Adequacy and Equivalence as the Main Criteria for Assessing the Quality of a Translation

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Abstract: *The main purpose of this article is devoted to the study of the concepts of "adequacy" and "equivalence" of the translation and the possibility of their use as fundamental criteria for assessing the quality of a translation and to develop a mechanism for using the categories of adequacy and equivalence to assess the quality of a translation. The purpose of the article is to introduce the specific objectives of the study: In translation it is possible to preserve equivalence in case of loss of adequacy, but it is impossible to preserve adequacy without equivalence, violations of adequacy and equivalence more often occur during translation at the level of situation description and the level of utterance, and not at the level of message and the level of linguistic signs, the distortion of semantic adequacy more often leads to a violation of the pragmatic aspect than to distortions in the translation of stylistic adequacy, the adequacy and equivalence of the translation, their correlations are changeable, changeable in different versions of the translation and depend both on the complexity of the source text and on the skill of the translator, his personal characteristics, sense of language.*

Keywords: *adequacy, equivalence, distortion, quality of translation, violations.*

Introduction

Translation is one of the oldest and most complex and multifaceted human activities. Despite the centuries-old history of the existence of the translation process itself and the constant research of its various aspects, many problems have not yet received an unambiguous and final solution. This category includes the problem of assessing the quality of translation. The question of how exactly it is necessary to make a translation so that it matches the original has become relevant with the advent of written translations and has not yet been resolved. The proposed solutions (voicing, creation of computer programs for evaluation) seem to be inapplicable for the evaluation of literary texts, since they do not take into account the features of this type of texts. An analysis of studies of this problem allows us to state that at the moment there are no methods and mechanisms for assessing the quality of works of art, there is only a subjective approach to assessment based on the personal preferences of a particular person. The issue is also related to the peculiarities of a literary text, in the translation of which it is necessary not only to convey information, but also to preserve artistic features. It is the assessment of the preservation and transmission of these features that causes the greatest difficulties when trying to assess the quality of a translation.

Main part

Modeling stages of the translator's activity in the process of working on the translation and allowing comprehensively considering and analyzing the translation as a result:

1) The level of equivalence is determined by comparing the syntactic construction and lexical composition of sentences, taking into account the preservation of the goal of communication (the level of the goal of communication, the level of situation description, the level of utterance, the level messages, language level, target not saved communications - non-equivalent sentence)

2) By applying translation transformations and comparing the non-transformed version with the transformed ones, a conclusion is made about the correct choice of the equivalence level for the translation.

3) An assessment from the standpoint of semantic adequacy is carried out using the method of component analysis, the key semes of the sentence of the original and the translation are identified and a comparison is made.

4) The artistic means and techniques used by the original author are identified, and it is considered which of them are preserved in the translation, or changed and compensated/uncompensated.

5) The preservation of the overall impact of the translation proposal and the appropriateness of all transformations made by the translator is assessed, taking into account the wider context. For a full-fledged, close to the original

Translation requires compliance with all three types of adequacy (semantic, stylistic, pragmatic) at one or more of the levels of equivalence. Maintaining adequacy is possible at any of the 5 levels of equivalence (the level of the goal of communication, the level of description of the situation, the level of utterance, the level of the message, the level of linguistic signs). It is forbidden to say that translation at any level of equivalence is preferable, since each level of equivalence allows you to save the content and purpose of the communication of the original equivalence (the level of the goal of communication, the level of description of the situation, the level of utterance, the level of the message, the level of linguistic signs). It is forbidden to say that translation at any level of equivalence is preferable, since each level of equivalence allows you to save the content and purpose of the communication of the original.

Correspondences with distortions occur in translation texts adequacy and/or equivalence. Violations of stylistic adequacy lead to a change in the perception of the text, which causes a decrease in the overall equivalence of the translation.

For example: Not had but sign on which was chalked "For sum muny I wunt follo you home". - And he had a board on which it was written in chalk: "For a small amount, I will not accompany you home".

With distortions of semantic adequacy, there is a loss of part of the information laid down by the author in the original due to the desire to avoid repetitions, or an arbitrary replacement of the lexical units of the original.

For example: "One picture wasn't just worth a thousand words, it was a thousand words "- Moreover, the word "capacious" did not quite accurately describe the style of their writing, rather the word "comprehensive" would have died here, since one picture could carry thousand values.

Conclusion

Equivalence and adequacy act as fundamental criteria for assessing the quality of translation. They are structured and characterized as criteria of a different order. Initially, only equivalence assessment is

required in order to identify the accuracy/inaccuracy of the transfer of the content, and it does not matter at what level of equivalence the translation is performed. Significant is only an unlawful increase (when translating set expressions) or a decrease (free translation, in cases where the original sentence lends itself to a closer translation) of the level of equivalence. Adequacy is a second-order criterion, allowing you to evaluate the reproduction of features in the text. Violations of adequacy and / or equivalence more often occur when translating at the levels of situation description and utterance, which is associated with more complex structures of sentences translated at these levels, and the presence of figures and tropes in them that make it difficult to fully maintain adequacy. Often, changes in pragmatic adequacy at all levels of equivalence are caused by distortions in semantic adequacy.

Non-equivalent translation leads to the transformation of the content and purpose of communication, inadequate - to the loss of the stylistic and pragmatic features of the original. The analysis of language illustrations shows that equivalence is a criterion for the primary, initial level of translation evaluation, but the equivalence of any level between the original and the translation is not a sufficient condition. It is also necessary to evaluate from the position of adequacy, preservation of the stylistic, emphatic and pragmatic features of the original. Quantitative analysis revealed the percentage of distorted sentences and those translated inadequately and non-equivalently relative to the total number of analyzed language units in each work.

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