

Theoretical Foundations And Strategies In The Russian And Uzbek Translations Of “A Farewell To Arms”

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Abstract: This article conducts a functional analysis and representation of meaning of the Russian and Uzbek translations of Ernest Hemingway’s iconic novel, *A Farewell to Arms*. Drawing primarily on the theoretical insights of A.V. Fyodorov, L.S. Barkhudarov, V.N. Komissarov, and Murza A.B., it employs a comparative approach to investigate how meaning and communicative function are rendered across different linguistic and cultural contexts. The research meticulously examines specific translational strategies, including transliteration, transcription, and pragmatic adaptations, to assess the preservation or transformation of referential, intralinguistic, and pragmatic meanings. The analysis delves into lexical units, proper names, and culturally specific realia, highlighting instances where translators make conscious choices to navigate semantic ambiguity, extralinguistic information gaps.

Keywords: Translation studies, transliteration, proper names, semantic equivalence, realia, target languages.

Introduction: Translation, as is known, is a complex and multi-stage process. Consequently, the development of a comprehensive translation model faces inherent challenges. Nevertheless, efforts to model the translation process “enable the presentation of the observable process as linguistic operations grounded in the specific features of the source language and corresponding phenomena in the target language.” Building on this, A.V. Fyodorov, in his influential article “On the Science of Translation”, advocated a method of “direct transition from the source language text to an equivalent message in the target language.” In his view, this method enables the equalization of semantic and syntactic structures across these languages. The proposed model is underpinned by the principle of a “nuclear” or “near-nuclear” structure. The author further postulates that, within this process, four primary characteristics of semantic categories are crucial:”

- 1) objects
- 2) events
- 3) abstract concepts
- 4) connecting elements

The translation process is characterized by Murza A.B. as a series of sequential transformations spanning both

the source and target languages. In conjunction with syntactic analysis, the author further proposes the implementation of semantic analysis, which primarily consists of decomposing lexical units (words and closely associated word combinations) into sets of semantic components. These components of lexical units are identified through their comparison with other words that coexist within the same “semantic domain.

V.N. Komissarov, in defining the concept of a “semantic domain,” refers to “words closely situated within a semantic space,” “words intersecting within this space,” and ultimately, “words falling within the boundaries of this space.” Furthermore, he emphasizes that semantic component analysis “must also pertain to the internal structure of component series.” These series can be unstructured, as in the case of kinship term sets, or structured. Many component series exhibit an indeterminate order.

The model of translation transformations proposed by L.S. Barkhudarov will be applied in this study for the analysis of the two translations presented. It is a well-established principle that all anticipated translational shifts are realized through formal operations, such as transpositions, substitutions, additions, and omissions. This category of substitutions encompasses changes in

word forms, parts of speech, and sentence constituents, as well as semantic transformations such as generalization, specification, and the inversion of cause and effect, among others. All these interrelations are typically manifested during the comparative analysis of the target and source texts. He portrays the meanings involved in the translation process as follows. These primarily encompass referential meanings, which comprise three fundamental types of semantic correspondence between lexical units across different languages:

- 1) complete correspondence;
- 2) partial correspondence;
- 3) absence of correspondence.

Regarding the latter point, in cases where correspondences are absent in the target language, it may be necessary to express the intended meaning through alternative means, without employing equivalent lexical items. For instance, translation frequently employs strategies such as transliteration and transcription. In transliteration, the graphic form (letter composition) of a source language (SL) word is rendered using target language (TL) orthography, whereas transcription conveys its phonetic representation.

The subsequent analysis will focus on examples of transcription found within the novel, "A Farewell to Arms"

It was Passini and when I touched him he screamed.

Это был Пассини, и когда я дотронулся до него, он вскрикнул. (Ye.Kalashnikov)

Bu Passini edi va men uni tutganimda u baqirishni boshladi. (I.G'afurov)

The selected lexical units exhibit a high degree of phonetic correspondence (transcription). We observe that both translators accurately conveyed the meaning of these units, resulting in translations that are both equivalent and appropriate.

It is widely recognized that the pragmatic dimension constitutes a crucial aspect of the translation process. L.S. Barkhudarov, for instance, defines pragmatic meaning as "the relationship between a sign and its human user," though acknowledging that the broader field of pragmatics encompasses a wider range of phenomena. A frequent challenge in translation practice is the discrepancy in extralinguistic information between the source and target texts. This often results in the target audience's incomplete comprehension or even misinterpretation of information conveyed in the original text. Under such circumstances, it becomes exceedingly challenging for the translator to achieve a maximally comprehensive

and functionally equivalent rendition of the text's content.

In this context, L.S. Barkhudarov's insightful observation underscores the paramount necessity of considering the pragmatic factor, first and foremost, when translating proper names, geographical names, and various cultural and everyday realia. Specifically:

A thin boy in the Red Cross from Georgia...

Тощий парень из Джорджии, работник Красного Креста (Ye.Kalashnikov)

Yo'lbars kabi yigit, Jeorgia shtatidan, Qizil Xochning xodimi... (I.G'afurov)

This example offers an interesting insight into the translation of the proper name "Georgia" into Russian. The first translator likely adopted a principle of graphic transliteration, whereas the second employed a phonetic transcription. Consequently, the first case exemplifies an archaic translation method, while the second demonstrates a modern approach, specifically regarding the rendition of non-equivalent lexis. Within this translation model, we also isolate intralinguistic meanings, which refers to examining how this linguistic sign relates to other linguistic signs.

This aspect encompasses phonological resemblances of words (rhyme, alliteration, assonance, etc.), morphological similarities, semantic similarities and differences, and the inherent interconnectedness of words. In such instances, referential meanings are often subordinated to the full expression of intralinguistic information. This occurs precisely when the transmission of information intrinsic to the source language itself becomes paramount, meaning that in the original text, the linguistic combinations themselves, rather than the objects, phenomena, or concepts they denote, become the primary subject of illumination.

Ultimately, this analysis demonstrates that successful literary translation necessitates a nuanced understanding of not only direct lexical equivalence but also the subtle functional and contextual demands that shape meaning in both source and target cultures. This study contributes to translation studies by offering a deeper understanding of the complexities inherent in cross-cultural literary transfer and by illustrating the practical application of functional-semantic models in evaluating translation quality and strategies.

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