

STRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE IN ENGLISH–UZBEK JOURNALISTIC DISCOURSE

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Abstract: This article analyzes the structural aspects of translation equivalence in English–Uzbek journalistic discourse. Journalistic texts can involve particular challenges because of their orientation functional orientation, genre-specific features and sociocultural context. The research focuses on structural differences between two languages including word order, grammatical categories, sentence complexity, and headline instruction and analyzes how these factors affect the achievement of translation equivalence. Using a comparative descriptive approach, selected examples from news reports and opinion articles are analyzed to identify common translation strategies such as syntactic transformation, grammatical compensation and functional adaptation. The article concludes that successful English–Uzbek journalistic translation requires a balance between preserving structural elements of the source text and adapting them to the linguistic and stylistic norms of Uzbek.

Key words: structural aspects, translation, equivalence, English–Uzbek, journalistic discourse

The present study focuses on the structural aspects of translation equivalence in English–Uzbek journalistic discourse. English and Uzbek belong to different language families and exhibit significant typological differences, especially in word order, grammatical categories, and sentence organization. These differences often require translators to apply various structural transformations in order to preserve the communicative intent and pragmatic effect of the original text. Analyzing how structural equivalence is achieved in journalistic translation is essential for

understanding translator decision-making and improving translation quality. This article aims to examine the main structural challenges encountered in English–Uzbek journalistic translation and to identify the strategies used to maintain equivalence while ensuring clarity, readability, and functional adequacy in the target language.

Structural equivalence in Journalistic Translation

Structural equivalence refers to the degree to which the grammatical, syntactic, and organizational features of a source text (ST) are preserved or functionally reproduced in the target text (TT).¹ In journalistic discourse, structural equivalence is especially significant because news texts are expected to be concise, information-dense, and stylistically neutral while maintaining clarity and credibility. When translating from English into Uzbek, the translator must negotiate differences between two typologically distinct languages: English, an analytic language with relatively fixed word order, and Uzbek, an agglutinative language with flexible word order and rich morphological marking.² When translating from English into Uzbek, the translator must negotiate differences between two typologically distinct languages: English, an analytic language with relatively fixed word order, and Uzbek, an agglutinative language with flexible word order and rich morphological marking. The translator's task is that to preserve the exact meaning of the text and communicative value of journalistic structures-- such as headlines, leads and news paragraphs that can be adapted to the grammatical norms and stylistic expectations of Uzbek media discourse. One of the most important factors in translating English-Uzbek journalistic material is to be focused on the sentence structure and word order transformations.

One of the most prominent structural challenges in English–Uzbek journalistic translation arises from differences in canonical word order. English typically follows a Subject–Verb–Object (SVO) structure, whereas Uzbek predominantly uses a Subject–Object–Verb (SOV) pattern. As a result, direct structural equivalence at the sentence level is often unattainable without compromising naturalness in the target language.³. For example: English news sentences often emphasize the verb at advance in order to

keep the text more concise and deliver message as an urgent matter. This can help reader to keep focused and interested in that news.

Additionally, some grammatical structure is more commonly used in English Journalistic material. Passive voice is more frequently used in English journalistic writing to foreground events or results while backgrounding agents, especially when the agent is unknown, irrelevant, or politically sensitive.⁴ Uzbek, by contrast, active voice and impersonal structures are more used. While translating English passive instructions to Uzbek language, translators are more relied on structural transformations. These may include converting passive voices to active voices, using impersonal structures and lexical means.

Importantly, the choice of voice is not only related to grammatical influence, but also it is pragmatic. In politically and socially sensitive news reporting, maintaining the original focus and responsibility distribution is also crucial. Therefore, translators must carefully assess whether a passive construction carries implicit ideological or pragmatic meaning that should be preserved through alternative structural means in Uzbek. For example, let's analyze one sentence.

“The decision was announced by the government following intense public debate”. The first translation:

“Qaror jamoatchilikdagi qizg‘in muhokamalardan so‘ng hukumat tomonidan e’lon qilindi.

2 translation: Hukumat qarorni e’lon qildi.

In Version A, the passive structure is preserved in the target text, resulting in a high degree of **formal and structural equivalence**. The syntactic focus remains on the event, and the agent is expressed through a prepositional phrase (“by the government”). Such a translation strategy is suitable for official statements, press releases, and formal news reports in Uzbek media, where institutional neutrality is required.

In Version B, the passive construction of the source text is transformed into an **active voice** structure. This shift reflects the stylistic norms of Uzbek journalistic

discourse, which tends to favor active constructions for reasons of clarity, directness, and readability. Although this transformation reduces structural equivalence at the sentence level, it enhances **functional and pragmatic equivalence**, as the translated sentence sounds more natural and idiomatic to Uzbek readers.

Headline Structures and Compression Techniques

Headlines represent a distinct structural component of journalistic discourse and pose specific challenges for translation equivalence.⁵ English headlines are characterized by syntactic compression, omission of articles, auxiliary verbs, and sometimes even subjects.

Uzbek headlines, while also concise, follow different conventions. They often rely on nominal phrases, participial constructions, or full predicate structures to ensure clarity. As a result, direct structural equivalence is rarely achievable. An English headline using a bare infinitive or present simple tense to indicate recent events may be translated into Uzbek using a past tense verb or a verbal noun construction.

For example: English version: “New Tax Measures Approved by Parliament”

Uzbek version: Yangi soliq choralari parlament tomonidan tasdiqlandi.

Next step and analysis;

Cohesion and Textual Organization

Structural equivalence in journalistic translation extends beyond sentence-level syntax to the organization of the entire text. English news articles often follow a strict inverted pyramid structure, where the most important information is presented first, followed by details and background information.⁶ Uzbek journalistic writing generally adopts a similar structure, which facilitates a relatively high degree of macro-structural equivalence. English relies heavily on conjunctions, reference words, and punctuation to create cohesion. Uzbek, on the other hand, frequently uses suffixes, postpositions, and lexical repetition to achieve textual coherence.

Summary of Structural Translation Strategies

The analysis of English–Uzbek journalistic discourse demonstrates that structural equivalence is achieved primarily through transformation rather than direct

correspondence. Key strategies include word order rearrangement, sentence segmentation or integration, voice transformation, and headline reconstruction. These strategies allow translators to bridge typological differences while maintaining the informational, stylistic, and pragmatic integrity of the source text.

In this sense, structural equivalence should be understood as a dynamic and functional concept, reflecting the interaction between linguistic systems and journalistic conventions rather than a rigid one-to-one mapping of forms.⁷

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