

THE USE OF GRAMMATICAL TRANSLATION TRANSFORMATIONS IN
TRANSLATING THE TRILOGY “THE HUNGER GAMES” BY S. COLLINS
INTO UKRAINIAN

The translation of fiction sources touches upon not only correlation of a source and target texts but to a large extent many problems related to translation theory, contemplation on the essence of national elements in translation, involvement of a great many techniques and translation methods.

Translation means and transformations embrace a large coverage of changes of a source text. In spite of the fact that the majority of translation means have been investigated and analysed (L. S. Barhudarov, M. K. Garbovsky, V. I. Karaban, J. Catford, T. K. Kyiak, V. N. Komisarov, V. V. Koptilov, I. V. Korunets, O. I. Cherednychenko, etc.), modern translation theory embraces different aspects of the research of pragmatic, psychological, cross-cultural, linguistic and cognitive peculiarities of source and target texts considering their structural and grammatical correlation, plurilingual conceptual basis, lexical-semantic autonomy, interference and transposition processes [1-7].

The research objective of our work is the analysis of permutation, substitution, addition and omission as grammatical transformations used in Ukrainian translations of “The Hunger Games” trilogy (written by S. Collins). According to this objective we defined the following tasks: to describe the above mentioned grammatical transformations which were used while translating the trilogy “The Hunger Games” into Ukrainian; to analyse the most frequently used types of grammatical transformations while translating the trilogy into Ukrainian.

“The Hunger Games” is a trilogy of young adult dystopian novels written by American novelist S. Collins. The novels in the trilogy are titled “The Hunger Games” (2008), “Catching Fire” (2009), and “Mockingjay” (2010). The first two books in the series were both New York Times best sellers, and “Mockingjay” topped all US bestseller lists upon its release. By the time the film adaptation of “The

"Hunger Games" was released in 2012, the publisher had reported over 26 million "Hunger Games" trilogy books in print, including movie tie-in books. We envisaged grammatical transformations which we encountered in their Ukrainian translation.

In the real intercourse process communicative value of elements can increase (progressive word-order) or decrease (regressive word-order). Any element of utterance (sentence) can be placed within the degree of communicative significance, i.e. subject, its adjuncts or complements, space or time referents. Progressive communicative development coincides with the objective structure of utterance (sentence) and direct word-order (the subject precedes the predicate, the adjunct precedes the object, etc.). In this case their Ukrainian translation counterparts can be rendered by progressive inverted structures, which is due to their synthetic peculiarities. Though permutation occurs in translation, postposition of subject will allow to correlate it with object.

When the structures in the source language are characterised by regressive word-order with communicative significant elements at the beginning, the cases with permutation are very rare.

In the source language there are a lot of structures which introduce communicative significant elements placed at the final sentence position with progressive communicative model, while in the target language permutation process takes place. For example: There are several other weak spots in the fence, but this one is so close to home I almost always enter the woods here. У паркані є й інші пристойні щілини, але ця так близько від дому, що я майже завжди вислизаю в ліс крізь неї.

Grammatical asymmetry of the English and Ukrainian languages consists in the absence in the English language such syntactic structures as impersonal sentences. In Ukrainian there exists frequent use of impersonal sentences with semantic naming of an action or processual state referred to indefinite subject. Implicit subject expresses the doer of the action and does not play any important textual role. In the English language there appears the pronoun "they", which expresses indefinite subject of the action. For example: It's too bad, really, that they hold the reaping in the square – one

of the few places in District 12 that can be pleasant. Мені не подобається, що Жнива проводять на площі – чи не єдиному місці в нашому окрузі, яке можна назвати присмним.

Substitution appears when the possibility to change any language unit into its semantically similar target element takes place.

The divergence in the languages structures, in the set of grammatical categories and forms usually causes substitution. Thus, there are no articles, Gerund, tense forms of the verb in the Continuous and perfect, infinitive constructions, complex subject and object in the Ukrainian language. The English lacks grammatical Gender in nouns, adjectives, a large number of flexions. For example:

As we walk, I glance over at Gale's face, still smoldering underneath his stony expression. His rages seem pointless to me, although I never say so. It's not that I don't agree with him. I do. But what good is yelling about the Capitol in the middle of the woods? It doesn't change anything [8].

Поки ми йшли, я кілька разів зиркала Гейлові в обличчя, яке під кам'яною маскою і досі кипіло. На мій погляд, його лють безглузда, хоча вголос я цього ніколи не озвучу. Не те, щоб я не була з ним згідна. Та який сенс сварити Капітолій у лісовій глушині? Це нічого не змінить [9].

