



THE USAGE FREQUENCY OF TOPICS  
IN THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK RHETORIC

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**Summary.** The article is devoted to the topic rhetoric. The persuasive and eloquent speech is conducted in this article. The usage frequency of common topics in the English and Uzbek rhetoric is depicted. The author reveals the national-cultural peculiarities of the persuasive speech. She focused on informal speech and dialogues. Persuading people to implement some actions is not easily done. In persuasion people of both nations use different strategies. They may use religious words and phrases or may promise, please, ask politely and etc. But these strategies may have common and national peculiarities in these conducted languages. Thus different features of persuasion in the English and Uzbek languages are caused by the different life styles, religions, geographical placement, culture, traditions, and historical events of these nations. These main natural means have a firm impact on the development of persuasion in both languages. The author conducts the persuasion strategies in English and Uzbek and proves the theory with some extracts taken from the literature in both languages.

**Keywords:** rhetoric; speech culture; the usage frequency; common topics; eloquent and effective speech; the English and Uzbek languages.

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The aspect rhetoric has been conducted a lot by many linguists in different languages, but the most used topics in persuasive speech have not been widely conducted by the scientists yet. The aim of this article is to depict the usage frequency of the most used topics in the English and Uzbek rhetoric.

According to the dictionaries *rhetoric* is:

- 1) the art of using words effectively in speaking or writing, skill in the effective use of speech;
- 2) public speaking designed to persuade;
- 3) showy, bombastic language;
- 4) artificial eloquence, language that is showy and elaborate but largely empty of clear ideas or sincere motion;
- 5) the art of swaying an audience by eloquent speech;
- 6) it can also involve the study of writing or speaking as a means of communication of persuasion [4; 7; 9–12].

In our opinion rhetoric is the art of speaking effectively in different kind of situations. Rhetoric is used in all types of communication. It is used in formal and

informal situations. Nowadays rhetoric exists in all branches of life: in politics, in court and educational system and others. That means it exists almost in all types of speech: monologues, dialogues, disputes, educational speeches, in conversations, in debates, in public speeches and in many other ways.

Our research is focused on the informal dialogues. Dialogue is the conversation between two and more people. Dialogue can be formal and informal. In dialogue there are two sides: a listener and a speaker. In rhetoric the speaker is called rhetor. Rhetor is a speaker or a person skilled in rhetoric, a teacher of rhetoric, a person who writes or speaks in a rhetorical, showy, elaborate manner. In rhetoric the speaker should use the words effectively; he/she should be able to persuade listeners. The main tasks of the speaker in rhetoric are to choose appropriate word, phrase, sentence or topic and to affect people with his positive ideas, ambitions, and intentions.

As our research showed in rhetoric speakers try to use various topics to make his/her speech eloquent in informal



situations. For example, they may persuade their listeners by pleasing them, supporting them morally, by using words of respect, by praising them, using blessing words, thanking them, using different religious phrases, asking politely and etc.

As an example we will analyze the ways of pleasing, and supporting morally in both English and Uzbek. In English they use the word *please* pronouncing it as *pl-e-e-ease* to make their speech more persuasive. They use the words of respect (*Mrs., Mr., Sir*):

When the bell rang, Ribsy right went into the school with the boys and girls and into the nearest classroom...A girl raised her hand.

*"Mrs. Sonchek, there is a dog back here."*

Everyone turned in his seat to admire such a smart animal.

*"It must be a very patriotic dog," said Mrs Sonchek pleasantly. "And, now, Danny, will you pl-e-e-ease take him outdoors?" ...Danny Yaxley led him outdoors [1, p. 81].*

Meanwhile the Uzbeks use the word *жон* (dear) before the names of the listener and pronounce it as *ж-о-о-н дада, ж-о-о-н ойи* (d-e-a-r father, d-e-a-r mother).

Even the listener is unknown to a speaker they use the words with relative meaning such as *ж-о-о-н укажон, тўражон, опажон, холажон* (d-e-a-r brother, d-e-a-r friend, d-e-a-r sister, dear aunt) with the word *жон*. As well as the Uzbeks use the word *илтимос* (please) and pronounce it as *илтим-о-о-о-о-с*. For example:

*Тагин тишим озрий бошлади. Озрик кучайгандан-кучайиб, дод дейдиган аҳволга келдим. Нима қилай ахир! Бошимни деворга уриб ёрсам қутуламанми бу азобдан!...*

*– Хайриддин! Танкда омбур бор, олиб келинг, ж-о-о-он дўстим!*

*Хайриддин худди ўзининг жони озриётгандек юзимни силади [3, p. 86].*

*Аммо бу шининг натижаси қандай тугагини яши билган айёр фикрли Абу Жаҳл:*

*– Тегманг, Ҳамзанинг ҳаққи бор. Зеро мен биродарининг ўгли ҳақида ёмон сўзлар эдим, – деди.*

*Ҳамза кетгандан кейин ўз одамларига қараб:*

*– Илтимо-о-ос, унга тегманглар, жаҳли чиқиши натижасида бориб муслмон бўлиши мумкин. Агар у муслмон бўлса, муслмонлар янада қувватли бўладилар, чунки Ҳамза ҳурматли бир одамдир, – деди [5, p. 26].*

From above given analysis we depicted common and national features of rhetoric. In both languages the speaker uses the word *please/илтимос* and stresses the vowels in the middle of these words (*ple-e-e-se/ илтим-о-о-о-ос*). But the English use the words of respect before the names of listener (*Mrs., Mr., Sir*), meanwhile the Uzbeks use the words with relative meaning instead of the names of listener (*укажон, тўражон, опажон, холажон*).

