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Lexical Transformations in the Translation of Newspaper Discourse

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Abstract: The given publication work is aimed at revealing the fact that there are different lexical transformation in the process of newspaper translation. Knowing lexical transformation usage helps to translators to translate more expressive.

Key words: newspaper discourse, lexical transformations, concretisation, generalisation, shifting, addition, omission.

Lexical transformations denote rendering of the meanings related to SL lexical items actualised in a given context by means of TL lexical items that are not their dictionary correspondences but after changing their inner shape convey the original sense. Translational practice reveals that lexical transformations could be of the following types: concretisation, generalisation, shifting, addition and omission. The point is here that transforming takes place at the level of lexical items proper. On the other hand, functional replacement, antonymous translation, logical development of notions, integral transmutation and compensation feature certain grammatical or semantic substitutions. They rather are to be referred to as lexico-grammatical and lexico-semantic transformations.

Generally speaking any natural language while functioning in society produces constantly a number of new semantic notions and then even mono-semantic words acquire some additional meanings. So the meaning correlation "one-to-one" is disturbed and the correlations of "one-to-more-than-one" appear instead and in the aftermath of the process words get polysemantised.

Apart from this there exist groups of lexical items, which possess a broader semantic field comparatively to others that possess more narrow semantics. Sometimes it is even possible to build up a certain dependence: one item or lexeme with a broader semantic field, called hypernym, embraces, holds and subordinates another lexical item with more narrow semantics – a hyponym. For example: relative – brother, tree – oak, bird – sparrow. Here we may observe a real hierarchy. This pattern is based upon a formal logical category of subordination.

Translational transformations that are being effected along the vertical slice of this structure include concretisation and generalisation. Actually they are operations in which narrowing and broadening of lexeme's meaning takes place. Concretisation and generalisation are also called hyponymy and hyperonymic operations accordingly.

Translational transformations that are being effected along the horizontal plane are called interhyponymic: they reflect the motion from one hyponym to another. In the art they are also called shifting.

In some cases semantic fields of lexemes are partially overlapped. Here the formal logical category of overlapping takes place. When two semantic fields do not touch at all then the logical category of outwardness is present.



Concretisation. There are cases when SL lexical items of broad semantics do not have equivalent counterparts in the TL or the context itself due to some reason does not permit their usage. Besides, lexis of a certain language or at least a part of it may or may not possess clear-cut features of higher or lower specifity. Therefore we resort to the lexical transformation of concretisation, which is a cross-language replacement of a SL lexical item with broad semantics by a TL lexical item possessing narrower semantics. From the viewpoint of lexicology it's the replacement of the general notion by the concrete one or the replacement of the generic notion by the specific one. In the semantic aspect it reflects the narrowing of meaning or hyponymic operation. The technique is being resorted to when the degree of the information ordering in the SL item is lower than that in the TL. In English-to-Ukrainian translation the following "non inner differentiation" lexemes most often undergo the operation of concretisation: you, meal, to be, to say, to tell, to go, to come, to arrive etc.

He is in the army now. -U hozir armiyada.

They arrived yesterday. – Ular kecha yetib kelishdi.

Tell him to be our guest. – Unga biznikiga kelishini ayt.

Here the context is to be the chief factor in deciding whether the transformation of concretisation is advisable.

The English verb to say embraces a large area of notions and possesses a broad semantic field. In translating messages of similar type one has to resort to concretisation in order to avoid tautology.

At seven o'clock p.m. an excellent meal was served.

Kecha kechqurun ajoyib taomni dasturxonga tortishdi.

The item meal in English corresponds to several Uzbek lexemes: taomni, kechki ovqatni. The context is to be taken into account either.

Fiction translational practice testifies a high frequency of hyponymy transformations resorted to by skilful translators.

Translation of English language periodicals and publicity also yields a great number of concretisation operations.

One Whitehall insider said Mr. Howard could escape by persuading MPs and the public that Miss Widdencombe, while acting honorably has been duped by Mr. Lewis.

Vaytholl insayderlaridan biri janob Hovard deputatlar va jamoatchilikni Miss Viddenkomb janob Lyuis tomonidan aldanib qolganiga ishontirish orqali qochishi mumkinligini aytdi..

It is not a rare occasion when practical translators make a complex of transformational operations, i.e. a number of various transformations are being carried out in one sentence. For in the previous sentence the translator effected concretisation: Hukumat, hokimiyat and supplemented it with the logical development technique.

Assignment. Analyse the following sentences in the aspect of the translation effected. Examine and estimate the use of the concretisation technique.

I have been at him all the evening. Men tuni bilan uning yonida qoldim. Miss Spence's car was standing by the front door. Miss Spence ning mashinasi uy oldida turar edi..

Generalisation is a translational technique reverse to the lexical transformation of concretisation. It lies in a cross-language transforming of a SL lexical item with narrow semantics into a TL item with broader semantic field. In a lexicological aspect it's replacement of a concrete notion by a general one, replacement of a specific notion by a generic one. In a semantic plan it looks like broadening or a hyperonymic operation. It is advisable to carry it out when the information ordering degree in the SL item exceeds that in the TL item .In translating the sentence we used the generalisation technique



since violations of the traffic rules apart from speeding include also incorrect parking, ignoring the red light, whatsoever. Transformations of concretisation and generalisation being the operations that pertain to the speaking and thinking process are based upon the formal logical category of subordination.

All in all we can surely say that to translate newspaper discourse is one of the responsible and challenging one. In order to give obvious expressive meanings translators are expected to be very careful and knowing lexical transformations is handy to them.

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