

THE NATURE OF ENGLISH ARTICLES AND PROBLEMS OF THEIR TRANSLATION INTO THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

Qobilova N.S.

Scientific advisor: PhD, Associate Professor

Hasanova M.A.

Bukhara State University, Master's student:

Asia International University

Abstract: *The article explores the very basics of English articles (definite, indefinite, and zero) and looks into the main problems faced during their translation into Uzbek, a language belonging to the Turkic family that does not have a grammatical article system. The results indicate that achieving a good translation means not only applying grammatical transformation but also having thorough comprehension of the information structure and referential meaning of each language, which requires the translator to be skilled in pragmatic and discourse-level analysis that goes beyond mere grammatical knowledge of the surface level.*

Keywords: *translation problems, definiteness, grammatical category, contrastive linguistics, translation strategies, referentiality, linguistic typology*

Аннотация: *В данной статье рассматривается фундаментальная природа английских артиклей (определенных, неопределенных и нулевых) и анализируются основные проблемы, возникающие при их переводе на узбекский язык, тюркский язык, в котором отсутствует грамматическая система артиклей. Результаты показывают, что успешный перевод требует не только грамматической трансформации, но и глубокого понимания того, как каждый язык кодирует информационную структуру и референциальное значение, что обуславливает необходимость компетентности переводчика в прагматическом и дискурсивном анализе, выходящем за рамки поверхностных грамматических знаний.*

Ключевые слова: *проблемы перевода, определенность, грамматическая категория, контрастивная лингвистика, стратегии перевода, референциальность, лингвистическая типология*

Annotatsiya: *Ushbu maqola inglizcha artikllarning (aniq, noaniq va nol) fundamental tabiatini o'rganadi va ularni grammatik artikl tizimiga ega bo'lmagan turkiy til bo'lgan o'zbek tiliga tarjima qilishda duch keladigan asosiy qiyinchiliklarni tahlil qiladi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni ko'rsatadiki, muvaffaqiyatli tarjima qilish nafaqat grammatik transformatsiyani, balki har bir tilning axborot tuzilishi va referent ma'nosini qanday kodlashini chuqur tushunishni talab qiladi, bu esa*



tarjimonning sirt darajasidagi grammatik bilimlardan tashqari pragmatik va diskurs darajasidagi tahlilda malakasini talab qiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: *tarjima muammolari, aniqlik, grammatik kategoriya, qarama-qarshi tilshunoslik, tarjima strategiyalari, referentlik, lingvistik tipologiya*

Introduction. The article system in English poses one of the most difficult grammar rules for people that speak languages without articles to learn, and on the other hand, translating English articles into such languages causes huge problems for translators. English employs three forms of articles—definite article "the", indefinite articles "a/an", and zero article (absence of an overt article)—to convey information about the definiteness, specificity, countability, and referential status of the noun phrases [1]. Although this grammatical category is perceived as easy, it has a very important role in not only the semantic but also the pragmatic nature of English discourse that serves as a primary means for information packaging and reference tracking [2]. The Uzbek language, which is in the Karluk branch of Turkic languages, has a completely different typological profile as it does not have a grammatical article system at all but uses different linguistic devices to express similar semantic distinctions [3]. This typological difference leads to a translation gap that cannot be covered by direct grammatical correspondence, necessitating translators to carry out progressively complex cognitive and linguistic operations to adapt English texts into Uzbek properly along with their intended meanings and discourse functions being preserved [4].

Methodology and Literature Review. A qualitative design is applied in this research, where the contrastive linguistic analysis is combined with the examination of translation theory and practice that has been documented in academic literature. The method utilizes descriptive linguistics to depict the English article system and Uzbek grammatical structures; contrastive analysis to find the differences; and translation studies theory to reveal the differences as translation issues by [5,6]. The literature on translation studies dealing with article translation has recognized this as a continuous problem while translating from languages with articles to those without them, asserting that the translator has to be aware of not only the grammatical rules but also the pragmatic and discourse functions of articles in the source language [7]. Studies on English-Uzbek translation, in particular, have indicated that the translation of articles calls for an acute awareness of the context and that various translation techniques are suitable for different discourse situations, however, the published academic work still lacks systematic analysis of the full range of problems [8].

