



FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENCE OF DISCOURSE MARKERS
IN TRANSLATION

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Abstract: This article analyzes the problem of ensuring the functional equivalence of discourse markers in the translation process. The semantic, pragmatic, and functional features of discourse markers are studied from a comparative perspective based on materials from English, Russian, and other languages. The study examines transformational changes that arise in the translation of discourse markers, strategies for preserving their communicative function, and methods for ensuring equivalence.

Keywords: discourse markers, functional equivalence, translation strategies, pragmatic equivalence, discourse analysis, communicative function, interlingual correspondence

TARJIMADA DISKURSIV MARKERLARNING FUNKSIONAL
EKVIVALENTLIGI

Annotatsiya: Mazkur maqolada tarjima jarayonida diskursiv markerlarning funksional ekvivalentligini ta‘minlash muammosi tahlil qilinadi. Diskursiv markerlarning semantik, pragmatik va funksional xususiyatlari ingliz, rus va boshqa tillar materiallari asosida qiyosiy yondashuvda o‘rganiladi. Tadqiqotda diskursiv markerlarni tarjima qilishda yuzaga keladigan transformatsion o‘zgarishlar, ularning kommunikativ vazifasini saqlab qolish strategiyalari hamda ekvivalentlikni ta‘minlash usullari yoritiladi.



Kalit soʻzlar: diskursiv markerlar, funksional ekvivalentlik, tarjima strategiyalari, pragmatik ekvivalentlik, diskurs tahlili, kommunikativ vazifa, interlingvistik moslik

ФУНКЦИОНАЛЬНАЯ ЭКВИВАЛЕНТНОСТЬ ДИСКУРСИВНЫХ МАРКЕРОВ В ПЕРЕВОДЕ

Аннотация: В данной статье анализируется проблема обеспечения функциональной эквивалентности дискурсивных маркеров в процессе перевода. Семантические, прагматические и функциональные особенности дискурсивных маркеров изучаются в сопоставительном аспекте на материале английского, русского и других языков. В исследовании рассматриваются трансформационные изменения, возникающие при переводе дискурсивных маркеров, стратегии сохранения их коммуникативной функции, а также способы обеспечения эквивалентности.

Ключевые слова: дискурсивные маркеры, функциональная эквивалентность, стратегии перевода, прагматическая эквивалентность, дискурсивный анализ, коммуникативная функция, межъязыковая соответствие

Introduction: In modern translation studies, discourse markers are regarded as one of the important linguistic units. They play a significant role in ensuring the structural cohesion of a text or speech, expressing communicative intention, and defining pragmatic relations. The translation of discourse markers is considered a complex process not only at the lexical level but also at the pragmatic and functional levels. Ensuring the functional equivalence of discourse markers in the translation process requires an adequate rendering of their communicative function in another language. Therefore, the study of this phenomenon across different languages is considered one of the urgent scientific problems in translation studies.

Literature Review: Discourse markers and the problems of their translation are among the topical issues widely studied in modern linguistics, discourse analysis, and translation studies. Discourse markers play an important role in ensuring textual cohesion, organizing the logical consistency of speech, expressing communicative intention, and establishing interactive relations with the addressee. In the process of their translation, there arises a need to preserve not only linguistic equivalence but also pragmatic and functional adequacy.

Furkó B. P. analyzes theoretical approaches related to the translation of discourse markers and emphasizes the priority of context and pragmatic function in their translation [1]. According to the researcher, since discourse markers often lack direct lexical equivalents, it is important to take into account the communicative situation and the overall pragmatic orientation of the text when translating them. This requires the interpretative activity of the translator. Belov and Belova study the problems of translating discourse markers based on Russian and English, showing that preserving their semantic and pragmatic correspondence is one of the main tasks of translation [2]. The authors note that discourse markers not only ensure the structural cohesion of the text but also express the tone of speech, the author's position, and communicative strategy. Therefore, formal equivalence is not sufficient in their translation.

