

CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES IN TRANSLATING OBSOLETE WORDS

Dildora Avezova

PhD student of NUUZ, senior teacher at TUIT

dildora.dd@mail.ru

Abstract: *Translating obsolete words poses unique challenges due to the linguistic and cultural gaps between the past and present. This scientific article explores the complexities involved in deciphering these linguistic enigmas and presents methods and strategies that can be employed to overcome translation obstacles. By understanding the historical context, conducting thorough research, and employing innovative approaches, translators can bridge the divide between antiquity and modernity, preserving the richness of language across time.*

Keywords: *translation, obsolete words, archaic words, cultural gaps, collaborative learning, understanding, error analysis, translation methods.*

The study of obsolete words is invaluable for linguists, historians, and language enthusiasts alike. These words serve as linguistic artifacts, offering glimpses into the development and evolution of a language over time. These words shed light on social, cultural, and historical contexts, providing insights into the customs, beliefs, and values of bygone eras. However, the translation of archaic and obsolete words presents intricate challenges. One of the main hurdles is the gap in understanding between the original meaning and the contemporary audience. The meanings of these words may have shifted significantly or become entirely lost over time, making it difficult to find direct equivalents in modern language. Effective translation methods are essential to bridge this linguistic gap and convey the intended meaning of archaic and obsolete words to modern readers. Descriptive translation techniques are often employed when direct translation is not possible. This approach allows modern readers to grasp the intended meaning while maintaining the historical integrity of the word.

One of the descriptive translation techniques is *paraphrasing*. This technique involves rephrasing the original text using different words or expressions while maintaining the underlying meaning. Paraphrasing is particularly useful when direct translation is not possible due to linguistic or cultural differences. For example, "*darvoza*", paraphrased translation: "*Uzbek ornate entrance gate with intricate wood carvings and decorative motifs*". Moreover, the technique which is called *expansion* is also useful technique. It involves adding additional information or context to the translation to aid comprehension. This technique is helpful when the source text is concise or lacks explicit details that are necessary for understanding in the target language. For example, original Uzbek term: "*tandir*" Expanded translation: "*Tandir — an Uzbek traditional clay oven used for baking bread, typically built into the ground and reflecting the culinary culture of the region*" *Condensation* is the opposite of expansion, where the translation is made more concise while preserving the essential meaning. This technique is useful when the source text contains redundant or unnecessary information that can be removed without losing the core message. *Cultural adaptation* is also one of the frequently used technique that involves modifying elements of the source text to make it more relatable or understandable in the target culture. This can include replacing culturally specific references, idioms, or metaphors with equivalents that are familiar to the target audience. For example: "*bu binoning ayvanida o'tirish joyi mavjud.*" Direct translation: "*there is a seating area in the ayvan of this building*". Culturally adapted translation: "*there is a patio in the front of this building*". In this example, in the original Uzbek sentence, the term "ayvan" refers to a traditional architectural feature in Uzbek buildings, typically an open area with seating or a gathering space. However, the term "ayvan" may not be widely understood or familiar to English-speaking audiences. To ensure better relatability and understanding for the English-speaking audience, the term "ayvan" is culturally

adapted and translated as “patio”. The term “patio” is a familiar architectural feature in English-speaking cultures, referring to an outdoor space attached to a building that is commonly used for seating or relaxing. By replacing culturally specific architectural references with equivalents that are familiar to the target audience, cultural adaptation enhances the clarity and comprehension of the translated text, making it more relatable and understandable in the target culture. Furthermore, *Footnotes* or *annotations* are additional explanatory notes provided alongside the translation to clarify ambiguous or culturally specific terms or concepts. They serve as valuable tools for enhancing the reader's understanding of the text without disrupting the flow of the main translation. Finally, the technique called *compensation* involves making up for the loss or absence of certain elements in the translation by highlighting them elsewhere in the text. For example, if a particular wordplay or pun cannot be directly translated, the translator may compensate by introducing a similar linguistic device or humorous element in a different part of the translation.

In conclusion, translating obsolete words requires a comprehensive understanding of the techniques of descriptive translation. By employing paraphrasing, expansion, condensation, cultural adaptation, footnotes or annotations, and compensation, translators can effectively address the challenges posed by obsolete terms. These techniques not only aid in conveying the original meaning but also enhance the readability and accessibility of the translated text, allowing readers to engage with the content in a meaningful way.

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