SUBSTANTIVIZATION OF ADJECTIVES

Supervisor: **Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla qizi**
Assistant teacher in the department of Foreign Languages at' Jizzakh branch of the National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek
Jizzakh branch of National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek
Faculty of Psychology Philology and Foreign Languages,
Senior student - **Sheraliyeva Shoira To'lqin qizi**

ABSTRACT

The substantivization of adjectives in English is a remarkable linguistic process where adjectives function as nouns, enabling them to represent concepts, groups, or abstract ideas. This phenomenon plays a crucial role in the grammatical, semantic, and stylistic richness of the English language. Substantivized adjectives, such as *the rich*, *the unknown*, and *the brave*, allow for concise expression of complex notions while retaining a link to their adjectival roots. This article explores the types of substantivization—complete, partial, and contextual—alongside their historical development and syntactic behavior. Additionally, it highlights the stylistic functions of substantivized adjectives in literature, formal discourse, and modern usage. The findings demonstrate that substantivization not only reflects the flexibility of English grammar but also enhances its expressive capabilities, making it a vital area of study for linguists and language enthusiasts alike.

KEYWORDS: substantivization, adjectives, English grammar, syntactic transformation, stylistic devices, linguistic evolution, semantic analysis

INTRODUCTION

Language is a dynamic and adaptive system that constantly evolves to meet the communicative needs of its speakers. One of the fascinating processes in the development of linguistic structures is substantivization—the transformation of words from one grammatical category to another. In English, substantivization of adjectives, where adjectives assume the role of nouns, is a prevalent and linguistically rich phenomenon.

This process allows adjectives to transcend their traditional role of describing nouns and to function independently as substantive elements. Substantivized adjectives play a crucial role in the economy of language, enabling speakers to convey complex ideas, collective notions, or abstract concepts with remarkable conciseness. For instance, phrases such as *the poor*, *the brave*, or *the unknown* encapsulate rich meanings that would otherwise require longer and more elaborate expressions.

The substantivization of adjectives in English has deep historical roots, dating back to Old English, where the inflected nature of the language facilitated such transformations. Over time, as English evolved into a more analytic language, the usage of substantivized adjectives expanded, particularly in formal, literary, and abstract contexts. This linguistic process not only reflects the flexibility of English grammar but also its creative potential for lexical innovation.

In addition to its grammatical significance, substantivization has a marked stylistic impact. It is often employed in literary works, legal documents, and philosophical texts to achieve brevity, emphasis, or a poetic tone. Writers such as Shakespeare and Milton utilized substantivized adjectives to great effect, imbuing their works with depth and resonance. In modern English, the phenomenon remains highly functional, appearing in both spoken and written communication.

This article explores the phenomenon of substantivization of adjectives in English from multiple perspectives. It begins by defining the concept and categorizing the types of substantivization, including complete, partial, and contextual. It then delves into the grammatical and semantic features of substantivized adjectives, examining how they operate within sentences and convey meaning. Finally, the article highlights the historical development of this phenomenon and its stylistic and functional roles in contemporary English. Through this comprehensive analysis, the article aims to shed light on how substantivization enriches the expressive power of the English language.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Substantivization-type of conversion-lexical word-building process of zero-derivation. When adjectives are fully substantivized – they make a noun, which is connected with the adjective only etymologically. These nouns acquire all the forms of constitutive substantive categories; number, case, article determination (privates, natives – number; private's – case; a private, the private – article determination). In Rus – рядовой, больной, и тд. There is group of partially substantivized adj-s – they are characterized by mixed lexicon-gram features; convey mixed adjectival-noun semantics of property, perform functional characteristics of nouns in sent, are not changed according to category of number, combined only with definite article.

They include words, denoting: group of people with the same feature (the reach, the English), abstract notions (the unforgettable). They make a specific group of adjectives marginal to nouns, can be called «adjectives».

Definition and Scope of Substantivization

Substantivization is the process through which adjectives take on the role of nouns in a sentence. In English, this phenomenon allows adjectives to independently represent groups, qualities, or abstract concepts, often functioning as the subject or object of a sentence. For example:

- *The brave deserve recognition* (*the brave* = brave people).
- *The unknown can be terrifying* (*the unknown* = the concept of the unknown).

The scope of substantivization extends beyond simple grammatical reclassification. It plays a pivotal role in enriching English by creating concise expressions for complex ideas. Substantivization often involves a determiner like "the," though not always, as in contexts like *from sublime to ridiculous*.

Grammatical Features

Definite Article Usage

Substantivized adjectives are often preceded by "the" to signal definiteness and specify a group or concept. Without "the," the phrase might revert to an adjectival or undefined state.

