

SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF TENSE IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

*Omonova Muxlisa - 3 rd year student of
English language and literature faculty, NSPI
Scientific advisor: Aziz Mukhammadiev - teacher at
English language and literature department of NSPI*

ANNOTATION

The article discusses tense as a universal aspect within linguistics. It highlights how tense is a fundamental concept across various disciplines, including natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Time, being integral to every facet of human life, influences all activities—whether they involve movement, change, life, action, or thought. Despite the undeniable experience of time as an objective phenomenon, its conceptualization in philosophy and science has led to diverse and sometimes contradictory perspectives and conclusions. And also current paper examines how the usage of 13 different verb tense forms is influenced by two factors: the type of text and the semantics of the verb.

Key words: time, tense category, consciousness, contradictory perspectives, grammatical, linguistics, phenomenon.

АННОТАЦИЯ

В статье рассматривается время как универсальный аспект лингвистики. Он подчеркивает, насколько напряженным является фундаментальное понятие в различных дисциплинах, включая естественные, социальные и гуманитарные науки. Время, будучи неотъемлемой частью каждого аспекта человеческой жизни, влияет на все виды деятельности, независимо от того, связаны ли они с движением, изменением, жизнью, действием или мыслью. Несмотря на неоспоримый опыт времени как объективного явления, его концептуализация в философии и науке привела к разнообразным, а иногда и противоречивым точкам зрения и выводам. А также в данной статье рассматривается, как на использование 13 различных временных форм глагола влияют два фактора: тип текста и семантика глагола.

Ключевые слова: время, категория времени, сознание, противоречивые перспективы, грамматика, лингвистика, феномен.

INTRODUCTION

The concept of tense is both universal and multifaceted, with its exploration originating in natural science, physics, and philosophy before extending to other disciplines like culturology, psychology, linguistics, and entolinguistics. Within

physics and philosophy, time is fundamental to the scientific worldview.

Throughout history, various cultures and languages have developed different models of time conceptualization, primarily revolving around two main ideas: cyclical time and linear time. Cyclical time, rooted in the cyclical patterns of nature, was prevalent in ancient civilizations. On the other hand, the concept of linear time emerged with the development of historical consciousness, representing time as a continuous, unidirectional progression without a definite beginning or end.

Researchers observe that within the framework of the Worldview Linguistic Perspective (WLP), cyclical and linear time coexist and complement each other. Cyclical time is evident in the vocabulary of languages, while linear time is reflected in their grammatical systems. Despite this conceptualization, in reality, individuals cannot halt time or reverse its flow.[1]

Philosophically, time is divided into existential time, which pertains to authentic being, and perceptual time, which is intertwined with culture, society, and individual consciousness. Perceptual time serves as a means through which the real world is perceived and understood by human consciousness, imbued with subjectivity. It encompasses our sense of the past, present, and future, shaped by our experiences, thoughts, and memories, ultimately transforming the real world into a projected reality accessible to human understanding.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In linguistics, time is perceived as a subjective and anthropocentric concept, as individuals interpret the world through their own sensations. The notion that time is shaped by the observer's perspective was initially proposed in the linguistic relativity theory by B. L. Whorf.

Researcher A. M. Mostepanenko posits that no phenomenon or process can exist independent of space and time. He distinguishes between actual time, which pertains to the objective external world and is defined by the sequence of changes in natural objects and phenomena, and perceptual (subjective) time, which reflects an individual's perception of the world. Perceptual time encompasses our understanding of the present, past, and future, although it may not always align perfectly with actual time.[2]

Mostepanenko further categorizes real-time into topological properties, which involve the temporal order and sequence of events, and metric properties, which pertain to temporal duration and extent.

Given that human consciousness projects its characteristics onto objects, including time, these concepts are termed anthropological. Contemporary linguists also emphasize the relative nature of time and space perception, attributing it to anthropocentricity.

As human consciousness evolves, time gains the additional attribute of directional movement. Anthropological concepts of time divide it into the present, past, and future,

with varying interpretations across different cultures and perspectives. The sequence of present - past - future represents a qualitative aspect of temporal progression and serves as a fundamental expression of structural existence. Philosophically, time is defined as an irreversible, unique sequence characterized by its duration.