Results and Discussion. The analysis brings to light various categories of translation problems when the English article system is used considering the translation into Uzbek. First, when it comes to the translation of definite articles, the translators are faced with the question of which Uzbek linguistic mechanism is the



most suitable to convey the aspect of definiteness in the particular context. The article English "the" mainly indicates that the referent is recognizable to the listener, no matter if through an earlier mention, a common situation or general knowledge [1]. The Uzbek translators can use several options: using demonstrative pronouns "bu" (this) or "o'sha" (that) which indicate definiteness but also add deictic meaning not present in the English article; inverting the sentence to place definite noun phrases in the positions associated with given information; signaling possession by using possessive markers; or leaving the noun phrase unmarked when context alone is adequate to establish definiteness [3]. Each method has its own implications in meaning and use, and choosing the best one demands skilled comprehension of both the function of the English article in the particular context and the ways to process and interpret referential expressions by the Uzbek speakers.

Secondly, the use of indefinite articles creates difficulties for the translators as the English version "a/an" carries both the meaning of indefiniteness and singularity while bringing new referents into the conversation. The translators from Uzbek to English might use the word "bir" (one) for one person to indicate singularity but this makes the phrase more emphatic than the English indefinite article and that cannot be the case for all such references without creating awkward repetitions. On the other hand, they may choose to leave the noun unmarked, depending on the context and word order to signal the indefinite status, but that might result in under-representation of the function of the article that indicates new referents. The zero article in English might be the translation issue of utmost complexity since its occurrence is related to various semantic situations including plural indefinites, mass nouns, abstract nouns, and generic reference, each needing a different translation strategy in Uzbek [2]. Generic statements with plural count nouns without articles in English (e.g., "Dogs are loyal animals") will demand the translator to make a decision on whether the generic meaning should be made explicit in Uzbek or the unmarked plural forms will do—a decision that depends on the type of noun, context, and discourse register [7].

The use of articles in fixed expressions and idioms creates translation difficulties because these are often non-compositional in nature; besides, idiomatic expressions with articles (for instance, "in the long run," "as a rule," "on the whole") may have corresponding Uzbek phrases which convey the same meaning but do not necessarily match the English article arrangement. Translators are required to acquire what could be called "article awareness"—active consideration of the restrictive and informative roles that articles play in the English text—along with "Uzbek information structure competence"—awareness of the different linguistic methods through which the speakers of Uzbek indicate definiteness, specificity, and referentiality in a natural way.

Conclusion. This analysis demonstrates that the translation of English articles into Uzbek constitutes a multifaceted challenge rooted in fundamental typological



differences between the two languages and requiring translators to engage in complex interpretive and strategic processes beyond grammatical rule application. English articles encode semantic information regarding definiteness, specificity, and referentiality that lacks direct grammatical correspondence in Uzbek, necessitating translation strategies that employ alternative linguistic mechanisms including demonstrative pronouns, word order patterns, possessive markers, and contextual inference. The principal translation problems identified include determining appropriate Uzbek equivalents for definite articles that avoid over-specification through demonstratives, rendering indefinite articles without systematic overuse of the numeral "bir," translating zero articles across their various semantic contexts, handling articles in idiomatic expressions, and conveying article distinctions with abstract nouns.

References

1. Lyons, C. (1999). *Definiteness*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2. Huddleston, R., & Pullum, G. K. (2002). *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
3. Bodrogligeti, A. (2003). *A Grammar of Chagatay*. Munich: Lincom Europa.
4. Baker, M. (2018). In *Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation* (3rd ed.). London: Routledge.
5. Abduazizov, A. A. (2015). *Ingliz va o'zbek tillarining qiyosiy grammatikasi*. Toshkent: O'qituvchi.
6. Chesterman, A. (2016). *Memes of Translation: The Spread of Ideas in Translation Theory*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
7. Hewson, L., & Martin, J. (1991). *Redefining Translation: The Variational Approach*. London: Routledge.
8. Nematov, H., & Rasulov, I. (2017). *English-Uzbek Translation: Theory and Practice*. Tashkent: Tashkent State University Press.