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## LEXICAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN TWO LANGUAGES AND THEIR CLASSIFICATION

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### **Abstract**

*Lexical transformations are among the most essential translation techniques used to achieve semantic equivalence between source and target languages. Since languages differ in vocabulary, culture, and linguistic structures, translators often employ lexical transformations to preserve the original meaning while adapting the text to the target audience. This article examines the concept of lexical transformations in bilingual translation and presents their major classifications. The study highlights the importance of lexical substitutions, concretization, generalization, modulation, antonymic translation, and compensation in translation practice. The findings demonstrate that lexical transformations improve translation accuracy and intercultural communication.*

**Keywords:** *lexical transformation, translation studies, classification, equivalence, bilingual translation, semantics.*

### **Introduction**

Translation is not merely a mechanical replacement of words from one language into another but a complex process of conveying meaning, style, and cultural context. Due to linguistic and cultural differences between languages, direct translation is often impossible. Therefore, translators rely on lexical transformations to maintain equivalence between source and target texts.

Lexical transformations have become an important research topic in translation studies because they provide practical solutions for overcoming lexical gaps and semantic mismatches. This study aims to analyze lexical transformations and classify their main types used in bilingual translation.

**Methods:** This research applies descriptive and comparative linguistic methods. Various theoretical works in translation studies were analyzed to identify the major lexical transformation techniques. Comparative analysis was used to examine lexical changes

occurring during English-Uzbek translation and vice versa. Examples from literary and non-literary texts were also considered to illustrate different transformation methods.

**Results and Discussion:**Lexical transformations refer to changes in lexical units that occur during translation in order to preserve meaning and communicative effect. Scholars classify lexical transformations into several categories.

**Lexical Substitution:**Lexical substitution involves replacing one lexical item with another that better reflects the meaning in the target language.

Example:

*English:* He passed away.

*Uzbek:* U vafot etdi.

Instead of the literal translation "o'tib ketdi," a culturally appropriate lexical equivalent is used.

**Concretization:** Concretization means replacing a general word with a more specific one.

Example:

*English:* Vehicle

*Uzbek:* Mashina

The translator narrows the meaning depending on context.

**Generalization:**Generalization is the opposite process, where a specific term is translated by a broader concept.

Example:

*English:* Oak

*Uzbek:* Daraxt

This transformation is useful when the target language lacks an equivalent lexical item.

**Modulation:**Modulation changes the perspective or semantic viewpoint while preserving meaning.

Example:

*English:* It is difficult.

*Uzbek:* Bu oson emas.

The affirmative expression becomes negative while maintaining the same idea.

**Antonymic Translation:**This transformation replaces an affirmative expression with a negative one or vice versa.

Example:

*English:* I hardly know him.

*Uzbek:* Men uni deyarli tanimayman.

The translator adjusts lexical choices according to natural target language usage.

**Compensation:** Compensation restores a lost stylistic or semantic effect elsewhere in the translation.

For example, idiomatic expressions may be translated by different lexical means to preserve their emotional impact.

The comparative analysis indicates that lexical transformations significantly contribute to achieving naturalness and communicative equivalence in translation. Among the analyzed techniques, lexical substitution and modulation appear most frequently in English-Uzbek translation because of structural and cultural differences between the two languages.

**Conclusion:** Lexical transformations are indispensable tools in translation theory and practice. They help translators overcome lexical mismatches and preserve the intended meaning of source texts. The classification of lexical transformations provides a systematic framework for understanding translation strategies. Effective application of these transformations enhances translation quality and facilitates intercultural communication between languages. Future studies may investigate lexical transformations in literary translation and machine translation system.

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