



“ALTERNATIVE AND TRADITIONAL TRANSLATION :TRANSLATION TRANSFORMATIONS

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Abstract

This article talks about the difficulties of translating texts from English into Russian, about grammatical transformations, about permutations of words, about replacement, about the transformation of vocabulary, about concretization, about generalization, the reception of lexical addition, the reception of omission, the reception of semantic development, the anthonomic translation of the text , Reception of a holistic transformation, about Compensation when translating this or that information.

Keywords: translation, language, complex process, professional and high-quality translation, intensive, factors, context, spelling, punctuation, grammar, the written norms, grammatical transformations.

Translation is an important factor in bringing people and organizations closer to each other around the world. Etymologically, the meaning of the word "translation" means "transfer through" or "moving through". Thus, by translating a text from English into Russian, it is possible to overcome language barriers that often hinder effective communication. Language translation is a complex process with many details, in which the translator tries to express the meaning of a text in one language by means of a second language. In the process of converting the text from English to Russian, the meaning must remain unchanged. Typically, the source language is referred to as the "source language" and the target language as the "target language". Usually, in order to get a professional and high-quality translation of texts in English, people use the services of translation agencies in a large city. However, dealing with foreign languages is not as easy as it might seem. It would be misleading to think that translation means simply replacing words in one language with similar words in another language. There have been cases when a person ignorant of translation tried to evaluate its quality by comparing the number of words in the original text and in the translated text. Since these figures did not match (and such a coincidence, to put it mildly, is unlikely), the translation was assessed as inadequate. A quality translation requires intensive research into the subject matter of the source text. In addition, the translator usually needs to have an in-depth knowledge of both the source and target languages. Ideally, the translator should be a native speaker of the target language. It is important that the translator has a good understanding of the customs and way of life of the people for whom this translation is intended. This will allow you to more accurately convey the meaning of the text to the addressee. It is very important that the translator



of texts from English into Russian in the field of legal, medical, technical, scientific or commercial translations be a specialist in the relevant issue. It must be remembered that the translation of a text from English into Russian is not just a mechanical process of translating words from one language into another.

There are many factors that must be taken into account in order to obtain an accurate and thematically adapted translation from English.

Here are the most important aspects that a translator should pay attention to:

The actual context in the source and target languages. The meaning and subtext of the same concept can be very different. Grammatical features of two languages. Remember that grammar, being the most important component of any language, has its own specific rules in each of them. Spelling in the target language is the most important factor in a quality translation. As you know, there are many spelling differences between English and American English. For example, the English word color in the American version looks like color. The written norms adopted for the target language. We are talking about spelling, punctuation, grammar, as well as the rules of capitalization (highlighting words in capital letters) and dividing the text into paragraphs. Translation of idioms and set expressions from one language to another is often difficult. For example, a literal translation of the English phrase Wear your heart on your sleeve into any other language is unlikely to make sense. Such details are important from the point of view of high-quality translation of texts from English into Russian.

In addition, I would like to remind you that in the process of translation it is important to carefully compare the translated text with the source. Editing at different stages of work will allow you to avoid mistakes. Translation from one language to another is impossible without grammatical transformations. Grammatical transformations are primarily the restructuring of a sentence (changing its structure) and all kinds of substitutions, both syntactic and morphological. Grammatical transformations are caused by various reasons - both purely grammatical and lexical in nature, although grammatical factors play the main role, that is, differences in the structure of languages. When comparing the grammatical categories and forms of the English and Russian languages, the following phenomena are usually found: 1) the absence of a particular category in one of the languages; 2) partial match; 3) complete match. The need for grammatical transformations naturally arises only in the first and second cases. In Russian, in comparison with English, there are no such grammatical categories as articles or gerunds, as well as infinitive and participial complexes and an absolute nominative construction. Partial coincidence or discrepancy in the meaning and use of the corresponding forms and constructions also requires grammatical transformations. This includes such phenomena as a partial mismatch in the category of number, a partial mismatch in the forms of a passive construction, an incomplete match in the forms of the infinitive and participle, some differences in the expression of modality, etc. First of all, we will focus on the article, because the article (both definite and indefinite), despite its extremely abstract meaning, often requires semantic expression in translation. As you know, both articles have a pronominal origin: the definite article comes from the demonstrative pronoun, and the indefinite article comes from the indefinite pronoun, which goes back to the numeral one. These original meanings of the articles sometimes appear in their modern usage. In such cases, their lexical



meaning must be conveyed in translation, otherwise the Russian sentence would be incomplete and inaccurate, since the denotative meaning of the articles is semantically an integral part of the entire semantic content of the sentence.

The noun "politics" does not have a plural, because the word "politics" is the plural form of the noun "politician" - a politician.

