

1 Case endings

1.1 Noun cases

1.1.1 Overview

	form	examples
nominative	—	<i>у</i>
accusative	-ni	<i>уни</i>
dative	-ga	<i>qo'lga, уга, ma'lumotga, xatga, haqga (= haqqa)</i>
locative	-da	<i>qo'lda, уда, ma'lumotda, xatda</i>
ablative	-dan	<i>удан, ma'lumotdan</i>
genitive	-ning	<i>уning</i>
referential	-cha	<i>уча</i>
terminative	-gacha	<i>угача</i>
comparitive	-dek	<i>удек, ma'lumotdek</i>

1.1.2 Nominative case

The nominative case is the case of the subject:

- (1) **Ўқувчи** жуда ақлли. *O'quvchi juda aqli.* 'The student is very intelligent.'
- (2) **Қушлар** учади. *Qushlar uchadi.* 'The birds fly.'

It is also the case of most indefinite, non-specific objects:

- (3) Мен **китоб** ўқийман. *Men kitob o'qiyman.* 'I read books/a book.'

1.1.3 Accusative case

The accusative case is used on definite or specific direct objects.

- (4) Мен китоб**ни** ўқийман. *Men kitobni o'qiyman.* 'I read the book.'
- (5) Ҳаммаси**ни** яхши кўрасиз. *Hammasini yaxshi ko'rasiz* 'You (will) like all of them.'

1.1.4 Dative case

The dative case indicates motion towards, either physically or metaphorically, and of indirect objects in the traditional sense.

- (6) сиз *siz* 'you' + **-га** *-ga* = сиз**га** *sizga* 'to you'
- (7) Англия *Angliya* 'England' + **-га** *-ga* = Англия**га** *Angliyaga* 'to England'
- (8) Ёмон ўқувчилар мактаб**га** бормади.
Yomon o'quvchilar maktabga bormaydi.
'Bad students don't go to school.'
- (9) Сен**га** пул бермаймиз. *Senga pul bermaymiz.* 'We (will) not give you money.'
- (10) Мен лолалар**га** қарайман. *Men lolalarga qarayman.* 'I look at the tulips.'

Note that it is difficult to pronounce a **Г** *g* after a **Қ** *q* or **Ғ** *g'*. In fact, in dialects of Uzbek with productive harmony, these combinations of letters are impossible. Because of this, some people write (and recommend writing) the dative case after these consonants as **Қ** *q*:

(11) ҳақ *haq* ‘right’ + **-га** *-ga* = ҳақ**га** / ҳақ**қа** *haqga / haqqa* ‘to (a/the) right’

After nouns ending in *g*, those who do change the shape of the dative suffix also often change the final *g* to a *q*—one of the few changes to a stem in Uzbek:

(12) боғ *bog* ‘garden’ + **-га** *-ga* = боғ**га** / боғ**қа** *bogga / boqqa* ‘to (a/the) garden’

1.1.5 Locative case

The locative case indicates a location, either physical or metaphorical.

(13) университет *universitet* ‘university’ + **-да** *-da* = университет**да** *universitetda* ‘at university’

(14) бозор *bozor* ‘bazaar’ + **-да** *-da* = бозор**да** *bozorda* ‘at the bazaar’

(15) Китоблар стол**да**. *Kitoblar stolda*. ‘The books are on the table.’

(16) Қалам**да** сиёҳ йўқ. *Qalamda siyoh yo‘q*. ‘There is no ink in the pen.’

(17) Мен**да** озроқ пул бор. *Menda ozroq pul bor*. ‘I have a little money on me.’

1.1.6 Ablative case

The ablative case indicates motion away from, either physically or metaphorically:

(18) Бу зийнат буюмлари Ўзбекистон**дан**.

Bu ziynat buyumlari O‘zbekistondan.

‘These pieces of jewelry are from Uzbekistan.’

(19) Бухоро**дан** келамиз. *Buxorodan kelamiz*. ‘We (will) come from Bukhara.’

(20) Сиз**дан** пул олмайман. *Sizdan pul olmayman*. ‘I don’t/won’t take money from you.’

1.1.7 Genitive case

The genitive case indicates a possessor in the broadest possible sense. The genitive case forms of pronouns (such as унинг *uning* ‘his, her(s), its’, сизнинг *sizning* ‘your(s)’) correspond to English possessive pronouns, while the regular genitive **-нинг** *-ning* corresponds to the English genitives in *s* or phrases with ‘of’—e.g. ўқитувчининг *o‘qituvchining* ‘the teacher’s, of the teacher’:

(21) ўқувчи *o‘quvchi* ‘student’ + **-нинг** *-ning* = ўқувчи**нинг** *o‘quvchining* ‘the student’s, of the student’

(22) сиз *siz* ‘you’ + **-нинг** *-ning* = сиз**нинг** *sizning* ‘your(s)’

(23) уй *uy* ‘house’ + **-нинг** *-ning* = уй**нинг** *uyning* ‘the house’s, of the house’

(24) ота *ota* ‘father’ + **-нинг** *-ning* = ота**нинг** *otaning* ‘the father’s, of the father’

(25) Бу компьютер Алишер**нинг**. *Bu kompyuter Alisberning*. ‘This computer is Alisher’s.’

