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DIFFICULTIES IN RENDERRING OF APHORISMS: LEXICAL TRANSFORMATIONS

Summary. Aphorism can be defined as an expression that expresses in a concise form a generalized, complete opinion. In most cases, they consist of two components: the main idea and the final conclusion. Not always these components can be separated, but their presence is required. Often the conclusion includes the essence of aphorism – the author's assessment of the first part. We can say that aphorism has two components, which are often in conflict with each other. In the process of translating information, the translator finds the right meaning of the word from all possible, if the word is polysemantic. The meaning of the word is not autonomous, it depends on the context, so the translator must be able to analyze the context. Sometimes it is enough for a translator to analyze the word itself to select the desired meaning, at times must be reached at the level of a phrase or sentence, and sometimes we will need to read the whole text to understand all the nuances of the meanings of new words. So, the translation work requires patience, feeling for language and a broad education. The object of this study is the English aphorism, and the subject – its morphological and functional features that are important for the translation of aphorism. It is in the wording of the definition of the aphorism and the way its translation is the purpose of the study. To achieve this goal it is necessary to solve the following tasks: to conduct a comparative analysis of the definitions of aphorism in native and foreign dictionaries and scientific works; to determine the significant features of the translation of the English aphorism. Translation of aphorisms refers to literary translation, therefore, work with the texts of this genre is extremely difficult. Literal translation is not possible because it distorts the meaning of aphorism, or even loses it. The translator must use various transformations to bring the text of the translation as close as possible to the original text in semantic terms. The translator can add some kind of explanatory information to the translation to better understand the aphoristic statement, taking into account the cultural and national characteristics of the readers.

Key words: aphorisms, rendering, transformations, lexical, meaning.

Statement of the problem in a general form and its connection with important scientific or practical tasks. Since ancient times, aphorisms have influenced the consciousness of people, they have become slogans for individual personalities, countries and humanity as a whole. The nature and mechanism of this linguistic and cultural phenomenon arouse deep interest. After all, modern linguists are characterized by careful attention to the text and linguistic personality. Taking into account the definition of an aphorism as a concise expression that belongs to a certain author, asserts a generally significant truth, has a significant pragmatic potential and has an artistically finished form, which is characterized by a style of tactile expressiveness.

An aphorism can be defined as a saying that expresses a generalized, complete thought in a concise form. In most cases, they consist of two components: the main idea and the conclusion. It is not always possible to separate these components, but their presence is mandatory. Often the conclusion includes the essence of the aphorism – the author's assessment of the first part. It can be said that the aphorism has two components, which are often in conflict with each other.

There are many classifications of aphorisms. It can be said that aphorisms absorb all spheres of human existence and activity, and, in addition to all this, significantly influence them.

The translation of aphorisms as part of a literary text or as a kind of complete work belongs to literary translation, which is, perhaps, the most difficult field in translation studies because in such work the translator does not only translate, and in a certain way writes a new text in the language of the translation.

In the process of translating information, the translator looks for the necessary meaning of a word among all possible ones, if this word is polysemantic. The content of the word is not autonomous; it depends on the context, so the translator must be able to analyze the context. Sometimes it is necessary to go to the level of a word combination or sentence, and sometimes it is necessary to read the entire text to understand all the nuances and meanings of unfamiliar words. Therefore, translation work requires patience, language skills and extensive education.

Analysis of the latest research and publications on this topic, selection of previously unsolved parts of the general problem, to which this article is devoted. Famous for their research in the field of aphorisms are N.G. Kalashnyk, L.P. Yefimov, S.I. Lytvyn and others. As for scientific research in the field of aphorism theory, such works are few. For the most part, these are the works of a literary orientation, while linguistic studies of aphorisms are generally isolated, and English ones are practically non-existent. In this connection, the study of the English aphorisms from the standpoint of linguistics is interesting and necessary.

The relevance of the research topic lies in the fact that the aphorism, being a concise text, has not yet been sufficiently studied as a separate genre. But despite the significant interest in this topic, it has a rather large field for research, and the problem of autonomy of the genre is especially debatable.

Forming the purpose of the article. The **object** of this research is an English aphorism, and the **subject** is its lexical features of rendering the aphorism from English into Ukrainian. The **aim** the research is to formulate the definition of the aphorism and the way of its translation. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to solve the following tasks: to study the English aphorism, its features, characteristics and classification; to analyze the opinions of scholars

regarding aphorism in linguistics; to reveal the lexical-semantic essence of the concept of "aphorism"; to determine difficulties in reproducing aphorisms from English into Ukrainian, paraphrasing techniques; to illustrate the lexical features of reproducing aphorisms from English into Ukrainian.