As for uncountable nouns, especially those that express abstract concepts, the number of mismatches may be higher here. For example: ink - chernilo, money - dengi, watch - chasi, news - novosti, and vice versa: to keep the minutes – vesti protokol, to live in the suburbs – jit v prigorode, on the outskirts – na okraïne, grapes - vinograd, shrimp - krivetki, etc. The discrepancy is also found in some cases of the use of the infinitive. The Russian infinitive has neither a perfect nor a continuous form. Thus, all the phenomena considered - the absence of an appropriate form, partial coincidence, differences in the nature and use of the form - necessitate grammatical transformations in translation. Grammatical transformations can be divided into two types: permutations and substitutions. Permutation as a type of translation transformation is a change in the location (order) of language elements in the translation text compared to the original text. Elements that can be rearranged: words, phrases, parts of a complex sentence, independent sentences.

The permutations are due to a number of reasons, the main of which is the difference in the structure (word order) of the sentence in English and Russian. An English sentence usually begins with a subject (or subject group) followed by a predicate (predicate group), i.e. the rheme - the center of the message (the most important) - comes first. Topic (secondary information) - circumstances (place and time) are most often located at the end of the sentence. The word order of the Russian sentence is different: at the beginning of the sentence there are often secondary members (circumstances of time and place), followed by the predicate, and only at the end - the subject. This should be taken into account when translating. This phenomenon is known as "communicative sentence division".

The most common case of permutation is a change in the order of words and phrases in the structure of a sentence, associated with communicative articulation:

Molasses buckets appeared from nowhere.

No one knows where the molasses buckets came from.

In the process of translation, a permutation of a word from one sentence to another can be observed, as in the following example:

...I put on this hat that I'd bought in New York that morning. It was this red hunting hat, with one of those very, very long peaks. I... put on the red hat I bought in New York this morning. It was a hunting hat, with a very, very long visor.

The need for such a transfer in this case is due to the repetition of the noun "hat", to which the permuted adjective "red" refers, in two adjacent sentences. Often, when translating, there is a change in the order of the parts of a complex sentence - the main and subordinate (subordinate) sentences:

If he ever gets married, his own wife'll probably call him "Ackley".

Probably his wife would call him "Ackley" too, if he ever got married.



The English subordinate clause precedes the main clause, while in the Russian translation, on the contrary, the main clause precedes the subordinate clause. The opposite cases are also possible. Independent sentences in the text can also be rearranged. We approached her fence. - Are you going to court? Jim asked.

The need for rearrangement in this case is due to the fact that the Past Perfect form in the second sentence of the English text expresses the meaning of the precedence of this action in relation to the action indicated in the first sentence. Since the Russian form "approached" does not express such a meaning, the preservation of the original order of the sentences in the translation could lead to a semantic distortion (the action denoted by the verb "approached" would be perceived as subsequent, in relation to the action expressed by the verb "asked"). Permutations (as a type of translation transformation) are quite common, often accompanied by other types of translation transformations. Substitutions are the most common and diverse type of translation transformations. In the process of translation, grammatical units can be replaced - word forms, parts of speech, sentence members, types of syntactic connection, etc.

a) Substitutions of word forms, Substitutions of word forms mean substitutions of number for nouns, tense for verbs, etc.

The Nile Valley appears to have been unfit for human habitation during the Stone Ages. (M. A. Murray)
The Nile Valley appears to have been uninhabitable for human life throughout the Stone Age (all periods of the Stone Age). In Russian, the combination stone age is a historical term and is never used in the plural. The norms of the English language dictate the use of the present tense in subordinate clauses of time or condition, i.e., where the Russian equivalent verb will have the future tense:

If you have free time, please write to me.

If you have some free time, please drop me a note.

Nobody knew what he meant.

In other cases, the change in the grammatical form of the word is caused by purely stylistic reasons.

The candidate hopes the residents of New Hampshire will cast their votes for him.

The candidate hopes that the people of New Hampshire will vote for him.

b) Substitutions of parts of speech. This type of replacement is very common. Its simplest form is the so-called "pronominalization", or the replacement of a noun by a pronoun. When translating from English into Russian, the pronoun is replaced by a noun. A very typical substitution when translating from English into Russian is the replacement of a verbal noun with a verb in the personal form. Here are examples of this kind of substitution:

Didn't have one of those very piercing whistles that was practically never in tune... (J. Salinger, The Catcher in the Rye, 4)

He whistled terribly shrill and always out of tune... (Here, as in other examples that follow, replacing a noun with a verb also requires replacing the adjective defining the noun with an adverb: piercing.)



