

THE MAIN DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSLATING FROM ENGLISH TO UZBEK

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Abstract: *The process of translating from English to Uzbek presents a variety of challenges due to the distinct linguistic, cultural, and syntactical differences between the two languages. While both languages are used for communication within diverse cultural and geographical contexts, their structural and semantic variations create obstacles for translators. This article explores the main difficulties faced by translators when working from English to Uzbek, focusing on aspects such as linguistic structure, vocabulary, cultural nuances, and idiomatic expressions. Additionally, the article highlights the role of translation strategies such as domestication and foreignization in overcoming these challenges. The study emphasizes the importance of understanding both the source and target languages in depth and the necessity of cultural sensitivity for producing accurate and meaningful translations.*

Keywords: *Translation, English to Uzbek, Linguistic Challenges, Cultural Sensitivity, Idiomatic Expressions, Domestication, Foreignization, Syntactic Structure, Lexical Gaps*

Introduction. Translation is an intricate process that involves transferring meaning from a source language to a target language while maintaining the integrity of the original message. However, translating between English and Uzbek can be particularly challenging due to significant differences in linguistic structure, vocabulary, cultural context, and idiomatic expressions. While both English and Uzbek are widely spoken languages, their historical, cultural, and syntactical backgrounds create unique obstacles for translators. This article aims to examine the primary difficulties encountered when translating from English to Uzbek, analyzing both linguistic and cultural factors that impact the translation process. Furthermore, it explores common translation strategies and techniques used to mitigate these difficulties.

Linguistic and Structural Differences

One of the most prominent challenges when translating from English to Uzbek is the difference in sentence structure and grammatical rules between the two languages. English, as a subject-verb-object (SVO) language, follows a specific syntactic order, whereas Uzbek is a subject-object-verb (SOV) language. This means that the word order

in sentences differs significantly between the two languages, posing a challenge for maintaining clarity and naturalness in the translation.

For example, consider the sentence in English: "She gave me a book." The direct translation into Uzbek would be "U menga kitob berdi," where the verb "berdi" (gave) comes at the end of the sentence. This difference in word order can sometimes create confusion for the translator, especially when dealing with complex or lengthy sentences.

Another challenge is the use of tenses and verb forms. English has a relatively complex system of tenses and auxiliary verbs that express time, aspect, and modality (e.g., I have been reading). In contrast, Uzbek tends to express time and aspect through verb endings and auxiliary constructions, which can be challenging for the translator to match accurately. Additionally, English has more specific distinctions in modal verbs (e.g., can, may, must), which may not have exact equivalents in Uzbek, requiring the translator to make decisions about how to convey the intended meaning.

Lexical Gaps and Vocabulary Differences

A major difficulty in translating from English to Uzbek is dealing with lexical gaps. Certain English words or expressions have no direct equivalents in Uzbek, necessitating the use of descriptive phrases, loanwords, or creative solutions to convey the intended meaning.

For example, terms related to technology, modernity, or globalized concepts often do not have native Uzbek counterparts. Words such as internet, software, or smartphone are borrowed directly from English and incorporated into the Uzbek lexicon. While the use of loanwords helps fill these gaps, it can sometimes create confusion, especially among older generations or speakers with limited exposure to technological innovations.

Additionally, some English terms are culturally specific and difficult to translate accurately into Uzbek. Words related to social structures, holidays, and customs in English-speaking countries may not have corresponding terms in Uzbek culture. For instance, the English term Thanksgiving is associated with a particular holiday and cultural practice in the United States, which has no direct equivalent in Uzbek traditions. In such cases, the translator must adapt the text to reflect the cultural context of the target audience, often through explanatory notes or cultural adaptation.

Idiomatic Expressions and Phrasal Verbs

English is rich in idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs, which present significant challenges when translating into Uzbek. These phrases often cannot be translated literally without losing their meaning or sounding awkward in the target language. For example, the English expression "kick the bucket" means "to die," but a literal translation into Uzbek, "olma chelakni tepish," would be nonsensical. Instead, the translator must find an

equivalent idiomatic expression in Uzbek, such as "o'lish" (to die) or other culturally appropriate expressions.

Phrasal verbs, such as "turn on", "give up", or "look after", are particularly difficult because they combine a verb with a preposition or adverb to create a meaning different from the individual words. Translating phrasal verbs into Uzbek often requires finding a suitable verb or expression that conveys the same idea. For instance, "give up" could be translated as "taslim bo'lmoq" or "voz kechmoq" depending on the context.

Cultural Differences and Contextual Adaptation

Cultural differences between English-speaking and Uzbek-speaking audiences create further challenges in translation. The way people perceive certain concepts, behaviors, and practices is shaped by their cultural backgrounds, and these differences must be taken into account during the translation process.

For example, English texts often contain references to Western culture, values, and social norms, which may not be immediately understandable to Uzbek readers. References to Western holidays like Halloween or Christmas might need to be adapted or explained within the translation to ensure the target audience can understand the cultural significance. In some cases, the translator may need to replace these references with more culturally appropriate examples or offer explanatory notes.

Similarly, concepts related to gender roles, family structures, and social customs in English texts may differ from those in Uzbek culture. A translator must be sensitive to these cultural nuances and make adjustments where necessary to avoid misinterpretations or offense. For example, in English, the use of gender-neutral terms like they can pose challenges in Uzbek, where gender-specific pronouns are commonly used.

Translation Strategies: Domestication vs. Foreignization

To address the challenges of cultural adaptation, translators often use two primary strategies: domestication and foreignization. Domestication involves adapting the text to fit the cultural norms and expectations of the target audience, making the translation sound natural and familiar. This approach might involve replacing specific cultural references in the source text with those more common in Uzbek culture.

Foreignization, on the other hand, preserves the foreignness of the original text and strives to retain the cultural uniqueness of the source language. While foreignization can be more challenging for the target audience, it helps maintain the original meaning and tone of the text, especially in cases where cultural differences are significant.

For instance, in translating a literary work or philosophical text, foreignization may be preferred to retain the author's voice and intent. In contrast, for more practical texts, such as business or technical translations, domestication may be more appropriate to ensure clarity and ease of understanding for the target audience.

Conclusion. Translating from English to Uzbek presents numerous challenges due to linguistic, lexical, idiomatic, and cultural differences between the two languages. Translators must navigate these complexities by employing various translation strategies, such as dynamic equivalence, domestication, and foreignization, while maintaining cultural sensitivity and accuracy. Addressing lexical gaps, idiomatic expressions, and syntactical differences requires not only linguistic proficiency but also a deep understanding of both cultures. Effective translation is not simply about converting words from one language to another; it is about conveying meaning, context, and cultural nuances in a way that resonates with the target audience. As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, the need for skilled translators who can bridge the linguistic and cultural divides between English and Uzbek grows more critical than ever.

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