PROBLEMS OF RENDERING PREPOSITIONS IN TRANSLATION
(ON THE MATERIAL OF ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES)

A. Sayfullaev

Abstract

Globalization, intensification of international integration, and the development of intercultural communication presuppose the advancement of the theory and practice of translation as a science. The ideas and thoughts about the fact that “though people of the world speak different languages, the laws that determine the way they think are the same” that were suggested in the last century require a new interpretation and new comments. This is true, because according to the conceptual interpretation of the knowledge making up the basis of the notion as the unit of cognition the success achieved show that the concept, which is the quantum of cognition, has a national nature. Therefore, in translation, following the integrity of the chain “reality-concept-notion-meaning” provides the adequacy and specificity of translation and interpretation.

Prepositions are considered to be the elements whose denotative (referential), grammatical, stylistic, and pragmatic meanings must be taken into account when translating. The meaning of prepositional constructions in the English language can be translated into Uzbek by various means. Those include constructions with auxiliary words, case endings, notional words, and the text.

Keywords: prepositions, auxiliary words, interpretation, translatology, theory of translation, case endings, methods of analysis, meaning, content, adequacy, equivalent.

As the process of translation is expanded and versatile, the features it has are characterized with the synthesized nature. Because the methods and methodologies used in this process, which expresses in itself the qualities belonging to such spheres as logics and literature, language and psychology, spirituality and history, faith and culture, are also characterized with their complexity. They must serve to provide similarity by preserving the originality of the content, form, logics, and artistry of the source. For instance, translation theoretician L.S. Barkhudarov enumerates the following analysis methods peculiar to the theory of translation:

1) Comparative method;
2) Method of dividing into constituents;
3) Transformational method;
4) Statistic method;
5) Method of opposition [Barkhudarov, 1975, 22].

This list of methods cannot be considered to be complete as it is very difficult to find two researchers who would limit the list only with the above mentioned names. This is due to the fact that translation is not only a

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1Anvar Sayfullaev, Tashkent State University of Uzbek Language and Literature named after A.Navoiy, EFL teacher, head of the academic department, Uzbekistan.
complex and multisided phenomenon, but also, it is conducted on the point of intersection between various sciences and spheres. Translatologist V.N. Komissarov states that “translatology” enters into close relations with specific sciences. Without following the rules of such sciences as comparative linguistics, general linguistics, textology, typology, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, variantology, literature studies, cybernetics, informatics, history, medicine, physics, chemistry, astronomy, and others, it is impossible to perform a perfect translation [Komissarov, 1973, 36]. Currently, such types of both applied and theoretical translatology as literary translatology, psychological translatology, ethnographic translatology, historical translatology, and linguistic translatology are differentiated and rapidly developing.

Linguistic translatology, one side of this complexity, disputes on the principles of preserving meaning adequacy when rendering the meanings of linguistic phenomena, and it is a leading one among the branches of translation.

Regardless of the manner, the purpose of translation, what and in which branch we are translating, there are two elements in the basics of translation – the meaning and content. Translators and translatologists differ in which of those two elements they prioritize – meaning or content. However, prioritizing one of them does not always give the expected results. For example, in the cases when coming across with the units that are impossible to translate (realia, idiomatic constructions), it is required to prioritize the content, the artistry and expressiveness are subordinated be the target language means. For example, when rendering into another, unrelated language such Russian lexemes as okroshka, bulochka, pechka, Uzbek lexemes as chuchvara, manti, sandal, suri, mahsi, to'n, and English lexemes as dozen, mile, football, machine, meter, pound, sterling, pudding, dressing will definitely lead to a certain degree of the content loss. But it is such cases that require language skills and knowledge from the translator. The same thing is observed in grammatical phenomena as well. This is true because grammatical rules and meanings, peculiarities and qualities provide specificity of every single language. For example such Uzbek language units as mahsi, go'ja, sumalak, can be rendered into another language using explanation. But such sentences in the Uzbek language as “O’zlarim ham kelibdilar-da!” that contains ironic-allegorical meaning is impossible to translate adequately. In order to do it, the translator must give a deeper insight into the target language possibilities and try to find the expression that would adequately render the same content, which means, the translator must ‘toil’. In other words, the translator must feel the spirit of the language. Knowing if it would be right when translating such Uzbek word combinations as xazrat Navoiy, Navoiy xazratlari, ulug’ shaxanshoh, shaxanshohimiz, xon xazratlari into English to use his Greatness Alisher Navoi, his Higness the King, his Honour the King, your Honour, into Russian to use его величество шаханшах, его высочество хан, depends on the feeling the historical spirit of the language.

