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TRANSLATION TRANSFORMATION CLASSIFICATION FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF TEACHING FUTURE TRANSLATORS

Summary. The article focuses on the problem of translation transformation classification. The paper aims at studying the use of transformations as a means of achieving translation equivalence from the perspective of teaching future translators. The object of the research is translation transformations as changes that a translator makes to a target text in order to preserve its meaning according to target language norms. The subject of the article is the author's classification of translation transformations used in teaching future translators. The author stresses that in Ukraine translation transformations are viewed as rearrangements caused by language and cultural differences between the source language and the target language in order to achieve translation equivalence. Foreign scholars use the term "technique / procedure" for this concept. The basis of the suggested typology is the linguistic approach to translation that hasn't lost its relevance in the teaching process of future translators. According to the linguistic approach, the author classifies translation transformations into lexical, grammatical and complex. Lexical transformations are various changes in original lexical elements for adequate conveying their meaning, taking into consideration target language norms and culture traditions. This group consists of transcoding, loan translation and a group of lexical and semantic transformations. Grammatical translation transformations are techniques achieved either on the morphological or syntactical language levels (word-for-word translation, transposition, grammatical replacement, addition and omission). A group of complex transformations presupposes that target text changes are made on several language levels. It consists of antonymous translation, explicatory translation and stylistic transformations (compensation, neutralization, expressivation). The author makes the conclusion that the usage of the suggested translation transformation classification in teaching future translators in the junior years of studying is very effective as it helps students to perceive the logics of translation, especially its operation aspect. The classification also improves students understanding of translation complexity and using different language means in information transference in intercultural communication.

Key words: transformation, technique, linguistic approach, processing category, stylistic transformation, future translators.

Introduction. In contemporary globalized world, translation is identified to be a bridge across various languages and cultures as it mediates information exchange between the users of different languages by producing in the target language a text (TT) which has an identical communicative value with the source text (ST).

The key problem of equivalence between ST and TT has been being clarified since ancient times in Translation Studies (TS) because language and culture diversity causes a lot of challenges for translators. Its solution lies in investigating the ways translation works. Translation, being a complex phenomenon, is related to

text, context and process. Textual categories describe mechanisms of coherence, cohesion and thematic progression. Contextual categories illuminate all the extra-textual elements related to the ST context and TT production. A. Albir and L. Molina affirm that textual and contextual categories are not sufficient to identify, classify and name the options chosen by the translators for each studied unit. Process categories help to explain the chosen translator's options in carrying out translation creation [1].

In this context, the notion of translation transformation makes possible to depict the translator's actual steps in rendering different units in TT. In modern Ukrainian TS, translation transformations are viewed as rearrangements / changes caused by language and cultural differences between the source language (SL) and the target language (TL) in order to achieve translation equivalence [2; 3; 4]. Translation transformations are of special interests in the investigations of V. Karaban, I. Korunets, A. Kozachuk, V. Loboda, L. Naumenko, S. Maksimov, A. Mamrak, O. Mushnina, O. Prymachok, O. Selivanova, S. Shvachko. The author of the article has also viewed the grammatical aspect of the problem in her previous works [5].

In foreign translation researches such term as technique / procedure is employed for revealing the notion of translation transformations (A. Albir, J. Anderson, J. Darbeinet, M. Baker, I. Mason, L. Molina, P. Newmark, E. Nida, M. Ordudari, L. Venuti, J.P. Vinay).

The paper aims at studying the use of transformations as a means of achieving translation equivalence / adequacy from the perspective of teaching future translators.

The object of the research is translation transformations as changes that a translator makes to TT in order to preserve its meaning according to TL norms.

The subject of the article is the author's classification of translation transformations from the perspective of teaching future translators.

Results and discussions. In 1958, J.P. Vinay and J. Darbeinet were pioneers in giving translation procedure classification that reflected the methodological aspects of a translation process. Highlighting seven techniques functioned on lexis, distribution (morphology and syntax) and message levels the scholars classified them into two groups: direct or literal and oblique. Such direct techniques as borrowing, calque and word-for-word translation are used if SL and TL are related, that is why lexical as well structural equivalence can be observed between the two languages. Oblique techniques (transposition, modulation, equivalence and adaptation) occur when literal translation is impossible [1, p. 499–500].

J.P. Vinay and J. Darbeinet's translation technique classification is considered to be a significant attempt in understanding the ways TT is produced, but there are some points to be criticized. The scholars confuse category boundaries in some technique definitions.

