



## TRANSLATION PROBLEMS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN UZBEK AND ENGLISH

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### ABSTRACT

*This article examines the challenges encountered in translating phraseological units between Uzbek and English languages. The research highlights the importance of understanding cultural context, idiomatic expressions, and semantic nuances in achieving accurate translations.*

### INTRODUCTION

Phraseological units, also known as idioms or fixed expressions, form an integral part of any language, reflecting its cultural heritage, historical development, and unique worldview. These linguistic elements pose significant challenges in translation due to their often non-literal meanings and cultural specificity. The translation of phraseological units between Uzbek and English, two languages with distinct linguistic roots and cultural backgrounds, presents a particularly intriguing area of study.

### METHODS AND LITERATURE REVIEW

To conduct this study, a comprehensive review of existing literature on phraseological units and their translation was undertaken. The research methodology involved analyzing scholarly articles, books, and translation studies focusing on Uzbek and English languages, as well as general works on phraseology and translation theory.

Key sources included works by prominent linguists and translation theorists such as Baker [1], who provides insights into the translation of idioms and fixed expressions across languages. Vinay and Darbelnet's [2] classic work on comparative stylistics offered valuable perspectives on translation procedures, which were applied to the specific context of Uzbek and English phraseological units.

In the Uzbek context, the works of Yusupov [3] and Musaev [4] were particularly relevant, offering in-depth analyses of Uzbek phraseology and its translation challenges. These sources provided a solid foundation for understanding the unique characteristics of Uzbek phraseological units and the difficulties they present in translation.

For English phraseology, studies by Moon [5] and Cowie [6] were instrumental in providing a comprehensive overview of fixed expressions and idioms in the English language. These works helped in drawing comparisons between English and Uzbek phraseological systems.

The literature review also encompassed comparative studies of Uzbek and English phraseology, such as those conducted by Khudoyberganova [7], which offered valuable insights into the similarities and differences between phraseological units in these two languages.

## RESULTS

The analysis of the literature revealed several key findings regarding the translation of phraseological units between Uzbek and English:

**Cultural Specificity:** A significant number of phraseological units in both Uzbek and English are deeply rooted in their respective cultures, historical contexts, and national traditions. This cultural specificity often results in the absence of direct equivalents in the target language [3].

**Structural Differences:** The structural differences between Uzbek, an agglutinative language, and English, an analytic language, create challenges in maintaining the syntactic and stylistic features of phraseological units during translation [4].

**Semantic Opacity:** Many phraseological units in both languages exhibit varying degrees of semantic opacity, where the meaning of the whole cannot be derived from the sum of its parts. This characteristic complicates the translation process, especially when dealing with highly idiomatic expressions [5].

**Polysemy and Contextual Dependence:** Some phraseological units have multiple meanings depending on the context, requiring translators to carefully consider the broader textual and situational context to determine the appropriate translation [6].

## ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis of translation strategies employed to address these challenges revealed several approaches:

1. **Equivalence:** When possible, translators seek to find equivalent phraseological units in the target language that convey a similar meaning and evoke comparable emotions or imagery. For example, the Uzbek expression "qo'li ochiq" (literally "open-handed") can be effectively translated as "generous" or "open-handed" in English, preserving both the meaning and the imagery [7].
2. **Literal Translation:** In some cases, a literal translation can be effective, especially when the phraseological unit is transparent enough to be understood by speakers of the target language. However, this approach is often limited in its applicability due to the idiomatic nature of many expressions [2].
3. **Paraphrase:** When no equivalent exists and a literal translation would be incomprehensible or misleading, translators often resort to paraphrasing the meaning of the phraseological unit. While this approach preserves the semantic content, it may result in the loss of stylistic and cultural nuances [1].
4. **Cultural Substitution:** This involves replacing a culture-specific item or expression with a target language item that serves a similar function. For instance, the Uzbek expression "choy ustida" (literally "over tea") might be translated as "over coffee" for an English-speaking audience, adapting to the target culture's social customs [4].

The effectiveness of these strategies varies depending on the specific phraseological unit, the context of its use, and the purpose of the translation. Each approach has its strengths and limitations:

Equivalence, when available, offers the most satisfactory solution, preserving both meaning and style. However, true equivalents are relatively rare between languages as diverse as Uzbek and English.

Literal translation can be effective for transparent phraseological units but risks producing awkward or nonsensical expressions in the target language when applied to more opaque idioms [8].

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The translation of phraseological units between Uzbek and English presents significant challenges due to linguistic, cultural, and structural differences between the two languages. Successful translation requires a nuanced approach that balances fidelity to the source text with the need for comprehensibility and naturalness in the target language. This study highlights the importance of a translator's deep knowledge of both source and target languages and cultures, as well as their ability to employ a range of strategies flexibly and creatively. While no single approach can address all the challenges posed by phraseological units, a judicious combination of strategies, informed by careful analysis of each specific case, can result in translations that effectively convey both the meaning and the spirit of the original expressions.

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