We think that it would not explain why translating the following expressions from Uzbek into other non-related language is difficult because any slightest change can cause the change of its meaning: 1.Onang qoqindiq, kela qol! 2.Qo’ling urgilsin osh bo’libdimi? 3.Bubing aylansin, bormisan o’zi? 4. O’zom girgirton bo’lay! Maybe we can use such expressions as my sweet,
sweetheart, sugar, honey, dearest to translate them, but this, in our view, will be a simple translation, and the approach that the translator uses would seem just as backing out of the situation. Thes multiple cases prove the fact that languages are national-ethnic psychological phenomenon. Sometimes, it is impossible to render just a dialectical element into a literary language. Therefore, as S.Vlakhov and S.Florin stated: “... we can become convinced that a single language is unique by approaching an untranslatable phenomena” [Vlakhov & Florin, 1980,48].

Linguistic meaning and linguistic content are different notions, meaning belongs to a language unit, content to a text.

The category of meaning is contemporary of linguistics. In translatology the following types of the meaning are observed:

– Denotational (referential) meaning;
– Grammatical meaning;
– Stylistic meaning;
– Pragmatic meaning;
– Paralinguistic meaning.

The first two types of meaning are directly connected to the language means, while the others are considered to be the acquired meanings connected with speech characteristics.

Grammatical meaning is expressed by means of grammemes, which are the conjoining meanings that provide the construction of the text. Without them language expressions cannot be united. There are the following types of means expressing grammatical meaning in the language:

– grammatical affixes;
– auxiliary words;
– word order;
– repetition;
– intonation.

Prepositions, the object of our analysis, are the units that reflect the substantial potential of the English language and express specific grammatical meaning. Due to the fact that prepositions are adequate means for auxiliary words in Uzbek, and Uzbek auxiliary words are equal to cases both in the meaning and function, proportionality and disproportionality between them plays an important role when translating prepositions. Generally, synonymy of cases and auxiliary words in the Uzbek language is one of the possibilities of the Uzbek language to render the meanings of prepositions.

When translating prepositions one must take into account all the above mentioned types of meanings as a unit. Expressing them jointly as constituent parts of a unity can be the means of providing adequacy not only in meaning, but also in the content. See the examples: Why, my dear, you must know, Mrs. Long says that Netherfield is taken by a young man of large fortune from the north of England; that he came down on Monday in a chaise and four to see the place, and was so much delighted with it, that he agreed with Mr. Morris immediately; that he is to take possession before Michaelmas, and some of his servants are to be in the house by the end of next week. [Austin, 2011, 4]. We see that in the above text, the prepositions by, from, with, before are used, the prepositions and the texts they come in are translated into Uzbek as follows:
The followings are the adequate Uzbek equivalents for English prepositions:
1) is taken by – ijara olingan;
2) from the north of England – shimoliy Angliyalik;
3) to agree with Mr. Morris – mister Morris bilan kelishmoq;
4) to take before Michaelmas – Mixaylovo kunigacha;
5) by the end of next week – kelasi haftaning oxırlarida.

Three prepositional constructions are rendered with case endings:
1) is taken by – ijara olingan;
2) to take before Michaelmas – Mixaylovo kunigacha;
3) by the end of next week – kelasi haftaning oxırlarida.

If we study the translation, we can see that the English passive construction in the first example is translated into Uzbek using active voice. If we use Passive voice in Uzbek and translate the sentence word for word, we receive Nezerfild shimoliy Angliyalik juda ham boy bir yigit tomonidan ijara olinganmish, the role and significance of the agent of the action, of the rent in this case, decreases to the level which is not appropriate to the logics of the Uzbek language. Therefore, using active voice in translation instead of the passive in the English, شَبّٞ بويسدن предлогни келишикли қурилма иштирокидаги жуәнрихчилгө жүенriched the Uzbek spirit of the narration. In addition, the ending – gacha that functions as a form of limiting in the Uzbek language used after the auxiliary word oldin is a more appropriate way of rendering the current meaning of the preposition before. The meaning of the expression Mixaylova kunigacha differs from the word for word translation of the original statement Mixaylova kunidan oldin, with its specific feature. In the expression with the auxiliary word a stronger emphasis is given to the Michaela’s day, which influences negatively the way the communicative intention of the narrator is expressed. Besides, translating the expression by the end of next week using kelasi haftaning oxırlarida билан will be a word for word translation, and it causes a wrong usage of the auxiliary word bilan.