It is natural and usual to replace the English verbal noun - the name of the figure (usually with the suffix - er) in the translation of the English verbal noun with the Russian personal form of the verb. In translation, other types of substitutions of parts of speech also take place, and often they are also accompanied by a substitution of sentence members, that is, a restructuring of the syntactic structure of the sentence.

c) Substitutions of sentence members (restructuring of the syntactic structure of the sentence). When the members of the sentence of a word and a group of words are replaced in the text of the translation, the syntactic scheme of constructing the sentence is restructured. The reasons for this kind of restructuring may be different. Most often, it is caused by the need to convey the "communicative division" of the sentence, which was discussed above. The most common example of this kind of syntactic rearrangement is the replacement of an English passive construction by a Russian active one, in which the English subject is replaced in a Russian sentence by an object at the beginning of the sentence; the English object with the preposition by when translated into Russian becomes the subject or the subject is completely absent (the so-called "indefinite-personal" construction); the passive form of the English verb is replaced by the active form of the Russian verb. For example:

Was not met by his sister. His sister met him.

He was given money. They gave him money.

He is considered to be a good student. He is considered a good student.

When translating from Russian into English, the reverse substitution "active - passive" occurs. Quite common (although they are not described in normative grammars) are also cases when the English subject is replaced by a circumstance when translated into Russian. This transformation also requires the replacement of the transitive verb of the English sentence by an intransitive verb (or, more rarely, a passive verb) in the Russian sentence. For example:

The last week has seen an intensification of the diplomatic activity...

During the past week, there has been an intensification of diplomatic activity ... (or: Last week there was ...)

A similar transformation takes place in other cases, when the English subject expresses different adverbial meanings. In the Russian translation, the English subject is replaced by the adverb of place:

The little town of Clay Cross today witnessed a massive demonstration...

Today in the small town of Clay Cross there was a mass demonstration...

This type of turnover is often found in the texts of the scientific genre.

Of course, when translating from Russian into English, the "opposite" replacement of the circumstance by the subject occurs, accompanied by other required replacements. In many cases, the restructuring of the syntactic structure is determined not by grammatical, but by stylistic considerations. So, in the following example, there is a simultaneous replacement of both sentence members and parts of speech:

After dinner they talked long and quietly. (S. Maugham, Before the Party)

After dinner they had a long, sincere conversation. (translated by E. Kalashnikova)



Thus, in most cases, when translating from English into Russian, the Russian sentence does not overlap with the English one, and does not coincide with it in its structure. Often the structure of the Russian sentence in translation is completely different from the structure of the English sentence. It has a different word order, a different sequence of parts of a sentence, often a different order of the position of the sentences themselves - main, subordinate and introductory. In some cases, the parts of speech that express the members of the English sentence are transmitted, respectively, by other parts of speech. All this explains the widespread use of grammatical transformations in translation. The semantic structure of the word determines the possibility of its contextual use, and the translation of the contextual meaning of the word is a difficult problem. The contextual meaning of a word largely depends on the nature of the semantic context, on the semantics of the words combined with it. The occasional meaning of a word, which suddenly appears in the context, is not arbitrary - it is potentially embedded in the semantic structure of the given word. The contextual use of a word in poetry or fiction often reveals the author's penetration into the very depths of its semantic structure. After all, the word is characterized by both paradigmatic and semantic connections, and the lexical potential of the word can be revealed in both cases. But the identification of these potential meanings is closely related to the peculiarity of the lexico-semantic aspect of each language, hence the difficulty of conveying the contextual meaning of words in translation: what is possible in one language is impossible in another due to differences in their semantic structure and in their use. The wider the semantic scope of the word, the wider its compatibility, because thanks to this, it can enter into a wide variety of relationships. This, in turn, allows for ample opportunities for its transfer in translation, various translation options. The use of the word (usage), which is customary for each language, is also of great importance. It is, of course, connected with the history of the development of a given language, the formation and development of its lexical system. In each language, peculiar clichés are developed, as if ready-made formulas, words and combinations of words used by speakers of this language. The latter are not phraseological units, but they are completely complete and, unlike phraseological units and stable combinations, they are never violated by the introduction of additional words or the substitution of one of the components. Concretization is the replacement of a word or phrase FL with a broader meaning by a word or phrase TL with a narrower meaning. As a rule, the vocabulary of the Russian language is more specific than the corresponding lexical units of the English language. This has been repeatedly noted by linguists. Specification can be linguistic and contextual (speech). In linguistic concretization, the replacement of a word with a broad meaning by a word with a narrower meaning is due to differences in the structure of the two languages - either the absence in the TL of a lexical unit that has the same broad meaning as the transmitted FL unit, or differences in their stylistic characteristics, or the requirements of grammatical order (the need for syntactic transformation of the sentence, in particular, the replacement of a nominal predicate with a verb, examples of which will be given below). When translating into Russian, verbs of motion and verbs of speech are concretized: be, have, get, take, give, make, say, come, go, etc.:

