

## LINGUISTIC PECULIARITIES OF ENGLISH AS A LINGUA FRANCA

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### Annotation

English as a lingua franca expresses a medium communication between speakers who can share neither their native or national language. ELF does not always occur among non-native speakers but also among interlocutors for whom English is first or second in academic conferences or meetings of the United Nations in New York. The article indicates the linguistic processes which are formed blending two or more languages' features. Interference varieties were mostly appeared in Africa and Asia and brought the contexts colored with multilingual and multicultural features. These varieties have special characteristics in linguistic levels such as pronunciation, grammar, lexis and discourse. The results showed that the use of certain features in ELF which is regarded as 'errors' in Standard English are not considered as problematic and do not disturb communicative success.

**Key words:** lingua franca, ENL (English as a native language), ESL (English as second language), EFL( English as a lingua franca), EFL( English as a foreign language), nativization, aspiration, shortening of vowels, deletion.

Three forth of interactions in English are occurred among non-native speakers. The outnumbering of non-native speakers over native speakers shows that the language is notably much used among interlocutors of English as third language so the ownership of English is no longer in the hands of native speakers. As a result of diffusion and stabilization of English across cultures and languages involve emerging lingua franca with its new subvarieties( such as Sinlish, Japlish, Chinlish, Konglish). In these contact situations English is considered as a medium practically and culturally nativized. On the top of them in recent years Uzbek English( it is possibly called Uzlish) will undoubtedly appear because the demand for English is increasing and this is reflecting in each sphere of our daily life while analyzing the interactions of English among Uzbek speakers. It is notably that their interactions acquire two major peculiarities of Lingua Franca: nativization and englishization. Besides the conversation, the use of international language makes the discourse process easier for interlocutors. It is

because that majority of learners want to learn English for academic, commercial purposes for short time. The concept of ELF(World Englishes) means democratization of attitudes to English everywhere on the globe and equalizes ENL, ESL and EFL nations. The variety of ELF has special characteristics in linguistic levels such as pronunciation, grammar, lexis and discourse:

1. ELF is more dynamic model than SE(Standard English) and permits for all manners of shading and overlaps among the circles because the participants have different language, culture backgrounds. ELF interactions are focused on function rather than form. In other words, communicative efficiency is more important than correctness or accuracy .Consequently, ELFinteractions are often hybrid and mixture.
2. Nativization is one of the major features of ELF that reflects the language acquires several formal and functional changes at its linguistic levels such as grammar, phonetics, lexis, discourse and literary creativity. To illustrate, in Uzbek word stress is almost occurred in the final syllable except borrowings while in English it is not always fixed. In addition to this, Uzbek phonology possesses only one type of stress as primary while English has primary, secondary and tertiary types. As a result , while the Uzbeks speak English, they pronounce unstressed ‘ed’ in past participle or ‘(e)s’- sign of plurality is uttered as a stressed syllable.  
e.g. vegeta’bles, daugh’ters, foo’ds;  
wor’ked, jum’ped, adop’ted.
3. Particular sounds that are considered as unique for English are difficult to pronounce by non-native speakers. They are dental fricatives[θ], [ð], and dark l allophone [‘l’]. They are substituted by [f,v],[s,z] or [t,d] and [l] that are permissible in ELF interactions because they are not important or mutual intelligibility.
4. Aspiration of word initial voiceless stops [p], [t], [k] are pronounced without aspiration or as counterparts [b], [d],[g].
5. Shortening of vowels before voiceless consonants; e.g. treat is pronounced as [trit] instead of [tri:t] or sweat as [swit] instead of [swi:]
6. The following phonological features of ELF might be frequently observed but they are non-core features that do not result misunderstandings:
  - a) vowel quality
  - b) weak forms
  - c) other features of connected speech such as assimilation
  - d) pitch direction to signal attitude or grammatical meaning
  - e) word stress placement
  - f) stress-timing

7. Deletion of third person singular morpheme -s in Present Simple. e.g. Salima know and appreciate all your kindness.
8. Interchangeable use of the relative pronouns whom and which.  
e.g. the requirements who....  
This is the manager which...
9. Not the use of definite and indefinite articles where they are obligatory in SE and even using them in the places where are regarded ungrammatically according to ENL. e.g. Their mothers are going to (—) school for the meeting tomorrow.
10. Use of prepositions according to native language. e.g. Let me congratulate you with (instead of on) your success
11. Insertion of prepositions where they are not necessary  
e.g. Can you speak in English.
12. Overusing that clauses instead of infinitive constructions.  
e.g. I believe that...  
They prefer that...
13. Redundant explicitness e.g. white colour rather than white
14. Speakers of ELF do not pay attention to word order that including subject-auxiliary inversion in Interrogatives. e.g. What you are doing?  
Why your group did not attend speaking clubs?
15. Question word order is mostly remained in indirect questions. e.g. The manager asked what do the hosts need.
16. The usage of stative verbs in Progressive tense. e.g. You are believing me.
17. Two notable syntactic processes are observed: simplification (shortening one's utterance) and regularization (fronting lexical elements in an utterance). E.g. We (without *are* because it is in passive voice) supposed to come on time; *Library research* I should submit today.
18. Verb agreement does not coincide with collective nouns. e.g. After the final, the team wants to have a rest at least a week.
19. The head of noun phrase that functions as a subject of the sentence is grammatically singular but the verb is chosen in agreement with the closely preceding noun phrase. e.g. Anybody except my workers are able to participate in the contest.
20. Some uncountable nouns may be regarded as countable nouns in speaker's native language that is why they use them as countable. e.g. A maid should carry and deliver your luggages.
21. Simplifications of tense in conditional sentences. e.g. I wish you will be the happiest in the world; When our teacher will give the material, our group will start the rehearsal.

22. Omission of auxiliary verbs. E.g. He representative of Greek poetry; We unaware of the latest news.
23. Use of negatives twice in a sentence. e.g. I did not accept none of you; She had not hardly spoken Spanish.
24. 'Can be able to' as a modal verb. e.g. You can be able to publish your article.
25. Several loan words are false cognates that may mean differently in English and speaker's native language. As a result, the speaker is confused while using such words. e.g. decade - ten days in Russian but decade – ten years in English.
26. The participants of ELF interactions are too direct while asking questions or expressing an utterance whereas SE speakers use opening and closing phrases.
- |      |                          |                   |
|------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| e.g. | SE                       | ELF               |
|      | Please refer to figure A | Refer to figure A |
|      | I'd better go somewhere  | I'll go somewhere |
|      | It's worth noting that   | Note that         |
27. Collocations are not regularly used in ELF correctly because they may use one of the parts of collocations as in their native languages.
- |            |                |       |
|------------|----------------|-------|
| SE         | ELF            | e.g.  |
| difference | big difference | sharp |
| tablet     | drink tablet   | take  |
| lawyer     | baby lawyer    | young |
| me pass    | give me pass   | let   |

To sum up, being aware of unique global role of English, its cultural, ecological, sociopolitical and psychological implications is gradually leading to the realization that these developments have linguistic consequences.

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