First of all, the interpretation of the term “equivalence” as using a completely different phrase for the same situation is questionable for any translation process aims at gaining equivalence between ST and TT, i.e. equivalence is not a technique but a universal translation category. The term “adaptation” is also problematic because it has a rather general meaning and is carried out in terms of the translator’s global option that affects the whole text, i.e. the translation strategy or translation method.

Modern foreign investigations of translation techniques are mainly based on P. Newmark’s concept [6]. The scholar identifies the difference between translation methods and translation procedures. He is sure that translation methods are revealed on the whole text level, while translation procedures deal with sentences and the smaller language units. The nomenclature of P. Newmark’s techniques is the following:

- transference is transliterating or transcribing an SL word in TL text;
- naturalization is adapting a SL word to the norms of pronunciation and morphology of TL;
- cultural equivalent is replacing a SL cultural word with a TL approximate word;
- functional equivalent is the use of a culture-neutral word in TT;
- descriptive equivalent is explaining the meaning of a SL word;
- componential analysis is comparing an SL word with a TL word which has a similar meaning but is not an obvious one-to-one equivalent, by demonstrating first their common and then their differing sense components;
- synonymy is using a near TL equivalent;
- through-translation is the literal translation of common collocations, names of organizations and components of compounds;
- shift / transposition is grammatical changing in different forms, i.e. changing grammatical noun form from singular into plural, changing part of speech or sentence type;
- modulation is translator’s reproduction of the ST message in TT in conformity with the current TL norms, because SL and TL appear dissimilar in terms of perspective;
- recognized translation is using the official / generally accepted translation of any institutional term;
- compensation is losing the meaning in one part of a sentence and its revealing in another part of TT;
- paraphrase is a more detailed explanation of a SL word than a descriptive equivalent does;
- reduction is omitting unimportant ST elements;
- translation label is an approximate equivalent, sometimes proposed as a collocation in inverted commas;
- notes are additional information presented in a special section after TT or in the form of footnotes in TT;
- couplets, triples or quadruples: these terms reflect the complex character of translation process when two, three or four different procedures are combined.

It could also be worth noting that P. Newmark’s classification isn’t revolutionary, it is just generalization of predecessors’ research achievements.

Nowadays, Ukraine’s TS is known to operate with extensive classifications of transformations (V. Karaban, A. Mamrak, S. Maksimov, L. Naumenko, O. Selivanova, S. Shvacnko, etc) which are largely approximate and conditional, as scientists may attribute

the same transformation to different groups. For instance, S. Maksimov considers compensation to be a lexical and grammatical transformation and L. Naumenko differentiates it as a grammar one.

Comparing domestic and English-speaking countries terminology systems, A. Kozachuk accentuates that Ukrainian translation scientists periodically face the challenge of term difference when they try to publish their investigation results in foreign periodicals. The negative aspect of the problem lies in the fact of decreasing citation index of Ukrainian scholars because of translation term diversity. The researcher believes one of the ways to solve the problem is to use a foreign terminology system to present Ukrainian scientific research results, which does not require a change in the scientific paradigm [7].

On the one hand, he is right as globalizing world processes in different life spheres require term standardization. But on the other hand, the thorny path of Ukrainian TS development and our translation scholars’ achievements in evolving translation terminology system are worth being explored. By the way, that is the reason of this article having been written in English for publication in a Ukrainian scientific journal.

The proposed article reflects the author’s 30 years of experience in teaching English and TS disciplines in higher educational establishments that resulted in a co-authored translation textbook publication in 2023 [8].

It is necessary to emphasise that TS as an academic discipline is relatively young. It was only in the second half of the twentieth century that scholars began to discuss the need for systematic scientific translation research. After the Second World War, the scale of translation activity increased dramatically. The 1950s is characterized by the intensive development of informative text translation types and their thematic diversity that required significant knowledge of the relevant subject area and accuracy in revealing ST messages. This period marked the beginning of a new era in the development of translation theory, the formation and advancement of linguistic translation theories (J. Catford, O. Kade, V. Komissarov, I. Korunets, V. Koptilov, E. Nida, Ya. Retsker, R. Jakobson). The real achievements of the linguistic translation theory are considered to be the terms of translation equivalence, translation correspondences and transformations / technique that help to establish criteria for translation quality.

The linguistic approach to language and translation is of great importance nowadays and hasn’t lost its relevance from the perspective of teaching future translators. E. Nida stresses that translation is based on the main characteristic features of language systems, especially the systematic nature of language signs, the arbitrariness of a language sign in relation to the subject, the arbitrary reality reflection by written signs, and differences in meaningful expressions of signs organisation in various languages [9]. It proves that semantics knowledge of SL and TL is the core of translators training that results in confidential understanding of the language systems as well as the language environments they work. In this regard, the main translator skills to be taught at university, especially in the junior years of studying, are the skills of preliminary analysis of the text, lexical and grammatical ways of conveying its content, finding out correspondent translation means for revealing a ST message.

