



The difficulties of teaching phraseology

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ABSTRACT

This article deals with the investigation of the problems of phraseology in modern linguistics as well as cognitive approaches to these problems. One of the main problems is the translation of phraseological units considering lingo-cultural factors. Moreover, it is noticed translating of a regalia refers to meanings transforming it into phraseologies. In each cultural context there are typical modes of expression that assemble words in order to signify something that is not limited to the sum of the meanings of the single words.

Keywords:

Integrating, adequate, contextual, rendering, unidirectional, picturesqueness, transparent, regalia, expression, compose, typical mode

Phraseology has grown considerably over the last twenty years or so. While the general linguists view of phraseology before that time can probably be caricatured as “idiom researchers and lexicographers classifying and researching various kinds of fairly frozen idiomatic expressions”, this view has thankfully changed. Nowadays, the issues of identifying and classifying phraseologisms as well as integrating them into theoretical research and practical application has a much more profound influence on researchers and their agendas in many different sub-disciplines of linguistics as well as in language learning, acquisition, and teaching, natural language processing, etc. One of the main problems in the art of translation is phraseology. In this context, it is a disheartening fact that most of the language-pair-related phraseological dictionaries are unidirectional (source language to target language) and based on a selection of the target language's phraseological units. The problem with the unidirectional approach is the very important fact that phraseological units cannot simply be reversed. It is necessary to make a new selection

among the idioms of the former target language in order to achieve a central, adequate corpus of lexical units.

It is needed to mark that these not numerous articles are of common character only. Moreover, co-operation of languages at a phraseological level is also explored not enough, in our opinion. This question, mainly, was examined in a complex with other linguistic problems. So, the work is devoted to the research of peculiarities of translation into Ukrainian of English phraseological units. The object of the research – phraseological units. The subject of the research is functioning of phraseological units in literary discourse and ways of their translations. At the decision of the formulated tasks the mixed methods in the research were used: distributive method, method of contextual analyses, method of translating transformations.

Idiomatic or phraseological expressions are structurally, lexically and semantically fixed phrases or sentences having mostly the meaning, which is not made up by the sum of meanings of their component parts.

In the case of no phraseological rendering, there are two possibilities: one can for a lexical translation or for a calque. The lexical translation consists in explicating through other words the denotative meaning of the phraseologies, giving up all the other style and connotation aspects. In the case of the "hammer and anvil" idiom, a lexical rendering could be "to be in an uneasy, stressing situation".

The calque would consist instead in translating the idiom to the letter into a culture where such a form is not recognized as an idiom: in this case the reader of the receiving culture perceives the idiom as unusual and feels the problem to interpret it in a non-literal, metaphorical way. The calque has the advantage of preserving intact all second-degree, non-denotative references that in some authors' strategy can have an essential importance. It is true that the reconstruction of the denotative meaning is left to the receiving culture's ability, but it is true as well that the metaphor is an essential, primal semiotic mechanism that therefore belongs to all cultures.

One should notice that translating a regalia in one or another means it is wanted to lose a trope accordingly phraseologies. Trope should be transferred by tropes, phraseologies by phraseologies; only "filling" will differ from the origin one.

In each cultural context there are typical modes of expression that assemble words in order to signify something that is not limited to the sum of the meanings of the single words that compose them; an extra meaning, usually metaphorical, becomes part and parcel of this particular assembly. "To find oneself between hammer and anvil" does not literally mean to be in that physical condition; it means rather to be in a stressing or very difficult situation. In our everyday life we seldom find the hammer or anvil in our immediate vicinity.

Phraseologisms – or expressions that would aspire at becoming so – are formed in huge quantities, but do not always succeed. Sometimes are formed and disappear almost simultaneously. The only instances that create problems for the translator are the stable, recurrent lexical idioms, that for their metaphorical meaning do not rely only on the

reader's logic at the time of reading, but also, and above all, on the value that such a metaphor has assumed in the history of the language under discussion.

Translating of national idiomatic expressions causes also some difficulties at a translator. Being nationally distinct, they cannot have in the target language traditionally established equivalents or loan variants. As a result, most of them may have more than one translator's version in the target language. It may be either a regular sense-to-sense variant (an interlinear-type translation) or an artistic literary version rendering in which alongside the lexical meaning also the aphoristic nature, the expressiveness, the picturesqueness, the vividness, etc. of the source language phraseologismidiom.

Some phraseological expressions singled out by the Acad. V. Vinogradov as unities and having mostly a transparent meaning may reflect various national features of the source language. The latter may be either of lingual or extra lingual nature, involving the national images, their peculiar picturesqueness or means of expression with clear reference to traditions, customs or historical events, geographical position of the source language nation. Such phraseological expressions are often of a simple or composite sentence structure.

Within a single phraseological-semantic field, which is thematically quite extensive, the phraseological units are grouped into smaller sections. The smallest section consists of phraseological units which express one single concept or one extra linguistic characteristic.

The creation of phraseological-semantic fields can serve as a method of description of certain national and cultural specifics. That is, such a description can give us some insight into how phraseological units display a special, nation-specific perception of the world. The fact that a certain phraseological unit appears in the language and remains current in it indicates that the unit contains a generally comprehensible, typical metaphor (or symbol). It is now commonly accepted that the people who want to master the English language must have knowledge about wide range of complex lexical in English as a foreign language learner. As our

first president I. A. Karimov states, every language learner should achieve the highest point in mastering a foreign language as native speakers do. Obviously, in order to command a foreign language deeply, a learner should learn pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary. All of them are important to learn and at the same time they have problematic points for learners. Let us consider lexical problems in learning English, namely, the problem of phraseological units. In linguistics, phraseology means a science of systems or types of fixed expressions like idioms, phrases, phrasal verbs and other kinds of multi-word lexical segments of a language. The components of a phrase are connected to each other in order to make one meaning in a sentence. Nevertheless, they cannot give that meaning when they are used independently. Phraseology (from Greek — phrasis, “way of speaking” and —logia, “study of”) is a scholarly approach to language which was developed in twentieth century. It took its start when Charles Bally’s notion of locutions phraseologies entered Russian lexicology and lexicography in the 1930s and 1940s. But Merriam Webster’s dictionary states that the term phraseology came from new Latin Phraseology and means a manner of organizing words and phrases into longer elements: style and choice of words. Macmillan Dictionary also defines phraseology a particular way of putting words together to express something. Besides, this dictionary explains phraseology as terminology as it denotes the words and phrases used in a particular profession. In Oxford English Dictionary the term phraseology is explained as uncountable and formal noun that means the particular way in which words and phrases are arranged when saying or writing something. Exceeding from the above-mentioned ideas we can say not all of the definitions of phraseology are similar. For example, all definitions say that the word phraseology came from Greek word phrasis and logia except Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary. It emphasizes that the word phraseology came from new Latin. Speaking about the meaning of the term phraseology, Wikipedia notes that it studies phraseological constructions and segments in a particular language.

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