



## Linguoculturological Analysis of Riddles in English and Uzbek

### Инглиз Ва Ўзбек Тилларида Топишмоқларнинг Лингвокультурологик Тадқиқи

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#### ABSTRACT

This article discusses riddles that have played an important role in folk oral literature. Riddles are usually questions and tasks in a poetic or prose structure, based on finding a deliberately hidden feature, form, behavior, state and function of an object or event by comparing it with another object or event, and are called riddles, riddles and first-class terms. Usually, riddles are created in connection with the life of the people, and they are based on ancient beliefs and ideas of people, their desire to know or understand the world. Usually words are quoted in rhymes, and any riddle suggests a hidden answer in its approach. Puzzles, on the other hand, are a genre of speech that has different characteristics, differing in the metrics that poetry is composed of and how it becomes part of popular culture.

*Ушбу мақолада халқ оғзаки адабиётида муҳим ўрин тутган топишмоқлар ҳақида гап кетади. Топишмоқлар одатда, нарса ёки ҳодисаларнинг атайлаб яширинган белгиси, шакли, хатти-ҳаракати, ҳолати ва вазифасини бошқа нарса ёки ҳодисаларга қиёслаш асосида топишга асосланган шеърӣй ёки насрий тузилишдаги савол ва топишиқлар ҳисобланади ва улар халқлар ўртасида топишмоқ, жумбоқ, топ-топ атамалари билан юритилади. Одатда, топишмоқлар халқ турмуши билан чамбарчас боғлиқ ҳолда яратилади ва уларнинг заминида кишиларнинг қадимий эътиқод ва тасавурлари оламни билиш ёки идрок этишига бўлган интилишлари ётади. Одатда сўзлар, қофиялар билан келтирилади ва ҳар қандай топишмоқ ўз ёндашувида яширин жавобни ўз ичига олади. Жумбоқлар эса турли хил хусусиятларга эга бўлган, оятларни ташкил этувчи метриклар ва уларнинг оммавий маданиятнинг бир қисмига айланиши бўйича ажралиб турадиган нутқий жанрдир*

#### ARTICLE INFO

Received: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Revised: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Accepted: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022

#### KEYWORDS

riddles, genre, folklore, rhyming, dynamism, approach, concept.

*топишмоқлар, жумбоқлар, жанр, халқ оғзаки ижоди, қофия, динамизм, ёндашув, тушунчалар.*

**Introduction:** It is no secret that riddles are usually popular in the culture of all peoples, in general, among the representatives of all nations, and they have always been used in the oral discourse of the people, the nation. That is why riddles are passed down from generation to generation, they live among the people and are inherited, - it is no exaggeration to say. The narration of the riddles also varies from region to region.

**Material and methods:** According to foreign sources, the origin of the riddles is not clear, and some research suggests that the former were given in Sanskrit, in biblical passages, and in oral tradition stories that became legends. Its birth and development also depend on a person's curiosity and curiosity to know more. On the other hand, some studies have shown that the riddles originated in China, especially in Xang-Cheu during the Sunga Dynasty. A group of men dressed in the same way appeared on the streets, offering money to the public in exchange for answering riddles they posed. As for the etymological origin, the word riddle is derived from the Latin, which consists of a prefix, which means advertising - "correct" and the root *divinus* - belonging to God [1,12].

As for the properties of riddles, when adding or combining hidden or partial keywords in a text, it consists of speeches that evoke the imagination of the recipient and find a solution until meaning is formed.

Riddles can usually take two different forms. The first is puzzles, in which words that are mostly metaphorical or figurative mean - *konundra* - a language that requires careful thinking and the meaning of the questions that affect the answer to that question. [1, 20].

Elly Kongas Maranda made such remarks. They argue that puzzles, whereas legends serve to encode and establish social norms, "define puzzles to play with conceptual boundaries and to gain intellectual pleasure in showing that they are not visibly unstable," he explained. Although there is no known author of riddles in general, they are a folk oral genre that is passed down from nation to nation, and one of the characteristic features of other folk oral genres is that they teach man to think, reason, and come to a solution by distraction. Moreover, one of the main features of riddles is that it sharpens the human brain and helps to create new thoughts, ideas [1, 89].

Now let's look at the definition of the word "riddle" in the Uzbek dictionary: 1. In the riddle game: a short description of what is to be found, an event and a symbol, represented by analogies; puzzle-Children asked Nuri. Nuri had to tell a few riddles, not a fairy tale. But without saying a word, the children found out. (Oybek. Selected works) [2, 532].

2. Portable rarely used: Something mysterious that is difficult to understand; puzzle, problem. Your words sound like a riddle. (S.Siyoev, Light). Life also sometimes seems like a riddle. You know that your destiny will be decided soon, but you will not find what will happen (O. Hoshimov, Listen to your heart).

Typically, riddles are designed to confuse the options offered in order to divert the person to the other side of the game and complicate the solution the interlocutor is finding. It can be given multiple answers, the answer itself will be hidden in the text being given.

