

**PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN BILINGUAL LEARNER'S DICTIONARIES: ANALYSIS  
BASED ON ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES****Khayrullayev Shokhjakhon Nozimjonovich**

Karshi state university doctoral student, Uzbekistan

**ANNOTATION**

This thesis examines the representation of phraseological units in bilingual dictionaries based on a comparative-analytical study of the English and Uzbek languages. The research provides a scholarly analysis of the semantic, stylistic, and cultural aspects of phraseological units, as well as the issues of equivalence that arise in the process of translation. In particular, different degrees of equivalence—full, partial, and zero equivalence—are identified and the methods of their representation in dictionaries are critically analyzed.

**KEYWORDS**

phraseological units, bilingual dictionary, lexicography, translation principles, equivalence, zero equivalence, functional analogue.

**IKKI TILLI O'QUV LUG'ATLARDA FRAZELOGIK BIRLIKLAR: INGLIZ VA O'ZBEK  
TILLARI ASOSIDA TAHLIL****ANNOTATSIYA**

Mazkur tezisdagi ikki tilli lug'atlarda frazeologik birliklarning ifodalanish xususiyatlari ingliz va o'zbek tillari misolida qiyosiy-tahliliy asosda o'rganiladi. Tadqiqotda frazeologik birliklarning semantik, stilistik va madaniy jihatlari hamda ularning tarjima jarayonida yuzaga keladigan muvofiqlik muammolari ilmiy jihatdan yoritiladi. Xususan, ekvivalentlikning turli darajalari to'liq, qisman va nol ekvivalentlik holatlari aniqlanib, ularning lug'atlarda aks ettirilish usullari tahlil qilinadi.

**KALIT SO'ZLAR**

frazeologik birliklar, ikki tilli lug'at, leksikografiya, tarjima tamoyillari, ekvivalentlik, nol ekvivalentlik, funksional analog

**ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ ЕДИНИЦЫ В ДВУЯЗЫЧНЫХ УЧЕБНЫХ СЛОВАРЯХ:  
СРАВНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ АНГЛИЙСКОГО И УЗБЕКСКОГО ЯЗЫКОВ****АННОТАЦИЯ**

В данной тезис рассматриваются особенности представления фразеологических единиц в двуязычных словарях на примере английского и узбекского языков в сравнительно-аналитическом аспекте. В исследовании научно освещаются семантические, стилистические и культурные характеристики фразеологических единиц, а также проблемы их эквивалентности,

возникающие в процессе перевода. В частности, выделяются различные уровни эквивалентности — полная, частичная и нулевая, а также анализируются способы их отражения в словарях.

## КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА

фразеологические единицы, двуязычный словарь, лексикография, принципы перевода, эквивалентность, нулевая эквивалентность, функциональный аналог

## INTRODUCTION

In the globalization, interactions between languages are expanding, and both translation studies and lexicography are gaining increasing significance. In particular, bilingual dictionaries serve as essential scientific and practical resources for language learners, translators, and researchers. Such dictionaries are important not only for explaining the meanings of individual lexical units but also for reflecting their usage in real communicative contexts. From this perspective, the representation of phraseological units in dictionaries is recognized as one of the pressing issues in contemporary linguistics. Phraseological units are complex semantic structures that embody the figurative, expressive, and cultural characteristics of a language. They are typically not amenable to literal translation and are perceived as indivisible semantic wholes. Therefore, their adequate representation in bilingual dictionaries remains a significant challenge in both translation theory and practice. This is particularly evident in the case of languages belonging to different language families, such as English and Uzbek, where ensuring phraseological equivalence is conditioned by intricate linguistic and cultural factors. This study lies in the fact that many existing bilingual dictionaries do not provide a sufficiently systematic and comprehensive treatment of phraseological units. In many cases, translations are presented without adequate contextualization, and stylistic features are often overlooked. As a result, users encounter difficulties in accurately understanding and appropriately using such units in actual communication. This situation necessitates the development of new theoretical and methodological approaches to the study and representation of phraseological units. This research is to identify the specific features of representing phraseological units in bilingual dictionaries based on English and Uzbek, to analyze the problems arising in their translation, and to propose theoretically grounded solutions. To achieve this goal, the semantic, stylistic, and cultural aspects of phraseological units are examined in an integrated manner, and different degrees of equivalence, along with their representation strategies in dictionaries, are analyzed.

