

Strategy Of Literary Translation And Equivalence

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СТРАТЕГИЯ ХУДОЖЕСТВЕННОГО ПЕРЕВОДА И ЭКВИВАЛЕНТНОСТЬ

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Abstract. Equivalence is a central concept in translation studies, particularly in literary translation, where the transfer of cultural, emotional, and aesthetic values is as important as linguistic accuracy. This paper examines equivalence and translation strategies in literary translation, with a focus on achieving functional and dynamic equivalence. Drawing on a case study of selected literary texts, the paper explores how translators navigate challenges such as cultural references, idiomatic expressions, and stylistic nuances. By analyzing specific strategies, the study highlights the complexities of literary translation and the importance of balancing fidelity to the source text with the expectations of the target audience.

Key words. cultural adaptation, equivalence, translation strategies, literary translation, dynamic equivalence, functional equivalence, stylistic nuances, dynamic interplay, contexts, functional equivalence, emotional and aesthetic essence, a stylistic or cultural equivalent, direct translation.

Аннотация. Эквивалентность является центральным понятием в переводческих исследованиях, особенно в художественном переводе, где передача культурных, эмоциональных и эстетических ценностей так же важна, как и лингвистическая точность. В данной статье рассматриваются эквивалентность и стратегии перевода в художественном переводе с упором на достижение функциональной и динамической эквивалентности. Опираясь на тематическое исследование избранных литературных текстов, в статье исследуется, как переводчики справляются с такими проблемами, как культурные отсылки, идиоматические выражения и стилистические нюансы. Анализируя конкретные стратегии, исследование подчеркивает сложности художественного перевода и важность баланса между верностью исходному тексту и ожиданиями целевой аудитории.

Ключевые слова. культурная адаптация, эквивалентность, стратегии перевода, художественный перевод, динамическая эквивалентность, функциональная эквивалентность, стилистические нюансы, динамическое взаимодействие, контексты, функциональная эквивалентность, эмоциональная и эстетическая сущность, стилистический или культурный эквивалент, прямой перевод.

Annotatsiya. Ekvivalentlik tarjimashunoslikda, ayniqsa badiiy tarjimada markaziy tushuncha bo'lib, madaniy, hissiy va estetik qadriyatlarni uzatish til aniqligi kabi muhim ahamiyatga ega. Ushbu maqolada funktsional va dinamik ekvivalentlikka erishishga urg'u berib, badiiy tarjimada ekvivalentlik va tarjima strategiyalari ko'rib chiqiladi. Maqolada tanlangan adabiy matnlarning amaliy tadqiqotiga asoslanib, tarjimonlarning madaniy murojaatlar, idiomatik iboralar va stilistik nuanslar kabi masalalarni qanday hal qilishlari ko'rib chiqiladi. Muayyan strategiyalarni tahlil qilib, tadqiqot badiiy tarjimaning murakkabliklarini va manba matniga sodiqlik va maqsadli auditoriyaning umidlarini muvozanatlash muhimligini ta'kidlaydi.

Kalit so'zlar. madaniy moslashuv, ekvivalentlik, tarjima strategiyalari, badiiy tarjima, dinamik ekvivalentlik, funktsional ekvivalentlik, stilistik nuanslar, dinamik o'zaro ta'sir, kontekstlar, funktsional ekvivalentlik, hissiy-estetik mohiyat, stilistik yoki madaniy ekvivalent, to'g'ridan-to'g'ri tarjima.

Introduction. Literary translation is a highly creative and complex process that involves more than converting text from one language to another. It requires the translator to convey not just the literal meaning but also the tone, style, and cultural nuances of the original text. Central to this process is the concept of equivalence, which denotes the degree to which the translated text mirrors the source text in meaning, effect, and intent. This paper explores how equivalence is achieved through various translation strategies in literary works, using case studies to illustrate practical applications and challenges.