Language conveys time by reflecting real-time through perceptual time, shaped by both natural laws and the unique mechanisms of linguistic expression. Real-time is conveyed through lexical, derivational, and grammatical means. Lexically, time is represented by nouns with temporal meanings, while morphologically, verb forms indicate tense. Temporal syntactic constructions also convey time at the syntactic level.

Time, expressed in language, is intertwined with culture and is a fundamental aspect of a linguistic community's worldview. It serves as a repository of events and is integral to understanding life. Word formation plays a significant role in displaying the time category in a language, reflecting its measurable and discrete nature.

While linguistic expressions of time exist objectively, they are directly influenced by speakers and communication situations. Unlike space, which is static, time is dynamic and eventful, making temporal deixis situational. However, temporal deixis is inherently subjective, as it is determined by the speaker's perspective.

The use of linguistic time forms is influenced by objective conditions, and speakers select units based on the constraints of reality. The speech moment, serving as the starting point for speakers, represents a grammatical idealization rather than real-time, acting as a model element for communication. This speech moment serves as a criterion for identifying temporal spheres and creating semantic potential in temporal forms.[3]

Linguistic forms of time primarily reflect the relationship between individuals and real-time, rather than solely representing physical time properties. Thus, linguistic time is a reflected form of time, capable of gaining relative independence from the actual temporal characteristics of described events.

Present Tenses

We use present tenses to describe actions that take place in the present, happen repeatedly, or follow one after another. To help you avoid confusion, here is an overview of the English present tenses:

Simple Present

The **simple present** tense, which is also called *present simple* or *present tense*, is used to describe an action that happens regularly, talk about an action that is on a schedule, or state facts.

One of the most common ways to use the simple present tense is to pair it with **time expressions of frequency** such as *always*, *never*, and *every day*.

To form the simple present, you need to use the base form of the verb and **add an -s/-es** to verbs in the *third person singular* (he, she, it), otherwise the verb *does not change*. *Modal verbs* never take an -s.

Structure: subject + verb (+s/-es)

Here are some examples of the simple present tense in action:

- I **play** tennis every day.
- The train **arrives** at the station at 8 p.m.
- We **watch** a movie every week.

Present Continuous

The **present continuous** tense, also known as *present progressive*, is used to describe an ongoing action that is happening now or an action that will happen in the future.

It is often used with **immediate time expressions** such as *now*, *at the moment*, *Look!*, and *Listen!*

To form the present continuous, you need to use the auxiliary verb *to be* in the *present tense* followed by the *present participle* (-ing form) of the main verb.[4]

Structure: subject + am/is/are + verb +ing

That might seem complex, but it's easier to understand when you see it. Here are some examples of the present continuous verb tense conjugation:

- I **am studying** for my exams now.
- She **is watching** TV.
- We **are having** a great time.

Present Perfect

The **present perfect** tense is used to describe an action that happened at some point in the past or an action that happens regularly.

You often use it with **past time expressions** such as *already*, *ever*, and *just*.

To form the present perfect, you need to use the auxiliary verb *to have* in the *present tense* followed by the *past participle* of the main verb.

Structure: subject + have/has + V3

Here are some examples of the present perfect tense in action:

- I **have played** tennis.
- He **has arrived** at the party.
- We **have watched** a movie.

Present Perfect Continuous

The **present perfect continuous** tense, or *present perfect progressive*, is used to describe an ongoing action that started in the past and is still happening or an action that will happen in the future.

You can spot it because it goes with **continuous time expressions** such as *for*, *since*, and *so far*.

To form the present perfect continuous, you need to use the auxiliary verbs *to have been* in the *present tense* followed by the *present participle* (-ing form) of the main verb.

Structure: subject + has/have +verb +ing

Take a look at the present perfect continuous tense in action:

- I **have been studying** for my exams for two hours.
- She **has been watching** TV for an hour.
- We **have been having** a great time for weeks.

Past Tenses

We use past tenses in English to talk about actions and events that have already happened. Here is an overview:

Simple Past

The **simple past** tense, which is also called the *past simple*, the *past tense* or the *preterite*, is used to describe an action that took place in the past and is now completed.

