

## The Features of Uzbek and English Stories

**Jamolova Mohigul Baxtiyorovna**

Teacher of Bukhara Pedagogical Institute

**Soliyeva Muqaddas Nurnazarovna**

The student of Bukhara state pedagogical institute

**Abstract:** This article shows the importance of Uzbek and English stories in the development of a child by providing examples of stories and comparing them.

**Key words:** develop an understanding, visualize, growth of neurons, oral communication, genre of story, depths of madness, develop a skill, to unravel, stylistic elements, societal values, emphasize, characteristics, highlight.

There is evidence to show that stories create new neural connections in a child's brain by stimulating the growth of neurons as they process and visualize the words of the story. And this is certainly not exclusive to fairy tales! Stories not only create magical escapism and a sense of wonder, but they can teach us about life, about ourselves, and about other people. Stories are a unique way for children to develop an understanding and appreciation for other cultures, and they promote a positive attitude to diversity.

There are numerous benefits that stories and fairy tales offer, be it in English, Uzbek or another language. First of all, they help children to develop language skills. Because the more a child reads a book, the more vocabularies they learn, which makes them confident about their both written and oral communication. In addition, reading or listening to stories helps children to have a wider imagination as they are made to build a picture in their mind or try to address some conflicting situations in a story and this, in turn, can help them to have a good critical thinking as well. Last but not least, it is proven that setting aside time to immerse oneself in a story can calm and reset the mind through reducing stress by up to 68%!



Studying the story “The tell-tale heart” (Edgar Allan Poe)

We all know that every story is written with intention, for example teaching a lesson, making a reader think thoroughly about something negative or just rising the mood, depending on the genre

of a particular story. Take “The tell-tale heart” as an example, it is a powerful exploration of the human personality that reveals the depths of madness, guilt, fear, and the destructive potential of obsession. Through the story we can observe an evil aim of unknown narrator who hated an old man’s “vulture” eyes and to commit his malicious plan he firstly got close to that man for a week and then ended up killing him.

“The tell-tale heart” also gives people an opportunity to develop a skill of differentiating what is true or false. Because, as the narrator talks about the tells a story, he repeatedly says that he is not mad and we are left to question the truth of the events and reliability of the narrator’s account.

The thing that a reader can conclude from this story is that anything wrong cannot be kept secret forever, people can find out about it no matter a day or years pass as this story highlights the inescapable nature of guilt and its ability to drive even the most calculated individual to unravel. And this part can be a good case in point: Was it possible they heard not? Almighty God! — no, no! They heard! — they suspected! — they knew! — they were making a mockery of my horror! — this I thought, and this, I think. But anything was better than this agony! Anything was more tolerable than this derision! I could bear those hypocritical smiles no longer! I felt that I must scream or die! — and now — again! — hark! louder! louder! louder! louder! — “Villains!” I shrieked, “dissemble no more! I admit the deed! — tear up the planks! — here, here! — it is the beating of his hideous heart!”



Stories, folk eposes, myths and legends as well as history are the cultural heritage of every nation. The world of myths and legends of Uzbekistan is very colorful and rich. It is the world, where the folk stories mix with history and the legends become the source of truth. In the history of Uzbekistan there were a lot of events, when people glorified their heroes and composed legends about them. For centuries, people kept stories about great deeds and legendary heroes, magnificent buildings and beautiful women; everything was embodied in myths and legends of Uzbekistan. Many people, living on the territory of modern Uzbekistan, composed legends about courage, bravery and valor of national heroes. Shirak, Tomaris, Jaloliddin Manguberdi were historical personalities, whose great feats became the legends. Life of such great people as Tamerlane also is covered with many myths, which both frighten and fascinate us ever since. Each historical monument in Uzbekistan cloaked in myths and legends of the past. They represent the world outlook of Uzbek ancestors. Often myths and legends are the only source that can tell us about the particular epoch.

The Uzbek fairy tale reflects truly folk humor and satire. In no genre oral folk art there is no such wide scope for mocking vices and negative morals. An Uzbek folk tale exalts the image of a woman. Reflecting in some way independence of women in pre-Islamic times, at the same time, these tales express protest against the difficult, disenfranchised position of the Uzbek woman before the revolution. The language of Uzbek folk tales is not much different from modern folk spoken language. The storyteller seeks an ancient fairy tale by origin tell in clear language. Fairy tales are stored in the memory of listeners and change, passing from mouth to mouth.



