

Linguistic and Cultural Features of Translation Between English and Uzbek Languages

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	Abstract This article examines the linguistic and cultural features of translation between English and Uzbek languages, focusing on semantic, grammatical, and pragmatic transformations that occur during the translation process. Special attention is given to cultural realities, idiomatic expressions, and national-specific concepts that require adaptive strategies to maintain equivalence. The study highlights the importance of cultural competence, contextual awareness, and the translator's decision-making skills in ensuring accurate and meaningful translation. The article also provides examples of common translation challenges and outlines effective methods to overcome them. Keywords: Translation studies, English–Uzbek translation, linguistic features, cultural adaptation, equivalence, pragmatics, translator competence.
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Introduction

Translation between English and Uzbek languages plays a crucial role in intercultural communication, education, diplomacy, and the transfer of scientific and artistic knowledge. Despite the structural and typological differences between the two languages, translation practice continues to develop in response to globalization and increasing international cooperation. The aim of this article is to explore the linguistic and cultural features that influence the translation process and to analyze the strategies used to ensure equivalence and communicative accuracy. In contemporary world linguistics, the branch that examines the culture of different peoples as a specific form of social interaction—linguocultural studies—is rapidly developing and gaining recognition as an independent scientific discipline. This field seeks to identify how cultural values, worldviews, and national identity find expression in language and how language, in turn, serves as a stabilizing factor in the formation of cultural consciousness. The study of factors influencing social consciousness has created broad opportunities for the simultaneous analysis of mutual relations between cultures and the mechanisms that ensure intercultural understanding. Consequently, the interrelationship between language and culture has become a central focus of modern linguistic research, giving rise to new theoretical approaches and methodological innovations.

Among the most valuable sources for examining national ideology, worldview, and spiritual heritage are folklore materials. Folklore samples of various nations, including those of the English and Uzbek peoples, are characterized by profound ideological content and high artistic value. They reflect the centuries-long aspirations of ancestors, their pursuit of freedom and independence, the hardships they endured, as well as their character, traditions, creative imagination, and cultural potential. These elements serve as significant markers of national mentality and collective identity. Therefore, the collection, publication, comparative study, and global dissemination of folklore—which has played a formative role in societal development and the enrichment of humanity’s spiritual world—remain important scholarly tasks. Comparative analysis of Uzbek folklore with the oral traditions of other nations enables the identification of universal features and national-specific distinctions, thereby contributing to the intellectual treasury of world civilization.

Since the Republic of Uzbekistan achieved independence, its international relations have expanded considerably. The intensification of diplomatic, cultural, economic, and educational cooperation has increased the national demand for highly qualified specialists with strong foreign-language proficiency. In this context, Presidential initiatives—particularly the decree signed by President Sh. M. Mirziyoyev aimed at raising foreign-language instruction in Uzbekistan to a qualitatively new stage—underscore the strategic importance of foreign-language competence in integrating into the global community. This reflects the broader national objective of opening new intellectual and cultural horizons through effective foreign-language education.

As in other domains, translation practice also encounters specific challenges, especially when dealing with specialized texts or technical terminology. In such cases, it is essential for the translator to clearly identify the field to which the source material belongs and to consider the target audience. The business sphere, characterized by a highly systematized terminology, exemplifies this necessity. Translators must anticipate potential linguistic and conceptual difficulties and be prepared to develop appropriate solutions. In specialized terminology, formal style predominates, and the demand for terminological precision and translation accuracy is particularly high.

Although translators may offer subjective assessments of what constitutes an adequate translation, scholars Hatim and Munday emphasize that the core criteria remain *literal rendering of meaning, respect for form, and overall accuracy*. In line with this view, the present study maintains that readers should be able to comprehend translated terms without significant cognitive effort; therefore, translation should be accessible and unambiguous. Achieving such clarity, however, is often challenging, especially when dealing with complex or newly emerging terminology. Nevertheless, the translation of key terms must be evaluated not only for accuracy but also for their functional clarity and stylistic appropriateness.