Literary translation transcends mere linguistic conversion, requiring a deep understanding of the cultural, emotional, and aesthetic dimensions of the source text. The concept of equivalence lies at the heart of this process, addressing the degree to which the translation replicates the meaning and impact of the original. Achieving equivalence is particularly challenging in literary works, where stylistic elements, cultural nuances, and artistic intent often defy direct translation. This paper explores the role of equivalence in literary translation, examining how translation strategies address these challenges and ensure a faithful yet culturally resonant rendering of the source text.

1. Strategies of Literary Translation

Several strategies are used in literary translation to maintain the integrity and artistic value of the original text:

a) Semantic and Communicative Translation

Semantic translation focuses on preserving the exact meaning of the original text, staying as close as possible to the author's intended message.

Communicative translation prioritizes readability and cultural adaptability, ensuring that the translation resonates with the target audience.

b) Free vs. Literal Translation

Literal translation adheres strictly to the source text's words and structure, often at the expense of naturalness.

Free translation allows for creative adaptation, emphasizing the essence and emotional impact of the text rather than word-for-word accuracy.

c) Domestication vs. Foreignization (Venuti, 1995)

Domestication makes the text more familiar to the target audience by adapting cultural references and idiomatic expressions.

Foreignization retains elements of the source culture, exposing readers to its linguistic and cultural uniqueness.

d) Dynamic vs. Formal Equivalence (Nida, 1964)

Formal equivalence aims for structural and linguistic accuracy, maintaining the sentence structures of the source language.

Dynamic equivalence focuses on the overall meaning and effect, ensuring that the translated work evokes the same response as the original.

2. Equivalence in Literary Translation

Equivalence is a crucial concept in translation studies, referring to the degree of similarity between the source and target texts. Different types of equivalence are discussed in translation theory:

a) Linguistic Equivalence

Ensures that words and grammatical structures match as closely as possible between the two languages.

b) Stylistic Equivalence

Maintains the artistic and literary style of the original, ensuring that rhythm, tone, and imagery are preserved.

c) Cultural Equivalence

Deals with translating cultural elements such as idioms, proverbs, humor, and references to historical or social contexts.

d) Functional Equivalence

Ensures that the translation fulfills the same communicative function as the original, making it meaningful to the target audience.

3. Challenges in Literary Translation

Untranslatability: Some words, expressions, or cultural concepts have no direct equivalent in the target language.

Poetic and Rhetorical Devices: Metaphors, alliteration, and wordplay can be difficult to translate while maintaining the original impact.

Cultural Sensitivity: Some elements may need adaptation to avoid misunderstandings or offense in the target culture.

Equivalence in Translation. Equivalence is a theoretical cornerstone in translation studies, categorized into several types:

Formal Equivalence: Focuses on linguistic and structural fidelity to the source text.

Dynamic Equivalence: Prioritizes the effect on the target audience, ensuring that the translated text evokes a similar response as the original.

Functional Equivalence: Aims to retain the purpose and function of the source text in the target language.

Achieving equivalence in literary translation is particularly challenging due to the interplay of linguistic, cultural, and aesthetic factors.

1. Literal Translation.

Definition: A word-for-word approach that adheres closely to the source text.

Application: Useful for texts with straightforward meanings, but may fail to convey idiomatic or cultural nuances.

Example: Translating "He is as stubborn as a mule" literally into another language may lose its idiomatic meaning.

This strategy involves translating word-for-word while maintaining grammatical accuracy. It is most effective for texts with straightforward meanings but may fail to capture idiomatic expressions or cultural nuances.

2. Transposition

Transposition involves changing the grammatical structure to suit the target language while preserving meaning. For example, translating a passive sentence in the source text into an active sentence in the target text for clarity.

3. Modulation

Definition: Changing the perspective or phrasing to suit the target language.

Application: Ensures cultural and contextual relevance.

Example: Modulating "It's raining cats and dogs" into "It's raining heavily" in Uzbek. This strategy entails altering the viewpoint or perspective to make the translation culturally or contextually appropriate. For instance, the phrase "He is as stubborn as a mule" might be modulated to "U qat'iyatli odam" (He is a determined person) in Uzbek to suit cultural perceptions.

