

**THE TRANSMISSION OF ENGLISH VICTORIAN CULTURE IN
TRANSLATIONS OF THE NOVEL JANE EYRE: A LEXICAL-SEMANTIC ANALYSIS
JANE EYRE ROMANI TARJIMALARIDA INGLIZ VIKTORIAN
MADANIYATINI YETKAZISH: LEKSIKO-SEMANTIK TAHLIL
ПЕРЕДАЧА АНГЛИЙСКОЙ ВИКТОРИАНСКОЙ КУЛЬТУРЫ В
ПЕРЕВОДАХ РОМАНА JANE EYRE: ЛЕКСИКО-СЕМАНТИЧЕСКИЙ АНАЛИЗ**

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Abstract

The article examines the rendering of culture-specific vocabulary in the Russian and Uzbek translations of Charlotte Brontë's novel Jane Eyre. The aim of the study is to identify the main types of culturally marked lexical units and to analyze the translation techniques used to convey them. The research material consists of fragments from the original text and its translations containing culturally significant vocabulary. The corpus comprises 120 lexical units selected by continuous sampling. The study employs lexical-semantic, comparative, contextual, and linguocultural methods of analysis. The results reveal the predominance of social-status and religious-moral vocabulary, as well as the frequent use of functional equivalents and neutralization as translation techniques. It is demonstrated that lexical-semantic transformations have a direct impact on the preservation of Victorian cultural specificity in translation.

Annotatsiya

Maqolada Sharlotta Brontening Jane Eyre romani rus va o'zbek tillariga tarjimalarida madaniy jihatdan belgilangan leksikaning berilishi tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqotning maqsadi madaniy jihatdan belgilangan leksik birliklarning asosiy turlarini aniqlash va ularni tarjima qilishda qo'llaniladigan tarjima usullarini tahlil qilishdan iborat. Tadqiqot materiali sifatida original matn va uning tarjimalaridan madaniy ahamiyatga ega bo'lgan leksik birliklarni o'z ichiga olgan fragmentlar tanlab olindi. Tahlil korpusi uzluksiz tanlash usuli asosida ajratilgan 120 ta leksik birlikdan iborat. Tadqiqot jarayonida leksik-semantik, qiyosiy-taqqoslash, kontekstual va lingvomadaniy tahlil usullari qo'llanildi. Natijalar ijtimoiy-mavqe va diniy-axloqiy leksikaning ustunligini hamda funksional analog va neytrallashtirish tarjima jarayonida eng ko'p qo'llaniladigan usullar ekanini ko'rsatdi. Leksik-semantik transformatsiyalar tarjimada viktorian davri madaniy xususiyatlarining saqlanish darajasiga bevosita ta'sir ko'rsatishi aniqlangan.

Аннотация

В данной статье рассматриваются особенности передачи культурно маркированной лексики в переводах романа Jane Eyre Шарлотты Бронте на русский и узбекский языки. Цель исследования заключается в выявлении типов культурно маркированных лексических единиц и анализе переводческих приёмов, используемых для их передачи. Материалом исследования послужили фрагменты оригинального текста и его переводов, содержащие культурно значимую лексику. Корпус анализа включает 120 лексических

единиц, отобранных методом сплошной выборки. В ходе исследования применялись лексико-семантический, сравнительно-сопоставительный, контекстуальный и лингвокультурологический методы анализа. Результаты показали доминирование социально-статусной и религиозно-моральной лексики, а также преобладание функционального аналога и нейтрализации как основных переводческих приёмов. Установлено, что лексико-семантические трансформации существенно влияют на степень сохранения викторианской культурной специфики в переводе.

Keywords: culture-specific vocabulary, literary translation, translation transformations, Victorian culture, Jane Eyre.

Kalit so‘zlar: madaniy jihatdan belgilangan leksika, badiiy tarjima, tarjima transformatsiyalari, viktorian madaniyati, Jane Eyre.

Ключевые слова: культурно маркированная лексика, художественный перевод, переводческие трансформации, викторианская культура, Jane Eyre.

