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### **The lexical specifics of English medical fiction works and their Russian translations (in case of short stories by Arthur Conan Doyle)**

В статье описаны лексические и синтаксические особенности перевода английского рассказа на русский язык. Основное внимание уделяется выявлению и определению трансформаций (лексических и синтаксических), используемых при переводе. В качестве источника взят рассказ из сборника «медицинских» рассказов Артура Конан Дойля. Также указываются особенности медицинской терминологии, использованной в рассказе. Исследование проводится в четыре этапа.

The article describes the lexical and syntactic specifics of translating English short story into Russian. The focus is to reveal and determine the transformations used during the translations. The transformations fall into lexical and syntactic. The story of Arthur Conan Doyle's collection of medical stories is used as a source. The features of the medical terminology found in the story are also indicated. The research is performed in four stages.

**Keywords:** lexical specifics, 'A Straggler of 15', Arthur Conan Doyle, translations, transformations

**Introduction.** The linguo-cultural specifics of fiction texts, undoubtedly, is in the focus of numerous research works. Both English and Russian researchers claim that in the process of translation, the priority is to keep and convey the specifics of the original text. However, due to the differences in the structural and grammatical features of English and Russian, the complete correlation between the source and target texts may not be possible. In given research we study the peculiarities found in English and Russian texts when compared.

**The aim** of our research is to reveal lexical and syntactic specifics in unabridged English medical short stories by A. Conan Doyle and compare English texts with their Russian translations. It is known that translators can allow lexical and syntactic imprecision due to different cultural and historical particular qualities. Transla-

tor is an author who designs a text in another language, so they can add something or remove it.

Our aim involves the following **tasks**: (1) to select work of A. Conan Doyle; (2) to compare original English stories under study and their Russian translations; (3) to reveal lexical and syntactic peculiarities of English-Russian versions of the texts; (4) to analyze the lexical specifics of the texts, i.e. use of the figures of speech in relation to the medical staff, patients, conditions etc; (5) to reveal the lexical and content specifics of English (original) and Russian (translated) texts by the frequency of the content words used in both.

The following **methods** were used in the research work: description, continuous sampling, comparison, contrast, contextual study, distributional analysis, elements of statistical analysis.

**The relevance** of the topic is that in order for us, as nonnative English speakers, to understand the features of the language it's important to pay attention to the lexical and syntactic features of languages and their specific examples of application.

**The novelty** of the research work is predetermined by complex approach taken to the study, namely, analysis of lexical and syntactic means in English and Russian texts and their further contrasting and comparison.

We have chosen the story 'A Straggler of 15' from medical storybook 'Collection of medical stories' by Arthur Conan Doyle (1933). The translation was performed by I. Laukart and A. Mihailov in 2005.

The story is in 5375 tokens in original. The translation version consists of 4448 tokens.

We investigated English and Russian texts for presence of the most common types of transformations and allocated what the translators had changed in the original text. We shall provide examples from texts to prove our conclusions.

We found 199 transformations. Of these, 165 are lexical and 33 are syntactic.

**At Stage 1**, we have identified the following lexical transformations:

- Omissions (46), which is 27,7% of all lexical transformations. E.g., '*And a damned good answer too*' in original is translated as '*Превосходный ответ*'. The translator missed the word 'damned', but the meaning of the sentence doesn't change it.

- Concretizations (31). E.g., '*Yes, uncle, and I'm sure you must be proud of it*' and it's translation '*Да, прочла, и думаю, что вы должны очень гордиться своим поступком*'.

- Loss of meaning compensations (20). '*I lay that Jarge never had a pipe like that*' and it's translation '*Бьюсь об заклад, что у Джорджа никогда не было такой трубки*'. Translators wrote adapted into our language.

- Generalizations (19): *'the buzz and babel of human toil'*. In translation: *'прочие проявления человеческого труда'*. The translator used generalization and united these words.

- Antonymic translations (17). E.g., *'it's all peace in the next world'* and its translation *'на том свете уже не будет войн'*. Translators replaced 'peace' and 'war' and remove denial to preserve the meaning of sentence.

- Metonymic translations (16). E.g., *'through his fingers'* is translated as *'у него из рук'*. Meaning persists, readers represent the same thing, but words were used different.

- Additions (12). E.g., *'The whole company'* in the text-translation looks like *'Почтенная компания'*. Presumably the translator added a special charm with this word in the description of the company of people.

- Meaning extensions (4). *'...the dwellings of the workingmen, smoke-stained and unlovely...'* and its translation *'закопченные дымом убогие жилища рабочих...'*. Supposedly, the author wanted to highlight that the workers didn't like their homes, they hated them.

It is also worth mentioning that even the title of the story was translated with lexical transformation. 'A Straggler of '15' and its translation *'Ветеран 1815 года'* aren't identical, but after reading the story we understand the meaning.

**At Stage 2** we have identified the following syntactic transformations:

- changes of grammatical forms (10): *'I think that is No. 56 Arsenal View'* in original and *'Ведь это № 56 по Арсенальному проспекту?'* in translation. There is a change of type of the sentence.

- Transpositions (13). E.g., *'Lordy, but it seems like old times to have one's hand on a musket'* in original is translated as *'Господи! Когда держишь в руках ружье, чувствуешь себя так, точно опять стал молодым'*;

- sentence integrations (4);
- sentence fragmentations (5).

