



Translation Problems: Challenges for Students When Learning English

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OPEN ACCESS

SUBMITTED 30 October 2024

ACCEPTED 30 December 2024

PUBLISHED 30 January 2025

VOLUME Vol.05 Issue01 2025

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Abstract: The article is devoted to the study of translation problems faced by students when learning English. The main difficulties encountered at various stages of translation, including lexical, grammatical, and cultural problems, as well as semantic errors, are considered. Special attention is paid to how these issues affect the quality of translation and the overall learning process. The article also suggests methods and approaches to overcome these difficulties, such as the use of context, the development of cultural competence and the use of modern technologies. The results of the study can be useful for both English language teachers and students seeking to improve their translation and language comprehension skills.

Keywords: Translation problems, students, English, lexical difficulties, grammatical differences, cultural differences, semantic errors, translation methods, context, cultural competence, technology in teaching.

Introduction: Translation as a process of transferring meaning from one language to another is an important element in teaching foreign languages. When learning English, students often face translation-related problems that can hinder their language development and understanding. These problems can arise for various reasons, from lexical and grammatical differences to more complex semantic and cultural aspects. Understanding these issues is important not only for teachers, but also for students themselves, as it allows them to choose the most effective approaches to learning.

The main problems of translation.

1. Lexical problems

Vocabulary is the basis of translation, and many difficulties in translation are related to the lack of exact

equivalents. There are words that have no direct translation in other languages (so-called "untranslatable" words), which makes the task of translation more difficult. An example is the English word "privacy", which has a not entirely accurate analogue in Russian (rather, it is the concept of "privacy", but it does not cover all aspects of privacy and personal security that exist in the English context). Other difficulties include words with multiple meanings (amphiboly), where one word can be translated in different ways depending on the context. For example, the word "bank" in English can mean "riverbank", "financial institution" or "storage place", and it is important for students to correctly interpret the meaning of this word in context.

2. Grammatical differences

The grammatical systems of different languages can vary greatly, and this is especially noticeable when comparing English and Russian. There are no cases in English, and the sentence is based mainly on the principle of "Subject-Verb-Object" (subject-predicate-complement). In Russian, the case system is more developed, and often requires a more complex syntactic organization.

Example: In Russian, phrases with different cases and verb forms can change the word order and sentence structure, making direct translation difficult.

In English, it is important to convey the tenses correctly, as well as to understand the use of articles, which is not present in Russian.

Example: Russian: Я собираюсь на рынок.

English: I am going to the market.

It is important to correctly convey the tense and structure of the verb, which can be difficult for students who are not used to these nuances.

3. Cultural differences

Culture has a significant impact on language and, consequently, on the translation process. The translator needs to take into account not only the lexical meaning of the words, but also the cultural characteristics that they carry. This is especially important when it comes to phraseological units, idioms, and cultural contexts. The Russian use the phrase "a piece of cake" in English, which means something light, but a literal translation into Russian would be erroneous, since there is no such expression in Russian.

In addition, cultural differences can manifest themselves in concepts such as norms of behavior, social roles, and even forms of politeness. For example, in English culture, the expression "How are you?" is

often used as a formal greeting, while in Russian it is not always used in this context.

4. Semantic errors

Semantic errors occur due to misinterpretation of the meaning of words, phrases, or sentences. Students who do not have sufficient experience can translate the text mechanically, without paying attention to the context, which can lead to a distorted or incorrect understanding of the meaning. This is especially common when a transfer is carried out under time pressure or without proper analysis.

Example of a semantic error: The English word "assist" is often translated as "to help", but in some contexts it can mean "to contribute" or "to help in some process", which does not always coincide with the direct meaning.

Ways to overcome translation problems:

1. The practice of contextual translation

To overcome lexical and semantic problems, students must learn how to work with context. This includes the skills of interpreting words and expressions, taking into account the whole situation in which they are used. Tasks focused on translating phrases and sentences can help students see how the meaning changes depending on the context.

Recommendation: It is important to teach students not only to translate words, but also to convey the whole meaning of the text. This can be taught through the translation of texts with different styles, types of speech, as well as context analysis.

2. Development of cultural competence

Teachers can help students overcome cultural barriers by teaching them the cultural aspects of the target language. The inclusion of texts reflecting the culture of native speakers in the course of study, as well as the use of audio and video materials, will help students not only expand their vocabulary, but also develop intercultural competence. Cultural awareness reduces the likelihood of mistakes related to misunderstandings of meanings.

3. The use of modern technologies

Modern translation technologies such as machine translation, online dictionaries, automatic translators and various online platforms can be useful for students. However, it is important that students are aware of the limitations of these tools and use them as auxiliary tools rather than as the main means of translation.

Recommendation: Using online resources to check the translation and clarify the meanings of words in the context can significantly improve the accuracy of the translation.

CONCLUSION

Translation problems are an integral part of English language teaching, and they require careful attention from both teachers and students. Lexical, grammatical, and cultural differences are often a source of difficulty, but they also provide an opportunity for deeper language learning. The application of a contextual approach, the development of cultural awareness and the use of modern technologies will help students overcome these difficulties and improve their translation skills.

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