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Specificity of Using Irony in Translation Process

Rahimov Mahmudjon Rashid ugli 1, G'aniyev Firdavs Abdusattorovich 2

Student of Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages

Abstract: The article discusses the interpretation of irony and the ways of its expression in English and Russian, as well as the varieties of English humor, the variety of approaches to its study. The specificity of the translation of the above terms is described; the necessity of taking into account different ways of translating irony and humor from English into Russian is substantiated.

Key words: stylistic component, criticism, censure, participle phrases, linguistic units, transmission, lexical norms, humor, ironic context, transformation, antonymic transformation.

An important stylistic component of both a public speech and a literary work is wit, that is, always an unexpected connection of thoughts that previously seemed to be in no relationship. Wit performs a wide variety of functions in speech: it helps to establish contact with the audience, restore lost attention when logical techniques are powerless, but most importantly - to strike at an ideological enemy, expose social and social vices to public ridicule.

It is known that the phenomenon of irony has become an object of study in various fields of science, however, the research of scientists was mostly devoted to the linguistic means of expressing irony and the peculiarities of perception of this phenomenon in the process of communication. It is worth noting that it is necessary to pay special attention to the peculiarities of the translation of this many-sided phenomenon.

In the current literature, there are several points of view on the nature of irony and its definition. The most appropriate for us is the use in the study of the definition of irony, presented by D. Myukke, who believes that irony is a way of speaking, writing, acting, behavior, image, etc., as a result of which the true or implied meaning meaning is deliberately presented and actualized through an incompatible, ostentatious and feigned meaning [4]. Accordingly, the purpose of using irony is an indirect impact on the reader: to cause laughter, a smile, and at the same time convey criticism, censure under the guise of acceptance and approval, or funny under the weight of seriousness. This is the reason for the growing need to study ways to adequately convey irony in translation [3].

The expression of irony, ridicule is carried out by in personal ways that may differ in form, content, and function in different languages and speech traditions. T. A. Kazakova recommends following the following rules for the translation of irony:

- 1. A full translation with minor lexical or grammatical transformations is used when both the verbal and grammatical composition of the ironic statement in the original text allows it, if sociocultural associations coincide.
- 2. The expansion of the original ironic phrase is used when the meaning of the ironic statement is not obvious to representatives of a foreign cultural environment. In such cases, some of the implied components of irony are put into verbal form in the form of participal or participal phrases, various attributive constructions, etc.



- 3. Antonymic translation is used when direct translation makes the translation structure heavier due to the difference in grammatical or lexical norms and therefore hardly conveys the meaning of the ironic statement.
- 4. The addition of semantic components is used when it is especially important to preserve the original lexico-grammatical forms in conditions of informational insufficiency of similar forms in the target language.
- 5. Cultural-situational replacement is used in cases where the direct reproduction of the method expression of irony is impossible, since it will not be perceived by the translating culture, and irony itself must be transmitted, since it is part of the author's way of expression [1, p. 280-281]. To analyze cases of representation of irony and identify.

In order to determine the peculiarities of its transmission when translating from English into Russian, we made a selection of ironically marked units based on the script material for the American television series House M.D. We have selected 82 units of irony representation, and their translation is carried out in different ways.

The leading feature of humor in the series House M.D. is mockery, disguised by an external decent form - irony. The style of the script of this series in many cases does not complicate the task of the translator. There are few occasionalisms, puns, etc. in his irony, so we often see a successful adequate translation. Although sometimes one has to deal with cases of cultural-situational replacement that are difficult for the translator.

When transferring irony from English into Russian in the TV series "Doctor House", the translator most often uses the technique of a complete (almost word for word) translation with minor lexical or grammatical transformations. This is due to the fact that the speech of the protagonist is simple, does not contain complex syntactic constructions, and from the point of view of style, in most cases, irony is an antiphrase.

English humor is not just a style, but a way of life. The national proverb says: "Everyone has a fool in his sleeve" - "Everyone has his own fool in his sleeve". In order to understand the specifics of English jokes, it is important to understand the culture, the mentality of the British, and also to know the English language perfectly.

Sometimes what is meant is expressed in terms of linguistic units, which in themselves are difficult to translate, but more often the problem lies in the discrepancy between the traditionally used ways of expressing irony in different cultures.

Irony, according to the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English: "a situation that is unusual or amusing because something strange happens, or the opposite of what is expected happens or is true" [7], that is, "a situation that is unusual or funny, because something strange is going on, or the opposite of what is expected, or real." Irony as a kind of comic is defined as a phenomenon when the funny is hidden under the mask of the serious (as opposed to humor) and conceals a sense of superiority and skepticism. With irony, the negative meaning is hidden behind the external positive form of the statement [5, p. 76]. Irony is given an intermediate place between humor and satire. Irony, unlike humor, expresses disapproval and criticism and is very emotional [3, p. 78].

