



**MODERN PROBLEMS IN EDUCATION AND THEIR SCIENTIFIC  
SOLUTIONS**

**NATIONAL AND CULTURAL SIMILARITIES AND  
DIFFERENCES OF ENGLISH AND UZBEK RIDDLES**

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**Annotation.** *Ushbu maqolada ingliz va o'zbek topishmoqlarining o'xshash va farqli jihatlari, ulardag'i milliy va madaniy xususiyatlar yoritib berilgan. Topishmoqlarning bolalarni tarbiyalashdagi o'rni, bolalar aqliy faoliyatiga ta'siri va ularning madaniy jihatlariga ham alohida to'xtalib o'tilgan. Shu bilan birga ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi topishmoqlarning milliy-madaniy o'xshashliklardagi tarbiyaviy maqsadi, ularning ijtimoiy ahamiyati keng yoritilib, ingliz va o'zbek tilida turli mavzuga doir topishmoqlardan misollar keltirilgan. Topishmoqlarning bolalar ongini rivojlantirishda qanchalik foydali ekanligi ham maqolada chuqur tahlil qilingan.*

**Аннотация.** В данной статье освещены сходство и различие английских и узбекских загадок, их национальные и культурные особенности. Обсуждаются также роль загадок в воспитании детей, их влияние на психическую деятельность детей, культурные аспекты. При этом широко освещается воспитательное назначение загадок на английском и узбекском языках с точки зрения национально-культурного сходства, их социальной значимости, а также приводятся примеры загадок на английском и узбекском языках на различные темы. Насколько полезны загадки в развитии детского мышления, также подробно анализируется в статье

**Abstract.** *Similar and different aspects of English and Uzbek riddles, their national and cultural features are highlighted in this article. The role of riddles in raising children, their influence on children's mental activity, and their cultural aspects are also discussed. At the same time, the educational purpose of riddles in English and Uzbek languages in national-cultural similarities, their social significance is widely covered, and examples of riddles in English and Uzbek languages on various topics are given. How useful riddles are in developing children's minds is also analyzed in depth in the article.*

**Kalit so'zlar.** *Milliy xususiyatlar, madaniy xususiyatlar, tarbiyaviy maqsad, metaforalar, ramzlarning qo'llanilishi, bilish, milliy va madaniy o'xshashliklar, farqlari, tuzilishi, ijtimoiy vazifasi.*

**Ключевые слова.** *Национальные особенности, культурные особенности, образовательная цель, метафоры, использование символов, познание, национальное и культурное сходство, различия, структура, социальная функция.*

**Key words.** *National features, cultural features, educational purpose, metaphors, usage of symbols, cognition, national and cultural similarities, differences, structure, social function.*





## Introduction

The riddles of any culture reflect its values, worldview, traditions, and way of life. English and Uzbek riddles are no exception, and while they share similarities in their role and purpose, they also exhibit differences rooted in their respective national and cultural identities. Both English and Uzbek riddles serve as forms of entertainment, education, and intellectual stimulation. They test wit and creativity while fostering social interaction. Moreover, in the nationality of both English and Uzbek people have somehow similar themes that are favourite for them. Nature, daily life, and universal phenomena can be seen as subjects for riddles. And there are riddles about the sun, moon, animals, and household objects are prevalent in both cultures. Symbolism is a key element in riddles from both cultures, objects or phenomena are described using metaphors or figurative language to challenge the solver's understanding. When it comes to their structure and form riddles in both English and Uzbek traditions often rely on rhyming, rhythm, or concise wording, though the stylistic presentation may differ. In addition, looking at their educational features it can be clear that English and Uzbek riddles are designed to stimulate intellectual development, especially among children. They teach problem-solving, logical thinking, and creativity, and traditions heavily use elements of nature in riddles. For instance, the sun, moon, animals, and plants are common subjects because they are universally familiar.

## Materials and methods

Riddles in both nations foster communal engagement. They are often shared during gatherings, as a form of entertainment, and as a way to pass time together. Humor and wit are central to riddles in both cultures, making them enjoyable and engaging for all age groups. Both English and Uzbek riddles serve as tools for entertainment, education, and intellectual development, particularly among children. They foster creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Riddles in both cultures rely heavily on metaphorical language and symbolism, challenging the audience to think beyond the literal meaning. Universal natural elements such as the sun, moon, animals, and water are common subjects and everyday objects are used to create relatable puzzles. Riddles in both traditions are often shared in social settings, such as family gatherings or among peers, promoting interaction and bonding, English and Uzbek riddles employ humor, wordplay, and clever descriptions to engage and amuse the audience.

## Result and discussion

The riddles of both nations have several differences, however there are some similarities. Looking at the subjects of the riddles of both nations, we may come across some differences. English riddles reflect the historical and cultural background of England, often involving industrial elements, maritime life, or mythical creatures. For example, riddles about clocks, ships, or castles highlight aspects of English heritage. But Uzbek riddles reflect the agrarian lifestyle of Uzbekistan, with frequent references to farming, livestock, and traditional foods like bread (non) and melons (qovun). These



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themes emphasize the importance of agriculture in Uzbek life. In addition, Uzbek riddles often carry moral or ethical messages, promoting values like hospitality, respect for elders, and hard work. For example, riddles about food may emphasize its sacredness and the importance of gratitude. When it comes to English riddles they are generally more focused on wit and intellectual challenge, with less emphasis on moral teachings. Tend to be concise and straightforward, often employing puns or wordplay. They are commonly written down and widely published in books or online. Uzbek riddles are more poetic, rhythmic, and metaphorical. They are traditionally passed down orally and are often part of folk traditions and storytelling. Additionally, Uzbek riddles are strongly tied to traditional gatherings and communal activities, such as weddings and storytelling sessions, serve as a means to pass on cultural values and oral traditions. In contrast, English riddles frequently associated with children's games, leisure activities, or literature. They are less tied to communal rituals and more focused on individual amusement.,Uzbek riddles often convey deeper philosophical or spiritual ideas, reflecting the importance of harmony with nature and community. In contrast, English riddles primarily focused on wit, logic, and entertainment, with less emphasis on cultural or moral teachings.

What has keys but can't open locks?

(A piano.)

Cultural insight of the given the riddle can be one example of English riddles, that often rely on clever wordplay, puns, or abstract thinking. The answer might not be literal but instead linked to a play on words.

O'zi yotib, boshini ko'tarmaydi, boshqalarning boshini ko'taradi.

(It lies down itself but doesn't lift its own head, yet it lifts others' heads.)

Yostiq (Pillow).

It is clear from the given example that Uzbek riddles are deeply rooted in everyday life, often reflecting rural and familial settings, making them relatable to the community's lifestyle.

“Suvda tug‘ilgan, suvda o‘lgan.” (Born in water, died in water.)

(Salt.)

Reflects the Uzbek environment and reliance on nature for survival.

“What has hands but cannot clap?”

(A clock.)

Reflects the mechanical and industrial advancements of England.

### Conclusion

The national and cultural differences between English and Uzbek riddles are rooted in the distinct historical, social, and cultural contexts of these two traditions. These differences reflect the unique lifestyles, values, and environments of English and Uzbek societies. The similarities between English and Uzbek riddles demonstrate their shared

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human purpose as tools for amusement and education. However, their differences stem from the distinct national and cultural identities of the two regions. Uzbek riddles emphasize traditional values and a communal way of life, while English riddles often focus on intellectual play and reflect the industrial and individualistic aspects of English culture. Studying these riddles provides a fascinating lens into the histories and values of their respective societies.

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