

Specific Challenges Related to Grammar on The Process of Simultaneous Interpretation

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Abstract: This article explores the specific challenges related to grammar that arise in the process of simultaneous interpreting. It highlights how grammatical complexities—such as syntactic structures, verb tenses, agreement, and sentence construction—can hinder the interpreter's ability to produce accurate and coherent translations in real-time. The article emphasizes that grammatical difficulties may lead to misinterpretations, omissions, or delays, thereby impacting communication effectiveness.

Keywords: Simultaneous interpretation, grammar, challenges, difficulties, syntactic structure, verb tenses, subject and verb agreement, sentence.

Introduction: Interpreting simultaneously from one language to another is a complex cognitive task that demands not only real-time decision-making and processing but also a deep understanding of the grammatical structures of both languages involved. When interpreting from Uzbek into English, interpreters encounter unique grammatical challenges specific to the structural characteristics of both languages.

1. Sentence Structure Differences

In terms of word order, Uzbek and English exhibit distinct differences that reflect their syntactic structure.

Uzbek is an SOV (Subject-Object-Verb) language, while English typically follows an SVO (Subject-Verb-Object) order. This fundamental difference can create significant challenges for interpreters, as they must constantly rearrange the grammatical structure of sentences in real-time.

Example 1:

- [Uzbek: "Men kitobni o'qidim."]
- [Literally: "I book read."]
- [English: "I read the book."]

Example 2:

- [Uzbek: "Biz bahorda ko'plab gullar

ko'ramiz."]

- [Literally: "We spring many flowers see."]
- [English: "We see many flowers in spring."]

Interpreters must quickly identify the subject, object, and verb in the source language and reorganize them into the correct order for the target language, which can lead to delays or errors if not managed efficiently.

2. Inflections and Cases

Grammatical Cases in Uzbek

Uzbek uses grammatical cases to indicate the role of nouns in sentences (e.g., nominative, accusative, genitive, locative). These cases are often denoted through suffixes attached to nouns. In contrast, English relies more on word order and prepositions to convey similar information.

Grammatical cases in English refer to the different forms that nouns, pronouns, and adjectives can take to indicate their grammatical function in a sentence. While English uses word order and prepositions more than inflectional endings to convey grammatical relationships, it still exhibits some case distinctions, particularly in pronouns.

Example 1:

- [Uzbek: "Kitob meniki."]
- [Literally: "Book my."]

- English: "The book is mine."

The word "meniki" in Uzbek conveys possession through case marking, which doesn't exist in English. The interpreter needs to correctly convey this relationship without the aid of grammatical cases.

Example 3:

- Uzbek: "O'qituvchining kitobi."
- Literally: "Teacher's book."
- English: "The teacher's book."

The challenge for interpreters is to understand the subtleties in meaning brought about by case endings and convey that meaning accurately without the same grammatical markers in English.

3. Conjugation and Tense Differences

Verb Conjugation Challenges

Uzbek verbs are conjugated based on person, tense, and aspect, and they can be complex due to various forms. English verb tenses may not correspond neatly with their Uzbek counterparts. Interpreters must be skilled at recognizing the grammatical tense used in a sentence and rendering it accurately in English.

Example 1:

- Uzbek: "Men ertaga kelaman."
- Literally: "I tomorrow come."
- English: "I will come tomorrow."

Example 2:

- Uzbek: "Men o'qiyman."
- Literally: "I read."
- English: "I will read." (for future) or "I read." (for habitual)

Uzbek verb tenses may imply future or habitual actions through context; thus, the interpreter should be aware of subtle contextual cues.

The verb conjugations in Uzbek must be interpreted dynamically to match English tenses accurately.

4. Idiomatic Expressions and Fixed Phrases

Non-Literal Translations

Uzbek often features idiomatic expressions that do not translate literally into English. These idioms can involve certain grammatical constructions that may be completely non-existent in English.

Example 1 :

- Uzbek: "Hovlida muzdak yo'q."
- Literally: "There is no frost in the yard."
- Meaning: "There is no point in doing something."

Example 2:

- Uzbek: "O'chmas yulduz."
- Literally: "An unquenchable star."
- Meaning: "A permanent phenomenon."
- English: "A guiding light."

An interpreter must recognize that a direct translation would not convey the meaning and cultural significance.

Example 3:

- Uzbek: "Quyoshda suzmoq."
- Literally: "To swim in the sun."
- Meaning: "To be in the limelight."
- English: "To be in the spotlight."

The interpreter has to not only translate words but also provide equivalent phrases available in English.

5. Gender and Agreement

Lack of Gender Marking in Uzbek

Uzbek does not differentiate nouns or pronouns based on gender, which stands in contrast to English, where pronouns (he/she) and various forms of words indicate a gender distinction. In interpreting tasks, this lack of gender marking in Uzbek can lead to potential ambiguities or misinterpretations in English if the interpreter isn't attentive.

- Uzbek: "U o'qituvchi." (Literally: "He/She is a teacher.")
- Context: Depending on context, it could refer to either a male or a female teacher.
- English: "He/She is a teacher."

Interpreters must be sensitive to context to assign the correct pronouns in English.

Contextual Understanding

Accurately interpreting sentences while maintaining agreement (especially concerning gendered pronouns, adjectives, etc.) is critical.

Example:

- Uzbek: "Yosh qiz o'z do'stini kutmoqda." (Literally: "Young girl her friend waiting.")
- English: "The young girl is waiting for her friend."

Interpreters must ensure they use the correct pronouns based on the noun they are translating and establish context.

An Uzbek speaker might refer to a person using gender-neutral terms, but the interpreter needs to be careful in choosing appropriate pronouns based on context.

To navigate these challenges effectively, interpreters can benefit from extensive practice and familiarity with

both languages' grammatical frameworks. Developing strategies for quick analysis and restructuring, alongside a firm grasp of cultural context, can ultimately enhance performance in the fast-paced environment of simultaneous interpretation. Understanding these specific challenges will also help improve training programs, focusing on the nuances of Uzbek-English interpretation, ensuring interpreters are well-equipped to operate efficiently and accurately across languages.

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