TRANSLATION CHALLENGES OF ENGLISH IDIOMS INTO UZBEK

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Abstract: This article analyzes the main challenges of translating English idioms into Uzbek. Idioms are considered an important component of every language. Their translation is also a complex process because their meanings often cannot be derived from the literal meanings of the words they contain. The article examines the linguistic and cultural differences between idiomatic expressions in English and Uzbek, as well as the difficulties encountered in translating them.

Keywords: English language, Uzbek language, idioms, idiomatic expressions, linguistics, translation challenges, phraseological units, figurative meaning, cultural differences, translation.

Language serves not just as a tool for communication but also as a vital representation of a country's culture, traditions, and mindset. Each language includes idiomatic phrases that enhance communication, making it more vivid and significant. Idioms are established phrases whose meanings can't always be derived from the individual words they contain. Consequently, translating idioms between languages presents a difficult challenge for translators.

English and Uzbek are from distinct language families and possess their unique linguistic and cultural traits. Therefore, certain English idioms may lack direct counterparts in Uzbek. Translators need to comprehend not only the literal interpretation of a phrase but also its metaphorical significance and cultural context. The primary aim of this article is to explore the challenges associated with translation.

Expressions known as idioms often carry meanings that differ significantly from the literal definitions of their individual words. They are commonly found in daily conversations, literature, movies, and various other modes of communication. Idioms enhance language by making it more expressive, relatable, and culturally enriched.

For instance, the English idiom “spill the beans” doesn’t involve literally dropping beans; rather, it signifies the act of disclosing a secret. Likewise, the phrase “under the weather” implies feeling unwell instead of being physically beneath the weather.

The Uzbek language is also rich with idiomatic phrases that express figurative meanings. For instance, “og‘zi qulog‘ida” describes an individual who is very happy, whereas “kapalagi uchdi” refers to someone who has become scared.

These illustrations highlight that while idioms are present in both languages, their structures and images can vary. Understanding these differences is essential for accurate translation.

One significant challenge in translating English idioms to Uzbek lies in the distinction between literal and figurative meanings. A translation that directly adheres to the original wording may appear awkward or fail to convey the original intent.

Another key challenge is the cultural context of idiomatic phrases. Certain idioms are deeply rooted in the history, traditions, and daily lives of English-speaking individuals. When there is no corresponding cultural phrase in Uzbek, the translator must seek an alternative method to express the intended meaning.

Additionally, the absence of direct equivalents poses a difficulty. While some English idioms have comparable expressions in Uzbek, others necessitate a more descriptive type of translation. The translator must choose an appropriate approach based on the context, style, and intent of the text.

Several examples demonstrate how English idioms can be translated into Uzbek:

"**Break the ice**"-"Suhbatga yo'l ochmoq" or "Muzni eritmoq."

This idiom signifies making individuals feel more at ease in a new or uncomfortable social setting. Depending on the situation, a translator might prefer to use a natural Uzbek phrase instead of opting for a literal translation.

"**A piece of cake**"-"Juda oson ish."

This phrase refers to a task that is very simple to accomplish. Translating it word-for-word as "bir bo'lak tort" would not capture its actual meaning. Thus, a translation that focuses on the meaning is more suitable.

"**Spill the beans**"- "Sirni oshkor qilmoq."

This idiom signifies disclosing information that was meant to be kept secret. The Uzbek translation directly conveys the meaning without maintaining the literal phrasing.

"**Once in a blue moon**"- "Juda kamdan-kam."

This expression refers to something that happens very rarely. In Uzbek, a phrase expressing rarity can communicate the intended meaning more naturally than a literal translation.

These examples show that successful idiom translation requires attention to meaning, context, and natural language use rather than simply replacing English words with Uzbek words.

In conclusion, translating English idioms into Uzbek presents several linguistic and cultural challenges. The main difficulties include differences in figurative meaning, the absence of direct equivalents, and culture-specific references. Literal translation is not always effective because it may fail to communicate the intended message.

To overcome these difficulties, translators can use idiomatic equivalents, meaning-based translation, and descriptive translation. The choice of method should depend on the context and purpose of the text. A thorough understanding of both English and Uzbek,

together with knowledge of their cultural characteristics, is essential for successful translation.

This article highlights the importance of studying idiomatic expressions in translation studies. Further comparative research on English and Uzbek idioms may contribute to a better understanding of the relationship between language, culture, and meaning.

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