As noted, one of the most common syntactic transformations is represented by changes of grammatical forms. We've found different types of it. Our examples are as follows:

a. 2 examples of change the verbs in infinitive to imperative: *'I want my morning ration'* original and *'Дайте мне мой утренний завтрак'* in translation.

b. 2 reversal of type of the sentence. E.g., *'I think that is No. 56 Arsenal View'* in the text-translation looks like *'Ведь это № 56 по Арсенальному проспекту?'* There is example of change declarative sentence in Interrogative.

c. 1 modification of sentence from active to passive voice: ‘*A stained cloth lay over half the table*’ and its translation ‘*Сстоявший в комнате стол наполовину был покрыт грязной скатертью*’.

d. 1 change of type of the question sentence: ‘*You've heard him speak of it, likely?*’ is translated as ‘*Он рассказывал вам об этом?*’ (Change of Disjunctive question to General).

e. 2 variation of part of speech: ‘*there's a deal of bubbling*’ and its translation ‘*только ужасно хрипит*’. It's example of transformation the noun to the adverb with keeping the meaning of the sentence.

f. 2 changes in Conditional sentences (use of it or vice versa pass): ‘*if you'll step in*’ and its Russian variant ‘*войдите, пожалуйста*’.

**At Stage 3** we have analyzed the transpositions used by translators by its structure and found that the verbal phrases are the most commonly transferred structures (7 examples). The following in the list are clauses in complex sentences (3 sentences) and noun phrases (2 examples). And we found one sample of a gerund phrase.

a. Example of verbal phrase transposition: ‘*He's been at the battle of Waterloo, and has the pension and medal to prove it*’ and its Russian variant ‘*Он участвовал в битве при Ватерлоо, в доказательство чего у него есть медаль и пенсия*’.

b. Sample of transposition of clauses in complex sentences: ‘*On Tuesday an interesting ceremony was performed at the barracks of the Third Regiment of Guards... which comprised beauty as well as valour, a special medal was presented to Corporal Gregory Brewster*’ in the text-translation looks like ‘*во вторник в казармах третьего гвардейского полка... происходила интересная церемония вручения именной медали капралу Грегори Брюстеру*’.

c. Sample of noun phrase transposition: ‘*Over the fireplace, in a small, square case, a brown medal caught her eye, hanging from a strip of purple ribbon*’ and its Russian translation ‘*затем ее взгляд остановился на темной медали, висевшей на пурпуровой ленточке над камином*’.

d. Example of verbal gerund transposition: ‘*An elderly, grey-whiskered gentleman had been walking down the street, glancing up at the numbers of the houses*’ is translated as ‘*в это время, поглядывая на номера домов, по улице проходил пожилой господин с седыми бакенбардами*’.

We have summarized all the obtained information in Table 1 below.

Table 1

### Lexical and syntactic transformations in the story

<b>Lexical transformations</b>	
1. Omission	27,7%
2. Addition	7,23%
3. Concretization	18,7%
4. Generalizations	11,45%
5. Loss of meaning compensation	12%
6. Meaning extension	2,4%
7. Metonymic translation	9,64%
8. Antonymic translation	10,24%
<b>Syntactic transformations</b>	
1. <i>Transposition:</i>	39,39%
a. Verbal phrases	53,8%
b. Clauses in complex sentences	23%
c. Noun phrases	15,4%
d. Gerund phrase	7,7%
2. <i>Sentence Integration</i>	12,12%
3. <i>Sentence Fragmentation</i>	15,15%
4. <i>Change of grammatical forms:</i>	33,34%
a. Infinitive to Imperative	20%
b. Reversal of type of the sentence	20%
c. Active voice to passive	10%
d. Change of type of the question sentence	10%
e. Changes in Conditional sentences	20%
f. Variation of part of speech	20%

A. C. Doyle used comparisons and metaphorical figures in relation to the medical conditions and in descriptions of doctors and patients. E.g., *'The thin tide of life seemed to thrill rather than to throb under his finger'*, *'But there's a deal of bubbling in my chest. It's all them toobes. If I could but cut the phlegm, I'd be right'* and *'His eyes were shining and his bony yellow fingers, like the claws of some fierce old bird, dug into her shoulder'*. In our opinion, in such a way A. C. Doyle, respecting his medical profession, reveals to his readers more imaginatively and colorfully the states of patients and the thoughts of doctors.

The curious lexical feature in this short story was using by A. C. Doyle the euphemism: *'they have all marched away'* (in translation *'Они все уже умерли'*). With this turnover the author imaginatively and mentally conveyed the veteran's feelings about his colleagues—guardsmen.

**Stage 4** focused on the lexical and content specifics of English and Russian texts of ‘The Straggler 15’. The specifics was revealed by the frequency analysis of the content words used in both texts. The tool <https://istio.com/> [4] was used to calculate the content words. The obtained results showed that the most frequent words (frequency between 27 and 9) coincided in both texts. However, the revealed content words in the English original text of A. C. Doyle are 10% more frequent than in Russian translation, c.f. sir (27) and сеп (20), sergeant (19) and сержант (17), eye (14) and глаз (11). It indicates that the translation process implies language-specific changes implemented on lexical level.

**Conclusion.** The study of lexical and syntactic specifics of the selected medical short stories by A. Conan Doyle shows that (1) patient’s condition and complaints are described metaphorically, (2) doctors resort to use of comparisons when speaking with patients or the author uses them when describing patients feelings, (3) Russian translations are performed with syntactic and lexical means, but in general translators retained the original text.

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### **Новейшие заимствования в русском языке (на материале английского и немецкого языков)**

В статье приведены примеры успешного употребления англицизмов и германизмов в русском языке. Рассмотрены причины заимствования слов и сферы их функционирования.

**Ключевые слова:** англицизмы, германизмы, заимствования, язык