Another strategy in persuading people is supporting the listener morally. In these examples the speakers try to support listeners morally:

*"Ay, I am nervous."*

*"You should n't be Geordie. You will win. I know you will win."*

*"I don't think so."*

*"You must win. You must beat that Weber. I shall wish it with all my heart... I want you to win, Geordie." She raised her big blue eyes and looked sadly at him... "And that is Van Roon, champion of Holland; but he is not quite big enough to win. They are all good, but you I think you are better. I think you will win. [8, p. 76]"*

*He saw her as if she was standing before him-grey eyes and smiling lips and hair flying in the wind. In the silence he heard her speak to him. She came close to him in his loneliness. She gave him strength he could not find himself.*

*"Come away now, Geordie," she said in her soft voice of love. "Come away, my wee Geordie."*



*Those words untied the knots in his stomach; lifted the load from his shoulders; set him free from his unhappiness... Geordie Mac Taggart did his put [8, p. 94].*

In these given extracts the speaker gently applies to him (*she said in her soft voice of love*), uses terms of endearment (*my wee Geordie*), uses repetition in her speech (*You will win... I know you will win; Come away now... Come away*), praises him (*They are all good, but you I think you are better*). At the result the listener is encouraged (*Those words untied the knots in his stomach; lifted the load from his shoulders; set him free from his unhappiness*).

Here below we are giving extracts in Uzbek:

– Қани, ким жавоб бера олади бу саволга?

Ҳадеганда жавоб қилишга хоҳиш билдирган киши орамиздан кўринмади. Шунда домла:

– **Келинлар, бир масалада қатъий келишиб олайлик, уялишни йиғиштириб қўймагунимизча ишимиз олға босмайди! Навоий: “Сўраб ўрганган олим, сўрамаган ўзига золим,” деганлар. Ажойиб гап. Шундай эмасми?**

– Шундай, шундай, – дейишди курсантлар [5, p. 446].

Негадир ҳаммаёқ совиб кетди. Юрагимнинг туб-тубида қўрқув пайдо бўлди. “Худо, ўзинг асра!” дедим унсиз илтижо қилиб. Бир маҳал аллаким елкамга туртгандек бўлди. Темура ака! Ёнимда турган экан. Эйтибор бермабман. Кулиб нимадир деган эди, эшитмадим. Кулогимга эгилиб бақирди:

– **Қўрқма! Бир бошга бир ўлим!**  
...Худого шукур, омон-эсон қўндик [3, p. 72].

In this given extract the listeners try to support their listeners by using quotations, proverbs (*Сўраб ўрганган олим, сўрамаган ўзига золим, деганлар* – you shouldn't be shy to ask some information

from somebody), sayings (*Бир бошга бир ўлим* – everybody will die once in this life).

From these examples we can see the common and national features of rhetoric in these languages. In both languages the listener gives attention to the tone of the voice. Sentences are pronounced calmly, gently and persuasively (common features). But the English use terms of endearment, praise, while the Uzbeks prefer to use quotations, proverbs, sayings in their speech to make the speech more persuasive (national features).

Religious topics are also used in both languages to persuade the listeners. For example:

“*I work in an office and I was used to only taking a small piece in the morning and bigger piece at night. I really need your help, please. God Bless You,*” he said.

“*Stick either at 3 or 4 until you are stable. 3 would be best, if that's what you were on previously. No need to go up in dose,*” he answered [13].

– Ўтиринг!

– Хўп, ўғлим, хўп. Бирпас ўзимга келиб олай, майлими? **Илоё бола-чақангнинг роҳатини кўргин** [3, p. 101]...

In English the following phrases are used in blessing: *Alleluia! Hallelujah! Glory be to God! Holy! Holy! Holy! Lift up your hearts, Sursum Corda! Lord, have mercy, Kyrie Eleison! Our Father; Lord, bless us! God save you.* In Uzbek they use the phrases *умрингдан барака топ, тану жонинг соғ бўлсин, ишларинг ўнгидан келсин, Оллоҳ сенга мададкор бўлсин, омадинги берсин, бола-чақангнинг роҳатини кўргин* and many others.

