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“Raqamli tilshunoslik va tarjimashunoslik: zamonaviy tahlil, muammolar va istiqbollar” mavzusidagi Xalqaro ilmiy-amaliy anjuman materiallari. – Toshkent: Oriental universiteti, 2026. – 269 bet.

To‘plamda Oriental universitetida o‘tkazilgan “Raqamli tilshunoslik va tarjimashunoslik: zamonaviy tahlil, muammolar va istiqbollar” deb nomlangan Xalqaro ilmiy-amaliy anjumanida ishtirok etgan taniqli olimlar, yosh tadqiqotchilarning ma’ruzalari jamlangan. Maqolalarda raqamli tilshunoslik va korpus texnologiyalari, sun’iy intellekt asosidagi tarjima va tarjima texnologiyalari, raqamli muhitda til, madaniyat va pragmatika va tarjimashunoslikda ta’lim va metodika kabi sohalarga oid dolzarb masalalar yoritilgan.

Материалы Международной научно-практической конференции «Цифровая лингвистика и переводоведение: современный анализ, проблемы и перспективы». – Ташкент: Университет Oriental, 202. – 269 стр.

В сборнике представлены доклады известных ученых и молодых исследователей, принявших участие в Международной научно-практической конференции «Цифровая лингвистика и переводоведение: Современный анализ, проблемы и перспективы», состоявшейся в Университете Oriental. В статьях освещены актуальные вопросы, связанные с цифровой лингвистикой и корпусными технологиями, переводом и переводческими технологиями на основе искусственного интеллекта, языком, культурой и прагматикой в цифровой среде, а также образованием и методикой в области цифровой лингвистики и переводоведения.

Proceedings of the International Scientific and Practical Conference on “Digital linguistics and translation studies: modern analysis, challenges, and prospects”. – Tashkent: Oriental University, 202. – 269 pages.

This collection includes presentations by renowned scholars and young researchers who participated in the International Scientific and Practical Conference on “Digital linguistics and translation studies: modern analysis, challenges, and prospects”, held at Oriental University. The articles address pressing issues related to the digital linguistics and corpus technologies, artificial intelligence-based translation and translation technologies, language, culture, and pragmatics in the digital environment, as well as education and methodology in digital linguistics and translation studies.



EVALUATIVE VOCABULARY IN DESCRIBING FEMALE CHARACTERS IN ENGLISH  
AND UZBEK DETECTIVE NARRATIVES



<https://zenodo.org/records/18622316>

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**Abstract.** This article investigates evaluative vocabulary used to describe female characters in English and Uzbek detective narratives. Evaluative lexical units play a significant role in shaping the reader's perception of female characters and constructing their social, moral, and psychological image. The study applies a comparative linguocultural approach to identify the dominant positive and negative evaluative markers in both literary traditions. The analysis demonstrates that English detective fiction often employs evaluative adjectives and descriptive expressions emphasizing independence, intelligence, emotional restraint, and attractiveness, while Uzbek detective narratives tend to use vocabulary highlighting modesty, moral purity, dignity, patience, and family-oriented identity. The research also reveals that negative evaluation in English texts is frequently associated with manipulation, danger, and mystery, whereas Uzbek texts mainly express negative evaluation through concepts of shame, dishonor, and social condemnation. The findings confirm that evaluative vocabulary functions as a culturally conditioned linguistic mechanism reflecting national values and gender stereotypes in detective discourse.

**Keywords:** *evaluative vocabulary, female characters, detective narrative, lexical evaluation, gender discourse, linguocultural analysis, English literature, Uzbek literature.*

**Annotatsiya.** Ushbu maqolada ingliz va o'zbek detektiv matnlarida ayol obrazini tasvirlashda qo'llaniladigan baholovchi leksika tahlil qilinadi. Baholovchi leksik birliklar ayol personajning ijtimoiy, axloqiy va psixologik qiyofasini shakllantirishda hamda o'quvchi tasavvurini yo'naltirishda muhim o'rin egallaydi. Tadqiqot qiyosiy lingvomadaniy yondashuv asosida har ikki adabiy an'anada ijobiy va salbiy baholash markerlarini aniqlashga qaratilgan. Tahlil natijalariga ko'ra, ingliz detektiv asarlarida ayol obrazi ko'pincha mustaqillik, intellekt, hissiy barqarorlik va jozibadorlikni ifodalovchi baholovchi sifatlar orqali tasvirlansa, o'zbek detektiv matnlarida kamtarlik, axloqiy poklik, or-nomus, sabr-toqat va oilaparvarlik kabi qadriyatlarni aks ettiruvchi baholovchi birliklar yetakchi o'rin egallaydi. Shuningdek, ingliz matnlarida salbiy baholash ko'proq xavf, makr va sirli xarakter bilan bog'liq bo'lsa, o'zbek matnlarida salbiy baholash uyat, obro' yo'qotish va ijtimoiy qoralash tushunchalari orqali ifodalanishi aniqlanadi. Tadqiqot baholovchi leksika detektiv diskursda milliy qadriyatlar va gender stereotiplarini aks ettiruvchi madaniy jihatdan shartlangan til vositasi ekanini tasdiqlaydi.



