



THE STYLISTIC FEATURES OF UZBEK AND ENGLISH FAIRY TALES AND THE ROLE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THEIR TRANSLATION

Author: Akhmedova M.F.¹

Affiliation: Master's Student, Nordic International University¹

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ABSTRACT

This article presents a comparative stylistic analysis of Uzbek and English fairy tales, focusing on their linguistic, cultural, and narrative features. Fairy tales serve as an important component of national identity, reflecting collective values and traditional worldviews. The study applies comparative, descriptive, and stylistic methods to analyze selected fairy tales from both traditions. Particular attention is given to stylistic devices such as repetition, metaphor, epithet, and hyperbole, as well as differences in narrative structure and lexical choice.

The findings reveal that English fairy tales tend to be concise, structured, and functionally expressive, whereas Uzbek fairy tales demonstrate greater emotional richness, repetition, and cultural symbolism. The research also examines the role of artificial intelligence in translation, highlighting its advantages in speed and accessibility, alongside its limitations in preserving stylistic and cultural nuances. The study concludes that an integrated approach combining human expertise and AI technologies ensures more effective literary translation.

Keywords: fairy tales, stylistics, comparative analysis, Uzbek folklore, English folklore, translation, artificial intelligence, cultural identity, narrative structure.

INTRODUCTION

Fairy tales constitute an essential component of the cultural and linguistic heritage of any nation, functioning not only as a form of artistic expression but also as a means of transmitting collective values, ethical norms, and traditional worldviews across generations. As a specific genre of folklore, fairy tales are characterized by relatively stable narrative structures, symbolic imagery, and expressive linguistic forms, which make them a valuable object of stylistic and comparative linguistic analysis.

In this respect, the comparative study of fairy tales belonging to different cultural traditions enables researchers to identify both universal folkloric patterns and culture-specific stylistic features. English and Uzbek fairy tales represent two rich and historically shaped traditions, each reflecting its own socio-cultural background and communicative style.

English fairy tales are generally associated with a more structured, concise, and narrative-oriented mode of storytelling, whereas Uzbek fairy tales preserve strong elements of oral narration, poetic expressiveness, and emotional richness. These differences are manifested at various linguistic levels, including lexical choice, syntactic organization, narrative rhythm, and the use of stylistic devices such as metaphor, repetition, epithet, and hyperbole.

The relevance of this research lies in the growing interest in intercultural communication, translation studies, and comparative linguistics, where language is viewed as a reflection of national mentality and cultural identity. Despite numerous studies devoted to folklore, comparative stylistic investigations of English and Uzbek fairy tales remain insufficiently explored, which determines the scientific novelty of this work.

The aim of the study is to identify and comparatively analyze the stylistic features of English and Uzbek fairy tales. The objectives include examining dominant stylistic devices, analyzing narrative and linguistic characteristics, and revealing similarities and differences in stylistic organization, as well as considering implications for translation.

METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on a qualitative research approach and employs several complementary methods. The comparative method is used to identify similarities and differences between Uzbek and English fairy tales at stylistic and linguistic levels. The stylistic analysis method allows for the examination of expressive means such as metaphor, repetition, epithet, and hyperbole.

Additionally, the descriptive method is applied to interpret narrative structures, lexical choices, and syntactic patterns within the selected texts. The research material consists of representative samples of Uzbek and English fairy tales, including traditional oral narratives and literary adaptations.

This methodological combination enables a comprehensive analysis of both universal and culture-specific features, as well as their implications for translation and artificial intelligence.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical basis of the present study integrates concepts from stylistics, folklore studies, and comparative linguistics. From a stylistic perspective, fairy tales are regarded as a system of expressive linguistic means that contribute to meaning formation, emotional impact, and aesthetic value.

Stylistic analysis focuses on categories such as imagery, expressiveness, evaluation, and emotional coloring. Fairy tales typically employ simple lexical units; however, these units are often highly symbolic and culturally marked. Syntactic structures frequently involve repetition, parallelism, and rhythm, particularly in traditions influenced by oral storytelling.

From a folkloristic point of view, fairy tales function as carriers of collective cultural memory. They encode moral values, social norms, and archetypal representations of reality. Stylistic features are therefore closely connected with cultural symbolism and narrative conventions.