Presentation of the main material of the study with a full justification of the obtained scientific results. An aphorism is an original, finished thought, formulated in a concise, memorable form, which people began to repeat. Aphorism as a linguistic stylistic phenomenon has been studied by scholars since ancient times. Aphorisms provide an opportunity to express an opinion concisely and vividly, and enrich the phrase with meaningful depth that is difficult or almost impossible to achieve by other means. These are ready-made formulas of the wisdom of human life, this class of lexical units bears a distinct national imprint, and aphorisms convey information about the history of the country and its inhabitants. The term "aphorism" was first used in the treatise "Aphorisms" by Hippocrates. Also well known is the medieval collection of aphorisms, which appeared around 1066 in verse form in Latin, authored by the famous Dr Ioannis de Medital [1, p. 13–14].

The evolution of the word "aphorism" is due to socio-linguistic factors that played an important role in bringing the concepts of "aphorism" and "saying" together. Over the time, the subject of aphorisms – sayings penetrate the sphere of morality, history, politics, and literary studies. During the Middle Ages, expressions of a satirical, humorous, paradoxical nature appeared. Aphorisms are enriched with wit. Gradually, the term "aphorism" began to be used in other spheres of science and life, and, finally, to denote any statement generally accepted as a rule [2, p. 150–156].

In the 16th century, Antonio Pérez called his treatises related to politics aphorisms. In France, the meaning of the word "aphorism" turned out to be more stable. The evolution of the word "aphorism" is due to socio-linguistic factors that played an important role in bringing the concepts of "aphorism" and "saying" together.

The German stylist R.M. Mayer claims that the aphorism acquired an independent genre in world literature thanks to the French researchers La Rochefoucauld and Pascal. The scholar gives the following definition of an aphorism: "A text that is a stimulus for reflection or the quintessence of certain reflections" [3, p. 53]. He divides aphorisms into 1) those that prompt, and stimulate the referent of thought, and 2) those that conclude, and summarize it. The first, notes R.M. Mayer, convey the essence of the aphorism in a more common and more accurate way [3, p. 54].

The power of aphorisms lies in the perfect selection of expressive words and the skilful reduction of actual life phenomena into general principles and dominant ideas. They also have an educational role, as they expand the world of people's spiritual needs and shape their moral beliefs. But teaching in aphorisms does not happen mechanically: due to their brevity, they encourage the reader to think for themselves, they are a kind of driving force of thought, an accelerator of the process of the emergence of associations and ideas. The economy of words, the depth of semantics, and vivid imagery make aphorisms stylistic masterpieces, which become an effective tool in the fight against the monotony and greyness of human language.

An aphoristic text is undoubtedly a special type of text that has linguistic style and genre specificity. On the one hand, it is customary to call aphorisms short, deep in content and semantically complete judgments that belong to a certain author and are

contained in a figurative form that is easy to remember [4, p. 3]. On the other hand, "... aphorisms as a mirror of national culture contain a large amount of information about the traditions, foundations, peculiarities of the worldview and mentality of a particular language community" [5, p. 58].

An aphorism belongs to non-standard texts that lack a title or structural diversity. They contain a subjective assessment of reality. Ambiguity is the norm and their advantage in aphorisms, they are characterized by a high compression of stylistic means. Contextual hypersemantization and synonymization became evident thanks to the language-creating activity of the artist. The fact of speech synonyms is characteristic of aphorisms that are non-standard in form and atypical in meaning. Random words are created despite traditional canons, and as a rule, according to the instructions for a new form. The pragmatic-communicative function of an aphorism is to promote communication, understanding, and the realization of an aesthetic effect [5, p. 56].

Aphorisms attract the opportunity to concisely and vividly express an opinion. The presentation of one's personality and visualization of value orientations in social networks has become popular and relevant in modern society. As a rule, aphorisms in the function of status carry expressive colouring and evaluation elements. In this way, a person expresses and presents his personality.

The translation of aphorisms as part of a literary text or as a kind of complete work belongs to literary translation, which is, perhaps, the most difficult field in translation studies because in such work the translator does not only translate, and in a certain way writes a new text in the language of the translation. Some critics claim that literary translation is an art that can only be mastered by artists of words who rely mainly on aesthetic criteria when translating. There are no specific rules for translating aphorisms, unlike, for example, the rules for translating phraseological expressions.

