

## Images Created by Onomatopoeia in the English and Karakalpak Languages

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### Abstract

*The research deals with imitative words/onomatopoeia in the English and Karakalpak languages. In fact English and Karakalpak belong to different language families: fusional and agglutinative. Anyway, they both have imitative words in the lexical system. The author tries to identify peculiarities of imitative words in these languages by comparing morphological and stylistic features. In the article, sound imitative and symbolic words are given. Also, according to the morphological structure of imitative words is shown by syllables. Furthermore, imitative words are divided into four images: auditory, visual, gastronomic, and tactile. Using qualitative and quantitative methods, the work offers distinct information with examples. The images created by imitative words can be found in English and Karakalpak languages. The author shares usages and examples of images in both languages in a table.*

**Keywords:** Onomatopoeia, sound imitative words, sound symbolic words, single-syllable, paired-syllable, reduplicate syllable, auditory, visual, gastronomic, tactile.

### INTRODUCTION

The study of imitative words in different world languages has a long history, starting from ancient times. This issue was studied by ancient thinkers Plato and Aristotle, as well as 20th-century linguists Vilgelm Fon Gumboldt, Hermann Pol, Ferdinand de

Sossyur, Charlz Sanders Peirs and others. Imitative words (onomatopoeia) are an important feature of any language, as they are the basis for the formation of a new lexicon and make its vocabulary richer.

About onomatopoeia in English S. Ullmann, I. V. Arnold, H. Bredin, I. R. Galperin, S. V. Voronin did research and give valuable information in their works.

According to Ullman's theory, there are two types of onomatopoeia: primary onomatopoeia, which is when an object imitates sound, and secondary onomatopoeia, which is when a sound arises based on the relationship between the object's sound and movement, or specifically dependent on movement (Ullman 1964: 84). And the division of such groups was categorized by Anderson and Voronin as sound imitative words and sound-symbolic words (Anderson 1959: 246), (Voronin 2006: 46-48).

I. V. Arnold also comments on the characteristic phenomenon of words with repeated structure for onomatopoeic words in the English language. The scientist divides them into 3 groups:

1. direct reduplicative words (hush-hush, quack-quack);
2. ablaut reduplicative words (chit-chat, powwow);
3. rhyme reduplicative words (razzle-dazzle)

(Arnold 1986: 130)

Imitative words are divided into several types depending on the process of word addition in imitation of identified objects and sounds. According to the theory proposed by Bredin, words of imitation are divided into three types: direct, associative and exemplary (Bredin 1996: 558).

In Turkology N. I. Ashmarin, N. K. Dmitriev, A. N. Kononov, N. A. Baskakov did studies on imitative words. Particularly, N. I. Ashmarin in his works on the Chuvash language, as well as in his special research on imitative words, identified the peculiarities of imitative words. N. K. Dmitriev, in his research on the mimology of the Ottoman language, provides specific information about the phonetic features of imitative words. Also, N. K. Dmitriev, in his scientific grammar on

Turkmen, Gagauz, Crimean Tatars, and Azerbaijani languages, pays great attention to the use of imitative words (Dmitriev 1962: 56).

A. N. Kononov in his scientific grammar of the Turkish and Uzbek languages divided imitative words into two large groups: a) sound-imitative words, b) sound-symbolic words (Kononov 1960: 338).

N. A. Baskakov gives a little explanation about imitative words in the Karakalpak language in his work "Karakalpak language." This work highlights the semantic and grammatical features of imitative words, their types. N. A. Baskakov was the first to conduct research on imitative words in the modern Karakalpak language and found that they differ from interjections in terms of semantic and grammatical features (Baskakov 1952: 244).

#### METHODOLOGY

The imitative words in both languages were found and categorized using a combination of qualitative and quantitative analysis.