In today’s scientific environment, timely and complete access to global research achievements is of paramount importance, making foreign-language proficiency an essential skill for scholars. President Sh. M. Mirziyoyev has repeatedly emphasized that foreign-language learning and teaching hold a central place in Uzbekistan’s educational and developmental agenda. This emphasis is highly justified, given that comprehensive foreign-language command is

indispensable for a nation striving to occupy a dignified position in the global community and to build its future through international cooperation and intellectual exchange.

In contemporary education systems—including higher education—one of the most urgent challenges is the search for innovative methods and techniques for teaching foreign languages, as well as the need to fundamentally transform the entire process of foreign-language instruction. The rapid changes occurring in the modern world, along with the growing interdependence of nations, have significantly increased the demand for effective communication and international cooperation.

Although English currently serves as a widely used global means of communication, it is not the sole language facilitating interactions among countries. Consequently, the role of translators in ensuring mutual understanding and maintaining intercultural dialogue has become increasingly important. However, mastery of foreign languages alone does not qualify an individual to become a professional translator. Translation requires adherence to specific norms, ethical principles, and professional standards that regulate both the process of translation and the behavior of the translator.

The concepts of *ethics* and *etiquette*, though related, are fundamentally distinct. The term **ethics** comprises two primary meanings:

1. **Philosophical meaning** – a field that examines the general nature of morality and the moral choices individuals make in their interactions with others.
2. **Professional meaning** – a set of rules, norms, or standards that govern the conduct of members of a particular profession.

By contrast, **etiquette** refers to socially established conventions, norms, and forms of behavior that guide interpersonal interactions within society. Accordingly, while a translator is bound by ethical obligations arising from professional responsibility, etiquette determines the translator's external conduct and communication style in social and professional contexts.

ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE ON THE SUBJECT

Interpreter's Code of Ethics. Interpreting, like any other professional activity, imposes significant ethical and practical responsibilities on the specialist. The primary responsibility of an interpreter is to convey information from the source language to the target language with complete accuracy, without introducing personal judgments, omissions, or additions, while preserving the author's original tone, communicative intent, and stylistic features. Because interpreters frequently work in sensitive and complex communicative contexts, numerous national and international organizations have developed professional codes of ethics to guide their conduct. Among these are the FIT Interpreter's Charter, the American Translators Association (ATA) Code of Ethics, and the Code of Ethics of the British Columbia Society of Interpreters and Translators. These documents outline the fundamental professional standards expected from interpreters across various cultural and institutional settings.

Across different professional codes, several core ethical principles are consistently emphasized:

1. Confidentiality

Interpreters and translators often work with sensitive, confidential, and legally protected information. Ethical standards require that no information be disclosed to third parties without explicit authorization from the client. Exceptions may apply only in emergency or legally

mandated circumstances. Breaches of confidentiality can result in professional sanctions, suspension of certification, or removal from assignments.

2. Cultural Competence and Prevention of Misunderstandings

Every society possesses its own cultural norms, communicative traditions, and pragmatic conventions. Interpreters must possess a deep understanding of the cultural background associated with both the source and target languages to prevent misinterpretations, pragmatic failures, or disruptions in communication. When cultural barriers arise, the interpreter plays a crucial role in facilitating mutual understanding and ensuring smooth interaction between communicants.

3. Continuous Professional Development

Language is a dynamic phenomenon, and new terminology, neologisms, and domain-specific jargon emerge continuously across professional fields. Interpreters—particularly those working in technical, legal, or medical domains—must continually update their linguistic competence. This includes ongoing studies, attending training sessions, and familiarizing themselves with contemporary terminology to avoid inaccuracies that may hinder effective interpretation.

4. Accuracy and Fidelity

The accuracy of interpretation or translation is essential for ensuring that the target audience receives a faithful representation of the original message. This includes preserving semantic meaning, stylistic nuances, and the communicative intent of the speaker or author. Literary translation, for example, often involves archaic vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, and culturally embedded references that require extensive background knowledge. It is the translator's professional responsibility to research such elements, interpret them correctly within context, and convey them accurately in the target language.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Practice and professionalism A translator should do a task that he can do without problems, without errors. You should not take on a task that is beyond your skills and level. Only through practice can you improve your skills and gain experience. It is better if you do small tasks, because by doing them you will practice well and soon you can get higher and more serious jobs.

