



GENDER AND FORMS OF ADDRESS: BASED ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
MATERIALS

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**Annotatsiya:** *Ushbu maqolada ingliz tilidagi murojaat shakllarining gender xususiyatlari, ularning lingvistik va pragmatik funksiyalari hamda zamonaviy ingliz tilida gender neytral murojaat birliklarining shakllanishi tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqot davomida erkaklar va ayollarga nisbatan qo'llaniladigan murojaat shakllari sotsiolingvistik nuqtai nazardan o'rganilib, ularning jamiyatdagi gender munosabatlarini aks ettirishdagi roli yoritiladi.*

**Kalit so'zlar:** *gender, murojaat shakllari, ingliz tili, sotsiolingvistika, pragmatika, gender neytrallik, kommunikatsiya, nutq etiketi.*

**Аннотация:** *В данной статье анализируются гендерные характеристики форм обращения в английском языке, их лингвистические и прагматические функции, а также формирование гендерно-нейтральных единиц обращения в современном английском языке. Исследование рассматривает формы обращения, используемые для мужчин и женщин, с социолингвистической точки зрения и подчеркивает их роль в отражении гендерных отношений в обществе.*

**Keywords:** *гендер, формы обращения, английский язык, социолингвистика, прагматика, гендерная нейтральность, коммуникация, речевой этикет.*

**Annotation:** *This article analyzes the gender characteristics of forms of address in English, their linguistic and pragmatic functions, and the formation of gender-neutral address units in modern English. The research examines forms of address used for men and women from a sociolinguistic perspective and highlights their role in reflecting gender relations in society.*

**Keywords:** *gender, forms of address, English language, sociolinguistics, pragmatics, gender neutrality, communication, speech etiquette.*

Living in a society, people need to communicate with each other and exchange information. Throughout their lives, people communicate with each other through language. Language is an integral part of the development and culture of society, in which social relations are reflected. Language is not only a means of transmitting information, but also a linguistic mirror that reflects social relations, hierarchy, and gender roles in society. Address titles/honorifics, which are one of the most active elements of the communication process, reflect the socio-cultural patterns of a particular linguistic community.





But social roles and cultural norms in society. In recent years, there has been a growing trend in linguistics to move away from traditional, gender-specific forms of address and toward gender-neutral (objective) communication.

Gender linguistics is one of the areas of modern linguistics that studies the relationship between language and gender. This area studies the specific aspects of male and female speech and the gender characteristics of language units. The gender factor is especially evident in forms of address, since address units reflect the social status, age, sex, and relationships of the participants in the communication. [3: 287]

Address forms are an important component of the speech etiquette system. They perform the functions of organizing the communicative process, showing respect for the interlocutor, and establishing social distance. Address forms in English have undergone significant changes during historical development, especially as a result of the development of ideas about gender equality, new address units have appeared. [10: 259]

The English language does not have a grammatical gender category for nouns (for example, the masculine or feminine gender of inanimate objects, as in Russian). Gender is expressed mainly through lexical units and pronouns.

- **Male gender (Masculine):** boy, man, father, brother, uncle.
- **Female gender (Feminine):** girl, woman, mother, sister, aunt.
- **Neutral (Neuter - inanimate objects):** table, book, car.

Robin Lakoff argues that women's speech differs from men's speech not only lexically and grammatically, but also in the frequency and methods of use of forms of address. [1: 49]

Tannen, on the other hand, explains the differences in the communicative strategies of men and women with gender-specific communication models. [2: 39]

In English, forms of address are divided into formal and informal groups. Formal forms of address include Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms., Sir, and Madam. Gender is clearly indicated among these forms. These forms are widely used in official correspondence, business meetings, and government institutions.

For example, **Mr.** Johnson, could you help me?

Good morning, **Madam.**

**Ms.** Brown will lead the meeting.

The form "Mr." is used regardless of a man's marital status. This is different from the forms used for women.

For example, - **Mr.** Smith is waiting for you.

- Thank you, **Sir.**

These addresses convey respect, formality, and social status.

Historically, when addressing women in English, their marital status has been important.

Miss. Used for unmarried women. For example, Miss Johnson is a new teacher.

Mrs. Used for married women. For example, Mrs. Wilson teaches English.





## TANQIDIY NAZAR, TAHLILIIY TAFAKKUR VA INNOVATSION G'OYALAR



Ms. became widely used in the second half of the 20th century. This form of address does not indicate a woman's marital status and is a product of ideas of gender equality. For example, Ms. Taylor will attend the conference.

In the second half of the 20th century, the form of address "Ms." became widespread under the influence of feminist movements. This unit does not indicate a woman's marital status and is functionally equivalent to the form "Mr." used for men. [6: 113]

According to Janet Holmes, the choice of address forms depends not only on gender, but also on the communicative situation and social status. [3: 12]

Gender stereotypes are also reflected in the language system. For example, English has long used professional names such as chairman, policeman, and fireman. In these units, the masculine component predominates, relegating the role of women to a secondary position. [8: 56]









In men's discourse, the universal morpheme "Mr." (Mister) is used, regardless of their age and marital status (married or single). However, in women's speech etiquette, linguistic differentiation is artificially sharpened, separating them into locutions for married ("Mrs.") and unmarried ("Miss"). [9: 134]

In recent years, the use of gender-neutral forms of address in English has increased significantly. In modern corporate and academic texts, the sociolinguistic reality has become more profound, and the protection of the rights of "gender-fluid" (changeable gender) or non-binary individuals has also had an impact on the language. In particular, the form "Mx." is used for individuals who do not wish to be identified as male or female. This form is a completely new pronominal and neutral form of address in English materials. [11: 148]

For example, Mx. Johnson will attend the meeting.

This form of address is considered an important element of inclusive communication in modern English. [9: 212]

In addition to the above forms of address, the table below also contains forms of address used depending on the title and position.

<b>APPLICATION FORM</b>		
FOR WHOM??	EXAMPLE	APPLICATION FORM
 <b>Dr. (Doctor)</b>	For medical professionals or doctors of science (PhD)	
 <b>Prof. (Professor)</b>	For university professors and lecturers	
 <b>Coach</b>	For sports coaches	
 <b>Officer</b>	For police or law enforcement officers	





In conclusion, it can be said that forms of address in the English language are closely related to the gender factor. Historically, the units of address used for women reflected their marital status, while in modern society, neutral forms of address are becoming widespread based on the principles of gender equality. Analysis of forms of address allows us to identify the complex relationship between language and society, the linguistic expression of gender stereotypes, and changes in modern communication processes. Forms of address in the English language are a linguistic expression of gender relations. Historically, the units of address used for women reflected their marital status, while in modern society, gender-neutral forms of address are becoming widespread based on the principles of gender equality and inclusiveness. Analysis of units of address from a gender perspective allows us to understand the complex relationship between language and society more deeply.

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