

LEXICAL TRANSFORMATIONS

- 1. Concretization**
- 2. Generalization**
- 3. Antonymic translation**
- 4. Metonymic translation**
- 5. Paraphrasing**

Concretization

- a most **frequent device** in translation from English into Russian.
- There is a large group of English words of **wide semantic volume**. They belong to **different parts of speech**: nouns, adjectives, verbs,
- e.g. **thing; point, stuff, stunt, affair; nice, fine, bad; to say, to go, to get, to come, to involve.**
- As the meaning of such words is relatively vague they can be **used in different contexts**, and their **valency is extremely broad**.
- A context, at least a micro context, is necessary to determine their meaning.

Concretization

- He came in sight of the lodge, a long, low, frowning **thing** of red brick (A. Wilson). - Он увидел домик привратника, длинное, низкое, хмурое **здание** из красного кирпича.
- At the by-election victory **went** to the Labour candidate (M.S. 1973). - На дополнительных выборах победу **одержал** лейборист.
- The rain **came** in torrents (I. Murdoch). - **Полил** сильный дождь.

Concretization

- So far 65 people **have died** in floods in Dacca Province, East Pakistan (Morning Star, 1973) - По имеющимся сведениям, 65 человек **утонуло** во время наводнения в провинции Дакка, Восточный Пакистан.
- Abstract nouns are often concretized in translation if there is no correlated abstract word in Russian:
- The Soviet Union's **record** in medical care - **достижения** Советского Союза в области здравоохранения.

Concretization

- Not infrequently concretization is resorted to as correlated generalizing words in English and in Russian have **a different usage**. Thus the word **limbs** has a wider usage than the Russian **члены**.
- "Thank you", said Margaret, feeling large and awkward and clumsy in all her limbs. (H. Walpole). - «Благодарю Вас», - сказала Маргарет, чувствуя себя неловкой и неуклюжей и **не зная, куда девать руки и ноги**.

Concretization

- The English word "**child**" has a wider usage than its correlated Russian «**ребёнок**» and is often concretized as «**мальчик, сын, дочь, деточка**».
- No one knew with what passionate emotion she loved **this child** - Никто не знал, как страстно она любила **своего сына**.

Generalization

- the reverse of concretization.
- There is a tendency in the English language for differentiation where the Russian language uses a more general word, e.g. **"рука"** - hand and arm; **"нога"** - leg and foot; **"пальцы"** - fingers and toes.
- Cf., **She was wearing a gold watch on her wrist.** – На ее **руке** были золотые часы.

Generalization

- In some cases, although there is an equivalent in the target language at the same level of abstraction, generalization may be desirable **for purely stylistic reasons:**
- **Since the shooting of Robert Kennedy five days ago about 90 Americans have been shot dead.**
(The Guardian, 1968).
- **За те пять дней, которые прошли после убийства Роберта Кеннеди, около 90 американцев погибло от огнестрельного оружия.**

Generalization

- Generalization is sometimes used in **rendering non-equivalents**,
- e.g. **summary court - дисциплинарный суд;**
- a summary court is not only a disciplinary court but the least formal one, consisting of one officer, etc.

Antonymic Translation

- **Antonymic translation** is a kind of **grammatical and lexical transformation** which substitutes **an affirmative construction for a negative** or vice versa with some **accompanying lexical change**, usually **substituting the antonym for the original word**.

Antonymic Translation

- **Keep** the child out of the sun - **Не держите** ребёнка на солнце. :
- "My precious wife", said I, "we must **be serious sometimes**". (Ch. Dickens), «Моя драгоценная жёнушка», - сказал я, - «Нельзя же **вечно смеяться и шутить**».
- My aunt and I, when we were left alone, talked far into the night, how the emigrants **never** wrote home otherwise than cheerfully and hopefully. (Ibid.)
- Оставшись вдвоём, мы с тётушкой до глубокой ночи говорили о том, что уехавшие **всегда** писали весёлые письма, полные надежд.

Metonymic Translation

- **Metonymic translation** is a lexical transformation based on the substitution of contiguous concepts.
- On Capitol Hill residents have been assaulted on their porches - in their garages or while **waiting for a bus**, sometimes within full view of other citizens too frightened to move.
- В районе Капитолия на жителей нападали у входа в дом, в их гаражах или **на остановке автобуса**, иногда на глазах у других граждан, слишком напуганных, чтобы хоть пальцем пошевелить.

Paraphrasing

- *Paraphrasing* is rendering of the meaning of some idiomatic phrase in the source language by **a phrase in the target language consisting of non-correlated lexical units**, e.g.
- **Good riddance - скатертью дорога; In for a penny, in for a pound - назвался груздём - полезай в кузов; взялся за гуж - не говори, что не дюж.**
- A phraseological unit is rendered by a corresponding Russian phraseological unit expressing the same idea in different words.