The method of generalization is the opposite of concretization, because it consists in replacing the particular with a general, specific concept by a generic one. When translating from English into Russian,



it is used much less frequently than concretization. This is due to the peculiarity of the English vocabulary. The words of this language often have a more abstract character than Russian words related to the same concept. Both lexical and grammatical transformations often require the introduction of additional words. The introduction of additional words is due to a number of reasons: differences in the structure of the sentence and the fact that more concise English sentences require a more detailed expression of thought in Russian. The absence of the corresponding word or the corresponding lexical-semantic variant of the given word is also the reason for the introduction of additional words in the translation. Additions during the translation process can be caused by other reasons. One of them is the syntactic restructuring of the sentence structure during translation, during which it is sometimes necessary to introduce certain elements into the sentence. So, when translating into English, in order to convey the “communicative division of a sentence”, in some cases it turns out to be necessary to introduce a subject into the English sentence, which is absent in the original Russian sentence:

In 1958 the first recordings were made.

Subject nouns added in English sentences are determined by broad context factors. Additions in these cases, in principle, could be avoided, but this would require the use of a passive construction in the translation, which would make the English text stylistically heavier. Often, lexical additions are conditioned by the need to convey in the translated text the meanings expressed in the original by grammatical means. For example, when transmitting English plural forms of nouns that do not have this form in Russian. Thus, workers of all industries should be translated as workers in all industries. We see also: defenses, modern weapons, etc. There are other philosophies (or: currents, theories) of the past that strongly support the concept of humanism. Of particular difficulty are attributive combinations consisting of combinations “noun + noun”, as well as “adjective + noun”. The latter are terminological in nature. For example:

pay claim (pay offer) demand (offer) to increase wages, wage strike strike demanding higher wages, gun license certificate for the right to carry weapons, oil countries oil producing countries, etc.

The correct choice of the semantic component added to the Russian translation requires knowledge of extralinguistic factors. The reception of semantic development consists in replacing the dictionary correspondence in translation with contextual, lexically associated with it. This includes metaphor and metonymy. If we take into account that all significant parts are divided into three categories: objects, processes and signs, then in order to convey the same content by means of another language, an object can be replaced by its sign, a process by an object, a sign by an object or process, etc. Under the process refers to an action or state. There are six options available: cause process effect, replacing a process with its cause, replacing a process with its effect, replacing the cause with a process, replacing cause with effect, replacing the effect with the cause, replacing the effect with the process.

An antonymous translation is a replacement of a concept expressed in the original with an opposite concept in the translation, with a corresponding restructuring of the entire statement in order to maintain an unchanged content plan. For example:



Stradlater didn't say anything.

Holistic transformation is a kind of semantic development. The reception of a holistic transformation can be briefly defined as the transformation of a single word, and sometimes the whole sentence. Moreover, the transformation takes place not by elements, but holistically. As is observed in relation to other methods of lexical transformations, the tradition of language contacts used a number of holistic transformations of frequency lexical units and fixed their results as dictionary correspondences - constant and variant. There are especially many such correspondences among the phrases of the living spoken language. For example:

How do you do?

Compensation in the translation should be considered the replacement of the non-transferable element of the FL by some other means that conveys the same information, and not necessarily in the same place in the text as in the original. Here is an example of compensation when translating from English into Russian:

“Why don't you write a good thrilling detective story?” she asked. “Me?” exclaimed Mrs Albert Forrester... (S. Maugham, *The Creative Impulse*)

As can be seen from the examples, compensation is used especially often where it is necessary to convey purely intralinguistic meanings that characterize certain linguistic features of the original - dialectal coloring, irregularities or individual characteristics of speech, puns, puns, etc., and also when it is not always possible to find direct and immediate correspondence to one or another unit. The methods of holistic transformation and compensation clearly illustrate that the equivalence of translation is ensured not at the level of individual elements of the text (in particular, words), but of the entire translated text as a whole. In other words, there are untranslatable particulars, but there are no untranslatable texts. Any lexical transformations require the translator to have a sense of proportion and a thorough knowledge of the translated text with the context associated with it. Thus, the presence of a large number of words of broad, abstract meaning in English, the differences in the meanings of words, the conciseness of expression, which is possible in English due to the presence of a number of grammatical structures and forms, requires the introduction of additional words and even sentences in translation. However, some differences in the usual usage (*usus*) cause the omission of certain elements of the English sentence when translated into Russian. All this explains the widespread use of lexical transformations in translation.

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