**Kalit so'zlar:** *baholovchi leksika, ayol obrazi, detektiv narrativ, leksik baholash, gender diskurs, lingvomadaniy tahlil, ingliz adabiyoti, o'zbek adabiyoti.*

**Аннотация.** В статье анализируется оценочная лексика, используемая при описании женских персонажей в английских и узбекских детективных повествованиях. Оценочные лексические единицы играют важную роль в формировании образа женщины, определяя ее социальную, моральную и психологическую характеристику, а также влияя на восприятие читателя. Исследование основано на сравнительном лингвокультурном подходе, позволяющем выявить доминирующие позитивные и негативные оценочные маркеры в обеих литературных традициях. Результаты показывают, что в английской детективной прозе женские персонажи часто описываются через лексику, подчеркивающую независимость, интеллект, эмоциональную сдержанность и привлекательность, тогда как в узбекских детективных текстах преобладают оценочные единицы, связанные со скромностью, нравственной чистотой, достоинством, терпением и семейной направленностью. Негативная оценка в английских текстах чаще связана с опасностью, манипулятивностью и таинственностью, а в узбекских произведениях — с понятиями стыда, потери чести и общественного осуждения. Полученные данные подтверждают, что оценочная лексика выступает культурно обусловленным языковым механизмом, отражающим национальные ценности и гендерные стереотипы в детективном дискурсе.

**Ключевые слова:** *оценочная лексика, женские персонажи, детективный нарратив, лексическая оценка, гендерный дискурс, лингвокультурный анализ, английская литература, узбекская литература.*

**INTRODUCTION.** Detective fiction is a literary genre that not only focuses on crime investigation but also reflects social values and cultural stereotypes. Within detective narratives, the portrayal of female characters plays a significant role because women may function as investigators, victims, witnesses, suspects, or symbolic figures representing morality and social order. The linguistic representation of female characters is often constructed through evaluative vocabulary, which shapes the reader's emotional and axiological attitude toward a character.

Evaluation in language is considered a key category of axiological linguistics. It expresses approval or disapproval, positive or negative judgment, and cultural attitude toward an object. Evaluative vocabulary includes adjectives, expressive epithets, metaphorical descriptions, and lexical markers of moral judgment. Such units are especially frequent in literary discourse, where character portrayal is deeply connected with value interpretation. According to P. Newmark, literary texts reflect culture-specific evaluation, and lexical choices in fiction are influenced by national worldview and cultural context [1].

A comparative analysis of English and Uzbek detective narratives is important because both traditions represent different sociocultural backgrounds. English detective fiction is influenced by Western individualism and modern social ideology, while Uzbek detective narratives often preserve traditional moral norms and collectivist cultural values. This contrast affects evaluative lexical



choices used in describing female characters, resulting in culturally specific portrayals of femininity.

Evaluative vocabulary is a set of lexical units that express value judgments and emotional attitudes. It is closely connected with the categories of emotiveness and expressiveness. In narrative discourse, evaluation may be explicit, realized through direct adjectives and descriptive markers, or implicit, expressed through metaphorical and contextual interpretation. Evaluation is also culturally conditioned, since positive and negative judgments differ across societies.

In literary discourse, evaluation plays a crucial role in character construction. The narrator's lexical choice creates a psychological portrait and influences the reader's perception. N. Fairclough argues that discourse is ideologically shaped and that lexical evaluation reflects social power relations and cultural norms [2]. Thus, evaluative vocabulary used to describe female characters in detective narratives can be interpreted as a reflection of cultural ideology and gender stereotypes.

