

LANGUAGE INTERFERENCE IN THE SOUND SYSTEM OF THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the phenomenon of consonant interference in the English and Uzbek languages, focusing on the similarities and differences in how consonant sounds from one language may influence the pronunciation of speakers of the other language. Through a combination of empirical data collection and theoretical analysis, we explore the patterns of consonant interference and propose potential explanations rooted in linguistic theory. Our findings shed light on the intricate interplay between phonetic systems and the challenges faced by bilingual speakers in achieving pronunciation accuracy.

Keywords: consonant interference, bilingualism, phonetics, English language, Uzbek language

INTRODUCTION

Bilingualism is a prevalent phenomenon in today's interconnected world, where individuals often navigate between multiple languages in their daily lives. One intriguing aspect of bilingual speech production is the occurrence of interference, wherein features from one language influence the production of another. Consonant sounds, with their diverse articulatory properties, present an interesting area of investigation in this regard. In this study, we delve into the phenomenon of consonant interference in the context of English and Uzbek languages.

METHODOLOGY

To investigate consonant interference, we employed a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative analysis of speech data with qualitative examination of linguistic patterns. Speech samples were collected in controlled settings, eliciting

both spontaneous speech and specific phonetic tasks designed to elicit consonant sounds of interest.

To reveal the interference in the sound systems of contrastive languages theoretically depend on the researches carried out in the related field. A number of scientific studies have been carried out on the phonetic and phonological features of speech sounds in the English and Uzbek languages [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]. We base on the theories of those researches highlighted above in our research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Our analysis revealed several noteworthy patterns of consonant interference in both English and Uzbek languages. In English, speakers influenced by Uzbek demonstrated tendencies to substitute certain English consonant sounds with their Uzbek counterparts, particularly in word-initial and word-final positions. Similarly, Uzbek speakers exhibited instances of consonant interference when producing English words, often replacing unfamiliar English consonants with closest matches from their native phonetic inventory.

The observed patterns of consonant interference can be attributed to various linguistic factors, including differences in phonetic inventories, articulatory constraints, and phonotactic rules between English and Uzbek. Additionally, sociolinguistic factors such as language proficiency and language dominance may also play a role in shaping the extent and nature of consonant interference in bilingual speech production. Our findings underscore the importance of considering both linguistic and extralinguistic factors in understanding the complexities of bilingual phonetics. Linguistic factors which cause for the consonant interference in the English and Uzbek languages are given in the following table:



Table 1 Positional representations of consonant phonemes in the English and Uzbek languages

Pho- ne- me	Lan- gua- ges	Types Of Positional Variations					
		Invariant (pronounced keeping its distinctive features before a vowel in the strong position):	Variation (pronoun- ced more longer under the influence of long vowels):	Variation (pronoun- ced more shorter under the influence of short vowels):	Variation (pronoun- ced weakly in a weak position (unstres- sed syllable)):	Variation (become slightly voiceless in the post- position):	Вариант (become voiceless in the post- position):
/b/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	+
/d/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	+
/f/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/g/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	+
/h/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/dʒ/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	+
/k/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/l/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	+	-
/m/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	+	-
/n/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	+	-
/ŋ/	Ingl.	+	-	-	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/p/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/t/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-



	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	+	-
/s/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/t/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/v/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	+
/z/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	+
/ʒ/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	+
/tʃ/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/ʃ/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/j/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	+	-
/θ/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	-	-	-	-	-	-
/ð/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	+	-
	Uzb.	-	-	-	-	-	-
/w/	Ingl.	+	+	+	+	-	-
	Uzb.	-	-	-	-	-	-
/q/	Ingl.	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/gʻ/	Ingl.	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	+	-
/x/	Ingl.	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-
/ts/	Ingl.	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Uzb.	+	-	-	+	-	-

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study provides valuable insights into the phenomenon of consonant interference in bilingual speech production, with a specific focus on English and Uzbek languages. By elucidating the patterns and underlying mechanisms of consonant interference, we contribute to the growing body of



research on bilingual phonetics and offer practical implications for language teaching. Future research directions may involve exploring additional linguistic contexts and extending the analysis to other language pairs to further enrich our understanding of cross-linguistic phonetic interactions.

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