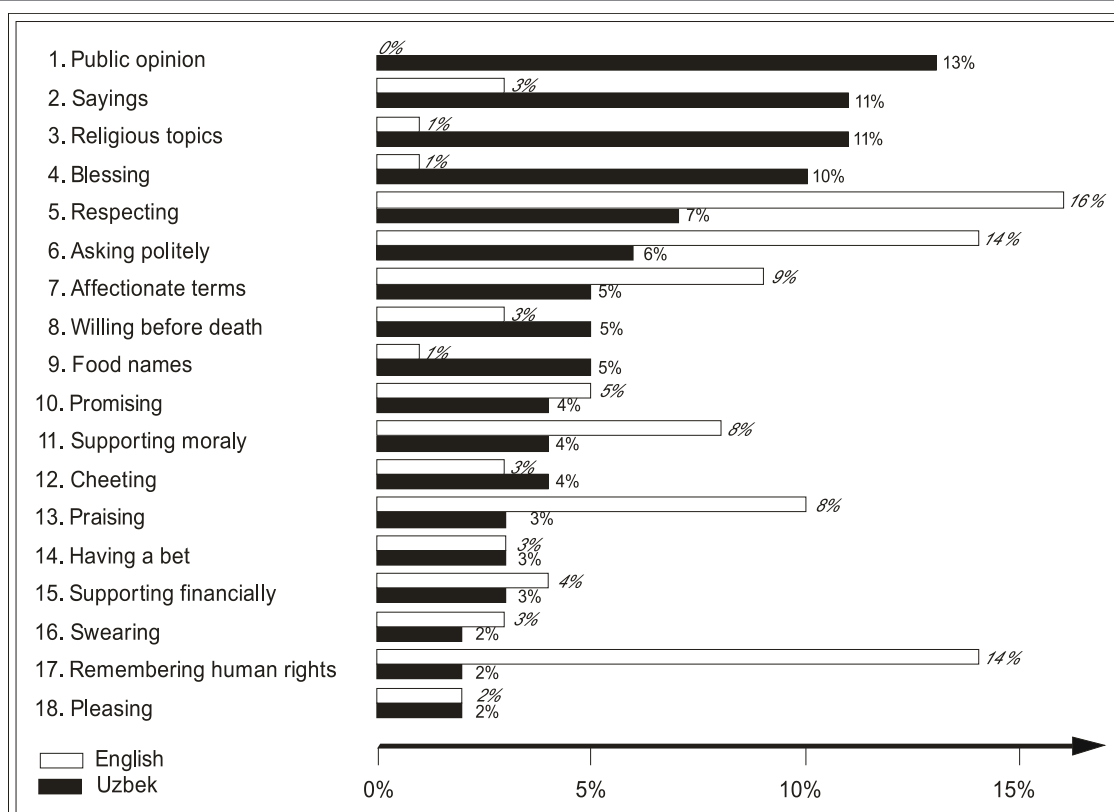
But the results of our research showed that the words of blessings are used mainly in Uzbek rather than in English. In English they use short phrases meanwhile the Uzbeks use very complicated phrases and sentences during blessing a person.

In rhetoric a speaker tries to use eloquent and effective speech and he can persuade his listeners using different linguistic



strategies or they try to choose various topics to interest the listener in a certain idea or to make them believe in the speech. Here below we are giving a chart which depicts the most used topics or language means in both languages and the compared percentage of

their usage frequency. These topics or language means are mostly used by the speakers to have an impact on the listeners. Below given information is based on our research, questionnaires results that were held among the native speakers of both languages:



In above given chart we can see the main topics in two languages and their frequency percentage that the speakers use in their speech to persuade the listeners. In the chart we can see that in English the speakers mostly use words and phrases that express respect to the listener (16%). They always apply to a listener asking smth. politely using the word *please* (14%), they mainly remember in their speech the human rights (*You have no right/ I will call the police* (14%)). But among the topics the least they use are

the religious phrases (*It is sin* (1%)), blessings (*God bless you* (1%)), the public opinion topics (*What will the neighbors/relatives say / It is a shame* (0%)).

Meanwhile the most used topics in Uzbek are the public opinion topics (13%), religious phrases (11%), blessings (10%). The least used topic in Uzbek is to remember the human rights in their speech (2%).

We can say that the rhetoric of both languages has linguacultural peculiarities that depicts the national features of each



language. The different lifestyle, culture, religion, placement of these two nations have an impact on their speech as well and they are the main causes of having a different usage frequency of common topics shown in the chart in both languages.

In conclusion we can say that above given article in detailed will help students to appreciate the art of rhetoric, thereby prompting their motivation and interest in the practical learning of English. As well as we retained its central purpose and approach, that of presenting clearly and concisely what students need to know to speak effectively and persuasive in a variety of situations. Through this measure, students will learn to appreciate the art of interpersonal communication through English and Uzbek, as well as logical presentation through speaking. Conducting these kinds of problems of linguistics will help us to understand more the national and cultural peculiarities of the English and Uzbek languages and speech culture. As well as knowing the most and least used topics in both languages will help the students to choose the appropriate word, phrase, sentence, topic to interest his/her listener, to persuade his/her easily in these both languages. As well as it will help the students to avoid misunderstandings during translation and interpretation process.

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