The irony lies in implying the opposite in outwardly positive characteristics. Sometimes what is meant is expressed in terms of linguistic units, which in themselves are difficult to translate, but more often the problem lies in the inconsistency of the traditionally used ways of expressing irony in different cultures. Express-irony, ridicule is carried out in various ways that may differ in form, content and functions in different languages and speech traditions [4].

The simplest way to express irony in English and Russian is quotation marks, when a completely standard and expected word or phrase is quoted in a standard context. Consider the following sentence as an example: When I left my public school I had an extensive knowledge of Latin and Greek literature, knew a certain amount of Greek and Latin history and French grammar, and had "done" a little mathematics. The translation may look like this: After graduating from a private



gymnasium, I had a good knowledge of ancient literature, had an idea about ancient history and the French language, and also "passed" the basics of mathematics.

A more complex kind of irony is the juxtaposition of two qualities or two mutually exclusive possibilities in the same context. The main difficulty in translating such contexts arises if two contrasting elements in the source text require transformations in the target language themselves and in the transformed form often do not provide the text with sufficient ironic expressiveness: I went to Balliol University a good classic and a complete ignoramus.

The translation of this sentence is connected with the need to transform the word "classic", as a result of which the resulting correspondence is not expressive enough to create an ironic contrast – "a specialist in classical philology, with good knowledge in the field of classical philology", etc. The most common device that helps the translator in such cases is to add, which allows you to combine the opposing elements of the ironic context: I went to Balliol as an expert in classical philology and a complete ignoramus in all other areas.

One of the problems in translating an ironic context based on contrast may be the need for antonymic transformation, which, in turn, requires a transformation of the contrast structure itself: I knew vaguely that the first Chapter of Genesis was not quite true, but I did not know why.

When translating into Russian in this context, the first part of the opposition changes, which requires a corresponding transformation of the second part: I was vaguely aware that the beginning of the Book of Genesis deviates from the truth, but I had no idea in which direction [1].

When translating ironic contexts from English into Russian, we often come across an ironic play on famous quotes or their more complex variant, allusions. The use of a quotation as a figurative basis for an ironic image can be complicated in translation, for example, by the need for lexicogrammatical transformations required by the context, as a result of which the quotation itself inevitably loses its original form, that is, ceases to be a quotation. There is a very fine line here: even a transformed quotation must be recognizable in the translated text, otherwise it loses the status of a quotation, which may be accompanied, in turn, by information losses. For example, the translation of the ironic paradox by Oscar Wilde, built on an allusion to one of the fundamental quotes of European culture. That be - or not to be?, meets exactly this kind of problem: To read or not to read? All books can be divided into three groups: books to read, books to re-read, and books not to read at all.

One of the ways to preserve the ironic context can be an additional image that would allow preserving the autonomy of the infinitive, which is so important for the allusion, and at the same time would not violate the logic of the source text, with the simultaneous use of quotation marks, highlighting the important components of irony: All books can be divided into three groups, providing them labels: "read", "reread", "do not read" [2].

English humor has a number of varieties. The most stupid jokes are called "The Elephant Jokes" - "elephant jokes". Other varieties of English humor: "dry sense of humour" (irony), "banana skin sense of humour" (rather flat jokes when someone slips on a banana peel and everyone laughs), "shaggy-dog stories" - "puddle stories"

(jokes with an unexpected ending, often absurd, in which funny based on the illogicality of the statement).

Humor in the eyes of the recipient is always subjective – some find it funny, some don't. As a result, the comic component of the text can easily slip away from the translator and remain simply unrecognized due to the peculiarities of its structure.

Humor, being by its nature a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, became the subject of consideration of various scientific disciplines: linguistics and literary criticism, aesthetics and sociology, psychology and anthropology. However, due to the variety of approaches to the study of humor and due to the variety of forms of its manifestation, there is no common understanding of what humor is. The readiness to understand humor is based not only on the personal characteristics of a person, but also on certain stereotypes of behavior adopted in a particular culture.



In the process of translation, the translator is obliged to identify in what way this or that comic situation was created, what techniques were used by the author, and what reaction of the listener the humor is designed for. Thus, the translation of humor implies a scrupulous decoding of the comic element within the original text, its dressing in a new language form, which in turn should successfully recreate the intention of the original original phrase and evoke a response from the readership [6].

In conclusion, we can say that a full translation with minor lexical or grammatical transformations is used in cases where both the verbal and grammatical composition of the ironic phrase in the original text allows it, provided that socio-cultural associations coincide. The expansion of the original ironic turnover is used in cases where the meaning of ironic word usage is not obvious for a foreign cultural environment.

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