

LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL ASPECTS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL TRANSLATION

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Annotation: This article analyzes methods of translating English phraseological units. Techniques such as equivalence, semantic adaptation, explanatory translation, and synonymous substitution are used to preserve their meaning and stylistic effect. The findings indicate that considering cultural and linguistic differences enhances translation quality.

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Language is a rich and complex system that reflects the cultural, historical, and social aspects of a community. Within this system, phraseological units hold a special place as they encapsulate idiomatic expressions, proverbs, and fixed phrases that convey specific meanings beyond their literal definitions. Translating English phraseological units is one of the most challenging aspects of translation, as it requires a deep understanding of English and the target language, as well as the cultural nuances embedded within them. The difficulty lies in the fact that English phraseological units often possess figurative meanings, making a direct, word-for-word translation impossible or misleading. Consequently, various translation methods have been developed to tackle this issue, ensuring that the original meaning and stylistic effect of the phrase are preserved in the target language.

Linguists emphasize the difficulties encountered in the process of translating English phraseological units. For instance, Nida states in his translation theory: "Each language has a unique system of figurative expressions, and direct translation into another language does not always produce effective results." [4.] Similarly, Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) point out that the equivalence method plays a crucial role in translating phraseological units. Newmark (1988) highlights that translators must consider cultural differences to achieve accurate translations. Baker argues that phraseological units require contextual adaptation to retain their intended meaning in translation [1.19.].

To translate phraseological units effectively, different methods can be employed. In some cases, a **literal translation** may be used when the phrase retains its meaning in the target language without causing confusion. For example: "Time is money," said the businessman, emphasizing the importance of efficiency. [2.] → "Waqt bul pul, " dedi isbilermen, nátiyjelilik zárúrligini aytp.

• When he "kicked the bucket," his family was heartbroken. [6.] → Ol "ólim tóseginde jatqaninda" shańaraǵı qatti qıynaldi.

Another widely used approach is the **equivalence method**, which finds a target-language phrase with the same meaning. This ensures that the cultural and idiomatic sense is preserved. For example:

hang one's head - bastı jerge salıw; have a head on one's shoulder - jelkesinde bası bar; have an old head on young shoulders – aqıl jasta emes, basta; have a head like a sieve – aqpa miy, basınıń tesigi bar; bother one's head about smth. - bası qatıw; hold in head - basta saqlaw; keep smth. in one's head – basta saqlaw, yadta saqlaw; a wooden head - topan bas; from head to foot – bastan-ayaq

- She told a joke to "break the ice" at the meeting. → Ol ushırasıw basında sawbetke tartıw ushin haızıl ayttı.

When no direct equivalent exists, **semantic adaptation** is used to modify the phrase while maintaining its meaning. Examples include:

- They are "like two peas in a pod," always together. → Olar "eki tamshı suwday uqsas," bırıqulla birge júredi. [3]

- She stayed up all night studying, truly "burning the midnight oil." → Ol túni menen oqıdı, haqıyqatında da "kúni-túni miynet etti." [6]

In some cases, **explanatory translation** is necessary to clarify culturally specific phrases. Examples include:

- Knowing it would be painful, he decided to "bite the bullet." → Awırıwlı bolatuǵının bilip, ol "awırıwdı yamasa qıyınshılıqtı sabırlılıq penen qabıl etiwge" qarar etti. [2]

Another method is **loan translation (calque)**, where a phrase is borrowed and translated word-for-word while retaining its meaning. For instance:

- "Time is money" is a phrase often used to emphasize productivity. → "Waqt bul pul" sózi kóbinese ónimdarlıqtıń áhmiyetliligin atap ótiw ushin qollanıladı. [6]

In cases where an idiomatic expression is too culture-bound, **omission or paraphrasing** is used to make the phrase comprehensible in the target language. Examples include:

- He accidentally "spilled the beans" about the surprise party. → Ol tosınnan syurpriz keshe haqqında "sırdı ashıp qoydı" [1].

The process of translating English phraseological units requires a combination of linguistic knowledge, cultural awareness, and contextual understanding. Since phraseological units often reflect cultural heritage and social norms, translators must go beyond literal meanings and delve into the cultural background of both English and the target language. Choosing the right translation method depends on various factors, including the availability of equivalent expressions, the intended effect of the phrase, and the expectations of the target audience. By applying strategies such as equivalence, semantic adaptation, explanatory translation, and synonymous substitution, translators can successfully convey the richness and depth of English phraseological units in the target language. As translation studies continue to evolve, further research and comparative analyses will contribute to refining translation methods and ensuring more accurate and culturally appropriate translations of phraseological expressions.

References

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