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TRANSLATION PROBLEMS (THEORETICAL REVIEW)

Abstract: there is still no unambiguous definition of the term «translation problems» at the present stage of translation studies development but the concepts «problems» and «difficulties» of translation are clearly differentiated. The analysis of scientific literature has shown that linguistic, textual, extralinguistic problems, problems related to the political and cultural components of the text of the original and translation, the author's intention and many other problems arise in the translation process.

Keywords: translation problem, translation difficulties, linguistic problems, extralinguistic problems, translation process.

The aim of the article is to demonstrate different problems of translation. M. Farghal and A. Almann define translation as «a multi-faceted, multi-problematic process with different manifestations, realizations and ramifications» [2]. The translator confronts and resolves a number of problems not likely to feature in original writing, and vice versa [3]. So we see that translation problems are a part of translation process.

There are *text-type (or discourse-type) restricted theories*, dealing with the problem of translating specific types or genres of lingual messages and *problem-restricted theories*, theories which confine themselves to one or more specific problems within the entire area of general translation theory in modern Translation Studies [8].

During the history of translation practice development there were different requirements to translation, the observance of which cause translation problems. L. Venuti wrote that «...earlier theorists pose problems that are solved by later theoretical advances ...a later theorist might be seen as posing a problem for which earlier theories provide a solution» [8].

There is no unambiguous concept of «translation problem» or any appropriate, reliable conceptual framework in Translation Studies, and researchers argue that existing works about translation problems are generally based on speculative study.

A large range of linguistic features in the text should ensure a correspondingly large range of translation problems and increase the significance of the process analysis [7]. The optimistic extreme in translation theory during these decades is occupied by linguistic analysis. Linguistics addresses the issue of translatability by analyzing specific translation problems and describing the methods that translators have developed to solve them [8].

C. Nord sees the difference between problems and difficulties in translation. In her opinion, a translation problem is «an objective problem which every translator (irrespective of his level of competence and of the technical conditions of his work) has to solve during a particular translation task». Difficulties in translation are «subjective and have to do with the translator himself and his specific working conditions» [5].

The theoretical review is based on the works of PACTE Group, S. Bassnett, P. Newmark, L. Venuti, M. Snell-Hornby, B. Hatim, J. Munday, M. Farghal and A. Almanna.

Translation problems may be divided into problems of reception, problems of production, and problems of reception-production (in which both types of problems are combined).

The third part of the article «Results of the validation of the PACTE translation competence model. Translation problems and translation competence» written by PACTE Group is devoted to identification and solution of translation problems. The authors of this article write that until the 1980s, translation problems were approached almost exclusively from linguistic point of view. Since then other authors have taken a wider view and have identified a number of different types of problems, e.g. textual, pragmatic, cultural and linguistic (Nord 1991); textual, pragmatic and semiotic (Presas 1996); and text-linguistic, extralinguistic, pragmatic and instrumental (Hurtado 2001). From a cognitive perspective, translation problems have been linked to the cognitive processes taking place while translating, and to the concept of translation competence [6].

B. Hatim and J. Munday identify some cases that present translation problems. They are the frequent lack of one-to-one matching across languages, individual words or groups in the context, establishing

equivalent effect in translation, dialects, differences between the source and receptor languages pronominal systems [3].

J. Munday writes about the problem of the inevitable subjectivity that the invariant entails [4].

M. Farghal and A. Almanna mention the following problems of translation: morphological difference, inflectional morphology, word formation processes including derivation and inflection, compounding, blending, and acronymy / abbreviation, lexical gaps, problems relating to conversational implicature [2].

M. Snell-Hornby points out various problems to be considered, including the status, situation and function of the source text, and the intricate problems of style, ethical problems in translation, multisemiotic texts such as comics [7]. M. Snell-Hornby suggested adding to this the description of bodily sensations that are not apparent and gestures or expressions that convey attitude, and you have a body of vocabulary that presents the translator with problems [7].

L. Venuti describes the problems which occur on different levels:

- problems of transfer of slang or colloquialisms,
- the “functional constancy” between the source and the target texts,
- a compromise between two kinds of poetics, in which the poetics of the receiving system plays the dominant part,
- the production of new knowledge through the individuation of the new code, and in both close and free translations the new knowledge is only moderate,
- how to compensate for losses and to justify (in a graphological sense) the differences – how to renew the energy and signifying behaviour that a translation is likely to diffuse,
- mismatches in grammatical categories between languages,
- problems of identifying the literal intentions,
- an aesthetic problem (represented in terms of sex, family, the state, and power),
- lexical or morpho-syntactic deficiencies, problems of polysemy [8].

These problems become more complex when historical time is factored in (translator decides whether to recreate the feeling of the time period of the text or to modernize the text to make it more accessible to the contemporary reader). Translation problems can arise not only from deficiencies in the receiving society but also from a surfeit of linguistic options [8].

Many scientists write about different translation problems as every type of text has its own peculiarities. For example, web texts are sent for translation in different formats, each format brings its own benefits and inconveniences for a translator [9]; in literal translation the problem is a choice between rhyme and reason, how to keep form of the original, the tension between the form and the content and the conflict between formal and dynamic equivalences are always acutely present; problems may involve intonation and sentence rhythm; intellectual, cultural, and linguistic changes [8]. The problem for stage translation is that the interpretation of the theatrical signs can vary radically from one culture to another (particularly with symbolic signs), and much depends on the acting style and conventions of the cultural community concerned [7]. The problem faced by translators of how to translate signs of cultural difference and how to meet the expectations of the target audience. Recognizing the crucial importance of elements in a text goes beyond linguistics [1].

Analysis of scientific literature shows that there are the following translation problems: linguistic, textual, extralinguistic, problems of intentionality, problems relating to the target-text reader.

However, some scholars deny any translation problems and compare the work of a translator with the work of a cook who explains the problems connected with onion cutting. They argue that there are no problems if a person is a professional.

Pauses, use of strategies, omissions, corrections, use of dictionaries and additional sources of information and so forth during translation process indicate the presence of translation problems. Taking into account all points of view, we support the ideas of B. Hatim that «the problems of translation are open to description and explanation in a framework of theories of meaning and contrastive linguistics» [3].

The article does not claim to analyse all translation problems, only the most frequently described translation problems are presented here.

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ПЕРЕВОДЧЕСКИЕ ПРОБЛЕМЫ (ТЕОРЕТИЧЕСКИЙ ОБЗОР)

Аннотация: в статье представлен обзор зарубежной литературы, отражающей теоретические и практические проблемы, возникающие в процессе перевода. Проблемы перевода являются частью переводческого процесса, в рамках частной и специальной теорий перевода разрабатываются способы их решения. На современном этапе развития переводоведения до сих пор не существует однозначного определения термина «проблемы перевода», однако четко разграничиваются понятия «проблемы» и «трудности» перевода. Анализ научной литературы показал, что в процессе перевода возникают лингвистические, текстуальные, экстралингвистические проблемы, проблемы, связанные с политическими и культурологическими составляющими текста оригинала и перевода, выражением намерения автора и многие другие проблемы.

Ключевые слова: проблема перевода, трудности перевода, лингвистические проблемы, экстралингвистические проблемы, процесс перевода.

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