Короткова, Bogacheva, and Molodkin analyze strategies for ensuring the functional equivalence of discourse markers in oral discourse, particularly in legal discourse, and substantiate the importance of maintaining communicative accuracy in translation [3]. The researchers emphasize that in legal discourse, discourse markers are an important means of ensuring clarity, consistency, and logical coherence, and they point out the necessity of contextual adaptation in their translation. Shilikhina and Malyugina examine the functional features of emphatic discourse markers in medieval English literary discourse, highlighting their role in text structure and expressive

function [4]. The study notes that such markers convey the author's emotional attitude, emphasis, and stylistic impact. This demonstrates that discourse markers have not only structural but also stylistic and pragmatic significance.

Allahverdiyeva conducts a comparative analysis of the semantic features of discourse markers in English and Azerbaijani, identifying their language-specific differential characteristics [5]. The results show that discourse markers in different languages possess different semantic loads and functional properties, which requires a specific approach in translation.

Overall, existing scholarly research confirms that discourse markers are important pragmatic and functional units in translation. They serve as one of the key means of ensuring textual cohesion, implementing communicative strategy, and establishing effective communication with the addressee. Therefore, it is necessary to take into account contextual, pragmatic, and functional factors when translating discourse markers.

Research Methodology: This study employs a comprehensive approach, using comparative, discourse analysis, pragmatic analysis, and transformational analysis methods to examine discourse markers in English, Russian, and other languages. Through the comparative method, discourse markers in different languages were compared to identify their functional similarities and differences. This approach helped to reveal both the universality and the national-cultural features of discourse markers. The discourse analysis method made it possible to identify the functions of discourse markers within the text and evaluate their communicative role. Using this method, the role of markers in connecting, structuring, and ensuring semantic coherence of the text was studied. Pragmatic analysis was aimed at identifying the functional load of discourse markers in speech acts. This approach allowed for the analysis of their impact on the addressee, their role in expressing communicative intention, and their context-dependent pragmatic features.

The use of transformational analysis made it possible to identify structural and semantic changes that occur during the translation of discourse markers. This method helped to systematically study the transformations that take place when discourse markers are transferred from one language to another. As empirical material, scientific literature and language data from different languages were selected, and based on these, the functional features of discourse markers were analyzed in a comprehensive manner.

Analysis and Results: The results of the analysis show that discourse markers perform several important functions in the translation process and play a significant role in ensuring the communicative and structural integrity of a text. First of all, their connective function links parts of the text semantically and structurally, ensuring the coherent and logical development of discourse. This strengthens the internal cohesion of the text and organizes the sequence of information. In addition, the pragmatic function of discourse markers plays an important role in expressing the author's communicative intention, attitude, and evaluative position. They make the purpose of the speech act clearer and enhance the effectiveness of interaction with the addressee. Their expressive function, in turn, enhances the emotional and stylistic variety of speech, adding subjective tone and expressiveness to the text.

Furthermore, discourse markers also perform a discourse management function, meaning they regulate the flow of speech, organize the connections between ideas, and shape the overall structure of the text. In this way, discourse markers make the text effective not only structurally but also communicatively. In the translation process, discourse markers often do not have direct equivalents; therefore, various strategies are used in their rendering. In particular, methods such as functional substitution, pragmatic adaptation, explicitization, or implicitization are widely applied. In some cases, omission of a marker in the target text is observed if it is not communicatively necessary or if it overburdens the meaning.

Comparative analysis shows that in English and Russian, discourse markers often perform similar functions, but their frequency of use, pragmatic load, and stylistic significance differ across languages. Therefore, in translation, achieving functional equivalence rather than formal equivalence is considered the main criterion, as functional adequacy ensures the preservation of the communicative role of discourse markers.

Conclusion: The results of this study show that ensuring the functional equivalence of discourse markers in translation is an important theoretical and practical issue. Discourse markers are among the key means of ensuring textual cohesion, pragmatic clarity, and communicative effectiveness. To preserve the functional equivalence of discourse markers in translation, it is necessary to analyze their semantic and pragmatic features in depth. At the same time, the translator must take into account not only linguistic units but also their communicative function. Further comparative research on discourse markers across different languages and the development of their translation models will enrich both the theory and practice of translation studies.

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