1. **Qualitative analysis:** To determine how each example of an imitative word contributed to the images and sensory experience, it was examined in its linguistic and contextual context. Understanding how these words express physical, culinary, aural, and visual experiences was the main goal.
2. **Quantitative analysis:** To ascertain the prevalence of each type of imitative word and gain insight into how it is used in various linguistic contexts, the frequency of these word types in the English and Karakalpak texts was counted.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

I. R. Galperin gives a definition to onomatopoeia: "Onomatopoeia is a combination of speech-sounds which aims at imitating sounds produced in nature (wind, sea, thunder, etc), by things (machines or tools, etc), by people (sighing, laughter,

patter of feet, etc) and by animals. Combinations of speech sounds of this type will inevitably be associated with whatever produces the natural sound. Therefore the relation between onomatopoeia and the phenomenon it is supposed to represent is one of metonymy (Galperin 1962: 124). He distinguishes two types of onomatopoeia – “direct” and “indirect.”

1. **Direct onomatopoeia** is contained in words that imitate natural sounds, as “ding-dong,” “buzz,” “bang,” “cuckoo,” “tintinnabulation,” “mew,” “pingpong,” “roar” and the like. These words have different degrees of imitative quality. Some of them immediately bring to mind whatever it is that produces the sound. Others require the exercise of a certain amount of imagination to decipher it.

Onomatopoeic words can be used in a transferred meaning, as for instance, “ding-dong,” which represents the sound of bells rung continuously, may mean 1) noisy, 2) strenuously contested. Examples are: “a ding-dong struggle,” “a ding-dong go at something.”

2. **Indirect onomatopoeia** is a combination of sounds the aim of which is to make the sound of the utterance an echo of its sense. It is sometimes called “echo-writing”. An example is: “And the silken, sad, uncertain rustling of each purple curtain” (E. A. Poe), where the repetition of the sound [s] actually produces the sound of the rustling of the curtain.

Indirect onomatopoeia, unlike alliteration, demands some mention of what makes the sound, as “rustling” (of curtains) in the line above (Galperin 1962:125).

Imitative words help create the following types of associative images: auditory, visual, gastronomic and tactile. When an abstract concept is represented through a specific object by the power of the mind, the result becomes a lexical image. (Shevchenko 2022: 67).

Auditory images are formed with the help of different sounds, noises, music, sense of hearing or choosing words with a sound that imitates real sounds in the form of onomatopoeia. For example: Bang!, Achoo!, Digging!, Buzz!

Sounds of the visual phenomenon play the most attractive role in the depiction of the image in works of art. Visual image is related to visual scenes, graphics, pictures of the scene of sight.. For example, here it is taken into account that the verb is linked to the metaphor in visual comparison:

The clouds were low and hairy like locks blown forward in the gleam of eyes. The ice branches shed 'crystal shells'.

Gastronomic sounds are associated with taste and flavour. For example: "Christina served the bland sea-prawns pasta with the sweet marinara sauce."

Tactile images are reproduced using various instruments and means that influence sensory perception. They pay attention to touch, texture, or nudge. For example: "The cold water touched his skin and he felt a shudder run down his spine."

In the Karakalpak language sound imitative words are formed by imitating sounds that occur in the processes of natural phenomena, movement of objects in the environment, collision with each other, sounds made by people, animals, birds.

There are a range of forms of sound to be described as imitative words on the bases of sounds of animate and inanimate objects. In this work we made up a way to combine them in four types as Shevchenko categorized onomatopoeia in the English language, since the sounds come from the same sources.

Various noises, including those of birds, animals, machinery, and technical gadgets, are used to create auditory image from onomatopoeia. For example:

*Bir nársedensátemalǵanǵarǵalarbirden **qaq-qaq**desipushajóneldi.-*  
'Suddenly, as a shiver ran up their spines, the crows went off with a loud **caw-caw**'.

*Uydegi tmishliqtı **sirt-sirt** etip turǵan saattın dawısı buzdı. –* 'The silence in the house was broken by the tick-tock of the clock'.

*Shirt uyqıda jatqan Omarđı traktordın **gúrr-gúrr** etken sestı oyattı. –* 'The sound of the tractor rattling woke the sleepy Omar'.