Taking into consideration the linguistic approach to translation transformation typology we differentiate them according to the language levels into lexical, grammatical and complex.

Lexical transformations are various changes in SL lexical elements for adequate conveying their meaning, taking into consideration TL norms and culture traditions. This group consists of transcoding, loan translation and a group of lexical and semantic transformations.

There are four types of transcoding: transliteration, transcription, mixed transcoding and adaptive transcoding.

Transliteration is the representation of the spelling of a SL word with TL letters: *flirt* – *флірт*, *blog* – *блог*.

Transcription is the representation of the pronunciation of a SL word with TL letters: *impeachment* – *імпічмент*, *display* – *дисплей*.

Mixed transcoding is the predominant use of transcription with elements of transliteration: *interface* – *інтерфейс*, where *inter-* is transliterated and *-face* is transcribed.

Adaptive transcoding is the representation of the spelling or pronunciation of a SL word with the TL letters that is slightly adapted to TL phonetic or grammatical norms: *declaration* – *декларація*, *platform* – *платформа*.

Loan translation is the formation of TL word or word combination according to the structure of SL element. In loan translation it is possible to change component order or translation of one word and transcription of the other: *White House* – *Білий Дім*, *superpower* – *сверхдержава*, *International Monetary Fund* – *Міжнародний валютний фонд*.

A group of lexical and semantic transformations consists of differentiation, concretization, generalization and modulation.

Differentiation is using a suitable contextual word in translation because the meaning of SL word does not correspond to the dictionary conformity: *They had come millions of miles* – *Вони пролетіли мільйони миль*.

Concretization is the choice of a more specific word in translation which gives a more detailed description of the idea than does a SL word: *meal* – *сніданок / обід / вечеря*; *mother-in-law* – *свекруха / теця*; *наречена* – *fiancee / bride*.

Generalization is the use of an equivalent with a more general meaning in translation: *I saw a man six feet two inches tall* – *Я побачила високого хлопця*.

Modulation is replacing a SL unit with a TL unit the meaning of which can be logically deduced from it and which is just another way of referring to the same object or an aspect of the same situation. In such cases the substitute often has a cause-and-effect relationship with the original: *a romantic evening for two* – *побачення з коханою людиною*.

Grammatical translation transformations are techniques achieved either on the morphological or syntactical language levels [10]. They are word-for-word translation, transposition, grammatical replacement / substitution, addition and omission.

Sometimes word-for-word translation is called a zero transformation as it is the preservation of the syntactic structure of a SL sentence using the analogous TL grammatical forms: *He was in London two years ago* – *Він був у Лондоні два роки*. It is necessary to stress that we do not consider this transformation synonymous with loan translation. It is required for university teachers to show students the difference between two procedures which lies in the fact that loan translation is achieved on the word combination level and word-for-word translation – on the sentence level.

Transposition is changing a sentence word order because of different ways of expressing the theme and rheme in ST and TT: *City*

communications were disrupted after the earthquake – *Після землетрусу міські комунікації були зруйновані*.

Grammatical replacement is the translator's refusal to use analogous grammatical forms in TT. It may be of two types: morphological and syntactical.

Morphological replacement is changing the grammatical form of a word or the part of speech: *We are searching for talent everywhere* – *Ми шукаємо таланти скрізь*.

Syntactical replacement is the translator's refusal to use analogous syntactical structure of TL sentence. It may be of three types: partitioning, integration and changing the communicative type of a sentence.

Partitioning is breaking an original sentence into two parts or replacing a simple SL sentence with a complex one in TT, comprising one or several subordinate clauses: *I want you to speak English* – *Я хочу, щоб ви розмовляли англійською*.

Integration is opposed to partitioning as presupposes combining two or more original sentences into one or compressing a complex SL sentence into a simple TL one.

Changing the communicative type of a sentence can be exemplified by the following: *You have no idea of solving the problem!* – *Невже ти не знаси, як вирішити цю проблему?* The example detects that this procedure does not usually function independently and is combined with other grammatical transformations, as in this case – with partitioning where a SL simple exclamatory sentence is replaced by a TL complex interrogative sentence.

Addition is increasing the number of words in a TL sentence, explicitly revealing what is grammatically and semantically expressed in the original: *His wife had been beautiful!* – *Його дружина колись була красунею!*

Omission is avoiding redundant information in translation: *the right to rest and leisure* – *право на відпочинок*.

A group of complex transformations presupposes that translation changes are made on several language levels. It consists of antonymous translation, explicatory translation and stylistic transformations.