(26) Шу машина сизлар**нинг**ми? *Shu mashina sizlarningmi?* ‘Is that car yours?’

(27) У**нинг** отаси Тожик эмас. *Uning otasi Tojik emas*. ‘Her/His father is not Tajik.’

1.1.8 Referential case

The referential case (sometimes called the “equative case”) is comparatively rare, as many of its older uses are no longer productive. It generally means something along the lines of ‘in the style/manner of’ or ‘to the extent of’ the noun it is attached to:

(28) Хоразм**ча** ўйин *Xorazmcha o‘yin* ‘Khwarezmian style dance’

(29) Муғул**ча** наво *Mug‘ulcha navo* ‘Mongol style melody’

One use which is common, however, is to form the short names of languages, which can also be used as adverbs meaning ‘in (language)’:

- (30) Франсуз *Fransuz* ‘French (person)’ + **-ча -cha** = Франсуз**ча** *Fransuzcha* ‘(in) the French language’
 (31) Уйғур *Uyg‘ur* ‘Uyghur (person)’ + **-ча -cha** = Уйғур**ча** *Uyg‘urcha* ‘(in) the Uyghur language’

1.1.9 Terminative case

The terminative case indicates motion or time up until something. It is historically and formally a combination of the dative and referential case endings:

- (32) сиз *siz* ‘you’ + **-гача -gacha** = сиз**гача** *sizgacha* ‘(up) until you’
 (33) келаси йил *kelasi yil* ‘next year’ + **-гача -gacha** = келаси йил**гача** *kelasi yilgacha* ‘(up) until next year’
 (34) ҳозир *hozir* ‘now’ + **-гача -gacha** = ҳозир**гача** *hozirgacha* ‘(up) until now’
 (35) Эрта**гача** билмаймиз. *Ertagacha bilmaymiz.* ‘We won’t know until tomorrow.’

1.1.10 Comparative case

The comparative case roughly translates to English ‘like’ or ‘as’:

- (36) сиз *biz* ‘you’ + **-дек -dek** = биз**дек** *bizdek* ‘like us’
 (37) шоҳлар *shoblar* ‘kings’ + **-дек -dek** = шоҳлар**дек** *shoblardek* ‘like kings’
 (38) Ўзбекчани сиз**дек** яхши гапирмайман.
O‘zbekchani sizdek yaxshi gapirmayman.
 ‘I don’t speak Uzbek well like you.’
 (39) Россия Америка**дек** кучли давлат.
Rossiya Amerikadek kuchli davlat.
 ‘Russia is a strong country like America.’

1.2 Pronoun cases

1.2.1 Common forms

The meanings of the cases are the same for nouns and pronouns—except for a referential form, which indicates ‘in (X)’s opinion’—but the forms can sometimes be exceptional. In the table below, unpredictable/irregular forms appear in red.

nominative	<i>men</i>	<i>sen</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>biz</i>	<i>siz</i>	<i>ular</i>
accusative	<i>meni</i>	<i>seni</i>	<i>uni</i>	<i>bizni</i>	<i>sizni</i>	<i>ularni</i>
dative	<i>menga</i>	<i>senga</i>	<i>unga</i>	<i>bizga</i>	<i>sizga</i>	<i>ularga</i>
locative	<i>menda</i>	<i>senda</i>	<i>unda</i>	<i>bizda</i>	<i>sizda</i>	<i>ularda</i>
ablative	<i>mendan</i>	<i>sendan</i>	<i>undan</i>	<i>bizdan</i>	<i>sizdan</i>	<i>ulardan</i>
genitive	<i>mening</i>	<i>sening</i>	<i>uning</i>	<i>bizning</i>	<i>sizning</i>	<i>ularning</i>
referential	<i>meningcha</i>	<i>seningcha</i>	<i>uningcha</i>	<i>bizningcha</i>	<i>sizningcha</i>	<i>ularcha</i>
terminative	<i>mengacha</i>	<i>sengacha</i>	<i>ungacha</i>	<i>bizgacha</i>	<i>sizgacha</i>	<i>ulgacha</i>
comparitive	<i>mendek</i>	<i>sendek</i>	<i>uningdek</i>	<i>bizdek</i>	<i>sizdek</i>	<i>ulardek</i>

The accusative and genitive case forms of the first and second persons singular are irregular inasmuch as the *n* at the beginning of the case ending falls away. In fact, historically, this is not entirely accurate; the original forms of the case endings in the Old Turkic period were *-İg* (accusative) and *Iḡ* (genitive), and the current

forms in Uzbek (and other languages) appears to be the result of the generalisation of the first and person single pronominal forms to nouns in order to avoid ambiguity arising from similarities between these and other suffixes.