While riddles can be used to entertain children, they can also be used in education systems to educate children about concepts and meanings that are part of everyday life, and on the other hand, bringing children together in groups can further enhance popular culture.

The riddles of many countries, if we pay attention, we see that they are similar to each other. In our opinion, the riddles are told by one person, and the representatives of different peoples convey them to their people in their own interpretations, and then these riddles are rhymed and become a national myth of this people. [3, 125].

In the texts of the riddles, the art of metaphor was used as a means of solving a riddle, such as foal, moon, star, lamb, wolf, leopard. Importantly, the riddles in fairy tales and epics played a key role in their creation even when the riddles later began to live as a separate genre. In particular, what must be found for the creation of any riddle is that the properties of the objects were the leading informative factor [3, 165]. As evidence of our opinion, we also found it appropriate to cite examples from fairy tales. The title of the enigmatic tale is as follows:

*The answer to Khurayim's question.*

At the end of his life, a king named Sultankhan wanted to marry a girl named Khurayim. The sultan sent a suitor/matchmaker to Khurayim. Khurayim asked the following things for exchange:

Ўнта улок, (Ten kids)  
 Ўттизта йўлбарс, (Thirty tigers)  
 Қирқта тулки, (Forty foxes)  
 Элликта нўхта, (Fifty bridles)  
 Олтмишта ахта, (Sixty axes)  
 Етмишта сарғалдоқ, (Seventy yellow orioles)  
 Саксонта чақалоқ, (Eighty babies)  
 Тўксонта тумалоқ, (Ninety rounds)  
 Юзта жумалоқ (Hundred jumaloq)

And asked him to deduce the meaning of that word. The king, after thinking, said that Khurayim is smart. He said that the meaning of the riddle is related to one's life. The man answered:

*The answer to Khurayim's question.*

Ўнда улоқдай бўлади (At the age of ten he will be like a kid)

Ўттизта йўлбарсдай бўлади (At the age of thirty he will be like a tiger)

Қирқда тулкидай бўлади, (At the age of forty he will be like a fox)

Элликта нўхталанган отдай ақли расо бўлади, (At the age of fifty he will be as sane as a bridled horse)

Олтмишта ахталанган отдай қайтиб қолади. (At the age of sixty he becomes reserved like a gelding)

Етмишта сарғалдоқдай тилда бору дилда ҳеч нарса бўлмайди, (At the age of seventy he is like a yellow oriole that talks but never does)

Саксонда гўдак боладай бўлиб қолади, (At the age of eighty he is like a baby)

Тўксонда уйдан чикмай думалоқ бўлади, (At the age of ninety he stays around home)

Юзда бергилигидан наргилиги ўнғайлироқ бўлиб қолади (At the age of hundred he thinks more about his life after this life)

After the king answered Khurayim's question, Khurayim got married and had a son named Rustamkhan.

Examples of enigmatic tales in English:

This is the story of a prince who goes on a journey with his servant and ends up at a witch's house. While there, his horse is accidentally poisoned. His horse in turn poisons the bird who eats it. The prince plans to later eat the bird but it ends up getting eaten by thieves who would have otherwise robbed them. Finally, he arrives at a princess who he tells he will marry as long as she can answer his riddle: *What slew none, and yet slew twelve?*

Of course the princess can't answer this so she sends her maid to spy on the prince in his sleep who nights in a row. But both times it is his servant as a decoy who rips her robes off. The third night the princess comes herself and the prince is in his bed. He reveals to her the answer but he also takes her robe. The next day she knows the riddle, but she has cheated so she must marry him.

On the one hand we think that the above-mentioned enigmatic tales in two languages are given for the two beautiful girls for marriage in order to test the intelligence of the young men and test them as a good family man in the future, as well as to protect their homeland, on the other hand, we do not think it is an exaggeration to say that the similarities of the tales of the two nations are a clear proof that there are also linguocultural ones.

For example, you know that in Uzbek literature, Jahan Otin Uvaysi, known for his sharp pencils, has a story about a pomegranate, which begins with "Ул на гумбаздур эшиги, туйнигидин йўқ нишон" (It has neither a dome door, nor sign of hole. "If you notice, the roundness of the pomegranate resembles a dome. When we were an elementary school students, our teacher had us learn by heart a lot of riddles. [4,13].

Among them there was a riddle about a pomegranate: "Кичкинагина декча, ичи тўла миҳча". Everybody knew the answer was pomegranate. But neither our teacher nor we asked what "декча" was.

Tajik people call the pot "дег". The suffix *-ча* is a diminutive suffix. *Декча* means a small pot. The letter *rin* in the stem of the word is assimilated as *ч* because it is a voiceless sound. So the roundness of the pomegranate was called a "декча" because it was reminiscent of a small pot.

**Results:** We usually know that puzzles are similar to proverbs in size and shape. Sometimes there is a closeness in terms of content. But the purpose of creation is different.