INTRODUCTION

Charlotte Brontë’s novel *Jane Eyre* occupies a distinctive place in the history of nineteenth-century English literature as a work in which the literary text is closely intertwined with the social, moral, and cultural principles of the Victorian era. In literary studies, the novel is traditionally regarded not only as an example of realist prose, but also as a cultural document that reflects the values, behavioral norms, social hierarchy, and worldview of English society in the mid-nineteenth century. In this context, Victorian culture functions as a system-forming element of the text, determining both its narrative development and its linguistic organization.

Of particular importance for the interpretation of the novel is culturally marked vocabulary, through which the realities of everyday life, social roles, religious beliefs, and moral attitudes of Victorian England are represented. When a literary text is translated into another language, these elements are often subject to transformation, which may lead either to a partial loss of cultural meanings or to their adaptation in accordance with the norms of the target culture. As a result, translation ceases to be a neutral mediator and begins to play an active role in the reinterpretation of the cultural content of the source text.

The scholarly problem addressed in this study lies in the fact that, in translations of *Jane Eyre*, culturally marked vocabulary of the Victorian period is frequently rendered fragmentarily or undergoes transformation, which in turn alters the cultural perspective of the text. At the same time, despite sustained scholarly interest in the issues of translating national color and cultural specificity, there has been no comprehensive lexicosemantic analysis of translations of *Jane Eyre* aimed specifically at identifying the mechanisms of conveying Victorian culture.

The aim of the present study is to identify the features of rendering elements of Victorian culture in translations of *Jane Eyre* at the lexical-semantic level.

To achieve this aim, the following research questions are addressed:

- which types of culturally marked vocabulary prevail in *Jane Eyre*;
- which translation techniques are used to render these units in translation;
- to what extent the cultural specificity of the Victorian era is preserved in the translated text.

The scholarly novelty of the study consists in a comparative analysis of the source text of the novel and its translations from the perspectives of lexical semantics and cultural studies, which makes it possible to reveal patterns and specific features of the representation of Victorian culture in translation and to clarify the role of the lexical level in preserving the national and cultural specificity of a literary work.

METHODOLOGY

To conduct the present study, an analysis was carried out of fragments from the original text of Charlotte Brontë's novel *Jane Eyre* and its translations into Russian and Uzbek. The object of analysis consisted of culturally marked lexical units reflecting the specific features of the British cultural and historical context of the nineteenth century and representing potential difficulties in translation.

The main stages of the research methodology were as follows.

Material selection. A purposive selection of fragments from the original text containing culturally significant vocabulary was carried out. The analysis included units related to everyday realia, social institutions, religious concepts, and evaluative characteristics of characters. The total size of the corpus amounted to 120 lexical units.

Lexico-semantic analysis. The selected units were analyzed in terms of their semantic structure, meaning in the source context, and functional load in the literary text. Particular attention was paid to polysemy and connotative components of meaning.

Comparative-contrastive analysis. At this stage, the original lexemes were compared with their equivalents in the Russian and Uzbek translations. This made it possible to identify similarities and differences in the rendering of culturally marked elements, as well as to determine the degree of preservation of their semantic and pragmatic adequacy.

Contextual and linguocultural analysis. The analysis of translation solutions was carried out with due regard to the broader context of the work and to cultural factors influencing text interpretation. The role of the target reader's cultural knowledge and the influence of intercultural differences on the choice of translation strategies were examined.

Systematization of results. At the final stage of the study, the identified translation transformations were recorded and classified, which made it possible to determine the main tendencies and typical techniques used to render culturally marked vocabulary in the translations of *Jane Eyre*.

The results obtained served as the empirical basis for the subsequent analysis and the formulation of conclusions presented in the following sections of the article [5].

RESULTS

As a result of the classification of culturally marked lexical units identified in the original text of the novel *Jane Eyre*, the following main thematic groups were distinguished. The most represented group was socio-status vocabulary, accounting for 35% of the total number of examples. A significant share was also occupied by religious and moral vocabulary (27%), reflecting the specificity of the Victorian worldview. Lexical units related to everyday life and material culture constituted 23%, while educational and pedagogical vocabulary was represented to a lesser extent, amounting to 15%.