One of the Uzbek stories, “The tale of the Forty Thieves” (Qirq o’g’ri) can be a good example. This story is a classic example of Uzbek folklore, showcasing the traditional themes and stylistic elements of Uzbek storytelling. Most schools use this story to introduce students Uzbek culture. The reason why I chose this story for my article is that it carries a deep message about morality and societal values.

Let’s look through its features:

#### 1. A Warning Against Greed and Excess:

The narrative highlights how dangerous circumstances can arise from excessive greed and a desire for wealth. The forty robbers are ultimately brought to ruin by their greed for the treasure in the cave. Despite discovering the riches, Ali Baba eventually becomes more cautious and makes prudent use of his newfound wealth, emphasizing the value of restraint and accountability.

#### 2. The Power of Cleverness and Resourcefulness:

Ali Baba's success is a direct outcome of his intelligence and quick thinking. He consistently overcomes the robbers, using his cleverness to solve issues and avoid harm. This emphasizes the belief that intelligence and creative thinking are valuable characteristics, particularly in the face of hardship.

#### 3. The Importance of Loyalty and Trust:

Ali Baba's loyalty to his family and his trust in his servant, Morgiana, play a crucial role in his survival. He relies on their support to outwit the thieves and protect his loved ones. The story highlights the strength and importance of close bonds and trusting relationships.

#### 4. Entertainment and Education:

The story was likely told for entertainment, captivating audiences with its exciting plot and larger-than-life characters. However, it also carries a strong educational purpose, teaching audiences about the importance of ethical behavior, prudence, and the dangers of unchecked ambition.

Overall, "The Tale of the Forty Thieves" is more than just an adventurous tale. It serves as a moral compass, highlighting values that are important in Uzbek culture, and possibly across cultures. By focusing on these intentions, you can add depth to your analysis and better understand the story's significance within Uzbek folklore.

When we compare Uzbek and English stories, we can see a number of similarities and differences between them. Let’s take “Little Mermaid” by Hans Christian Andersen and "The Tale of the Nightingale" (A traditional Uzbek folktale). Although the plots of these two differ, similarities can be seen. Firstly, starting from intentions, the story “Little Mermaid” explores themes of sacrifice, longing, and the pain of unrequited love. It also touches on the clash between two worlds, the human and the supernatural, and the yearning for something beyond what one has. While “The Tale of the Nightingale” represents the themes of greed, the importance of authenticity, and the value of natural beauty over artificiality. It also suggests that true happiness comes from genuine connection and not material possessions.

First similarity is that both stories involve characters making sacrifices to attain something they desire (the mermaid sacrifices her voice, the woodcutter sacrifices his cherished nightingale). Secondly, they feature characters who are loved but unable to express their feelings. Because the mermaid is silent, while the nightingale's song is not appreciated. Furthermore, both stories suggest that the beauty and magic of nature are superior to human-made creations. Meaning, the nightingale's song is far more captivating than the king's mechanical bird and mermaid's tail is more gorgeous compared to her legs. This shows the value of nature and teaches a reader to feel happy about every nature's gift. Also, we can see the similarities in plots as well. Take Alpomish and Beowulf as an example. Both of these characters are so brave and courageous and dedicated themselves for their nation and motherland to protect it from enemies. Even the sequence happened nearly in the same order.

Turning to the differences, we can immediately notice the way stories are written. Andersen's story is more poetic and romantic, while the Uzbek folktale is more direct and didactic, offering a clear moral lesson. Also, it is worth noting that there are some cultural differences as one's tradition differs from person to person. However, a child should read both national and foreign stories to realize the natural literature and literature of the other country in a whole. Because folk tales reflect people's lives, their history, beliefs and mentality. Different stages of nation's development are presented in them in a certain way.

In conclusion, stories regardless of their country of origin are really important for the development of a child, for example improving their mental ability, language and communication skills and critical thinking. In addition, children can learn something and conclude the moral of the story by which they are likely to be away from different wrongdoings and bad behaviors. Because of this, both teachers and parents should pay attention to reading a story or fairy tale to young minds on a regular basis. As Albert Einstein said: "If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales."

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