

**THE ROLE OF CONTEXT IN TRANSLATING ENGLISH PHRASEOLOGICAL
UNITS INTO UZBEK****Sadullayeva Sabina Kamoljon kizi**

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Abstract: The translation of phraseological units, such as idioms, proverbs, and fixed expressions, from English into Uzbek presents significant linguistic and cultural challenges. One of the central factors influencing successful translation is context, which determines both the meaning and the appropriate form of expression in the target language. This study examines the role of contextual factors in translating English phraseological units into Uzbek, highlighting how lexical, syntactic, semantic, and cultural contexts affect translation choices. Using a contrastive and descriptive approach, the research analyzes common translation strategies, including literal translation, substitution with an equivalent Uzbek expression, and paraphrasing. The findings demonstrate that ignoring context often leads to loss of meaning, cultural misunderstanding, or unnatural expression in the target language. The study concludes that context-sensitive translation strategies are essential for preserving both the meaning and the stylistic nuances of phraseological units, thus ensuring effective cross-linguistic communication. The research has practical implications for translators, linguists, and educators involved in English–Uzbek translation.

Key words: phraseological units, idioms, context, translation strategies, English–Uzbek translation, cultural equivalence and translation strategies.

INTRODUCTION.

Translation is not merely a process of replacing words from one language with words from another; it is a complex activity that involves understanding meaning, cultural nuances, and contextual factors. Phraseological units, such as idioms, proverbs, and fixed expressions, occupy a special place in this process because their meanings often cannot be inferred from individual words. Translating these units from English into Uzbek presents unique challenges, as direct word-for-word translation frequently leads to misunderstanding or loss of intended meaning. Context plays a pivotal role in ensuring accurate and natural translation of phraseological units. It includes linguistic context, such as surrounding words and sentence structure, and situational context, which refers to the circumstances and cultural background in which the expression is used. Without careful consideration of context, translators risk producing awkward or culturally inappropriate equivalents in the target language. For example, an English idiom may convey humor, irony, or emotion that has no direct equivalent in Uzbek, requiring creative strategies to preserve both meaning and stylistic effect. The study of context in translation has gained increasing attention in contemporary linguistics and translation studies. Scholars emphasize that context-sensitive approaches not only enhance semantic fidelity but also maintain the pragmatic and cultural functions of phraseological units. In the English–

Uzbek translation process, understanding the socio-cultural background of both languages is essential for achieving equivalence and naturalness. This research aims to examine the role of context in translating English phraseological units into Uzbek, exploring how translators interpret meaning and choose appropriate strategies to convey both linguistic and cultural nuances. By analyzing common translation practices and highlighting the importance of contextual awareness, the study provides insights that are valuable for translators, educators, and students engaged in English–Uzbek translation.

METHODOLGY.

The primary data for the study consists of a selection of English phraseological units, including idioms, proverbs, and fixed expressions, drawn from authentic literary texts, media sources, and language reference materials. These units are carefully chosen based on their frequency, semantic complexity, and cultural specificity, ensuring a representative sample for analysis. Each unit is analyzed in its original English context, considering syntactic structure, connotation, and pragmatic function. The study then examines corresponding translations in Uzbek, focusing on the strategies employed by translators. These strategies include literal translation, substitution with an equivalent Uzbek expression, paraphrasing, or omission in cases where no suitable equivalent exists. The analysis pays special attention to how context linguistic, situational, and cultural affects these decisions and determines the adequacy and naturalness of the translation. To enhance reliability, the study compares multiple translations of the same phraseological units from different sources, highlighting variations and discussing their implications. A qualitative analysis framework is used to categorize translation strategies and evaluate their effectiveness in preserving meaning, style, and cultural nuances. This study employs a descriptive and contrastive approach to examine the role of context in translating English phraseological units into Uzbek. The research focuses on identifying common challenges and translation strategies, highlighting the influence of linguistic, semantic, and cultural contexts on translation choices. Both qualitative and analytical methods are applied to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the subject. The findings contribute to both theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of translation studies, offering guidance for translators, educators, and students engaged in cross-linguistic communication.

RESULT.