It is often used with **time expressions of the past** such as *yesterday*, *last week*, or *two years ago*.

To form the simple past tense, you need to **add -ed to regular verbs**. For irregular verbs, you need to memorize the conjugation rules.

Structure: subject + verb +ed/V2

Here is how conjugate English verbs in the simple past tense:

- I **played** tennis yesterday.
- He **was** late to the party.
- We **watched** a movie last week.

Past Continuous

The **past continuous** tense, or *past progressive*, describes an action that was happening at a specific time in the past or was interrupted by another action. It is one of the most frequently used progressive tenses in the English language.

It is often formed using **time expressions of continuation** such as *when*, *while*, or *before*. [5]

To form the past continuous, you need to use the auxiliary verb *to be* in the *past tense* followed by the *present participle* (-ing form) of the main verb.

Structure: subject + was/were +verb +ing

Here are some examples:

- I **was studying** for my exams when she called me.
- They **were watching** TV when the power went out.
- We **were having** a great time before you showed up.

Past Perfect

The **past perfect** tense, also referred as **pluperfect* tense*, is used to describe an action that was completed before another action in the past.

It is often used with **time expressions that show order of events** such as *after*, *before*, and *when*.

To form the past perfect, you need to use the auxiliary verb *to have* in the *past tense* followed by the *past participle* of the main verb.

Structure: subject + had + V3

Here is the past perfect tense in action:

- I **had studied** for my exams before she called me.
- She **had watched** TV before the power went out.
- We **had seen** this movie at the cinema before it was released on the streaming platform.

Past Perfect Continuous

The **past perfect continuous** tense, also *past perfect progressive*, is used to describe an ongoing action that was happening before another action in the past.

It is often used with **time expressions of continuation** such as *for*, *since*, and *before*.

To form the past perfect continuous, you need to use the auxiliary verbs *to have been* in the *past tense* followed by the *present participle* (-ing form) of the main verb.

Structure: subject + had been + verb +ing

Here are some examples of the *past perfect continuous* tense in action:

- I **had been studying** for my exams for two hours when she called me.
- She **had been watching** TV for an hour when the power went out.
- We **had been having** a great time for weeks before going back to school.

Future Tenses

We use future tenses to describe a future event or state of being. This part of English verb tenses is perhaps the most challenging for beginning English learners. Even native speakers seldom refer to some of the aspects of future tense in English.

Nonetheless, you'll need to get familiar with this grammar if you want to master your writing skills and advance in your spoken English. So, here is a summary of each of them:

Simple Future

The **simple future** tense, or *future simple*, is used to describe an action that will happen in the future.

It is often used with **future time expressions** such as *tomorrow* and *next week*.

You can form the simple future in two ways – either by adding the auxiliary verb *will* to the *infinitive* of the main verb or by using the auxiliary verb *to be* in *present simple*, followed by the *going to* and the *infinitive* of the main verb.

Structure 1: subject + will + verb

Structure 2: subject + am/is/are + going to + verb

Here are the examples of the simple future tense:

- I **am going to play** tennis tomorrow.
- We **will go** to the cinema next week.

Future Continuous

The **future continuous** tense, also *future progressive*, is used to describe an ongoing action that will be in progress at a future time.

It is often used with **specific time expressions** such as *at 9 o'clock tomorrow* and *this time next week*.

To form the future continuous, you need to use the auxiliary verb *to be* in the *future tense* followed by the *present participle* (-ing form) of the main verb.

Structure: subject + will be + verb +ing

Here is the future continuous tense in action:

- I **will be studying** for my exams tomorrow.
- They **will be watching** TV tomorrow night.
- We **will be having** a great time at this time next week.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it's important to highlight that the perception of time is distinctly manifested in the grammar of languages, as grammar serves as a blueprint and directive for human cognitive processes. Moreover, the notion of time is not only embedded in the natural languages of different cultures but also encapsulated within the grammatical construct of "time." This grammatical concept delineates variations in the understanding of present time (past-present-future) across ethnic cultures, shaping their worldview and contributing to the development of national behavioral patterns.

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