

Problems Of The Translation Of Proverbs And Sayings From English Into Russian.

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Abstract: The article considers the problem of translating proverbs and sayings, provides extensive practical material on the examples of Russian and English languages. The article contains a classification of proverbs and sayings according to their meaning, usage and lexical composition, touches on the reasons causing difficulties in translation. It shows the factors that affect the translation of proverbs and sayings, the problems encountered in this process and their solutions. The article emphasizes the importance and the role of the paremic layer of the language, as well as definitions of proverbs and sayings. It is worth noting that the recommendations that are given in the article are both theoretical and practical. The article discusses proverbs and sayings in accordance with the topic.

Keywords: equivalent, monoequivalent, polyequivalent, phraseological unit, translation, grammatical plan, figurative plan, paremic layer.

Proverbs and sayings are stored in the language of a grain of folk wisdom. It is hard to imagine learning any foreign language without elements of folk art, where folk wisdom is succinctly and figuratively expressed, the history and worldview of the people, its customs, traditions, value orientations are reflected. They are collected in special dictionaries, they introduce the life and culture of the people for whom the given language is native, convince that different peoples can have the same views, moral values. The usefulness of using proverbs in English in the process of mastering a foreign language is undeniable. Everyone who has problems with pronunciation,

poor vocabulary, slow and uncertain speech. English proverbs not only perfectly correct all these defects, but also allow you to learn the country's traditions, because they are folk art.

Proverbs are complex formations that have several different plans. On the one hand, proverbs are phraseological units, stable, idiomatic, reproducible combinations in appropriate communicative situations, on the other hand are short and figurative units of folklore, considered by researchers as the result of collective experience, a synthesis of collective thinking, and on the third are specific ways of linguistic representation of understanding of the world.

Proverbs and sayings are an integral part of any language. They are a kind of indicator of the richness of the language, through proverbs we can also understand the culture and values of nations, and also compare different pictures of the world of peoples, thereby making it difficult for translators. This is especially true for oral interpreting, when within a few minutes the translator must orient and give an adequate translation of a saying or proverb, in contrast to a translator who has an unlimited amount of time and the ability to look into a dictionary or reference book to find the best translation option. When translating proverbs and sayings, one should also take into account the peculiarities of the context in which they are used, since they can be translated in two ways. Proverbs should be distinguished from sayings. In the dictionary of Russian proverbs and sayings V.P. Zhukov by proverbs means short folk sayings that have both a literal and figurative plan or only a figurative plan and, in grammatical terms, comprise complete sentences. Sayings mean short folk sayings that have only a literal plan and grammatically represent complete sentences [1, p. 22].

In a comparative analysis of English proverbs and sayings, we came to the conclusion that the proverbs always teach, give advice and imply the possibility of not making a mistake, while the sayings only analyze what happened.

The main difficulties in translating English proverbs and sayings, in our

opinion, are that proverbs and sayings are a kind of reflection of the picture of the world, worldview, values and cultural traditions of their people. It is often difficult for a translator to interpret proverbs and sayings containing realities (toponyms, anthroponyms, hydronyms) that are easily perceived by native speakers. But the problem is not only in translation. After all, the work of the translator is to create the translation that is most adequate for the recipient to understand, and this means choosing the best equivalent for the translated proverb and saying.

There are many classifications of methods for translating the paremic layer of the language. In their scientific article “Some features of the translation of proverbs and sayings from English into Russian”, Kazakhstan authors N.M. Zhalgasov and V.Usenova distinguish the following ways of translating proverbs and sayings[2, p. 66]:

1. Translation using equivalents. Monoequivalent - constant equivalent match. Polyequivalents are two or more equivalents of English proverbs into the translated language, of which the best one is selected for translation.

2. The tracing method is used when translating, without equivalent units, the source language into the translated language. Tracing can be:

- a. complete;
- b. partial;

3. An analogue is the result of a translation by analogy by selecting one of several synonyms.

4. A descriptive translation is to convey the meaning of the proverb of the original with the help of a more or less common explanation. It serves to explain the elements of the original of a purely national character.

The author of many fundamental works, textbooks and scientific articles Kunin A.V., in turn, provides the following classification of methods for translating proverbs and sayings[3, p. 78]:

1. Full equivalents

2. Partial equivalents:
 - a. partial lexical equivalent;
 - b. partial grammatical equivalent;
3. Tracing or literal translation of phraseological units in the presence of full or partial equivalent.
4. Literalism
5. Overtone translation
6. Descriptive translation

V.N. Komissarov, L.F. Dmitrieva, S.E. Kuntsevich, E.A. Martinkevich, N.F. Smirnova distinguish four main ways of translating figurative phraseology[4, p. 34]:

1. Phraseological equivalent method
2. Method of phraseological analogue
3. Literal translation of phraseological units (tracing)
4. Descriptive translation

Having studied a number of classical and modern works in the field of translation of phraseological units, proverbs and sayings, we can say the following: there are several ways to translate English proverbs and sayings into Russian, which are part of the classifications. The classification data are constructed by the authors depending on the degree of completeness of the transmission of the meaning of the proverb and saying, the selection of correspondence in the language of translation, the transformational method of translation. The main task of the translator is to understand, analyze and rethink the proverb or saying before choosing an adequate way to translate it. This directly depends on how the recipient of the translation will perceive and appreciate the translated phraseological unit.