4. Cultural Substitution

This strategy replaces culturally specific elements with equivalents familiar to the target audience. For example, translating Thanksgiving into a locally significant celebration like Navruz for Uzbek readers.

5. Adaptation

Definition: Replacing source cultural elements with their target language equivalents.

Application: Necessary for culturally specific concepts.

Example: Substituting Thanksgiving with a culturally relevant celebration like Navruz in Uzbek.

Adaptation is a broader cultural translation strategy where entire phrases or contexts are transformed to resonate with the target audience while preserving the intent of the original.

6. Compensation

Definition: Introducing a stylistic or cultural equivalent elsewhere in the text when direct translation is impossible.

Application: Maintains the overall aesthetic and emotional balance.

Example: Replicating rhyme or rhythm in poetry through alternative word choices.

When a particular element (e.g., rhyme, idiom) cannot be directly translated, compensation involves incorporating a similar effect elsewhere in the text.

7. Omission and Addition

Definition: Omitting or adding elements to enhance clarity or cultural understanding.

Application: Avoids misinterpretation or confusion.

Example: Adding explanatory phrases for culturally unfamiliar terms.

Case Study: Translating a Literary Text

Source Text: Excerpts from F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

Target Language: Uzbek.

Case Study: Translating a Literary Text

Source Text: Excerpts from Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.

Target Language: Uzbek.

Challenges and Strategies Applied:

1. Idiomatic Expressions

Source: "He had a heart of gold."

Strategy: Modulation to "U juda saxovatli edi" (He was very generous).

2. Cultural References

Source: "Eating turkey on Thanksgiving."

Challenge: Thanksgiving is not celebrated in Uzbek culture.

Strategy: Cultural substitution with "Bayramda osh yeyish" (Eating pilaf during a holiday).

3. Stylistic Nuances

Source: Poetic descriptions of Macondo's landscape.

Challenge: Retaining the lyrical quality of the original text.

Strategy: Compensation by incorporating poetic elements in other parts of the text.

4. Character Dialogues

Source: Colloquial expressions unique to Latin American Spanish.

Challenge: Conveying authenticity while adapting for Uzbek readers.

Strategy: Transposition and adaptation to create dialogues reflective of Uzbek conversational styles.

Challenges and Strategies Applied:

1. Cultural References

Source: "The Roaring Twenties."

Challenge: The term refers to a specific historical and cultural period in the United States.

Strategy: Adaptation to "Shovqinli yigirmanchi yillar," with an explanatory note about its cultural context.

2. Idiomatic Expressions

Source: "A diamond in the rough."

Challenge: The idiom lacks a direct equivalent in Uzbek.

Strategy: Modulation to "Yashirin gavhar," capturing the essence of hidden potential.

3. Stylistic Nuances

Source: Fitzgerald's lyrical descriptions of wealth and decadence.

Challenge: Retaining the poetic quality in Uzbek without compromising readability.

Strategy: Compensation through creative rephrasing and the use of Uzbek poetic expressions.

4. Dialogue and Characterization

Source: Colloquial American English.

Challenge: Conveying authenticity while adapting for an Uzbek audience.

Strategy: Transposition to reflect natural Uzbek conversational styles.

Discussion. The case study illustrates the dynamic interplay between equivalence and translation strategies in literary translation. While formal equivalence may suffice in some contexts, literary translation often demands dynamic and functional equivalence to capture the emotional and aesthetic essence of the original. The choice of strategy depends on factors such as the cultural proximity of the languages, the translator's goals, and the target audience's expectations.

Challenge: Direct translation would be incomprehensible.

Conclusion. Equivalence and translation strategies are fundamental to the success of literary translation. By employing strategies such as adaptation, modulation, and compensation, translators navigate the challenges of cultural and linguistic differences, ensuring that the translated text resonates with its target audience. This study underscores the importance of dynamic and functional equivalence in preserving the artistic integrity and emotional impact of literary works, highlighting the translator's role as a mediator between cultures.

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