If we pay attention to the naming of the riddle, from the pronunciation of the word "тон" there is a meaning of think, search, compare, seek. When the suffix "иш" is added to it, the task is defined: after the suffix "-моқ" the action name is expressed the concepts of "if you can", "if you cope with is", "if you are able to do it".[4, 15].

During our research, we have witnessed that riddles in English and Uzbek are usually concise, prose, poetic, compositionally and rhythmically concise, simple and melodic.

In English:	In Uzbek:
I look very sorry when you feel sad. And I love to look happy If you're feeling glad (mirror) I stand up tall and can be very grand. My secret isn't hidden. It's right at hand. (piano) I often have a window and a stamp When you need to seal me, It's shorter than all the rest.	Шамолдай Йўқ оёғи ва Кўзга кўринмас, Чарағон юрган йўли(электр токи) Тоғда Боғда Сувда Кулда кулар (Каклик, булбул, балик, бодрок)
When you're happy you raise	учқур, кўли.
It like it's the best (thumb)	

Sometimes riddles can also be given in the sense of proverbs or exhortations or advice. For example, the Uzbek riddle: *Ҳаммага тўн тикаман, ўзим ялангоч(игна)*- corresponds to the proverb *Бўзчи белбоққа ёлчимабди*. And the English proverb: *Little by little the cat eats the bacon*-corresponds to the riddle *A little white house without door or window (an egg)*.

**Discussion:** Let's pay attention to the fact that puzzles are processed in such means of expression as metaphor, simile, exaggeration, adjective, repetition:

For example, in Uzbek: *Ўзи бир қарич, соқоли қирқ қарич (игна)*, инглиз тилида: *I have a tail, and I have a head, but I have no body. I am NOT a snake. What am I? (Answer: A coin)* What kind of trees come in two's? (Pear trees)

Riddles have the following genre features:

1. Short and compact in size.
2. The form has a poetic, prose look.
3. In order to create, the task is to find what is hidden in the text.
4. In its content, the properties of animals, plants, the universe, and things in everyday life are secretly expressed, and it is encouraged to find them.
5. What needs to be found will often have one, sometimes two, or more quantities.
6. The main art used in riddles is metaphor[5, 36].

The riddles provide information about the shape, size, color, function, and similar properties of the object to be found, but these symbols are associated with something else using the art of metaphor.

The content of the puzzles will be related to the objects encountered in the daily life of society and culture. Therefore, the answers may be related to figures such as fruits, elements of nature, vessels, life and death, animals, emotions, human organisms. Below we also want to cite riddles about animals, fruits and vegetables in English.

In English:	In	Uzbek:
I'm a pet that has four legs	Кетаверади, Саватдек ерни олади.	кетаверади,
And a tail at the end	Сояда	ётар

You might hear me barking And I'm known as man's best friend	Минг қўй боқар
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The answer to the riddles given above was “dog”, which shows that there are riddles about animals in both nations and it is not difficult for the reader to find the answer based on the content.

Now let's look at the riddles about fruits and vegetables in English and Uzbek:

Riddles about fruits and vegetables:

<p>In English:</p> <p>It looks green, it opens red. What you eat is red, But what you spit out is black (watermelon) Although I may have eyes I cannot see. I have a round brown face with lots of acne. What am I? (potato)</p> <p>Одам аъзолари ҳақидаги топишмоқлар: Инглиз тилида:</p> <p>I am pronounced as a one letter alphabet. I am written with three letters.</p> <p>I am complete with three letters. I am double.</p> <p>I am blue, I am black, I am brown, I am gray, I am yellow and I am green. I can read from both ends. I appear the same every way! What am I? (eye)</p>	<p>In Uzbek:</p> <p>Хўппа семиз, Бир туки йўқ (тарвуз)</p> <p>Катта бобом ичкарида, Қулоқлари ташқарида. (шолғом)</p> <p>Ўзбек тилида:</p> <p>Кундузи ёнар, Кечаси сўнар (кўз) Устида икки дарча Ўртасида бир кунда.(бурун)</p>
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Riddles about nature:

<p>In English:</p> <p>I touch your face, I am in your words, I'm lack of space and beloved by birds air</p> <p>It cannot be seen, cannot be felt, Cannot be heard, cannot be smelt. It lies behind stars and under hills. And empty holes it fills. It comes first and follow after, Ends life, kills laughter. (darkness)</p>	<p>In Uzbek:</p> <p>Кўзга кўринмас, Қўлга тутилмас.(ҳаво)</p> <p>Зар гилам, зар-зар гилам, Қўтарай десам, оғир гилам.(ер) Узун-узун из кетди. Узун бўйли қиз кетди. Токқа бориб тақ этди, Сирғалари ярқ этди. (яшин)</p>
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**Conclusion:** But the severity of the problem is that we cannot determine in which direction to think using the definition given in some puzzles.

As a conclusion we can say that the role of riddles today is invaluable, as the riddles sharpen the minds of the rising generation.

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