The English preposition from with its meaning “originating from a certain area/ the source of provenance” does not have an equivalent auxiliary word in Uzbek. Therefore, it is always translated into Uzbek using the word forming affix – lik:
From Tashkent– toshkentlik
from village–qishloqlik

Here we see that a Proper noun in English becomes a Common one in Uzbek, which also explains one of the peculiar possibilities of languages participating in the process of translation.

This kind of characteristics can be observed in the translation of prepositions in the following examples: In a few days Mr. Bingley returned Mr. Bennet’s visit, and sat about ten minutes with him in his library. He had
entertained hopes of being admitted to a sight of the young ladies, of whose beauty he had heard much; but he saw only the father. The ladies were somewhat more fortunate, for they had the advantage of ascertaining from an upper window that he wore a blue coat, and rode a black horse [Austin, 2011, 4].

Let us study the translation of the following four prepositions: in, with, for, upper:
- in a few days
- with him
- for they
- upper window

These prepositions have the following Uzbek equivalents:
in – ichida
with – bilan
for – uchun
upper – yuqori

But the content of the text require the following translation: Bir necha kundan so'ng mister Bingli qaytib kelib, o'n daqiqacha mister Binnet bilan uning kutubxonasida o'tirdi. Bingli bu oilaning dovrulgi go'zal qizlarini uchrataman deb o'ylagan edi, lekin unga faqat mister Binnetni ko'rish nasib etdi, xolos. Qizlar esa yigitdan omadliroq chiqishdi: ular yuqoridagi derazadan Binglining olda kelgani va ko'k surtyuk kiyib oltganini ko'rgan edilar [Ostin, 2014, 15].

The preposition in has its usual Uzbek equivalents: the auxiliary word ichida and Locational-temporal case ending -da, but this context requires the usage of the expression -dan so'ng. We see that the preposition in has a different from the auxiliary word ichida’s potential which evidences of the asymmetry in the relations between the preposition and the auxiliary word. The important point in translation of preposition in this text is that the lexical unit upper is always considered as a preposition, and it is translated into Uzbek by means of the independent meaning of the lexeme yuqori which is mainly considered as a notional word, and sometimes as a noun-auxiliary: upper –yuqoridagi.

To our minds, the lexical unit upper in this context does not form the expression meaning “from the upper part of the window”, but it means “from the window upstairs”, thus it demonstrates that it functions as a notional word.

Sometimes, the meaning that English prepositions express as a single construction can be ‘split up’ from the beginning to the end of an Uzbek sentence. For example: When Jane and Elizabeth were alone, the former, who had been cautious in her praise of Mr. Bingley before, expressed to her sister just how very much she admired him. "He is just what a young man ought to be," said she, "sensible, good-humoured, lively; and I never saw such happy manners!—so much ease, with such perfect good breeding!" [Austin, 2011, 9]. Which is translated as follows: Jeyn va Elizabet yolg'iz qolishgach, shu paytgacha mister Bingli haqida o'z fikrini ochiqtgan Jeyn, yigit unga juda yoqanini tan olib dedi:
-U yigit qanday bo'lishi kerak bo'lsa, huddi shunday: yaxshi tarbiya ko'rgani shundog ko'rinib turibdi [Ostin, 2014, 20].
Of course there are a lot of cases when English prepositions have single auxiliary word equivalents in the Uzbek language: When the ladies removed after dinner, Elizabeth ran up to her sister, and seeing her well guarded from cold, attended her into the drawing-room, where she was welcomed by her two friends with many professions of pleasure [Austin, 2011, 34].

See their translation:

Kutib oldiTushlikdan so'ng hamma qo'zg'algach, Elizabet Jeynning xonasiga ko'tarildi va uni yaxshilab kiyintirib, mexmonxonaga tushdi. Qizni hamma xursandchilik bilan kutib oldi. Jeyn Ostin, “Andisha va g’urur”, 11-606.61-6ет].

He then sat down by her, and talked scarcely to anyone else. Elizabeth, at work in the opposite corner, saw it all with great delight [Austin, 2011, 34].

See the translation:

Keyin Binglining o’zi qizning yoniga o’tirib, butun kecha faqat u bilan gaplashib o’tirdi. Ro’parada ish tikib o’tirgan Elizabet ularning o’tirishining xursandchilik bilan kuzatib o’tirdi [Jeyn Ostin, “Andisha va g’urur”, 11-606.62-6ет].

To conclude, as the examples demonstrate that the meaning of English prepositional constructions can be rendered into Uzbek using the following means:

- auxiliary word participating constructions;
- case endings;
- word forming affixes;
- notional words;
- text;
- other means.

These means are used in harmony with stylistic and pragmatic factors. In many cases, these factors determine which of the above mentioned means is to be used in translation.

References