That is why, in the case when the translator works with aphorisms out of context, it is worth finding out the authorship and, if possible, the history of its origin. However, it is quite difficult to follow the first rule. This is why aphorisms are most often an integral part of a literary text, and translators can modify the original structure of sentences in various ways, such as combining several short ones into one complex sentence, or however, a complex grammatical construction can be divided into several simple ones.

Often, the translator is forced to introduce additional words into the sentence to explain a communicative situation that is incomprehensible to the reader, who is a representative of another culture and nationality. When using this technique, the original aphorism can lose its relevance, turning into an ordinary sentence that has no meaning outside the context of the work of art.

The lexical peculiarities of the translation language often stand in the way of the implementation of the second rule. It is known that there are practically no absolute equivalents of words in different languages since each word is endowed with certain semantic nuances, which can be determined by cultural features or given to the word in the period of its historical formation and development.

Accordingly, the subtext of the original language cannot always be conveyed in the same words in the translation language, and when words are replaced and explanatory elements are introduced into the sentence, the aphorism may lose its form and meaning [6, p. 26].

Therefore, we can single out some reasons for applying transformations in translation.

First of all, transformations are caused by differences in the structures of the original language and the language of translation, such as the order of words in a sentence, the agreement of sentence members among themselves, etc. The difference in the meaning of a word can also be a problem.

It is practically impossible to find an absolute equivalent in translation since each word is endowed not only with a denotative meaning, but also with countless connotative shades, which in different languages and, accordingly, in different cultures are not the same. Another problem may be caused by the translator's excessive attachment to a literary text. After all, there are cases when the translator forgets that an aphorism is a kind of text within a text, which must function both in the context and outside of it. The translator's desire to achieve coherence and integrity in the artistic text can lead to the transition of the aphorism of the original to the category of a simple sentence in the translation [5, c. 30].

When translating an aphorism, one cannot pay attention to only one aspect - lexical or grammatical. In the case of an aphorism, since the lexical structure of the sentence is responsible for the content of the aphoristic utterance, and the grammatical construction is responsible for its form and self-semanticity. Accordingly, the translator must work simultaneously on two levels, otherwise, the aphorism as such will not be reproduced in the translation.

When translating aphorisms from English to Ukrainian, the following techniques can be used: *zero transformation, replacement of parts of speech, omission, addition, change of sentence type, generalization, concretization, noun number replacement, antonymic translation, verb tense category replacement, passive construction replacement with active construction and vice versa, use of descriptive speech, replacement of clauses, modulation, segmentation and combining of sentences.*

The translation of aphorisms belongs to literary translation, therefore, work with the texts of this genre is quite difficult. Since a literal translation is impossible, because it distorts the meaning of the expression or loses it altogether, the translator must resort to certain transformations, with the help of which the text of the translation language will be semantically maximal only close to the text of the original language. The disadvantage, of course, is that lexical-grammatical transformations do not always provide an opportunity to preserve the structural features of the source text, which in aphoristic expressions, responsible for the accuracy.

The translator can also add some additional explanatory information in the translation based on the cultural and national characteristics of the readers for a better understanding of the direct and figurative meaning of the aphorism.

A wide selection of various stylistic devices, techniques, and tropes in different styles of language and speech contributes to the emergence of new linguistic units to denote new or existing objects of environmental reality. However, in contrast to the addition of simple synonyms to long-spread words and expressions, we obtain linguistic units characterized by somewhat specific connotations and speech potential. New words and expressions are aimed at achieving a certain state, the emergence of specific emotions and the appropriate understanding of new content. The function of "naming in a new way" is realized through the use of paraphrases.

The notion of periphrasis can be interpreted in different ways: periphrasis as a stylistic figure, a trope that has connections with other stylistic figures; paraphrase as a method of naming

and characterizing an object or phenomenon differently. In both definitions of periphrasis, the renaming function is inherent.

A paraphrase as a stylistic figure and a unit of reproduction of semantic meaning is characterized by a wide range of interpretations regarding its place and role in language and speech. It can be considered from different angles as a way of creating new meanings, as a means of expanding the existing field of meanings of objects or phenomena, as a stylistic figure of substitution that replaces an existing name to create a certain emotional effect and mood [7, p. 22].

A paraphrase is called a specific product of secondary naming, which can have a metaphorical or metonymic connotation. The creation of a paraphrase is also based on other stylistic figures that have similar or sometimes identical properties (synecdoche, metaphor, metonymy).

A paraphrase is considered a stylistic device, which in the form of a free phrase or a complete sentence replaces the name of the corresponding object or phenomenon. A paraphrase usually singles out one of the signs of phenomena, which in this particular case is considered characteristic, or essential. This demonstrates the subjective attitude of the author to the described subject [8, p. 158].