We would like to study some of the most striking examples of the translation of modern English proverbs and sayings into Russian:

1. *Appetite comes with eating.* — *Аппетит приходит во время еды.*

2. *To read between the lines.* — *Читать между строк.*

Analyzing the translation method used in this case we are faced with the full equivalent, or rather the mono equivalent of the English phraseological unit. Here, the translation coincides completely with the original in meaning, lexical composition, imagery, stylistic orientation and grammatical structure.

3. *To make a mountain out of a molehill.* — *Делать из мухи слона.*

4. *To tell tales out of school.* — *Выносить сор из избы.*

5. *To kill two birds with one stone.* — *Убить двух зайцев одним выстрелом.*

In these examples of translating English proverbs and sayings into Russian, translators used partial lexical equivalents with toward English phraseological units. There is a coincidence in meaning, stylistic orientation, but differing in imagery - a bird in English and a hare in Russian, a mountain in English and an elephant in Russian, a school in English and a hut in Russian. When comparing such proverbs and sayings in English and Russian, you can see an excellent picture of the world of the people of English and Russian. If in the Russian proverb “bloating” is compared with “fly” and “elephant”, then in the English version it is “mountain” and “molehill”.

Using the example of this proverb, we may analyze the way it is translated using the above qualifications. *An apple a day keeps a doctor away.* This example is a proverb, because it gives advice on how to maintain a healthy diet, and what a person needs in order not to go to a doctor. Also we may suggest the following translation options given below:

1. *Одно яблоко в день, и доктор не нужен.*

2. *Лук от семи недуг.*

3. *В день по яблоку съесть — здоровье обрести.*

According to syntactic classification, this proverb is narrative. By the method of translation – polyequivalent, because in modern dictionary sources there are

several possible options for its translation. According to Komisarov's classification, this proverb is translated by the phraseological equivalent method (polyequivalent). Further, we will look through an example translation of a saying:

Hungry as a hunter. - Голодный как охотник. - Голодный как волк.

In this example, you can clearly see the realities of different cultures. If in English a parallel is drawn with a man, a hunter, then in Russian, hunger is associated with an animal, a wolf. Translated literally, this proverb will sound like "Hungry as a hunter", but this does not make sense, since in Russian there is an equivalent that is understandable and close to Russian-speaking people. Therefore, if the translator, not knowing the equivalent, translates it verbatim, the quality of his translation will be low and unprofessional. In this case, this proverb is translated by the method of full equivalent (Kunin A.V.), and more precisely, the monoequivalent because modern dictionary sources provide only one possible version of its translation.

A drowning man will catch a straw — Утопающий за соломинку схватится.

In this example, on the contrary, you can see the literal translation of the proverb, which in turn will be the equivalent in the translated language. This proverb is translated by tracing method (full). The following English proverb, *Can leopard change his spots* - should not be translated in colloquial Russian equivalents, despite the fact that they will be closer to the recipient. In this case, the following translation will be adequate: *"The wolf molts, but does not change his temper"* («Волк линяет, а нрава своего не меняет»), and not the more colloquial *"You can't wash a black dog to white"* («Черного кобеля не отмоешь до бела»). This once again proves that a lot depends on the context and the situation when and how the translation is carried out. Having analyzed all the above examples, we can conclude that when translating the paremic layer of the language, the translator should be more accurate than ever. There are no exact rules for their translation, there are only many different classifications by the methods of their translation, the purpose of which is to help the

translator in their translation. But it cannot be argued that all proverbs and sayings are translated according to any one classification. This is fundamentally wrong. The translator himself, relying on classification data, should be able to translate correctly this layer of the language. Moreover, paying attention to the given national and cultural characteristics, the adequacy and equivalence of translation, and many other factors. At this stage, the problem arises not in the translation itself, but in its adequacy.

More examples:

Не все то золото, что блестит. - *All that glitters is not gold.*

Куй железо, пока горячо. - *Strike while the iron is hot.*

Яблоко от яблони недалеко падает. - *The apple never falls far from the tree.*

Око за око, зуб за зуб. - *An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.*

Proverbs and sayings are part of the culture and traditions of a certain people, they have always been, are and will be relevant, despite the development of the economy, technology, the progress and further development of culture and other spheres of human activity. At any time, proverbs and sayings will be a characteristic feature of one nation, an integral part of the richness of its language, an object of attention and research. There are many ways to translate proverbs and sayings. Some of them do not need translation at all, because they have equivalents in the language of translation, while the translation of some is a catchphrase in the translated language, which in turn speaks of the similarity and parallel between the two cultures. The given above translation methods are not the standard, but just a few examples from the many existing translation methods. Through trial and error, each translator must find a way that is optimal and convenient for him.

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