Imitative words to describe of intangible objects are visual image creators. For example:

*Birden **burq** etip atlip shuqqan qan onıń basnan sorgalap, moynına, bet-awzına aqtı. – ‘Suddenly the blood **spurted** from his head and ran down his neck and mouth’.*

*Jerge qumartqanday juldızlar **jımıń-jımıń** etedi.-‘The stars are shining to the earth as they are eager to here’.*

Gastronomic sounds are associated with the taste, inhalation, and digestion systems. For example:

*Olbolsa**ǵorp-ǵorp**ettiripchayishiweedi. – ‘And he was drinking tea in a slurp’.*

*Sen bilqildaqqanjesen de bedejegenattay**ǵurt-ǵurt**shaynaysań. – ‘You have been eating bread since you are a child, but you **munch** like a horse that eats alfalfa’.*

*Ermat murnınıń suwin **purq-purq** tartadı. – ‘Ermat crackled the water from his nose’.*

Tactile imitative words are used for reproducing usage of various instruments and means that influence sensory perception of touch, texture, or nudge. For example:

*Ǵayıpxannınqalpaǵıdirildep, saqalj**ıbur-jub**retipketti.- ‘Gayiphan's cap shook and his beard **twitched**’.*

*Sıpayımıyzam kórsetiptanawları elp-elpetedi. – ‘Showing a good-looking face’.*

Through analyzing imitative words in the English and Karakalpak languages, a number of peculiarities are distinguished:

1. In the English language, imitative words are also called onomatopoeia, from an etymological point of view, this word is derived from the Greek word *onomatopoiia* (νοματοποιία), meaning “to name, name, make a word” (imitation to sound is mainly related to the thing being called) – it is a phonetic

similarity to the sounds of living and non-living nature in human speech (Siddiq 2019: 102). For example, “meow-meow,” “bow-wow,” “ding-ding,” “ping-pong” and others.

There is a group of words in the lexical system of the Karakalpak language. They are distinguished by their lexical-semantic difference, as well as by their morphological form, syntactic function, and phonetic structure. They are imitative words are those that describe how one perceives items, events, or sounds coming from other animals, as well as the motions, activities, and behaviors of these things. For example: *irjan-irjan* (in laughter), *malpaq-salpaq* (splashing), *tarbañ-tarbañ* (pounding), *apıl-tapıl* (hastily), *shúyk-shúyk* (chirp), *qalt-qalt* (shiver), *suñq-suñq* (giggle), *girt-girt* (crunch) (Qarabaev 1981: 217).

2. There are mainly two types of imitative words according to semantic feature in English and Karakalpak languages:
  - imitation of auditory perception occurs through acoustic imitation, i.e. the repetition of the main acoustic properties of the audible sound and the sequence of its elements by sequentially pronouncing speech sounds that are accompanied by acoustic differences; such words are mainly **soundimitative words** or **onomatopoeia**.
  - imitation of percepts through sight - articulate imitation (articular repetition of the form of this substance, such as the repetition of signs in a very general sense) and its way of moving in space, such words are called **sound-symbolic words**.
3. Onomatopoeia take affixes in English very rarely compared to other languages. In English, onomatopoeia is mainly one-syllable, rarely two or three-syllable. For example: “ding,” “flap,” “gulp,” “hark,” “hush,” “chitter-chatter,” “snip-snap,” “flip-flap,” “meow-meow,” “quack-quack.” For example, A. A. Reformatsky writes: “The English language is rich in reduplicative words (mainly onomatopoeias), which can be complete such as *quack-quack*, *plod-plod*, *tick-tick*; or incomplete (with vowel alternation) like *wig-wag*, *zig-zag*,

*flick-flock, riff-raff*. The name of the table tennis game '*ping-pong*' also belongs to this category" (Reformatsky 1966: 287).

I. V. Arnold also comments on the characteristic phenomenon of words with repetitive structures for onomatopoeic words in the English language. The scholar categorizes them into 3 groups: 1) direct reduplicative words (hush-hush, quack-quack); 2) ablaut reduplicative words (chit-chat, pow-wow); 3) rhyme reduplicative words (razzle-dazzle) (Arnold 1986: 130).