In the given example an ample use of substitution means is suitable when the translator opts for changing tense forms in the target text (a succession of past tenses instead of Present tenses in the source text, the use of Future instead of Present), the use of the finite form of the verb in the Ukrainian translation of Gerund and Participle used in the source text fragment, etc. Following the authenticity of grammatical structures of both languages, the use of substitution means in the translation preserves semantic invariant peculiarities of a source text and gives it more expressive impact in the target one. Then, the frequency of use of different grammar structures varies in the languages in question (e.g. the use of the Passive structures are more frequent in English). The parts of the sentence (cf. English formal subject and formal predicate) can also undergo substitution. Grammatical homonymity is a source of substitution too.

Two opposite transformation types are addition (used to add some elements in the target text fragments) and omission (reduction of some elements in the target text fragments). The use of addition is determined by several reasons (e.g. not to disturb lexico-grammatical norms of a target language, to adapt from the pragmatic point of view the message for more precise understanding by a recipient). For example:

For a while, I was so angry, I wouldn't allow her to do anything for me. And this is something special. Her clothes from her past are very precious to her [8].

Я так злилася на неї, що ні в чому не дозволяла їй мені допомагати. А сьогодні сталося справді щось особливе. Мати ж так берегла одяг зі свого попереднього життя! [9].

In this example the use of addition for explication the denotative situation as a subjective translator's decision favours not only better perceiving of his message, but its wider interpreting by the recipient. Among many cases of addition means the author can use phraseological translation of word-groups, which helps to achieve stylistic adequacy of translation. For example:

... If you lift a finger, we will destroy every last one of you. Just as we did in District Thirteen [8].

... Якщо ж ворухнете бодай пальцем, ми винищимо вас до ноги. Точнісінько як Округ 13 [9].

Omission is verified from the point of view of adequacy of translation, primarily because of the language norms of the original text or some elements which are parts of implicit text content or redundant in the target text fragments. For example:

This evening, officials will come around and check to see if this is the case. If not, you'll be imprisoned. Увечері хтось із чиновників перевірить навіть це. Збрешете – вас відправлять до в'язниці.

In the process of translation many complex transformations are used, which simultaneously satisfy the rules of combinability. For example:

“That's not her fault,” I say. “No, it's no one's fault. Just the way it is,” says Gale [8].

Це не її провина, – заступилася я за Мадж. Ні, в цьому ніхто не винен. Просто так є, – буркнув Гейл [9].

In this example the author uses addition and substitution to satisfy parameters of adequacy of translation for more precise and proper interpreting denotative and logico-syntactic information.

The prospects of our further research will include more in-depth analysis of the transformations in question involving data from sources of different genres and styles.

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Анотація

Метою статті є виявлення перекладацьких трансформацій пермутації, субституції, додавання, вилучення в українському перекладі трилогії С. Коллінз

“The Hunger Games”. Зроблено висновки про частотність вживання їх підвидів та причини використання в якості самостійних рішень перекладача у перекладах вихідних конструкцій.

Ключові слова: мова перекладу, мова оригіналу, пермутація, субституція, додавання, вилучення.

Summary

The plurality of separate national languages within the process of diverting social language functions and interaction of standard and expressive informative paradigms of language behaviour, specific prevailing concepts and views of a definite community determine the status of translation as a product of peoples global activity and international communication. The topicality of the research of adequate translation means is based on transformation method which is aimed at preparing a source text for different operations at the formal sign level. The method of transformations is based on the epigrammatics, i.e. space-dimension image of a referent which involves extralingual paradigmatic and lingual syntagmatic relationships.

While translating the trilogy “The Hunger Games” into Ukrainian, we defined typical types of permutation: changing of sentence types, changes of tense forms, changes of types of syntactic relationships, changes of voices, changes of parts of speech, turning affirmative sentences into negative and vice versa, subject type changes, noun number deviation.

Substitution in the target text primarily determined by syntactic relationships is substitution of principle and subordinate clauses. The less in number is substitution of phrases, parts of speech, two-member syntactical structures.

Analysing the trilogy “The Hunger Games”, we envisaged addition of main and secondary parts of the sentence.

We analysed kinds of omission of semantically redundant elements and syntactical structures. Addition and omission are the least in number.

Key words: target language, source language, permutation, substitution, addition, omission.