TRANSLATION OF MILITARY-TECHNICAL TERMS FROM ENGLISH INTO UZBEK: METHODS AND SEMANTIC PROBLEMS

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Abstract. The article investigates the translation of military-technical terms from English into Uzbek and identifies the main semantic problems that arise in the translation process. Military terminology requires a high degree of conceptual accuracy because a term usually denotes a specialized object, process, function, or technical characteristic. The research considers direct equivalent translation, transcription and transliteration, calque, descriptive translation, functional equivalence, and mixed translation. The analysis demonstrates that the appropriate method depends on the semantic structure of a term, its degree of internationalization, the availability of an established Uzbek equivalent, and the communicative context. Particular attention is given to terms whose meaning changes according to military context. The study emphasizes the importance of contextual analysis and terminology standardization for accurate English-Uzbek military translation.

Keywords: military translation, military-technical terminology, semantic equivalence, translation methods, transliteration, descriptive translation, functional equivalence, terminology standardization.

Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются вопросы перевода военно-технических терминов с английского языка на узбекский и выявляются основные семантические проблемы, возникающие в процессе перевода. Военная терминология требует высокой степени понятийной точности, поскольку термин обычно обозначает специализированный объект, процесс, функцию или техническую характеристику. В исследовании анализируются

такие способы перевода, как прямой эквивалентный перевод, транскрипция и транслитерация, калькирование, описательный перевод, функциональная эквивалентность и смешанный перевод. Анализ показывает, что выбор метода зависит от семантической структуры термина, степени его интернационализации, наличия устоявшегося узбекского эквивалента и коммуникативного контекста. Особое внимание уделяется терминам, значение которых меняется в зависимости от военного контекста. В работе подчеркивается важность контекстуального анализа и стандартизации терминологии для обеспечения точности перевода военных текстов с английского языка на узбекский.

Ключевые слова: Военный перевод, военно-техническая терминология, семантическая эквивалентность, методы перевода, транслитерация, описательный перевод, функциональная эквивалентность, стандартизация терминологии.

Military-technical translation is a specialized area of professional translation in which lexical accuracy and conceptual equivalence are closely connected. Errors in translating technical military terminology can change the intended meaning of a document or create ambiguity in professional communication. The development of military technologies and international cooperation has increased the need for reliable English-Uzbek terminology and consistent translation practices.

The purpose of this research is to analyze the principal methods used to translate English military-technical terms into Uzbek and to identify the semantic problems that influence the selection of an equivalent. The research is based on the terminology examined in the author's study of English and Uzbek military-technical vocabulary. Descriptive, comparative, component, classification, and contextual methods are used to examine the relationship between source terms and their Uzbek equivalents.

Direct equivalent translation. The most straightforward method is used when an established Uzbek equivalent corresponds closely to the English concept. For example, ballistic missile can be translated as ballistik raketa, command post as

qo‘mondonlik punkti, and air strike as havo zarbasi. Such equivalents preserve the principal conceptual content of the source term while following the lexical and grammatical norms of Uzbek.

Transcription and transliteration. International military and technical vocabulary often enters Uzbek through borrowing. Examples include radar, tank, laser, and drone, represented in Uzbek as radar, tank, lazer, and dron. This method is useful when a term has an internationally recognized form or when creating a new national equivalent would make professional communication less transparent. Nevertheless, the borrowed form should be adapted to Uzbek orthographic and phonetic norms.

Calque and descriptive translation. Calque involves reproducing the components of a source expression with corresponding target-language elements. Descriptive translation, by contrast, explains the concept through a more expanded expression. The latter is particularly useful when an established equivalent is absent. Its advantage is semantic clarity, but an excessively long description may be inconvenient in technical documents. For this reason, descriptive forms can function as explanatory solutions while terminology is being standardized.

Functional equivalence. Context frequently determines the appropriate translation. The English term deployment is a clear example. Depending on the context, it may refer to the placement or positioning of troops, forces, or equipment and may therefore require different Uzbek renderings, including joylashtirish or other context-specific expressions. Translating deployment mechanically with one fixed equivalent can result in semantic distortion. The translator should identify the military function intended in the source text.

Another example is intelligence. In general English, intelligence may refer to mental ability, but in military discourse it denotes information and activities related to reconnaissance and the collection and analysis of information. In Uzbek military usage, the corresponding term is generally razvedka. This example demonstrates why the surrounding context and the specialized field must be considered before selecting an equivalent.

Mixed translation. Mixed translation combines a borrowed international term with a translated or explanatory component. This strategy may be appropriate for new or insufficiently standardized terminology. For example, an international technical element can be retained while its specialized function is explained in Uzbek. Such a form can help readers recognize the international concept while simultaneously making its meaning accessible to Uzbek-speaking specialists.

Major semantic problems. The analysis identifies several recurring problems: absence of an established equivalent, semantic mismatch, terminological variation, and differences in normalization. The absence of an equivalent requires the translator to select among borrowing, calque, descriptive translation, or a newly formed equivalent. Semantic mismatch occurs when a formally similar word does not represent the same specialized concept. Terminological variation may result from the parallel use of international and national forms. Normalization problems appear when several competing forms are used before one becomes accepted.

The study also shows that literal translation should be applied cautiously. A military-technical term is not simply a combination of dictionary meanings; it represents a specialized concept within a professional system. Therefore, translation should preserve conceptual and functional equivalence rather than only formal lexical similarity. This principle is particularly important for compound terms, abbreviations, and context-dependent expressions.

Terminology standardization. Consistent terminology is essential for professional military communication. Bilingual terminology resources should distinguish established equivalents from descriptive explanations and variants. International standards and specialized glossaries can provide important reference material, but Uzbek equivalents should also conform to the norms of the Uzbek language. Contextual examples should accompany ambiguous terms so that translators and specialists can identify the intended meaning.

Conclusion. The translation of military-technical terms from English into Uzbek requires a combination of linguistic, contextual, and terminological approaches. Direct equivalents are appropriate when standardized correspondences

exist; transcription and transliteration are useful for internationally recognized terms; calque can reproduce transparent structures; descriptive translation clarifies unfamiliar concepts; functional equivalence is necessary for context-dependent terms; and mixed translation can combine international recognition with semantic explanation. The findings confirm that accurate military translation depends on conceptual analysis rather than mechanical word-for-word substitution. Contextual analysis and terminology standardization can contribute to greater consistency and precision in English-Uzbek military communication.

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