

## PRACTICAL PROBLEMS IN TRANSLATING ENGLISH IDIOMS INTO UZBEK

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**Abstract.** Idioms are prevalent around the world, and every language has its own unique idioms and idiomatic expressions that be different to other languages. Translating idioms from one language to another can present a number of practical challenges due to cultural, linguistic, and contextual disparities of the source language between target language that translators usually stumble upon. This article aims at exploring primary issues and complexities in terms of idiom translation from English into Uzbek by providing a few examples. Moreover, strategies for effective idiom translation are also discussed, emphasizing the importance of preserving meaning and nuance while ensuring cultural relevance and comprehension in the target language.

**Аннотация.** Идиомы распространены во всем мире, и в каждом языке есть свои уникальные идиомы и идиоматические выражения, которые отличаются от других языков. Перевод идиом с одного языка на другой может представлять ряд практических проблем из-за культурных, лингвистических и контекстуальных различий исходного языка и целевого языка, с которыми обычно сталкиваются переводчики. Целью этой статьи является изучение основных проблем и сложностей перевода идиом с английского на узбекский язык путем предоставления нескольких примеров. Кроме того, также обсуждаются стратегии эффективного перевода идиом, подчеркивая важность сохранения смысла и нюансов, обеспечивая при этом культурную значимость и понимание на целевом языке.

**Key words:** figurative meaning, cultural specificity, emotional tone, equivalence and non-equivalence;

**Ключевые слова:** переносное значение, культурная специфика, эмоциональный тон, эквивалентность и неэквивалентность;

Idioms are phrases or expressions that have a figurative meaning different from their literal interpretation. These expressions are often unique to a particular language and culture, adding emotion and color and making speech and communication natural in some ways.

English is considered to be a language rich in idioms; therefore, translators should be aware of their nature, types, and usage.<sup>1</sup> An important problem regarding the translation of idioms - in our case, from English into Uzbek- might be a large number of idioms in English and the fact that some of them might be hard to understand and grasp even for the native speakers, speaking different varieties of the language, such as British, American, Australian, Canadian, or other varieties. The statistics show that nowadays over 7,000 idioms are used in British, American, or Australian English. 3,000–4,000 words constitute the active vocabulary and 4,000–5,000 words form the passive vocabulary of an advanced learner of a foreign language.<sup>2</sup> However, idioms in the Uzbek language are not as many as in English, so translators encounter some problems during translation:

Cultural specificity: idioms often contain cultural references unique to one language. Break the ice—gap ochmoq;

Linguistic structure refers to the syntactic and grammatical differences between languages. under the weather - qovog’idan qor yog’moq. In English version, there is no verb, but in translation verb participates.

Baker considers idioms as the frozen patterns of language carrying the united meaning of several words and keeping the same variation or with little change<sup>3</sup>. While translating idioms, there can be two domain processes such as equivalence and non-equivalence. The former is a procedure that replicates the identical circumstance as the original, but with entirely different terminology.<sup>4</sup> Equivalence in idiom translation requires finding an idiom in the target language that conveys the same meaning and emotional tone as the source language idiom. This involves understanding both the literal and figurative meanings and identifying their appropriate counterparts. For example,

- a piece of cake- xamirdan qil sug’urgandek;
- east or west, your home is the best- o’z uying o’lan to’shaging;
- out of sight, out of mind-o’zi yo’qning o’rni yo’q;
- Cut from the same cloth – tuprog’i bitta joydan olingan;
- action speaks louder than words-gap bilan emas, amal bilan ko’rsat;

Non-equivalence occurs when there are no direct idiomatic counterparts in the target language. In such cases translator must adapt the idiom creatively, often by using descriptive language or different idiomatic expressions that convey the same idea.

- Rome wasn’t built in a day – mashaqqatsiz ish bitmas.

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<sup>1</sup> Sciendo.com

<sup>2</sup> Bárdos, Jenő. 2000. The theory and practice of foreign language teaching. Budapest

<sup>3</sup> Baker M. In other words. London. 1992

<sup>4</sup> Vinay J.P. and J.Darbelnet. Comparative Stylistics of French and English: a methodology for translation. (1995)

-Spill the beans - sirni oshkor etmoq.

-beat around the bush – gapni aylantirmaslik (gapning indalosini aytganda)

Idioms are deeply embedded in a culture’s history and language, making them difficult to translate into another language. Idioms can rarely be translated word for word as the context does not transfer; understanding them requires knowledge of the original language. Idioms typically do not have an equivalent expression in the target language. This lack of equivalence can lead to loss of the intended meaning or nuance in the translation process.<sup>5</sup> Dealing with non-equivalence, translators are able to provide explanation or more detailed translation to preserve idiom’s meaning.

- Call it a day – miyaga dam bermoq, oyog’ni uzatib dam olmoq, uzoq ishlashdan so’ng miriqib dam olmoq;

-hit the nails on the head – tog’ri qilmoq yoki tog’ri aytmoq, nishonga urmoq;

In addition, translators use descriptive language to convey the meaning.

-once in a blue moon- tuyani dumi yerga tekkanda, qishda qizil qor yoqqanda;

These strategies help to ensure that idioms are translated effectively, preserving their meaning and impact across languages.

To conclude, although idioms are hard to translate and understand, translators should adapt strategies that be useful during the process. Effective idiom translation balances preserving the original meaning, and ensuring cultural and contextual relevance. This often involves finding equivalent expressions or creatively adapting idioms when direct counterparts are unavailable.

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<sup>5</sup> Transatlantictranslation.com