanimate)
- un- (prefix): unguarded (unprotected)

### 3. Compound Adjectives

Formed by combining two or more stems:

- red-hot (fiery)
- part-time (partial)
- hard-working (diligent)

## Conclusion:

The article explores the functional-semantic properties of adjectives in both Uzbek and English, examining the methods of forming their degrees and comparing these approaches across the two languages. Adjectives in both languages are formed through

functional-semantic processes, such as affixation and composition, allowing for the creation of different degrees. In Uzbek, adjectives are categorized into simple, comparative, superlative, and diminutive degrees, which are formed through functional-semantic, lexical, phonetic, and semantic methods. Additionally, the article discusses the various forms of adjectives, including compound, repeated, and composite adjectives, as well as their semantic and syntactic properties. When compared with English adjectives, Uzbek adjectives display a greater prevalence of compound and repeated forms, which enriches the language's linguistic features. In contrast, English adjectives rely more on morphological affixes and lexical elements to indicate degree. Furthermore, English adjectives use more syntactic and lexical tools to form comparative and superlative degrees.

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