English detective fiction frequently employs evaluative adjectives and descriptive expressions to shape female images. Positive evaluation often emphasizes intelligence, independence, confidence, and physical attractiveness. Lexical units such as *clever*, *sharp-minded*, *determined*, *elegant*, *graceful*, *charming*, and *confident* are commonly used to describe women who participate actively in the narrative. Such evaluative markers reflect the Western cultural tendency to associate femininity with individuality and personal agency.

Another frequent feature is emotional restraint. Women may be described as calm, composed, reserved, or self-controlled. This vocabulary represents the ideal of psychological stability and rational behavior, which is valued in English detective discourse.

Negative evaluation in English texts is often linked with mystery and danger. Female characters may be portrayed as suspicious, manipulative, deceptive, cold-hearted, or unpredictable. Such lexical units construct the archetype of a "dangerous woman" who threatens social stability. This type of evaluation is closely connected with the genre convention of suspense and psychological tension. As S. Mills emphasizes, gender representation in discourse often reflects power relations, where female characters may be described through stereotypical evaluative labels [3].

Uzbek detective narratives demonstrate a culturally specific evaluative system shaped by moral and traditional values. Positive evaluation of female characters is often expressed through adjectives and epithets emphasizing modesty, moral purity, dignity, and patience. Lexical markers such as *kamtar*, *iboli*, *oqila*, *sabrli*, *vafodor*, and *oriyatli* function as evaluative units representing ideal femininity in Uzbek culture. Such vocabulary reflects the importance of ethical norms and social respect in character portrayal.

Uzbek narratives also frequently connect female evaluation with family-centered identity. Women are described through lexical units emphasizing motherhood, loyalty, and responsibility. This reflects collectivist ideology, where female identity is closely linked with family honor and social harmony.

Negative evaluation in Uzbek detective discourse is commonly expressed through moral condemnation. Lexemes such as *uyatsiz*, *beandisha*, *nomussiz*, *makkor*, and *xiyonatkor* reflect social



judgment and ethical criticism. This indicates that negative female portrayal in Uzbek detective texts is strongly connected with the cultural categories of honor, shame, and public reputation.

The comparative analysis demonstrates that evaluative vocabulary in English and Uzbek detective narratives reflects different cultural values. English detective fiction tends to evaluate women through individuality, psychological strength, intelligence, and personal attractiveness. Uzbek detective narratives, in contrast, evaluate female characters primarily through morality, modesty, dignity, and family-oriented identity.

The differences are also visible in negative evaluation. English texts often employ lexical markers of danger, mystery, and manipulation, while Uzbek texts emphasize moral condemnation and social shame. These distinctions show that evaluation is not only a linguistic mechanism but also a cultural code reflecting gender ideology. A. Wierzbicka states that cultural values shape semantic interpretation of emotional and evaluative concepts, and linguistic categories of judgment differ across cultures [4].

Thus, evaluative vocabulary functions as a discursive instrument that constructs female identity in detective narratives. It determines whether a woman is represented as an active subject of investigation, a moral symbol, or a socially condemned figure.

Translation of detective narratives requires careful attention to evaluative vocabulary because value judgments may not coincide across cultures. In English-Uzbek translation, lexical units expressing independence or emotional restraint may lose their positive meaning if translated without cultural adaptation. Similarly, Uzbek moral evaluative markers such as *oriyatli* or *nomussiz* contain culturally specific connotations that may require explanation or contextual adaptation in English.

M. Baker notes that culturally embedded evaluation requires translation strategies such as explicitation, functional equivalence, or cultural substitution to preserve the pragmatic effect of the original text [5]. Therefore, translators must consider not only lexical meaning but also the cultural evaluative system underlying the text.

**CONCLUSION.** In conclusion, evaluative vocabulary plays a central role in describing female characters in English and Uzbek detective narratives. The analysis shows that English detective fiction often portrays women through evaluative markers emphasizing intelligence, independence, emotional restraint, and attractiveness, whereas Uzbek detective discourse focuses on moral purity, modesty, dignity, patience, and family responsibility. Negative evaluation in English narratives is frequently connected with mystery, manipulation, and danger, while Uzbek texts emphasize shame, dishonor, and social condemnation.

The study confirms that evaluative vocabulary functions as a culturally conditioned linguistic mechanism reflecting national worldview and gender stereotypes. Detective fiction therefore serves as a significant discursive space where cultural values and ideological attitudes toward femininity are encoded and transmitted through lexical evaluation.

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