All the case forms of the third person except the accusative and genitive cases have an extra *n* between the root and the case suffix. The origin of this *n* is uncertain, but it exists in many Turkic languages, and has done so since the earliest attested Turkic.

The referential case forms of pronouns are, with the exception of the third person plural, based off the genitive plus the referential ending. The same is true of the comparative form of the third person singular only.

1.2.2 Variant forms

In addition to the forms above, certain other forms may be relatively common, either in dialects or in literature, sometimes with a slightly different meaning.

The referential case forms of the first person singular and plural have Oghuz-derived forms *менимча* *menimcha* and *бизимча* *bizimcha*, respectively, which are relatively common in standard speech and literature.

The dative and terminative forms of the third person singular have alternate forms *унигга* *uningga* and *униггача* *uninggacha* (respectively) based on the genitive.

A more regular form of the third person referential pronoun *унча* *uncha* ‘that much, to that extent’ retains an older meaning of the case suffix.

Finally, the *y u* element appearing in oblique third person forms can be seen instead as a *a* in archaic literature and some dialects. Within the standard language, the only such form which is relatively common is the referential *анча* *ancha*, which means the same as *унча* *uncha*.

2 Vocabulary

<i>ancha</i>	анча	ADV	so (+ adjective)
<i>Amerika</i>	Америка	N	America (esp. the USA)
<i>Angliya</i>	Англия	N	England
<i>aqli</i>	ақли	ADJ	intelligent, smart
<i>bermoq</i>	бермок	V	to give
<i>bilmoq</i>	билмок	V	to know
<i>bog'</i>	боғ	N	garden, orchard
<i>bormoq</i>	бормок	V	to go
<i>Buxoro</i>	Бухоро	N	Bukhara
<i>buyum</i>	буюм	N	item, article
<i>davlat</i>	давлат	N	country, state
<i>erta</i>	эрта	N/ADV	tomorrow, in the morning
<i>Fransuz</i>	Франсуз	N	French person, Frenchman
<i>Fransuzcha</i>	Франсузча	N/ADV	(in) the French language
<i>gapirmoq</i>	гапирмок	V	to speak
<i>hamma</i>	хамма	ADJ/N	all
<i>haq</i>	ҳақ	N	right (legal, moral)
<i>hozir</i>	ҳозир	ADV/N	now
<i>kelasi</i>	келаси	ADJ	coming, next
<i>kompyuter</i>	компютер	N	computer
<i>ko'rmoq</i>	кўрмок	V	to see
<i>kuchli</i>	кучли	ADJ	strong, powerful
<i>lola</i>	лола	N	tulip
<i>maktab</i>	мактаб	N	school
<i>ma'lumot</i>	маълумот	N	information
<i>Mug'ul</i>	Муғул	N	Mongol (esp. Central Asian; archaic)
<i>navo</i>	наво	N	melody, air (musical)
<i>olmoq</i>	олмок	V	to take, buy
<i>ota</i>	ота	N	father
<i>ozroq</i>	озрок	ADV	a bit
<i>o'qimoq</i>	ўқимок	V	to read, study
<i>o'quvchi</i>	ўқувчи	N	student
<i>o'yin</i>	ўйин	N	(traditional) dance, game
<i>O'zbekcha</i>	Ўзбекча	N/ADV	(in) the Uzbek language
<i>pul</i>	пул	N	money
<i>qaramoq</i>	қарамок	N	to look
<i>qo'l</i>	қўл	N	hand, arm
<i>qush</i>	куш	N	bird
<i>Rossiya</i>	Россия	N	Russia

<i>siyob</i>	сиёх	N	ink
<i>shoh</i>	шоҳ	N	king
<i>uncha</i>	унча	ADV	so (+ adjective)
<i>universitet</i>	университет	N	university
<i>Uyg'ur</i>	Уйғур	N	Uyghur (person)
<i>xat</i>	хат	N	letter (document), message
<i>Xorazm</i>	Хоразм	N	Khwarezm
<i>yil</i>	йил	N	year
<i>yomon</i>	ЭМОН	ADJ	bad, evil
<i>ziynat</i>	зийнат	N	jewelry, adornment