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THE REALITIES AND THE PROBLEM OF ITS TRANSLATION

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Реалії та проблеми їх перекладу*. Стаття присвячена розгляду реалій як важливого з лінгвістичної точки зору феномена. Розглядаються роботи таких науковців, як Корунець, Влахов, Флорін та інші. У статті розглядаються особливості реалій, способи їх перекладу та аналізу.*

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Реалии и проблемы их перевода*. Статья посвящена рассмотрению реалий как важного с лингвистической точки зрения феномена. Рассматриваются работы таких научных деятелей, как Корунец, Влахов, Флорин и другие. В статье рассматриваются особенности реалий, способы их перевода и анализа.*

The term realia refers to a local word or phrase that doesn't translate because there is no obvious equivalent in the target language – and there are several strategies for handling them.

The term realia comes from Latin and has the meaning of 'real things' and in translation studies, is used to refer to concepts which are found in a given source culture but not in a given target culture. This is due to the fact that cultures construct reality in different ways. According to Leppihalme "lexical elements (words or phrases) that refer to the real world 'outside language' ". Leppihalme, however, also points out that the distinction between extra- and intralinguistic is somewhat artificial, for when we deal with words, we necessarily also deal with language, even if the words themselves refer to the world outside"

In translation, realia are words and expressions for culture-specific material elements. The Bulgarian translators Vlahov and Florin indicated that since realia usually pertaining to a very local culture, they often pose a challenge for translation process.

It must not be confused with terms. There is a fundamental difference between realia and terms. The scientific lexicon is predominant in terms, and they are used with a definite stylistic aim. Realias met mainly in some descriptive science and usually they represent elements of the local and historical color .Mostly they are used in the scientific literature to designate things that have the reference to the scientific sphere, and also appears in other kinds of texts to serve a specific stylistic purpose.

The establishment of appropriate way of translation when words to be translated has no appropriate equivalent in the target language is the compulsory requirement for translator. In addition, during the realia translation we must take into consideration the unawareness level marked with an object. We should focus on contextual translation, and should not forget that reality can be used as a stylistic means.

The first clause of adequate realia translation is their deep knowledge. Translating foreign language text that reflects national culture stereotypes, customs and events, the interpreter should use the knowledge resources of the native language. It is necessary to know how these words would be named in the native language if they existed. When an interpreter has clear understanding of reality and its contextual usage, it becomes easier to find an adequate analogue.

The problem of reality translation is considered one of the most important and most difficult in terms of translation and intercultural studies of national-cultural specificity of language and speech activity. While the linguistic and cultural diversity is now defined as richness of civilization, the translation in its turn serves for their preservation. Translation acts as a means of protecting national languages and cultures, giving impulses for their self-development and at the same time keeping them from excessive of foreign influence.

As Korunets noted, the translation decision depends on clearly defined factors such as linguistic and extra-linguistic. These include primarily semantic and structural complexity caused by the units of the national vocabulary source language as its usage context. Also it depends on translation purpose. Realities,

like every other word can acquire in the context of stylistic functions, may get certain connotative semantic, that in fact is the key word. Stylistic amplitude of reality is extremely broad.

The matter is complicated by the fact that the text of the original reality is often perceived as something familiar, organic and familiar to the native readers. Hence the dilemma which way to choose: to show specific and exotic, or save familiarity and lose specificity. This contradiction can be overcome by the translator who knows the culture and tradition in original language.

There exist several classifications of the notion "realia". Realia as the units of translation are devided into abbreviations and phrases.

According to Vlahov and Florin classification, we can define different catecories of realia:

- geographic realias(names of the geographic and atmospheric objects and endemic species;
- ethnographic realias (describe everyday life, art and culture of nations, their spiritual and material culture, traditions, religion etc.);
-politics and society.

Also, we should keep in mind the there are *own realias* and *borrowed realias*.

In the process of translation a translator may face a lot of problems and realia translation is one of the most difficult and topical one, and it gives a perfect ground for investigation.

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Culturally-bound expressions like realia are among the prominent translation problems, especially when translation occurs two distinct languages like English and Ukrainian which are considerably separated both linguistically and culturally.

Indeed one of the most common and correct variant of translation - an equivalent which is able to impress the reader in a way as the author of the origin composed.

Frequently, it is the key element which represents the describing picture in a whole. In order to achieve this goal translator should consider all possible options of translation and choose the most appropriate.

To give the most appropriate translation it is necessary to keep in mind such factors: the type of the text, the meaning of realia in the source text, its role in the culture of the souce language, the degree of perception of the unusual word-collocation and exotic expressions in the target language.

Means of realia translation: - the character of the text, - importance of the realia in the context, - nature of the realia, - reader of the translated text.

To translate realia, various strategies exist. According to A. Fedorow theory, the following three methods can be distinguished: 1) Transliteration (complete and partial), 2) Creation of new words or word-combinations, 3) Finding close equivalent.

One more detailed classification of the methods of translation was offered by S.Vlakhov and S.Florin:

1) Transcription,
2) Translation (replacement):
   a) Neologism,
   b) Calque,
   c) Semi-calque,
   d) The semantic neologism.
3)Approximate translation.
   a) The genus-species line,
   b) The function equivalent,
   c) A description, explanation or interpretation.
4) Contextual interpretation.

First of all the interpreter may try to find the close equivalent in the target language, but in needs the knowledge of the local stories, history, society behind the realia and the substitute well enough to judge they convey exactly the same meaning.

So, we can distinguish four ways to render the realia into the target language: transcription or transliteration; neologism (calque, half calque, appropriation, semantic neologism); realia substitution; approximate translation (generalization, function analogue, description, explanation, interpretation).

First of all, translation is distinguished from transcription of realia as a first fundamental divide. In the case of translation, it is implicit the attempt at a greater appropriation of the alien element. In case of transcription, there is an attempt to preserve the alien element through own means.

The emphasis of transcription is, therefore, on sound, while the emphasis of transliteration is on the graphic form.

Using transmission method we mean the transmission of foreign language sounds (it may be proper names, geographic names, scientific terms).In this case we use the letters of the alphabet of the receiving culture.

Another way of translation is the neologism (calque).By calque we mean creating a new word. It's a simple or composed word which is formed by literally translating the elements of the expression in the source culture.

The there are half-calques, where only a part of composed expression is preserved.

Also, there is approximate translation of realia which is the most popular according to Vlahov and Florin. Such way of translation allows translate the material in very "approximate" way, but it also often means that the color is nearly almost lost.

There exist some subtypes within this approach.

The principle of with a generic expression of broader meaning is resorting to the noted translation principle of generalization. In such case translator decides not to translate a local color, knowing that in this approach he can give an idea of the objective, material reference.

Another subtype provides a substitution with a function analogue.

The third subtype is the description method (explanation and interpretation of the realia elements instead of realia).Here the interpreter can try to create an explanatory translation that maintains the overall structure of the speech while getting the point across.

There is the fourth translation strategy consisting in the contextual translation of the realia. It assumes that realia elements are substituted with words that, in the context and the context in which they are placed in the original, explain the sense of such collocation.

The presence of realia in the text can be more or less significant, their role can have greater or lesser semantic value.

The way of translation depends on various factors. It could be the type of text is being translated. Also must be considered how the realia element refers to the source culture in terms of importance and familerity.