

LEXICAL PROBLEMS IN TRANSLATION

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Abstract

This chapter presents the semantic and lexical problems in translation between two languages, and how to deal with them. 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 its homonymic nature, is also discussed. In addition, there is discussion on synonymy and problems related to the translation of rhetorical devices. All these translation issues and problems are accompanied by examples between 2 languages.

Keywords: Dealing with different terms, competent translation, translators, the peculiarity of the translation of terms, literal translation, semantic problems.

Due to the semantic features of language the meaning of words, their usage, ability to combine with other words, associations awakened by them, 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 problems of translating foreign texts and vocabulary in any sector of the life is experiencing rapid development, as is the growing interest of users and developers in different terms itself. The primary and most pressing problem in working with a foreign text in this area is the choice of a suitable equivalent to a newly emerging concept. The key and most informative words that carry the main semantic load in the text of this topic are terms.

LEXICAL PROBLEMS OF TRANSLATION

PROBLEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Lexical problems of translation. Complete lexical correspondences.
2. Partial lexical correspondences.

3. Types of lexical transformations.
4. Absence of lexical correspondences.

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- I Complete correspondences.
- II. Partial correspondences
- III. The absence of correspondences .

One of the greatest difficulties in learning a new language is mastering the idiosyncrasies of the vocabulary. This happens because a word in one language rarely means exactly the same thing as its closest counterpart in a different language. In other words, the "semantic space" of each word in a natural language is arbitrary - the result of centuries of evolution and accident. In effect, each word of a natural language has built-in irregularities that the student must learn. Overcoming lexical challenges when a source text is clean, clear, and unambiguous, and the target language is an excellent lexical match, then the translation process is quick and painless. When things are not quite so perfect, there are three essential skills your translator must have. The translator must be able to see the document as a whole and create the translation clarity that was missing in the source text. When many denotations of a polyseme are used, the translator must be able to identify the correct usages and ensure the translation is accurate. Lexical-semantic problems can be resolved by consulting dictionaries, glossaries, terminology banks and experts. These problems include terminology alternatives, neologisms, semantic gaps, contextual synonyms and antonyms (these affect polysemic units: synonyms and antonyms are only aimed at an acceptance which depends on the context to determine which meaning is correct), semantic contiguity (a consistency procedure which works by identifying semantic features common to two or more terms) and lexical networks. In addition, lexical semantics is also very necessary to be learned in translation study.

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.

Linguistic problems and complexities can be classed as lexical, syntactic or semantic depending on their context. Lexical problems involve the interpretation of particular words or phrases rather than entire classes. These problems exist independent of context although they are only evident in it.

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