The main purpose of the paraphrase as a stylistic device is to strengthen the clarity of the text, and the effectiveness of the expression, while the latter is most often solved with the help of a connotative component that complements the main content of a descriptive expression that forms a paraphrase. Periphrastic connotation can have multiple characters: figurative, evaluative, and emotionally expressive [8, p. 16].

Paraphrasing is not separate from the system of stylistic figures and tropes, thereby ensuring the interdependence of the existence of different types of tropes in texts of different genres and styles. A paraphrase can be a different meaning of already known subjects with the help of various stylistic techniques and forms listed above. At the same time, one should not forget that the periphrasis is an independent figure and has several signs and properties that distinguish it from other similar figures. Paraphrasing belongs to the subclass of figures of metonymy, although the very method of language units acquiring a metonymic meaning can be called paraphrasing. To understand the value of a periphrasis, it is necessary to know its nature as a nominative tool.

Paraphrasing is used in texts of various genres and functional styles: we find examples of paraphrasing in texts of newspaper and journalistic styles, in works of art, during public speeches, and in examples of scientific and professional discourse. Many researchers believe that the functions of paraphrasing are euphemistic, emotional-expressive, and nominative. The following functions of paraphrasing can be named more specifically: forming a positive impression; formation of an unpleasant impression; a reflection of an emotional state; communication of information about the subject of speech [5, p. 124].

Research conclusions and prospects for further research in this scientific direction. Paraphrasing is used to achieve a specific emotional state of the recipients and helps to form a certain attitude to the subject of the message and the report in particular. The use of paraphrases is the result of long processes of perception, reinterpretation and production of new language units. Paraphrase has a huge stylistic potential, often the author's manner is determined by how successfully and accurately the author

of the message can manipulate the linguistic tools known to him for clarification and interpretation of the names of already known phenomena. Speaking of paraphrasing, it is necessary to note its value as a translation tool. Paraphrase makes it possible to perceive new objects and phenomena that are reflected in the language with the help of their often transcribed or transliterated names. The periphrastic phrase is used in parallel with the new name to give a more accurate description of the nature of the concept. Further study of various aspects of periphrasis as a figure, as well as a way of naming in language and speech, helps to understand and grasp the complex relationships between units of language and speech and surrounding phenomena environment through worldview models and perception of reality better.

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Юхимець С. Ю. Труднощі в перекладі афоризмів: лексичні трансформації

Анотація. Афоризм можна визначити як вислів, який у стислій формі висловлює узагальнену, закінчену думку. У більшості випадків вони складаються

з двох компонентів: основної думки та підсумкового висновку. Не завжди ці компоненти можна розділити, але їх наявність обов'язкова. Часто висновок містить суть афоризму – авторську оцінку першої частини. Можна сказати, що афоризм має дві складові, які часто суперечать одна одній. У процесі перекладу інформації перекладач знаходить потрібне значення слова з усіх можливих, якщо слово багатозначне. Значення слова не є автономним, воно залежить від контексту, тому перекладач повинен вміти аналізувати контекст. Іноді перекладачеві достатньо проаналізувати саме слово, щоб вибрати потрібне значення, іноді це потрібно досягти на рівні фрази чи речення, а іноді нам потрібно буде прочитати весь текст, щоб зрозуміти всі нюанси значень нових слів. Отже, перекладацька робота вимагає терпіння, чуття мови та широкої освіти. Об'єктом дослідження є англійський афоризм, а предметом – його морфологічні та функціональні особливості, важливі для перекладу афоризму. Саме у формулюванні визначення афоризму та способі його перекладу полягає мета дослідження. Для досягнення поставленої мети необхідно вирішити такі завдання: провести порівняльний аналіз визначень афоризму у вітчизняних та зарубіжних словниках і наукових працях; визначити суттєві особливості перекладу англійського афоризму. Переклад афоризмів відноситься до художнього перекладу, тому робота з текстами цього жанру надзвичайно складна. Дослівний переклад неможливий, оскільки він спотворює зміст афоризму або навіть втрачає його. Перекладач повинен використовувати різні трансформації, щоб максимально наблизити текст перекладу до тексту оригіналу в семантичному відношенні. Перекладач може додати до перекладу певну пояснювальну інформацію для кращого розуміння афористичного вислову, враховуючи культурні та національні особливості читачів.

Ключові слова: афоризми, переклад, трансформації, лексичний, значення.