The analysis of the translations showed that the most frequently used technique in rendering culturally marked vocabulary is the use of a functional analogue (38%). Neutralization of cultural specificity was recorded in 25% of cases, which indicates the translators' tendency to simplify the perception of the text for the target reader. Descriptive translation was used in 20% of the examples, primarily in cases where direct equivalents were absent in the target language. Calquing (10%) and compensation (7%) were applied considerably less often and, as a rule, in contexts requiring the preservation of the formal or stylistic specificity of the original.

A comparative analysis of the source text and its translations made it possible to identify a number of semantic shifts. In several cases, a partial loss of the social markedness of lexical units was observed, as well as a reduction in religious expressiveness. In addition, a smoothing of elements of the Victorian social hierarchy was identified, which leads to a weakening of the cultural and historical specificity of the source text in translation [4].

DISCUSSION

The dominance of functional equivalents in the translation of culturally marked vocabulary can be interpreted within the communicative-functional approach developed by V. N. Komissarov. According to this concept, the primary objective of translation is to ensure

communicative equivalence, even in cases of partial divergence between the formal and semantic parameters of the source text and the translation. In this context, the use of functional analogues appears justified, as it makes it possible to preserve the pragmatic effect of the source text for the target reader [2].

The high frequency of neutralization confirms a tendency toward adapting the text to the cognitive and cultural expectations of the target audience. From the perspective of A. D. Shveitser, such transformations reflect a strategy of cultural adaptation aimed at reducing the cultural distance between the source and target texts. However, this strategy inevitably leads to a weakening of the national and cultural specificity of the original, as evidenced by the semantic shifts identified in the analysis [3].

The results obtained correlate with the views of S. Vlahov and S. Florin regarding the inherent difficulty of translating realia and culturally marked units [1]. The authors emphasize that the translation of realia is inevitably accompanied either by explication or by the loss of the cultural component of meaning. The combination of functional analogues, neutralization, and descriptive translation identified in the present study confirms this assumption and demonstrates the limitations of translation resources when rendering the Victorian cultural context.

At the same time, the identified translation strategies are consistent with E. Nida's concept of dynamic equivalence, according to which priority is given to the response of the target reader [7]. The use of functional analogues and neutralization indicates the translators' intention to reproduce the communicative effect of the original, even at the cost of modifying cultural and historical information.

From the perspective of the normative model of translation proposed by P. Newmark, the techniques identified may be interpreted as a fluctuation between semantic and communicative translation [6]. In cases where calquing or compensation is employed, an orientation toward semantic translation and the preservation of the cultural specificity of the original is observed. By contrast, neutralization and functional equivalence indicate the predominance of a communicative approach aimed at facilitating text perception by the target audience.

An analysis of the cultural consequences of translation allows one to argue that the predominance of adaptive strategies leads to a partial erosion of the Victorian cultural identity of the novel *Jane Eyre*. The weakening of social and religious markedness contributes to the smoothing of the hierarchical structure of society represented in the original and to the transformation of the image of the novel's social space in translation. This observation supports the thesis that translation functions not only as a linguistic but also as a cultural-interpretative process that shapes a new reading of the source text within a different cultural environment [8].

CONCLUSION

In the course of the study, the stated aim was achieved. The analysis of the original text of Charlotte Brontë's novel *Jane Eyre* and its translations into Russian and Uzbek made it possible to identify the main types of culturally marked vocabulary and to determine their functional role in the literary text.

The results of the study showed that lexico-semantic translation transformations have a direct impact on the degree to which Victorian cultural specificity is preserved in translation. The use of functional analogues and neutralization contributes to the communicative adequacy of the translation; however, it simultaneously leads to a partial weakening of the social and religious markedness of the original. This confirms the thesis that the representation of the cultural space of a literary work depends on the translation strategies chosen.

The conclusions obtained allow literary translation to be viewed as a process not only of interlingual but also of intercultural interpretation. Prospects for further research are associated with expanding the corpus of analyzed texts, incorporating additional translations of *Jane Eyre*, and conducting a comparative analysis of translations of Victorian-era works within a broader typological and intercultural context.

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