

**TRANSFORMATION OF ENGLISH AND UZBEK COMPUTER AND INTERNET
VOCABULARY IN ONLINE MEDIA****N.S. Nasrulloeva**University of Economics and Pedagogy of Samarkand Campus.
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Abstract: This article explores the dynamic transformation of English and Uzbek computer and internet vocabulary within online media environments. With the rapid expansion of digital technologies and globalization of communication, English has become a dominant source of technical and digital terminology worldwide. The Uzbek language, like many others, has been absorbing English-origin terms, especially through online platforms such as social media, news websites, and blogs. This paper analyzes how such vocabulary is adapted, borrowed, hybridized, or semantically expanded in Uzbek digital discourse, highlighting linguistic, sociocultural, and stylistic implications of this transformation.

Keywords: language transformation, online media, digital vocabulary, Uzbek and, English, computer terminology, code-switching, linguistic adaptation

Introduction

The global digitalization of communication has profoundly impacted modern languages, particularly in the domains of computer science and internet usage. English, as the dominant language of technology, has significantly influenced the vocabulary of many other languages, including Uzbek. As users in Uzbekistan increasingly engage with digital platforms, English computer and internet terms are being actively integrated into their daily online communication. This process is not limited to simple borrowing; it often involves various forms of transformation — including phonological adaptation, morphological modification, semantic extension, and hybrid usage. The rise of social media has accelerated this shift, creating a digital linguistic environment where English and Uzbek terms coexist and interact. This article aims to examine the nature of this transformation and its broader linguistic and social consequences.

In the digital age, the vocabulary of internet users is shaped as much by technological innovation as by linguistic tradition. Uzbek speakers, particularly the younger generation, increasingly employ English terms in their online conversations. Words like login, account, post, like, and comment are frequently used in either their original form or slightly modified versions such as login bo'lish, akkaunt, post qilmoq, like bosmoq, reflecting a hybridization of English roots and Uzbek morphological patterns. This phenomenon, known as code-switching and lexical borrowing, is widespread in informal digital communication.

Linguistically, these transformations can be classified into several types. Some terms are borrowed directly with little or no modification (e.g., kompyuter, server, monitor), while others are adapted to Uzbek phonology and spelling conventions (e.g., browser becomes brauzer, chat remains chat but acquires new grammatical functions). Another form of transformation occurs when entire English phrases are translated into Uzbek equivalents, such as search engine rendered as qidiruv tizimi, or social network as ijtimoiy tarmoq.

Furthermore, many English digital terms undergo semantic shifts when used in Uzbek contexts. For example, post in its original English usage refers to an entry or message published

online, but in Uzbek digital speech, post qilmoq has become a generalized verb meaning "to share or publish any content online." Similarly, bot has expanded from its original definition as a programmed agent to include fake users or deceptive profiles on social platforms. These semantic shifts illustrate how meaning evolves based on user behavior and cultural reinterpretation.

Another significant trend is the stylization of language in online media. Uzbek users often combine English vocabulary with local slang or informal expressions to enhance expressiveness or fit into online subcultures. Terms like wifi yo‘q hayot yo‘q (no wifi, no life), scroll qildim, or live ko‘rishamiz blend humor, convenience, and linguistic creativity. This blend of languages not only facilitates efficient communication but also reflects global digital identity.

Online environments also promote the use of acronyms and internet slang in English, such as AFK (away from keyboard), DM (direct message), BRB (be right back), and IRL (in real life). These are often used without translation, as their meanings are widely understood among internet-savvy users. Such terms rarely undergo localization, instead becoming part of the digital vernacular as-is.

From a sociolinguistic perspective, the transformation of vocabulary is closely linked to digital literacy, social identity, and generational language practices. Young users not only adopt but often drive these linguistic changes. They create and disseminate new forms that may later gain wider acceptance or become standardized through frequent use. On the other hand, older or less digitally engaged speakers may find these changes confusing or alienating, creating a generational divide in digital language proficiency.

The question of standardization also emerges. While some experts advocate for the localization of digital terminology to preserve linguistic integrity, others argue that certain English terms have become so globally entrenched that translating them may be impractical or even counterproductive. For instance, although elektron pochta is the official Uzbek term for email, most users prefer the English form due to brevity and familiarity.

Lexicographically, these transformations raise the need for updated and context-aware dictionaries that reflect actual usage in online communication. At present, official Uzbek dictionaries often lag behind in registering new or evolving digital terms. This creates a gap between prescriptive norms and descriptive reality, highlighting the need for ongoing linguistic research and adaptive language planning. The impact of globalization and the spread of English as a lingua franca of technology have fundamentally influenced language structures and vocabulary systems across many languages. In the case of Uzbek, the transformation of computer and internet terminology is particularly visible in the sphere of online media. This transformation can be observed at multiple linguistic levels — phonological, morphological, syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic — and is largely driven by informal digital discourse.