In modern lexicography, bilingual learner's dictionaries serve not only as translation tools but also as instruments of cultural and linguistic transmission. With the increasing interest in mastering foreign languages, the need for comprehensive, user-friendly, and semantically accurate dictionaries has grown significantly. Among the various lexical items found in dictionaries, phraseological units (idioms, collocations, fixed expressions) hold a complex yet essential place. They are culturally rich and semantically loaded expressions that pose unique challenges in bilingual lexicographic representation. Phraseological units refer to stable word combinations with a meaning not deducible from the individual words. Their semantic opacity and structural fixity distinguish them from free word groups. Idioms such as 'spill the beans' or 'kick the bucket' have meanings far from their literal interpretations, posing difficulties for learners without cultural familiarity. In lexicography, especially in learner's dictionaries, the challenge lies in defining these units in a way that is both accurate and

accessible. These dictionaries must serve as pedagogical tools, offering explanations, usage contexts, and sometimes cultural notes. The inclusion of phraseological units enhances the expressive range of language learners and supports natural language acquisition. Common classifications include idioms proper, phrasal verbs, similes, and proverbial expressions. Understanding these distinctions is critical for accurate lexicographic representation, especially in bilingual contexts where direct equivalents may not exist. One of the principal difficulties in bilingual lexicography is ensuring proper equivalence between source and target language idioms. Equivalence may be full, partial, or non-existent. Full equivalence involves both semantic and stylistic match (e.g., 'to bury the hatchet' = 'kelishmoq' in Uzbek). Partial equivalence may retain meaning but lose stylistic or emotional nuance. In some cases, no direct equivalent exists, requiring descriptive or paraphrased translation. For example, the English idiom "let the cat out of the bag" corresponds approximately to the Uzbek phrase "sirin sirni ochib qo'ymoq," yet the cultural imagery differs. Maintaining the idiomatic feel while conveying the meaning requires nuanced translation skills. Cultural specificity, context sensitivity, and stylistic considerations all impact how phraseological units are rendered. Dictionaries must thus strike a balance between literal fidelity and functional intelligibility.

## MAIN PART

Bilingual dictionaries represent one of the key directions of modern lexicography, serving as essential tools of linguistic and cultural mediation between different languages. In compiling such dictionaries, it is crucial to establish translation principles on a solid scientific basis, particularly with regard to the adequate representation of phraseological units. This is because phraseological units are complex constructions that embody the national and cultural characteristics of a language, and their direct translation, unlike that of simple lexical items, often leads to semantic and stylistic loss.

One of the most fundamental principles in translation is equivalence. Equivalence refers to the degree to which a unit in the source language is rendered in the target language with corresponding meaning and functional value. However, within the domain of phraseology, full equivalence is relatively rare. Therefore, lexicographic practice frequently relies on approaches such as partial equivalence and functional correspondence. In cases of partial equivalence, the core semantic content of a phraseological unit is preserved, while its stylistic or figurative components may not be fully retained. Functional correspondence, on the other hand, focuses on maintaining the communicative function and pragmatic effect of the unit in actual discourse. Problems of phraseological equivalence are primarily associated with cultural differences between languages. Each language possesses its own system of images, symbols, and historically shaped expressions that are deeply rooted in its cultural context. Consequently, a phraseological unit commonly used in one language may appear unfamiliar or incomprehensible in another. In such cases, literal translation may result in communicative inaccuracies. Therefore, dictionary compilers must take into account not only linguistic but also cultural contexts when rendering phraseological units. There are several principal methods of representing phraseological units in bilingual dictionaries. The first is literal translation, which is applicable only when there is a high degree of semantic and figurative correspondence between the two languages. The second is descriptive (explanatory) translation, in which the meaning of the phraseological unit is conveyed through a more detailed explanation. This method is particularly effective for expressions with strong national and cultural specificity. The third method involves the use of functional analogues, where a phraseological unit in the target language with a similar

communicative function is selected. This approach ensures the naturalness and pragmatic appropriateness of the translation.

At the same time, corpus-based approaches are gaining increasing importance in modern lexicography. Corpus materials enable the analysis of authentic language use, providing valuable insights into the frequency, contextual behavior, and stylistic variation of phraseological units. This, in turn, enhances the accuracy and reliability of translations presented in dictionaries. In particular, the inclusion of multiple translation variants allows users to select the most appropriate option depending on the context, thereby improving both comprehension and practical application. Another important factor in ensuring phraseological equivalence is stylistic correspondence. Each phraseological unit belongs to a particular stylistic layer, and its inappropriate use in a given context may undermine the naturalness of discourse. Therefore, it is essential for dictionaries to clearly indicate stylistic labels of phraseological units (such as colloquial, literary, formal, etc.). This enables users not only to understand their meanings but also to apply them appropriately in communication. Establishing sound translation principles and ensuring phraseological equivalence in bilingual dictionaries is a complex yet necessary process. It requires the integration of theoretical linguistic foundations with practical experience, cultural awareness, and modern technologies. Dictionaries developed on this basis significantly enhance translation quality and the effectiveness of intercultural communication.