Comparative linguistics provides the framework for identifying both universal and culture-specific elements. While both English and Uzbek fairy tales share common structural features such as formulaic openings, binary oppositions, and archetypal characters, their stylistic realization differs due to cultural and communicative factors.

Practical Comparative Analysis

The comparative analysis is based on selected English and Uzbek fairy tales and focuses on their stylistic, lexical, and syntactic features.

English fairy tales typically demonstrate a clear and structured narrative progression. Events follow a logical sequence, and the language is concise and accessible. For example, the well-known opening formula “Once upon a time...” introduces the story in a simple and universal manner. Stylistic devices such as metaphor and epithet are used sparingly and serve specific narrative functions.

In contrast, Uzbek fairy tales often begin with the traditional formula “Bor ekan, yo‘q ekan...”, which reflects oral storytelling traditions and creates a rhythmic and engaging narrative tone. Repetition is widely used, for instance in phrases that emphasize actions or qualities, enhancing memorability and emotional impact.

For example, hyperbolic expressions describing heroes in Uzbek fairy tales often exaggerate their strength or bravery, contributing to a vivid and imaginative narrative style. Additionally, culturally specific metaphors and symbolic elements play a significant role in conveying deeper meanings.

These stylistic differences highlight the contrast between the functional clarity of English fairy tales and the expressive richness of Uzbek narratives. As a result, translation requires not only linguistic accuracy but also stylistic adaptation.

DISCUSSION: IMPLICATIONS FOR TRANSLATION AND AI

In recent years, artificial intelligence has significantly influenced translation practices, offering new opportunities for efficiency and accessibility. AI-based translation systems such as neural machine translation tools are capable of processing large volumes of text rapidly and providing grammatically accurate output. This makes them particularly useful for general and technical translations.

However, the translation of literary texts, especially fairy tales, presents unique challenges that AI systems are not yet fully capable of addressing. Fairy tales are rich in figurative language, cultural symbolism, and emotional nuance, all of which require deep contextual understanding. AI tools often translate texts literally, which can lead to the loss of stylistic richness, metaphorical meaning, and cultural specificity.

For instance, culturally bound expressions, idioms, and symbolic elements in Uzbek fairy tales may not have direct equivalents in English. AI systems tend to produce neutral or simplified versions of such elements, thereby reducing the artistic and cultural value of the original text. Similarly, expressive devices such as repetition, hyperbole, and rhythm may be inadequately rendered or completely omitted.

Moreover, AI lacks the ability to interpret implicit meanings and moral messages that are often embedded in fairy tales. While it can recognize patterns in language, it does not fully understand narrative intention or audience impact.

Therefore, despite its advantages, artificial intelligence should be viewed as a supportive tool rather than a replacement for human translators. The most effective approach is a hybrid model, in which AI enhances speed and consistency, while human translators ensure stylistic accuracy, cultural sensitivity, and artistic quality. Such collaboration allows for a more balanced and faithful translation of literary texts.

Artificial intelligence tools such as neural machine translation systems (e.g., Google Translate or DeepL) provide fast and grammatically accurate translations. However, when applied to fairy tales, these tools often fail to preserve figurative language and cultural nuance.

For instance, an Uzbek culturally bound expression may be translated literally, resulting in a loss of symbolic meaning. Similarly, repetitive structures that create

rhythm in Uzbek narratives are often reduced or omitted by AI systems, leading to a less expressive translation.

Therefore, while AI enhances efficiency, it lacks the interpretative and creative abilities required for literary translation.

CONCLUSION

The study demonstrates that Uzbek and English fairy tales, while sharing universal narrative patterns, differ significantly in their stylistic realization. English fairy tales emphasize clarity, brevity, and structural organization, whereas Uzbek fairy tales are characterized by expressive language, repetition, and strong cultural symbolism.

These differences present considerable challenges in translation, particularly in preserving stylistic and cultural elements. Artificial intelligence, despite its advantages in speed and accessibility, remains limited in its ability to fully capture the depth and nuance of literary texts.

Therefore, the most effective approach to translating fairy tales is a hybrid model that combines the efficiency of AI technologies with the interpretative skills of human translators. This approach ensures both linguistic accuracy and stylistic authenticity, contributing to higher-quality translation outcomes.

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