As direct reduplicative words are sometimes proposed, onomatopoeic roots do not limit themselves to repetition in an intensifying effect. Essentially, these are simple separate forms, onomatopoeic roots and a very mixed group that includes secondary morpheme parts: "hush-hush," "murmur," "pooh-pooh."

Ablaut reduplicative words are double root morphemes, sometimes a second-order morpheme is repeated in a structural part with a different sound. Typical changes occur through the vowel sounds [i] - [æ]: "chit-chat," "dilly-dally," "knick-knack," "riff-raff," "shilly-shally," "zig-zag" and changes in the sounds [i], [o]: "ding-dong," "ping-pong," "singsong."

Rhyme reduplicative words – a series of words consisting of two elements (mostly secondary morphemes): "boogie-woogie," "harum-scarum," "helter-skelter," "hoity-toity," "humdrum," "hurry-scurry," "hurry-scurry."

The structure of imitative words in the Karakalpak language corresponds to the aforementioned divisions based on the facts of the language. In his book *Karakalpak Language*, N.A. Baskakov categorized imitative words in the Karakalpak language into two types based on their structure: "simple" and "paired" (Baskakov 1952: 244). The structure of imitative words in the Karakalpak language aligns with these divisions according to linguistic evidence. Consequently, he deemed it appropriate to classify imitation words based on their structure as single (*saq, dúńk, zońq*); paired (*tars-tars, uypa-juypa, úyme-júyme*) and reduplicate (*shur-shur, zır-zır, lıq-lıq*) (Embergenov 1990: 37).



4. In both English and Karakalpak, imitative words/onomatopoeia are formed to create images of auditory, visual, gastronomic, and tactile. The usage of these images is shown with definitions and examples in both languages in the following table:

Types of images created by onomatopoeia	Usage	English	Karakalpak
Auditory	Auditory images are formed with the help of different sounds: noises, music, sense of hearing or choosing words with a sound that imitates real sounds in the form of onomatopoeia.	The rumbling sounds of clouds, indicated the start of monsoon. [15]	<i>Bir nársedensátemalǵanǵarǵa larbirdenǵaq-ǵaqdesipushajóneldi.</i> Suddenly, as a shiver ran up their spines, the crows went off with a loud <b>caw-caw</b> .
Visual	Visual imagery onomatopoeia that relating to visual scenes, graphics, pictures of the scene of sight.	As she stepped out of the office building, she thought the bright, beaming sunlight would blind her. Immediately, she began rummaging through her purse for her Tom Ford shades. [15]	<i>Jerge qumartqanday juldızlar jımıń-jımıń etedi.</i> The stars are shining to the earth as they are eager to here.
Gastronomic	Gustatory imagery draws the attention of the sense of taste. Basically, it deals with the use of specific words that trigger the taste buds, sending the reader down a sensory highway associated with food craving.	The familiar tang of his grandmother's cranberry sauce reminded him of his youth. [16]	<i>Sen bılqıldaǵ nan jeseń de bedejejenattayǵart-ǵartshaynaysań.</i> You have been eating bread since you are a child, but you <b>munch</b> like a horse that eats alfalfa.
Tactile	Tactile imagery is used to describe something by focusing on aspects that can be felt or touched.	While resting in the hammock strapped between two trees, John was enjoying the warmth of the soft, fuzzy blanket on a cold night.... [16]	<i>Ǵayıpxannınqalpaǵıdırild ep, saqaljıbur-jıbur etipketti.</i> Gayiphan's cap shook and his beard <b>twitched</b> .

## CONCLUSION

To conclude, onomatopoeias in different languages can differ partially or completely. It's very useful to learn imitative words: the philosophy of language is more understandable, and you get to know the people through it. As is known, for this reason, lexical units in any language are of great interest to linguists. Imitative words are typical of texts related to fiction. Writers use onomatopoeia to improve the psycho-acoustic background of the depicted scene, express the hero's state, feelings, and other images. Therefore, the sound composition of imitative words is not accidental: it is supported by the corresponding sound of the external world.

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