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IDIOMATIC TRANSLATION AND ITS CHALLENGES IN TERMS OF ENGLISH-UKRAINIAN TRANSLATION

The aim of this study is to investigate translators' difficulties while dealing with idiomatic expressions and the reason these challenges occur. Although the issue is well-known, mistakes and problems still need to be addressed in newly translated books by amateurs and professional translators of publishing houses. Converting the meaning from one language to another correctly is essential to avoid confusion.

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, an idiom is an expression in the usage of a language that is peculiar to itself either in having a meaning that cannot be derived from the conjoined meanings of its elements (such as up in the air for "undecided") or in its grammatically atypical use of words (such as a give way) [1].

Charles Hockett considers idiom "a modern linguistic agreement on one composed of two or more constituent parts generally deemed to be words. The closer the wording of an idiom reflects a real-world situation, the easier it is to interpret." [2, c. 92].

The main challenge of idiomatic translation is to convey the correct meaning from the source language to the language of translation. It may involve a cultural background as well as socio-cultural and historical peculiarities. The translator should be aware of differences in these aspects to provide an excellent equivalence to an expression used in the source language. The less discussed issue is that sometimes translators need help spotting the idiom and reading the expression literally instead of trying to understand its hidden meaning. M. Baker states that the more complicated an expression to understand in specific contexts, the more likely it will be recognised as an idiom by a translator.

As there are many difficulties and peculiarities in translating idioms and fixed expressions, researchers have found different ways to overcome them. For instance, M. Baker provided four problem-solving strategies in the third chapter of her book, addressing the issue as follows [3, c. 71-78]:

1. Using an idiom of similar meaning and form;
2. Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form;
3. Translation by paraphrase;
4. Translation by omission.

During the research, we sought examples that portray the challenges within the idiomatic translation in the English-Ukrainian context. These challenges are present primarily due to differences in cultures and socio-cultural contexts. The most noticeable one is the translation of the colloquial phrase "to take a shower" into Ukrainian by some famous publishing houses. The main mistake they make is that they translate the phrase directly as "взяти душ". However, in Ukrainian, it means to take a shower head, not precisely wash oneself with the help of the instrument. Our way to translate it correctly is "приймати душ". The possibility of this translation mistake is that translators are trying to remove calques. On the other hand, they take the same calque from English, which sounds even less natural in Ukrainian society.

In conclusion, the issue of translating idiomatic expressions worldwide and in terms of the English-Ukrainian context is still alarming. Further research is needed to distinguish

new ways of dealing with the problem and clear up all existing challenges.

REFERENCES

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