



SPECIFIC FEATURES IN TRANSLATING ENGLISH TECHNICAL TERMINOLOGY

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Annotation. *The relevance of the issue under consideration is related to the rapid development of various areas of scientific and technical knowledge, which is accompanied by new notions formation, followed by their naming and coining the so-called term. Today, there are many dictionaries in specific fields of science and technology, containing tens of thousands of words, but none of them is able to provide a translation of all the terminological units existing and newly coined within this branch.*

Key words: *technical terminology, scientific and technical knowledge, the peculiarities of term translation, linguistic features, source language and target language, a comparative analysis, polytechnic training.*

Modern Internet resources allow you to perform a fairly complex translation by means of empirical identification, i.e. by searching for matching pairs of terms in different languages. For example, one can search for matching of German and English versions of a certain term with corresponding notion thus formulating the corresponding Russian equivalent, by means of perceiving the meaning of the term through pictures found in various search bases. These translation operations are usually carried out at the end of the first viewing of the text, take a long time and do not always lead to the desired result. Therefore, again and again, the translator has to turn to the study of the peculiarities of term translation which existed earlier or have appeared recently in connection with new lexical units coining.

Before proceeding to the study of term translation issues in scientific and technical texts, we are to consider the definition and linguistic nature of the term. According to O. S. Akhmanova, the term is a word or a word combination of a specific language, coined (accepted, borrowed, etc.) for the exact expression of specific notions and denotation of specific objects. S. V. Grinev gives a similar definition. According to the researcher, the term is a nominative specific lexical unit (a word or a phrase) belonging to a specific language and giving an exact specific concept name. The content from this work may be used under the terms of licence. Any further



distribution of this work must maintain attribution to the aforementioned definitions indicate that the terms are to be unambiguously identified and understood in the context.⁵⁴

According to this requirement, there are two types of terms: 1) general scientific and general technical terms, 2) specific (nomenclature) terms. The former ones serve to denote the general concepts of science and technology, while the latter are part of a certain terminology. As explained by T.M. Dementieva, terminology representing a set of terms is an autonomous part of any national language that is closely related to professional activity. Terms in any branch of science, technology and production form their own systems that have conceptual connections with professional knowledge and express these connections by means of the language. If in a common language (beyond the terminology) a word can be multivalent, then, getting into a certain terminology, it acquires unambiguity.

Thus, the term does not need a context, as an ordinary word, so it 1) is part of a specific terminology that serves as context, 2) can be used in isolation, for example, in the texts of registries or orders in engineering, 3) for this reason it should to be monosemantic not in the language in general, but within the limits of the terminology. Summarizing the available research data, we have identified the following properties inherent to the terms: monosemy, specific meaning; belonging to a certain terminological system; lack of expression.

The most important problem in achieving translation equivalence of scientific and technical texts is the reproduction of the original content of the text using the terminological system of the target language. The difference in the terminological systems of the source language and target language is the cause of the greatest difficulties in translating scientific and technical texts. Hence there is need to study the term systems and find ways to translate partially equivalent and non-equivalent vocabulary. The problem of exploring terminology is one of the key issues in the study of scientific and technical texts. A term or a phrase denotes a concept of a special field of knowledge or activity. Identification of differences in the concept system expressed by the terms of the source language and the target language is an important step on the way of term system interlanguage harmonization, providing a solution to the problems of term translation in the fields of their functioning.

So, terms are units of linguistic and professional knowledge that ensure the intercultural communication effectiveness. For this reason, equivalent translation of terminology is of great significance in the translation of scientific and technical texts.

⁵⁴Faber P, Rodriguez C. Cognitive Linguistics View of Terminology and Specialized Language. London. 2012.-P. 2-25.





Thus, translating terms, different in lexical composition, is practically difficult, as it requires from a translator both understanding of the original term meaning and the knowledge of its possible counterparts in the target language.

