

The Problem Of Morphological Adequacy And Equivalence In Translation Process Of Diminutives

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Abstract: This article discusses about the challenges of diminutive translation between English and Karakalpak languages. Cultural background is important evidence in translation practices. Thus obtaining cultural-semantic equivalence of diminutives is indispensable. In this research work the translation of Anne Brontë's "Agnes Gray" is analyzed. Agnes Grey, a novel is the first novel by English author Anne Brontë (writing under the pen name of "Acton Bell"), first published in December 1847, and republished in a second edition in 1850. The novel follows Agnes Grey, a governess, as she works within families of the English gentry.

Keywords: Diminutive translation, equivalent, cultural background, translation challenges, semantic equivalence, context.

Introduction: Diminutives are difficult to translate because of their intricate semantic, pragmatic, and cultural meanings. Although diminutives may seem like straightforward morphological changes that indicate smallness, their use frequently communicates a variety of feelings, interpersonal connections, and cultural values that are difficult to translate between languages.

Literature review

The problem of diminutive translation is associated with the works of researches, such as Dressler and [Merlini Barbaresi, 1994], who used the term "morphopragmatics" to refer to the interface between pragmatic function and morphological form. [Steriopo, 2009] expanded on this idea, arguing that because of its socio-affective complexity, expressive morphology—including diminutives—must be treated as a separate syntactic and semantic category. The concept of untranslatability is one of the biggest challenges in translating diminutives. diminutives are "one of the categories celebrated for an apparent untranslatability," according to [Wierzbicka, 2003]. This is due to the fact that diminutive forms convey cultural

and emotional meaning in addition to being lexical or morphological units. A diminutive form's expressive or social value is frequently lost or diluted when it is transferred from Karakalpak to English, particularly when the target language lacks a corresponding structure.

Research methodology

The research materials comprised examples from literary texts, child-directed speech, formal and informal registers and fragments from scientific articles. The primary research methods include classification method, comparative method, sociolinguistic analysis and the historical method.

Main body. The translation of diminutives between English and Karakalpak, which differ not only in their morphological systems but also in the ways these forms function in everyday discourse and cultural interaction, is one area where this challenge is particularly apparent.

Diminutives in English represent the Anglo-Saxon culture of indirectness and emotional moderation. While direct display of emotions may be culturally forbidden in some English-speaking communities,

diminutives allow speakers to describe affective states in a socially acceptable manner. Diminutives like "barbie" (barbecue), "cuppa" (cup of tea), and "brekkie" (breakfast) in Australian English are not only colloquial expressions but also cultural symbols of friendliness and equality. This suggests that diminutives have socio-pragmatic aspects as linguistic markers of national identity. Even in American and British varieties, diminutives reveal cultural positioning. In American English, diminutives like mommy, daddy, or bubbly often serve emotive functions and are frequently found in familial and romantic settings; in British English, the frequent use of -ie/-y suffixes in everyday speech, such as brolly (umbrella) or telly (television), can indicate familiarity and lessen the formality of conversation [Kempe, 2007].

Diminutives are interpreted differently depending on the context. For example, the word "girlie" can be affectionate in one context, but pejorative in another. [Bialy, 2016] claims that diminutives can have gendered meanings, frequently supporting or undermining conventional roles and identities.

Diminutives are frequently employed in stylized expressions, child-directed speech, and informal registers in English. They frequently have pragmatic uses, like softening tone, expressing affection, or

fostering playfulness. However, compared to Karakalpak, where diminutives are ingrained in the language's linguistic and cultural fabric, their use is comparatively restricted. Diminutives are widely used in personal names, kinship terms, idiomatic expressions, folklore, and poetic metaphors in Karakalpak. They convey not only size or affection but also social closeness, respect, humility, and endearment—functions that frequently have no direct English equivalents. Two primary translation issues result from this cultural divide: pragmatic mismatch and semantic incompleteness. While the former refers to the loss of subtle emotional or cultural meanings in translation, the latter emphasizes how a diminutive's social function—such as demonstrating politeness or intimacy—may not be sufficiently communicated in the target language. Therefore, in order to maintain the intended meaning and communicative function of diminutives, translators working between English and Karakalpak must frequently use compensation strategies, explicitation, or even cultural substitution. As [Klaudy, 2004] states, explicitation can be obligatory (due to structural differences between languages) or optional (due to stylistic preferences or cultural norms). Such challenges of diminutives can be analyzed in Anne Bronte's work "Agnes Grey". Here are the examples:

Original version	Karakalpak translation	Semantics
He lives quite well on a small salary and had a pleasant little house of his own.	Ol azgana aylığı menen ádewir jaqsı kún kórdı hám óziniń jaǵımlı kishkene úyi bar edi.	Smallness
We had a pony a little horse but we had to sell it.	Bizlerdiń poni-kishi tayımız bar edi biraq onı satıwǵa tuwra keldi.	Youth (Children of animals)
My father dismissed one of our two servants" and my mother and sister began to help with the cooking. I offered to help, too, but although I thought of myself as a young woman , I was still a child in the eyes of my family.	Ákem eki xızmetkerdiń birewin jumıstan bosatıp anam hám ajapam asxanaǵa pisiriw jumıslarına járdem beriwdi baslaydı. Mende járdem beriwdi usınıs ettim biraq ózimdi jas qız dep esaplawıma qaramastan, olardıń kózine men ele kishkentay kóriner edim.	Youth Diminishing function

To which Mary used to reply, 'No, you are too young to help me, sweet Agnes.	Oġan Meri "Yaq, sen j�rdemlesiwge d�m jassa�n s�ykimli Agnes.	Affection Diminution
' My child ,' said my mother kindly, 'You have not learnt to take care of yourself yet.	" Qızım sen �zi�n �zi�ne qarap j�riwdi ele �yrenbedi�n.	Affective Emotive
She told me in great detail about her wonderful children, what they must learn and how I should manage" them.	Ol maġan �jayıp perzentlerini�n olar neni �yreniwi kerek h�m olardı qalay t�rtipke saliwim kerek ekeninligim haqqında mayda sh�ydesine deyin toliq ayttı.	Euphemism (phraseology)
'You're not having any of the chicks , Mary Ann!	"Seni�n sh�jeleri�n bolmaydı Meri Ann!	Youth (Children of animals)
There, two young ladies were sitting by the fire.	Sol jerde eki jas xanımlar ot janında otırġan edi.	Youth
When we left the church this time, it was young Harry Meltham who quickly came to talk to the girls and to help them get into the carriage.	Usı rette shirkewden shıqqanımızda, qızlar menen s�ylesiwge tez jetip kelgen h�m at-arbaġa shiġiwġa olarġa j�rdem bergen jas Garry Meltem edi.	Youth
She often did her school work too quickly, made little effort and would run outside as soon as she saw the chance.	�y jumısın k�bine azġantay ġana h�reket etip tez tayarlaydı h�m imkaniyat tuwıldı dew menen-aq sirtqa juwırıp keter edi.	Smallness

Discussion

An analysis of challenges of diminutive translation from English to Karakalpak revealed that it is essential to preserve cultural and semantic functions, especially when these are not directly tied to the core lexical meaning.

Conclusion

The translation of diminutives between English and Karakalpak requires more than formal equivalence. Due to cultural, morphological, and pragmatic differences, translators must navigate a nuanced space where emotion, politeness, and social meaning often outweigh literal form. The challenge lies not only in finding perfect equivalents, but in preserving the

speaker's intent, tone, and cultural resonance through adaptive and context-sensitive strategies.

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