One of the first observable changes is phonological adaptation, where English terms are pronounced and sometimes spelled according to Uzbek phonetic rules. For example, the English term mouse is often rendered as maus in speech and informal writing, and browser becomes brauzer. These transformations reflect an attempt to integrate foreign terms into the Uzbek sound system while maintaining recognizability. Similarly, stress patterns and syllable divisions often shift to suit native pronunciation norms, especially in spoken Uzbek.

At the morphological level, borrowed English nouns are frequently combined with Uzbek grammatical structures to form verbs and other parts of speech. Verbs such as like bosmoq, upload qildim, share qilish, and scroll qilyapman exemplify how users apply native verb

suffixes (-moq, -qilmoq, -yapman) to English stems. This kind of hybridization leads to new Uzbek-English mixed constructions that are increasingly normalized within informal online speech, even though they may be considered nonstandard or colloquial in formal writing.

Another crucial area is code-mixing and code-switching, where English and Uzbek elements are alternated within a single sentence or conversation. This is particularly common among bilingual or digitally literate users. For example: "Bugun Zoomda meeting bor, keyin DMga yozaman." (Today we have a meeting on Zoom, then I'll message you in DMs.) Such examples demonstrate how digital terminology is not only borrowed but also fully embedded into the syntactic and semantic structure of Uzbek discourse. Code-switching is often strategic — used to express ideas more succinctly, sound modern, or align with global internet culture.

From a semantic perspective, many English terms undergo shifts in meaning or expand semantically in Uzbek contexts. For instance, the word *post* originally referred to a message shared on social media, but it is now broadly used as a verb (*post qilmoq*) to refer to any form of publishing or uploading content. Similarly, *spam* is used in Uzbek to refer not only to unsolicited messages but also to irrelevant or excessive content in general. This shows how digital contexts influence how users interpret and extend the meanings of borrowed vocabulary.

The transformation also reflects deeper pragmatic and sociocultural changes. Online media is not merely a communication platform but also a space for identity expression and group belonging. By using English or English-influenced vocabulary, users — particularly youth — signal their participation in a global digital culture. Expressions like "Like bosdim", "Story qo'ydim", "Online bo'layapti", or "Profileini check qildim" demonstrate how digital media shapes language into a tool for both communication and social signaling.

Generational differences are also notable. While younger users tend to adopt and adapt English-origin vocabulary with ease, older users are more likely to resist or avoid such usage. This creates a digital linguistic divide, wherein familiarity with English-based terms can reflect not only language proficiency but also levels of digital literacy. In some cases, this leads to misunderstandings or communication gaps between age groups, particularly in family or intergenerational online interactions.

Moreover, the influence of digital media platforms such as Instagram, Telegram, TikTok, and Facebook plays a critical role in shaping this transformation. The user interfaces of these platforms are often in English or include transliterated English elements, which reinforces exposure to and normalization of such terms. Even localized versions of apps tend to preserve key English terms (like *followers*, *likes*, *stories*) due to their brand-specific meanings and widespread global use.

Another interesting trend is the use of internet slang and acronyms, many of which remain untranslated. Abbreviations like LOL, BTW, IDK, AFK, and NSFW are often inserted into Uzbek messages, especially in comments or chats. This form of digital multilingualism creates a new layer of shared global internet language that transcends national boundaries but also complicates traditional linguistic categorization.

In terms of language policy and standardization, these rapid and largely organic changes present significant challenges. The Uzbek language regulatory bodies and academic institutions have only partially addressed the influx of English digital terminology. Some attempts have been made to introduce localized equivalents, such as *qidiruv tizimi* for search engine or *tarqatuvchi dastur* for distributor software, but these terms often fail to gain popularity among users due to their length or unfamiliarity. As a result, unofficial or hybrid terms persist in



everyday usage, highlighting the gap between formal language planning and real-life linguistic practice.

Conclusion

The transformation of English and Uzbek computer and internet vocabulary in online media is a multifaceted process shaped by globalization, technology, user behavior, and linguistic innovation. English remains a primary source of digital terminology, but its integration into Uzbek is far from passive. Instead, it undergoes active transformation — being adapted, reinterpreted, and localized through daily usage. Online media plays a central role in this transformation by providing a space where linguistic creativity flourishes and new norms emerge. As digital communication continues to evolve, so too will the language it relies upon, making it essential for linguists, educators, and policymakers to monitor, document, and adapt to these changes in real time.

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