

APPROACHES TO RENDERING ENGLISH PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN UZBEK  
TRANSLATION

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**Abstract.** Phraseological units constitute a culturally loaded and semantically complex layer of language, which presents considerable challenges in the process of translation. Their figurative meaning, fixed structure, and strong cultural associations often prevent literal rendering into another language. This thesis investigates the main approaches to rendering English phraseological units into Uzbek, with particular attention to semantic accuracy, stylistic adequacy, and pragmatic equivalence. The study adopts a comparative and descriptive method to analyze different translation approaches, including phraseological equivalence, paraphrasing, calque, substitution, and omission. The findings reveal that effective translation of phraseological units requires not only linguistic competence but also deep cultural awareness and pragmatic sensitivity. The research highlights the importance of selecting context-appropriate translation approaches in order to preserve the communicative value of phraseological expressions in Uzbek.

**Key words:** phraseological units, translation approaches, idioms, equivalence, cultural adaptation, English, Uzbek.

## Introduction

Phraseological units play a crucial role in shaping the expressive and stylistic richness of a language. They include idioms, fixed expressions, and stable word combinations whose meanings cannot be fully understood through the literal interpretation of their components. Due to their semantic indivisibility and cultural specificity, phraseological units represent one of the most challenging areas in translation studies.

The translation of English phraseological units into Uzbek is particularly complex because these languages differ significantly in terms of linguistic structure, cultural background, and worldview. English phraseology often reflects historical events, everyday practices, and social norms of English-speaking communities, whereas Uzbek phraseological units are deeply rooted in national traditions, moral values, and collective consciousness. As a result, direct translation frequently leads to semantic distortion or loss of stylistic coloring.

In recent years, the issue of translating phraseological units has attracted growing attention in linguistics and translation theory. Scholars emphasize that the translator's task is not limited to transferring meaning but also involves preserving pragmatic function and emotional impact. This thesis aims to analyze the main approaches used in rendering English phraseological units into Uzbek and to evaluate their effectiveness in achieving functional equivalence.

### Theoretical Background of Phraseological Translation

Phraseological units have been defined by many linguists as stable combinations of words characterized by semantic unity and fixed structure. One of their defining features is idiomaticity, which makes them resistant to literal translation.

From a translation perspective, phraseological units are culture-bound elements that reflect the unique experiences and values of a speech community.

Translation theory suggests that achieving equivalence in phraseological translation is not always possible at the lexical level. Instead, translators often aim for functional or pragmatic equivalence, ensuring that the translated expression produces a similar effect on the target audience. This approach is especially relevant when dealing with idioms and fixed expressions.

In Uzbek linguistics, phraseological units are considered an important reflection of national identity. They frequently contain metaphorical images related to nature, family relations, labor, and morality. Therefore, rendering English phraseological units into Uzbek requires careful consideration of both linguistic meaning and cultural context. Main Approaches to Rendering English Phraseological Units into Uzbek

#### 1. Phraseological Equivalence

Phraseological equivalence is applied when an English phraseological unit has a corresponding Uzbek expression with a similar meaning and communicative function. This approach is regarded as the most successful because it preserves both semantic content and stylistic effect.

For example, the English expression to kill two birds with one stone can be rendered in Uzbek as *bir o‘q bilan ikki quyonni urmoq*. Although the metaphorical images differ slightly, the underlying meaning and pragmatic impact remain equivalent.

#### 2. Paraphrasing (Descriptive Translation)

Paraphrasing is used when no phraseological equivalent exists in Uzbek. In this approach, the translator explains the meaning of the English expression using neutral vocabulary. While this method ensures semantic clarity, it often leads to a loss of figurative imagery.

For instance, the English idiom to spill the beans is commonly translated as *sirni oshkor qilmoq*. The metaphor is omitted, but the intended meaning is accurately conveyed.

#### 3. Calque (Loan Translation)

Calque involves literal translation of the components of a phraseological unit. This approach is effective only when the metaphorical image is understandable and acceptable in Uzbek. Otherwise, calque may result in unnatural or obscure expressions.

An example of successful calque is the translation of the root of the problem as *muammoning ildizi*, where the metaphor is shared by both languages.

#### 4. Substitution with a Culturally Appropriate Expression

In some cases, translators substitute the English phraseological unit with a different Uzbek expression that conveys the same pragmatic meaning. This approach allows the translator to preserve communicative intent even when imagery differs.

For example, when pigs fly is often rendered as *tuyaning dumi yerga tekkanda*, as both expressions signify impossibility despite cultural differences.

#### 5. Omission

Omission is applied when a phraseological unit does not play a crucial role in the text or when its translation would distort meaning or style. Although this approach reduces expressive richness, it may improve overall textual coherence in certain contexts.

### **Conclusion**

The translation of English phraseological units into Uzbek is a complex and multifaceted process that requires more than linguistic knowledge. It demands cultural awareness, pragmatic competence, and sensitivity to context. The analysis shows that no single approach can be applied universally; instead, translators must select the most appropriate strategy based on the communicative purpose and target audience.

Phraseological equivalence and substitution are the most effective approaches in preserving expressive meaning, while paraphrasing ensures clarity when equivalents are absent.

Calque and omission should be used selectively. Ultimately, successful rendering of phraseological units contributes to accurate and culturally appropriate translation, facilitating effective intercultural communication.

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