A comparative analysis of English-Uzbek translations of scientific and industrial literature shows that a considerable number of translation errors can be found in the use of scientific vocabulary, they can be both the errors in choice of the wrong terms in translation, and the cases of wrong interpretation of terminology phrases. The latter case demonstrates the most widespread situation for errors in translation, because it is easier to translate a single term than to understand its original terminology link within the given author's context. It should be mentioned that it is almost impossible to consider all the nuances of translation difficulties that could emerge in the translation process, but we should highlight at least some of them. Without the right use of terms, it is impossible to understand the author's ideas, the way the devices or some mechanisms work in some industry. And here, a translator may face a number of unexpected difficulties, even despite the use of specialized dictionaries.

In some cases, the translation is simplified by the fact that there is an English term, and there is a precise Uzbek translation. Let us take term "water", for example. It is clear that the fantasy of an interpreter should be completely excluded in doing the translation, as this term implies a molecule consisting of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen. We cannot deny or argue this law. Similar terms can be, for example, barograph, ozone, centigrade, gyroscope and others.

But often translation activity is characterised by the occurrence from minor to significant difficulties in translation when a term has in a heterogeneous interpretations, for example power – strength, electrical energy; line – line, cable line. This fact makes the translation of English technical terms more complex.

But there can be more complicated cases, when a creative approach is needed from the interpreter, considering his/her scientific and technical training, for example, the word “motor” can be translated as a word “motor”, or as a word “engine”, or as a word combination “to operate in the mode of engine”. There may be found many other examples as well, for e.g: a term “a handle” can be translated as “a control lever” and “a handgrip”, a verb “to handle” can be interpreted as “to operate, to manipulate, to serve”; a term generator as “a generator” and a verb to generator as “to work in a generator mode”; a term to increase as “to rise, to enhance”; a verb to record can be interpreted as to register, to put down and a noun a record as a note, registration; a term empty as hollow and its verb to empty as to eviscerate, etc. And





there can be found many other cases of different ways for interpretation of one and the same term.

In some cases, the prefix is added to the English term and then the adequate translation may bear the opposite meaning to the original term, for example: im-(impossible); counter- (to counteract). Technical English literature abound in terms which were formed by adding the separate words, but being in a terminological unit they may indicate a single concept, for example: sliding bearing, correction for displacement.

Different meaning can be found in such examples as: treatment of water, a water treatment. So, these two, “the same” combinations of terms have different semantic meanings, and, respectively, they have different understanding of process technology. The same term may occur in technical English texts, but is used in its translation in different semantic meanings depending on the field of technical knowledge which is used: aviation, marine, electrical equipment, etc. That is, a specific term carries an entirely different meaning depending on its specific use. For example: pocket has the following special meanings in interpretation: air pocket (in aviation); surroundings (in military affairs); the dead zone (in radio); a deposit (in geology); a cable channel (in electrical engineering); and there are many similar terms. When working with the text, a translator should avoid so to say his own general vocabulary, but pay attention to the use of terms.⁵⁵

Another problem which an interpreter may face is that there can be various abbreviations in the original which can be seldom found in Uzbek-language text, such as: a. c. (alternating current), PP (peripheral processor). Of course, when dealing with such a text, a translator should give a full meaning of abbreviation. An accurate translation of abbreviations can be found to some extent in specialized dictionaries.

One more difficulty in translation technical terms is the translation of terms which are different in their semantic meaning at the first sight. Here can arise a number of nuances, for example:

- a single term is a part of another one, e.g.: valve amplifier
- both terms are independent, but in their semantic meaning, they present a single notion, for example: machine frame,
- a term attributes the second feature to another one, for example: machine weight, motor vibrations, bronze washer, etc.

Without a specific understanding of the term it is impossible to understand the message of the idea described by the author of the text. However, if a term and its

⁵⁵Newmark Peter. About Translation. London. 2001.-P.78-86.





specific semantic meaning are more common for the Uzbek language, then the term in the English technical literature can have a rather multifaceted value: from the specific translation to the translation, requiring scientific literacy of the interpreter. Thus, the best technical translation of the English text into Uzbek is mainly determined by the general polytechnic training of the interpreter, the knowledge of the interpreter's area of expertise. First and foremost, one needs to remember that the translated technical terminology in a specialized text is full of various difficulties we mentioned above.

In conclusion it should be noted that for the adequate translation of the authentic scientific and technical texts, containing a large number of special terminology requires accuracy and unambiguous understanding that can provide interpreters with the high level of linguistic and professional skills.

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