For the purposes of this study, two primary sources were selected: English-Uzbek Learner's Dictionary (T. Nazarov et al.) and the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary. These dictionaries demonstrate different approaches to the treatment of phraseological units. In the Oxford dictionary, each phraseological unit is presented as a separate entry enriched with illustrative examples, stylistic labels, and contextual information, which makes it highly user-friendly. In contrast, in Nazarov's dictionary, some phraseological units are presented in a more generalized manner, often lacking sufficient contextual and stylistic information.

Based on the analysis, several recommendations can be proposed. Phraseological units should be presented as separate entries in dictionaries, with comprehensive semantic descriptions, contextual usage, and clear stylistic and cultural annotations. For electronic dictionaries, it is advisable to incorporate interactive examples and multimodal resources (such as audio and video materials) to facilitate more effective learning of phraseological units. Ensuring accurate translation and equivalence of phraseological units in bilingual dictionaries is of great importance for language learners. Taking into account semantic, stylistic, and cultural aspects allows for a more complete and adequate interpretation of such units.

The degree of equivalence in translating phraseological units varies considerably. For example, the English expression "to kill two birds with one stone" has a nearly complete functional and figurative equivalent in Uzbek, "bir o'q bilan ikki quyovni urmoq." In this case, both semantic content and imagery are preserved, demonstrating full phraseological equivalence. However, such full correspondence is not always possible. For instance, the English idiom "spill the beans", when translated literally ("to'kmoq loviyani"), conveys no meaningful sense. Its actual meaning, "to reveal a secret," requires either descriptive translation or the use of a functional analogue. This example illustrates the inadequacy of literal translation in dealing with phraseological units.

Cultural differences further complicate the issue. For example, the expression “as American as apple pie” reflects a notion of national identity. Its literal translation into Uzbek is inappropriate, as “apple pie” does not function as a cultural symbol in Uzbek society. In such cases, the translator must either provide an explanatory rendering (e.g., “a symbol of national identity”) or select a culturally appropriate equivalent.

Another crucial aspect is stylistic appropriateness. For instance, the English idiom “kick the bucket” belongs to an informal register and means “to die.” If used in a formal context, it should be replaced by a neutral expression. The absence of stylistic labels in dictionaries may lead to incorrect usage.

Variability is also an important feature of phraseological translation. For example, the idiom “break the ice” can be translated in different ways depending on the context, such as “to start a conversation,” “to ease tension,” or “to initiate interaction.” This demonstrates the necessity of providing multiple translation options in dictionaries.

These examples confirm that there is no single universal approach to translating phraseological units. In each case, the most appropriate translation strategy must be selected based on context, cultural background, and communicative conditions.

The analysis of the selected dictionaries reveals certain shortcomings in the treatment of phraseological units. Therefore, future lexicographic work should focus on improving contextual explanations, providing clear stylistic labels, including cultural commentary, and utilizing multimodal tools to enhance the overall quality and usability of bilingual dictionaries.

## CONCLUSION

This study systematically analyzed the principles of translation and issues of phraseological equivalence in bilingual dictionaries. The findings indicate that when compiling dictionaries, it is essential to consider the linguistic, stylistic, and cultural aspects of phraseological units in depth. Since phraseological units are complex constructions embodying the national and cultural characteristics of a language, literal translation often results in semantic loss or communicative ambiguity. Therefore, dictionary compilers must apply approaches such as full equivalence, partial equivalence, functional correspondence, and explanatory translation in an informed and deliberate manner.

The examples presented in this research demonstrate that the translation of phraseological units should be evaluated not only from a linguistic perspective but also with attention to cultural and contextual parameters. Expressions such as “spill the beans” or “as American as apple pie” create ambiguity when translated literally; however, the use of explanatory translation or functional analogues ensures that they are rendered in a clear and natural way for users. Additionally, providing multiple translation variants and reflecting stylistic and contextual nuances enhances the practical value of dictionaries.

Ensuring phraseological equivalence in bilingual dictionaries requires the integration of linguistic precision, cultural adaptation, and stylistic appropriateness. This approach not only increases the theoretical and scientific value of dictionaries but also improves the effectiveness of translation

practice. As a result, users can fully and accurately comprehend the lexical and phraseological richness of a language, thereby facilitating intercultural communication and language learning.

Furthermore, the application of corpus-based approaches in modern lexicography-analyzing authentic language data and determining the frequency of phraseological units-contributes significantly to improving dictionary quality. Altogether, these strategies make bilingual dictionaries not only scientifically rigorous but also practically effective tools for learners, translators, and researchers alike. Lexicographers should prioritize idiomatic richness, stylistic clarity, and contextual examples to support learners' understanding. Additionally, digital lexicography offers opportunities for multimedia illustrations, interactive usage scenarios, and culturally adaptive models.

Future research and dictionary development should focus on corpus-based identification of common idioms, inclusion of culturally equivalent expressions, and learner-oriented explanatory frameworks.

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