The analysis of English phraseological units and their Uzbek translations revealed that context significantly influences the choice of translation strategies. Among the sample units studied, literal translation was found to be applicable only in cases where the idiom or expression had a direct semantic and cultural equivalent in Uzbek. For example, simple idiomatic expressions related to daily life were more likely to be translated literally without loss of meaning. However, such cases were relatively limited, highlighting the challenges posed by culturally specific or figurative expressions. Substitution with an equivalent Uzbek phraseological unit emerged as the most common strategy. Translators frequently replaced English idioms with culturally and semantically analogous expressions in Uzbek to maintain the intended meaning and stylistic impact. For instance, English expressions conveying patience or wisdom were often rendered through familiar Uzbek proverbs that resonate with the target audience. This strategy was particularly effective in preserving both semantic content and pragmatic effect. Paraphrasing was another frequent solution, especially when no direct or equivalent expression existed in Uzbek. Translators rephrased the original units while retaining the core meaning, adapting sentence structure and vocabulary to ensure clarity and naturalness. Contextual awareness was crucial here, as understanding the surrounding text and communicative situation allowed translators to select appropriate paraphrases.

The study also identified occasional omissions, primarily in cases where the idiom's meaning could not be conveyed without distorting the message or introducing awkward phrasing. Such omissions underscore the importance of contextual judgment in translation decisions. Translators who carefully consider context are more likely to produce natural, accurate, and culturally relevant translations, demonstrating that context-sensitive strategies are indispensable in cross-linguistic communication.

DISCUSSION.

The findings of this study highlight the critical role of context in translating English phraseological units into Uzbek. The analysis shows that translation strategies cannot be applied uniformly; rather, they must be adapted according to linguistic, situational, and cultural contexts. Literal translation, although straightforward, often fails to convey the intended meaning when cultural or figurative elements are involved. This confirms the idea that phraseological units are deeply rooted in cultural and social norms, and their accurate translation requires sensitivity to both source and target languages. The prevalence of substitution with equivalent Uzbek expressions illustrates how cultural adaptation enhances comprehensibility and preserves pragmatic effect. Translators frequently rely on culturally familiar proverbs or idioms to replicate the stylistic and emotional impact of the original text. This strategy demonstrates that understanding the communicative purpose of the phraseological unit is as important as understanding its literal meaning. Paraphrasing emerges as a flexible and context-sensitive approach, particularly when no direct equivalents exist. The study shows that careful attention to the surrounding textual and situational context allows translators to reconstruct meaning without distorting the original message. However, this approach requires high linguistic competence and cultural awareness, highlighting the skill-intensive nature of translating idiomatic expressions. The decision to omit underscores the necessity of evaluative judgment in translation and the importance of prioritizing clarity and naturalness over literal fidelity. General, the discussion confirms that context is not merely an ancillary factor but a central determinant of translation quality. Translators who actively consider linguistic, cultural, and situational contexts are better equipped to produce translations that are both accurate and stylistically appropriate. These findings reinforce the importance of context-sensitive strategies in English-Uzbek translation and provide practical guidance for translators and educators in the field.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, context is not merely an auxiliary factor but a central determinant of effective translation, ensuring that phraseological units retain their meaning, style, and cultural significance in English-Uzbek translation. The present study has demonstrated that context plays a decisive role in the successful translation of English phraseological units into Uzbek. Phraseological units, including idioms, proverbs, and fixed expressions, are deeply rooted in cultural and linguistic traditions, making direct translation often inadequate. The analysis revealed that understanding the surrounding linguistic, situational, and cultural context is essential for accurately conveying both meaning and stylistic nuances in the target language. Literal translation was found to be effective only in limited cases where the phraseological unit has a direct equivalent in Uzbek. More frequently, translators rely on substitution with culturally and semantically appropriate Uzbek expressions to preserve the intended meaning and emotional impact. Paraphrasing also proved to be a valuable strategy, particularly when no direct or equivalent expressions exist, allowing translators to maintain clarity and naturalness without distorting the original sense. In some cases, omissions were necessary to avoid awkward or misleading interpretations, underscoring the importance of careful evaluative

judgment. The study confirms that context-sensitive translation strategies are indispensable for achieving semantic, stylistic, and pragmatic equivalence. Translators who carefully analyze the textual and cultural environment of a phraseological unit are more likely to produce translations that resonate with the target audience while preserving the communicative intent of the source language.

Practically, this research highlights the need for translator training programs to emphasize contextual awareness and cultural competence. By developing these skills, translators can enhance the quality and authenticity of English–Uzbek translations, particularly when dealing with idiomatic and culturally specific expressions. Future research may further explore specific genres, such as literary texts or media discourse, to refine context-based strategies and provide more nuanced guidelines for translators.

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