Antonymous translation is the situation description from the opposite point of view and rendering an affirmative SL structure by a negative TL one or vice versa: *I didn't believe it until I saw it with my own eyes* – *Я повірив тільки тоді, коли побачив це на власні очі*.

Explicatory translation is replacing a SL unit by a TL word combination describing or defining its meaning: *Dutch reckoning* – *збільшення рахунку за послугу у разі сперечання з боку клієнта*.

As for stylistic transformations, they are shifts in stylistic emphasis while reproducing ST message [11]. This group includes compensation, neutralization, expressivation.

Compensation is changing SL elements in translation to make up for the loss of similar elements at the same or an earlier stage: *Her laughter filled the room like a cascade of joy* – *Її сміх розлетівся по кімнаті веселою хвилею*. A ST simile *like a cascade of joy* is compensated by a TL epithet *веселою хвилею*. This example proves that compensation is a complex transformation as changing stylistic device in translation results also in omitting SL comparative constructions (grammar transformation) and concretizing *cascade* – *хвиля* (lexical transformation).

Expressivation is replacing a neutral SL linguistic unit with its stylistically marked TL equivalent, which adds emotional colouring to TT: *Africa south of the Sahara has never been the centre of a civ-*

ilization – Частина Африки на південь від Сахари ніколи не була перлиною світової цивілізації. Differentiating the word centre by a metaphor TT becomes more expressive.

Neutralization is the replacement of a SL emotionally coloured unit with its stylistically neutral TL equivalent, which reduces the aesthetic function of ST: *Everybody heard something fresh in his words.* – *Кожний почув щось нове для себе в його словах.*

Conclusions. The suggested translation transformation classification is rooted in the linguistic approach to the translating process. It is on the basis of language being structurally organized and levelled. Our study has shown that this classification usage in teaching future translators in the junior years of studying is very effective as it helps students to perceive the logics of translation, especially its operation aspect. The classification improves students' understanding of translation complexity and using different language means (lexical, grammatical and stylistic) while transferring information in intercultural communication. My further research will be aimed at exploring the standardization ways of foreign and Ukrainian translation term systems while teaching senior students.

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Волченко О. Класифікація перекладацьких трансформацій у контексті підготовки майбутніх перекладачів

Анотація. Стаття присвячена проблемі класифікації перекладацьких трансформацій. Метою статті є дослідження використання трансформацій як засобу досягнення перекладацької еквівалентності в контексті навчання майбутніх перекладачів. Об'єктом дослідження є перекладацькі трансформації як зміни, що вносяться перекладачем до цільового тексту з метою збереження його змісту відповідно до норм мови перекладу. Предметом дослідження є класифікація перекладацьких трансформацій, яка реалізується автором у процесі навчання майбутніх перекладачів. Автор підкреслює, що в Україні перекладацькі трансформації розглядаються як перебудови, спричинені мовними та культурними відмінностями між мовою оригіналу та мовою перекладу з метою досягнення перекладацької еквівалентності. Зарубіжні науковці для позначення цього поняття використовують термін “technique / procedure”. В основу запропонованої типології перекладацьких трансформацій покладено лінгвістичний підхід до перекладу, який не втратив своєї актуальності під час підготовки майбутніх перекладачів. Згідно з лінгвістичним підходом, перекладацькі трансформації поділяються автором на лексичні, граматичні та комплексні. Лексичні трансформації – це різноманітні зміни лексичних елементів оригіналу для адекватної передачі їх характеристик з урахуванням норм мови перекладу та культурних традицій. До цієї групи належать транскодування, калькування та група лексико-семантичних трансформацій. Граматичні перекладацькі трансформації – це прийоми, що реалізуються на морфологічному або синтаксичному рівнях мови (дослівний переклад, транспозиція, граматична заміна, додавання та опущення). Група комплексних трансформацій передбачає, що зміни в цільовому тексті відбуваються на кількох мовних рівнях. Вона складається з антонімічного перекладу, пояснювального перекладу та стилістичних трансформацій (компенсація, нейтралізація, експресивація). Автор доходить висновку, що використання запропонованої класифікації перекладацьких трансформацій у навчанні майбутніх перекладачів на молодших курсах є дуже ефективним, оскільки допомагає студентам зрозуміти логіку перекладацького процесу, особливо його операційний аспект. Класифікація також покращує розуміння студентами складності перекладу та використання різних мовних засобів для передачі інформації у міжкультурній комунікації.

Ключові слова: трансформація, прийом, лінгвістичний підхід, процесуальна категорія, стилістична трансформація, майбутні перекладачі.