



## Generalization as a Method of Transformation

Shaymatova Dilshoda Sirojiddin kizi <sup>1</sup>, Shermatova Xurshida Azamat kizi <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup> Student of Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages

**Abstract:** This article is devoted to the study of the legality of using the generalization method in legal translation. The author analyzes the features of the language of law. The distinctive features of legal translation are revealed. The problems of achieving translation equivalence in the transfer of legal terms are considered. The content of the concept of 'translation transformation' is revealed. An explanation is given of the special meanings of the proposed terms in order to adequately translate them from English into Russian. The results obtained showed that when translating from English into Russian, generalization is a rather rare phenomenon. The validity of using this technique in a legal text is applicable in combination with other translation solutions.

**Key words:** legal translation, legal text, generalization, translation transformation, lexical unit, equivalence.

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.

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".

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.

Currently, special attention is paid to legal relations not only within the country, but also at the international level, which makes the study of legal texts and their translation relevant. Legal translation, as a special area of translation activity, covers various areas in the field of law, business, and international relations. As a kind of specialized translation, legal translation is, without a doubt, a serious process that requires the translator to have both appropriate linguistic training and deep knowledge of legal terminology, judicial systems and legal norms. Inconsistencies in legal systems, unique cultural, historical and social features for each country, cause the main difficulties in translating legal texts. "When translating legal texts, one should not forget that each country has its own legal system, corresponding legal terminology and its own realities" [1, p. 112]

Translation of legal texts covers the translation of agreements, contracts, court documents, laws, regulations, regulations, business and private correspondence. The quality of legal translation has a significant impact on the effectiveness of law enforcement activities, on the specifics of the regulation of public relations. "The main feature of legal texts is an accurate, clear, concise presentation of the material in conjunction with carefully verified legal terminology" [2]. Preservation of semantic information, reliable transmission of semantic and communicative data is impossible without observing the equivalence of translation. "An adequate or equivalent translation is such a translation that is carried out at a level necessary and sufficient to convey an unchanged plan of content while observing the corresponding plan of expression, i.e. norms of the translating language" [3, p. 15]. In practice, the translator does not always succeed in translating the source text in order to achieve the utmost approximation to the terminology of the legal system of another country. Some stylistic, syntactic and grammatical constructions of the source language may not have an analogue in the target language. In addition, the interrelation of the text with the culture, history, legal system and mentality of the linguistic society can cause a discrepancy between the meaning of the text in the original language and the meaning in the target language, even with a literal interpretation. Therefore, for a better translation, translation transformations are often used.

"Translation transformations are those numerous and qualitatively diverse transformations that are carried out to achieve translation equivalence ("adequacy") of translation despite the differences in the formal and semantic systems of the two languages" [4 p. 190]. Researchers offer various classifications of translation transformations: lexical and grammatical (Ya.I. Retsker); lexical, grammatical and speech compression (R.K. Minyar-Beloruhev); permutations, substitutions, additions and omissions (L.S. Barkhudarov); lexical, grammatical, lexico-grammatical (V.N. Komissarov).

The purpose of this study is to reveal the features of the use of generalization, as a lexico-semantic transformation, when translating legal texts from English into Russian. The scientific novelty of the study lies in the fact that in this paper, for the first time, cases of applying generalization in the translation of texts of the English-language legal discourse are considered. Methods of comparative, lexico-semantic, descriptive and comparative analysis were used to establish translation solutions in the course of the study. The material of the study was English-language text sources: decisions of the US federal and appellate courts, regulations, media reports.

The reception of generalization in translation implies the replacement of a word or phrase with a narrower meaning (in this case in English) with a word or phrase that has a broader meaning in Russian. In other words, a word expressing a particular (specific concept) is replaced by a word expressing a general (generic concept), for example:

“The Enterprise appeals contending both meetings were improperly closed; the Board's minutes ... At that point, Chairman Todd called for a five-minute break.” (Claxton Enterprise v. EVANS COUNTY COM'RS) [5]. / The company is appealing against the decision to close two meetings improperly; Minutes of the Board meeting... At this point, Chairman Todd announced a short break.

When using a word with the general meaning of “small”, the translator does not need to specify the duration of the break, specify the time, especially since, according to the norms of the Russian language, such details are usually omitted.

From the standpoint of communicative and pragmatic significance, when using the generalization technique, national connotations may be lost. Often this concerns the translation of realities. In some cases, the specific name of any reality is absolutely not clear when translated from English into Russian, for example: “Barger, who was the customer service team leader at Publix ...” (Larry Scott Reynolds v. State of Tennessee) [5]. / Barger, who was the head of the customer service team at the supermarket...

The name of the popular US supermarket chain Publix may not be known to the recipient, so the existing name is changed to the generic term 'supermarket'. However, in a particular context, retaining the supermarket name is necessary, for example DeKalb County v. Publix Super Markets (DeKalb County v. Publix Supermarkets) [5].

Sometimes, when using the generalization technique in translating legal texts from English into Russian, national connotations can be erased: “An inquest into a Montreal-area long-term care home where dozens died during the first wave of COVID-19 began today with coroner Géhane Kamel promising to search for the truth of what happened.”[6] / An investigation into a nursing home in the Montreal area where dozens of people died in the first wave of COVID-19 began today with expert Gean Kamel promising to find out the truth about what happened.

The English word coroner, denoting an official who investigates cases of violent or sudden death ('coroner'), is translated into Russian by a word with a broader meaning of 'expert'. The complete transfer of this British reality for a newspaper article is not fundamental, it does not carry any communicative and pragmatic meaning, therefore, the use of this translation technique is absolutely fair.

However, when translating this word in legal documentation, it is necessary to use a lexeme that fully meets the requirements of the context, and, if necessary, use the explication technique: “No person shall be eligible to hold the office of coroner unless he or she meets the following qualifications:...”(Section 11 -5-33–Coroner qualifications. 2012: Code of Alabama) [5] / No person shall be eligible to serve as a judge charged with determining the cause of death in unusual or suspicious circumstances unless they meet the following qualifications:

The use of the generalization technique is not the only one. Combinations of two or more methods help to achieve the equivalence and adequacy of the translation of the text in the legal field.

The replacement of a specific word by a word expressing a broader concept can be caused by the rules of lexical combinability in the target language. So, in Russian it is not customary to separate such words as foot - leg, arm - hand, for example: “Employee began having problems with his arms in 2005” (Evans v. Fidelity & Guar. Ins. Co. 2014: Tennessee Supreme Court ) [5] / An employee started having problems with his hands in 2005.

The method of generalization is also subject to the polysemantic word estate, which, when translated into Russian, is most often conveyed in one word with the general meaning of property. “When Viacheslav Yudkin died intestate, his ex-wife, Petitioner Svetlana Shtutman, was appointed personal representative of his estate.” (In re Estate of Yudkin: 2021: Colorado Supreme Court Decisions) [5] /

When Vyacheslav Yudkin died without leaving a will, his ex-wife, the applicant Svetlana Shtutman, was appointed personal representative of his estate.

As you can see, generalization, as a lexico-semantic transformation, is quite rare in the translation of legal texts. This is due both to the peculiarities of the English language, where words are more abstract than Russian, and to the specifics of legal literature, the main task of which is to convey information to the addressee with maximum clarity and reliability.

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