These rules may seem easy or unnecessary to some new translators or interpreters, but once you get acquainted with them, you will not have any problems. Some of the general ethical standards mentioned above can be summarized as follows:

- The translator must have appropriate linguistic qualifications.
- Translators must be knowledgeable about the relevant subject.
- Translators may refuse to translate a document that conveys a message that they do not agree with.
- Translators may request necessary documents for translation.
- Translators must respect confidentiality rules.
- When translating together, the names of all translators must appear.

Indeed, dictionaries are of great help in speaking clearly and fluently in any language. One of such dictionaries is thematic dictionaries. Thematic dictionaries have their own historical development

in linguistics and have such forms as thesaurus, analogical, and ideographic. In a thematic dictionary, a word is given in a meaning specific to a specific semantic field. The famous Russian linguist L.V. Shcherba, in his article on the theory of lexicography, compared the thematic dictionary with the thesaurus in terms of its similarities and differences and interpreted it as a separate form of the dictionary. Western ideography was divided into three stages: philosophical, theoretical, and practical. The philosophical stage includes the views of the philosophers of the ancient world and European scholars who lived in the Middle Ages. The theoretical stage appeared and developed in connection with the Western Renaissance. The practical stage arose in direct connection with the "Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases" published by the English scholar M.P. Roger in 1852 and was continued by English, Spanish, French, and Russian scholars such as F. Dornzayf, H. Casares, H. Mayer, R. Hallig, V. Wartburg, Yu. Karaulov, M. Morkovkin, and O. Baranov.

Due to national independence, the Uzbek vocabulary began to create thematic dictionaries aimed at business entrepreneurs and specialists in various fields. Various types of thematic dictionaries aimed at representatives of trade, crafts, agriculture and similar fields were further enriched. This thematic dictionary contains words and phrases related to the macrofields "die Natur - nature", "die Gesellschaft: - society", "das Leben und die Tätigkeit der Menschen - life and activity of people" and "die Zeit und das Zahl - time and quantity". Each macrofield included about 10,000 words and phrases contained in a separate content field. For example, the macrofield "die Gesellschaft - society" formed such semantic fields as "die Staat - state", "die Leitung - management", "die Bevölkerung - population", "die Arm ee und die Flote - army and fleet". In the thematic dictionary, the micro-field "die Staat - state", which constitutes the initial link of the macro-field "die Gesellschaft - society", is in turn divided into the following content fields: 1. Der Staat - state, die Gewalt - power, das Land - country, die Heimat - homeland, die Republik - republic, das Gebiet - region, region, der Bezirk - district, die Stadt - city, das Dorf - village, die Siedlung - settlement, village, village, etc. 2. Die Leitung - management, leadership, die Wahl - election, der Abgeordnete - deputy, die Demokratie - democracy, equal rights, die Verfassung - constitution, dictionary, etc. 3. Die Bevölkerung - population, das Volk - people, die Nation - nation, etc. 4. Die Annee und die Flotte - army and fleet, die Armee - army, die Truppe - army, der Dienst - service, das Regiment - regiment, army, der Stab - headquarters, der Stützpunkt - defense base, der Titel - title, etc. This thematic dictionary is compiled based on thematic principles and contains words and expressions used in everyday life. With the help of this dictionary, students can engage in scientific research, independent thinking and achieve understanding. We hope that this will increase their vocabulary and broaden their worldview. We sincerely thank the teachers who have provided close advice and support in the preparation of the "English-Uzbek Thematic Dictionary".

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In conclusion, it can be said that following these rules is never enough, every text and conference is different. There can be misunderstandings between clients. Sometimes this is a very problematic job, which makes you upset and nervous. Nevertheless, your task is to solve problems, understand the situation and make it understandable to everyone. That is, this translator is not only a person who transfers the text from one language to another, but also a person who helps clients in their

work, who has a big job on his shoulders. In addition, this person is a creator who uses facial expressions and gestures to make the translated speech clearer, who, like the author, puts his soul and feels into the story he is translating. Therefore, once you become a translator, never forget that each job has its own ethics and rules: the judge must be honest.

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