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**LEXICAL-SYNTACTIC PECULIARITIES OF THE TRANSLATION OF  
“HAMLET” BY  
W. SHAKESPEARE INTO THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE**

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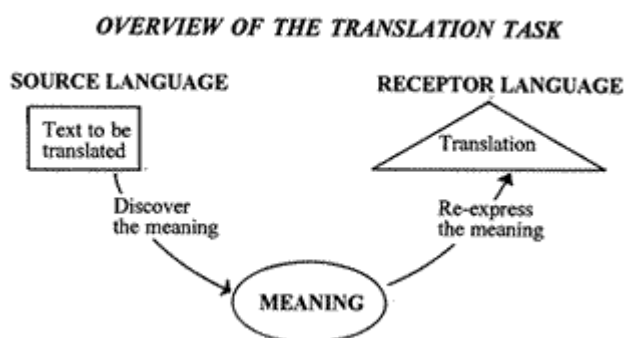
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## INTRODUCTION

William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616) is the greatest playwright, philosopher, poet and certainly one of the most enigmatic figures in literature. The whole globe, all the humanity seems to be involved in the action of his plays. That is why the works by W. Shakespeare are immortal and well-known all over the world. But Shakespeare is known all over the world because of his talent and also because of the translators' hard work as the interpreters of his creation. The readers of different nations are able to read these artful works of the great English writer thanks to people who translated his works into their native language. And precisely, we are interested in the translation of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare into Ukrainian.

Translation is a process based on the theory that it is possible to abstract the meaning of a text from its forms and reproduce that meaning with the very different forms of a second language.

Translation, then, consists of studying the lexicon, grammatical structure, communicative situation, and cultural context of the source language text, analyzing it in order to determine its meaning, and then reconstructing this same meaning using the lexicon and grammatical structure which are appropriate in the receptor language and its cultural context [40; p. 34].



*Diagram from Larson 1998, p. 4*

So, it is obvious that to make a translation is a hard deal, especially a literary translation of the tragedy "Hamlet" of a great English writer William Shakespeare.

There are some difficulties according to the time of writing of this tragedy by the author and the time of life of the translators. That is why we observe the changes, related to the appearance of new elements of the content or new emotionally

expressive accents in the interpretation.

**The topicality** of our work lies in the necessity of systematic considering of lexical-syntactic characteristics of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare and to define the peculiarities of translation of some lexical and syntactic units into the Ukrainian language.

**The purpose** of the research is to analyze linguistic features of W. Shakespeare's tragedy "Hamlet", and the peculiarities of their interpretation into Ukrainian.

**The tasks:**

- 1) to investigate lexical-syntactic organization of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare by means of analyzing the dominant forms of construction of sentences in the Early Modern English period;
- 2) to analyze the grammatical peculiarities of the tragedy "Hamlet";
- 3) to find out common and different features of the interpretation and the source text;
- 4) to make a comparative analysis of L. Hrebinka's and H. Kochur's translation of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare into the Ukrainian language.

**The object** of the paper is the language of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare and its literary translations into Ukrainian.

**The subject:** the research of the lexical-syntactic features of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare and the problems of its interpretation.

There were used the **methods** of cognition in the given work: analysis and synthesis, partly stylistic analysis and the method of analogy.

**The novelty:** of the work is in the attempts to compare L. Hrebinka's translation of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare into the Ukrainian language with H. Kochur's one.

**Theoretical value** lies in the possibility of the given work to be considered as a systematic study of the major lexical-syntactic features and the problems of making the literary translation of the Shakespeare's tragedy "Hamlet". This work provides an opportunity to use its information on the similar items in prospect.

**Practical value:** is that result of this research may be used in the practice of lexical-syntactic analysis of the poetic text, in the attempts to make a literary translation and

in making the comparative analysis of the translations. The results of this work will also give the possibility to read and understand W. Shakespeares' works in the original without any difficulties.

