

LEXICAL PROBLEMS OF TRANSLATION

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Abstract: This chapter presents the lexical problems in translation. It gives examples of such problems in translation and considers how to solve them. The chapter discusses the problem of a lack of equivalence in translation, which results in lexical gaps at the semantic field level. It also sheds light on the problem of improper vocabulary selection, assuming that there are equivalents to the source text words. Lexical ambiguity, which may result from the polysemous nature of a language or from it homonymic nature, is also discussed.

Keywords: Lexical translation, semantic features, meanings of words, lexical correspondences, specific feature, Lexical transformations, Lexical substitution, Compensation, Metaphoric transformations

Lexical translation is the task of translating individual words or phrases, either on their own (e.g., search-engine queries or meta-data tags) or as part of a knowledge-based Machine Translation (MT) system.

One of the major lexical problems is translating metaphorical meaning as a non-metaphorical, or vice versa. Another problem is translating synonyms, near-synonyms, polysemous items, collocations and homonyms. Other problems include problems of equivalence, lexical gaps, and denotative and connotative meanings.

- 1. Types of meaning
- 2. Rendering of different types of meaning in translation
- 3. Translation of monosemantic words
- 4. Translation of polysemantic words
- 5. Translation of pseudo-international words
- 6. Rendering of Contextual Meanings
- 7. Translation of "non-equivalents"
- 8. Rendering of emotive and stylistic meanings

The study of the language is arguably the most hotly contested property in the academic realm. It becomes a tangle begetting multiple language discrepancies. That is why linguistics compares languages and explores their histories, in order to find and







to account for its development and origins to give the answers to this or that language point.

Due to the semantic features of language the meanings of words, their ability to combine with other words, their usage, the "place" they hold in the lexical system of a language do not concur for the most part. All the same "ideas" expressed by words coincide in most cases, though the means of expression differ.

The principal types of lexical correspondences between two languages are as follows: 1) Complete correspondences; 2) Partial correspondences; 3) The absence of correspondences.

Let's deal with them more exactly.

1) Complete lexical correspondences.

Complete correspondence of lexical units of two languages can rarely be found. As a rule they belong to the following lexical groups:

- proper names and geographical denominations:
- the months and days of the week, numerals.
- Scientific and technical terms (with the exception of terminological polysemy).
- 2) Partial lexical correspondences.

While translating the lexical units partial correspondences mostly occur. That happens when a word in the language of the original conforms to several equivalents in the language it is translated into. The reasons of these facts are the following.

- 1. Most words in a language are polysemantic. That's why the selection of a word in the process of translating is determined by the context.
- 2. The specification of synonymous order. However, it is necessary to allow for the nature of the semantic signs which an order of synonyms is based on. Therefore, it is advisable to account for the concurring meanings of members of synonymic orders, the difference in lexical and stylistic meanings, and the ability of individual components of orders of synonyms to combine.e. g. Dismiss, discharge (bookish), sack, fire (colloquial); the edge of the table the rim of the moon; ишдан бўшатмоқ (адабий тилда), ҳайдамсқ (оғзаки нуткда), столнинг чети (қирраси); ойнинг қирраси (чети).
- 3. Each word affects the meaning of an object it designates. Not infrequently languages "select" different properties and signs to describe the same denotations. The way, each language creates its own "picture of the world", is known as" various principles of dividing reality into parts". Despite the difference of signs, both languages reflect one and the same phenomenon adequately and to the same extent, which must be taken into account when translating words of this kind, as equivalence is not identical to having the same meaning.

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- 4. The differences of semantic content of the equivalent words in two languages. These words can be divided into there sub-group:
- a) Words with a differentiated (undifferentiated) meaning: e.g. In English: to swim (of a human being), to sail (of a ship), to float (of an inanimate object); a) in Uzbek: суз-моқ (одамлар ҳақида), сузмоқ (кема ҳа^ида), сув юзида қалқиб юрмоқ (предмет тўғрисида); in Russian: плавать, плыть.
- b) Words with a "broad" sense: verbs of state (to be), perception and brainwork (to see, to understand), verbs of action and speech (to go, to say).
 - c) "Adverbial verbs" with a composite structure which have a semantic content, expressing action and nature at the same time: e.g. the train whistled out of the station.
- 5. Most difficulties are encountered when translating the so called pseudo-international words. The regular correspondence of such words in spelling and sometimes in articulation coupled with the structure of word-building in both languages may lead to a false identification.
- 6. Each language has its own typical rules of combinability. A language has generally established traditional combinations which do not concur with corresponding ones in another language.

Adjectives offer considerable difficulties in the process of translation. It does not always coincide with their combinability in the Uzbek or Russian languages on account of differences in their semantic structure. Frequently one and the same adjective in English combines with a number of nouns, while in Uzbek and Russian different adjectives are used in combinations of this kind. For this reason it is not easy to translate English adjectives which are more capable of combining than their Uzbek and Russian equivalents. A bad headache, a bad mistake Қаттиқ. Бош оғриғи, к.ўпол хато . . . Сильная головная боль, грубая ошибка).

A specific feature of the combinability of English nouns is that some of them can function as the subject of a sentence though they do not belong to a lexico-semantic category Nomina Agentis. This tends to the «predicate — adverbial modifier» construction being replaced by that of the «subject — predicate».

- The strike closed most of the schools in New-York.
- Иш ташлаш натижасида Нью-Йоркдаги мактабларнинг Кўпчилиги ёпилди.
- В результате забастовки большинство школ Нью-Йорка было закрыто.

Of no less significance is the habitual use of a word, which is bound up with the history of the language and the formation and development of its lexical system. This gave shape to cliches peculiar to each language, which are used for describing particular situations (e. G. In English- Wet paint; in Uzbek: Эхтиёт бўлинг, бўялган! In Russian: Осторожно, окрашено!).

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Lexical transformations

Lexical transformations change the semantic core of a translated word. They can be classified into the following groups:

1.Lexical substitution, or putting one word in place of another. It often results from the different semantic structures of the source language and target language words. Thus the word молодой is not always translated as young; rather, it depends on its word combinability: молодой картофель is equal to new potatoes. This translation equivalent is predetermined by the word combination it is used in. This type of translation can hardly be called substitution, since it is a regular equivalent for this phrase.

2.Compensation is a deliberate introduction of some additional element in the target text to make up for the loss of a similar element in the source text. The main reason for this transformation is a vocabulary lacuna in the target language. For example, one of the Galsworthy's characters was called a leopardess. But there is no one-word equivalent of the same stylistic coloring in Russian. Therefore, the translator compensated the word by using the word тигрица to characterize the lady.

3.Metaphoric transformations are based on transferring the meaning due to the similarity of notions. The target language can re-metaphorize a word or a phrase by using the same image (Don't dirty your hands with that money! – Не марай рук этими деньгами!) or a different one (Он вернет нам деньги, когда рак свистнет. – Не will pay us our money back when hell freezes over). The source language metaphor can be destroyed if there is no similar idiom in the target language: Весна уже на пороге. – Spring is coming very soon. Or, on the contrary, the target text is metaphorized either to compensate a stylistically marked word or phrase whose coloring was lost for some reason, or merely to express a source language lacuna: Он решил начать жить поновому. – He decided to turn over a new life

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