- *The rich are thriving* (specific group).
- *Rich people are thriving* (general description).

Number and Count ability

Most substantivized adjectives are inherently collective (e.g., *the blind*). Some, however, may adopt singular or abstract qualities depending on context.

- Collective: *The elderly need assistance.*
- Singular/Abstract: *The unexpected happened.*

Morphological Properties

Unlike typical nouns, substantivized adjectives often lack plural inflections (*the rich*, not *the riches*, unless the latter is used figuratively).

Semantic Analysis

Substantivization of adjectives contributes meaningfully to communication by representing:

Collective Entities

Adjectives like *the brave* or *the poor* represent groups with shared characteristics, often used in sociological or philosophical contexts.

- *The oppressed will rise up* (group reference).

Abstract Concepts

Adjectives such as *the unknown* or *the impossible* denote abstract or philosophical ideas.

- *The sublime inspires awe and wonder.*

Individual Reference

Substantivized adjectives can also refer to individuals, particularly in formal or legal contexts.

- *The accused was found guilty.*
- *The deceased is remembered fondly.*

This study demonstrates that substantivization enriches English linguistically, semantically, and stylistically. Understanding this process provides valuable insights into the nature of language change, the interplay between grammar and meaning, and the creative potential of linguistic forms. As English continues to evolve, the substantivization of adjectives will likely remain an essential aspect of its grammar and a fertile ground for linguistic inquiry.

CONCLUSION

The substantivization of adjectives in English is a testament to the flexibility and adaptive nature of the language. By allowing adjectives to function as nouns, English provides speakers with a versatile tool for expressing collective entities, abstract ideas, and nuanced concepts. This linguistic phenomenon is not only a grammatical process but also a reflection of the language's ability to evolve and accommodate the communicative needs of its users.

Historically, the roots of substantivization in English can be traced back to Old and Middle English, where inflectional forms facilitated such transformations. As English became more analytic, substantivized adjectives emerged as an efficient means of encapsulating meaning, especially in formal, literary, and philosophical contexts. In modern usage, their prevalence underscores their relevance, appearing in contexts ranging from everyday speech to legal and poetic discourse.

The functional and stylistic roles of substantivized adjectives further highlight their significance. They contribute to the economy of language by enabling concise expression, serve as stylistic devices that add depth and resonance to texts, and reveal cultural and societal attitudes through their usage. Phrases like *the young*, *the innocent*, and *the oppressed* not only communicate information but also evoke empathy, solidarity, or reflection.

REFERENCES

1. Biber, D., Johansson, S., Leech, G., Conrad, S., & Finegan, E. (1999). *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. Longman.
2. Carter, R., & McCarthy, M. (2006). *Cambridge Grammar of English: A Comprehensive Guide*. Cambridge University Press.
3. Curme, G. O. (1931). *Syntax*. D.C. Heath and Company.
4. Huddleston, R., & Pullum, G. K. (2002). *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language*. Cambridge University Press.
5. Jespersen, O. (1924). *The Philosophy of Grammar*. George Allen & Unwin.
6. Quirk, R., Greenbaum, S., Leech, G., & Svartvik, J. (1985). *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. Longman.
7. Sinclair, J. M. (1991). *Corpus, Concordance, Collocation*. Oxford University Press.

8. Swan, M. (2005). *Practical English Usage* (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press.

9. Trask, R. L. (1993). *A Dictionary of Grammatical Terms in Linguistics*. Routledge.

10. Yule, G. (2010). *The Study of Language* (4th ed.). Cambridge University Press.

11. Teshaboyeva, N., & Mamayoqubova, S. (2020). Communicative Approach To Language Teaching. In Молодой Исследователь: Вызовы И Перспективы (Pp. 409-414).

12. Teshaboyeva, N. (2020). Linguistic Personality, Its Structural Characteristics In The New Perspective Directions. In Молодой Исследователь: Вызовы И Перспективы (Pp. 415-420).

13. Teshaboyeva, N. Z. (2019). Teaching English Through Literature Intesl and Tefl Classrooms. In Современные Технологии: Актуальные Вопросы, Достижения И Инновации (Pp. 82-84).

14. Tojiboeva M.B., Sheraliyeva Sh.T. Developing reading skills by modern technologies. (2022) Jizzakh (165-p)

15. Sheraliyeva Shoirakhon Tulkinovna CURRENT TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENT FACTORS IN THE APPLICATION OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN EDUCATION 3rd part (2021-2022) 285-p

16. Abduraxmanova Zilola Yoqubjon qizi and Sheralieva Shoira To'lqin qizi Practical approaches to the main problems of teaching English for b1 learners as a foreign language.5-pp419-423.