***Approbation:*** this research work was used in the context of 2011 Conference of University students and in the context of a research group in which a number of students were working on the problems of cognitive science.

***Structure:*** the work includes introduction, three chapters, which are divided into sub-chapters, conclusions and references.

The general amount of pages of the work is 54; general amount of the research with references consists of 58 pages.

## CONCLUSIONS

The epoch of W. Shakespeare belongs to the Early Modern English period, which covers the second half of the XVth century and the first half of the XVIII century. At this time there is not the coordination of adjectives with nouns in number. The language is characterized by the total invariability of adjectives, except of changes in the degrees of comparison which were saved from the Old English period.

Considering a verb, it should be noted that the analytic forms of verbs and their attributive forms begin to develop intensively.

Observing the derivation, we should admit that a lot of new words appeared in the English vocabulary, which were formed by different means of word building. As for the productive way to form new words it worth saying that the root-formation was widely used in this period. W. Shakespeare widely used the compound adjectives, which he formed by means of the word-compounding. Most of the compound English words having transparent component semes are translated into Ukrainian either at the level of words (i. e. compounds) or at the level of word-combinations the latter being formed from the component parts becoming separate words in Ukrainian. Translators often should use the descriptive translation translating English compound adjectives.

Morphological forms of comparison and combinations with "more, most" are used by W. Shakespeare independently of the number of syllables in words, besides the words "more" and "most" were means of forming of analytical form of the degrees of comparison. While translating degrees of comparison the writers either use positive degrees or preserve them adding intensifiers to make the statement even more emotional.

In the epoch of W. Shakespeare pronouns "thou, thy, thine, thee", "thysself" were broadly used. The pronouns "mine" and "thine" were used in Shakespeare's works before the words, starting with a vowel, and "my" and "thy" before the words, starting with a consonant. In the translation we observe the correspondence of the English and Ukrainian personal pronouns. Sometimes the translator even may miss some pronouns because in some cases they do not bare the main meaning of the sentence they are often used instead of the articles.

In the field of pronouns there was an important change, due to the fact that the pronoun "you" began to replace "thou". In the language of the main characters of the tragedy "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare "thou" often has a specific shade of meaning and gives the phrase a special flavor. It can express both friendship and a sign of resentment and hatred. Sometimes the pronouns "thou" and "you" emphasize social inequality. So it is necessary to translate these pronouns like it is in the original, it is possible in the Ukrainian language where we till nowadays preserved two forms of the second person: "ти and ви", but this correspondence is not always preserved by the translators.

As for the usage of prepositions in the Early Modern English period it should be noted that they continue to develop their meanings. W. Shakespeare used the combination with preposition "of" to express the actors in the passive voice. However, the usage of a preposition "by" gradually develops. W. Shakespeare often used preposition "on" where in Modern language the preposition "of" in the meaning "about" is used. In the translation there is not any big problem to convey proper meaning of the translation, all that is needed is a deep knowledge of the source language and especially the traditions of the Early Modern English.

So it requires from the translators good knowledge of grammatical traditions of Early Modern English to convey the meaning of preposition properly.

As for the syntactic features of the language of W. Shakespeare, it should be noted that in comparison with contemporary syntax, there were not clear rules as for the structure of sentences in the Early Modern English period. There was inversion of the main parts of a sentence and reverse order of the principal and subordinate members

of the phrase. As there is no strict word order in the Ukrainian language translators often preserves the peculiarities of the English sentence structure in Ukraine, but It is necessary to substitute an English simple sentence by a Ukrainian complex sentence which is explained by peculiarities of Ukrainian syntax.

It is very important for the translator to save the mood, intonation and main semantic meaning of the target language, not only to find the corresponding lexical equivalents. Speaking about the translation of the tragedy by L. Hrebinka we should admit that he manages to convey the poetry of the original text but loses some lexical units which are really necessary in the context. Kochur's translation is closer to the original because he tried to preserve most lexical units as well as the peculiarities of Shakespeare's poetry.



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