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## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS STUDENTS' TRANSLATION STRATEGIES**

Future International Relations experts are expected to possess a well-developed translator's competence concerning the texts in their field. However, the ways to develop that competence seem to have been insufficiently studied which accounts for the need of further research into the problem. Among the most pressing issues within the said problem is the question of strategies the students select while translating in the classroom and during their independent work, as well as the related problem of the factors affecting their choice. These very issues of the mentioned strategies and factors constituted the subject of our research.

In this paper a translation strategy is viewed as a regulatory principle underlying the translation of a specific source text (ST) or its fragment. Within the notion of *translation strategy* we distinguish a *global strategy* (which applies to the entire ST) and a *local strategy* (affecting only separate ST words or its fragments). Here we deal with global strategies only and within them we are going to focus on the research of correlation between calquing and transformation which are opposite in their meaning and represent different approaches to translation in general.

To avoid the ambiguity in the further text, it seems worthwhile to define the two main terms of this paper as there is a wide range of their interpretation in the related literature. Thus, here *calquing* is viewed as copying the structure of the source language (SL) word, word combination or sentence in the target text (TT)

through the means of the target language (TL). *Transformation* - is the term we have chosen for the other global strategy to be studied in this paper. It may concern the entire ST structure transformation or its fragments, shifts in the meanings of its isolated words or their groups. The reasons for transformations may include stylistic factors or divergences between the SL and TL norms. Those changes are carried out by means of local transformations which are shortly reviewed below.

Because calquing, as a global translation strategy, is based upon the sign-oriented renderings, the adequacy of the TT generated by calquing, may depend upon the degree of ST (or its fragment's) structure coincidence with the corresponding TL structures. In case of the language structure norms divergence in the two languages calquing application results in lingual errors under the influence of interlanguage interference and may also cause the distortion or loss of the ST meaning. Thus we may suggest the following hypothesis: The correlation of calquing and transformation depends on the degree of coincidence between the ST (or its fragment's) structure with the corresponding TL structures – the share of calquing shall increase as the degree of the said coincidence increases, and the share of transformations shall increase as the degree of the said coincidence decreases.

To check the hypothesis we selected International Relations (within the sphere of International Law) as the area of the research because its curriculum provides a substantial amount of time for the translator's competence development which creates favourable conditions to obtain a sufficient quantity of qualitative data for their analysis.

The subjects were seven third-year undergraduates majoring in International Relations at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University (Kharkiv, Ukraine), three males and four females, 19-20 years old. The material of the research included a Ukrainian-lan-

guage text consisting of 13 sentences (1752 characters) from the *Dzerkalo Tyzhnia* (Mirror of the Week) newspaper.

The experimental translation from Ukrainian into English was carried out in April 2015 in a written form and lasted for 60 minutes without any use of reference materials. All students completed their translations.

Then we analyzed the students' translations according to the following parameters. Taking into account that both calquing and transformation may be applied not only at the sentence level, but also on lower levels (word, word combinations etc), we arbitrarily divided each sentence into segments where there existed at least theoretical possibility to apply transformations, and then each segment was analyzed according to the strategy used in the actual translations.

Because of the paper size constrains, we shall limit ourselves only to the general conclusions having no possibility to present the data and analysis themselves. The conducted research allows to assume that the choice of the strategy (calquing or transformations) may depend, among other factors, on the structure of the matching ST structure. If its principles coincide with the corresponding TL principles, it makes it favourable for the calquing strategy application and such application may be justified in this case. The most favourable ST segments for calquing are clauses with direct order of words while transformation is the easiest to be applied while translating clauses with evident deviation from the TL norms (the position of the modifier after the modified, unusual predicate-subject inversion etc). For example, sentence 2 contains five segments, none of which is favourable for calquing. Therefore, we did not predict a frequent use of calquing in this sentence, which was corroborated by the experimental results.

When the sentence structure gets complicated with the abundance of subordinate and coordinate clauses and a considerable

amount of words that hinder a clear perception of the general message, it may aggravate the prospects for the transformation use. It may be explained by the fact that in this case students have to simultaneously coordinate a number of parallel operations: on the one hand, they need to carry out transformations and on the other – to keep in their minds the general sense of the complex sentence and the meaningful connections between its components.

These conclusions, requiring further research, may be considered while developing the methodology of training translators for specific purposes, in particular, while deciding on the correlation between calquing and transformations in the teaching materials.

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